

Board approves parking proposal

Lots near Barnett Hall will be expanded beginning next summer

BY JOHN MOENSTER
Staff Reporter

The Board of Governors approved a proposal on Saturday for the design portion of Barnett Hall's parking lot expansion, as well as an additional parking lot adjacent to Franklin Street.

The parking lot will be a precursor to the renovations set to take place in Pershing Building and will provide replacement parking for the spaces that will be used as a staging area for the construction crews working on Pershing, according to Saturday's Board of Governors meeting agenda materials.

Trabue, Hansen & Hinshaw Inc., a group of consulting engineers from Columbia, Mo., will lead in designing the parking lot project, according to the Board of Governors Web site.

The project will have three parts, according to a letter to Campus Planner Mark Schultz from Trabue, Hansen & Hinshaw Inc. The first part is the southward expansion of the existing lot, which is located west of the drainage way and south of Patterson Street. The lot design includes more lighting and walkways to Barnett with at least one emergency call box.

The second phase is the addition of two more lanes of parking in front of Barnett between the two existing drives. Finally, a pedestrian bridge connecting either the two lots or the new expansion to Franklin Street will complete the project, according to the letter. If these projects fall within the allotted budget, the existing parking lot in front of Barnett will be repaved and re-stripped.

"First we'll get the estimates from the engineers, and then we'll receive bids," said Dave Rector, University director of institutional



Beth Rolf/Index

The Board of Governors approved a proposal to expand parking near Barnett Hall on Saturday. The proposal includes adding spots to existing lots, installing more lighting and connecting various lots. Construction is set to begin next summer.

budgets and research. "Asphalt paving is driven heavily by the price of oil, and we might not be able to afford that right now."

Rector said the budget for the design portion is \$60,000, but the cost of the entire project should be determined before early summer. He said he hopes to bring budget approval to the next Board of Governors meeting April 5.

Trabue, Hansen & Hinshaw, Inc., also will carry out the synthetic turf project because the clay removed from the football field will be used as fill for the parking addition in front of Barnett, Rector said. During the project, the engineers will address soil erosion and drainage caused by Bear Creek.

Possible solutions include a retaining wall or correctly sloping

the parking lot, but a retaining basin will be necessary, Rector said.

Until Trabue, Hansen & Hinshaw returns its design plans, Rector said the exact number of parking spots that will be added cannot be determined. Which parking sticker colors will be allowed also has not been determined, he said.

Julie Seidler, associate professor of communication, said she is concerned about the environmental effects of the project but that she thinks the expansion is necessary.

"I hate to see more grass and trees be uprooted so that we can park our cars, but ... [parking around Barnett] is a big problem," Seidler said.

The amount of space occupied by construction companies in

the Pershing Building parking lot during renovations is not yet known, Rector said.

The parking lot behind Blanton, Nason and Brewer halls, which currently is a staging area for renovations, will open next fall. However, renovations on Dobson are set to begin in the fall, and its significantly smaller parking lot might not be able to contain all of the materials and trailers, Rector said.

Freshman Andrew McCrady said the construction makes parking problematic for students.

"Because of the construction companies' taking up parking lots behind residence halls, parking overflows in all the other lots," McCrady said. "Then you have to either risk getting a ticket by parking in a teacher's lot or park [far away]."

Commission eases into second phase

Group will further investigate curriculum proposals and models

BY CHARLOTTE KEENAN
Staff Reporter

In a 10-day vote ending Jan. 28, the faculty endorsed the Commission on Undergraduate Curriculum's Phase I report, which readies it for its upcoming task of choosing new curriculum models for consideration at the University.

Now in Phase II, the commission will begin investigating and selecting several curriculum proposals to be submitted to the Undergraduate Council for review, said Debi Cartwright, chair of the Commission on Undergraduate Curriculum.

The electronic faculty vote on the Phase I report drew 151 faculty voters, 125 supportive and 26 un-supportive, according to the Commission on Undergraduate Curriculum Web site.

Cartwright said this turnout was reasonable.

"It's probably the [faculty members] who were most interested on both extremes that actually took the time to read [the Phase I report] and vote," she said.

The Phase I report, now posted on the Commission Web site, discusses the role of the major and minor in the Truman curriculum.

Cartwright said feedback to the report spans a full spectrum.

"We had some who said, 'We don't want any change at all. We

like the curriculum, maybe improve its implementation but fairly minor change,'" she said. "And then there are some who are very eager for very major change."

She said the Phase I report describes the philosophy and desired outcomes of the curriculum change that will guide Phase II.

"The second phase is where we're actually going to develop some models," Cartwright said. "And so as we develop those models, we will look back at our design principles and say, 'Do these models do the things that we said we wanted them to do and then also accomplish the learning outcomes?'"

She said open forums and faculty response will help to determine the curriculum models.

"Hopefully we'll get a lot of faculty engagement and faculty feedback as we go," she said.

Cartwright said the commission will be looking at other schools' intriguing approaches to the curriculum as well as creating unique ideas to work for Truman's mission.

"At this point now, we're just kind of gathering all kinds of ideas," she said. "And then I think we're kind of going to start coagulating the ideas together to come up with some common themes."

Cartwright said that according to the current timeline, Phase II should be completed by next fall.

Once the commission settles upon multiple curricular proposals, commission members will submit a Phase II report to the UGC. UGC chair Candy Young said.

"At that point [when the Phase II report is submitted], the Undergraduate Council has to decide how to move forward," she said.

Young said that during the last curricular revision, the final decision was put to a faculty vote.

"But that's not necessarily how the Undergraduate Council will choose to deal with it this time," she said.

Young said she and the UGC were pleased with campus participation and voter turnout for the Phase I report.

Both faculty and students were involved in determining the content of the Phase I report, said sophomore Lizz Esfeld, one of two student representatives to the Commission on Undergraduate Curriculum.

"There have been quite a few forums throughout the last year and a half," she said. "There has been a significant amount of students' voices at some of the forums, up to five, sometimes seven or eight students at a forum, which is pretty good."

One last-minute addition to the Phase I report deals with students' concerns about their workload, Esfeld said.

"We recognize that we want a

challenging curriculum, that we want something that students are going to feel is challenging but also that isn't unreasonable," she said.

She said students could continue to voice opinions and concerns in Phase II open forums, beginning with a panel scheduled for University Conference Day.

For now, the commission is researching multiple proposals varying in degree of change, Esfeld said.

"We're supposed to range from just tweaks to the current curriculum to extremely radical changes," she said.

Esfeld said some ideas already discussed include a curriculum centered on a single concept, a curriculum emphasizing problem-centered learning and a new academic schedule freeing students to participate in an internship, study abroad or another experience during the month of January.

"Obviously we're not going to sacrifice any type of academic integrity," she said. "I think that's extremely important to faculty and students alike, but I don't think the curriculum as you know it now will exist after this change happens."

"We recognize that we want a challenging curriculum, that we want something that students are going to feel is challenging but also that isn't unreasonable."

Lizz Esfeld

Student Representative to the Commission on Undergraduate Curriculum

NEWS | In Brief

New bill aids with paying utilities

Gov. Matt Blunt signed legislation Friday that will make \$6.4 million available to Missourians in need of assistance with their winter utility costs, according to a press release from Friday.

The new bill, House Bill 2015, is a supplemental bill to the state's Utilicare program, which also helps low-income families pay for their winter heating costs, according to the release.

Utilicare did not receive full funding for many years, according to the release. The governor revived funding to the program in 2006. Utilicare was founded in 1979.

Local school in need of volunteers

Organizers of the annual Ray Miller Elementary Spring Fling fundraiser are in need of volunteers, according to a press release from Monday.

The fundraiser features carnival-type games, cake-walks and a concession stand. All of the proceeds from the fundraiser benefit the school's students, according to the release.

Last year, the fundraiser made enough to qualify for a grant from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources that will go toward improving the safety and ADA accessibility of local outdoor and fitness areas.

The fundraiser will take place March 1 at the school, which is located at 2010 E. Normal St. Interested volunteers should contact the University's SERVE Center.

Long, Feldman trial settings extended

Trial settings were moved back this week for a Truman student and a former Truman student. Both settings have been rescheduled for Mar. 3, according to court documents.

Former student Gabriel Feldman faces a felony charge of forcible rape, and freshman Jake Long has been charged with assault on a law enforcement officer, burglary in the first degree, minor visibly intoxicated, resisting or interfering with arrest and property damage in the second degree, according to court documents.

Ameren UE issues summary of goals

Ameren UE has issued a summary of a comprehensive plan filed today with the Missouri Public Service Commission, according to a press release from Tuesday.

This plan outlines how the utility company expects to supply safe, reliable electricity in coming years. Members of Ameren's senior management executed the plan.

Some of the company's goals include pursuing the development of energy efficiency programs to reduce energy consumption, increasing operational efficiency at existing plants, researching clean coal technologies and possibly retiring some older generating units, also according to the release.

Ameren UE already has launched the Pure Power Program 2007 (see Index issue Dec. 6, 2007). Through the program, customers can choose to pay an additional 1.5 cents per kilowatt-hour for the electricity they use, according to the release. The voluntary fee goes toward the development of renewable generation.

Forensic Union places well in tourney

The Truman Forensic Union won in multiple divisions at Webster University's "Gorlock Gala" Jan. 25-27, according to a press release from Monday.

Freshman Barbara Gillard took first place in the junior Lincoln-Douglas debate division. Fellow freshmen Jennifer Wilborn and Mehdi Zaidi placed first in the novice parliamentary debate division.

Sophomore Mark Buchheit and senior Dylan Rothermel reached the quarterfinals of the tournament before losing to Southern Illinois University-Carbondale.

Student Senate | In Brief

- Senate passed a money motion for \$2,500 for the Educator of the Year budget. The money will be spent on such items as plaques, catering, flowers and publicity.
- Senate passed a money motion for \$1,378 for the insurance policy for a Bike Co-op.
- Senate passed a money motion for \$60 for advertising for Diversity Week.
- Senate passed a money motion for \$80 for the Missouri Higher Education consortium. The money is to be spent on travel, meals and printing of legislative packets.

DPS | Reports

- 2/2 Freshman Berhan Prasetyo was issued a Missouri Uniform Complaint and Summons for minor in possession of intoxicants.
- 2/1 Freshman Kelly Kaufmann was issued a Missouri Uniform Complaint and Summons for minor in possession of intoxicants.
- 1/30 Report of property damage in West Campus Suites

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