

**Council of the Princeton University Community  
Minutes, March 10, 2008**

Minutes of a meeting of the Council of the Princeton University Community held Monday, March 10, 2008, in Betts Auditorium, School of Architecture. Present were council members Professor Chen, Professor Cook, Ms. Dickerson, Mr. Dwoskin, Provost Eisgruber, Professor Fiske, Ms. Heisler, Mr. Hernandez, Mr. Joshi, Dean Malkiel, Mr. McCrudden, Mr. McDonough, Ms. McGinty, Professor Nunokawa, Ms. Rosen, Mr. Said, Ms. Saliccioli, Ms. Saltz, Mr. Sanford, Professor Troyanskya, Dr. Varrin, Ms. Wang, Mr. Wang, Mr. Weinstein, Professor Wuthnow, Professor Zakian. Provost Eisgruber served as chair pro tem and Ms. Campbell served as secretary pro tem.

Provost Eisgruber requested and received approval of minutes of the February 11, 2008 meeting as circulated in advance of the meeting.

Following the opportunity for questions and answers, Provost Eisgruber outlined the agenda starting with a presentation of the Campus Plan by University Architect Jon Hlafter, followed by former USG president Robert Beiderman discussing the findings of a recent USG survey of campus life issues within the context of a student's self-reported social and economic background and concluding with an update on the Alcohol Coalition by the co-chair, Professor of Electrical Engineering and Master of Butler College, Sanjeev Kulkarni.

Campus Plan

Provost Eisgruber noted that it was a special pleasure to welcome Jon Hlafter '61 to the CPUC for a presentation of the campus Plan. Mr. Hlafter, who is retiring this spring from the University after 40 years of service, received both his undergraduate and graduate degrees from Princeton. "Mr. Hlafter notices something new about the campus every time he walks across it," Provost Eisgruber said, "he is a treasure and his knowledge of the University and its architecture is astounding."

Mr. Hlafter presented a slide show of the ten-year campus plan. Guiding the plan are five principles:

- Maintain a pedestrian-oriented campus
- Preserve the park-like character of the campus
- Maintain campus neighborhoods while promoting a sense of community
- Build in an environmentally responsible manner
- Sustain strong community relations

The University worked closely with the firm Beyer, Blinder and Belle Architects and Planners over the course of the last five years. BBB listened, learned about the campus and its growing needs, and helped the University identify priorities, the guiding principles and the ten-year campus plan. The plan includes the renovation of existing buildings, the construction of new facilities, and a greatly enhanced campus landscape.

The plan's work is shaped around four separate neighborhoods:

- Arts and Transit
- Natural Sciences

- Ivy Lane/Western Way
- Prospect Avenue and Williams Street.

The Arts and Transit neighborhood is designed in two phases; 1-5 years and 5-10 years, including the construction of new theatre and dance facilities, modest retail space, the relocation of the Dinky station and the Wawa, and re-engineering the intersection of University Place and Alexander Road making a more vehicle friendly round-about. These changes will help to create a new campus entrance.

The Natural Sciences are in the midst of dynamic change, and the new buildings will help to accommodate evolving needs and meet future requirements of the chemistry and psychology and neuroscience departments. The new chemistry building is currently under construction on the site of the Armory, and the new neuroscience and psychology building will be constructed across Washington Road from the chemistry building on the ellipse. Tying the science neighborhood together will be the spectacular “Streicker Bridge” which will span Washington Road.

The Ivy Lane and Western Way neighborhood will host a new parking facility, new athletic playing fields and continue to be a place-holder for future academic development.

The Prospect Avenue and Williams Street neighborhood will include enhanced landscaping along with the renovation of Frick, Hoyt, and Green Halls when the Natural Sciences neighborhood is completed and the departments of chemistry and psychology are relocated. There will be some additions to the School of Engineering, and a new Operations Research and Financial Engineering (ORFE) building is currently under construction. Complimenting the academic spaces in the Prospect/Williams Streets neighborhood is the renovation of Campus Club, a student social space, and the renovation of the former Elm Club to house the Carl A. Fields Center and Community House.

Tying all the neighborhoods together will be a comprehensive landscaping plan which will enhance walking paths and green space, preserving the University’s park-like campus.

Questions were raised about the future of Dillon Gym, the possibility of a Washington Road tunnel from Rte 1 to Nassau Street, graduate housing changes and the change in architecture across the campus.

- Dillon expansion. Mr. Halfter responded that while expanding Dillon was part of initial discussions, because of cost projections and priorities among available resources, an expansion of the gym is not included in the current ten-year plan. However, he characterized this project as one that is on our list of things to do and said he hoped the project would happen “at Princeton sometime within the next decade or two.”
- Washington Road tunnel. Mr. Hafalter noted the general rule that it is always more appealing to enter an intersection or an area of activity from a surface road. He also acknowledged that tunnels come with very specific air quality and handling issues.
- Graduate Housing. Mr. Klaus explained the University’s graduate housing inventory was in great need of renovation and in the case of the Butler tract, was nearing the end of

its lifespan. A 2 ½ year study has been completed on graduate and faculty housing and recommendations have been made to transition the Stanworth properties to graduate student housing, renovate Hibben-Magee apartments and construct a new housing development.

- Campus architecture. Mr. Halfter briefly discussed the variety of architecture on campus and noted that the architecture closest to the central campus corridor, near Nassau Hall, was in keeping with gothic style and as one moved away from the historic central campus, architecture styles become more modern.

Provost Eisgruber thanked Mr. Halfter for his vision, high aspirations, and service to the University for the past forty years.

### USG COMBO Survey

Provost Eisgruber introduced Rob Beiderman, past president of the USG, and welcomed him to present the findings of the USG Committee on Background and Opportunity (COMBO) Survey.

The survey was designed to study the effects of students' socioeconomic background on the Princeton experience. The objectives of the survey were to:

- Collect statistics to examine long-standing anecdotes
- Introduce issues into campus dialogue
- Use resulting data to make policy recommendations
- Provide baseline for future surveys.

The survey was sent via e-mail to all undergraduates on May 7, 2007. 30% of the student body responded and were fairly representative across class year, gender, socioeconomic status and race. An important feature of the survey was that the socioeconomic background was *self-reported and estimated*. A group of administrators and students met to discuss the data which was analyzed by Vice Provost for Institutional Research, Jed Marsh.

The survey covered a series of key elements of undergraduate life and student background:

- Parental socioeconomic status, income, education
- High school type and quality
- Pre-frosh and orientation week experience
- Academics
- Eating clubs and social life
- Athletics
- Employment
- Post-graduation plans.

The data highlighted four critical areas where background influences the Princeton experience:

- Students from different backgrounds choose Princeton for different reasons
- Familiarity with social and academic life differs considerably across backgrounds
- Family background is related to the decision to bicker, sign-in or not join a club
- Some students feel limited in their academic and extracurricular opportunities.

The University can help to ensure that all students have equal opportunities on campus through the financial aid policy, the advising system, pre-arrival programs, the April preview weekend, orientation activities and programs and University support of funding extra-curricular activities.

The committee will continue to have discussions across campus with students, the Council of Masters and administrators and hopes to have the survey resent in another year or two to measure any changes that may influence policies and programs.

A concern was raised about course material and students who decide not to purchase course material because of financial constraints and how that affects their class preparation. Mr. Beiderman suggested that many of those students use the reserve copies in the Library and that it would be helpful to have additional course material available for free to students. He also noted that many professors post readings on-line.

Provost Eisgruber thanked Mr. Beiderman and his committee for their work.

#### Work of the Alcohol Coalition Committee

Professor of Electrical Engineering and Master of Butler College was introduced to update the CPUC on the current status of the Alcohol Coalition Committee [ACC]. Professor Kulkarni co-chairs the committee with Agatha Offorjebe '09.

The ACC was tasked by the Healthier Princeton Advisory Board, the standing body created following the completion of the Healthier Princeton Task Force, to address the issue of high-risk drinking on campus among undergraduates. The ACC was preceded by a Core Group, which met in the fall of 2007 and identified broad goals for addressing high-risk alcohol use.

The committee, made up of students, faculty and staff, will present a strategic plan to the Healthier Princeton Advisory Board on May 9<sup>th</sup> which will be informed by:

- The Core Group report
- Princeton-specific data
- Best practices of our peer schools
- Meetings with more than 30 stakeholder groups (student groups, administrative offices, and community partners)
- Workshop reports.

On three consecutive Fridays in February, the ACC hosted themed workshops for students, faculty, and staff. The workshops were very successful, each with more than 100 participants, many of them students, providing a forum for open and honest discussion about the topic of high-risk drinking and possible solutions. Many ideas and suggestions were generated for the committee to consider as a part of its strategic plan.

While the committee is drafting the plan, they will continue to meet with stakeholder groups, informing them of the progress of the plan and seeking feedback throughout the process.

In response to a question Professor Kulkarni defined “high-risk drinking” as any time the health, well being and safety of the individual drinking or of others are compromised, or when community standards are compromised.

The committee will present their report on May 9<sup>th</sup> and will post it on the coalition’s website. [www.princeton.edu/acc](http://www.princeton.edu/acc). The ACC welcomes feedback and suggestions. Comments maybe sent to: [acc@princeton.edu](mailto:acc@princeton.edu).

Provost Eisgruber thanked Professor Kulkarini for his report.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Campbell  
Secretary, pro tem