

Draft Minutes
Uris vision Committee
April 8th, 2019

In attendance:

Co-Chairs: Jean Howard, Maya Tolstoy

Professors: Ruben Gonzalez, Oliver Hobert, John Huber, Pamela Smith, Tian Zheng, Christopher Washburne

Libraries: Barbara Rockenbach

Ex-Officio: Gene Villalobos

Student: Mike Ford

Staff: Carolyn Keen, Rose Razaghian

1. The Committee discussed at length the nature of the committees that should be set up to provide oversight for the implementation of the plans outlined in the Uris Vision Document. It was agreed that there should be two such committees, one to oversee planning for the base (the first three floors of the building) and one for the tower (the top five floors of the building). Both committees should have equal representation from all three divisions of the Arts and Sciences, including untenured professors.
2. The committee overseeing the base will work with a consultant to engage with stakeholders to determine the program needs for Watson Library and the teaching and learning services to be provided in the base, as well as to consult on classroom and conference facility arrangements. The Libraries were going to employ a consultant for the development of the Digital Hub in the Watson Library; the RFP for that process will be expanded to include other aspects of the base.
3. The committee overseeing the development of the tower has several tasks that will have to be carefully sequenced. They will need to devise a call for proposals for filling floors four and five (that part of the tower that at the current moment is designated as permanent home for a certain number of centers, departments, or institutes). As fundraising efforts proceed, they will need to devise a call for proposals for filling floors six through eight with shorter-term interdisciplinary working groups and a research center. If fundraising is not as successful as we hope, those floors could also be made into permanent homes for other units.
4. Rose Razaghian's office is currently gathering data on Arts and Sciences Centers and Institutes to see how much space they currently have, how many offices, their funding status, and what interdisciplinary work they already do. This data needs to be available for the committee on the tower to advance the planning process. It is intended, however, that space will not be assigned in terms of a unit's fundraising success but rather in terms of how well a unit's vision matches the vision that has been outlined for the building as a whole and by the synergies created by its placement alongside other units with which it would interact.
5. Charges for these two oversight committees will be revised and circulated in the next several weeks along with a revised RFP for a consultant for the base.