



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA DULUTH

Driven to Discover

# Facilities Committee

(a subcommittee of the Strategic Planning and Budget Committee)

**Date:** Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2014  
**Time:** 1:04 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.  
**Location:** 520 DAdB

## Minutes

*Status:*  
Approved 02/10/14

**Present:** Harlan Stech, John King, Hannah Keil, Laura Lott, Patrick Keenan, Jane Hovland, Steve Bardolph, Hannah Osterheim, Randy Skalberg, Rebecca Teasley, BreAnn Graber (Staff Support)

**Excused:** Mindy Granley, Randall Seifert, William Salmon, David Worley, Mark Nierengarten

### Call to order—

Pat Keenan called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m. on Tuesday, January 28, 2014.

### Approval of Minutes—

Laura Lott made the motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded. There was no further discussion; the minutes were approved on unanimous vote.

### Strategic Planning & Budget Committee Update—

Pat Keenan will provide an update from his attendance of the Strategic Planning & Budget Committee at the next meeting, scheduled for Feb. 10, 2014.

### Farm Master Plan Presentation—

Rebecca Teasley (a member of the ad hoc farm committee) briefly talked about the ad hoc farm committee that has been together for a number of years exploring plans for the farm property (located about four miles northeast of campus off of Snively/Jean Duluth Road). The group has worked with Tom Dobbs of Hay Dobbs—an architecture, planning and interiors firm—to create a Farm Master Plan, aiming to incorporate the plethora of ideas brought forth by multiple areas of the institution. The group wanted to give the Facilities Committee an opportunity to voice any concerns or ideas they had with the information presented before the ad hoc farm committee moves forward in its planning process.

Tom Dobbs presented a PowerPoint draft of the UMD Research & Field Studies Center (RFSC) Master Plan\*—also known as the Farm Master Plan—outlining the following:

- Planning assumptions
- Current activities—sustainable agriculture, white pine research, willow trees, hybrid poplar, biology, facilities storage, historic preserve, heritage orchard
- Opportunities
- Threats/Limitations
- Guiding principles
- Initiatives—improved on-site circulation, parking, site security, visitor amenities, permanent research support amenities, improved visual appeal, improved visibility, clearly defined precincts, firing range, defined interpretive areas, protocol for interacting with research, zone creation for future research/users, policies for “claiming” space
- Next steps

*Note:* Details of the RFSC Master Plan will be shared more publicly once the Plan’s draft has become finalized.

Following the presentation, Tom Dobbs and Rebecca Teasley answered questions from committee members regarding the property’s historical use, why the timeline of a 20-year plan with a 10-year focus was chosen, and how initiatives were selected to be included in the Farm Master Plan. Dobbs discussed how the property was a working farm at one time and how a 10-year focus is more manageable from a “planning for action” standpoint—especially when activities

need to align with available funding. Teasley informed committee members that the farm committee had reached out to all department heads (among others), inviting them to present ideas/recommendations for the property. All initiatives received were considered and incorporated into the Farm Master Plan.

Facilities Committee members also voiced concerns about the potential impact some of the proposed initiatives may have on the environment, UMD (in general) and the surrounding community. Teasley mentioned that the farm committee is still discussing how the property could be managed, how research could be tracked, and how the initiatives could impact UMD and the community.

Teasley will share the Facilities Committee's feedback with the rest of the farm committee. The farm committee will take these issues into consideration as it moves forward in its planning process; it will also share the final draft of the RFSC Master Plan with the Facilities Committee.

**Meeting Adjourned 2:15 p.m.**

\*Electronically distributed to Facilities Committee

*Respectfully Submitted,  
BreAnn Graber*