

MEETING NOTES

Meeting Date : March 20, 2009 Project : UO Lewis Integrative Science Building
Author : Laurie Canup Job No. : THA Project 00810
Re : Coordinating User Group – SD Session 1

Present:

User Group Members

Rich Linton
Jim Hutchison (co-chair)
Mark Lonergan
Andrzej Proskurowski
Helen Neville
Rich Glover
Lou Moses (co-chair)
Mike Haley
Mike Jefferis
Corey Griffin

UO Representatives

Fred Tepfer

Consultants

Roger Snyder, HDR
Thom Hacker, THA
Chuck Cassell, HDR
Laurie Canup, THA
Amanda Petretti, THA

Summary Notes

- Roger introduced new team members.
- Laurie gave an overview of project status and stated that progress is based on a few assumptions which, if changed, would impact the results. Making an assumption that we can connect to Klamath across the roof of Streisinger needs vetting. The overall building plan will need vetting with Building Code, Fire Code and the Campus Plan. Available space will be shaped by building infrastructure needs. Any one of these items could re-direct the outcome.
- Thom reviewed campus patterns and project patterns.
- Thom presented new block diagrams and stated that the BBMI program (including imaging and vivarium) fits onto 3 floors, leaving the 4th floor and basement available for MatPhi. This results in 10 bench labs per floor on floors 2-4 or 30 bench labs total available.
- Thom stated that there were 3 main schemes to show. *Offices West, Dry Labs West, and Sandwich Scheme* (intermixing offices and dry labs on alternating floors.) All 3 schemes put the vivarium on the first floor which connects to Streisinger, locate imaging on the first floor to the east and the wet labs to the north with the atrium beginning at the 2nd floor.
- Fred reminded the group that the campus plan calls for open space and the proposed designs would require an amendment to the campus plan.
- Jim stated that there has been a strong foundation laid to make an amendment to the plan for the benefit of the project and the overall quality of experience on the campus. Creating a spring board for a future bridge across Franklin reinforces this improved campus experience.
- Thom showed a few atriums which expressed the quality of light and plant life that might be possible, reminding the group that we are interested in creating places for people to gather and that we'd like to explore the use of wood.
- Andrzej referenced Aalto's Mt Angel as a good example where wood is used.
- Thom discussed *Dry Labs West* having the benefit of dry and wet labs colocated and allows all offices to have windows to the exterior. Grad students are located at the knuckle between Dry Labs and Offices and therefore become the "Keepers of the Labs".

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- Chuck stated that Grad students could be in closer proximity to faculty offices as long as they are not in an open area just outside of the faculty office doors.
- Helen said that *Offices West* is a better arrangement because it puts them closer to the science complex.
- Fred agreed and said that the *Offices East* scheme locates the offices too far from labs and the rest of the science complex.
- Thom reviewed the *Sandwich Scheme* in more detail. Offices and Dry labs flip flop east and west / floor to floor. Economically, the stacking schemes might afford more efficiency.
- Helen stated that she likes the flexibility and diversity of the *Sandwich Scheme*.
- Roger stated that there might be more architectural opportunity with the *Sandwich Scheme* but that either scheme will ultimately provide great opportunity.
- Chuck asked for user “Buy-In” on the clusters, sizes of spaces, and number of modules so that we can begin to play within blocks of spaces. It appears the building accommodates 5 more wet lab modules than the program. The proposed plans put informatics into those modules. Chuck asked MatPhi if they would choose the wet lab space over the basement.

User Comments on Schemes

- Andrzej – stated that informatics needs closer proximity to Deschutes and advocated for more space due to a new hire.
- Jim reminded the group that space allocation is not based on hires. We need to think hard and decide if this is the right place for this program. We need to figure out how to integrate informatics into the plan in a way that it is a benefit for all and is the best use of the space. Is there a higher vision on what Informatics can do to support the vision of the project? If not, what will provide the best outcome for the building?
- It was suggested that transparency to the campus plan should be encouraged between Oregon Hall and Deschutes in the south bar of the building.
- Mike J. reminded the group that a tall building on this site might upset Oregon Hall users who have had access to nice views for many years.
- Lou stated that he likes *Offices West or the Sandwich Scheme*, but thought that *Offices West* provided more continuity with the Science Complex.
- Helen stated that the architectural opportunities (terraces) offered by the *Sandwich Scheme* might be worth a higher construction cost.
- Thom stated that architectural opportunities are available in *Offices West* scheme by offsetting the offices floor to floor and said that the design may ultimately utilize ideas from both schemes.
- Chuck stated that 20K SF might be available in the basement. If MatPhi takes 15 bench labs that only leaves 4K SF available for them in the basement based on the current maximum program space allocation.
- Laurie reminded the team that until we meet with the Mechanical Engineers, 20K SF might not be available in the basement.
- Thom stated that there will be a direct connection between the basement and the Lokey Labs. We currently don’t show a grand entry, but are planning to re-use the current Lokey Lab entry. There will be a hole in the slab to bring more daylight into the space.
- Mark said that it might be a benefit to the project to provide a grand stair down to Lokey Labs which might provide a stronger connection.
- Chuck stated that if we provide a grand stair, usable space in the basement will be lost.
- Mark said that the users need to know what would be lost to be able to evaluate this. He also stated that it is important to provide good access for large equipment to the instrument space and Lokey Labs and asked if it was possible to add a freight elevator.
- Fred stated that the University doesn’t like to maintain freight elevators and cranes are much easier to deal with in the long run.
- When discussing overall space for MatPhi, it appears that we might be able to build a larger building than the program allows, possibly providing the opportunity for shelled space. Jim reminded the group that at one time Lokey was to be totally shelled and fundraising provided all of the funds needed to complete the facility. He said we need to maximize the instrumentation space in the basement even if it is shelled for now and stated that they need to know the financial implications for decisions. Jim asked what the cost of the architectural freedom was and stated

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that we need to understand the trade offs. If the *Sandwich Scheme* offers the most flexibility, we need to know the related cost. This gives users a choice of proximity to lab.

- Roger stated that we could begin working with our estimator to help the decision making process.
- Mike H. stated that he prefers *Offices West* and *Sandwich Scheme*, but terraces tend to be underutilized and if there is added cost, would it be worth it. We should maximize efficiency to get the most from the building.
- Rich G. prefers the *Sandwich Scheme* if it incorporates more of the integrated science approach. We should try to understand which scheme best supports integration.
- Mark said that if MatPhi can locate offices on the roof of Streisinger, there could be alternate space provided on the south bar for uses other than office – could instrument space be provided in south bar of the fourth floor?
- Rich L. thanked the team for the good work and said that he was happy to see the options and flexibility. He stated that the team should maximize the footprint as the budget will increase, although it will be a while before we know by how much. There are several funding opportunities (Vivarium, Informatics and more). He encouraged the idea of shelling space as needed, while maintaining maximum available space.
- Roger inquired about the timing of extra funding decisions. He explained that the design team can design flexibly up to a certain part of the process, but we will reach a point where we will have to make decisions. Rich said there is not a solid understanding of timing at this point.
- Fred reminded the team that by locating the vivarium tight to Streisinger, we are blocking access for building services. There is another challenge with windows on the east face of Streisinger – we need to maintain clearance here rather than locate conference rooms directly adjacent. We should design the east wing structurally adequate to add the fourth floor in the future, or shell a fourth floor instead. We should look for ways to maximize space. Lastly he said that when one enters on the first floor from the south, if the vivarium is located on the first floor, one would enter facing a blank wall. Is it possible to locate inhabited space at this location instead?
- Mark reminded the team that the connection to Klamath over the roof is very important.
- Thom stated that the floor lines don't align and ramps will be required.
- Chuck reminded the team that certain ideas need vetting. For example the "Home Base" concept was used on another campus and is now full of equipment. We need to make sure that if we create space it will be the best and highest use.
- The emerging themes:
 - A. Architectural diversity is desired but the client needs to understand the costs.
 - B. *Sandwich Scheme* and *Offices West* allow the most flexibility. Both will be explored at this time.
 - C. Maximize basement space.
- Meeting adjourned at eleven.

END OF NOTES

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