

[In these minutes: 1. AHC Student Space Needs Discussion]

ACADEMIC HEALTH CENTER STUDENT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (AHC SCC)

MINUTES

THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2000

5:00 - 6:00

488 CHILD REHAB CENTER

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

PRESENT:

Bruce Trimble (Chair- Dentistry), Leslie Helou (Pharmacy), Emily Irwin (Medical School), Resa Jones (Public Health), Gina Lee (Medical School).

ABSENT: Heather McCurdy (Veterinary Medicine), Neil Tassoni (Nursing).

1. AHC STUDENT SPACE NEEDS DISCUSSION

Representatives from each of the AHC schools reported on collected survey results from the last meeting.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Resa Jones stated that there was nothing to report for Public Health except that the student lounge will now be cleaned by Facilities Management. The Student Senate is also working with the Dean regarding replacing the refrigerator and microwave, painting the room, and purchasing new furniture.

MEDICAL SCHOOL

Emily Irwin reported that 102 Medical School student responses were collected. Some statistics included:

- 96% of students study alone
- 36% study in groups occasionally
- 38% believe that they have adequate access to study space
- 60% would like more open quiet study rooms
- 30% would prefer 4 - 8 person study rooms
- 40% reported a hard time entering the buildings at night and on weekends
- 48% would use a key card if provided
- 65% never use the adedum
- 63% never use the Bio-Medical Library (many students commented that it is the worst facility)
- 32% would like a library that provides 24-hour access
- 44% study at off-campus libraries
- 50% never participated in a CHIP function
- 19% never use CHIP
- 33% use CHIP 5 times or more per week
- Parking is an issue for studying on campus
- Study rooms by the computer labs are used more than the adedum
- More comfortable chairs and temperature would increase the library's use

PHARMACY

Leslie Helou reported that with the 5.5% tuition increase for 2000-01, funds were available to provide the needed number of lockers to accommodate next year's students. Now the college just needs to find space for the lockers, especially before the funds are spent somewhere else.

DENTISTRY

Bruce Trimble stated that results from his college were similar to those already reported. Study space is definitely an issue since no one likes the Bio-Medical Library. Dental students would also like to see an increase in lounge space, which is harder to justify to the administration.

ADDITIONAL STUDY SPACE

Bruce Trimble then discussed a meeting that he had attended with Lorelee Wederstrom from the AHC, University Dining Services, University Police, and Facilities Management to discuss student study space. He stated that the meeting was worthwhile and that a project is moving forward to provide professional students with 24-hour access to Inside Out, Sostanza, and Moos. Security would be provided by police and monitors who patrol the buildings and who would schedule sweeps through these areas on a regular basis. For building access, a card reader would be installed on the door from the tunnel, which would then serve as the only entrance to the buildings. Parking is also free after 8 p.m. in the ramps so students would not need to pay to study. Lastly, a roll door will be installed in Sostanza, so that after hours access will only be available through CHIP, thereby limiting use to professional students.

Q: Will all AHC students be granted access to the buildings?

A: It depends on the card reader that is installed since some can only hold a set amount of card numbers.

Emily Irwin said that loud music is often heard coming from Inside Out at night. This would need to be addressed if the area were to be used for studying.

Bruce Trimble said that this concern can be raised at a future meeting. Facilities Management did question if students or custodial staff would be responsible for cleaning up after late night studying. He commented that students should be responsible for their own messes while using the room, such as leaving paper or soda cans on the tables, but custodians need to clean up messes from earlier in the day. Students need to realize that it is a privilege to use these rooms, one which can be removed if there are problems.

Q: What is the target date for this project?

A: The group would like to move quickly, maybe by the end of the semester. The total cost still need to be assessed and then funds need to be sought.

Q: Is the Medical School door from CHIP closed at night?

A: Yes it is.

Q: How will students be aware of security monitors and the 624-WALK program?

A: Placards can be placed in the three areas to inform students of the monitors' sweeps and the 624-WALK program for going to and from parking ramps.

DIEHL HALL

The committee discussed the renovations that would be necessary to make the Bio-Medical Library more inviting for student studying, such as temperature control, additional lighting, more tables, and new chairs.

In regards to the 5th floor of Diehl Hall, this space is available at the discretion of Dr. Cerra. Therefore, this committee needs to have its input included to convince Dr. Cerra of the student need for this space. While the committee would like to see it used for lounge space, Dr. Cerra has said that he will only give it to the students if it would be used for study space.

Q: Was student study space included in the plans for the new building?

A: I am not sure. Space is extremely tight now with the destruction of the JOML complex. Since the new building is still in the planning stages, student study space should be included now, instead of waiting for what remains after all departments have already moved in.

OTHER

Q: If locker space is found for Pharmacy students, when could the lockers be added?

A: Lorelee Wederstrom has this on her agenda, so Dr. Cerra just needs to give her some direction.

The committee then made the following comments about lounge space:

- A space inventory of all AHC buildings is needed to see where space exists
- Students need to work with their dean's offices

- Small groups of rooms are hard to monitor across the AHC, but might be easier at the college level
- Microwaves currently are available by Sostanza and Inside Out; if more are needed, each college should work with its students to determine the best location
- If microwaves are added, sometimes the electrical wiring needs to be redesigned

The committee then asked the following questions and made the following comments:

- How much funding is available for improvements?
- Should the amount should be divided among the colleges to be used as they see fit?
- The committee should state what it wants in improvements first and then ask for that amount
- Who is paying to have the study space completed?
- Some improvements can be made without additional space needed
- Dr. Cerra's office should be covering most of these expenses
- Committee should request permanent space in all new AHC buildings
- The long-term need for AHC students needs to be defined
- Equity is needed among schools
- Funds should be appropriated first for study space and then lounge space

2. OTHER BUSINESS

The committee discussed meeting throughout the summer months to continue these projects. It was pointed out that the AHC FCC also meets throughout the summer, with just a break in August. Members decided to discuss possible dates at the April committee meeting.

Emily Irwin then said that there have been a few problems in the Medical School computer lab now that undergraduates, from Medical School programs, are now allowed to use the facility. A few thefts have been reported, students sit at a computer all day writing e-mail, and friends save computers for other students who sometimes do not show up. If anyone has advice on how to deal with this situation, she would appreciate talking with them.

With no further business, Bruce Trimble thanked all members for attending and adjourned the meeting.

Becky Hippert
University Senate