June 25, 2013

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. R. Bowen Loftin

SUBJECT: CBE Recommendation: Request for a Permanent Display Honoring Dr. Richard E. Wainerdi

At its June 11th meeting, the Council for the Built Environment (CBE) discussed a request from Dr. Emile Schweikert, Professor of Chemistry and Director of the Center for Chemical Characterization and Analysis (CCCA) was submitted to construct a permanent display commemorating the career of Dr. Richard E. Wainerdi. During his tenure at Texas A&M, Dr. Wainerdi contributed to the establishment of the Nuclear Science Center, the Texas A&M Medical School, and the presently-named Center for Chemical Characterization and Analysis as well as other major programs including the design and construction of the Teague building complex. In September 2012, Dr. Schweikert received approval in concept for the display from President Loftin (memo attached).

Design Review Sub-Council (DRSc) – commends the Chemistry Department for its intent to honor Dr. Richard E. Wainerdi and recommends the concept, and the project with the following caveats:

A committee be established to explore alternative sites for the display; given the Teague building, the original and current home of the CCCA, is transitioning to a staff complex, locating the display to an area with more student traffic could provide more recognition of Dr. Wainerdi’s broad influence.

Rather than originals, copies of documents be placed inside the display cases to preserve the memorabilia;

Thought should be given to how the display cases will be cleaned and maintained over time.

It was noted that Dr. Wainerdi is the recently retired President of the Texas Medical Center, having served in that capacity for 30 years. He resides in Houston.
CBE voted unanimously to recommend the President’s approval for a committee to be established to identify a suitable location to enhance visibility of the display; if no suitable alternative location can be identified, the Teague location is approved. A request to the President recommending approval for the display honoring Dr. Wainerdi, with the considerations noted above will be prepared.

Karan L. Watson 7-2-13
Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs
Co-Chair, Council for the Built Environment

Rodney P. McClendon 6-28-13
Vice President for Administration
Co-Chair, Council for the Built Environment

R. Bowen Loftin 7-8-13
President

cc: Sub-Council Chairs, Council on the Built Environment
Dr. H. Joseph Newton, Dean, College of Science
Dr. Emil Schweikert, Professor and author of request, Department of Chemistry
DATE: April 1, 2013

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Karas Watson  
    Provost and Executive Vice President  
    Co-Chair, Council on the Built Environment

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

THROUGH: Dr. H. Joseph Newton, Dean College of Science

THROUGH: Dr. David H. Russell, Head Department of Chemistry

FROM: Emile A. Schweikert, Professor of Chemistry and Director, Center for Chemical Characterization and Analysis

SUBJECT: Approval request for a permanent display concerning the Texas A&M activities and subsequent career of Dr. Richard E. Wainerdi.

Approval is requested for the construction of a permanent display commemorating the career of Dr. Richard E. Wainerdi in the hallway near the entrance doors of the main floor of the Olin E. Teague Space Research Center. Dr. Wainerdi’s tenure at Texas A&M during the 1960’s and 1970’s resulted in or contributed to the establishment of the Nuclear Science Center’s research nuclear reactor, the TAMU Medical School, the Center for Minerals Research, the Activation Analysis Research Laboratory (now renamed as the Center for Chemical Characterization and Analysis) and numerous other major programs and included the design and construction of the Teague building complex. We have requested and received authorization from President Loftin for the construction of this display (See attached document).

The display will consist of three cases to be mounted in the hallway on the main (1st) floor near the primary entrances to the building. The building entrance and this hallway is actually between what is designated as University buildings 0445 and 0517. It will be placed adjacent to an existing display for the building’s namesake, Olin E. Teague, in the hallway to the east of the building main front entrance. The display will be located in a hallway windowed alcove on the north side of the hallway (this is just opposite the disabled second front entrance door), placing it out of the flow of traffic in the
hallway, so there will be no impact on normal use of the space. No impact on emergency egress, etc., will result. The cases are expected to be nominally 64 inches wide and either 30 inches or 42 inches tall with a total combined wall space covered of about 45 square feet.

The cases are expected to be of wood and will contain photographs, documents, awards and some additional small artifacts of Dr. Wainerdi’s career. At this time we are not planning to include any lighting that would require building utilities. The design and construction of the cases is to be performed professionally by an outside company.

The Teague building complex is a multiuse building with tenants from various University units that include our laboratory, the Center for Chemical Characterization and Analysis, a research component of the Department of Chemistry. The building proctor is Peter Walsh from Computing and Information Service.

We would like to initiate installation of the display in the near future, perhaps with completion during the summer, 2013.

cc: Patti Urbina, Program Coordinator, Council for the Built Environment

Attachments: Memo to Dr. Loflin with his approval.
             Location of Proposed Display Cases
MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 19, 2012

TO: Dr. R. Bowen Loftin, President

THROUGH: Dr. Karan L. Watson, Provost & VP for Academic Affairs

THROUGH: Dr. H. Joseph Newton, Dean College of Science

THROUGH: Dr. David H. Russell, Head Department of Chemistry

FROM: Emile A. Schweikert, Professor of Chemistry and Director, Center for Chemical Characterization and Analysis

SUBJECT: Richard E. Wainerdi: Documents and Memorabilia

Dr. Richard E. Wainerdi, President & CEO of the Texas Medical Center has recently donated documents to Texas A&M University related to his pioneering work in nuclear and space science during his faculty and administrative appointments at TAMU from 1957 to 1977, (acknowledgement attached). Among the donated items are pictures of general lasting interest from the Wainerdi research laboratory in the 1960s: visit by then Vice-President Lyndon B. Johnson, apparatus for remote lunar exploration, instrumentation for automated trace analysis.

The purpose of this memo is to ask for your permission to show some of the pictures and records of Wainerdi’s work at TAMU in a small display case in the main hallway of the Olin E. Teague Bldg. The Wainerdi memorabilia would complement the existing display of items relating the career and contributions of Olin “Tiger” Teague who was an active supporter of nuclear and space science and technology at TAMU.

Your kind consideration of this request is deeply appreciated.

Attachment
Location of Proposed Display

Main Front Entrance of Teague Research Center
MEMORANDUM

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

FROM:      Lilia Gonzales, AIA  
            University Architect and Chair, Design Review Sub-Council

DATE:      June 4, 2013

RE:        Design Review Sub-Council (DRsc) Report  
            Display Cases in Teague Building for Dr. Richard Wainerdi

On May 1, 2013, Dr. Emile Schweikert from the Department of Chemistry presented to the Design Review sub-council a request for approval for the addition of permanent display cases in the lobby of the Teague building to commemorate the career of Dr. Richard Wainerdi.

Dr. Richard Wainerdi’s tenure at TAMU was from 1957-1977, and during that time he was instrumental in several major changes to the campus, including the establishment of a nuclear reactor, the TAMU Medical School, the Center for Minerals Research, and what is now the Center for Chemical Characterization and Analysis. During the Jack K. Williams administration, Dr. Wainerdi was third in the hierarchy. The documents proposed for inclusion in the display cases include memorabilia from his time at TAMU, for example a photo of then-Vice President Lyndon Johnson visiting his lab.

Three display cases are proposed to be placed in the Teague building, where Dr. Wainerdi’s lab was located during his tenure. The cases would be located on the first floor near the main entrance, in an alcove on the north side of the lobby that faces the O&M building. The glass cases, about 3-4 inches deep, 64 inches wide and 42" tall, would be bolted onto the aluminum window frames and would sit on top of the handrail. The cases would be similar in appearance to the nearby display for Olin Teague.

**Recommendation**

The DRsc appreciates the Chemistry Department’s intent to honor Dr. Richard Wainerdi and thinks this is a worthy project to be pursued. Therefore, the DRsc recommends the approval of the display cases to honor Dr. Richard Wainerdi in concept, with the following caveats:

- As Dr. Wainerdi influenced the campus in so many different ways, and as the Teague building is being transitioned into a staff building with the Chemistry students primarily located in other areas, it is suggested that a small committee be formed to look at all possible options to determine the best location for the display cases.

- In order to preserve the memorabilia, it is suggested that copies of documents be placed inside the display cases, rather than originals, as light and humidity conditions in the display cases are not controlled and the condition of the photos and documents may deteriorate over time. Thought should be given to the
logistics, including who is responsible for cleaning and maintaining the cases over time.

Please let us know if you need additional information. For your reference, attached are selected images that were presented to the DRsc on May 1, 2013.

cc:  Dr. Joseph Newton
     Dr. David Russell
     Dr. Emile Schweikert
     DRsc Members
     Patti Urbina
Contributions to Innovative Areas at TAMU

- Nuclear and Space Science: Nuclear Science Center (NSC), Activation Analysis Research Lab (now the CCCA), Nuclear Science Center, Space Research Projects, Hevesy Medal Recipient

- Energy Process Development: Center for Energy and Minerals Research (CEMR), Coal Liquifaction, German Synthetic Fuel Document Retrieval Project, Hydrocarbons from Natural Gas Project – After leaving TAMU became President of Gulf Research and Development

- Medicine: TAMU Medical School, Medical Applications of Nuclear Methods After leaving TAMU became President and CEO of the Texas Medical Center and served in that capacity of 19 years.