

## ELKHORN VALLEY CAMPUS – ARTS AND CLASSROOM BUILDING

### VISIONING SESSION – 04.11.2012

- Introductions—Opening Remarks
- BVH Presentation
  - Introduction of programming team members
  - Firm experience and background
  - Programming process
  - Project timeline
- Master Plan Review for the Elkhorn Valley Campus
- MCC Elkhorn Valley Project Discussion
  - *Tell us your thoughts on the Master Plan vision for this campus*
    - *Is it accurate, relevant, and responsive to your needs?*
    - *What needs to stay the same? What needs to change?*
    - *Who else do we need to involve?*
  - *Please state your name, position, and involvement w/classes/programs*
  - *Please tell us about your programs and space needs – What are you hoping to do in this new building that you aren't able to do now?*
  - *Summarize current conditions from your point of view*

### **Project Discussion Minutes**

#### Participants

#### **BVH:**

Paul Jeffrey, AIA – Project Manager

Emily Bannick Lacey – Programming Manager

#### **MCC:**

Stan Horrell – Director, Campus Planning & Sustainability

Lindsay Neemann – Campus Planning & Sustainability

Tom McDonnell – Dean, Languages and Visual Arts

Ingrid Berlin – Dean, Elkhorn Valley Campus

Richard Hart – Architecture Drafting & Design

Paul O'Brien – Public Safety

Dave Golda – Building & Grounds Manager

Susan Healy – Art History

Lawrence Gawel – Photography Instructor

Bernie Sedlacek – Director, Facilities Management

Pat Crisler – Associate VP of Development

Jacqueline Scoones – Humanities/English Instructor

Joseph Piper – Electronic Imaging/Arts Instructor

Q: What will be the distance between the new building and the existing building?

A's:

- That will be determined by size and massing of new building
- We will be sympathetic to site conditions – wetlands, easements, slope/grade, etc.
- Relationship to existing building must feel right

Q: How will the new building be accessed from the existing building?

A's:

- Not that far along yet – these decisions will be part of the design process
  - ADA accessibility will be addressed as an element of the solution
- There is a significant shortage of storage. Students need places to store what they're working on – 3D work, sculpture, etc. There is a student show in the gallery starting 4/12 if team members would like to see what types of artwork need to be stored. Need centrally located storage as well as classroom storage, larger doors, accessibility.
  - MCC offers lighting, photo, and video equipment for checkout. The location of this equipment is far from any of the doors. Having a lab and office where equipment is checked out near an entrance would be great. Need adjacency to classroom space. Loading dock could possibly be helpful for loading large equipment.
  - In the past, students have had to work in facilities storage expansion area due to the size of projects (i.e building a boat). Overhead doors possibly needed on 3D/Sculpture space.
  - Not strictly an art building – need interactivity with other disciplines.
  - People may not know where to go from proposed drop-off location. Wayfinding and signage will be critical.
  - Community members need access to teaching facility. How can we encourage student to come early, stay late, attend a gallery opening, art exhibit, etc. to foster a sense of community? How can the building serve the broader community as a place to encourage participation in the arts? This may be the only arts facility west of UNO- as such, it can provide tremendous value to students and the public.
  - Tom's vision is to make a center for creative entrepreneurship... working title of the project is 'Center for the Creative Class'. How can programming be offered that draws students in at a young age, then encourages them to come back later in life?
  - Types of collaborative/inter-disciplinary projects: Art History course taught on Fort campus, using local artists' studio. Classes in Native American Studies, Art History, History, Intercultural Studies – spending weeks together painting a buffalo rope. Messy project – practical studio space needed for large group.
  - What does practical studio space look like? A: Multi-purpose space, breakout spaces, screens, multiple classes meeting at once, studio-like.
  - Programs need their own space as well as inter-disciplinary/shared space. Instructors want to build sense of community for each program. For example, photo students hang out in photo lab. Currently, there is one table that can seat about 12, but not enough chairs. Need both functional workspaces and hang-out space. When prepping for a show, every flat surface is being used – the current facility is way over capacity, need more work surfaces. Adaptability is key.
  - Collaboration outside of institutional framework of program is an integral part of the creative process. Bringing alumni back is an element of the community college concept. What's going on in other places? We must look to other institutions, our current limitations have handicapped faculty's ability to vision/dream.
  - Rich wants ability to offer his courses from any location. Offers many at EVC, but does not feel a sense of place. Wants to separate student from computer and place value back on face-to-face instruction. Ability to offer this instruction in inspiring/different spaces is important. Feels his department is driven by hands-on, visual literacy. Needs a place to do hands-on instructing/learning. Needs infrastructure to support technology for his courses throughout the new building.
  - How will the "front" and "back" of the building be oriented/set apart – "ceremonial front"? How much vacated space in existing building can be allocated to the uses we're discussing? Existing building needs to be front of



campus, rather than back of campus. General classroom space needs to be flexible enough for new/innovative curriculum - “English for Arts”, “Math for Right-Brainers”...

- Pedestrian connectivity encourages interaction between buildings and occupants. Bernie feels south campus has achieved this. Public safety and facilities staffing – possibly more efficient if interconnected. Connectivity should be physical, functional, metaphorical.
- Back hallway/back door – students use carts, wheeled bags, etc. to transport work and equipment. Needs to be wide enough for these activities. Possibly need two ways to get things in and out of building. Lift installed at loading docks - not currently being used.
- Possibility of theatre or auditorium – many faculty are showing film in their classes, want to offer screenings advertised to public, video program would utilize as well. Performance art – musicians, filmmakers, actors, photographers, etc. wish to collaborate and create productions.
- Currently room 114 serves as auditorium space – new building needs something more ‘high-end’. Want ability to host conferences. Great Plains Theatre Conference has noted a tremendous need for space that can be rented out for rehearsals and performances.
- Bernie – sees building in entirely different location... possibly build into hill?
- Visibility to 204<sup>th</sup> and Dodge presents security, access, and parking issues... we shouldn’t be too attached to the siting in the master plan.
- We should consider operational staffing and efficiency – how can we eliminate duplication of services, but still provide adequate space and attention to public safety, operational needs, facilities management, etc.
- Could we put temporary parking where buildings are proposed for future? Or create a multi-story building - first level parking with building above.
- Would like us to critically analyze room 114, what aspects are good and should be replicated? What are the points of pain that should be avoided in the new building?
- Want bookstore, café, art supply store in building as well as art gallery for public viewing. How would increased hours affect operational staff? Could use ID Card system for purchases, equipment checkout, access to building, etc.
- K12 Education community needs to be involved as stakeholder – incorporate programming for K12 students.

Example programs to explore:

MCC KC/Penn Valley Community College

Johnson County Community College

Cuyahoga Community College – Oregon

Savannah College of Art and Design

