

Task Force 2
January 29, 2015
Sabin 203

To begin the meeting, Scott mentioned some reminders and other items. The Task Force Lunch will take place on February 10 from 11:00AM-1:00PM in the Slife Ballroom. There will be assigned seating for mixed discussions. The Chair's meeting took place on January 22, and the committee can start thinking about learning outside the traditional classroom.

The committee's next meeting is February 12, and Scott will be absent that day. Wendy has been appointed Chair of the committee for that date. The library and continuing education Deans will be joining the next meeting.

Since Dean Watson will not be able to attend any of the Task Force meeting times, Scott will e-mail dates that will work for Dwight. A sub-committee will attend the meeting, since some members may not be available. The dates are March 3 from 1:00-2:00PM, March 4 from 1:30-3:30PM, and March 5 from 11:00AM-12:15PM. An e-mailed response to Scott stating which dates and times work best is appreciated.

The committee welcomed John Fritch from the College of Humanities, Arts, and Sciences. John has been in the Dean's position as of January 2. The committee started the discussion by inquiring about space for Humanities.

Underutilized spaces

- The college could use the classrooms more frequently
- The classes could be larger
 - Can't do both

Out of sequence class times

- There are issues with faculty having classes outside of regular class times.

Needs

- The labs are outdated
 - Photography lab
 - It's still setup to do film.
 - Science labs
 - They are still a good setup, but updates are needed.

Faculty space challenges

- Communication science and disorders
 - The department has a huge space need and is looking off campus for space.
- CAC
 - Dean's offices, art, theater, Iowa Public Radio.
 - These departments have grown lately, as well as the need for space.

Teachers want more dedicated space close to offices. There is a need for money to transform classrooms. They've been patched together over time and as needed.

Several rooms in McCollum and around campus are tiered classroom spaces.

- It's tough dealing with the growth of majors because of classroom configuration.

There was noted that there is less demand for intro courses because of students taking the classes at nearby community colleges.

- John mentioned that humanities classes are stable since not many students transfer in or take these classes elsewhere.
- The 40-80 student capacity classrooms are hurting.
 - There are enough students to make a section and a half, but faculty don't have enough space to combine into one section, or the right space to make two sections.
- Communication sciences wants to increase students in the graduate program, but classrooms cannot accommodate the growth.

Interdisciplinary programs

- Interactive Digital Studies
 - There are issues with curriculum process and housing for the program
 - Increases the demand for labs, which is already a high demand room.
 - Tried to borrow space from library and ITTC.
- Environmental Science
- Eco-System Management
- Gender Studies
- Geography and Earth Science
- Music and Business

The Humanities programs are spread across campus. There is no "official" meeting space for these students.

- The students say they belong to UNI, and not the College of Humanities.
- Students in ITTC and WRC are in similar situations
 - Students in ITTC have no space to get coffee or lunch.
- There is a divide between the east and west side of campus, it seems.
 - Not much interaction between the two.

There are parts of different colleges in the same buildings. The College of Business, on the other hand, has almost all its classes in one building.

- Tech purposes can be a challenge

Public art incubator

- If it needs to be a public funded space, the university may get rid of it.

Strayer-Wood Theater

- Does UNI wait and leave it as is, or renovate it?
 - The light and sound systems are outdated.

The buildings of the 60's and 70's were built when the campus had major growth, and are outdated and at the end of their lives.

- Does UNI keep them as they are for another 40 years, or renovate?
 - Renovation ultimately brings in new technology.
- Funding is decreasing for renovations.
- As funding dries up, the Board of Regents want to see new programs created with new buildings and renovations.

Instead of the buildings aiding the programs, the programs should aid the building. There is a happy medium between the two.

There are questions the campus and the committee can think about as a group:

- What is UNI doing well that should keep doing?
- What isn't UNI doing that it should be doing?
- What is UNI doing that should stop doing?

Community outreach can go hand in hand with UNI, but there is also issues with space that come along with that.

- How can space help UNI as a whole, and how can it help community outreach programs?
- Some facilities on campus are not inviting to outreach.
 - WRC area and parking lot have terrible accessibility.
- It was suggested to bring over an outside facility and build it by campus.

There are a lot of on-campus programs that help kids with autism, which brings the community onto campus.

- There is a need to find a space where they can do what they want to do.
- Create a centralized location, since many different departments help kids with autism.
- Big impact on the Cedar Valley, state, and beyond.

UniQ was an off campus location to offer coursework.

- UNI needs to think carefully about off campus spaces.
 - New off campus space shouldn't turn out like UniQ did – not well used.

Living Learning communities

- There is a current growth of more programs.
- Suggested to tap into interdisciplinary programs
- Unfortunately, could create a "hothouse effect" – stuck with the people you learn and live with.

Floor area ratio

- The ratio determines density.
- UNI has a .16 ratio as a whole
- .67 in central campus location
- .25 requires structured parking
- A lot of opportunity for programs and density.
- UNI owns a lot of land, some of which many people don't know UNI owns.

Meeting adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for
February 12, from 9:30-11:00AM in Sabin 203.