

Planning for leadership

■ Becoming one of the nation's leaders in planning and development, the University seeks to be more sustainable

By Jeff DeMoss
For the Emerald

The Campus Planning Committee has adopted a Sustainable Development Pattern amendment to the University's Long Range Campus Development Plan, the policy framework that guides all building and other development-related activity on campus.

In addition to that action, the CPC has also requested funding for a new administrative position, designed to help with planning and development compliance issues.

The committee, at a conference held Wednesday through Friday, discussed ways of conducting sustainable campus development, an approach that emphasizes environmentally friendly techniques and conservation of limited resources.

Committee members addressed features that make a college campus more sustainable, including

recycling programs and energy-efficient buildings. Following those practices on campus can mean a variety of benefits, including long-term cost savings and cleaner air.

The first major action taken was the adoption of a Sustainable Development Pattern amendment to the University's Long Range Campus Development Plan, the policy framework that guides all building and other development-related activity on campus.

While the plan does address energy conservation, the committee determined last year that it needed updating to emphasize relatively new methods of sustainable practice, such as alternative energy sources.

The Development, Policy, Implementation and Transportation Subcommittee of the planning committee began drafting the development pattern last year. After researching developmental policies from other universities and gathering input from University faculty, students and staff, the subcommittee compiled the amendment.

The development pattern, if effectively implemented, will place the University among the national leaders in sustainable development on campus, according to the CPC.

"We decided that it was important for the University to play a leadership role in this area," said Dean Livelybrooks, chair of the DPIT Subcommittee and a physics instructor at the University.

Livelybrooks said the idea for the amendment was sparked when someone noticed that the roof over the new tennis courts might be a good place to put solar panels. He believes that such ideas — using space that is already available to increase campus sustainability and reduce costs — are crucial to the success of the development pattern, since the up-front costs of its policies can seem high, particularly to potential critics of the plan.

However, Livelybrooks is convinced that the development plan will save the University money in the long run.

"The initial cost of implementation is public consciousness, sentiment and policy."

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Chad Smith

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fessors and students to area Cherokee people.

Smith opened his speech by referencing Monday, Oct. 9 as Columbus Day.

"I'm clueless, folks," Smith said. "Why do we celebrate the arrival of a man who is as lost in American history as a man can be?"

Smith went on to speak about the use of mascots, nicknames, symbols and stereotypes of Native Americans on display in American society.

"What it comes down to is that those who use mascots say they use them to honor Indians," he said. "I have very little tolerance that they are doing this out of respect."

Smith said the use of redskins and Braves as mascots perpetuates inaccurate images of Native Americans to the American public.

Smith also referenced the 1940s release of Peter Pan, where the wild boys meet the Indians.

Smith said that scene leaves the wrong impression about Native American culture with viewers.

"It is so ingrained in the American psyche that they know nothing else," Smith said.

But Smith said he has goals to re-educate people and provide better opportunities for his own children and the children of the Cherokee Nation.

Smith holds a bachelor's degree

in education from the University of Georgia, a master's degree in public administration from the University of Wisconsin and a doctorate in law from the University of Tulsa. He is a professor of Indian

“As a Chief, he is one of those rare souls who combines understanding of the Cherokee tradition, tribal language and history with a very sophisticated understanding of modern business, government and culture. [Smith] is an exemplar of how one can, through education and good communication, make a contribution to life.”

Rennard Strickland
Knight Law Center
Dean

Law at Dartmouth College.

Smith said he sees law as a tool to effect social change. He has a legal background in cases designed to protect and expand the sovereignty of the Cherokee Nation.

"Our sovereignty exists at the will of the American government," Smith said. "The thing that im-

pedes this is public consciousness, sentiment and policy."

DeSoto, a NALSA member and 3rd year law student, attended a meeting between the area Cherokee people and Smith on Monday afternoon.

"[Smith] talked about Native Americans in higher education and being able to integrate our culture into our education," said DeSoto. "[Smith] seems to be really concerned with maintaining the cultural legacy. In his view, the Cherokee culture is in danger because there are fewer native speakers of the Cherokee language. He said we are one generation away from losing everything."

The Dean of the Knight Law Center, Rennard Strickland, whose heritage comes from the Osage and Cherokee tribes, was an active supporter of Smith's campaign to become principal chief. When Smith was appointed to his position last July in a landslide victory, Strickland spoke at his installation.

"As a Chief, he is one of those rare souls who combines understanding of the Cherokee tradition, tribal language and history with a very sophisticated understanding of modern business, government and culture," Strickland said. "[Smith] is an exemplar of how one can, through education and good communication, make a contribution to life."

The presentation was hosted by University President Dave Frohn-mayer, the School of Law and NALSA.



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