

Committee on Campus Planning and Physical Development

Annual Report 2015-2016

The committee met monthly from September through April. Usually there were guests who addressed issues of importance for the committee, and frequently we examined the documents that were to be acted on by the Trustees Committee on Physical Assets a few days later. We examined the descriptions of the plans and proposals to be acted on by the Trustees' committee, and generally found them reasonable. At the meeting of the Trustees' committee our report to them was made by our Chair, Professor Breslow, along with a second member of our committee. At times we made minor suggestions that were welcomed.

Among our guests were Janet Horan, Vice Dean of Administration and Finance of the Business School, who was actually a new member of our committee. She described in detail the plans for the new Business School, and the progress in funding. The total cost will be about \$600 million. We also heard from Provost John Coatsworth and his aide Troy Eggers, who described the timetable for construction of all the planned buildings in Manhattanville. The Mind Brain Behavior Institute will be completed in Fall 2016, and at least two-thirds of the space is now reserved. Completion of the Lenfest Arts Center is expected in Spring 2017. The Forum Building will be completed somewhat later. It will be a conference center with a 400-seat auditorium. The committee asked if such an auditorium would be fully occupied, and how.

The new Business School, two buildings separated by a lawn, will be finished in 2021 or 2022. In planning is the Triangle, perhaps for SIPA and other global uses. Planning is also underway for Uris when the business school departs. An Arts and Sciences committee, of which our chair Ronald Breslow is a member, will be planning how Uris might be used. The last site currently in planning is north of the other buildings and east of Broadway and is for the expansion of the Engineering School, for which active fundraising toward a goal of \$200 million is currently underway.

Our committee also interviewed Vice Provost and University Librarian Ann Thornton, who had then been at Columbia for eight months. She believes that our library system is one of the leaders in North America, and that the Columbia system is the "best in the world." We own more than 12 million volumes and receive 160,000 current serial titles. We need to invest in digitizing, and in more seats in the libraries. We will run out of sitting space in 2024. The current library in the Business School is very popular, with more than half the occupants being non-Business School students, so this affects the future plans for Uris.

Our committee also raises other concerns. As one, we have not yet seen a plan of how the new space in the Mind Brain Behavior building and others in Manhattanville will contribute to graduate and undergraduate teaching. If regular classes are offered, their times will have to fit in with the times of the current classroom schedule on Morningside. Also, we are still waiting to see how the renovation of the #1 subway station at 168th street is successfully finished; in a previous year we

urged the renovation that is now underway. In the coming year we will examine how successfully the new Mind Brain Behavior labs were constructed up to modern standards, and extend our attention to the other buildings in Manhattanville and at the Medical Center. Columbia is embarked on a magnificent new construction and renovation program, and Columbia's future depends on how well everything is done. This is a principal area of our concern and attention, now and in the future.

We also wish all the best to Professor David King, our vice chair, who has now moved to Arizona State University. He was an outstanding member of our committee.

For the committee,

Ronald Breslow
Chair

Campus Planning and Physical Development Committee 2015-2016

Ten.	Charles Basch		TC	sen
Ten.	Ronald Breslow	Chair	A&S/NS	sen
Ten.	John B. Donaldson		BUS	sen
Ten.	Andreas Hielscher		SEAS	sen
Ten.	Frank Lichtenberg		BUS	sen
Nonten.	David King	Vice Chair	GSAPP	nonsen
Nonten.	Lisa K. Northrop		BAR	sen
Stu.	Alex Beecher		GSAS/NS	sen
Stu.	Sonah Lee		Journ	sen
Stu.	Cameron Robertson		GSAPP	sen
Libraries	Aline Locascio		Libraries	nonsen
Admin. Staff	Vacant			
Research Officers	Chaim Schramm		Research Officers - Professional	nonsen
Admin.	David Greenberg		Adm	nonsen
Admin.	Janet Horan		Adm	nonsen
Alum.	Sharon Liebowitz		Alum.	sen