Student Family Housing Redevelopment Committee -- Meeting Notes

Date: 8-19-2014
Time: 2PM – 3PM PST

Meeting Participants: Vice Chancellor Adela de la Torre, Dean Jeff Gibeling, Assistant Dean Richard Shintaku, Assistant Vice Chancellor Clayton Halliday, Associate Dean Lenora Timm (Chair), Chief of Staff Emily Prieto, Marilyn Derby (Project Manager), Brittany Derieg (Project Assistant), Professor Markus Luty, Professor Deb Niemeier, Professor Michael Rios, Vice Chair of GSA Erica Vonasek, Graduate Student Representatives Aaron Fackler, Paul Johnson, Sara Petrosillo, Gordon Rees, and Cutcha Risling Baldy, and Undergraduate Student Representative Ryan Reynolds.

Comments made during the meeting are below, listed in order of the person who suggested it.

- Cutcha Risling Baldy
  - There needs to be constant engagement with students. A plan and timeline for reaching out to and listening to students’ thoughts on our progress needs to be developed.
    - Budget for these open forums will be jointly covered by GSA and Graduate Studies.

- Marilyn Derby
  - A suggestion for organizing the Committee: We can assign roles to committee members to be “experts” in specific areas and inform the rest of the committee of what they have learned.

- Michael Rios
  - Organization of the Committee: Create a work plan, structure, and timeline with each meeting focused on a specific topic (methods for financings, facilities, reviewing other University’s Graduate Housing, etc).
  - Create a timeline for engagement (social media, open forums, etc) and make available online
  - Look at the affordable housing industry to inform our understanding of housing models and how to account for the relationship between income and rent charged. Perhaps do a formal review of the literature.
  - Recommended reading: The Oregon Experiment by Christopher Alexander and collaborators Murray Silverstein, Shlomo Angel, Sara Ishikawa, and Denny Abrams.

- Jeff Gibeling
  - Need to identify model institutions, nationally, and collect information about their graduate student housing options.

- Sara Petrosillo
  - Reach out to former and current residents with a survey about their experience at the parks and what about them helped facilitate a successful graduate experience. This should be a formal survey which guides the development of our principles and priorities.

- Erica Vonasek
  - Find out if UCSD and other UCs have self-supported graduate housing.
  - In addition:
    - Are they privately managed, or run by the University?
    - What are the rents? (What are the students actually paying)
What are the market rates for a comparable unit?
- If it is self-supporting, to what extent? (Includes staff overhead, etc?) If it is not self-supporting, how is the difference paid for?
  - Do a broad survey of graduate students, families, and their income(s). Ask where do you live, and why? It is recommended to create a report on all of the UC’s graduate housing redevelopment plans.

- Paul Johnson
  - Have a crash course (given by Mike Sheehan) to the committee on how housing is typically run at UC Davis, how housing rates are set, and the variables that come into play when doing so.

### Action Items

- A timeline for engagement with students needs to be developed (Brittany)
- A structure and timeline needs to be developed for future redevelopment meetings:
  - Each meeting should be centered around a topic and related goal (Clayton, Lenora, Marilyn)
- Former and Current Residents should be contacted and surveyed as to what made their time at the Parks memorable, and what aspects of the Parks were most important to improving their overall experience as a graduate student. (Brittany)
- Find out and announce the rent and future schedule of Solano Park (Karl Mohr, John Campbell, Emily Galindo)
- Contact sister GSAs to solicit feedback about student family housing at their respective universities (Erica)
- Contact Housing departments at the other UCs and national Universities about their graduate redevelopment plans, current graduate housing rates, management details, etc. (Marilyn, Brittany)
- Prepare an informational meeting for committee members about how housing rates are traditionally set (Mike Sheehan)