REPORT OF THE CAMPUS PLANNING COMMITTEE TO THE FACULTY

This is the first report which has been made to the faculty on the work of the Campus Planning Committee since it came into being on July 1, 1959 by action of the Board of Regents upon recommendation of the University administration. At that time there were created two parallel committees - one for the Madison campus and one for the Milwaukee campus. The membership of the Milwaukee committee consists of the Provost, who acts as Chairman, the Chief Business Officer, two members elected by the University Committee, one member elected by the Administrative Committee, the Director of Planning and Construction (or designate), and the State Chief Engineer, ex officio. In addition supporting staff available to the Committee consist of the following persons: Secretary of the Faculty (Milwaukee), Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds (Milwaukee), the Institutional Planner, Architect, and Supervising Engineer.

The Milwaukee Committee has met 23 times since it was created. It concerns itself with a wide variety of activities, including the development of the over-all campus plan, the determination of building priorities, the approval of remodelling projects and general matters related to the physical development of the campus. The Milwaukee and Madison committees have met jointly twice since July 1, 1959. The primary purpose of these meetings is to consider building priorities for the two campuses for consideration by the University administration and the Regents.

The Campus Planning Committee works through a number of sub-committees that report to it. At the present time there are nine such sub-committees; Science, Use of Downer Seminary facilities, Fine Arts, Classroom, Mathematics-Physics-Engineering, Student Union, Parking, Committee on the Future Use of the Downtown Campus, and Names of Buildings. Approximately 60 members of the faculty
serve on these sub-committees where a great deal of the preliminary work on specific projects is developed.

Now let me report on the progress of buildings on the Kenwood Campus in the order of their development. The Science Building is already well on its way to completion. We have every reason to expect that this $2,600,000 project will be ready for occupancy in September 1961. The departments of Botany, Zoology and Chemistry will be housed in this building. Some Psychology work will also be carried on there. There will also be two large lecture halls in this building seating approximately 400 persons and available for all University purposes when not used by the departments housed in this building. This facility will make it possible to consolidate the teaching of Botany, Zoology and Chemistry on the Kenwood Campus. The Botany and Zoology Departments will vacate the main building upon the completion of the Science Building. Chemistry will continue to maintain an operation in the main building. Provision has been made for future expansion of the Science Building on either wing in a westerly direction.

The Downer-Seminary property and buildings were purchased by the State for $1,550,000 and an additional sum of $300,000 is to be made available for remodelling. We have been assured by the Seminary Board that construction of their new facilities is on schedule and that we will be able to have access to Downer-Seminary for remodelling by July 1, 1961. We hope to have our remodelling completed so that the buildings will be ready for occupancy by September 1961. The departments of English, Social Work, Sociology-Anthropology, Philosophy, as well as the entire School of Education are to be housed in the Downer-Seminary Buildings. Other facilities to be housed there include Buildings and Grounds, the Reading Clinic, Student Lunch Room, Student Study Hall and Faculty and Staff Lunch Room.

The plans for the Fine Arts Building will be presented to the Regents at their meeting tomorrow. It is estimated to cost $1,600,000 and is the first of three buildings in the Fine Arts complex. The first unit will house the Music
Department, the Audio-Visual Department and will make provision for some general classroom and office space. If the plans for this building are approved tomorrow, then bid opening should take place by the end of January, with ground breaking early in spring. Thus the possibility of occupancy of this building by September 1962 is good. Future units of the Fine Arts Building will house the Art Department, the Speech Department and the theatre. We will have to sacrifice some parking space as result of the construction of the Fine Arts Building and we are presently reviewing the possibility of other parking facilities on the Kenwood Campus. We have every reason to believe that we will be able to replace most of the spaces that will be lost by Fine Arts construction. We hope in this process to disperse our parking facilities to other areas of the campus and thus avoid the heavy concentration of traffic which now is generated because most of the parking facilities are in close proximity to the main building.

The next building that will be constructed on the Kenwood Campus will be the General Classroom Building which was approved by the Building Commission at its November 1960 meeting but which still needs authorization by the Legislature. This building is estimated to cost $3,500,000 and will provide 150,000 gross square feet of space. According to present plans the departments of Anthropology, Commerce, Economics, History, Political Science, Social Work, Sociology will be housed in this building as well as the Urban Studies program and the World Affairs Institute. This building will contain a large number of classrooms, offices, lecture rooms, reading rooms for students and research areas for faculty members. Its earliest completion date would be September 1963.

Also approved by the Building Commission at the November meeting, but still to be authorized by the Legislature is the Mathematics-Physics-Engineering Building, estimated to cost $2,100,000. This building will permit the construction of approximately 70,000 gross square feet of space. This is substantially
less than the requirements of these three departments. As result some facilities will not be included in the first phase of the building. Engineering Drawing, for example, as well as the Mathematics Computing Laboratory and some general classroom space will not be included in the first unit. If approved by the Legislature this building could also be ready for occupancy by September 1963.

The Student Union poses a particular problem. It has been inadequate from the very beginning of the merger. The architect is now making feasibility studies in the hope that a determination can be made as to the desirability of remodelling the present facility and adding substantially to it. These studies should be ready by January, 1961. At this time we also hope to have a proposal to present to the Regents on the matter of financing a proposed Union expansion.

The outlay of projects listed above total approximately $13,000,000. This does not include monies which will have been spent on the Kenwood Campus during the past five years for remodelling, for Barracks E, for utilities extension or for the Heating Plant which is presently in the process of being completed.

There are other building needs which we must push as rapidly as possible. Other projects on the UW-M program list, but not in order of priority, are the following: Science completion, Fine Arts completion, Classroom building No. 2 and No. 3, completion of Mathematics-Physics-Engineering Building, Services and Stores Building, the Library addition and Physical Education facilities. These buildings represent an additional outlay of approximately $14,000,000 and do not include sums that will have to be spent for remodelling existing facilities, for utilities extensions and for needed land purchases.

In light of the substantial building development which is now taking place on the Kenwood Campus it is appropriate to raise the question about the use of the Downtown Campus. There seems to be general agreement that we should move our academic activities to the Kenwood Campus as soon as possible,
Some Downtown activities in fact, we will be able to abandon during the next twelve months. We expect to vacate the Tower by July 1, 1961 or January 1, 1962 at the latest. We also hope to raze the Downtown barracks within the next twelve months. We are not yet certain what we should do about the sale of the permanent buildings on the Downtown Campus. The Committee on the Future of the UW-M recommended that these be sold. This question is now being studied by the Campus Planning Committee and we hope to have a recommendation to take to the University administration on this matter shortly.

In conclusion I would say that we are in the most favorable position the matter of our buildings since the merger. All of us experienced great frustrations and discouragements during the first three years of operation but we have seen great progress during the last twelve months. Not only has there been an increasing awareness on the part of everyone about the urgency of buildings on the Milwaukee campus, but the State Architect’s office has been most cooperative and aggressive in seeing that our program has moved forward. During the past year the Regents also approved an over-all Campus Plan for the development of the area surrounding the Kenwood campus and preliminary steps have been taken to seek the cooperation of the neighborhood and the City in implementing the plan.

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