College and Careers Building – Advisory Group
Notes – April 30, 2015 Meeting

Advisory Group members attending:
Larry Bruton, Trustee-UO Foundation
James Chrisman, President-AIA Student Chapter
Robin Holmes, Vice President-Student Life
Andrew Marcus, Interim Dean-College of Arts and Sciences
Ginevra Ralph, Vice-Chair-UO Board of Trustees
Chris Ramey, Associate Vice President-Campus Planning, Design and Construction
Brad Shelton-Interim Vice President-Research and Innovation
Ed Teague, Head-Architecture & Allied Arts Library
Rob Thallon, Associate Dean, Associate Professor-AAA

Also attending:
Miriam Bolton, Administrative Director-College of Arts and Sciences
Phil Farrington, Planning Associate-Campus Planning, Design and Construction
Gregg Lobisser, Associate Vice President for Capital Projects-Student Life
Colin McArthur, Principal-Cameron McCarthy Planners and Landscape Architects
Martina Oxoby, Planning Associate-Campus Planning, Design and Construction
Cathy Soutar, Director of Facilities-College of Arts and Sciences
Monica Witzig, Planner-Cameron McCarthy Planners and Landscape Architects

Dean Marcus introduced the College and Careers Building (CCB) as being dedicated to student success. It will be the headquarters for the College of Arts and Sciences (consolidating functions spread across campus in 52 buildings and serving 70% of the student body) and the Career Center, have classrooms and informal learning spaces. By merging campus-wide advising with career advising builds on the UO’s liberal arts tradition as a pathway to future success. There is no known example of a building that integrates academic and career advising in a single building devoted to student success, and the CCB will help with student retention and support diversity objectives.

The CCB was ranked as the #1 request to place before the legislature to seek matching funds, and with $11 million in private donations in place the site selection timing is sought to further legislative and philanthropic funding efforts. Advising is currently broken into seven locations and types, and aren’t well-integrated with the Career Center. The Career Center has more than 10 thousand visits/year, mostly within by students in their last quarter at the UO.
He urged the site selection to be as unconstrained as possible to provide flexibility in programming and design for the CCB.

Phil Farrington provided an overview of the site selection process, the evaluation criteria and the sites considered for the CCB. Colin McArthur provided information on the sites based upon their research and contained in their site selection report, and identified the considerations associated with each site.

Comments from the Advisory Group:
• The Collier House site should be on the table.
• There are other options, one of the tenets of historic preservation is that if you have options other than harming or removing an historic resource then you should do that. The Collier House site is zoned Historic and the building is a City historic landmark, and changes to zoning and relocating the house would pose potentially significant delays.
• Perhaps we should start now to identify a location for relocating the Collier House, and for the LTD station next to the PLC parking lot.
• Geography and site is important to the Collier House’s historical integrity; moving it disconnects it from his historic resource and value.
• Timing is an issue; with inflation costs running at 6.2%, delays would affect the project.
• All three sites are close to unacceptable; can find faults with each of them.
• Questions about the height of Fenton and surrounding buildings, and the amount of parking in Lot 23 – are we okay with the parking quantity we have on campus? A: Yes, by code.
• Chapman site is surrounded by designated open space.
• The ramp shown for sub-grade parking is a worst-case as needed to get to parking.
• The PLC lot would have the costly utility extension and consume the most parking.
• Could another building be located or reserved on the site?
• Site B scores best, but what’s exciting is if it diminishes the visibility of parking in the center of campus.
• The PLC warrants substantially more development.
• Agreed; it under-utilizes a precious resource. It can accommodate underground parking. The Fenton site is constrained. B can be consistent with the Campus Plan.
• The intent with Site B is to screen/submerge parking. Allen Hall is a good comparison; it doesn’t have a dock but works well for limited access needs.
• Chapman site makes sense. You can plant trees. Fenton is landlocked.
• Yes Chapman site strengthens the Memorial Quad.
• Look again at the Collier site and consider options for landscape improvements, whether replaced or not.

The Advisory Group concluded by making a consensus recommendation for Site B as the future CCB site, and forward it for consideration by a campus focus group, an expert opinion, and
referral by the university president to the Space Advisory Group and Campus Planning Committee for their recommendations to the president on siting.