

PUP Committee meeting
January 17, 2013

Minutes

In attendance: Nancy Baker, Jim Becker, Jeanine Buchanich, Dave DeJong, Buck Favorini, Joe Fink, Irene Frieze, Susanna Leers (co-chair), J.P. Matychak, Paul Munro, Mark Scott, Eli Shorak, Kathryn Trent, Pat Weiss (co-chair), John Wilds, Sarah Winston, Laura Zullo.

1. The meeting was called to order at 3 pm. Minutes of the October and November meetings were approved as presented.
2. The co-chairs announced that a discussion about the Sustainability Subcommittee, which had been on the circulated meeting Agenda, would be tabled until a future meeting because members of the Faculty Senate Executive Board had asked for more time.
3. Kathy Trent, who is the head of the facilities grounds crew, was introduced and gave an interesting presentation about the work she and her team do. She emphasized the underlying commitment to sustainability that helps guide planning and decision-making about the university grounds. The green procedures used by groundspeople include:
 - Using water from Oakland aquifer (free) to water flowers and hanging plants not convenient to hose.
 - Mulching lawn mowers "green manure"
 - Minimal fertilization of lawns
 - No chemical fertilizers - mushroom manure
 - Very limited spraying
 - Increased use of perennials, native and drought-tolerant plants
 - Less grass, more ground cover
 - Monitoring and replacing diseased trees early (tree company can image them? to reveal dead spots)
 - Removed plant material is picked up by contractor; we buy it back as compost. Irrigation limited and at optimal time (early morning; nighttime water stays on plants and can result in fungus; midday, quick evaporation)
 - Rooftop gardens aka "green roofs" on several buildings – one is being built now at Hillman Library

Jim Becker suggested creating maps of gardens, posted outside at the entrance to garden areas, for more awareness and better enjoyment. (Facilities)

4. Update from Facilities:

- New Freshman dorm - ready July
- Bookstore renovation – completed in May or June
- Hillman Library – the plaza on the first floor is being rebuilt with a green rooftop garden installed; will be completed in next couple of months
- Trees Hall: some improvements have been made to old and worn areas
- Salk Hall renovation – steel is going up, design issue delays
- Graduate School of Public Health - September move-in expected, labs first
- Benedum - Several floors will be renovated, complete in 2015
- Clapp Hall renovation beginning soon
- Future renovation of Allen Hall (O'Hara St)
- Massive project being planned to replace all elevators in the Cathedral of Learning; will have modern destination-based elevator system; twin system a possibility (2 elevators per shaft, atop each other)

It was suggested that PUP might look at accessibility issues on campus; possible inventory of dorms with respect to accessibility.

5. The meeting was adjourned at 4:00. The next meeting is scheduled for Feb. 14, 2013, at 3 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Susanna Leers