

SCFP SUBCOMMITTEE ON TWIN CITIES FACILITIES AND SUPPORT SERVICES (STCFSS)
MINUTES OF MEETING
SEPTEMBER 16, 2003

[In these minutes: Welcome, Review of Committee Charge, Issues for 2003 - 2004, Ex-Officio Vacancy on SCFP]

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

PRESENT: Calvin Alexander, chair, Sharon Folk, Edward Kosciolk, Dan Allen, Steve Fitzgerald, Laurie Scheich, Steve Spehn, John Adams, Gordon Girtz, Brian Horgan, George Wilcox

REGRETS: Carrie Meyer, Lorelee Wederstrom, Gary A. Davis, Gary Jahn, Patrice Morrow

ABSENT: Donald Kelsey

I). Professor Alexander called the meeting to order and welcomed all those present.

II). REVIEW OF COMMITTEE CHARGE: Professor Alexander noted that in conjunction with the reorganization of the Senate structure, Professor Judith Martin, chair of the SCC, requested that all Senate committees review their charge and make suggestions for changes. Copies of the charge were distributed to the members for their review. Some members questioned what departments were covered under 'support service units'? Laurie Schiech from Auxiliary Services defined support service units as non-academic units that support academic units on campus. Professor Alexander volunteered to get clarification on what constitutes support service units from STCFSS' parent committee, SCFP.

The Committee wordsmithed the charge and recommended the following changes be made: *"Under the general direction of the Senate Committee on Finance and Planning, the Subcommittee on Twin Cities Facilities and Support Services ("the Subcommittee") shall review the facilities and support services ~~operations of support service units~~ on the Twin Cities campus, and make recommendations it deems appropriate to the Senate Committee on Finance and Planning. The issues and units it addresses each year shall be those agreed upon by the chair of the Committee on Finance and Planning and the chair of the Subcommittee."*

Professor Alexander noted that if members think of other changes they would like to propose to contact Renee Dempsey, Senate staff.

III). Professor Alexander encouraged members to participate in a discussion to solicit ideas about issues the Committee should address in 2003 - 2004. Ideas that were generated and highlights from the discussion included the following:

- Unresolved issues from 2002 - 2003 e.g. construction and operation of new buildings.
 - Recurring funding for classrooms. There is a well-defined budget requirement for recurring funding for technology-upgraded classrooms. Steve Fitzgerald noted, however, that central classrooms are only funded for 22% of this life-cycle requirement. This is a major recurring funding issue that is getting worse. Starting in the summer of 2004, the initial group of classrooms that received the technology upgrade will reach the end of their service life. Mr. Fitzgerald volunteered to keep the Committee informed regarding the classroom funding issue.
 - Custodial services and support and funding for these services.
- Proposed Gopher football stadium. Members comments on this idea included:
 - There are already a lot of parties and governance committees looking into this issue so maybe STCFSS should focus its efforts elsewhere.
 - The operations aspect of a football stadium deserves the attention of STCFSS so the University knows what it is getting

involved in before such a structure is built. Oftentimes, in the past, buildings have been built without a lot of consideration as to how they will operate once they are built. It is incumbent upon STCFSS to make a recommendation concerning the need to have the stadium run efficiently.

- Often when such facilities are built the impact to other units on campus is ignored. Having a stadium on campus would impact many support services and the Subcommittee should examine this.
- A suggestion was made that there be a financial, operational and environmental impact study conducted in relation to the proposed stadium.
- A recommendation was made to talk to Professor Chuck Campbell, chair SCFP, regarding SCFP's and the FCC's involvement in this issue. It was further suggested that STCFSS does not jump out ahead of the issue.

Professor Alexander will discuss with Professor Campbell the Committee's interest in this issue.

- Receive an update from Vice President of University Services Kathleen O'Brien regarding the organizational changes that have taken place in that unit.
- Examine the rigid design structure used in new construction. Such rigidity hinders the University from easily and inexpensively revamping facilities as needs change. It was noted that the AHC is building its new facilities using an open lab design. This design allows labs to more easily and inexpensively expand as needs change. A suggestion was made to invite a representative from Design and Construction Services to speak about the broad standards the University uses during the construction process because many of them do not make logical sense e.g. flat roofs that leak. Another concern was raised regarding the small size of faculty offices. It was noted that the Minnesota Facilities Model dictates square footage allowances for faculty office space. When was the last time this model was updated?
- Address accessibility problems in classrooms. Steve Fitzgerald noted that less than 30% of the University's general-purpose classrooms are accessible. Attempts to use the Fire and Life Safety portion of HEAPR (Higher Education Asset Preservation and Repair) funding to

address these issues are underway; however, this is a long-standing process.

- A comment was made that it would be interesting to uncover how facilities projects on campus are funded. Although it was mentioned earlier that Facilities Management's O & M budget in conjunction with HEAPR funds finance a majority of University projects, it would seem there would need to be other resources as well. How much does it cost to actually run the University and where are the resources coming from and how are they being allocated?
- Steve Spehn noted that within the last year Facilities Management has completed a facilities' commissioned assessment. All buildings and systems on the Twin Cities campus have been inspected to determine the individual needs of each building. Mr. Spehn stated, as a result of this assessment, an exhaustive list of needs has been identified for each building. Professor Alexander expects systematic patterns to be uncovered with respect to problem areas in each building. Such problems hopefully will shed light on how to avoid similar problems with new construction. The Subcommittee is interested in learning more about the results of this assessment.
- Mr. Gordon Girtz suggested members be given a tour of the utility tunnels. While the University is extremely dependent on this very fragile infrastructure it invests relatively little into maintain it. Mr. Girtz believes strongly this infrastructure is critical to the survival of the other structures on campus. Oftentimes when outside architects plan buildings for the campus, they neglect to consider the infrastructure necessary to operate these facilities.
- Discuss energy issues in more detail. Professor Alexander is reasonably certain Professor Chuck Campbell would be willing to address this issue with the Subcommittee.
- Conduct a review of residential dining, followed by lunch in one of the residence halls.
- Laurie Scheich provided members with information that Auxiliary Services will be presenting to STCFSS' parent committee, the Senate Committee on Finance & Planning (SCFP) in 2003 - 2004:
 - Parking
 - Review of Aramark and Coca Cola contracts
 - Overview of the Bookstore

- Tour the Andersen Library repository and continue to discuss the issues faced by this facility. Professor Alexander noted that the most recent efforts to improve the temperature and humidity control in Andersen Library appear to have made a significant improvement. Additionally, Professor Alexander will provide members with an update on the Andersen Library shotcrete issue at the Subcommittee's next meeting.
- Examine the impact to the University's facilities and support services as the institution considers moving to a trimester system. The trimester approach may be a possible solution to more effectively use the University's facilities year round.
- Explore how space should be allocated in new buildings. Additionally, use the Minnesota Facilities Model to explore square footage, utilization and efficiency issues.
- Invite Ron Holden from the University's Building Code Division to speak to the new uniform building code directives in laboratories as it relates to firewalls. Mr. Girtz volunteered to contact Ron Holden about attending a future STCFSS meeting.
- Tour Coffman Memorial Union.

IV). Professor Alexander noted that according to Senate Bylaws, two members of STCFSS serve as ex-officio members on the parent committee, Senate Committee on Finance and Planning (SCFP). Professor Alexander, as chair of STCFSS, will fill one of these positions, and asked for a volunteer to fill the second vacancy. Steve Fitzgerald agreed to fill the other position.

V). Hearing no further business, Professor Alexander adjourned the meeting.

Renee Dempsey
University Senate