University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee

Physical Environment Committee
2006-2007 Annual Report

Members:

Gil Snyder Assoc Architecture
Kate Coffaro AS Honors College
Harvey Rabinowitz Prof Architecture
Mike Allen Prof Communication
Arthur Brooks, Chair Prof Biological Sciences
Julie Carlson AS L&S Advancement & Public Affairs
Justin Mayer AS Enrollment Services
Cindy Walker Assoc Educ Psychology
Michael Maass CL Physical Plant Services
Karen Dredge AS Nursing
David Hoeveler Prof History
Alan Horowitz Prof Civil Engineering
Ruth Williams Assoc.VC Academic Affairs (Chief Academic Officer Rep)
Sherwood Wilson VC Administrative Affairs (Chief Business Officer)
Jim Hill Int. VC Student Affairs (Administrative Officer)
Mary Pat Kunert Assoc Nursing (APCC Chair or rep)
Karen Morin Prof Nursing (GFC Chair or rep)
Richard Meadows Dean L&S Administration
Claude Schuttey Dir Chancellor’s Rep
Randall J. Ryder Prof Sec of the University
John Williams Student
Samantha Prahl Student

Charter:
Functions/ Responsibilities:

A3.6 Physical Environment Committee

(1) Membership. Twenty-two members as follows: Three elected faculty members, two faculty members appointed by the University Committee, two faculty members appointed by the Chancellor; two students; one academic dean and one administrative officer appointed by the Chancellor; the chairpersons or their designees of the Academic
Program and Curriculum Committee and the Graduate Faculty Council; four elected members of the academic staff; and ex-officio, the Chancellor, the Provost, the Vice Chancellor of Administrative Affairs, the Secretary of the University, and one member of the classified staff, appointed by the Chancellor. A faculty member is elected chairperson by the committee.

(Document 2167, 11/19/98; UWM Administration approval, 11/98)
(Document 2169, 12/17/98; UWM Administration approval, 12/30/98)
(Editorsly revised, 8/24/06)

(2) Functions. Makes recommendations for the development of the physical environment of the campus consistent with the mission and with the present and future academic programs of the University.

a) Recommends a master plan for the development of the campus reflecting priorities in accordance with guidelines established by the committee.

b) Recommends the location of new buildings, their inter-relationships and aesthetics and their functional and architectural features.

c) Recommends remodeling needs and identifies desirable or undesirable features relevant to future construction.

d) Recommends parking and transportation policies.

e) Recommends appropriate names for buildings pursuant to established guidelines.

(Document 1052, 10/20/77; UWM Administration approval, 11/16/77)
(Document 1619, 5/10/88; UWM Administration approval (9/22/88)

Meetings:

May 16, 2007 *
April 18, 2007
March 28, 2007
February 21, 2007
January 17, 2007 - cancelled
December 20, 2006
November 15, 2006 – cancelled
October 18, 2006
September 13, 2006

Minutes for each of these meetings may be obtained at:

http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/SecU/pecmail/minutes/index.html

* To be posted following approval at the next meeting in September.

The Physical Environment Committee met seven times during the 2006-07 academic year. At the first meeting on September 13, 2006 Professor Arthur Brooks was elected Chair of the committee with Harvey Rabinowitz as Vice Chair. Michael Allen was elected Recording Secretary for semester 1 and Julie Carlson for semester 2.
Major items considered by the committee during the year included the following items:

1. Periodic updates on the Construction and Capitol Budget, which was culminated by a presentation by Chancellor Santiago setting forth his vision for campus expansion.

2. The campus smoking ban was on the agenda for both the first and last meeting of the year. A final version of the document that will be forwarded to the Chancellor is included with the minutes of the May meeting.

3. The need for “gender-neutral” restrooms was discussed and a policy of establishing at least one such facility in each building was recommended. Safety concerns over lockable restrooms was a major issue discussed, which will be addressed following further study with campus Physical Plant Services and University Police.

4. The perennial debate over parking and the Parking and Transit budget was again a topic of great interest.

5. Several meetings considered the condition of the Physics Building and the need to replace, or significantly renovate the existing structure and to build a new research wing. Concerns were expressed over the health of workers in the building as well as the general need for a more modern facility to conduct research.

6. Plans for an outbreak of pandemic flu were presented by Environmental Health and Safety and Norris Health personnel as well as the need to develop a system to alert the campus population to emergency situations.

7. The process by which off-campus buildings are constructed by private developers, who then make the facilities available for university use was discussed. It was recommenced that the PEC be consulted in advance of any future ventures of this nature.

8. Other items considered by the committee included the enforcement of System rules prohibiting pets in university buildings, Physical Plant charges to departments for building maintenance and herbicide spraying for weed control on campus.