



**UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON  
Campus Facilities Planning Committee  
Request for Project Approval Form**

1. **Project Number**
2. **Project Name** **Lance T. Funston  
Communication Center at the  
Jack J. Valenti School of  
Communication**
3. **Committee Date** **May 19, 2010**
4. **Requesting Department** **School of Communication**
5. **Contact Name & Phone Number** **Dr. Beth Olson, x3-2881**
6. **Presenter:** **Richard Keating, John Thoreen  
Jacobs / Keating**
7. **Description of Request**

This agenda item seeks approval of the elevations, signage, and exterior material palette for the Valenti addition, which comprises a new studio with support space, and a new entry.

**Background Information:**

In April of 2009, the Campus Facilities Planning Committee, reviewed and approved a site plan submitted by the School of Communication which added approximately 5000 square feet to the northeast corner and east wall of the School of Communication building.

The new studio, classroom, entry, and reconfigured interior space addressed as part of this addition are responses to sizeable space shortages within the school, poor interior circulation and lack of “front door,” deficient studio space, and compromised functionality resulting from prior renovations in the building.

## **Description**

By re-working some of the recently renovated space, the architect was able to reduce the amount of new construction and achieve more of the desired program within one phase, rather than the expected two or more phases.

New studio and support space make up the bulk of the approximately 3500 SF of new construction. Approximately 15,500 SF within the School have been repurposed and renovated for office, classroom, and lobby space.

The Funston Addition draws from the campus material palette for its selection of exterior materials. The mass of the studio, the most prominent feature of the project, is in buff brick, the pale color of which contrasts attractively with the tan brick of the existing building and bridges to the kindred color of the limestone entry at the neighboring CW Mitchell wing. This is the same brick used on numerous other UH projects including Calhoun Lofts, Cemo Hall, Cougar Village, Central Utilities Plant Expansion, Fleming Addition and the Recreation Wellness Building.

The Funston Addition also incorporates limestone similar to the Mitchell portion of the building. This limestone is from the same quarry as the original UH buildings and is the same limestone used on Calhoun Lofts, Fleming Addition, M D Anderson Addition and other projects.

A tall “band” of metal panels wraps across the front North side and east side of the building. These panels economically complement the zinc galvanized panel at CW Mitchell and are in a similar color. Glass in the Funston Addition is similar to glass utilized on the Mitchell addition of this building.

Finally the south side of the Studio incorporates “Greencrete”, a screen material that allows planting to grow up and envelope this side of the building. This material provides a “green” aspect to the building, softens the overall building mass and is the same material and treatment utilized on both the north and west sides of the East Parking Garage.

<b>8.</b>	<b>Cost of Project</b>	<b>\$3,000,000</b>
<b>9.</b>	<b>Source of Funding:</b>	<b>Gifts</b>
<b>10.</b>	<b>Proposed Start Date:</b>	<b>Upon approval</b>

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Spencer Moore  
Executive Director  
Facilities Planning & Construction

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Attachments



Voting Results:

Motion Failed

Motion Passed

Motion Passed with the Following Modifications:

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Motion Deferred to a Future Meeting Pending Receipt of Additional Information:

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