

# Infrastructure Council Year-End Report 2020-21

Submitted August 19, 2021

## 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.

### Senate and Student Members

Richard Scholtz, rscholtz@ufl.edu (Chair)

Breann Garbas, breann.garbas@pap.ufl.edu

Keith Rambo, rambo@ufl.edu

Frank Lomonte, flomonte@ufl.edu

Keith Schneider, keiths29@ufl.edu

Nancy Clark, mmclark@ufl.edu

### Contributing Committee Chairs

Morris (Marty) Hylton, mhylton@ufl.edu - Preservation of Historic Buildings Committee

Raymond Issa, raymond-issa@ufl.edu - Information Technology Committee

David Lucier, dlucier@ufl.edu - Sustainability Committee

Keith Rambo, rambo@ufl.edu - Parking and Transportation

Timothy Young, tsy@ufl.edu - Land Use and Facilities

### Administrative Liaison Members

Carlos Dougnac, cdougnac@ufl.edu - Facilities Planning

Mark McCallister, markm@ufl.edu - Information Technology

Judith Russell, jcrussell@ufl.edu - University Libraries

## Charge

The Infrastructure Council met on 9/17, 10/8, 12/10, 1/14, 2/11, 3/11 and 4/13. Early on the Council set an agenda of the following issues, though was only able to address a few during the 2020-21 academic year:

- Campus Master Plan
  - Graduate Student Housing
- Deferred Maintenance and its impact on the availability of campus facilities.
- Police Training & Facilities Budgets
  - UF/UPD Advisory Council Committee
- Parking, with attention to the availability of both on and offsite campus parking.
- Artificial Intelligence (AI) Update of Facilities
- COVID-19 Current and Anticipated Budgetary Impacts
  - Infrastructure for student sequestration during COVID

- Emergency Management and consideration of the budgetary and the structural support needed in the COVID environment, especially with the reduction of the number of on campus students.
- Campus Climate Action Plan / Sustainability
- Remediation fees that the university is required to pay to local governments

The Council predominately focused Graduate student housing and the Master Plan at the behest of Chair Doré.

### Campus Master Plan - Graduate Housing

The December 2019 BOT approval of the Campus Master Plan. UF will close Maguire Village and University Village South in 2023. Graduate Student Council is concerned that this demolition is not in the best interest of students and faculty. Transparency in decision-making process is an issue. The Graduate Student Council is seeking Faculty Senate assistance.

Council expressed that, moving forward, UF needs to re-invest strategically for graduate housing, and expressed the need to continue to relay to the Board of Trustees how important graduate students are to the university entities, especially as trustees continue discussions on enhancing the undergraduate experience at Florida's public universities. Council also discussed that graduate students do find themselves being defined and viewed as 'in between' the middle ground of faculty and students. Facilitating a broader communication to trustees would be helpful.

The loss of UF housing units impacts the community housing situation. There was significant re-investment of building rehabilitation in three UF housing areas: Corry Village, Tanglewood Village, and Diamond Village, where at least \$10-20 million has been spent since 2010. These buildings are brick construction.

The U.S. is now struggling to make itself more appealing to international students. Council also discussed academic space usage for housing. The Faculty Senate Chair has relayed graduate student housing and other graduate student issues to the BOT.

Graduate student housing officials met with Chair Scholtz, Graduate Student Council President Jonathan Orsini, and Senator and council member Frank LoMonte, to strategize about creative ways to fund affordable graduate student housing. Points of discussion included that: 44 buildings are slated for demolition; UF recently spent \$16,000 for underground pipe plumbing patches; UF has commissioned a \$175 million loan for the new Honors Residence Hall which is breaking ground in 2022; and it was relayed that Maguire and University Village South (UVS) rehabilitation costs would be approximately \$35 million. Communication to graduate students about ongoing housing plans and options continues.

### Campus Master Plan Update

Campus Master Plan Amendment 2020-2030 slides were presented and discussed, including the plan's strategic development, goals, projects, and policies, as well as plan highlights, analyses, and comparisons to other universities. The plan's jurisdiction and communications blueprint were discussed, and inquiries were answered regarding McCarty Woods and housing plans. The plans are subject to annual amendments and such a conversation would occur through the committees.

## Pedestrian Safety Memo

An update on pedestrian and traffic safety measures around West University Avenue, SW 34th Street, SW 13th Street, and SW Archer Road was distributed.

## Business Affairs Regulation

The new regulation aims to more accurately reflect the university mission and help clarify the use of space by third parties. One central policy is in place of the smattering which existed. The regulation outlines the processes of the reservation and use of space. Internal and faculty space users are prioritized over outside users. This regulation does not regulate the DSO's or the Foundation and does not supersede any Athletic Association policies.

## Security Master Plan Update

UFPD global security operations center will enable UF to assist students abroad in times of international crises. Many UFPD personnel are critical incidence response team-trained. UFPD routinely collaborates with local law enforcement, including the city and the county, to plan large-scale and diverse events, and are very familiar with coordinating the security needed for such public gatherings, and campus and local events. Faculty Senator Frank LoMonte's articles regarding police transparency and security were also referenced and discussed.

## IT Infrastructure Update

All registrar classrooms were ready by 1/11/21, the first day of Spring classes. Technicians and installers will completed work by 12/23/20. IT has prepared HyFlex instruction capabilities for all classrooms by adding a second computer monitor to act as a Zoom gallery, which allows students to be seen in one monitor while PowerPoints, etc. can be viewed in the other monitor. An Omni-directional tabletop microphone has been added to each classroom to increase instructor audibility and mobility throughout the classroom. Classroom webcams have been updated to project wider displays and to help focus on whiteboards located near the podium. Larger classrooms have additional equipment to help contend with extra distance and space.

The 2-factor authentication roll out began with enrollment by campus staff, UFIT staff, and higher-level access systems. Faculty and students were then enrolled and the process has gone smoothly.

## Deferred Maintenance

UF has over 11 million square feet and 900-plus buildings on campus. Deferred maintenance is created by an institution's desire to postpone certain implementations of capital renewal or capital investment.

The state has closely monitored carry forward cash and has strongly encouraged UF and other state university system (SUS) schools to minimize any carry forward dollars.

The summary of findings for non-recurring, recurring (deferred renewal) and recurring (projected renewal), which were, respectively, 54 million dollars or eight percent; 368 million dollars or 53 percent; and 275 million dollars or 39 percent.

The allocation of the \$60 million dollar carry-forward was discussed: including that \$20 million was directed toward capital renewal of campus; a number of deferred maintenance projects where systems such as HVAC, and other demands identified as being in need; and roughly five million was directed toward campus safety and security. License Plate Reader (LPR) technology has been implemented in key

intersections of campus and roads to help locate car movements in and out of campus for security and crime-solving purposes. Five million was provided for a portion of the Campus Master Plan. Landscape activities were funded and another 10-15 million of the 60 million was partly allocated to a roadway expansion near the new baseball stadium and to help with heavy traffic patterns on campus. A final allocation was utilized to support campus infrastructure, including a central energy plant which will be built on campus; support of the Reitz Union area infrastructure; support of the chilled water plant, and similar items.

The Office of Business Affairs would like to focus on renovation and repair to fully utilize carry forward cash. UF will likely see little new appropriations for new space. Deferred maintenance will thus continue to grow over time.

HVAC is typically the biggest expense due to the high humidity and heat in Florida.

## Committee Reports

### Land Use and Facilities Planning Committee Report

It reviewed and approved eight major projects and has been reviewing the Campus Master Plan updates.

The committee approved the gas lines in the Data Science and Information Technology Building being located across from Reitz Union.

The Newell and Tigert gateways were approved. The honors residential hall's advanced schematic design was approved as well.

### University Libraries Committee Report

The committee has been addressing: operations of the University Libraries in the COVID environment; UF author rights policies, diversity, equity and inclusion resources; open access; and budgetary updates.

The walkthrough and scaffolding climb at Smathers was conducted with a positive outcome. Some punch list items in the finishes remain, but the results show improvement. University Libraries and UF Facilities Services are pleased with the project and the Construction Manager, BBI Construction Management, Inc.

### Sustainability Committee Report

No reports provided.

### University Information Technology Committee Report

The committee addressed the operations in the COVID environment and the move to online and hybrid course delivery.

The committee also reviewed HyFlex classroom technology updates; UF email retention policies; and the five-year UFIT strategic plan.

## Parking and Transportation Committee Report

The following projects were approved:

- UF 623B Final Design of temporary access road to the Reitz Union. Reitz Union access will close due to underground work which will begin in the spring and then shift to multiple phases.
- UF 638 Design Development of the Student Health Care Center.
- UF 669 Schematic Design of the Ambulatory Surgical Center. This was approved with recommendation for shade trees for walking paths.
- UF 373 Design Development Florida Museum of Natural History Special Collections Building.
- UF 669 Design Development of Ambulatory Surgical Center and
- UF 656 Advance Schematic Design Landscape Master Plan Implementation. This was approved with recommendations focusing on the two new gateways.
- The UF-671 – Harn American Art Wing
- The UF-623-B, C, D central energy plant and utility infrastructure design phase
- The UF-656 Landscape Master Plan Gateway
- The UF-668 Racquet Club Dining

Written reports also provided.

## Lakes, Vegetation, and Landscaping Committee Report

The following projects were approved:

- The public safety building, the special collections building, and the honors dorm residential college building and advocated the preservation of some heritage trees.
- The fence replacement and artificial turn on Maguire Field.
- The Data Science Building and additional trees on north side of the building.
- The substitution of some palms for some bamboo, and the substitution of a wildflower meadow by the Special Collections Building.
- The Reclaimed Water Booster Pump Station VFD Project was reviewed and trees.
- Two new crossings, one which is by the stadium, and one which is by Library West
- The removal of three trees in the Harn Museum parking lot which were in poor condition. Energy plant infrastructure was addressed.
- One Live Oak will be removed and one will be kept in the SW Recreation facility weight room area.

The committee denied a proposal for a new Reitz Union fountain to honor veterans because the pond is designated as a conservation area and is a sinkhole.

Safety and security issues have also been raised relative to planters and a glass building façade; and the addition of a cast iron or substantial bench which would inhibit vehicle operation and maximize pedestrian safety was discussed.

The university is trying to use more native plants and vegetation and less turf.

A temporary structure and underground utility area by Lake Alice.

The committee discussed the UF-668 Racquet Club Dining Project and its placement of the outdoor dining area and approved the relocation of bike racks.

The committee discussed shared governance. It is interested in more accurately defining and identifying the type of project criteria which would require project review by this committee.