Space Committee Meeting September 14, 2005


Brown Hall Capital Project

David Dakin summarized the program and budget to date. The initial program request for two additional large lecture halls and the same number of classrooms cannot be built within the Capital Outlay budget of $12.6 million. Handouts included information on the proposed program, which has 30-seat classrooms, one 48-seat classroom, and one large lecture hall. Adding additional large lecture rooms to the project will require additional funds from WMU. The Provost requested a minimum or two 48-seat classrooms. Consensus was to proceed with the existing project budget. David intends to complete the Schematic Design submittal to the State Department of Management and Budget (DMB). To speed up the design process, it may be possible to request waiving the Design Development submittal to the State. David will confirm the submission schedule, the Legislative JCOS meeting dates, and the waiver procedures.

Brown Hall Classroom Relocations

Susan Kamman presented a spreadsheet that assigned each of Brown Hall’s classrooms to another location on the Main Campus. The Registrar is to double-check the list. Several of the classrooms require minor modifications or clean-up to accommodate classes. The majority of the proposed relocations are into rooms that are listed as classrooms with the Registrar but are under-utilized. There are no proposed locations at this time for the Communications Teaching labs. The University Cinema at the Little Theatre is recommended as the alternative location for all large lecture classes that teach film studies.

The intention is to vacate Brown Hall immediately after Spring Semester 2006, and re-open for Fall 2007 classes.

Sindecuse

Susan and Patrick met with Carol Eddy and Tyler Watson (new Director of Health Promotions and Education) to review the Health Centers’ space requests for the 3rd floor of Sindecuse. Susan will prepare a program to address the long-term use of the 3rd floor, including accommodating the Brown Hall classroom relocations. For Fall 2005 and Spring 2006, the Health Center will move the Health Promotions classes and several offices into the third floor, while working on the improved facilities for Sports Medicine on the 1st floor.
Research Space Allocation and Haenicke Hall

Wendy Ford summarized the report prepared by Fred Einspahr, who conducted an external evaluation of Haenicke Hall’s laboratory space utilization and allocation. Einspahr concluded that Haenicke Hall was at or near potential capacity, although there were several opportunities for small space reorganizations, and there was little capacity in other existing facilities on campus. Recommendations included forming a research space management committee, developing a lab allocation plan, and renovating other existing buildings to provide more labs. Wendy is meeting with the Department Chairs to discuss the report and will share their comments with this committee.

Consequences of not expanding the University’s research space includes loss of current faculty to better facilities elsewhere, and hindering the professional development – and chance for tenure - of new faculty. The need for new research labs has been considered with the new Chemistry Building project, where a research addition has been proposed to connect with the Chemistry Building. Mr. Beam requested that Evie find out some incremental lab construction cost estimates.

Division of MultiCultural Affairs

The DMA requested additional space in Trimpe for storage. This request was denied, in order to save the requested room for Brown Hall classroom relocation.

Whitman Saddle building / Geosciences Core Lab

All the Geosciences Core Samples and related lab activities are being relocated from West Hall and other Main Campus buildings to the leased Whitman Saddle building. Mr. Beam is funding TCom and Security costs, and about $100,000 is available from a donor to help with move and set-up.

The next meeting will be at 8:30a.m. on October 12, 2005.
(Subsequent meetings will be on November 9 and December 14.)