September 5, 2012

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. R. Bowen Loftin

SUBJECT: CBE Recommendation: Sculpture Commission Competition for the Northside Residence Hall

At its August 14, 2012, meeting the Council for the Built Environment (CBE) discussed a request from Residence Life to approve their proposed idea for a competition to identify a piece or artwork or sculpture to place behind the five-story grand staircase of the newly constructed Northside Residence Hall. A national call for proposals from artists to present a design and fabricate a site-specific piece of art is intended to result in a high impact art piece that will energize the space.

The Design Review Sub-Council reviewed the request and recommends approval of this project as envisioned and looks forward to future reviews of the art piece as necessary.

CBE voted unanimously to recommend the President’s approval to accept the Sculpture Commission Competition’s proposal to pursue the design and fabrication of a site-specific piece of art for the Northside Residence Hall.

Karan L. Watson
Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs
Co-Chair, Council for the Built Environment

Rodney P. McClendon
Vice President for Administration
Co-Chair, Council for the Built Environment

R. Bowen Loftin
President

cc: Sub-Council Chairs, Council on the Built Environment
LiGen Joseph Weber USMC (ret)
Charney Rydl, Residence Life
MEMORANDUM

TO: Co-Chairs of the Council of Built Environment
Dr. Karan Watson, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs
Dr. Rodney McClendon, Vice President for Administration

THROUGH: LTG Joe Weber, USMC (Ret.), Vice President for Student Affairs
Dr. Dave Parrott, Executive Associate Vice President for Student Affairs
Chief of Staff

FROM: Chairman Reilly,
Director of Residence Life

SUBJECT: Featured Art Wall, Grand Staircase, Northside Residence Hall Proposed Competition

The construction of the new Northside residence hall is well underway and includes a place for art as a featured wall behind a five story grand staircase. The Department of Residence Life requests an opportunity to conduct/facilitate a competition for the commission to design and install art. Attached is an outline for the proposed competition, including a rough timeline. The anticipated cost of the project is $25,000 plus some additional allowances for wall preparation and installation. The funds to support the commission have been incorporated into the project costs.

Dr. Carol Binzer, Director of Administrative & Support Services, for Residence Life, has consulted with Cathy Hastedt, Director/Curator of University Art, about the proposed plan for this project and the details of conducting and facilitating a competition/solicitation for the commission. Dr. Binzer has also consulted with the SHW Group (project architect) and Linbeck (general contractor), who are responsible for the construction project and with Environmental Health & Safety regarding the prescriptions for such a project in an exit stairway.

We are excited about this proposed art competition and feel if approved, it will generate a great deal of interest and allow us to select and display a really interesting piece of artwork in our new building, for Aggies and visitors to enjoy for years to come. We would like the opportunity to meet with the Council of Built Environment to make a formal presentation on this proposed project. Thank you for your consideration of this request.
Proposal for Sculpture Commission Competition

The proposed project would involve a national call for artists to design and fabricate a site-specific artwork for the Grand Stairway of the newly constructed Northside Residence Hall. The intent of the project is to have a high impact art piece that will energize the space.

The competition would be in two parts. First, a call for artists would be sent out asking artists to submit resumes that reflect their ability to handle a project of this size plus a concept proposal package to include drawings for their art piece, artist statement, materials list, and budget breakdown. After a jury narrows the submissions down to one artist, the second phase begins. The winning artist would then work with representatives from the university, the architects, and the construction firm to finalize the concept, and ultimately install it.

Artists will be limited to non-combustible materials, and designs may not protrude from the recessed area more than 10 inches per safety and ADA codes.

Location: Grand Stairway of the Northside Residence Hall
- Architectural design of area already incorporates 3/4 inch plywood sheathing behind sheetrock able to support objects of 100lbs per linear foot. The art space is a recessed area measuring approximately 4 feet by 53 feet.

Budget: $25,000
- Includes all artist expenses including but not limited to design, fabrication, installation, and travel.
- Lighting and structural support are already part of the building project.

Proposed Jury

2 Art Faculty Representatives
RHA President (or designate)
Univ. Art Galleries Director
2 Dept. of Residence Life staff representatives
??Council for Built Environment/Design
Review Subcommittee or Technical Subcommittee
??Environmental Health & Safety
??2 Students who currently live on-campus
??Former Student representative

Timeline
Competition Approved by CBB
Prospectus Written/Advertisements Submitted
Call for Artists
Deadline for receiving responses from artists
Jury Selects Finalist
Artist's Installation
Building Opens

July 2012
August 2012
December 15, 2012
July 1, 2013-August 1, 2013
End August/1st week September 2013
August, 2013
MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Karan Watson  
Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

Dr. Rodney McClendon  
Vice President for Administration

FROM: Prof. Ward Wells  
Design Review Sub-Council

DATE: July 20, 2012

RE: Design Review Sub-Council Report  
Proposed Art Competition at Northside Residence Hall

The DRsc was charged to consider a proposal from the Department of Residence Life to conduct an art competition for a new piece of artwork behind the five-story grand staircase at the Northside Residence Hall. Details of this request can be read in the July 12, 2012 memo from Ms. Cherey Rydl.

The DRsc recommends approval of this proposal and looks forward to further review as necessary.

cc: Design Review Sub-Council Members  
Patti Urbina