

Resource and Environment Committee Report to Faculty Senate
April 19, 2011

The committee was co-chaired by Dick Bernhard and Roby Sawyers. Members of the committee were Paul Khosla, Henry Kidd, Walt Robinson, Rob Rucker and Mike Williams

The committee met three times during the fall semester and discussed a number of issues related to the physical environment at the University.

- Fence around Chancellor's residence impinging on use of Lake Raleigh woods and whether the construction of the residence violated the spirit of the Faculty Senate Resolution regarding Lake Raleigh Wood adopted in April 2005 by the Faculty Senate.
- Trash in and around Brooks parking lot and area between fence and road
- Safety issues at Avent Ferry and Western Blvd intersection
- Fees for parking permits for retirees that have returned to work
- "Yellow" water problems in Ricks Hall
- Sealing of windows in Tomkins Hall
- Odors from Port City Java in Park Shops Building

Guests attending our meetings and providing information and answering questions concerning the issues included Kevin MacNaughton, Associate Vice Chancellor for Facilities and Lisa Johnson, University Architect, Jack Colby, Asst. Vice Chancellor for Facilities Operations, as well as Tom Kendig and Greg Cain from the Transportation Department.

The committee met once during the spring semester to discuss the University's Strategic Plan and to comment on the draft reports of the Resource Strategies and Campus Culture and Diversity Task Forces. Those comments were provided to Chair Overton in a memo dated February 23, 2011 (and attached to this document).

The committee was responsible for filling three vacancies on University Standing Committees (Art Acquisitions, Physical Environment and University Housing) and made recommendations to Amy Jinnette to fill those vacancies. There were no vacant seats to be filled by faculty members on the other two university standing committees (Dining and Student Health) over which the Resource and Environment has responsibility.

Sent via email on February 23, 2011

Strategic Plan Comments

Margery,

The Resource and Environment Committee met last Tuesday and discussed the Resource Strategies and Campus Culture and Diversity Task Force Reports.

With respect to the resource strategies task force, several items were noted. One was mentioned by Walter in yesterday's comments to the Provost. As we try to increase research grant dollars, it is important to track success rates of proposals submitted, not just dollars received.

In addition, the University can maximize the probability of success (increased research dollars) through its broader efforts at outreach. One of the factors that increasingly influences the likelihood of success of individual proposals is the broader impact of the proposal. To the extent that NC State has partnerships already in place that allow PIs to more easily include broader impacts in their proposals, the higher the likelihood of success. Examples include such things as established partnerships with local K-12 schools, the Science House and so on.

A third issue relating to the Resource Strategies task force report was that we should have a positive statement concerning the University's commitment to retrain and retrain staff and faculty that might be impacted by efforts to be more efficient.

With respect to the Campus Culture and Diversity report, the primary issue was recognizing that authentic diversity occurs when students, faculty and staff work, study and socialize with people who are different in terms of race, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, wealth, nationality and so on. Programmed diversity events and courses may be of some value but only if they lead to authentic experiences of diversity. Many do not. A necessary but not sufficient condition for creating authentic diversity experiences is to increase the diversity of faculty, staff and the student body.

The group also noted that one way to make NC State a place to work, live and learn for faculty and staff is to take steps to make campus more welcoming to faculty and staff families through lower cost access to cultural events, library privileges, affordable access to recreation facilities, ability to enroll in courses at reduced costs and so on.

Roby