

## INFRASTRUCTURE COUNCIL 2018-2019 ANNUAL REPORT

Responsibilities: This council focuses on the University's infrastructure supporting its academic mission, including the provision of physical facilities and other physical resources: libraries; information technology; the campus master plan' and the availability of adequate computer, classroom, laboratory and other resources.

### **Contributing Committee Chairs**

John Duncan, Sustainability Committee

Morris Hylton, Preservation of Historic Buildings and Sites

Ray Issa, Information Technology Committee

Keith Rambo, Parking and Transportation Committee

Gail Hansen de Chapman, Lakes, Vegetation and Landscaping Committee

Megan Forbes, Land Use and Facilities Planning Committee

Judith Russell, University Libraries Committee Liaison

### **Administrative Liaisons**

Carlos Dougnac, Assistant Vice President, Facilities Planning and Construction

Mark McCallister, Director, Information Technology

### **Committee Members**

Robert Schulte, Student Member

Michael Dark, Senate Member

Melody Royster, Senate Member

Keith Schneider, Senate Member

Richard Scholtz, Senate Member

Ann Wehmeyer, Senate Member

Bernard Hauser, Chair

The Infrastructure Council, meeting on September 13, October 4, November 8, January 17, February 14, and April 11, considered four main issues over the course of the academic year: parking loss and remediation due to new construction, deferred maintenance issues that were possibly linked to hurricane damage, problems with animal infestation of UF buildings, and a cessation of investment into fossil fuel companies by the UF endowment. In addition, the reports from the Contributing Committee Chairs are listed.

### **Delay Construction of the Data Science Center**

With the support of the Parking and Transportation Advisory Committee, Dr. Ray Thomas introduced a resolution to delay the construction of the Data Science building until Garage XIV is operational in the spring of 2020. During construction of the Data Science building, more than 500 parking spots would be lost from central campus. At the same time, 600 parking spots temporarily would be unavailable due to the construction of parking Garage XIV on Gale Lemerand Drive. Given the increase in demand for parking as a result of 500 new hires and the staff that will assist them, the loss of this many parking spaces would create problems for faculty and staff working on campus. This resolution passed the committee, but was later tabled to give

the administration time to find solutions to the problem. This parking resolution was ultimately withdrawn, at the request of Dr. Thomas, when the construction schedule was altered so that Garage XIV would be completed before construction of the Data Science Building started.

#### Additional Parking Lots Opened

Given the current shortage of parking on campus for faculty, staff and students, four temporary parking lots were opened. These lots were opened due to the temporary closure of some lots for construction, as well as the increased demand for parking on campus. Five near-term parking opportunities include locations at: Flavet Field, Fifield Field, Archer Road Field, 13th Street East and Norman Field is projected to provide 1,233 parking spaces. While these new parking lots increase the number of spaces, employees are having to move further out on campus to obtain parking. The council was interested in hearing discussion about how to transport people to these far lots, perhaps through extra shuttle or bus service.

VP Craig Hill handed out a parking plan. He indicated that the demand for parking has been growing in the last 5 years due to employment/enrollment and that the last 5 garages have just been replacement parking spaces. Mr. Hill stated that the Campus Development Agreement has a cap of 25,000 on parking on campus.

Ron Fuller, Associate Director, Transportation and Parking Services reported on the four temporary lots that were 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 increased 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, Fifield has a low utilization of rate of 19 percent. The Norman lot (161 orange spaces), parking is usually fully occupied; drivers tend to park in the new area rather than on the roof of the adjacent parking garage. The Archer Road (159 blue spaces), which is located near the Cancer & Genetics and Emerging Pathogens building, has a lot utilization is averaging 77 percent. The Flavet lot (230 orange and green student spaces), has a utilization of 80 percent.

#### Deferred Maintenance

The council had concerns about deferred maintenance due to reoccurring flooding of a building on campus. As part of a follow up to a request by council to explore funding issues surrounding building maintenance, Mark Helms, Assistant Vice President for Facilities Services, led a discussion on deferred maintenance. His office is responsible for space on campus. Definitions of deferred maintenance and how it is viewed by the university were discussed. ISES, a company working with UF Facility Services, reviewed property issues and calculated what it would cost to bring a given building back up to specifications. Immediate, critical, and non-critical needs were accessed in E&G (Education & General funded) buildings on campus. Spaces outside of the E&G budget, including housing, IFAS, Shands, and the O'Connell Center, were not discussed. ISES performed a visual inspection of all square footage of E&G buildings and considered age, original design, and the building's concept to help assess what it takes to bring a building back to maximum use or specification. Industry standard life drives primary assessment decisions, such as a forecast for replacements needed within the next ten years and any needed corrective

actions. The projected ten year facility renewal needs includes the following categories: recurring deferred renewal needs (i.e. repairs or replacement/rebuilding of major building components that are, or will be, at the end of their useful service life within the next 10 years); recurring projected renewal needs (i.e. repairs or replacement/rebuilding of major building components that have already exceeded their economically useful service life); and nonrecurring needs (i.e. random repairs, code upgrades, etc.) These combined expenditures placed the ten-year facility renewal needs at approximately 700 million dollars. A campus comparative analysis in graphic and table representation was shared. Using a facilities condition index scale, UF was determined to be in the category of 'fair', which places UF in the top third of ISES' clients. 76 buildings were determined to be in excellent to good condition. Risk factors include the age of the building, health and safety issues such as mold, failures of essential equipment, etc. The needs of buildings on the national historic register were discussed in addition to Dauer Hall, the Dental tower, Matherly Hall, and buildings which tend to have more failures following natural disasters, resulting in changes to the building's risk assignment. In addition to naming a building, one consideration for new donors could be funding an endowment for maintenance of that building whereby a percentage would be dedicated to building maintenance and operation.

#### 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.

#### Monitoring Parking Availability

The shortage of parking on campus has become acute. For every parking space there are 1.4 decals sold; current occupancy of parking spaces on campus during working hours is 93%. Given these numbers Drs. Lily Du, Scott Washburn, and Lily Elefteriadou presented methods to evaluate parking availability in real time so employees can make alternative plans if no parking is available. The methods included license plate readers, in-ground sensors and video counters, as well as the software to interpret data. Transportation services could use this data for planning of future needs and maximization of available parking. These three civil engineers on our faculty developed a parking monitoring system for rest stops on the interstate highways in Florida. With this expertise, they believe they can train graduate students in these methodologies and provide real-time parking monitoring for selected parking lots on campus. They proposed that the O'Connell parking lot would be a ideal because of the varied uses this lot has for employees, attendees of sporting events, and special activities that occur in the O'Connell Center. A plan

with estimated costs will be presented to the steering committee and directors of parking and transportation services. In addition, a mobile app could also be developed to distribute this real-time parking information to interested parties.

### **Endowment Investment Resolutions**

Investment in fossil fuel companies conflicts with environmental sustainability and the well-being of the earth ecosystems. Scientific analysis reveals that consumption of fossil fuels is a primary driver of climate change. Consequently, Dr. Ryan Thomson and Sam Jenkins made three separate resolutions:

1. Stop future investment of UF endowment funds into the top 50 fossil fuel companies,
2. Minimize investments into mutual funds that invest in fossil fuel companies, and
3. Report on the endowment annually, with estimates of current investments in fossil fuel companies.

The authors of these resolutions believe these positions were not only morally correct, but also economically neutral to the UF endowment. Dr. Win Phillips, who liaisons with the UF investment firm, worried about a negative impact to the endowment if these changes are made. These resolutions were tabled to permit the committee members time to consider the arguments and authors time to document their assertion that these three changes would be revenue neutral.

### **Reporting committee summaries**

#### **University IT Committee Report (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.

#### Lakes, Vegetation, and Landscaping Committee Report (Gail Hansen)

The committee approved the new UF Landscape Master Plan. The consultant pointed out maintenance and safety issues; showed landscape typologies and designated trees for different streets as well as examples and prototypes. The Tigert Court project was named as the number one project priority and is being fast-tracked. Union Road will be pedestrian only and will have pavers to indicate this. Only emergency vehicles will be allowed and busses will be rerouted. Turlington Plaza will be closed to vehicles and Gators (Corner) Plaza will be re-worked to increase shade. Newell Gateway and Century Tower Plaza are two other priority areas and have all been approved and aim to increase social spaces and the function of the Turlington Plaza area.

The committee approved the new Institute of Hispanic-Latino Center (IHLC) and the Institute of Black Culture (IBC). The two old buildings are being replaced with new, larger, and more functional ones.

The softball stadium expansion was approved. 184 trees were removed. Most of the mitigation will happen on other projects. Trees of similar sizes will be planted. Baseball stadium plans were approved and a windbreak row of pines were removed. The parking lot has shifted and the road is being closed so trees will be cut.

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 given no special circumstances.

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 (Keith Rambo)

Parking management plans are in development to accommodate impacted groups during and following construction of Garage XIV. Parking demand and projected parking space losses were discussed. 25,377 is the maximum amount of parking spaces on main campus.

Five near-term parking opportunities include locations at: Flavet Field, Fifield Field, Archer Road Field, 13th Street East and Norman Field is projected to provide 1,233 parking spaces. The new band practice field and new baseball fields were discussed, with the latter proposed new space being at the end of Museum and Mowry Road; a roundabout is being considered.

Keith Rambo shared the December 19, 2018 Transportation and Parking strategic plans which were discussed at their last meeting. Discussion items included: the length of walking times to parking lots; proposed new virtual gates lots and maps; costs associated with the construction and maintenance of the parking garages. Concern was raised from Vet Med regarding a 'no right on red' at the intersection of Museum Road and 441 and this will be addressed at the next committee meeting

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 (Megan Forbes)

The committee met on December 4th and approved the schematic design phase of a major project, the UF-608 parking garage.

After traffic discussion, the committee approved of the new Baseball Project inside areas, but requesting additional study before approving the areas outside the stadium.

Sustainability Committee (John Duncan)

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