

Infrastructure Council
Chair: H. Jane Brockmann
2 Nov 2009 (272 JWRU @ 3-5)

Infrastructure Council Mission Statement : *To establish policies and procedures for academic infrastructure and support in cooperation with the President of the University and the Faculty Senate. This includes coordinating the work of operation committees that contribute to the physical framework of the campus community. Our goal is to achieve standards of excellence for the interdependent network of facilities and services essential to a top-tier public research university.*

Responsibilities of the Infrastructure Council: *This council's area encompasses the University's infrastructure supporting the University's academic mission, including the provision of physical facilities and other physical resources; libraries; information technology; the campus master plan; and the availability of adequate computer, classroom, laboratory and other resources.*

Draft AGENDA

1. Introductions. (5 min)
2. Approval of minutes from 5 Oct meeting (5 min)
3. Information: Report from the Senate Steering Committee meeting. Jane Brockmann (5 min).
4. Information: Report on how the RCM shadowing process is going? Problems and how they are being addressed Matt Fajack (5 min).
Discussion: How RCM will affect Academic Infrastructure (questions from IC) (see list below for possible questions)
5. Committee Chairs and Liaisons: Update on current issues. (30 min)
 - Report on the sustainability action plan
 - Report on Course Management Review Committee
 - Report on ITAC-AT projects (Jane Brockmann)
 - Report from Facilities Planning (Carol Walker)
 - University infrastructure (Ed Poppel)
6. Discussion: Other issues that the Infrastructure Council should address this year?
Someone mentioned in the steering committee meeting that it may be useful to come up with some suggested guidelines for consideration when colleges are considering changes that would affect the community or resources available for other colleges. I think this may be a productive course of action if the council is interested.

2009-10 Issues for the Infrastructure Council

- IT Issues (major tech launches; security, implementation of IT governance; improving database accessibility)
- Classroom availability (suitability, scheduling, distance learning classrooms)
- Effect of budget cuts on campus infrastructure
- Sustainability infrastructure issues including energy conservation and recycling
- Library restructuring; merging HSC Library with Smathers Library (Spring 2009)
- Master plan update and implementation
- 34th St. complex
- Town-gown issues

Questions for Matt Fajack on RCM issues (these are things that have come up over the last two months).

During this shadowing process, how do you know if something will or will not work?

Will the taxes be paid by all? Will it be possible to opt out of a tax when it is a service you don't use or don't like? For example, the Library will be a Center. What if Colleges once again start developing their own departmental libraries? We will all be the loser in that case.

Everyone will try to find cheaper work-arounds.

Are there plans to monitor the effect of RCM on infrastructure including classroom availability?

I still don't understand the effect of RCM on availability of classrooms. There are registrar-owned classrooms that each College pays for so presumably we will use those as little as possible. Classes will then be held in labs and misc. rooms that the department owns. This will certainly reduce the quality of the IT facilities available for teaching and it may reduce class size depending on the size of those rooms. Why is this something we want to do?

How would a really major problem such as a sick building or a leaky roof be handled (particularly for a small college)?

How is funding for graduate students handled? How are graduate students handled who span two colleges? For example, in Biology some graduate students are admitted to SNRE or GI or PCMB but their advisors are in Biology.

How have you decided to handle Honors courses? Is this a long-term solution?

How are service contributions credited under RCM? What would encourage faculty to participate in service?

Will a faculty member who receives release for service be able to return money to the Department?

What about sabbaticals. If a faculty member goes on a sabbatical will money be returned to the department to pay to replace him/her?

How are co-pi's on grants covered under RCM? Who gets credit?

Have you thought about ways to incentivize energy conservation or sustainability?

"We don't want the fiscal to drive the academic."

Questions on other issues.

1. Budget Cuts. Some units on which we all depend, such as the Graduate School, have been cut to such an extent that graduate students are being hurt. What is being done to address such issues?
2. MyUFMarket. Problems have been identified. What are they?
3. Why are we paying for VOIP? Turns out that VOIP does not do what it was supposed to do.