CAMPUS PLANNING and DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Thursday, 26 August 2010

MINUTES

PRESENT: 
Dr David Solomon (Chair)
Mr Geoff Campbell
Dr John Fitzgerald
Mr Tully Fletcher
Mr Wayne Ford
Prof Brenton Lewis
Mr Murray Napier
Professor David Williams

IN ATTENDANCE
Ms Cheryl Cairns
Mr Alec Gray
Mr Brian Lane

APOLOGIES: Robert Atcheson, Tooey Elliot, Dr Brok Glenn, Matthew King, Des Nicholls, Mick Serena

1. MINUTES 

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 24 June 2010 were confirmed.

2. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

2.1 ANU Campus Master Plan 2030

Mr Ford advised members that GHD Pty Ltd has been engaged to provide master planning services for the delivery of the Campus Master Plan for the Acton Campus by November 2010.

Committee members noted that the Stakeholder Consultation and Engagement Strategy document for the Campus Master Plan 2030 (CMP 2030) has been issued to the Project Board. This document identifies how the CMP 2030 Project Team will engage and consult with the ANU community and other relevant stakeholder such as ACT Government, National Capital Authority (NCA) and the University’s neighbours (CSIRO and the Australian National Botanic Gardens, etc).

The Committee were advised that the Stakeholder Consultation and Engagement process had commenced and the main objectives were for the delivery of two outcomes:

- we consult widely; and
- Consultation process captures all stakeholders’ input

Wayne Ford further advised the committee that the ‘Best Practice Guidelines’ provided by GHD Consultants and the Federal Government are being used to ensure best practice is followed in relation to stakeholder consultation and engagement processes.

Wayne Ford and Alec Gray (Project Team members) advised the committee on how the stakeholder consultation and engagement process will move forward. They indicated that the tools in place, Interim Master Plan 1997, ANU website, ANU blog and reference documents associated with the Master Plan including sub plans (documents already
endorsed in relation to Environmental Management Plan, Biodiversity Plan and the Heritage Plan) and workshops (for user groups) would enable the consultation process to proceed.

All captured Information from stakeholders will be available for review on the website and expressed to committee members the importance the process has in the guidance and development of the University’s physical infrastructure and assets for the period 2010 to 2030.

Committee members expressed some concerns on Website content and the need to consider existing quality and character of the campus as this process advances. It is expected that the consultation process will be finalised by the end of September 2010. Issues raised will be considered for inclusion into the final structure and content of the CMP 2030 document.

Committee members requested:
- Terms of Reference;
- Link to the University website; and
- Presentations relating to the workshops.

3. DESIGN AND SITING ISSUES

The following projects were submitted Thursday 26 August 2010 CPDC meeting for discussion / endorsement.

3.1 Advanced Instrumentation and Technology centre (AITC) – Stage 2

The Committee were advised that there would be no submission presented for the AITC Stage 2 project at the 26 August 2010 CPDC meeting.

Committee members were informed by Mr Brian Lane that in response to the previous endorsement of Preliminary Sketch Plans (24 June 2010 meeting) of AITC Stage 2 the sketch plans have been progressed. In the ensuing period a managing contractor has been engaged to assist with the coordination / development of the final sketch plan and provide commercial input into the design and documentation.

Mr Lane further advised the Committee that there were some delays arising from changed ACTEW requirements and other issues currently associated with the AITC Stage 2 site. Exploratory works, to identify the exact location of underground services beneath the proposed building site. If found consideration will be given to move these services or to realign the footprint of the building.

Committee members noted that AITC Stage 2 will be re submitted at the next CPDC meeting when the information is anticipated to be available. The next CPDC meeting has been advanced from 28 October 2010 to 14 October 2010.

3.2 Digital Sign – Anu Union Court – Building No 20

At the 10 February 2010 CPDC meeting, the Committee was briefed on the proposal to install Digital Signage in Union Court. The proposal forms part of the ANU Green Precinct Project, (funded by the Australian Governments Education Precincts for the Future). The digital sign will allow the communication of key messages and information relating to the ANU Projects including;
- Savings in energy and water consumption (updated periodically to track performance of the project);
- upcoming events;
- strategies to reduce consumer waste; and
• promotion of campus initiatives targeting sustainable resource use.

The digital sign will operate for approximately 10 hours per day and creates opportunities for other areas of ANU outside of Facilities and Services to promote subjects that extend beyond the life and function of the ANU Green Projects. Potential opportunities include;

• Promotion of capital works projects and ANU research innovation
• Media announcements
• Safety warnings
• Staff and student messages
• Events and programs
• A clock to display time in between media uses
• Advertising of ANU Union services

It is proposed to mount the digital sign on the brick wall above the middle entrance of the Union Building (next to the mobile phone shop).

Following consideration of material presented and discussion the Committee endorsed the proposal.

3.3 Solar Panels for Childcare Centres

The University Preschool & Child Care Centre and the Heritage Early Childhood Centre were successful in receiving grants to install 6kW Photovoltaic Arrays on the rooftops of the Centres as part of the ACT Government Climate Change Strategy – Weathering the Change.

The PV Arrays will assist the Centres to lower their CO2 emissions and become a talking point and educational tool for staff, parents and the children.

Given that the Lennox House complex hold some of the University’s oldest buildings (and some of the earliest in Canberra), the Heritage Community (including the National Trust and Department of the Environment Water Heritage and the Arts (DEWHA)) were informed of the proposal and have advised that they have no objections to solar panels on the buildings.

A Structural Engineers report has also been obtained and confirms that the selected areas of the roof structure can support the PV panels.

Following consideration of material presented and discussion the Committee endorsed the proposal.

3.4 Climate High Performance Computing Centre Project

The Committee noted at the 22nd April 2010 CPDC meeting that the University, in consultation with the climate, marine and water research community, the National Computational Infrastructure (NCI) is planning the development of a digital laboratory for the earth system sciences. The primary objective of the project is to establish a new national peak HPC capability of petaflop scale by expanding and extending the national high-end computational capability provided through the NCI. The facility must be operational by March 2012.

Noting earlier resolutions by the Committee that future facilities of this type be located off-campus, NCI representatives in consultation with the University initially considered a number of off-campus sites, including CSIRO. However, the Division was asked by the University Executive to find a site for the facility on campus. The preferred site for this complex is on the Animal Breeding Establishment site.

The Committee was advised by Brian Lane that planning for Stage 1 of the proposal included the HPC and Data Hall, associated plant, office accommodation and an allowance for the future Energy Centre. The planning of the facilities allows for existing infrastructure, future upgrade and growth of the HPC and a potential second stage of works.

Following consideration of material presented and discussion the Committee endorsed Stage 1 (ground level and level one) of the proposal.
3.5 **Australian National Institute for Public Policy, Site for the Australian Centre on China in the World.**

Mr Brian Lane advised the Committee that due to deliberations still in progress the submission was withdrawn from the agenda. The submission will be re-presented at the next meeting on 14 October 2010.

The Committee expressed some concern that the propositions involved with the submission may encroach on existing open space.

3.6 **Multi Deck Car Park – Daley Road**

At the 24 June 2010 meeting, the Committee was asked to endorse the project’s final sketch plan. The Committee noted that the design included provision for a second floor (additional 100 spaces) which could be constructed immediately (subject to funding) or added at a later date.

CPDC Committee members suggested the carpark colour range for the building should be complementary to the surrounding area and that additional vegetation should be planted to decrease the impact of the building. Since the submission of the FSP Report in June 2010 significant changes to the appearance of the building have occurred as a result of CPDC comments and NCA requests. The design re-submitted at the 26 August 2010 meeting represents the changes requested by the CPDC and the NCA.

In response to the CPDC and NCA comments the new façade look is increasing the horizontal nature of the building to be more sympathetic to surrounding buildings while diminishing the appearance of the building from Barry Drive. The façade uses colour tones of grey green that will help blend in with the tree line on Barry Drive and form part of the view to the carpark.

The Committee were further advised that the final design incorporates significant replanting of trees around the carpark and development of gardens at the front carpark to soften it and recognise the need for integration with the green quality of the campus.

The Committee commented on the need for pedestrian friendly pathways and the need for extra lighting surrounding the carpark due to increased activities associated with the surrounding area, particularly those pathways leading to the commercial concessions in the Union Court area.

Following consideration of material presented and discussion the Committee endorsed the proposal.

4 **OTHER BUSINESS**

4.2 **Campus Sculpture Booklet**

Committee members requested an update of the publication associated with the public collection of outdoor sculptures across campus. It was noted that there has been a significant amount of additional artwork added to the campus since the original publication ten years ago.

4.3 **External Development Opportunities for the ANU**

Committee members raised concerns surrounding the apparent lack of planning for alternate building sites off campus. Committee members were advised that the University has been in consultation with CSIRO (to strengthen both the university and CSIRO’s position in relation to funding issues) and with the NCA to decide what opportunities the University has in extending the University’s existing boundaries.

5 **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of this Committee will be on 14 October 2010 at 2pm. Further meetings of the Committee in 2010 will be held on 9 December at 11am. All meetings will be held in the Conference Room, John Yencken Building.