

**Council on the Physical Environment  
Annual Report to the University Senate May 6, 2010**

I am pleased to submit the 2009-2010 annual report of the Council on the Physical Environment to the University Senate. The members of COPE are: George Billman MED, Allen Firestone DENT, Steve Rissing BIO SCI, Jeffrey Haase ARTS, Bruce Johnson LAW, Mark Shanda ARTS, Richard Moore FAES, Laura Christobek USG, Justin Ziniel CGS, Alex Shchipkova IPC, Duke Morgan USAC, Lynn Readey FOD, and W. Michael Sherman OAA. I thank all of the members for their work over the past year. In addition, Julie Anstine of the Office of the Senior Vice President for Administration & Planning, regularly participated in our meetings and provided invaluable support to COPE. On behalf of the Council, I also thank Mike Sherman for his tireless attendance at our meetings and his many efforts to build on COPE's consultative role in issues affecting the physical environment of the university.

COPE met several times with Scott Lissner, ADA Coordinator. At the project level, COPE considered how \$90,000 designated by the Integrated Physical Planning Liaison Group (IPPLG) to address campus access issues might be used. Mr. Lissner presented a number of projects which could plausibly be carried out with this available funding. These projects were discussed by COPE which recommended to IPPLG that the funds be allocated in the following order of priority. First: the installation of exterior building entrance signage where needed. Second: the installation of interior signage indicating restroom accessibility. Third: the creation of a pilot regional signage/way finding kiosk.

At a broader level, we discussed with Associate Provost Sherman and Mr. Lissner, how COPE might play a more pro-active role in ensuring that the Ohio State campus meet a high standard of accessibility. Although there was no final resolution of this question, there was a strong agreement by all of the parties that accessibility is, and will be, of critical importance to the university. Given this consensus, I anticipate that accessibility will be high on the agenda for COPE in 2020-2011.

COPE continued its long involvement in furthering conservation and sustainability at Ohio State. Dr. Steve Rissing, a COPE member, was appointed to the Advisory Committee to the President's Council on Sustainability. In December, we met with Kate Wolford, Chair of the President's Council. Ms. Wolford outlined the goals of the President's Council and the role of the Advisory Committee. COPE supports the attention being paid to sustainability at the highest levels of leadership, and appreciates the challenges which come with serious efforts to make progress. This will remain a very important issue for COPE, and we will continue to work with other units of the university to identify potential energy savings. We will also continue to support the inclusion of issues related to sustainability in the education of our students.

Over the past year, several of our meetings were devoted to issues directly connected to the Campus Planning Framework. This included presentations and information on the

Framework itself, the capital budget, the academic facilities plan, the planning tools enabling use of the wealth of data on all campus buildings, the instructional space study, and semester conversion.

COPE also had a very interesting and informative meeting with Professor Sergio Soave, Chair of the Campus Arts and Memorials Committee. Professor Soave discussed with us the role of the Committee, the process by which public art paid for under the percent for art is selected, and some new ideas for allocating funds received for public art. COPE applauds the efforts of the Arts and Memorials Committee to make the commissioning of new public art a key part of the planning process.

Throughout the year, we have discussed among ourselves, and with Mike Sherman and Julie Anstine, the position of COPE in a rapidly evolving planning environment at Ohio State. The creation of the Framework, with a more holistic approach to development of the campus, presents a unique opportunity for COPE, as representative of the University Senate, to play a more active role in campus planning. This is very much a work in progress, and we look forward to continuing to continuing our engagement with the Provost's office, and the office of the Senior Vice President for Administration & Planning in the year to come.

Respectfully Submitted,

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