

**Western Washington University Associated Students
Facilities and Services Council
Thursday, November 1, 2012** **VU 543**

Present: Hung Le (AS Vice President for Business & Operations); Catherine Peterson (Publicity Center); Dulcinea Rattett (Recycle Center); Mary Sanbom (Child Development Center); Shelby Albin (Lakewood); Catherine Jorgensen (DOC); Tilly Chides (VU Support Staff)

Absent: Alexander Holland, Megan Whiteside (OC)

Advisor: Jim Schuster (Director of VU Facilities); Greg McBride (Assist. Dir. VU Facilities)

Secretary: Cindy Monger

Guest: Jeff Davis (Lakewood)

MOTIONS

MC-12-F-1 Approve the minutes of Thursday, October 18, 2012. *Passed*

MC-12-F-2 Approve the proposal form as stated in Doc. 1. *Passed*

The meeting was called to order by Hung Le, Chair at 2:36 pm

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

II. REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA

III. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Lakewood Presentation

Jeff Davis, Lakewood Program Manager was a student at Western and was hired on as the caretaker, eventually becoming the manager. Everyone at the meeting has been to Lakewood. Davis was an out of state student and was really blown away by Lakewood because it was so different than Minnesota. In approximately 1921 that the Associated Students purchased property around Lake Whatcom. There is sketchy data about the purchase, but they announced they purchased 80 acres of land and called it Normalstad. In 1924 they realized that the land was over 100 acres. In 1930 faculty and alumni wanted a golf course on the property and the students resisted. In 1935 the first boats were purchased for students, they were named the Viking, Viqueen and Sehome. In 1936 it's discovered that an employee had built himself a cabin back on the hill on the other side of Lake Whatcom Boulevard. He later bought this property from the school for \$750. In 1944 the land that was uphill from Lakewood was sold. This left about 10 acres of property that makes up Lakewood. In 1960 the first boathouse was built. In 1975 a retreat proposal ended with the students claiming ownership of the property. There were signs at Lakewood that said it was an Associated Students property. The administration made proposals for the property. The property was originally purchased with state funding and was technically state property. There were negotiations in the 70s between the administration and the students to decide what to do with the property. The students didn't believe it was being used to its full potential, but they didn't think that a golf course or a retreat center with overnight accommodations were the way to go. The funding to make the students vision came from the Housing and Dining System because they had a large reserve. The students said for \$1 they would give the title to the property to the administration, if they gave the students over 1 million for the facility, which is still there. It was finished in 1980. The Associated Students retained control of the facility and the university owns the property. Western has a tradition of very strong student involvement. Currently there is a boathouse and program wise Western Alumni, Whatcom Community College, NW Indian College, and the Associated Students use the space. Transportation to Lakewood continues to be a challenge for the facility. There were over 5,000 recreational boat checkouts in the year 11-12. There are also

the two competitive sports clubs who are on the water multiple times a week. 249 students took classes through the PE department which were offered 5 days a week. Davis said that the PE Health and Rec department now has a large student population; their ability to give quality classes to their majors was the most important. But the activity programs was something that a lot of students took advantage of. However, the department didn't feel like they could really maintain quality for both majors and general students. Davis said they are trying to do classes through Continuing Education at Lakewood. Unfortunately there is a fee for taking continuing education classes. Davis looks forward to having the academic classes back on the lake. He enjoys teaching and watching students learn new skills. Davis has watched employees and students go out into the professional world and get jobs related to the activities at Lakewood. Next up is the dock replacement which will be starting this December. They have put out a bid and selected a contractor. Bellingham's tap water comes from Lake Whatcom and the county has standards about what is on the water. They will be replacing the wooden docks with exposed foam that is causing the asymmetrical shape of the dock. Davis tries to be aware of how they are using the lake because it is a water source, in terms of the amount of fuel they use, etc. The Lakewood student employees earned over \$43,000 last year; \$30,000 of that is self-sustaining budgets. This comes out of the instructional budgets, and a program for middle aged school kids who come and learn how to sail, etc. This creates a positive relationship with the community. The annual budget for Lakewood is \$80,000. There are different numbers of student employees out there per quarter. There can be up to 20 students during the spring. There is a non-paid caretaker there who works for the remuneration of the apartment. One of the products of the staff last year was a video that is a spoof of the A-Team. Lakewood video from VU website video by Nate Ward:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8INlxz8p2A8&feature=voutu.be>

B. Recycle Center Presentation

Richard Neyer, Recycle Center Manager said the Recycle Center (RC) provides essential services to the university. They are constantly working to collect and remove recycling from the campus community. Having student employees has been a really positive thing because they will come back with ideas from campus on how to improve recycling on campus. They are self-supporting; they collect funds from facilities, housing/dining and food service for providing the service. There are about 650 recycling barrels on campus, 7 vehicles, 5 trucks, and 2 forklifts. Western started recycling in 1971; it was started by a group called the Huxley Environmental Reference Bureau, they did a small collection from a few buildings and community drop-off center. In 1976 became an AS program because they were looking for more funding to expand the program. In 1985 recycling became a campus wide effort. In 1988 they collected about 200,000 pounds. Now they collect 950,000 pounds from campus. They recycle in all conditions, including inclement weather. They have also tried vermiculture to compost food waste from dining halls. This didn't work out because they would have needed 150 bins and worker worms, they did not have enough room for this. They recently did a pilot project to compost paper towels from Haggard Hall. It was helpful to determine what it would take to compost for all of campus. Now that they have numbers, it is up to the university to come up with the funds and work with the custodial staff for pickups. The 10/12 project through the Office of Sustainability, but run by the RC, works to compost food waste that is generated. They stopped because they found out that compost is basically garbage and the RC employees cannot handle it. They thought with paper towels they might be able to handle it the same way that they handle paper, but this is not true. It gets ripe to quickly, it needs to be handled in the same way as garbage and picked up daily. The RC also took on furniture

recycling. They disassemble the furniture and recycle all the different parts. They recycled the Bimam wood closet doors and are starting to work on the storage in the armory. There was 100,000lbs of wood and 80,000lbs of steel were recycled on campus. This has become a major component of what they do because it is so much bulk. 72% of the waste from academic buildings is recycled at \$160,000 and 28% is garbage at \$350,000. In sampling the garbage they have found that there are a lot of recyclables in the garbage. They have identified that they need more bins around campus and education. They are in the process of getting outdoor bins to start recycling more of these items. Out of the budget \$65,000 towards student employment. There are between 15-18 students working at the RC. It is about \$161,490 to do the recycling and they have started making money from selling recyclables. They put these funds into a reserve and use it to buy equipment that is a permanent investment, not operating, such as the hopper. Schuster added that the university covers all the academic facilities, housing and dining is the residence halls and non-academic buildings, dining is from the dining halls and markets. The percentages charged are based on waste stream analysis and areas are charged accordingly for the services. The university charge has gone up a percentage because of all the wood being collected. The RC expenses are primarily worker's wages, then vehicle fuel, leases, office supplies, etc. They constantly have to deal with people throwing garbage in the bins it is only .001% and have to pay for garbage pickup at the RC facility. However, if there is a coffee cup with milk in it at the bottom of the barrel, it is not pleasant. They also have to pay for collecting plastic because it is easier to pay NW Recycling, and then the RC doesn't have to sort it. It is around \$3,700 for this service and saves on labor. Schuster said that they are recycling 34% from the residence halls. More work needs to be done in the residence halls. There is about 2-3% more recyclables that are going into the exterior waste bins. They feel that they can capture a lot of the beverage containers if they provide a place to recycle because they feel this campus is into recycling. They are currently building 20 durable bins that cost \$1,500 each. This is one of the blue barrels with a special cover that can hold up to 300 pounds of recyclables and is more efficient in terms of loading the trucks. There are 70 waste cans in exterior areas around campus. Schuster complemented Neyer who has been able to keep these costs down because he operates so efficiently. Jorgensen was a RA and they had a green month, she felt that there was not a lot of passion behind this month from the Residence Hall staff. The Office of Sustainability and the ResRaps program is in charge of this program. Starting in 1992 they had a competition of Eco challenges for about 6 years. Neyer feels the competitions are good for getting awareness out for someone who has never recycled, but once people are recycling, they have a smaller effect. Jorgensen asked they could consider sharing a percentage of what they earn by recycling with the Residence Hall. Neyer said the hard part is to measure what is recycled. They would have to come up with a quick way to guesstimate, if they could have check off list for volume then there could be a point system and they could reward the building that won. Neyer said that when they were able to spend this reserve money it has benefited the RC because they were able to buy better and safer equipment since they started being able to gain funding from recycling. Rattett said that people come from all over and there are different ways of recycling in different areas. Not all of the recycling that they do earns money; some items have to be paid for. Reread Jorgensen said that they don't have a lot of extra funds for programs or equipment in the residence halls, she feels this might be a good program. Rattett struggles with the line between providing the service versus programming. The one thing that they would like to focus on, in terms of education, would be having the pickup depot clean. A lot of time, approximately 33%, is spent flattening boxes and picking up stuff off the ground. They could provide incentives for keeping it clean. Neyer said the garbage is \$86 a ton whereas recycling is around \$20-30. They are saving the university money; it is

possible that the residence halls might want to back this financially as well, because they would be saving money if people recycled more. Neyer said this is a great example of the kind of ideas that are coming from students and revitalizing the Recycle Center.

C. Viqueen Lodge

Schuster said Viqueen Lodge in Skagit County was purchased in 1928 by what was then a club in the AS called the Women's PE Association, it was associated with PE dept. Over the years the club went away and the PE department took over. In 1980 someone approached the AS to fix up the property; the AS has put approximately a 100,000 into the facility. It is available all year round for students, staff, faculty and alumni. The only way to get there is by taking a private boat or a foot ferry. Some people get out there by kayak. The new outdoor orientation trips also have this as a destination; people have also gotten dropped off by float planes. In recent years there are more homes being built next to viqueen. Viqueen Lodge is a small rustic cabin. They have made improvements recently including planting rhodies and azaleas. There is a new mission and vision statement for the property approved in 2012 by the AS Board of Directors. Their ultimate goal is to develop the property more so that more students can enjoy it. Using the lodge costs \$25 per day for students, for up to 10 students and \$50 per day for faculty, staff, and Alumni. There are 10 beds available for sleeping but there are also multiple foam pads which can be placed in front of the fireplace or outside. There are no towels or bedding. The existing well is about 1,000 feet from the cabin and requires a cart to fill up 6 gallon containers. They can only get about 60 gallons a day from this shallow well. There is a summer kitchen, 600 gallon tank for the propane stove and refrigerator. They have created a pump which provides a bit of running water from a 6 gallon container. The future project that they would do would allow water for washing dishes They require people to pack in and pack out all of their supplies and waste. There is no electricity, garbage, or ferry on the island. The budget is \$2,400 collected from user fees and \$2,500 from the AS allotment. Expenses are for equipment, maintenance, office supplies, buoy maintenance, and costs for staff for inspections and work projects. There are two buoys, one in front of the cabin and one on the south side of the island. Essentially there is 13.5 acres there in an L shape. Part of that L goes over to South Beach which looks towards Cypress Island. Cypress is the last island near the San Juans which has not been developed and it never will be. This would be an ideal place for a retreat center because there is also a bluff there. They have access to West and South beaches. They offer travel and food for people willing to volunteer to help with maintenance on the island. Schuster has his own boat and just gets reimbursed for fuel when he needs to go there.

They have proposed putting in a new well and a sanitation system. In order to get high yield or 1,000 gallons per day, they need the well to be over 500 feet deep. There will be a well house, solar powered pump, etc. Eventually they would like to put in a bath house, hopefully with a hot shower. They would go to composting toilets because flush toilets take too much money. An engineer is developing a plan for the well. The preliminary estimate is \$272,000 for the two wells. The second well would be on the south side of the island with hopes of building a retreat center. Which is more than what they have to offer; they have confirmation of \$50,000 from the AS \$50,000 from VU facilities, and \$70,000 from the VU administration. Schuster is trying to find the rest of the funding for this, because Skagit county has said they will put a moratorium on wells soon and then they will never be able to install another well. They are hoping to put in two wells because property is worthless without water. They are looking for donated dollars to complete a sustainable facility for the retreat center. The Women's PE Association bought the property to have an annual retreat and picnic. They would take little steamers out to the island they would have a gang plank to the island. There

are pictures of women in their long skirts walking along the gang plank. The Vikings were the men's team and this club came up with the name ViQueen lodge.

IV. ACTION ITEMS

A. Proposal Form for space modification

Last week there was a general consensus to review all of the forms together. Forms for requesting changes to spaces within the VU will be due at the end of the quarter. During winter break Greg McBride will check to see which ones are feasible. During winter quarter the committee would review and approve. Then it will move to McBride and Schuster to implement. Le said that they did not include criteria this time because they are not positive which things will be prioritized, as they go through the process, they will be able to give more clear criteria next year.

MOTION FS-12-F-1 by Chides

Approve the proposal form as stated in Doc. 1.

Second: Rattet

Vote: 7-0-0

Action: Passed

V. INFORMATION ITEMS

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

- A. The committee thought that the presentations really helped the members to understand the areas as well as get excited and passionate about them.
- B. Schuster congratulated Le because he is the first Vice President for Business & Operations to be able to pull meetings together in fall and start business this early.

VII. MEMBER REPORTS

PC has been busy doing projects and printing. They had to recalibrate all of the monitors so that the colors on all machines match because so much of what they do is very visual.

DOC The Costume Ball was very successful, the DJ was great and everyone was safe. They are doing an introductory event for the office because it is hard to talk at dances.

CDC has been very busy because all of the children are getting adjusted to being in class, because this is their first time. Yesterday was the pumpkin voting in the VU.

Lakewood has been slow, not as many people out there due to the rain. They have started their wintering projects. They put away some of the equipment for the winter. The Sailing Team is ranked #1 in the district; Albin is part of that team.

Schuster has been meeting with the managers of all areas. Recently he has spent a lot of time on the well project. There is a \$500,000 project for the docks for Lakewood. It is exciting that they will be putting things in the water in December. He is part of the Dean of Students Management Team. He also approves exterior space requests; last year they had 97 events outside. He spends a lot of time communicating about these events

VP Bus Ops Le has been working on getting summer apprentices for the Outback. He has also been working on how funding is passed through the Student Development Fund.

VU Support Staff said that for the most part she assists Kathy Louzao and Ashley Demko to achieve administrative tasks. Chides' team won the pumpkin challenge.

RC Dulcinea has been ill the past two weeks. She has been working on training with the food service managers to help them know what they can recycle. She met with the Eco Reps and they seem really active and excited.

The Meeting was adjourned at 3:55p.m.