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FCUFS ANNUAL REPORT, 2010-2011

The Faculty Council on University Facilities and Services met seven times during this academic year. It was an unusually busy year for construction on campus, especially for large-scale projects with long-term implications.

In October 2010 FCUFS heard a presentation by Rebecca Barnes, the new University Architect concerning overall campus design. UW is paying especial attention to the U-District west of campus, where thousands of new UW residence hall rooms for undergraduates are under construction and where the future Sound Transit station at Brooklyn will impact the area. UW sees a lot of public-private interaction in the area. FCUFS also heard about plans for Molecular Engineering, Phase II, which is pending funding, and about the Terry Lander renovations.

In November FCUFS discussed the Wallingford Solar Initiative and how it might relate to on-campus solar projects; the Intellectual “Longhouse” House, which is under design refinement and waits for final funding; and temporary placement of food trucks on the More Hall Lawn during HUB reconstruction. Food trucks might become a more permanent part of the campus in the future.

In January 2011 FCUFS heard a report on comprehensive plans for West of 15th that include urban sustainability, bicycle pathways, new residences, and mixed uses. The understandably thin legislative capital budget was also discussed.

February brought a review of the Sound Transit Stadium Station pedestrian bridge and a presentation on the Brooklyn Station planning.

In March FCUFS heard an update on the Intellectual House (which ultimately did receive some legislative funding), and a vision for encouraging bicycle commuting from 10 percent of the UW population to 20 percent. Better bicycle routes and enhanced bicycle parking are both part of the plan, which is being coordinated with off-campus bicycle planning.

In April FCUFS held a post-mortem on the parking complications that arose as a result of the Thursday night football game in Fall 2010. FCUFS submitted materials concerning this issue to the Senate Executive Committee. Also, a presentation was made on the reconstruction of the Stadium. Included in the new facility will be a new sports medicine facility, weight room, and office space.

May’s meeting considered the growing use of bicycles on the Burke-Gilman Trail, and parking and U-Pass rates for 2011-2012. FCUFS was also given a detailed update on the HUB reconstruction project, which is about midway through its nearly two-year schedule.

Many of these same topics will return in a new form during 2011-2012, as well as more on Husky Stadium, the occupancy of Molecular Engineering, Phase I, a new parking master plan, and UW’s development of a smart grid plan.

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