

CAL POLY MASTER PLAN UPDATE  
MASTER PLAN ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE RECREATION AND  
ATHLETICS

MEETING NOTES

Meeting #2  
November 14, 2014

Attendees:

Shannon Stephens, Chairman

Roberta Jorgensen, Facilitator

1. Greg Avakian	ASI, Rec Services Director
2. Lindsay Bolla	ASI, Student Gov't. Rep.
3. Steve Davis	Kinesiology (Academic Senate appt)
4. Brian Greenwood	College of Agriculture, Food, and Environmental Sciences, RPTA
5. Heidi Lee	Dir. Advancement for Student Affairs (absent)
6. Kevin Londerholm	ASI, Board of Directors
7. Paul Marchbanks	College of Liberal Arts, English
8. Tom Mase	College of Engineering
9. Kathryn McCormick	Art and Design (Academic Senate appt)
10. Camille O'Bryant	College of Science and Math (absent)
11. Hannah Roberts	Health & Counseling, Coord. Of Campus Wellbeing
12. John Ronca	Community Representative (absent)
13. Shelly Stanwyck	City of San Luis Obispo, Dir. Parks and Rec.
14. Aaron Steed	Meathead Movers (absent)
15. Shannon Stephens	University Advising, Dir. Mustang Success Center
16. David Watts	College of Architecture & Environ. Design, Int. L.Arch. Dept. Chair
Heather Hughes	MCRP, CRP 552 Studio (absent)
Stuart Poulter	MCRP, CRP 552 Studio

MEETING NOTES:

1. -Introductions
  - Shannon Stephens - Committee Chairman
  - Chris Baker – Athletics Department
2. Master Plan Open Houses
  - On-Campus event November 5 - 160 + people participated
  - Provided input toward the Master Plan development
  - Open House – tomorrow (November 15, 2014) at Ludwick Community Center
3. Committee Protocols - Chairman
  - Committee members please review the meeting notes before each meeting so that we can move quickly onto discussion after any changes are requested.
  - The committee is advisory and the meeting notes are the deliverables.
  - Today discuss trends in recreation and athletics.
4. Change the philosophical and spacial approach to sports and recreation.
  - More imbedded rather than on the perimeter of campus as they are now.

- Think more holistically.
  - Consider where the buildings are located in relationship to health and wellness.
  - Embed recreation within open space, passive and active. Open space during the day and recreation at other hours.
  - Shift the spacial arrangements with open space having priority and buildings fitted around fields and other recreation spaces.
  - Student housing developments should incorporate recreational open space.
  - Reimagine open spaces like Dexter Lawn.
  - Why are practice fields out on the edge of campus?
  - Rethink the interaction of recreation and the campus layout.
  - Draw people to different areas by attracting them to activities (past usual walking tolerance).
  - Expand the campus academic core, but vertically or horizontally?
5. Bicycling as major means of transportation, recreation and wellness.
- Make bicycling safer around and within campus.
  - Bicycle safety is a significant concern to bicyclists and pedestrians.
  - Define more bike lanes and have a clear network.
  - Develop Class 1 lanes separated from automobiles.
  - Separate pedestrians.
  - The discs that have been placed on Highland have made a difference and it is now safer.
  - Bike lanes need to continue beyond campus and coordinate with the city.
  - Cal Poly needs to encourage bikes as a major means of transportation. City of SLO is encouraging the use of bikes.
  - Bike lane routes should be coordinated with recreation locations. They should also provide access to Cal Poly's open lands.
  - Campus police have many reports of safety issues/accidents.
  - Encourage students to practice bike safety (cite students not wearing helmets).
6. Open lands and trails
- Open lands are a great asset.
  - Cal Poly's agricultural school background should be recognized and utilized for recreation opportunities.
  - Access/Transportation is going to be a key way to take advantage of those assets.
  - Need to recognize value of open lands. Tremendous opportunity with these lands for recreation.
  - Improve trails to Poly Canyon and other routes and tie to City and other surrounding trail systems. Articulation is needed with outside trails and would need to connect to the central campus.
  - Maintenance of trails would be required.
7. Recreation use and proximity
- Need more informal recreation opportunities and more sports fields.
  - Existing sports fields are not enough. Difficult get to without driving. Trails for walking/running /bikes would help access and encourage use.
  - Existing artificial fields with lights need to be regulation length.
  - Need more sand volleyball courts. Student Housing South will have some, but are they open to all students (in reality as well as perception). Facilities in student housing should be available and welcoming to all.
  - Need many new tennis courts.
  - Safety and lighting is a significant concern. Not only for sports venues, but the paths to and from the locations.
  - Amphitheaters and spaces for music/events (not competing with academics)

- Where is the center/core of campus? Recreation should be near the core. They need to be close to student housing and non-resident student use areas.
- Outdoor basketball courts at the Sports Complex are underused. Those at the Rec Center are well used. Proximity is the issue.
- Sports Complex is underused by Poly Canyon Village residents because of the distance and the concern about safety walking there.
- Sports Complex was used by WOW for a concert for 1,800 people, but that type of use is rare.
- Parking is not coordinated with use.
- Sports Complex was funded by State/Athletics/ASI.
- More international students may require additional facilities such as badminton, cricket.
- Multi-use trails in the central campus are needed and they must be lighted and safe.

#### 8. Athletics facilities

- Facilities for athletics competition are all about the fan experience. Parking is always a big issue.
- Practice facilities would ideally be in proximity to Spanos Stadium with locker rooms in an all encompassing athletics facility.
- Athletics is fundraising for a new Athletics Support Facility at the south end of campus, near Spanos and Jespersen Hall, but it is mostly administrative and coaches offices.
- What if the stadium was relocated? Very costly. When Spanos was built, alumni didn't want to relocate the stadium. Proximity and functionality could be much better though if it was relocated. If it stays it needs to be completed.
- Rebuilding Mott Gym is a high priority.
- Athletics are currently everywhere on campus (not centralized any one place, not an ideal situation).
- "Think boldly, not just fixes anymore".
- If the president wants us to compete, then we to think outside of the box.
- Think differently about 2030.
- Is it more convenient to move? What if athletics was pushed further out allowing the campus core to grow?
- If we're still using Mott Gym as is in ten years – big issue (donor related)
- A new events center – multi-purpose facility (athletics, concerts, conferences) could be a source of pride for Cal Poly. One central place for students to be on game days. Students want to be at a school where school spirit is high.
- Cal Poly needs students to go to more events, but since Mott is "high school gym" it doesn't attract participation or spirit.
- Mott is in the campus core and its location should be reimagined. Perhaps use it's site for recreation fields.
- The present situation is a lost opportunity for the community to support athletics, and therefore Cal Poly.
- Facilities should encourage sports camps and competitions at Cal Poly during summer (to get kids to support Cal Poly in the long term – ex. Stanford)

#### 9. Health and wellness

- Studies have shown that outdoor recreation is the greatest form of stress release. Cal Poly students do that more than the national average.
- Outdoor activities that anyone can use (all ages and fitness levels) is needed. Outdoor fitness complex?
- Small recreation opportunities are needed on campus.
- A par course and a fitness trail are needed. Could that be a student design project?
- Integrate health and wellness throughout campus.
- Outlets for recreation are needed – how to provide safe recreation opportunities and ways to get there at all hours?

- Showers and lockers in decentralized locations oriented to faculty and staff. Could be small and incorporated in academic buildings.
- Bike lockers throughout campus. More bike parking.
- Academic buildings should have Fitness Substations incorporated in them.

#### 10. Student housing recreation

- Becoming a residential campus
- People will be living on campus all four years
- Student housing should be located in proximity to the campus core and recreation.
- If Mustang Village is acquired, how would students safely get to campus and where would they be able to have recreation opportunities?
- Student housing recreation needs to be available for all students.
- If it will be mandatory for freshmen to live on campus they need recreation options. If they can't have cars their entertainment needs will need to be accommodated on campus.
- If there will be more international and out of state students how will they be accommodated during quarter breaks and summer?
- What demographic changes will need to be anticipated to plan for the needs for future student residents?
- How do we support programs? How do we encourage participation?
- Cal Poly is not doing things to enhance interconnectedness and to take down barriers

#### 11. Rethinking campus core

- Leisure space in the campus core needs more value in campus culture and planning. A shift needs to be made in values.
- Plan on removing obsolete buildings in the core and rebuilding in configurations around planned open space.
- Think less reactively than Cal Poly has done in the past.
- Look into when buildings are used. Are there opportunities for more mixed/multi-use of buildings and the space adjacent?
- Breakdown the academic/recreation divide.
- Devote more space to recreation.
- Neighborhoods or downtown? Provide gathering places indoor and outdoor. Coffee, pub, activities, services, winery, brewery?
- Coordinate with ASI Master Plan – updating UU, intentional change to Cal Poly “downtown”.
- Need to place “heartbeats” of campus with connection between. Places for students to congregate, anchor buildings that will keep neighborhood alive.

#### 12. Safety and perception of safety

- Areas of campus are perceived to be unsafe and this reduces use of various facilities by students as well as faculty and staff.
- Infrastructure and lighting are not keeping up with campus growth and use patterns.
- This is a significant problem and is affecting the culture and interaction on campus as well as Cal Poly's reputation. This affects students, faculty and staff; women and men.
- Cal Poly is not a friendly place from a safety perspective, even the central campus.
- Sexual assaults are increasing.
- Safety should be improved or classes should not go as late as they currently do.

#### 13. Transportation

- Internal electric shuttle system is needed.
- Needs to be efficient and quick (ex. UC Santa Barbara shuttle)

- More students might participate in intramurals if a shuttle option was available to get to Sports Complex.
- If campus core moves out the transportation system would need to accommodate an expanded campus core.
- A map showing walk times of expanded campus will be provided at the next meeting.
- Ten minute walk limits expanse of campus core.

14. Recreational opportunity

- The Rec Center is considered by many faculty and staff to be expensive for membership. This is a concern that needs addressing in order to provide affordable wellness opportunities to the campus community beyond students.
- Some faculty and staff do not like changing and showering without privacy from their students, so don't use the facility.
- Sends a poor message to faculty and staff, may hinder faculty recruitment.
- Less expensive fitness centers are available off campus. The Rec Center is primarily a student venue, paid for by student fees.
- Consider remodeling and repurposing part of Mott Gym for faculty and staff (Penn State model).

15. Other recreation trends

- Slacklining - can be done within core campus open spaces.
- Pump tracks – BMX bikes – requires dedicated area
- Pickle ball – courts
- Return to Old School exercise – par courses, working out in park like settings
- -Public art program, adds to social quality of campus, recreational opportunity

16. Other campus models

- UCSB (but flat)
- UC Irvine (park like core)
- UC Davis (agriculture and size)
- Stanford has similar open space, hills
- UNC Chapel Hill
- Penn State

17. The Overarching Principles were discussed and suggested modifications are attached to these Meeting Notes.

18. The December 5 optional meeting will not be needed after this successful discussion. The next meeting will be January 23 at 8am.