The University Committee on Facilities met at 1pm on 21 October 2021 on zoom.


Absent were Laura Bierema, Matthew Bilskie, Jon Calabria, Nancy Dellaria, Jack Hu, Laura Kelley, Paul Klute, Assaf Oshri, Rahul Shrivastav, Christopher Shumway, Kari Turner, Alejandra Villegas.

Determining that a quorum was present.

Schaller moved that the minutes for 31 Aug 2021 be approved. Sellers seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by acclimation.

There was general discussion about a proposed resolution to change the bylaws (see attached) to shrink the size of our committee to achieve quorum. Wilson explained some of the reasoning for why the VP of Student Affairs was invited to join the committee, including dealing with the problem of racist and anti-semitic graffiti that had previously appeared on campus. Darden notified the committee of an update to the titles of the ex-officio members and Nelson updated those titles in the document.

Darden moved that the VP for Instruction might continue to be included on the committee given the importance of instruction on campus. Nelson suggested that the faculty committee also represented instruction. St. Pierre pointed out that if issues that involved the VP for Instruction were required that the committee should reach out and invite him. Nelson resolved as chair to put the committee’s meetings on the academic calendar so that all excluded VPs could attend at any time.

McClung and Wang raised general questions about the need for these changes. Nelson pointed out that the committee was the largest on campus and that we risked not having quorum. Wang pointed out that there were other facilities committees on campus. St. Pierre clarified that this was the University Council Facilities Committee, which represented faculty and not the same as the university’s various facilities committee including the committee on space.

The motion to accept the new bylaws was proposed by Bettinger, Jia-Sheng Wang seconded. The motion passed with 17 ayes; two no votes: Silk and Darden; two abstentions: Johnson and Wilson.

A general question was raised about the question of airflow in university buildings. Wilson reported that facilities had done many things to promote the increase of airflow and the use of UV radiation on airflow across the campus buildings.
We have done a lot of things to increase airflows and air changes on campus. There is a website that lists those changes at (Ralph will share website). There is a major investment in UV radiation in student areas including the Miller Learning Center. He noted that Darden is involved in the issue of what are standards for new facilities moving forward. She will be on a panel discussing USG-wide changes on November 18th. We should ask Jason Lambert to the next meeting to outline some of these changes.

Jamie McClung asked if there was a taxonomy or structure to partition space on campus. Johnson noted that space management, including which schools get what buildings or parts of buildings, comes under the purview of the Assistant Vice President and Director of Space Management, Krista Coleman-Silvers. He noted that the VP of Research assigns space for research. Facilities management then takes their direction in labeling the types of space on campus (instruction, labs, research, meeting) and records them in the university system office.

The committee adjourned at 1:40pm