CLC User Group Program Notes Disclaimer

These notes identify CLC Master Plan programming as heard and documented by the Master Plan Programming Team at Holabird & Root LLC. They are by nature interpretive and do not represent any direct quotes or opinions by any of the interviewees or user groups.

Date of Meeting
December 03, 2019

Committee Participants
- Lina Brandonisio
- JoHaan Cotton-Wilson
- Richard Maghirang
- Paul McNulty
- Gabe Nye
- Jesus Ruiz
- Emilia Scott
- David Weatherspoon

Questions
Participants were asked to respond to the following questions. Responses are encapsulated below each question.

Q1 What makes CLC CLC?
- The people – students / staff / faculty (warm, shared drive & purpose).
- Working at CLC (esp. Lakeshore) is close-knit ‘family’.
- Looking forward to the new building.
- Unique institution in Lake County – CLC engages all populations in the County:
  - Very young through aged.
  - Serves as a ‘front door’ for immigrant community (Latino, African American, etc.)
  - CLC is a hub for upward mobility.
- Setting at Lakeshore is embedded in the community and it is in some ways ‘THE Community College’ of CLC.

Q2 What is essential to the college that must remain the same?
- High percentage of adult learners.
- Engagement with community.

Q3 What aspect(s) of the college must change to move CLC toward its goals?
- Seek to create a new perception of Waukegan and the Lakeshore Campus as safe and welcoming.
- At Lakeshore, there is a need to integrate the Facilities department better into the campus community, which will in turn assist to clarify priorities for Facilities.
- Additional support staff is needed at Lakeshore.
- Office for Students with Disabilities:
  - Provide mental health spaces for decompression.
  - Needs to be open & available at all times.
LAKESHORE CAMPUS

- Aim to better engage non-traditional students to participate in student life and to have the college experience:
  - To date CLC has endeavored to create at least one space in each building at Lakeshore Campus, which have been implemented with mixed successes / challenges.
  - May consider empowering students to ‘claim’ spaces by making them more flexible and equipped with technology.

Q4 How can CLC be more welcoming and inclusionary?
- Provide more flexible and informal gathering spaces.
- Relocate the student gathering / hangout space to be more central.

Q5 What role do you see your department / focus area playing in the future? How does your future role differ from your departmental / focus area role today?

Q6 What facility / space needs does your department have now and what might your department need in the future?
- All classrooms should be of equivalent quality regardless of specific needs.
- More space is needed at Reception.
- More space is needed at Student Services, which also needs to be more centrally located. This area tends to be the central focus of the campus. Services include financial aid, payment for testing, registration, etc.
- The new building will become a new face / new entrance for the campus, and its design should include a reception / welcome area for the community.
- Create a loading area, which will be especially useful for mechatronics equipment.
- Improve facilities to be fully and universally accessible.
- Add space for professional development.
- Add a health center.
- Create an athletics center.
- Create a cafeteria.
- Create informal gathering spaces.

Q7 What maintenance and sustainability components should be considered beyond the Sustainability Plan?
- Create an outdoor ‘park’ space for educational programming and community engagement which could include a community garden / playground / etc.

Q8 What role do you need technology to play at CLC and what kinds of technology do you need now and in the future?
- Computer labs are in high demand. The campus would benefit from versatile classrooms that have computers.
- Faculty / staff need portable electronic devices provided by the college.
- Remove barriers to IT – including:
  - Improve connectivity of personal devices to printers (wirelessly).
  - Enable internal calling between departments.
- The Tutoring Center sees students taking hybrid and online classes with their own devices.

Q9 What tools, spaces, technology, support, etc. do you need to facilitate more or better interaction and collaboration with students, faculty, staff, and administration in the future?
LAKESHORE CAMPUS

a. Active classrooms with moveable / flexible furniture are highly successful – Lakeshore Campus students and faculty would benefit from more of these types of spaces.
b. Electronic technology integrated in furniture is a must.
c. Provide outdoor spaces with food / drink.
d. Create informal / flexible gathering spaces with food / drink.
e. Need staff flex space / hoteling space – the current staff lounge is not sufficient for reasons of privacy.
f. Need conference rooms – there are no conference spaces on Lakeshore campus.

Q10 How do you interact with the other campuses now? How do you want to interact with these CLC locations in the future?

Q11 How do you interact with the Lake County community and workforce now? How do you want to interact with these groups in the future?

- Goal is to provide access for those on fixed incomes – proximity to minority and low income populations is key.
- Use Waukegan Theater for events.
- Engage City Hall.
- Homeless people seek refuge in campus buildings.
- Need a dedicated space to convene 200 – 300 people for programming, general lecture, events, all-staff meetings, etc.
- Use Genesee Theater for one major program – ‘Salute to the Gospel.’
- Need welcoming spaces for community connections.
- Workforce development:
  - There is a grant to enhance this facility.
  - Collaborate with the Jobs Center
  - Workforce development events are held on campus – job fairs occur several times a year.

Other Discussion:

- Safety / Security:
  - Faculty have no sense of fear coming into Waukegan. They understand homelessness not as dangerous but as a predicament. The perception of danger is caused by simple ignorance. Empty buildings contribute to this perception as well. The slow progress of the bookstore renovation may also contribute to this perception on campus.
  - Statistically Lakeshore is the safest of the three CLC campuses.
  - Safety and security is not an issue for those who know the campus.
- Windows into classrooms support visible learning, which is a good thing. Windows enable the community to observe faces of students engaged in learning.