

Capital Campaign – Summary of Architect’s Listening Sessions

Capital Campaign Task Force

The Board of Trustees formed the Capital Campaign Task Force, in December 2014, after months of discussions among the Trustees, the leadership team representing FUS groups, and the staff. The Task Force then held four listening sessions with the staff and members. They identified several areas of improvement focusing on critically needed updates of the physical plant and on upgrades that create an attractive, flexible, warm, inviting physical presence. Read their [September 2015 Report here](#).

Kodet Architectural Group, Ltd.

In August 2015, the Board of Trustees voted to retain Ed Kodet as architect, to assist with pre-planning. Two listening sessions with the architects, Kodet Architectural Group, Ltd, were held in November 2015 at FUS, the first session with 12 members of the FUS Building and Grounds and Aesthetics Teams, the second with about 75 FUS members.

Suggestion Summary

This summary of the nearly 50 items discussed provides an overview of the issues raised. The architects have the complete, detailed list.

In general, members emphasized the need for our facility to have a warm and welcoming appearance, connections to nature, inspiring artworks, effective natural and artificial lighting, good air quality, comfortable acoustics/sound level, and energy efficiency.

Members have *suggested* these items for *possible* inclusion:

- Heating and Air Conditioning, Window Replacement
 - Forced air heating and cooling system
 - Possible radiant heat (boiler) at the base of the window wall
 - Replace windows in the program wing and offices

- Upper Floor
 - UAH (Upper Assembly Hall)
 - seating—pews, chairs, or a combination, with storage options
 - flooring replacement
 - stage accessibility
 - update audio-visual equipment
 - Connections among the UAH, the Dietrich Room, the courtyard, and Lowry Park, including landscaping
 - Mount Curve Entrance - location, doors, artwork
 - Dietrich Room: varying uses, access, windows and doors, kitchen update, acoustics improvement
 - Elevator location and adjoining spaces

- Gallery/Upper Hallway acoustics improvement
- Library updates to increase flexibility of uses

- Lower Floor
 - LAH (Lower Assembly Hall)
 - acoustics improvement
 - aesthetics updates
 - consider removing stage
 - Improvements to spaces near LAH, including hallway
 - Bookstore location
 - Chalice Room aesthetic updates
 - Upgrade patio and exterior space, landscaping
 - New outdoor playground within landscape design, natural play area

- Groveland Entrance
 - A strong visual presence and aesthetic updates
 - An accessible route to the Upper Floor
 - Improved connection to the Walker parking garage and park
 - Possible elevator
 - Walkway to LAH patio

The architects' plans and the fundraising campaign will affect the possibility of implementing these suggestions.

Next Steps

The architects have studied the input from FUS members and staff. They are moving forward with preliminary designs, which they will present to the Capital Campaign Steering Committee in December.

On Sundays in January, members can ask questions during Social Hour at the Capital Campaign table.

On Sunday, January 31st, the architects will present their designs to the congregation at the Forum. On February 14, members will have an opportunity for Q&A with the architect.

On Sunday, February 21st, FUS members will vote on whether to proceed with the Capital Campaign.