

University Centers Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes

Fall 2021, Week 1

September 28, 2021

Opening

The regular meeting of the University Centers Advisory Board was called to order at 2:05 pm on September 28, 2021 by Casey Lee on Zoom.

Attendees

1. Casey Lee (UCAB Chair)
2. Gopika Yallapragada (UCAB Vice Chair)
3. Sharon Van Bruggen (Executive Director) - ad hoc, non-voting
4. Samir Nomani (AS Representative)
5. Hayden Schill (GPSA Representative)
6. Skye Zhang (SSC Representative)
7. Clarissa Elbo (Sixth College Representative)
8. Samir Nomani (Muir Representative)
9. Emily Trask (Staff Association Representative)

Public Input

- None.

Approval of Minutes

- None

Special Presentations

- **5949 Price Center West Food Court Renovation**
 - Hector Reyes started off with the discussion of branding. He wants to bring identity to the Food Court, calling it a plaza and attaching some sort of name to it. Hector also mentions that the renovation will apply to the diagonal, plaza and the grass promenade. The dimensions are 40k sq ft outside and 5k sq ft inside. One of the main ideas is that the diagonal will be used as a coastal permit. Looking at the existing food court, Hector plans on opening it to the garage and connecting it to PC East and back to the rest of campus. As for the grass promenade, they plan on opening up the stairs to create better

access, faster transport, and less zig zags. In this space, there will also be little ramps to make study spaces near the hammocks, and bridges to access the study spaces. There will also be a temporary stage near the bottom. There will be arrows between indoor and outdoor dining, connecting traffic flow and getting rid of the amphitheater's connection to PCE. There will also be jagged walls to retain smaller walls, and help with geometry. There will also be a cutaway to the food court and bookstore and theater to help with connection to PCE. They will also extend the tunnel to the outdoors.

- Discussion/Questions:
 - Skye: Will the hammocks be removed
 - Hector: There will be some replacement of the wood decks and they will keep hammocks, as well as providing power there and formal seating.
 - Hayden: Can we have access to the powerpoint? She mentioned that GPSA's VP of Social Affairs would appreciate it.
 - Hector: Email me
 - Hayden: Has concerns with getting rid of trees. Asked what the plan is.
 - Hector: Wants to get rid of current trees and and build artificial shade structures. Possibly can get both, and trying to get a 3D model
 - Sharon: Wants UCAB members to bring back phase 1 feedback back from constituencies. Wanted Hector to clarify which was a part of phase 1 and which was a part of phase 2
 - Hector: Phase 1 includes outdoor dining and food court and restrooms (including a second entrance to Starbucks). Phase 2 is everything else.
 - Gopika: wanted an elaboration on opening up the stairs
 - Hector: The current width of the stairs is in zig zag format and is around 5 feet. They will be extending to 7-12 feet and will be eliminating zigzag.
 - Samir: Is the tunnel going to be extended with a physical tunnel or with just flooring?
 - Hector: just the flooring
 - Samir: What are the plans for the diagonal?
 - Hector: Repetition of the same materials, which will tie into half a circle of the plaza, and they may do a canopy for Starbucks.
 - Sharon: Asked members what should be Hector's priorities?
 - Samir: Opportunity for making a community space, leveling out the ground, filling in theater area
 - Skye: would like for sustainable materials to be used, wants to keep a lot of trees and to have good lighting, and to widen the steps
 - Hayden: Emphasis on accessible space for everyone, taking disabilities into account. Wants to take advantage of natural lighting and artificial lighting for increasing night time activation. She echoed the comments on sustainability, keeping things fossil fuel free, carbon low, etc. She points out that this could almost be a branding opportunity with the sustainability side of things.

- Emily: Focus on gathering spaces. She thinks that the temporary stage has potential, and she would like to see lighting as a focus, too. She believes that there is opportunity for community building. She suggests that they change the furniture because they are loud
- Clarissa: asked for clarification on the low walls
 - Hector: interchanges (made out of metal) depending on the feedback. Can create a good buffer between areas/structures surrounding it.
- Clarissa: What's the timeline?
 - Sharon: They are starting construction in summer, emphasizing that this is actually a small amount of time.

Chair Report (Casey)

- Open Positions
 - Commuter Student-At-Large
 - Student-At-Large
 - Graduate Student-At-Large
 - Transfer Student-At-Large
 - If anyone would like to take the position, email ucabchair@ucsd.edu.
- International Student Experience Adhoc Committee
 - Doodle is coming out soon
 - Will be discussing "The Exchange" and the survey that was previously discussed
 - Meetings will be held biweekly
- Antiracism Workgroup
 - Time TBD, possibly will have a Doodle poll
 - Monthly meetings will be on zoom

Vice Chair Report (Gopika)

- Student Org Storage Spaces Open
 - Rat infestation issues resolved
 - Sharon corrected to mice instead of rats
 - Will have student orgs move out at around Week 3, and will have a process to have new student orgs to move in
 - There will be a general update on the UCAB site
 - Gopika is excited for this year

Director Report (Sharon)

- Update on What Happened This Past Virtual Year
 - Congratulated her team on navigating the situation during COVID. Reported that half of the team stayed on campus and the other half stayed remote. She thought that they did a good job of keeping the building open, clean, and safe. She made sure basic needs

were available. During this time, 50% of vendors were open. The events task force did a great job of keeping the Virtual Student Union alive. They also advocated for opportunities for students to connect with campus virtually.

- Amanda's Presentation on the Campaign "Be(e) Well"
 - They had Rock gardens to cultivate kindness. They had creative DIYs. They emphasized that it was your (students') place to be. They installed a banner in the atrium. Wanted to spread a positive and uplifting message. They gave student staff t-shirts. They implemented this campaign into A-frames, directories, the website, the library walk monolith, vendor signage, banners, level 2 PC West windows, and the Guardian ads.
 - They plan on creating table tents, which is a virtual spin on helping students navigate through events. It can be accessed through mobile with a QR code, and they plan on having a song of the week. It was emphasized that this could be used as a tool for vendors and facilities.
 - She gave an update on the park.
 - Sharon: UCAB members are not aware of the Park.
 - Amanda explained that it was an outside space that was a part of UCEN and the locations include Matthew's Quad and the Biomedical Library. It will be an extension of the center, and students can check out lounge chairs, lawn games, etc.

New Business

- **5949 Price Center West Food Court Renovation**
 - Nothing was discussed
- **International Student Lounge/Gameroom "The Exchange"**
 - Casey: This has been a product in the making. So far the ideas include an interactive map, which will indicate where a participant is from and what that may mean to them through the use of a map, a decoratable card, and a push-pin. This will also include conversation prompts, which are on a deck of cards, and TVs with international news.
 - Casey asked for feedback on existing ideas and/or suggestions for the space:
 - Discussion/Questions:
 - Emily: Could it be a reservable or programming space?
 - Sharon: Currently, no, but it could be discussed
 - Hayden: commented suggestions: international snacks/vending machines
 - Skye: commented suggestions: international board game closet/shelf/cupboard

Old Business

- None.

Member Reports

- None

Open forum

- None

Announcements

- None

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm by Casey Lee. The next general meeting will be held at 2:00pm on October 5, 2020 on Zoom.