SPARC
February 6, 3:00pm
CSS 302
Meeting Summary

In Attendance:
Shelly Armstrong
Dan Burcham  Ken Kuk
Rick Christner  Sheila MacEachron
David Eisler  David Pilgrim
Don Green  Matt Pinter
Paul Blake for Michelle Johnston
Ken Kuk
Sheila MacEachron
David Pilgrim
Matt Pinter
Robert von der Osten

Not in Attendance:
Amber Balmer  Jim Rumpf
Mike Cron  Mike Ryan
Oliver Evans  Allen Sutherby
Rick Griffin  Luzia Tartari
Kim Hancock  Nate Tymes
Nancy Hogan  John Urbanick
Mike Hughes  Tom Weaver
Paul Kammerdiner  John Willey
Miles Postema

Guests:  Don Flickinger and Robbie Teahen

Presentation:  

Big Rapids Master Plan - Mike Kirk, Neumann Smith Architects, shared the success of master plan open forums during the past two days (Feb. 5, 3pm attendance of 33; 4pm attendance of 19; Feb. 6, 10am attendance of 33, and 1pm attendance of 25). He continued by presenting the updated Big Rapids campus master plan recommendations, based on open forums from November 2008, including:

- Add green space, including to campus entrance
- Move traffic flow and most parking to outer campus, adding shuttle into inner campus; increase number of parking spaces; relieve car/pedestrian pinch points, such as near Timme, College of Business, and across State Street with use of “traffic calming”)
- Update housing to user-friendly models and move to outer campus
- Build a new Michigan College of Optometry by Allied Health Sciences, a new College of Education and Human Services near FLITE, combine Heavy Equipment and Automotive in renovated space, and upgrade Swan/Johnson
- Remove/rebuild Rankin Center in current location
- Add “Welcome/Alumni Center” near campus entrance
- Create more deliberate gathering spaces, such as the IRC connector
- All new buildings/remodeling is to be LEED-certified, keeping sustainability in mind

Comments/Recommendations of SPARC members:
1. A campus shuttle would need to, at some specified times, go to Katke/Holiday Inn/Perry Street and downtown Big Rapids.
2. We will need a clear phase-in for the transportation model.
3. Tot’s Place will need to be separately located from the new COEHS building for easier drop-off and pick-up as well as a separation from the main activities of the academic campus.
4. We may need to focus on mixed use classrooms, and need a classroom utilization plan.
5. We need to make certain we do not create choke-points, such as the one extant in the exits for Starr.
6. In longer term planning, we will need to be concerned with staff facilities, such as Prakken, and not just academic buildings.
7. The order of implementation is contingent on the available funding.
8. In evaluating the developing Health Corridor, we need to consider the expanding needs of the rapidly growing Allied Health Science programs which are currently at or exceed the capacity of the Allied Health Science building.

Discussion:

Other action needed by SPARC –
- Additional initiative discussion on retention/recruitment (include advising)
- E-Learning/Online – review implementation year
- Parking/Shape of Campus/Transportation – review implementation year
- Past task force work – to what extent have recommendations been worked on or completed? Need a list of accomplishments or a way to highlight the completed initiatives; i.e. classroom renovations, emergency preparedness, marketing, ADA
- HLC update to SPARC in April

Next meeting date:
   Friday, Mar. 6, 3-5pm, Founders Room

Adjourned 4:54pm
Submitted by Elaine R. Kamptner