



University of Toronto

Office of the Assistant Vice-President, Campus and Facilities Planning

FOR INFORMATION:

TO: Planning and Budget Committee

SPONSOR: Elizabeth Sisam, Assistant Vice-President, Campus and Facilities Planning

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DATE: February 6 for February 27, 2007

AGENDA ITEM: 9

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

Project Planning Committee for the Faculty of Information Studies Expansion

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

Under the Policy on Capital Planning and Capital Projects, the Planning and Budget Committee reviews Project Planning Reports prepared for a capital project and recommends to the Academic Board approval in principle of the project.

BACKGROUND

The Claude Bissell Building (140 St. George St.), part of the Robarts Library Complex, houses as its primary tenant the Faculty of Information Studies. Two key factors are driving an urgent need to reexamine the Faculty's space needs: first, the building is awkwardly laid out, with some large spaces difficult to use and requiring new planning; secondly, the Faculty is expanding dramatically. Approved plans for Faculty expansion include hiring five new faculty members in 2007, with more planned but not yet approved for 2008. By 2010, the faculty complement will, pending approval, have doubled in size from 2004.

Programming needs in the Faculty are changing also. The Faculty has recently begun integrating the Museum Studies Program and the Adaptive Technology Resource Centre (ATRC) as core parts of the Faculty's work. These two units have very different needs than existing Library/Archive programs, and consideration must be given to issues such as, for example, exhibit space.

Meanwhile, student expansion at the graduate level is projected to grow, from 234 FTE at the master's level and 30 at the PhD level in 2004-05, to 520 FTE at the master's level and approximately 70 at the PhD level by 2010. In addition, the Faculty has actively begun consideration of offering some undergraduate programming. Current space is inadequate to meet this expansion target. As the Faculty moves vigorously ahead with its plan to renew and revitalize its offerings, the physical space required to support them will require substantial alteration.

PROPOSED COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP:

Brian Cantwell Smith (Chair), Dean, Faculty of Information Studies (FIS)
Andrew Drummond, Manager, Special Projects, FIS
Susan Brown, Business Officer, FIS
Jutta Treviranus, Senior Research Associate, FIS
Clare Beghtol, Professor, FIS
David Phillips, Professor, FIS
Joseph Ferenbok, PhD Student, FIS
Ivan Tanzer, MMSt. Student, FIS
Annetta Dunn, MSt. Student, FIS
Jennifer Adams Peffer, (Secretary) Campus and Facilities Planning
Julian Binks, Capital Projects Planning
Bruce Dodds, Director, Utilities

TERMS OF REFERENCE:

1. Make recommendations for a detailed space program indicating how space and facilities for the Faculty of Information Studies should be organized at the Bissell Building including renovations to existing facilities and any new facilities proposed.
2. Identify the space program as it is related to the Faculty's existing and approved academic plan taking into account the impact of approved and proposed program enhancements that are reflected in increased faculty, student and staff complement.
3. Demonstrate that the proposed space program will take into account the Council of Ontario Universities and the university's own space standards.
4. Plan to realize maximum flexibility of space to permit future allocation, as program needs change.
5. Identify the equipment and moveable furnishings, which will be necessary to the project.
6. Identify requirements for networking and other electronic and data communications.
7. Identify funding including external grants and staging of space allocation related to those proposals.
8. Identify site(s) to accommodate space program including that required for the phasing of grant proposals.
9. Review site plan implications, including City of Toronto approvals, parking, servicing, safety and accessibility as related to overall development of the site.
10. Report by September 2007