

Advisory Planning, Architecture, and Aesthetics Committee

Approved May 27, 2008 by President and Senior Staff

PURPOSE

Implementing the University at Albany’s capital upgrades and improvements plan(s) will involve numerous site planning, aesthetics, and architectural design choices that are beyond the sole decision-making purview of the Facilities Office and the Division of Finance and Business. The Facilities Office thus requires a broadly representative committee to help guide said design and construction considerations. The “Advisory Planning, Architecture, and Aesthetics Committee” (APAAC) would fulfill this role.

WHAT WOULD BE THE ROLE OF APAAC?

- The intent of the APAAC would be to focus on larger issues of campus facilities site planning, architecture, and aesthetics and not narrower, day-to-day decisions, such as proper sequence of roof renovations, number of offices planned for a particular building, or type of bathroom hardware.
- The Committee would not provide binding decisions, but rather help distill information and provide advisory recommendations and guidance to Facilities professional staff to help steer and shape projects for eventual submit to the President for approval.
- For example, for the new Business School building, the APAAC will not advise or address the programming and scope of what is in the building, as these decisions will be made by the project and departmental staff assigned to that project by senior administration. Rather, the APAAC would be asked to help filter through site planning options, discuss and help steer the conversation regarding the orientation and location of the building, and consider how ancillary issues and projects, such as parking, could be addressed from among several options presented by Facilities Management staff. The APAAC, too, would help influence and recommend a narrower set of options that would be provided to the President regarding color, building shape, and other elements of architectural design.
- Other known projects which would likely be brought before the APAAC include: site planning for new buildings, including the Campus Center expansion; advising on the look, and “feel” of upcoming improvement projects, such as light well improvements, renovations to the main uptown fountain, and Podium sky dome additions
- The APAAC, too, would provide guidance and recommendation of broad campus landscaping guidelines, memorial gardens, sculpture placement, and outdoor furniture.
- Also of note, the APAAC would help guide campus State Environmental Quality Review Act matters, including review of the Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) which is currently underway.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP and INTERACTION

With such broad implications for the future look and feel of the University’s facilities, we’d seek to strike a balance between broad campus community representation and manageability, given the need to routinely meet on myriad matters, *perhaps monthly*.

1	AVP, Facilities, chair
2	VP, Finance and Business or appointee
3	Division of Student Success or appointee
4	Provost or appointee
5	VP, Division for Development or appointee
6	Chair, University Senate or appointee
7	Member, Environ Sustainability Task Force
8	Undergraduate student
9	Graduate student
10	University Art Museum appointee
11	Faculty member

