

Appendix A: Record of Seminars



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Record of Discussion Session

No.	View / concern	Gist of Consultant's reply
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Seminar 1 (20 January 2009)

Master Planning Vision and Specific Proposal

Academic & Recreational Facilities		
1	The number of alumni is growing significantly every year. But there is yet a designated place for alumni where they can gather when they return to their alma mater. If CMP has this provision, relevant offices could help to formulate some fund-raising plans.	A location which could be considered for an Alumni Centre would be within new facilities proposed near the John Fulton Centre (site D).
Enhancing College Life		
1	The concept of "College Neighbourhood" and new facilities are proposed and the development of new facilities may create pressure on the existing Colleges' resources, how would this issue be addressed?	It is proposed that all of the new colleges will incorporate facilities to accommodate the needs of its own members. In addition to this, shared facilities, such as Learning Commons for the colleges at northern campus are proposed to be located to the north of Shaw College. The Student Amenity Centre in the low-level precinct will also provide amenity facilities.
2	The functions of most of the potential development sites are clearly stated in the planning precepts. But for the Colleges, only possible areas for development are presented, why are they not as specific as the other areas?	The Campus Master Plan has presented opportunities available for each existing College to enhance the environment and possible development within the College. Implementation of the recommendations are subject to each College's own development plan and resources considerations and therefore will require further deliberations with the respective Colleges.
3	Shaw College students would like to enhance their College life with additional learning and recreational facilities like learning commons, library, sports facilities etc. But it appears that the potential development area for Shaw College is not big enough. Is there any possible additional potential development area for Shaw College?	New shared facilities, currently suggested as new learning commons, are proposed to be located to the north of Shaw College. The development of this site could take the provision of some new sports facilities into consideration.
Traffic		
1	With the expected University population growth in 2012, the need for parking spaces will be increased as a result. Is there any multi-level parking spaces proposed in the Plan?	Centralised parking is proposed at 3 locations: an extended parking facility next to John Fulton Centre, within the site to the east of MTR University Station, and at Area 39.
2	Cycling on campus, especially in the low-level precinct area, is an excellent idea but safety would be an issue on other parts of the campus. Would there be any mechanism by which cyclists could transport their bicycles uphill or downhill?	Cycling is not suited for a campus with a hilly terrain like CUHK. But providing a cycling track between the MTR University Station and Area 39 (a flat site for research facilities) would be feasible. The Consultant Team have these observations on cycling on campus:



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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Express lifts would be sized so as to accommodate the transport of bicycles; however this would be impractical during busy periods. The fitting of a special "CUHK gear" would provide the means to tackle the steep climbs, but with the existing road widths it would be difficult to provide dedicated cycle lanes.
3	As most students are coming to CUHK by MTR, a covered meeting place (with cafeteria, library etc.) near MTR station for non-resident students is desirable.	The new Integrated Teaching Buildings located at the junction of Pond Crescent and Station Road will provide additional meeting places near MTR University Station. Also, a new Student Amenity Centre will be built at the back of Elisabeth Luce Moore Library, providing a new venue for student activities and social gathering.
4	Facilities for non-residential students are insufficient.	The Campus Master Plan proposes the use of ground floors of new hostels within the colleges for non-residential students. Within the Central Campus, new learning commons and catering facilities are proposed within the converted clinic and the Main Library. Also refer to response of view no 3.

About Campus Master Plan

1	Apparently implementation of the Campus Master Plan will be over a long period of time. Will there be a schedule for the proposed developments, e.g. starting from the low-level/mid-level/high-level precinct or will all development projects start at the same time?	The Campus Master Plan is a tool for planning the future growth of the Campus. The actual development of each site will be determined by the University on other factors such as availability of funding and the University's policy on curriculum expansion.
2	What views would you expect to collect from the stakeholders at this stage, when the CMP proposals are already very specific? How would you conceive the views collected to have an impact on the final report of CMP?	The views of the stakeholders received within stages 1 and 2 have led to the incorporation of ideas within the Campus Master Plan proposal presented at this stage. We would expect focused views to be expressed on the specific proposals presented.
3	Who will design the new buildings ultimately? Is there a process/mechanism that can make sure the form of the new buildings will be consistent?	The University has in place a steering committee whose role is to perform as a client for the University. The selection of architect/designer for each project will be determined by a tendering process.

Seminar 2 (21 January 2009)

Academic & Recreational Facilities, College Life and Sustainable Campus

No.	View / concern	Gist of Consultant's reply
Academic & Recreational Facilities		
1	If University Health Centre is to be relocated to somewhere near the MTR University Station. May I know where the Consultant would recommend?	The low-level precinct area near the MTR University Station would be an ideal place for relocating the clinic. One of the possible



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		locations is the car park near the MTR University Station and Inter-University Hall.
2	Potential locations for learning commons are proposed for colleges. Will there be any such new provision on central campus?	New learning commons are proposed at the eastern extension to the Central Mall; in a redevelopment of the existing Clinic at Clinic Drive. Another learning commons is proposed at the Western Central Campus within the proposed extension of the Main Library.
3	Student canteens will be insufficient to cater for the increase in demand in 2012. Are there any proposals in the CMP to increase the number of canteens?	There is a possibility to extend the catering at John Fulton Centre into new facilities on the new University Plaza. All the new colleges will provide additional catering services for the University. Additional cafeteria would also be planned in the low-level precinct area.
Enhancing College Life		
1	CMP Consultant has suggested a potential site for learning commons at the upper level College neighbourhood near Shaw College. a. Do you think it is too far away for the students in United College and New Asia College? b. Is there a potential place for learning commons at the low-level College neighbourhood, e.g., near Chung Chi College?	a. With newly proposed footbridges and express lifts, the students from United College and New Asia College can conveniently reach the proposed learning commons near Shaw College or Central Campus within 15 mins. b. A learning commons is also planned within the new Integrated Teaching Buildings located at the junction of Pond Crescent and Station Road.
2	Will students from United College (UC) and New Asia College (NA) need to change buses to go downhill or uphill in the future? If yes, will it mean that there will not be classes on the upper campus in future? As currently there are over 30 classrooms in UC and NA, the need to change bus to reach these two Colleges will pose problems for student to attend classes in these areas.	In the Option of "Bus & Walk Strategy", the Meet Class Shuttle Services will continue to run at peak hours. In addition, new walking routes will be built incorporating express lifts to enable easier walking among the university precincts.
3	There are two lawn areas outside the Student Amenity Centre. For large-scale student activities, open space near the piazza will be insufficient. Would CMP Consultant consider using other materials for paving the ground instead of proposing lawns around this area?	Noted. This view will be referred to the project architect of the Student Amenity Centre for consideration.
4	The proposal for Chung Chi College is not very attractive. Why the Consultant proposes extended gardens?	One of the intentions of the proposal is to enhance the connectivity from Chung Chi College to the eastern Central Campus. These new hostels would provide connectivity within their structure. The 'Gardens' are an extension of the Chung Chi way of inhabiting the hillside with cultivated intimate spaces. A good architectural design would provide an attractive environment. The proposal provides suggestions and



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		concepts only, and it is subject to Chung Chi College's decision on whether it will be implemented.
5	The proposed outdoor public spaces for New Asia College and United College are quite good.	Noted and thanks.
Traffic		
1	I am very interested in knowing more about the transport strategies (e.g. shuttle bus route, vehicular movements in the campus etc.) although the subject is not covered in this evening's presentations.	The transport strategies include the recommendations on improving the accessibility (pedestrian friendliness) of the campus, reconfiguration of shuttle bus services, enhancing the road efficiency and safety, "Park n' Ride" facilities and cycling track.
2	About the "Park n Ride" proposal to reduce the number of vehicles on campus, are you suggesting that in future there are some areas on the campus that are vehicle-free?	<p>The intention of the proposal is to reduce traffic movement within the campus, by providing parking spaces at the principal entrances to the University. From these locations further journeys would be encouraged either on foot or by shuttle bus. Vehicles would still be able to access the road network but parking local to particular buildings would be restricted to a minimal number for visitors, disabled access and servicing.</p> <p>Vehicle-free zone can be considered in the future, provided that all the peripheral park structures are constructed in place to support this idea.</p>
About Campus Master Plan		
1	How will the University make use of recommendations by the CMP Consultant?	The Campus Master Plan will be adopted as a guideline for future development. In addition, the Master Plan shall be considered as a "Live Document". It shall be reviewed regularly by the University.
2	What kind of architectural parameters will be provided for the University by the consultant (e.g. appearance, shape, orientation and consistency of the style of the new buildings with the surrounding buildings)?	<p>The design parameters for potential development sites will include parameters on building massing, height, orientation, space making, protection and preservation of environmental features, and an indication of the total area accommodation.</p> <p>The parameters will not set up restrictions on the use of materials and the form of building, which will be designed by the Project Architect who will be selected by the tendering process of each project.</p>
3	From the presentation, there are so many constructions sites proposed within the campus, would the development be carried out in phases? Several issues such as environmental and noise pollution are of concern,. Would the consultant address the environmental issues/guidelines for the	<p>Development phasing will be an important aspect of the campus growth.</p> <p>The actual phasing development of the campus will be determined by many factors, including availability of funding and the University's policy on curriculum expansion.</p>



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	development process?	Environmental issues (noise, dust, vibration etc.) during construction will be controlled under the University's "Considerate Contractors guidelines". Design guidelines for this Campus Master Plan will include preservation and protection environmental features within each development site.

Seminar 3 (22 January 2009)
Traffic, Landscape and Conservation

No	View / Concern	Gist of Consultant's reply
Traffic		
1	The proposal of enhancing bus services on one hand and the concept of promoting walking culture on the other seems contradictory. The current bus service is too convenient for students and as far as resources allocation is concerned, the Consultant may need to refine the proposal in this direction.	By making walking a more convenient way of accessing all University venues and providing fewer, larger car parking sites throughout the campus, we are proposing to reduce use of buses to a minimum in future. Before all this infrastructure is in place for comfortable, safe and practical walking, an adequate bus system will be provided for all members of the University.
2	Is it necessary to build two express lifts between the Western Teaching Complex and United colleges?	This proposal will provide a direct and convenient access from the west of Central Campus to United College. It will help to improve the accessibility from upper-level precinct to the Central Campus
3	The time interval between classes is too short at present, can some plan like classroom allocation be done to reduce the need to rush from one location to another?	The idea of "Faculty Zoning" is, therefore, important to achieve physical proximity and obtain the benefit of interdisciplinary collaboration.
4	In order to achieve sustainability and reduce gas emission on the campus, consultants should be more ambitious to promote or reintroduce the "Zero bus operation" or "walking culture" and let CUHK be a leader in achieving a sustainable campus in Hong Kong.	It can be considered that after all the proposed infrastructures are constructed in place, the accessibility within the Campus will be much improved.
5	The majority of the University members enter the campus from the MTR station, which means the current traffic flow is like a radiation, all the people come from one spot, and that creates congestion in the spot. In order to deal with this problem, consultants should divert the traffic flow and explore more entrances for the users.	A new northern entrance to the MTR University Station is proposed to reduce congestion and ease the flow to the east of the Central Mall.
6	The idea of "vehicle-free" and "pedestrian friendly" campus is good. Walking culture should be promoted throughout the campus.	Noted
7	The ideas of enhancing bus service as well as building covered walkway are okay, because they	Noted



No.	View / concern	Gist of Consultant's reply
	fit the different needs of stakeholders.	
8	We should find ways to change the mindset of the students about walking on campus. One possible way is to charge passengers for using bus services.	Noted
9	The campus is beautiful and trees are everywhere. We can widen the sidewalks and provide shades to make walking more comfortable. Buses are noisy, polluting the environment and totally unnecessary.	Noted
10	Students are reluctant to walk because of the high humidity and steep slopes. The point-to-point bus service should be maintained.	Noted
11	The express lifts should be built within a building and not stand alone along the roads because it will not match well with the natural landscape.	Noted. We would highly recommend integration of express lifts along or within buildings. Another consideration may be construction of "vertical gardens" containing the lifts.
Sustainable Campus		
1	The proposal is wonderful, especially the idea of making a sustainable campus. I agree that we should care about our earth. But how the Consultant would advise the University to execute the plan? It seems that the plan is very expensive and the University may not have enough resources for implementation. Therefore, to convince the University, further details showing how the plan can benefit the University is very important.	The implementation of the Campus Master Plan will be subject to the University's funding resources. However it is believed that legislation is imminent in guiding sustainable development which addresses the needs of energy and pollution reduction and the protection of the natural environment.
2	In the presentation, I can see that Mr. Cullinan is a person who cares about the environment, may I ask Mr. Cullinan to push the University to show her commitment to environmental protection?	Noted
3	The ecological/greenery aspects of the campus should be taken care of. Landscape/trees are not only for pleasing the eyes but rather the biodiversity within the landscape/environment is of utmost importance.	Noted. The importance of the natural environment and its management is acknowledged in the Campus Master Plan. Indeed the ecological and green aspects are seen as the most important factors in characterizing the campus of CUHK.
4	Grass roof is a way enhancing greenery and it helps to reduce temperature in buildings but if we look at some of the scientific measurements of the environment like BAF (Biotope Area Factor), grass roofs are far less efficient in absorbing carbon dioxide and solve other climate mediating functions than trees.	The Campus Master Plan has no intention to oppose the value of trees with those of buildings. All of the proposed development sites chosen and shown in the Master Plan have either no or minimal effect on valuable trees. The green roofs are proposed as an addition to the existing extensive flora within the campus as well as a passive means of reducing the energy loss from the buildings, increasing biodiversity, reducing the heat island effect and providing an attractive roof elevation when viewed from above.



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5	Species of grass/other organisms are to be sustained in grass roof are incomparable to really natural state of woodlands. Keeping trees in their natural ways are far better than replacing them with ornamental trees. Replanting the trees is not an ideal solution as the replanted trees will not grow back to its previous state	Noted.
6	The consultant has listed a number of values that would be taken into account in the CMP, but two important values, the Green/ Ecological and Educational values are missing. The consultant is urged to consider these two aspects.	<p>The value of the Green and Ecological aspects of the Campus and the educational opportunities derived from them should not be undervalued.</p> <p>The landscape proposals of the Campus Master Plan recognize the importance of the existing natural context by proposing ways of protecting and enhancing the existing context. Its position within the culture of the University could be further enhanced by firstly opening up the surrounding to a greater number of the University's members; by providing further trails within the original woodlands, and further, by extending learning and study modules focusing on the ecological aspects of the area.</p> <p>This second aspect is much nearer to the University's teaching agenda than to the scope of the Master Plan.</p>

Attendance of the Seminars

Seminar 1: 39
 Seminar 2: 32
 Seminar 3: 33
Total: 104

Video record of seminars can be reviewed in the Campus Master Plan Website (<http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/cmp>)

