

Veterans' Circle

A. Features of OUC to be preserved in UBC-O

Over the roughly 35 years of its existence, OUC developed an ambience that affirmed certain values. Conspicuous among these values – which we think worthy of ongoing affirmation – are the following:

1. a feeling of ownership of the institution,
2. a feeling of loyalty to the institution,
3. a sense of belonging to a community,
4. an open door policy on the part of the administration, including senior administrators who 'walk about' on a regular basis,
5. care and attention to hiring, being receptive to well qualified individuals prepared to carry their share of collegial responsibilities,
6. dedication to students' academic needs,
7. the fostering of an egalitarian culture,
8. a cultivation of respect for all who work here, and
9. the establishment of close relationships with the wider community.

B. Learning Needs

A healthy learning environment is essential and to this end the following aspects of the institution need to be addressed:

1. The gymnasium facilities should be improved by adding a swimming pool and at least 4 squash courts and 4 racquet ball courts. These facilities would be an attractive addition to the present gymnasium and would allow all students, especially those who are living in residence, to have something extracurricular to do while on campus.
2. At least two safe bike paths should be constructed to the campus. One of these should feed in from the Rutland area of the city, while the other should feed in from the Glenmore area.
3. Another road into the campus needs to be built, but under no circumstances should this be built as an access point to Highway 97. In other words, the new road should terminate at the campus.
4. A food court should be established in place of the present cafeteria arrangement. A decent selection of healthy food for students and staff alike is highly desirable and consistent with the values the institute promotes.

C. Structural changes required to enhance the students' experience at UBC-O

1. UBC-O should acquire 300 acres of land to give it room for expansion (see attachment for comparative data in this regard) and to allow room for the

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creation of an attractive campus and one that is environmentally sound. The preferred parcel of land for acquisition is a 300 acre parcel that lies to the SW of the institution. It contains rich forest growth, wildflowers, and animal life. One way or the other this land will be developed for residential purposes if the university does not act soon to acquire it. University acquisition could allow for an environmentally sensitive development of this beautiful land and provide the university with an unimpeded view of the lake and the city.

In the event that the parcel in the SW is unavailable, other acquisitions should be considered in the NW area. In relation to Robert Lake there is potential for working out a stewardship arrangement with the naturalist clubs of Kelowna in caring for the plant and wildlife found in Robert Lake.

2. A department of music and performing arts should be established. In the first instance this could be included in the Faculty of Arts. Over time it possibly could be included in a School of Music and Performing Arts.
3. UBC-O should examine the feasibility of establishing a Faculty of Engineering as well as a School of Veterinary Science.
4. The Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Science should not be integrated; they function well as separate faculties now and there is no need to change this.

University Circle Members:

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