

Infrastructure Council Minutes

February 14, 2019

2:00 p.m.

Pugh 150

Present: Ronald Fuller, Bernard Hauser, Ann Wehmeyer, Keith Schneider, Raymond Issa, Margaret Fields, Gail Hansen, Megan Forbes, Rick Goodnight, Richard Scholtz, Laurie Bialosky, Keith Rambo, Michael Dark, John Duncan and Ray Thomas.

1. Call to Order – Bernard Hauser, Chair

The meeting was called to order at 2:01 p.m.

2. Approval of January 17, 2019 Minutes

The minutes were approved.

3. Margaret Fields—Animal infestation of Campus Buildings

-CLAS Associate Dean Margaret Fields shared concerns about animal infestations in the CLAS areas of campus, including a cat colony infestation resulting in classrooms with urine-soaked tiles and light fixtures and fecal matter deposits in the vent system and on the floors. Clean up and efforts to minimize health risks continue to be addressed by Environmental Health & Safety but help is needed to amplify the message that feeding cats and strays on campus is compounding the problem.

-Feeding issues include feral cat domestication and the increased dependence on humans for feeding as well as health risks to pregnant and other individuals and animals.

-Other animals have been found in Turlington from people leaving windows open.

-Operation Catnip will neuter and return cats to their wild environment but sometimes traps are removed by well-intended people.

-October and early autumn are ideal times to alert and help educate campus members to not feed cats because increased feedings typically occur when the weather is colder. Council agrees a submission should be forwarded for inclusion in the Provost's *Faculty Update* newsletter in the Fall. Margaret Fields will forward to Council Chair the email announcement used in the past by CLAS.

4. Chair's Report

- The Research & Scholarship Council and Steering Committee have discussed the increasing burden on faculty in relation to additional reporting requirements of outside activities and disclosures. The university hopes to negate conflicts of interests for faculty and be in compliance with nationally and agency mandated regulations but there is concern that this is generating a great deal of additional paperwork and effort/time commitment for faculty members, staff, and approving administrators.

-Lisa Deal, Director of UF Procurement, addressed the Faculty Senate Budget Council to discuss recent p-card changes and policies designed to reduce university risks and possible fraudulent activities and is available if anyone has inquiries or if their unit wishes to arrange p-card training or policy overviews.

5. [Utilization of new parking lots](#) - Ron Fuller, Associate Director, Transportation and Parking Services

-Four new, temporary lots have been constructed to help replace the 350 spaces lost across from the book store and the 600 spaces lost in the commuter lot due to new construction. The current utilization of these lots was discussed:

-The Fifield Hall lot adds 490 green spaces and has beefed-up bus service and lighting. There is not a lot of staff and faculty ridership on RTS so a dedicated shuttle would likely be more widely utilized.

Because of its location and size and because it is a green lot, Fifield has a lower utilization of rate of 19 percent. It is expected to be more heavily utilized during the baseball and softball season.

-In the Norman lot, which is on the eastern half of Norman Field, there are 161 orange (and official business) spaces added. The Norman lot was almost immediately fully occupied; drivers tend to park in the new area rather than on the roof of the parking garage, so this is being reviewed.

-The Archer Road lot is located on the western perimeter of the Cancer & Genetics and Emerging Pathogens building and has 159 blue spaces and ten shared orange and blue. The Archer Road lot utilization is averaging 77 percent.

-The Flavel lot is located near Rec Sports and offers 230 orange and green student spaces. Staff green decals are not allowed in Flavel but is in Fifield. The Flavel lot utilization rate is approaching full capacity at 80 percent.

6. Reporting of Contributing Committees and Administrative Liaisons:

- **Lakes, Vegetation, and Landscaping Committee (J) -- Gail Hansen**

- Alpha Gamma Rho submitted a request to remove 80 trees but the committee will propose to keep 14 and remove 66. A one-to-one mitigation rate was requested, but the committee prefers to maintain the standard mitigation rate.

- A tea garden/floating island project has been requested in a small environmental area by gator pond. The committee approved this.

- The committee approved the removal of a large Live Oak needing removal because it is leaning by Norman Hall; the Laurel Oak which is anchoring it will be removed.

- **Parking and Transportation Committee (J) -- Keith Rambo**

- The [proposed 2019-20 decal pricing](#) was distributed. This will move forward to the Board of Trustee (BOT) for approval consideration at the March BOT meeting for a 5.5% increase in all decals, from carpool to gold decals.

- The committee reviewed the [Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity proposal](#) and parking area which will support parking at the new frat house, including the site plan for the building. A location for bicycle parking is still being discussed.

- License plate recognition will be used for forthcoming campus virtual gated parking.

- **Land Use and Facilities Planning Committee (J) -- Megan Forbes**

- After traffic discussion, the committee approved of the new UAA-41 - Baseball Project inside, but is holding on outside approval due to its ongoing study.

- **Sustainability Committee (J) --John Duncan**

- The UF Law School has committed to using solar power, making them one of the largest solar stakeholders on campus.

- **University IT Committee (S) --Ray Issa**

- UFIT is in the process of reviewing the functionality and design of the UF website to increase consistency across campus. This initiative will involve a redesign of the UF home page.

- Two ad-hoc committees have been established:

- 1) UF VR/AR/MR integration in teaching and research and Web 3.0. Task Force members will explore research and teaching initiatives using Virtual Reality (VR)/Augmented reality

(AR)/Mixed Reality (MR) and make recommendations to advance the university and its supported technologies over the next five years.

2) Development of AI/Deep learning/Robotics capabilities in teaching and research. Task Force members will identify and recommend new technologies in Artificial Intelligence (AI)/Deep learning and Robotics which could be introduced on campus; along with best strategies and investments to move forward with them.

- Rick Goodnight UFIT administrative liaison representative for Director of Academic Technology Mark McCallister, addressed an inquiry raised in the Faculty Senate Steering Committee regarding additional outlets for classrooms. University classroom plans were also discussed. Every year, significant funds are devoted to classroom designs, renovations, and remodeling to enhance lighting, electrical outlets, team-based and blended learning, and technology in the classroom environment.

- Council discussed which buildings which were recently renovated, including Turlington and Matherly Halls. The Florida Gym will undergo upgrades this summer, when classroom interruptions can be minimized. Renovations often take three months to complete environmental upgrades which foster a range of learning environments and teaching methods. UF is moving away from the traditional K-12 classroom environment and is instead installing flexible and movable furniture which allows extemporaneous classroom reconfiguration to aid learning.

-Budget and logistical complexities help determine how quickly classroom renovations are implemented but the university is reviewing each centrally managed classroom, building by building. Renovations of historical buildings have additional considerations.

-UF is striving to improve faculty-student ratio as part of its top five public university initiative so IT is working with the Registrar's Office to minimize some limitations placed on the university by legislative mandates, (such as class sizes). 20 square feet per student is a targeted goal, particularly given that many older lecture halls and classrooms typically average six square feet per student.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:33 p.m.