Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the
Council for the Built Environment
June 12, 2012, 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

I. Attendance
   A. Voting members
      2. Absent: José Bermúdez, Scott Bowen, Mladen Kezunovic and Kate Miller
   B. Ex-Officio members
      1. Present: Rodney McClendon, B.J. Crain, Matt Fry, Kevin Hurley, James Massey, David Morrison, Tom Reber, David Woodcock, Deborah Wright
      2. Absent: Karan Watson, Rod Weis
   C. Non-voting members:
      1. Present: Bill Dugas, Janice Walpert
      2. Absent: Thomas Harwell, Guido Kanschat, Kevin Pollak, Lawrence Rauchwerger, and Jeff Seemann
   D. Guests: Pat Hurley (representing José Bermúdez); Marty Scholtz (representing Jeff Seemann); Dan Miser, Residence Life

II. The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair McClendon at 1:35 p.m.
   A. Approval of Minutes: The May 8, 2012, Minutes were unanimously approved with the correction of Mr. David Morrison’s title to add “Coordination” to the ending of his title as “Interim Director of Facilities”.
   B. Announcements
      1. Operational improvements on calendar: Co-Chairs have asked Urbina to propose a calendar for Sub-Councils to submit their reports prior to CBE meetings.
         a. The goal is to allow sufficient time to distribute, read and review all the documents for discussion at the CBE meeting.
         b. Potential that additional CBE meetings may be required for months in which the Board of Regents meet.
      2. Introductions of new members and guests
         a. Taylor Smith, incoming GSC President has replaced Genyne Royal as the Graduate Student Council representative.
         b. Pat Hurley attending as representative of Dean José Bermúdez.
         c. Dan Miser, representative from Residence Life attending as resource for West Campus Housing Proposal discussion.
         d. Co-Chair McClendon led quick introductions around the table.
III. Presentations by Sub-Councils
   A. Demolition of the Hydromechanics Laboratory (Bldg #0502)
      1. DRsc – agrees the building has reached the end of its useful life; DRsc requires that a
         photographic and drawn record of the building be prepared together with existing drawings
         and photographs for the Cushing Memorial Library and Archives prior to demolition. The
         demolition costs should include the preparation of this record.
      2. FURsc – supports the demolition of the building, noting that the space needs of the current
         users have been addressed by the college and that the university should fund the estimated
         demolition cost of $225,000.
      3. TRsc – no issues; supports the recommendation to demolish the building if the following
         concerns are addressed and funded: (a) water tanks from the building be relocated to
         buildings that have HVAC systems capable of handling the high humidity levels from the
         tanks (to avoid mold problems); (b) Finance has identified the $225,000 to be used for the
         demolition; (c) the demolition should not cause any disruption to the campus network; (d)
         coordination required throughout the demolition process to remove fiberoptic cables,
         network electronics or any other parts of the physical cabling installation that are worth
         salvaging for re-use.
      4. Msc – supports demolition request; no additional comments.
      5. David Morrison stated a new policy of the Coordinating Board’s that requires any building
         that is demolished to be reported as “critical deferred maintenance”.
      6. CBE voted unanimously to recommend the President’s approval for the request to demolish
         the hydromechanics building, #0502, with the considerations listed above.

   Action/Recommendation: Memo will be sent to President recommending his approval of the requested
   demolition of the Hydromechanics Laboratory, Building #0502.
   Responsible Parties: Co-Chairs Watson and McClendon

   B. Veterinary Medicine District Plan – postponed to future meeting

   C. West Campus Housing Proposal
      1. DRsc – recommends approval of the West Campus Housing Community concept as a
         modification to the Campus Master Plan and feels that establishing residence halls in this
         location would support the academic environment of the campus. The DRsc recommends
         building closer to Raymond Stotzer Parkway and the use of a parking garage rather than
         surface parking. Honoring these recommendations will create a better entry appearance to
         campus. Further, DRsc recommends Residence Life address the issue of connectivity and
         encourages the planning of designated bicycle paths, pedestrian paths and bus loops to link
         the community to main campus. DRsc anticipates the design and quality of the new
         Northside Residence Halls will serve as a model for all future Living Learning Communities.
         The DRsc notes the White Creek area is designated as open space and urges it be retained as
         such and that connection to open spaces for pedestrian and cycle paths to the new PEAP
         facility be explored. Circulation paths should also include the Bush School facilities. A
comprehensive review of existing and proposed uses on the site and analysis by each of the CBE Sub-Councils will be required.

2. TRsc – supports the request to build housing on west campus given the concerns below are addressed: (a) the UPD will need to add additional security personnel and potentially expand their Crime Prevention Officer, COPS, program; (b) need to address the relocation of the student-run Howdy Farm supported by a $3 per semester fee from each student; (c) need to tie installation of safety features (sprinkler systems) of older dorms to new residence hall construction schedule; and (d) TRsc supports additional discussion regarding the parking option of surface versus garage parking. Reber expressed concerns shared from Transportation Services regarding construction plans for garage parking structures as well as the increase to all employees parking on campus that have historically financed construction of garages.

3. FURsc – supports the request by the Division of Student Affairs to initiate a project to develop a 2500/3000-bed facility on the west part of campus in the vicinity of Discovery Drive and Horticulture Drive. In conversations with AgriLife Research, FURsc reports AgriLife has no concerns about the development and believes the benefits will be as presented for the academic interests in the area, e.g. aid in recruitment and retention of students, earn better grades and remain in their degree program longer than off-campus peers.

4. CBE voted unanimously to recommend the President’s approval of the request for the West Campus Housing Proposal concept with the noted comments related to: parking; attention to connectivity of pathways and bus routes; respect for conservation areas around White Creek; accommodating existing users; and updating sprinkler systems in older residence halls as reflected in the Sub-Council reports.

**Action/Recommendation:** Memo will be sent to the President recommending his approval of the West Campus Housing Proposal Concept with the listed considerations from the Sub-Councils’ reviews and CBE discussion.

**Responsible Parties:** Co-Chairs Watson and McClendon

IV. Milner Hall Recommendation – McClendon

A. In March, the College of Liberal Arts requested the Co-Chairs approval to relocate the Psychology Department to Milner Hall. As part of the request, Dean Bermúdez offered to vacate space in Leggett Hall and other locations. While the request is rational for Liberal Arts, the space requested is significant enough to offer a “limited call” to the Deans and Vice Presidents to see if others are interested in the space. Responses will be required within a two-week period. If others are interested, there will be an opportunity to bid on the space; if no others are interested, FURsc will review and provide a recommendation to the full CBE.

B. Consistent with the space allocation procedures previously adopted by the CBE, the membership voted unanimously to follow this process to address the space request.
**Action/Recommendation:** A “limited call” memo will be distributed to all Vice Presidents and Deans to determine which units have interest in space in Milner Hall.

**Responsible Parties:** Co-Chairs Watson and McClendon

V. Update Reports

A. Sculptures of People on the Texas A&M University Campus – DRsc

1. Design Review Sub-Council Chair Woodcock reviewed a summary of their research on statues of people on campus. The first statue of a 3-dimensional human figure on campus was Lawrence Sullivan Ross, installed in 1911. Six of the 10 statues of people on campus represent actual persons. Two of the six statues were unveiled while the person represented was still living (John David Crow and Lt. General James Hollingsworth).

Weber identified the statue of J.V. “Pinky” Downs as absent from the list. A revised report, including the Downs’ statue history as well as photos of each of the statues will be distributed to the CBE Membership.

**Action/Recommendation:** Design Review Sub-Council will add the “Pinky” Downs statue to the report and forward the updated report for distribution.

**Responsible Parties:** David Woodcock and Design Review Sub-Council

2. No accepted principles have been developed that govern decisions to accept statues and the guidelines adopted assume that each proposal is considered on its own merits. The research and discussion surrounding the report have led to the broader discussion that a recommendation on broad principles that might guide discussion on such gifts is merited.

3. CBE voted unanimously to recommend the President appoint a committee to establish guidelines for sculptures and statues; pending the creation of a policy, the agenda item for consideration of a Gates statue is tabled.

**Action/Recommendation:** Memo will be sent to President recommending the creation of a committee to establish guidelines for accepting statues or sculptures on campus.

**Responsible Parties:** Co-Chairs Watson and McClendon

B. Update on the Class of 2013 Proposed Gift: Gazebo in Spence Park - DRsc

Woodcock met with the class agent of the Class of 2013, Bobby Heron, who informed Woodcock that the Class was no longer considering this proposal and withdrew the request. Prior to the withdrawal of the gazebo proposal, Woodcock recommended the Class consider refurbishing the flagpole skirt located in front of the Jack K. Williams Administration Building, a gift of the Class of 1934. The Class of 2013 decided to fund an archway for the pedestrian path between the parking garage and Kyle Field, Woodcock will suggest the flagpole refurbish project to the Class of 2014, coming exactly 80 years after the original gift in 1934. General Weber will establish a committee to oversee development of a process to collect ideas and vet proposed class gifts to the CBE.

**Action/Recommendation:** Committee will be established to oversee the development of a process to collect ideas, vet them through the CBE and provide a list to the Class Agents.

**Responsible Parties:** General Weber
VI. CBE Recommended Projects sent to the President for Approval  
A. Equine Complex District Plan – signed 4/30/12  
B. Utilities and Energy Management Capital Plan – routing  
C. ARCH Request for Temporary Structure at Riverside Campus – signed 5/25/12  
D. Amateur Radio Club Construction of Telescoping Tower – signed 5/24/12  
E. Plaques for Memorial Student Center Flag Display – routing

VII. Dulie Bell Request (ELI and PPRI) – College of Liberal Arts  
Co-Chair McClendon reported that he and Co-Chair Watson have agreed to offer the parties requesting additional space permission to move into the vacant areas with the full understanding that if swing space is needed to address relocations of other units, they will have to move out, potentially on short notice. With this understanding, the ELI and the PPRI may expand into the available space as requested. Massey requested that use of space updates be offered if/when parties move into these spaces.

VIII. Meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Next Meeting: July 10, 2012 - 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. - 410 Rudder Tower