

Draft for Discussion #2

College of the Siskiyous **FACILITIES MASTER PLAN UPDATE 2006**

THE WEED CAMPUS

INTRODUCTION

Our institutions and their facilities grow and change through time. Growth involves matters of quantity (larger) while change deals with matters of quality (better). The College of the Siskiyous is in the enviable position to be able to use its bond funds to improve the quality of its facilities free of the pressures of growth for the immediate future.

In preparation for the execution of the 2006 bond fund improvements to its capital facilities, the administration of the College engaged 3D/International, Inc., and Nichols Melburg & Rosetto to conduct a brief charette for the purpose of reviewing and updating the campus facilities master plan for the College. The charette took place over three days with the first day spent by the consultants visiting both the Weed and the Yreka campuses. The second day the consultants spent with the president and his cabinet in a visioning session. On the third day the consultants presented their thoughts, concepts, and ideas for the president and the cabinet to respond to.

This exercise was conducted in order to maximize the qualitative effects of the bond program projects and to organize the projects in such a way as to enable and not inhibit growth and expansion in the future.

Given the tight time constraints for the charette, only three of the traditional systems analyzed in a campus plan were investigated; these were (1) Buildings, (2) Parking and Access, and (3) and Open Space.

The time frame for the facilities master plan was determined to be (A) Phase 1 / Existing, (B) Phase 2 / Bond Program, and (C) Phase 3 / Future.

BUILDINGS

EXISTING

- Over its life time of 48 years, the College of the Siskiyous has constructed a campus of 20 permanent and semi permanent buildings on 250 acres. The buildings are these:
 - John Mantle Student Center
 - Learning Resource Center
 - Life Science Building

- McCloud Hall
 - Theater Building
 - Physical Science Building
 - Eddy Hall
 - Foundation, Grants, and Public Relations Building
 - Abner Weed Hall
 - Greenshields Hall
 - Gymnasium
 - Gymnasium Annex (semi permanent)
 - Facilities Management
 - Athletic Training Facility
 - Industrial Technology Building
 - Ponderosa Hall
 - Juniper Hall
 - Discovery Children's Center (semi permanent)
 - Distance Learning Center
 - Transitional Education Building
- The original "shotgun" or "barracks" style buildings of the campus (Physical Science Building, Eddy Hall, Abner Weed Hall, and Greenshields Hall) still exist.
 - The academic buildings are arranged in a mostly orthogonal grid pattern with only the newest one being placed at a 45 degree angle to that grid. The dormitories are at non orthogonal locations, too, but appear to be at random angles. The buildings were built in a compact pattern in the northeasterly corner of the 250 acres tract, wisely conserving the acreage and enhancing the pedestrian nature of the Campus.
 - By and large the buildings are all of a single story scale and are of color and materials that are harmonious. The color that is most apparent is a pinkish color that ranges from pine needle red to Pepto Bismol pink. No one seems to know where the color comes from or why it appears in such a wide range of tints. A dove gray concrete (the Gymnasium) and dark brown wood are also apparent color themes.
 - Generally, the campus is pedestrian with vehicular traffic and parking on the edges.
 - The Campus is more or less oriented to the north which is bounded by College Avenue.
 - The Campus facilities that draw the community to the Campus (theater, gymnasium, and athletic fields) are all on the west side.
 - The student life building is appropriately in the center of the campus

- There is a complex of four buildings including facilities management on the south edge of the campus, west of the dormitories. It is a hodgepodge of structures that has evolved over time. Its location blocks the natural direction of expansion for the campus.
- The new Distance Learning Center has collected and distilled the various elements of the Siskiyou style of architecture (vernacular) that has evolved and has “codified” it visually. This building should serve the College as its architectural design guidelines for the Campus until such time as written ones are developed.

FUTURE

- The campus as it exists has at least six sites for major new buildings or additions. These sites are presently encumbered with two of the original buildings (Abner Weed and Grenshields Halls), some asphalt outdoor basketball courts, and some parking.
- A new facilities management center can be constructed to the southwest of the Campus core. This allows the present site of facilities management to be turned into parking and later to be used for campus expansion. The Transitional Education Building (Portable Building) and the Athletic Training center (old Auto Shop) would also need to be relocated. Eventually the Industrial Technology Building, too, would need to be relocated.
- The Theater can be expanded to the north or a major building built parallel to it on the north side, perhaps forming a fine arts complex.
- New academic building(s) can be built on the northeast corner of the campus near to the new Distance Learning Center.
- A natatorium and field house can be added to the south of the gymnasium.

BOND PROGRAM

- Several facilities are planned as part of the bond program:
 - Fire and Emergency Services Instructional Center
 - Tactical Training Center
 - Emergency Services Training Classroom Building
 - *Life Science Building Modernization*
- In addition to the bond program projects funding for a new Science Complex Replacement Building may be available. This may modify the Life Science Modernization into classrooms to replace Abner Weed and Greenshields Halls.

- A high quality architectural screen wall to match the Learning Resource Center should be built around the electrical equipment at the southwest corner of the Student Center. It could be part of the bond program.
- Demolition of the original College buildings (Abner Weed and Greenshields Halls) will provide a site for the new Learning Resources Center (or the new Science Complex Replacement Building). This building's design could include the colonnade that forms the south side of the "Commons".
- *Additional projects as funding is available*
 - McCloud Hall Modernization
 - New Learning Resources Center (Planned CCCCCO funding).
 - New Facilities Management Center
 - New Amphitheater

PARKING AND ACCESS

NOTE: The informal loop road and perimeter parking pattern that has evolved naturally over time should be adopted as permanent, and the resources brought to bear eliminating the tentative, helter-skelter, and accidental appearance of this major system. The loop road even has a name on the east and north sides of the Campus—Siskiyou Way from the Siskiyou Way entrance on the east side.

EXSITING

- For the present, the Campus has sufficient parking. This is an unusual and beneficial situation for the campus to be in as it improves the quality of its Campus environment. However, there will come a time when parking must be expanded again.
- There is little sense of arrival at the College. The view at an angle across a linear but disorderly parking lot from the primary entrance drive off of College Avenue is a sad one. This is the view that greets the community that comes to Campus for events at the theater or gymnasium, etc.
- The entrance from Siskiyou Way through the neighborhood to the east requires one to turn left or right (Take your pick!) to find parking and access.
- A loop road more or less exists on three sides of the campus. On the fourth side it sort of exists as it passes through parking lots on the south side of the campus, separating the dormitories from the rest of the Campus on its way through.
- Parking is more or less organized in a linear configuration around the perimeter of the campus.

FUTURE

- **Complete the loop road around the south side of the dormitories and joining the loop road on the west at the newly paved drive to the Fire and Emergency Services Instructional Center complex to the southwest of the Campus core.**
- **New parking outside of the loop road could be necessary in the future. Such facilities would require adjustment or relocation of the athletic facilities on the west and south sides of the Campus core.**
- **A new loop road on the west edge of the west parking would provide for two full aisle of orderly parking on the west side of the Campus. It would require the removal of the Gymnasium Annex and some adjustment to the edge of the Baseball Field.**
- **Replacement of the existing College Avenue entrance loop with a single two way entrance that aligns with the city street opposite it could help create a strong entrance and sense of arrival, especially if the entrance was accentuated as a gateway with stone entrance pylons or other such feature.**
- **A similar gateway could be constructed to accentuate the Siskiyou Way entrance.**

BOND PROGRAM

- **There are bond projects that will address Parking and Access along the considerations above as funding allows.**

OPEN SPACE

NOTE: Given the remarkable natural setting of the Weed Campus, it is hard to make a wrong decision. However, this same all pervasive naturally beautiful environment probably calls for simple, elegant and very formal development of the potential spaces internal to the campus—the potential Quad, Commons, Mall, Entrance Plaza, and Garden of Peace.

EXISTING

- **The open space of the campus is first of all the towering presence of the beautiful snow capped Mount Shasta to the east of the campus.**
- **The landscape of the Campus is a forest of ponderosa pines and junipers among which the buildings of the campus sit.**
- **There is a view of the mountain from the west edge of the campus broken only by the cluster of original buildings in the immediate foreground.**

- A potential “Commons” exists on the west side of the Campus. It is presently cluttered with three of the original buildings.
- An accidental “Quad” has been created between the John Mantle Student Center and the Learning Resources Center, but it is more apparent on the map than on the campus.
- Most of the open spaces are, like the quad, accidental. All of this accidentalness works in a way because of immense beauty of the mountain and the forest.

FUTURE

- Some formal accentuation of the open spaces within the Campus would contrast with the grand expanse of the natural pattern that is the greater environment.
- Demolition and replacement of the original buildings (Weed, Greenshields, and Eddy Halls) and the Foundation / Grants / Public Relations Building will afford the opportunity to create a “Commons” and an entry to the Campus on the west (community) side. This would accentuate the visual presence of Mount Shasta as backdrop to the College and to its community visitors.
- The Commons could feature a timber structured colonnade (similar to the theater porch) down both sides with the ends toward the parking lot designed as pedestrian gateways. Another open gateway could be constructed in the center between the colonnades and all three connected by an iron fence.
- Leaving the Physical Science Building as a special feature (“Founders Hall”?) in the Commons could pay tribute historically to the Campus with the building continuing its function as the book store and perhaps a coffee house or perhaps even as the board room.
- There is an accidental “Mall” between the Gymnasium and the existing Greenshields Hall. This Mall should be preserved and enhanced. It is populated with mature ponderosa pines and junipers. These trees should be seriously pruned so as to allow for a view of Mount Shasta through them. Building lines for new buildings fronting the mall should be used to help delineate the Mall.
- Construct a new Garden of Peace to the east of the existing Learning Resources Center.
- Construct an entrance plaza between the Life sciences Building and McCloud Hall where the proposed relocation of the entrance from College Avenue is.

BOND PROGRAM

- Construct new Emergency Services Training Center and new Science building or Learning Resource Center to create entrance plaza.

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