

Task Force 3
February 18, 2015
McCollum Science Hall 81B

Today the committee started out with individual introductions. The committee welcomed the guest speakers: Christopher Cox, Dean of the Library, Steffoni Schmidt, Fraternity and Sorority Life Advisor, Shane Boyer, 2015 Interfraternity Council President, and Anna Ryder, 2015 Panhellenic Council President. Bill gave brief summaries of what the Task Force focuses on and the recent discussions. Chris was informed that the group has been talking about the library as being the “hub” of campus and the forming the Union as a more exciting gathering spot, but the Maucker building is limiting. The committee has been discussing using these spaces to facilitate learning and community.

Chris Cox began explaining spaces in the library.

- Lately been thinking of other things that could marry with library as well as the normal job of a library.
 - The library wanted a large space that didn't compete with Maucker
 - Learning Commons
 - Has services that the library already offers.
 - Wants to cater to interdisciplinary needs
 - Digital Media Hub
 - Wanted a more central building on campus
 - Some courses required video work, and the library had some.
 - Received funds from Provost
 - Math Lab
 - Maker space wants an area in the library
 - They would have a 3-D printer
 - Mock-up area
 - Received MacElroy Trust Grant to do so
 - Café
 - The library did a feasibility study to see what would go well in the library
 - Food, better seating was in high demand
 - Café was created, and new entrance to the building was formed next to it
 - Creating a CAT Classroom
 - Possibly have it controlled by Registrar since it could be used interdepartmentally.
 - Academic Learning Center (ALC)
 - A good complement to what the library already does
 - Learning Center gets assistance from library
 - May contract and architect through Facilities to see how ALC can be programmed and work well.

The library wants to stay connected to learning, and cater to interdisciplinary-type programs. It also wants to be a dynamic learning environment, so when adding new things to the library it will focus on better study tables instead of pool or ping pong tables.

A question arose about the types of rooms in the library. The library has instruction rooms – not classrooms. These rooms are not scheduled through the registrar.

- Faculty, emeritus study rooms
 - Has seen diminished usage – currently figuring out how many are needed in the library.
- Study rooms
 - The study rooms are heavily used.
 - Possibly start referring students to rooms in other buildings if the study rooms are filled.

The library has counters that keep track of library traffic.

- 24,000 people have walked into the library so far this year.
 - Unsure if people used services or have just passed through
- 500,000 per year average
 - Compared to other similar-sized college campuses, the usage in the Rod Library seems lower.
 - Addition of the Café has helped increase traffic.

It was suggested to make a physical connection to Maucker.

- It could be a possibility in the future.
- Each exit needs a gate and personnel nearby
 - Keeps a level of security
- Need to keep in mind losses verses accessibility

Library Feasibility Study – It can be found on the library website.

- The idea of the study was looking at usage of space, and the usage of the library as a whole.
 - Overtime, the collection space size would shrink, student space would increase.
- Also focused on way finding, connections to campus.
 - Wants to change the typical library conception of just research to less research, more open to campus and to be used in more ways.
 - Could add a learning commons
 - Add unique collections
 - Goal would be able to find multiple items on the topic of research, not just limited to one media.
 - Books, artifacts, manuscript

Student learning engagement

- Needed across campus and in more ways

- Try more things to aid enrollment and retention

Library has the Academic Learning Center and Disability Services partnership to help with test taking.

- Assistive technology lab to help with technology and handicapped students
 - Employees would be trained to be able to help with usage.

The committee finished discussion with Christopher Cox and the library and welcomed Steffoni Schmidt to brief the group about the Greek system with Shane Boyer and Anna Ryder. Steffoni provided the group with a handout, "Chapter Membership Statistics" which showed data from the four fraternities and four sororities at UNI.

- Both fraternities and sororities are growing
 - The women want to add a new chapter to accommodate growth
 - Growth is so high that they are both running out of space
 - They are a fire-code populations when having organized dinners at the houses.
- Each chapter has their own house.
 - The challenge with 80+ members is that only about 15 can live in the house.
 - Raises a potential for Greek residence hall floors, and dorm communities
 - When formally recruiting, the numbers can reach up to 150 students
 - Have to split recruitment in half when touring the houses especially.
- The fraternities have issues with having large houses and not having enough people live in it.
 - Possibly get UNI to own the houses
- Academically, the GPAs of the Greek students are higher than other students GPAs on campus.
 - Sorority upperclassmen executives live in houses as a resource for younger students
- The Greek system holds weekly chapter meetings.
 - Not enough space with growth of the chapters to hold these meetings.
- Some underclassmen men and women sign a two-year agreements to stay on campus.
 - Juniors and seniors usually live off campus
 - This information is not kept track of by Greek Life
 - The creation of Greek residence halls would increase relationships, retention on campus.
 - The Quads, Panther Village on campus are far from the Greek houses.
- The houses are zoned as R3 and R4 from the city.
 - Rules focused on R1 and R2 do not apply to these houses.
 - They are subject to rental inspections.
- Alcohol
 - A couple of houses have decided to be dry houses.
 - University houses follow some UNI rules, but mostly follow chapter rules.

- Some third party places host events with alcohol
 - Still have strict rules

Future visions – what the fraternities and sororities see ten years in the future.

- More chapters on campus
 - More room to grow
 - Sororities hope for two more chapters added by then
- Percentages of UNI students in Greek system are steadily going upwards.
- The system currently uses a lot of community space to meet, maybe see more UNI space used in the future.
 - The space is sufficient for now, but unsure of space needs in 10 years
- More connections with student organizations at UNI
 - More collaborative events with them
- Greek floors would be a huge benefit
- Long term plan
 - Still try to utilize UNI space
 - It will not be a priority to get everyone to live in a house.
 - They want common space, central hubs, but not housing.
 - The committee would like to see long term projections from Greek Life.

For the committee's next meeting on March 4:

- Matt Kroeger as guest.
- Enrollment management – where is UNI going with it as a campus?
- Time to graduation
- NISG – potential visitors for next time
- Start to outline and fill gaps for final report
- Mike B., possibly – Outdoor events
- Campus traditions – what does UNI have for these events, and what does it need?

Meeting adjourned. The next meeting will be
March 4, 3:30PM – 5:00PM in McCollum Science Hall 81B.