College and Careers Building Focus Group
Notes – May 20, 2015 Meeting

Attendees:
Daniel Pascoe Aguilar, Director-Career Center
Gwen Bolden, Director-Parking and Transportation
Miriam Bolton, Administrative Director-College of Arts and Sciences
Mark Carey, Associate Dean-Clark Honors College
Anthony Cranford, Security Administrator-JSMA
Phil Carroll, Landscape Maintenance Supervisor-Campus Operations
Renee Dorjahn, Director of Finance and Administration-Clark Honors College
Sue Eveland, Associate Vice President/University Registrar-Office of the Registrar
Phil Farrington, Planning Associate-Campus Planning, Design and Construction
Gregg Lobisser, Associate Vice President for Capital Projects-Student Life
Martina Oxoby, Planning Associate-Campus Planning, Design and Construction
Cathy Soutar, Director of Facilities-College of Arts and Sciences
Alayne Switzer, Building/Department Manager-Fenton Hall/Math
Fred Tepfer, Project Planning Manager-Campus Planning, Design and Construction
Chris White, Collections Manager-JSMA
Nancy Willcox-Trent, Operations Coordinator-Graduate School

Representing project sponsors CAS and Student Life/Career Center, Cathy Soutar presented information on the College and Careers Building (CCB). Programming for the building should be complete by the end of the summer and coincides with the site selection process. The roughly 50,000 gsf CCB is envisioned as a student success center providing the following:

- Physical front door for CAS (which accounts for 3/5 of majors at the UO)
- Co-locates academic advising with career advising/Career Center
- University classrooms (approx. 25% of the building sf in a variety of sizes, up to 100-seat classroom)
- Interactive teaching
- CAS seminar-size classrooms

Phil Farrington provided an overview of the site selection process, the sites considered for the CCB, considerations associated with each site identified in the site selection report prepared by consultants Cameron McCarthy, and the recommendation for Site B (east/south of Chapman Hall) by the UO Campus Physical Framework Advisory Group.
Comments from the focus group:

- The CCB should provide an integration of advising, networking and career services and should have a very visible presence.
- Classrooms will help drive students into the space, and could also be used for career fairs, student success conferences, etc.
- JSMA service/delivery needs must be considered if Site B is selected. They have approximately 80-110 semi-truck deliveries annually. The longest total length of truck including cab is 80-feet long.
- Parking lot next to Johnson Hall is used for college football Game Day, and there is a well-executed plan in place for use of that lot.
- Clark Honors College needs to maintain light to classrooms and offices, and uses open space south of Chapman Hall as an outdoor classroom. CHC is VERY concerned about loss of views, potentially losing the ability to expand and grow, and being hemmed in by a building twice the size of Chapman.
- The site and building at Chapman serves as a recruitment and retention tool for the best and brightest students and faculty.
- Classes and discussion groups are held outside as part of an extension of the classroom experience, and within the building are held in classrooms located on the south side of Chapman.
- If another site such as PLC were selected, the CCB project and/or CAS shouldn’t have to bear the full cost of expensive utility extensions to make the PLC parking lot a viable site for this and any future development.
- Design factors should be considered to incorporate solar access for Chapman, and quiet courtyard/plaza space to integrate with CCB.
- Suggest leaving the lawn area south of Chapman alone, possibly having a shared back door, but don’t relegate CAS and classrooms to the “west 40.”
- Site selection conveys a powerful message to students about the mission of the university; consider every option to keep it centrally located.
- Site should not “swallow up” the Honors College.
- A significant percentage of Honors College students have CAS majors, so adjacency can enliven that.
- Shared open space could be an advantage to programs in both buildings, and there are opportunities to collaborate with the Honors College.
- Clark Honors College remains concerned about any design that would wrap around Chapman, and otherwise is opposed to locating CCB at Site B.
- How many building sites are left on campus, especially in the academic core? Perhaps mitigate impacts of height and adjacency of a building relative to Chapman; acknowledge that views are important.
• Impact of a building goes beyond the footprint into tree root zones and has to consider stormwater, educational trees, etc. The Campus Tree Plan policy directive is to demonstrate that an attempt is made first to preserve trees, especially educational trees.
• Partnership between CAS, the Career Center and Honors College could be very important, providing visible presence of the CCB proximate could benefit all.
• Collaboration is fine, but it shouldn’t mean surrendering to CAS.
• This will be a large building, and we need to consider what it means for the experience of open space outside of those designated in the campus plan. Spaces not protected as designated open space are in fact considered building sites.
• JSMA plans for potential expansion and current access needs are their biggest issue. There is no basement on the east side of the building so don’t account for a change to the location/configuration of the loading dock.
• Across from PLC would not be a bad option, but who pays for utility extension.
• Site B is surrounding by designated open space and there are limited building opportunities elsewhere in the center of campus.
• We don’t do a good job of containing construction activities; if this site is chose, we need to contain the site, manage materials, protect trees, and get the user group to ensure that.
• Parking requirements for Johnson Hall need to be considered.
• How the building will be serviced, how to get in/out and who will be parking there is a big deal.
• Don’t do noise sensitive activities on the south/southeast side of the side of the building given that JSMA dock access will use backing beepers.
• Honors College concerns: they are directed by the president to grow and want to be assured there is room to do so; Chapman and surrounding area is unique and beautiful, the space/trees surrounding it may affect the quality of the educational experience.
• Don’t preclude the possibility of Chapman building expansion.
• Keep the identity of the Honors College.
• Concern that the template for Site B extending south of Chapman encroaches upon it.
• Don’t save parking spaces and lose Oregon’s best and brightest students.
• Perhaps other sites should have been considered in the report, such as the Collier House site.
• Summary of concerns: potential impacts on Chapman (light, open space, etc.); JSMA access; trees/site conditions; parking for Johnson Hall and service access for CCB user needs.