

BIOLOGY MEETING NOTES

PROJECT: University of Wisconsin – La Crosse
PRAIRIE SPRINGS SCIENCE CENTER – PHASE II
La Crosse, WI

DFD PROJECT NO: 19G1J
RA PROJECT NO: 1290E

MEETING DATE: October 5, 2021

MEETING TIME: 10:00am-11:30am

ATTENDANCE:

Cathy Weiss	UW-System Administration	cweiss@uwsa.edu
Scott Schumacher	UW-La Crosse	sschumacher@uwlax.edu
Mike Abler	UW-La Crosse	mabler@uwlax.edu
Anton Sanderfoot	UW-La Crosse	asanderfoot@uwlax.edu
Beth Paluch	UW-La Crosse	epaluch@uwlax.edu
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Todd Osmundson	UW-La Crosse	tosmundson@uwlax.edu
Mike Adler	River Architects	m.adler@river-architects.com
Jeff Kuhse	River Architects	j.kuhse@river-architects.com
Emma Cuciurean-Zapan	SmithGroup	Emma.Cuciurean-Zapan@smithgroup.com
Nikki Taylor	SmithGroup	Nikki.Taylor@smithgroup.com
Steve Hackman	SmithGroup	Steve.Hackman@smithgroup.com
Alec Zambrowicz	Ring & DuChateau	azambrowicz@ringdu.com

OVERALL PLAN REVIEW:

1. The overall plans of each floor level were presented. The following items were noted:
 - a. Mike Abler expressed concern over the size of the remaining storage space once the shop areas are moved into existing Room 008.
 - b. Scott noted that there are plans underway to convert one of the storage rooms in Phase 1 to a large format shared printing room.
 - c. Scott commented that the Maintenance Storage room would be primarily used for extra lights, ceiling tiles, etc. Scott to review current inventory requirements.
 - d. Interim storage requirements to be reviewed. Where will things move to during construction? How will work in Room 008 be phased?
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DESIGN REVIEW:

1. Program Summary:
 - a. The space tabulation for the Biology Department was provided as a reference. No comments.
2. Classrooms:
 - a. Biology has no equipment storage requirements at the classrooms.
3. Herbarium:
 - a. Plan is acceptable as illustrated.
 - b. Separate air system required due to use of moth balls.
4. Museum:
 - a. Mike Abler noted that a new insect collection has been recently obtained for the museum.
 - b. Transparency into space vs storage and display requirements to be determined.
 - c. Movable tables desired with movable storage cabinets below.
5. Greenhouse:
 - a. Greenhouse usage is 365 days a year. Most use occurs in early spring, as early as February. Glazing requirements are to be based on whatever is necessary to keep it from freezing.
 - b. Greenhouse function is to be "simple."
 - c. Independent temperature controls required within the greenhouse, separate from building controls. Evaporative cooling system currently being planned.
 - d. Single-pane acrylic glazing currently included in the design.
 - e. Automated venting controls currently included in the design.
 - f. Confirmation needed by DFD on the overall systems design and integration.
 - g. Cathy Weiss commented on the importance of having a clear understanding and agreement on the functionality of the greenhouse expectations, design, and specifications.
 - h. Two examples were noted: Western Technical College and Superior Fresh.
 - i. Shading system would be nice to have but not a requirement. Design team to review specs and benefits with manufacturer. How does it help temperature control?
 - j. Engineering team to confirm HVAC system design within the Headhouse.
 - k. No special requirements for growth chambers or isolation area.
 - l. Materials used on walls to be splash resistant.
 - m. Aquaponics and Isolation to have systems similar to that of a normal teaching lab.
 - n. Snow accumulation at flat roof area noted as a concern by the department.
 - o. Concerns expressed over the location of the exhaust fans and their adjacency to the south entrance. Should these be screened? What is the air velocity coming from these fans?
 - p. Outdoor area west of the greenhouse to be flex space. No formal garden planned at this time.
 - q. No grow lights required; LED acceptable. User-controlled timer required.

6. Department Office:
 - a. Space for fliers and directory signage.
 - b. 3'x4' poster currently used for directory. Digital display would be acceptable but most students won't wait for it to change images. Poster preferred.
 - c. Biology not at all concerned with not having offices co-located on the same floor.
 7. Botany & Mycology Lab:
 - a. Writing surface and projection to be used simultaneously.
 - b. Scott advises against special whiteboards that function as writing surface and projection. Regular whiteboards and projection screen to be used.
 - c. Sinks: two sinks acceptable, one deep bowl sufficient.
 - d. Teaching podium similar to Phase 1 teaching labs.
 - e. Universal Design of lab spaces discussed. Providing accessibility to sink is critical.
 - DFD Accessibility Guidelines to be followed at a minimum.
 1. *Counter tops (kitchenette, labs, reception counters, etc.) should have a maximum height of 34" where possible or adjustable/adaptable counter top to 34".*
 2. *The base cabinets underneath sinks should have an open knee space for accessibility and comply with ADAAG clearance requirements. If an open knee space is not possible then this sink should be located at the midpoint of the base cabinet or at least 12" from wall to edge of sink for side approach access.*
 - f. Student benches to be sit-down height.
 - g. Add door from prep space to isolation area. Retain window to the south within the prep space.
 - h. Glass door display currently used by Biology to be incorporated. Location to be determined.
 - i. Specimen storage in prep space is currently accounted for in the Museum quantity.
 8. Medical Mycology Lab:
 - a. Sinks: ok as indicated.
 - b. Transparency into lab to be determined.
 - c. 16 stations ok.
 - d. Biosafety cabinets: 4 as indicated. No services required. Electrical only.
 - e. Gas required at student benches.
 - f. Move teaching station to west.
 - g. Revise table layout to provide most clearance possible around benches.
 9. A copy of the presentations and additional notes can be found here:
 - a. <https://river-architects.sharefile.com/d-s7e08b328717244338b9be3bc8725cd1d>
 - b. <https://river-architects.sharefile.com/d-s234093e9793344e4a6b2e22f1f453967>
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SCHEDULE & NEXT STEPS:

1. Design team to revise plans based on discussions held.
2. Next meeting to be scheduled in 3 to 4 weeks to review specifics.
3. UWL to provide equipment selections and specs for the SmithGroup SharePoint site for all university-provided equipment.

ACTION ITEMS SUMMARY		
1	Equipment selections and specifications to SharePoint	UWL
2	General Building Storage inventory.	UWL
3	Greenhouse shading system review.	AE

Note: This constitutes our understanding of the issues presented. Contact River Architects, Inc. via phone at (608) 785-2217, or e-mail m.adler@river-architects.com if there are any discrepancies.