

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TWIN CITIES
FACILITIES AND SUPPORT SERVICES
FEBRUARY 15, 2010
Morrill Hall Room 300

[In these minutes ~ athletics district update; northrop memorial auditorium renovation; committee business; OIT update]

[These minutes reflect discussion and debate at a meeting of a committee of the University of Minnesota Senate; none of the comments, conclusions or actions reported in these minutes represent the views of, nor are they binding on, the Senate, the Administration, or the Board of Regents.]

PRESENT: Lyndel King (chair), Kevin Upton, Bernadette Corley Troge, Troy Velie, David Crane, Jeremy Todd, Laurie Scheich, Joseph Jameson, Gregory Cibuzar, Denny Olson

REGRETS: Lorelee Wederstrom, George Wilcox

ABSENT: Michael Berthelsen, Anthony DeAngelis, Gary Davis, Keith Carlson, Mathew Pensyl, Stephan Roos

GUESTS: Scott Ellison (Associate Department Director, Intercollegiate Athletics), Steven Cawley (Vice President Office of Information Technology)

Ms. King was delayed in attending the meeting and Laurie Scheich called the meeting to order.

Athletics District Update - Scott Ellison, Associate Department Director, Intercollegiate Athletics, introduced himself and provided the committee with handouts depicting Athletics two major capital projects: the basketball practice facility and the baseball stadium. The basketball practice facility will be a 40,000 square foot, two-gym complex with support facilities in the spine of the building. He stated that the pre-design work on the facility has been completed, but due to the fund raising climate the original \$23 million cost of the building was pared down to about \$15 million. This was primarily accomplished by eliminating the basement. Mr. Ellison pointed out the tunnel connecting the facility to Williams Arena, and noted that the facility location was selected in case Williams Arena is replaced in the future. Some benefits the facility would provide are:

- Increasing court time for spirit squad practices and recreational sports,
- Generating revenue for Athletics by providing rental court time, and
- Acting as a recruiting tool for the coaches.

Jeremy Todd noted the new basketball facility would eliminate surface parking spaces, and asked how this will impact game day parking for TCF Stadium. Laurie Scheich responded that Parking and Transportation Services is working on the issue of surface parking lot availability. Mr. Todd also asked about creating a greenway to invite

pedestrians down the alley to the sports centers beyond the stadium. Mr. Ellison responded that similar to the Tennis Center, there would be a setback from 4th Avenue to maintain a greenway.

Ms. Scheich inquired about the schedule for completion of the basketball facility and whether it was included in the capital planning process. Mr. Ellison responded that it was as soon as possible, but it was not in the 2012 capital plan.

Mr. Ellison next discussed the planned baseball stadium. He stated it would be located on 8th Street behind the track where the current stadium is located. It is a \$7.5 million project. They are in the active fund raising stage of the project, and have currently raised \$4 million. The stadium has a sunken design, allowing you to walk in at the concourse level and look down at the stadium. The concessions, press box, and bleachers will be replaced. There will be seating for 2500 spectators as well as sloped-grass, picnic-style seating. Additionally, the new facility will have artificial turf to allow earlier outdoor play, but spring games would still be played in the Metrodome.

Ms. Scheich asked about the construction timeframe. Mr. Ellison responded that his goal is to start the project by spring 2012.

Denny Olson asked about the parking plan for the baseball stadium. Mr. Ellison responded that it would remain the same as it is currently: the 4th street ramp and neighborhood parking. He noted that in the future, 17th Street would connect to the proposed Granary Park roadway, and a service road could connect Granary Park to the area behind the track creating a drop off turn-around lane.

Mr. Ellison stated that Athletics budgets \$1.2 to \$1.5 million per year for capital renewal and replacement projects. This year's projects include:

- Replacing the outdoor turf at Gibson-Naguraski practice facility - \$680,000,
- New weight equipment and a new floor in the weight room at the Bierman Field Athletic Building - \$300,000,
- Aquatic Center training facility - \$270,000.

He noted that adding Nebraska to the Big Ten Conference would require an additional \$129,000 in upgrades. Mr. Todd asked if the Big Ten offsets any of these costs. Mr. Ellison replied that the University would receive more money from the championship game.

Mr. Todd asked if the Recreational Sports Department and Athletics Facilities had discussed what to do with the field house in light of the new facility at recreational sports. Mr. Ellison said he did not know of any discussion about this.

Mr. Todd asked if the Minnesota Vikings would play their preseason games at the University of Minnesota. Mr. Ellison stated he was not sure whether this would happen, but noted there could be a conflict with the State Fair.

Ms. King thanked Mr. Ellison for his presentation

Committee Business - Ms. King informed the committee that Vice President of University Services, Kathleen O'Brien, requested the committee to withdraw its Resolution Supporting Capital Planning and Project Management's Efforts to Simplify Procedures and Processes. The committee agreed to withdraw the resolution.

Ms. King also informed the committee that the Senate Committee on Finance and Planning (SCFP) determined that STCFSS was no longer needed. She stated that SCFP chair, Professor Russell Luepker, assured her that STCFSS issues would be fully considered by SCFP, but the membership of SCFP would not be increased to include additional members of STCFSS. Ms. King stated that in the past there were two committee positions on SCFP for individuals with expertise in facilities and support services. She asked that any STCFSS members with particular expertise in facilities and support services interested in filling these seats submit their names to her. She stated she would forward them to Professor Luepker. Mr. King informed the committee that Professor Luepker offered to speak with it about the termination of STCFSS. The committee determined this was not necessary. Mr. Todd expressed his belief that there is a need for STCFSS, and gave the example of the way today's meeting identified the need for better collaboration between Recreational Sports and the Athletics. Ms. King indicated she would convey this to Professor Luepker.

Northrop Memorial Auditorium - Ms. King reported that the Board of Regents approved the renovation of Northrop. She stated that James Litsheim of Capital Planning and Project Management would be leading the project after Vice President Steven Rosenstone's departure. She also noted that Westbrook Hall would be demolished. Additionally, she stated that Northrop would be closed for at least a year and commencements would be held at Mariucci Arena. Mr. Todd suggested the Northrop renovation would be a good topic for the committee's April meeting given Vice President Rosenstone's departure, remaining fund raising questions, and the potential impact on buildings surrounding Northrop. Ms. King agreed that both Vice President Rosenstone and Mr. Litsheim should be invited to speak with the committee.

Mr. Todd also expressed interest in inviting Director of Parking and Transportation, Bob Baker, and Leslie Krueger to discuss the schedule for the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit (CCLRT) construction. He noted that he was asked to close classrooms in Amundson Hall due to the construction but has received no firm time line. Ms. King expressed concern about the construction's impact on the Weisman re-opening and the movement of laboratories. She noted it would be important to receive clarification on who would be paying for the movement of laboratories. Mr. Todd noted that the requested Amundson closure is further complicated by the spring closure of the 1701 Classroom Building.

Ms. King asked if the Northrop renovation included classrooms. Mr. Todd stated that there would be a large recital hall but this would not be available as an auditorium for classroom teaching. He also stated that the most recent plans did not include classrooms.

Office of Information Technology Update – Steve Cawley, Vice President of OIT, updated the committee on OIT's work as it impacts University facilities. He focused on the data center modernization and the wireless expansion. He provided the committee

with handouts on OIT's Strategic Direction for FY 2011 and the Data Center Modernization Program (DCMP).

Vice President Cawley stated the DCMP is co-led by the distributed IT directors. It is a strategy to consolidate servers and operate the University data centers more efficiently in order to enhance the use of space, and reduce capital costs, overall operation costs, and power consumption.

There will be upgrades to the power and cooling of the main data center at the West Bank Office Building. The program will also move servers out of office space and into primary data center locations. Server virtualization allows more logical servers to a piece of hardware for instance, 20 to 30 servers can be hosted on one physical server. This can reduce the number of spaces hosting servers across the University. Virtualizing 75 percent of servers on campus, will reduce the number of physical servers by 1,500.

OIT conducted a door-to-door inventory to identify all of the servers across campus, and identified 4000 servers from 50 different manufacturers in more than 225 locations. These were consolidated to a few centrally managed sites.

Vice President Cawley stated that another aspect of the project is strategic purchasing. OIT is working with the procurement office to reduce the brands of servers purchased from 50 to three. This will allow for financial savings.

OIT is also investigating containerized data centers. These come in 20 or 40 foot shipping containers eliminating the capital investment in a building. They can be located anywhere there is power, telecommunications, and chilled water. They are very efficient from a cooling standpoint and reduce the chilled water requirement. OIT is considering locating the containerized data center in the ReUse Center.

Mr. Todd asked if replacing the roof on the ReUse Center would be part of the cost of the data center. Mr. Cawley responded that no pre-design work had been done on the project, but the roof is not currently part of the data center cost. He noted that the containerized data centers could sit outside.

Vice President Cawley went on to state that the DCMP's savings are in space, power, and labor. By optimizing the servers into virtualized systems the per unit labor cost of managing the servers is lowered. Estimated total savings is \$3 to \$11 million per year. David Crane asked if there would be staff reductions in the departments and colleges. Vice President Cawley stated he did not anticipate the DCMP would lead to layoffs. Some staff would move to central OIT. There would be other staff loss through attrition.

Mr. Todd asked about resistance in moving research related servers from science and engineering departments. Mr. Cawley responded that the vast majority of servers were not research related. However, there is a committee of IT leaders looking into how the research servers that cannot be virtualized can be housed and managed more efficiently.

Joseph Jameson noted that the ReUse Center is a mixed used building and asked if there are security and fire risks to locating the containerized data center there. He also noted that locating the data center in the ReUse Center would prevent other uses of the building

such as building the solar house. Vice President Cawley responded that the containerized data center would only occupy a corner of the ReUse Center, but the pre-design and financing plans are not yet complete.

Vice President Cawley next discussed the expansion of wireless connections at the University. There are over 3,700 wireless access points on the Twin Cities campus and there are plans to install over 800 access points during the next year. OIT has been placing approximately 100 per month, but this is slowing down due to budgetary constraints. He noted that the University is a leader in wireless coverage. The wireless infrastructure is state of the art and will have a four to five year lifespan. One facilities question that has arisen is whether the University should discontinue wired connections in some buildings. This does not necessarily work for heavy research buildings because the speed is better with wired connections, but it is a future consideration for general-purpose buildings.

Mr. Todd asked if OIT would be transitioning from wired phones to Voice over Internet Protocol (VOIP). Vice President Cawley responded that VOIP is more expensive than the current switch based phone system, and the current phone system has about six years of life. He does not see the University investing in a full VOIP phone replacement. Rather, he foresees fewer phones and increased use of mobile devices and computer systems like Google voice.

Ms. King asked about the conversion to the Google mail and calendar system. Vice President Cawley responded that it is going well. All of the administrative units with the exception of the AHC have converted. He noted the larger challenge would be turning off UM Cal by July. He also noted that the AHC conversion to Google would be completed by the summer.

Ms. King asked about some of the Google features that the University chose not to implement. Vice President Cawley stated that one feature that was not implemented was the ability to share calendar information outside of the University domain. However, this will eventually be turned on after the security and support issues are resolved. Turning on the app is necessary to allow calendar sharing between campuses as they have different domains. He noted that eventually all of the Google apps will be made available, but it is important that OIT understand the use of the technology and implement new training before turning on new Google apps.

Ms. King thanked Vice President Cawley.

Hearing no further business, Ms. King adjourned the meeting.

Dawn Zugay
University Senate Office