

November 1, 2009

## **MEMORANDUM**

To: Campus Planning Committee

From: Christine Taylor Thompson, Planning Associate

Campus Planning and Real Estate

Subject: **Record** of the October 21, 2009 Campus Planning Committee Meeting

Attending: Gregg Lobisser (Chair), Leslie Bennett, Don Corner, Carole Daly, Tom Driscoll,

Roger Kerrigan, Rich Linton, Chris Ramey (late), Greg Rikhoff, George Rowe,

Collin Schless, Don Swain, Rob Thallon

Staff: Christine Taylor Thompson (Campus Planning and Real Estate)

Guests: Vince Babkirk (Facilities Services), Dietrich Belitz (CAS), Jane Brubaker (Facilities Services),

Becca Cavell (HDR/THA), Tom Hacker (HDR/THA), Jim Hutchison (Chemistry, User

Group co-chair), Oliver Kuehne (HDR/THA), Lou Moses (Psychology, User Group co-chair),

Katie Soule (HDR/THA), Fred Tepfer (CPRE), Ariana Willey (CPRE)

## Agenda:

## 1. Lewis Integrative Science Building (LISB) – Schematic Design (continued)

<u>Background</u>: Staff reminded the committee that this agenda item is a continuation of the LISB project review initiated at its October 1, 2009 meeting. She summarized the committee's initial comments from the prior meeting as described in the meeting mailing. The chair emphasized the importance of focusing on *Campus Plan* policies and patterns as applicable to the Campus Planning Committee's role.

Becca Cavell and Tom Hacker from the THA/HDR design team briefly recapped the proposed design as presented at the October 12, 2009 meeting. Becca reviewed the effects the building will have on Streisinger Hall. She described the design changes in response to the committee's prior comments (handout distributed at the meeting). Changes primarily affect the south (main) entrance; the north entry, service area, and façade; and the roof design.

The main entry is enhanced with an artistic element that represents the neural network (either etched in glass or a wooden lattice), solid sidewalls and soffit at the entry vestibule, a shortened elevator shaft, and a reconfigured louver system. The required louver system over the main entry will span the length of the entrance to match other horizontal elements, therefore, lessening its impact (maximum required size shown—it will likely be smaller). Also, the south façade roof overhang has been eliminated.

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The north entry is enhanced by reducing the size of the paved service drive, removing a portion of the service entrance roof, and using typical iron fencing rather than a solid brick wall for the bike enclosure (last two not shown in drawing).

A new window layout and reduced opening sizes on the north façade, instigated by a new interior lab configuration, better relates to the scale of Streisinger Hall. Also, the base edge was lowered. It may be possible to lower the overall north elevation height once the required penthouse size is determined.

The project area was extended to include the pathway between Oregon Hall and Deschutes Hall. The design team will study the area and determine what improvements are needed to enhance the pathway as requested by the committee.

<u>Discussion</u>: A committee member said the new north façade window configuration is much more sympathetic to the scale of Streisinger Hall. He suggested a similar approach on the south façade to better respond to the scale of Deschutes Hall. Tom said the south façade window openings are the same size as the new north façade openings. However, the mullions are not as visible, which perhaps makes the openings appear larger. It may be possible to use an alternate, more visible mullion material.

A member suggested reconsidering the proposal to remove the roof overhang. The resulting effect is too austere. Perhaps a partial overhang is more appropriate. Tom agreed adding that a partial overhang also would help screen the mechanical equipment.

A member supported the suggested changes but said he still would like the design team to consider a roof shape that is more sympathetic to adjacent buildings if it is not too late. In addition, he expressed concern about the way the upper north façade appears to be separated from the rest of the building due to a large vertical bank of windows on the west façade that extends to the roofline. He suggested a connective brick course, perhaps at the roofline.

A member said the mechanical penthouse dominates the roofline on the western façade making the building look out of scale in comparison to Streisinger Hall. He suggested a setback (if possible) or using a different material (e.g., brick similar to the east façade). Tom said it is unlikely that the mechanical penthouse size can be reduced. However, an alternate material is possible.

A member expressed concern about the angled roofline on the stair access extension. Tom and Becca agreed that it would be less noticeable with a flat roof even if it had to be a bit taller.

Becca said it would be possible to access Striesinger through LISB at the second, third, and fourth floors.

In response to a member's question, Becca said the lobby pass-through and all building floors would be fully accessible. The secondary entrance near Deschutes Hall would serve only the Imaging Lab.

Members and design team members agreed that the north entrance would not have the same volume of use as the south entrance, but it still would serve as a primary entrance for many. Therefore, it should be enhanced to read as such (e.g., incorporate the neural network artwork).

A member supported the proposed changes to the north elevation but said it is too industrial looking. She suggested incorporating artwork, color, or different materials to soften its appearance and make it more approachable. Tom said the first floor recessed panels are intended for future artwork (hopefully funded by the 1% for Art Program).

A member supported the proposed change to the front entry louver system but still thought it was too imposing.

A member supported the design team's efforts to make the building as sustainable as possible, especially when sustainable features serve as a design element (e.g., the shading devices). He and others encouraged their continued efforts as the design is refined. Tom and Becca noted many of the buildings sustainable features and said other elements will likely be added as the project proceeds.

A member said access to the south entry from the Science Green is a bit awkward. Becca said that construction cannot extend into the Science Green due to the sensitive nature of activities in the underground Lokey Laboratories. A member said the landscape design could still take advantage of the south facing entrance by maximizing outdoor seating opportunities.

Becca asked the committee if they preferred to leave the existing trees adjacent to the UO entry sign intact rather than removing some of them to open up the view. Members said it was not possible to determine the best approach without considering the overall design of the open space, specifically the potential sign relocation. If changes (including any tree removals) are proposed, it should be presented to the Design Review Subcommittee.

A member endorsed the design team's efforts to minimize the buildings impact on Streisinger, for example by addressing floor-to-floor heights. He said it was important to continue to do so.

<u>Action</u>: The committee agreed, with thirteen in favor and one abstention, that the schematic design for the LISB Project is consistent with the *Campus Plan* and recommended to the president that it be approved subject to the following conditions:

- 1. Study the pathway between Oregon Hall and Deschutes Hall to determine how to enhance it as a primary pathway (refer to prior committee comments). Present recommended enhancements to the Design Review Subcommittee.
- 2. Determine ways to reduce the apparent scale of the south façade window openings to better relate to the scale of Deschutes Hall.
- 3. Reconsider the roof overhang design. Consider a partial or small overhang to make the building less austere.
- 4. Change the angled roofline of the stair access extension to a flat roof to make it less noticeable.
- 5. Consider ways to tie the brick face of the north façade to the brick face of the west façade (for example, adding a brick course at the roof level or bisecting the large vertical bank of windows on the west façade).
- 6. Reduce the visual impact of the mechanical penthouse, which extends vertically above the western façade (e.g., a setback or different material such as brick.)
- 7. Enhance the north entrance so that it reads as a primary entrance (e.g., add a component of the neural network artwork).
- 8. Make the north elevation appear less industrial by incorporating design elements that make it more approachable (e.g., artwork, color, or different materials).
- 9. Reduce the size of the front entry louver system to the greatest degree possible to make it less imposing.
- 10. Take advantage of the south-facing entrance by maximizing outdoor seating opportunities.
- 11. Continue efforts to minimize the building's impact on Streisinger.
- 12. If changes (including any tree removals) are proposed for the UO entry sign and associated landscape, consider the overall design of the open space, specifically the

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potential sign relocation. Present recommended changes to the Design Review Subcommittee.

The design team will work with CPRE staff to demonstrate resolution of these issues unless it is noted above that they should present recommended changes to the Design Review Subcommittee.

Please contact this office if you have questions.

cc. Vicki Arbeiter, Geological Sciences (Cascade Annex Bldg Mgr)

Vince Babkirk, Facilities Services

Leah Blackburn, First Year Programs (Oregon Hall Bldg Mgr)

Paul Bloch, CIS (Deschutes Bldg Mgr)

Ariel Bordenave, Biology (Streisinger Bldg Mgr)

Mary Bradley, Information Services (Klamath Bldg Mgr)

Jan Brady, Human Physiology (Klamath Bldg Mgr)

Mark Brown, Academic Advising (Oregon Hall Bldg Mgr)

Jane Brubaker, Facilities Services

Becca Cavell, THA Architecture Inc.

Kathy Cashman, Geological Sciences (Cascade Annex Bldg Mgr)

Herb Chereck, Enrollment Services

Kay Coots, EH&S (Onyx Bridge Bldg Mgr)

Erik Dahl, AAA (Lawrence Hall Bldg Mgr)

John Donovan, CAMCOR (Lokey Labs Bldg Mgr)

Shelley Elliott, Biology (Klamath Bldg Mgr)

Don Elting, EH&S (Onyx Bridge Bldg Mgr)

Emily Eng, CPRE

Lisa Gardner, Eugene Planning

Hilary Gerdes, Disability Services (Oregon Hall Bldg Mgr)

Stephen Golledge, CAMCOR (Lokey Labs Bldg Mgr)

Keith Gonzalez, Biology (Klamath Bldg Mgr)

Dan Graham, Molecular Biology (Onyx Bridge Bldg Mgr)

Bonnie Grimm, Physics (Onyx Bridge Bldg Mgr)

Sandi Gussenhoven, Admissions (Oregon Hall Bldg Mgr)

Julie Haack, Chemistry (Klamath Bldg Mgr)

Terri Harding, Eugene Planning

Thomas Hacker, THA Architecture Inc.

Clarisse Heinhorst, Science Stores (Cascade Annex Bldg Mgr)

Kayla Hinds, Human Resources (Oregon Hall Bldg Mgr)

Herb Horner, DPS

Jim Hutchison, Chemistry (User Group co-chair)

Darren Johnson, Chemistry (Lokey Labs Bldg Mgr)

Emma Kallaway, ASUO

Kurt Langworthy, CAMCOR (Lokey Labs Bldg Mgr)

Chris Larson, Materials Science (Lokey Labs Bldg Mgr)

Donna Logan, Admissions (Oregon Hall Bldg Mgr)

Mark Lonergan, Chemistry (Lokey Labs Bldg Mgr)

Rebecca Lynn, Disability Services (Oregon Hall Bldg Mgr)

Monte Matthews, Veterinary Services (Streisinger Blg Mgr)

Ellen McCumsey, Neuroscience (Huestis Bldg Mgr)

Lou Moses, Psychology (User Group co-chair)

Lara Nesselroad, Science Library (Klamath Bldg Mgr)

Susan Plummer, Affirmative Action (Oregon Hall Bldg Mgr)

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Bruce Powers, THA Architecture Inc.

Sara Nash, CEEB (Onyx Bridge Bldg Mgr)

CJ Nelson, Business Affairs (Oregon Hall Bldg Mgr)

Greg Rikhoff, Public and Government Affairs

Donna Schimmer, Financial Aid (Oregon Hall Bldg Mgr)

Michael Smith, AAA (Lawrence Hall Bldg Mgr)

Roger Snyder, HDR Inc.

Greg Soderstedt, CEEB (Onyx Bridge Bldg Mgr)

Denise Stewart, Facilities Services

Jessica Stark, Veterinary Services (Streisinger Blg Mgr)

Mike Strain, CAMCOR (Lokey Labs Bldg Mgr)

Susan Stumpf, Admissions (Oregon Hall Bldg Mgr)

Fred Tepfer, CPRE

Holly Thaxton, Business Affairs (Oregon Hall Bldg Mgr)

Doug Tripp, DPS

Zach Vishnoff

Linda Walton, Continuation Center (Oregon Hall Bldg Mgr)

Bruce Wilson, Molecular Biology (Huestis, Klamath, and Streisinger Bldg Mgr)

Vivian Wright, Affirmative Action (Oregon Hall Bldg Mgr)

Lev Zakharov, CAMCOR (Lokey Labs Bldg Mgr)