CPEVC GALLOWAY

Re: Student Fee Advisory Committee Quarry Amphitheatre Recommendation

Dear Alison,

We write to provide our recommendation on use of student fees to fund the Quarry Amphitheater renovation project; thank you for the opportunity to consult on this project.

To provide context for our recommendation, please note that the SFAC engaged in the following process to arrive at our decision:

- In Spring 2014, there was an initial update and explanation of the project made to the SFAC by Capital Planning and Space Management.
- October 14, 2014 – SFAC tours the Quarry Amphitheater with members of the Capital Planning and Space Management team and the campus architect; there is a presentation on the proposed Phase 1 and Phase 2 Quarry Amphitheatre projects.
- October 14, 2014 – October 28, 2014 – SFAC members consult with their constituents on the Quarry project.
- October 28, 2014 – Capital Planning and Space Management presentation at SFAC; committee engages in discussion regarding the presentation, and consultation garnered from College Senate and graduate student constituents.

Overall, feedback was very favorable in regards to Phase 1 of the project. SFAC gives its full approval for the project and for the funding allocation suggested by the EVC. However, given our desire to secure the success of Phase 1 and ensure construction can begin in the summer of 2016, the SFAC would also recommend additional funding as follows in order to reduce the total fundraising goal necessary to pursue the project:

- Allocating up to $3.388 million the Seismic & Life Safety Fee reserves
- Allocating up to $3 million from the Student Service Fee reserves
- Current reserve balances should be able to absorb these costs without the need for an internal loan

There were a number of concerns, though, regarding Phase 2. Feedback was much more mixed for this, ranging from support for the project to some students who were against the project. There were concerns that it may be overambitious, overelaborate, and not the top priority for future student life construction on campus. There was a desire for prioritizing other student life projects on campus above this one (including focusing fundraising efforts on these
other projects). There was also a concern of creating a commercial, high-traffic, concert
destination in a space that some members felt was better left as a tranquil, student-centered,
relaxed space. Especially given our recommendation for increased funding for Phase 1, SFAC
would like to recommend removing the proposed $586k of Student Service Fee reserves being
allocated towards Phase 2, and suggest that the committee return to SFAC in the future if they
are seeking an endorsement for Phase 2. The committee also recommends ongoing consultation
with students regarding Phase 2.

There were, however, a number of aspects within the proposal for Phase 2 that students would
encourage the Administration to follow-up on. There was a lot of interest in adding a new bus
stop at Crown/Merrill for students traveling to the Quarry Amphitheater. There was also
agreement that there is a big need for a certified kitchen near the Quarry Plaza - but we weren’t
convinced that this new “Redwood Building” was necessarily the best solution for that need. We
encourage these topics to continue to be aggressively pursued - but perhaps as part of a different
project.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our feedback.

Sincerely,
Student Fee Advisory Committee

CC: Special Assistant Navone
    AVC-Dean of Students Sifuentes