Planning & Development Committee Meeting
November 16, 1998
(Revised Minutes)


Guests Present: Ahmed Abdelal-Dean of Arts and Sciences, Sam Dietz-Dean of Education, Joseph Fisher-Assistant V.P. of Planning and Development, Janice Griffith-Dean of Law, Sidney Harris-Dean of CBA, Dr. Susan Kelley-Associate Dean Health Sciences, Dr. Edith Manns for School of Policy Studies, Jerry Rackliffe-Director of Budget and Planning,Huss Fenwick, Harry Wyatt, Bob Shuford, Anthony Roberts.


Committee Chairman, Vijay Vaishnavi, called the meeting to order at 1:08 p.m.

The first order of business was to approve the minutes of the Planning and Development Committee on October 19, 1998. Dr Crimmins made a motion to approve the minutes, Missy Cody seconded the motion. After changing Dr. Ron Henry from absent to Present at the meeting, the minutes were approved.

Update on the Campus Master Plan

The Georgia State University Master Plan Draft Narrative was distributed. Harry Wyatt reviewed the Main Street Plan which still focuses on a redesigned Decatur Street with wider sidewalks, trees and landscaping, decreased automobile traffic, drop off areas for cars and buses, some parallel parking and more retail. The plan includes enhancements for Library Plaza and places support functions outside the core area with housing and parking located across the connector. There are general areas designated for future expansion but no specific acquisitions are noted.

The Endorsement Procedure is included in the plan. It is expected that CBSAC will send its recommendations for the plan to the Planning and Development Committee on December 3rd and the endorsements from the Senate will be heard at the December 15th meeting.

The Regents staff strongly suggested that replacement of buildings that will become obsolete within ten years be a consideration as well as the need for additional academic space. These two suggestions are a driving force behind the 10 year plan.

Works in progress for completion by 2002 are the Fairlie Poplar Classroom Building, the Recreation Center, the Research Building beside G deck and housing on the police station property. On the 2007 plan two possible academic buildings are the Humanities building that would replace Sparks Hall and a Digital Sciences building that would house like-disciplines like Computer Information Systems, Math, Decision Sciences and the Center for Digital Commerce. Also, vacating the Counseling Center and Courtland Building would provide a site for an academic building of possibly 10 to 12 stories.

The answer to LaKisha Williams question about housing was there is no specific housing program at this time. The funds will probably come from public/private partnerships and the developers will be encouraged to target certain market segments such as married students, international students, graduate students, etc.
On the Capital Projects To Be Considered list the Teaching Laboratory and Research Laboratory are still high priorities. There are now two academic office buildings on the list with the addition of the Digital Sciences Building.

In answer to Dean Harris’ comment that this was the first he had heard about a Digital Sciences building, Joe Fisher said it is his understanding that the premise is to get like-disciplines together. During the conversation Ron Henry emphasized that these plans are conceptual plans.

Dean Griffith asked where the Law School is on the priority list. She has neither adequate student space nor instructional space and would like to have a Law School building on the list with the Humanities and Digital Sciences buildings. Expansion of the Law Library is included in the Urban Life Ten-Year Plan.

Dr. Abdelal suggested having a quadrangle of academic buildings including one for a future Law School on the Police Department site and move the housing on the backside of the site elsewhere.

Academic Needs and the Master Plan

Dr. Abdelal noted that the names of buildings should be more descriptive of their uses and suggested changing the Teaching Laboratory to Teaching/Research Laboratory or the Science Laboratory Building, the Academic Office Building to the Humanities Departments and Learning Facilities, and the Digital Sciences Building to Computing Facility. He also suggested leaving the Police Department site as green space on the 2002 board without housing.

The many comments regarding the placement of housing included the idea of keeping housing on the fringes of the campus on streets like Edgewood Avenue or Butler Street where services such as drug and grocery stores could also be located.

Carol Winkler noted that at the APACE meeting there was discussion about the inconsistencies of the square footage needs for academic facilities in the report versus on the visual boards. The suggestion was made to describe offices as learning facilities so the report numbers would be more consistent with the visuals.

Harry Wyatt explained that the report numbers reflect the national standard for the estimated number of people. We could challenge the standard but now we are working within the guidelines and the gross numbers cannot be adjusted too much. The numbers reflect types of space and the number of faculty and staff, not the number of students.

Dr. Harris endorsed Sam Deitz’s proposal for the Health Sciences/Physical Education tie- with Grady.

Many comments and suggestions were made during the discussion. Dr. Crimmins suggested that two additional circles be inset on the visual boards showing the Alpharetta campus and the Residence Village. Dr. Henry said that the Provost Office would make the changes to the narrative and distribute copies to the committee.

Current Budget Year and MRR Funds

Jerry Rackliffe distributed a handout on the status of the Moves and Renovation (M&R) budget and the MRRF budget as of November 16th. Dr Crimmins said that admissions figures for transfer and freshman students for Spring Semester are down from this time last year by 50% which could cause budget shortfalls and further delays of some projects such as the Wachovia computer lab and furniture purchases for Psychology.

Dr Decatur said the Psychology Clinic renovation would begin after the Wachovia Building is finished. The Georgia Building Authority (GBA) recently provided project estimates that are $2.4 million over budget but the estimates include a 25% contingency, which is high. The norm is a 10% contingency. Therefore, the
$527,000 budgeted for the Psychology Clinic renovation may have to be used to complete Wachovia. CBSAC is working with the Georgia Building Authority now on alternatives. GBA provided a total projected cost and will now provide cost details so CBSAC can determine which program components or floors can be delayed. He also noted that there is more flexibility in the Moves and Renovation Budget than in the MRRF Budget (State funds).

**New Business**

The next Planning and Development Committee meeting is Thursday, December 3rd, at 3:00 p.m. The agenda includes consideration of the Campus Master Plan for approval and, hopefully, consideration of the Library Strategy Plan.

Recorded by Sally Smith