The Faculty Council on University Facilities and Services met on Wednesday, December 3, 2003, at 8:30 a.m., in 36 Gerberding Hall. Chair John Schaufelberger presided.

PRESENT: Professors Schaufelberger (Chair), Devasia, Rorabaugh and Treser; Ex officio members Chamberlin, Chapman, Fales, Geppert and McCray; Guests: Randy Everett, Capital Projects Office; Marty Howlett, Capital Projects Office; and Bruce Abe, Principle Financial Analyst, Capital and Space Planning Office; Roberta Hopkins, Director, Classroom Support Services.

ABSENT: Professors Andersen, Balick, Heerwagen, Korshin, Pace, Ridgway, Souders and Souter; Ex officio members Stygall and Waddell.

Approval of minutes

The minutes of October 29, 2003 were approved as written.

Guthrie Hall Masonry Restoration Project – Randy Everett, Capital Projects Office

Everett said Guthrie Hall – located next to the Architecture Building – was built in 1970, and houses the Department of Psychology. There have been several studies of Guthrie Hall made over the years, he noted.

Everett said an architect has been hired to carry out the restoration of Guthrie Hall. The building’s veneer will be re-clad. The brickwork will be replaced with brick and metal paneling. The bicycle storage rack will be removed for the duration of the restoration project.

Guthrie Hall will remain occupied during the course of the restoration. The work will be executed at hours that will not upset the normal pedagogical work in the building. The building will be enclosed by a construction fence during the project. There will be ample access for the disabled.

The project has been funded solely through contract documents. McCray said it was originally thought that $2.7 million would be the required budget for the project; the final figure for the budget, however, will be $4 million. The University will ask for supplemental funding in the upcoming state legislature, to help defray the cost of the revised budget estimate.

The bid for the restoration of Guthrie Hall will be made in February 2004. Construction on the project will commence in June 2004, and be completed in December. Schaufelberger suggested that, if the original construction schedule cannot be maintained, it would be best to wait a full year, and not have a delayed beginning of the project as the rainy weather intensifies.

Demolition of the Nuclear Reactor Building – Marty Howlett, Capital Projects Office

Howlett said the University will dismantle its Argonaut-type research and training nuclear reactor and terminate its NRC Facility License. The reactor – built in 1960 and shut down at the end of 1998 – is located in the More Hall Annex in the southeast quadrant of the main campus. The fuel rods were removed from the reactor in the late 1980’s and transported to an appropriate disposal facility in Idaho. On May 1, 1995, as the result of a program submitted by the University, the USNRC issued an “Order Authorizing Dismantling of Facility and Disposition of component Parts – University of Washington Research Reactor”.

Currently, small amounts of radioactivity remain in components of the reactor structure and associated equipment. These contaminated components will be demolished, containerized and disposed in appropriate facilities prior to the USNRC releasing the area for unrestricted use. After release by the USNRC, the current plan is to grade and landscape the site to match the surrounding areas.
This program has been pursued several times in the past but has been stopped due to lack of funding. Recently, the funding was approved for the decommissioning, decertification, and demolition of the More Hall Annex and the project is now proceeding. The overall duration of the project is estimated at two years with actual on-site activities taking approximately one year.

When the project is concluded, as mentioned above, the site will be graded and landscaped. Howlett noted that nothing is planned for the site at present. Chapman pointed out that “it’s a licensed facility, and has to be de-licensed. That’s the bulk of the budget: to test for nuclear activity and get ‘free release’ to do whatever we want in the future on that site.” Chapman added that the soil at the site will also be checked, and that “all such testing is very expensive.” It was observed that, with the demolition of the nuclear reactor building, it will be possible to build a larger building on the site.

Chamberlin said it will be important to communicate with the University community about the demolition. “They’re nervous about this sort of thing,” he stressed. Schaufelberger said CUCAC should be informed about the demolition project, and a press release would be helpful. Asked about possible mention of the project on a Website, Chapman said, “This and other projects are tracked on our Capital Projects Website.”

**General Assignment Classroom Improvements – Roberta Hopkins, Director, Classroom Support Services**

Hopkins discussed general assignment classroom improvement projects taking place during the 2003-2005 biennium. (Classrooms in the Health Sciences Building are under separate domain, and are thus excluded from this discussion.)

Johnson Hall is undergoing a “total renovation.” The building is closing at the end of Autumn Quarter 2003 and the demolition phase is scheduled to start in March 2004. The renovation is scheduled to be completed by the start of Autumn Quarter 2005. 9 classrooms will be lost during the renovation, and 635 seats. Johnson Hall occupants will move to Condon Hall during the renovation. When work on Johnson Hall is completed, there will be fewer classrooms, but there will be more large-scale rooms, and the rooms will be modern and newly-equipped for up-to-date technical support. The classrooms will be both wired and wireless. Funding for this project will come from UW Major Capital Projects.

Condon Hall is going to be used as a surge space for an indefinite period, but a period of several biennia at the least. There will be seven permanent surge classrooms in Condon Hall. They will be “slightly upgraded” for purposes of technical support. 470 seats will be gained through the use of these classrooms in Condon Hall. Funding for this project will come from UW Major Capital Projects.

Sieg Hall is being reassigned to the College of Engineering, the Center for Instructional Development, and general use classrooms. 7 permanent general use classrooms will be created, with a total of 270 seats, and are estimated to be available for Winter Quarter 2005. One 40-seat room in Guggenheim has been reassigned to Arts and Sciences as of the end of Autumn Quarter 2003. A replacement 40-seat classroom will be created in Sieg Hall. Funding for this project will come from the CSS Minor Capital Improvements Allocation.

In Hitchcock Hall, two 45-seat classrooms (316 and 324) will be renovated into a single 65-seat room. One classroom will be lost, and 25 seats. Funding for this project will come from the CSS Minor Capital Improvements Allocation.

In Kane Hall, room 120, the second largest lecture hall (440 seats) will be remodeled to match Kane 110 and 130. This will take place in Summer 2005 (“We will work around the noise problem,” noted Hopkins). No seating capacity changes are anticipated. Work is tentatively scheduled for Summer Quarter 2005. Funding for this project will come from the CSS Minor Capital Improvements Allocation.
Seig Hall 134 and Raitt Hall 107, 109, 116, and 121 – Alternative Projects. Alternative projects have been identified in the event construction costs will allow additional CSS Minor Capital Improvement projects for 2003-2005. The next classrooms on the list are in Raitt Hall.

Small Improvements and Undesignated Contingency. A small balance of funds will be set aside from the CSS Minor Capital Improvements allocations to address minor problems (for example, adding a second chalkboard; replacing window shades; replacing broken furniture) that emerge during the biennium. [NOTE: The total CSS Minor Capital Improvement allocation for 2003-2005 is $1,500,000.]

As for the impact of the Major Building Renovation Schedule on General Use Classrooms, Hopkins said she has concerns about the impact on the classroom pool over the next 15 years or more. Particularly, she is concerned about the period during which the Savery Hall and Denny Hall classrooms will be shut down. “That will be a major loss of classroom space,” she noted. “We may have to bring in trailers for smaller classrooms (40 students or fewer). The large rooms in Architecture and Guggenheim Halls will be a great loss during the 2005-2007 biennium. We may be able to use the HUB Auditorium, but the HUB would likely charge a fee for using any of their spaces. The central administration is looking at other options, which may include such ideas as Saturday classes or more evening classes. At present, Kane Hall rooms are not available for weekend of evening classes; they are used for special events. Rent paid by the event sponsors is a necessary component to the CSS operating budget.

Asked about Meany Hall, Hopkins said that Meany would probably not be a potential source of classroom space because, as Hopkins understands it, Meany’s main theater must be available if it is not to lose regular clients, and Meany needs that space and its other spaces for rehearsals and other purposes. She added: “Many faculty and students will have to make sacrifices; they may have to teach / attend classes in distant locations.”

New FCUFS Professional Staff Organization representative: Brian Geppert

Schaufelberger welcomed to the council the 2003-2004 PSO representative Brian Geppert, Business Manager of the Kirsten Wind Tunnel in Aeronautics and Astronautics.

Also, Colleen Pike, Acting Director of Capital and Space Planning, and a former ex officio member of FCUFS, will be taking Marilyn Cox’s place as the representative from that office on the council. The council is deeply indebted to Marilyn Cox for her superb work representing Capital and Space Planning the past several years.

Next meeting

The next FCUFS meeting will be sometime in January 2004. When the dates for Winter Quarter 2004 have been set, the schedule will be sent out to the council.

Brian Taylor
Recorder