MINUTES COMMITTEE ON PLANNING AND BUDGET Meeting of April 21, 2005

Present:	Faye Crosby, Alison Galloway, Wentai Liu, Ray Gibbs, John Lynch, Margaret Morse, Onuttom Narayan, Don Rothman, Mary-Beth Harhen
Absent:	(with notice) Chair Paul Koch, Margaret Fitzsimmons and Marina Sarran
Guests:	VC Planning and Budget Meredith Michaels, School of Engineering Dean Steve Kang, Computer Sciences Chair Ira Pohl

Members' Items/Committee Business

CPB agreed to raise with the Senate Executive Committee the issues of understanding what happened at Tent University to develop a method for handling future similar situations on campus. Ultimately, individuals may condemn or praise the actions of the administration but CPB thinks there must be some understanding of the conditions that resulted in the arrests and conflicts that occurred at Tent University in order to, if possible, prevent them in the future.

MCIP and Externally Funded Capital Projects

The committee reviewed and discussed the documents pertaining to the Master Capital Improvement Program (MCIP) as well as externally funded capital projects.

FTE Review – Engineering

CPB discussed the issues and identified questions regarding the Engineering FTE request.

Consultation with Dean Kang and CS Chair Ira Pohl

The Computer Science Department is requesting approval to make a second hire out of the open search (#583). The position as advertised for computer systems, storage, and databases. Currently an offer is pending for a candidate in the area of computer systems. The FTE requested would be used from the position vacated by Professor Wilhelms. Chair Pohl has discussed this request with his department and although there was no formal vote on using the FTE for this purpose, he assured the committee the request had full support of the department. There is enough senior leadership in the Computer Science Department to mentor new faculty member. The request is driven by the caliber of the candidate but the appointment would also increase gender diversity in the department. A letter to Interim CPEVC Kliger with CPB's recommendation is forthcoming.

Consultation with Director of Physical Planning Robin Draper

This year the review of campus capital projects includes two aspects: state funded and non-state funded. The review of non-state funded projects is necessitated by UCOP

which has begun limiting the debt load of campuses in anticipation that the University's future debt capacity may be constrained.

For state-funded projects, CPB questioned the wisdom of naming the Meyer Drive Extension as the campus priority versus a north loop road to access future development including housing. Director Draper explained that a circulation project is the point to this item, and it does not have to be identified now. Such a project must wait until the Long Range Development Plan and the Environmental Impact Report are further along in their process. There was a brief discussion of possibilities for Thimman Labs when faculty relocate to the Physical and Biological Sciences and Biomedical buildings. CPB commented on the lack of planning for large lecture rooms at a time of growing enrollments when there is considerable pressure to increase class size. Director Draper explained that it is difficult for UCSC to justify new classrooms because summer quarter enrollments count in the calculation of classroom utilization.

There is a funding shortfall for the state-funded Digital Arts Facility. Consequently, campus is looking for ways to simplify the design of the building to reduce expenses as well as the possibility of cutting the number of programs to be housed there. Supplementing the budget from UCOP does not seem possible and any external funding to enhance this project must be received by 2006 when the project goes out to bid. This lack of funding for the Digital Arts Facility could lead to a less efficient use of the footprint designated for this building. The Office of the President generally does not allow new state funds to be put into already approved projects. If they don't allow it for the Digital Arts facility, campus will need to re-think the efficacy of building a much-scaled down facility. CPB noted they should endorse the request to supplement this existing and approved project so the entire footprint can be used.

The repayment source for many of the non-state capital projects is lease revenue. The committee had many concerns about this source of income. Will leases really cover the costs, if not, where does the money come from? Campus can use opportunity funds to fill in for non-state fund projects that are not covered from other sources, but it would be unfortunate it get into that situation. Director Draper explained that each non-state funded project will be subject to a detailed analysis of feasibility, especially around repayment sources.