

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

M I N U T E S

Meeting of the Buildings and Grounds Committee

December 3, 1987

Princeton, New Jersey

Present: Messrs. Brown, Goldberger and Mostow. Also Mrs. Labalme and Mr. Rowe.

Absent: Mr. Taplin.

ECP Problem: Dr. Goldberger opened the meeting by reviewing the problem of the mathematicians in the ECP building. They were isolated from the rest of the School and from the School of Mathematics Faculty, to their sense of detriment and to the loss of the collegial exchange so necessary to the mathematical process. This problem had been too long postponed and deserved resolution.

Certain assumptions were being made in the search for a solution. These were that the present plan to combine the two libraries would go forward, that the number of visiting members in all the Schools would remain about the same, as would the staff, that there might be a slight increase in Faculty size.

Solution I: One possible solution had been explored at some length. This was the idea of moving all the emeriti to buildings A and B, moving the School of Natural Sciences and the School of Historical Studies out of Fuld Hall, and turning over Fuld Hall to the mathematicians.

The principal difficulties with this solution were the certain distress this would cause to the emeriti and some of the Faculty who anticipated their own future disruption when they retired, and the fact that such a rearrangement was a shoe-horn operation, resulting in a very tight fit and allowing no future flexibility of space.

Solution II:

The second solution explored was the possibility of new construction which would link up Buildings C and E and secure, through this connecting structure, about 10,000 additional square feet plus about 5000 square feet in a large basement. The basement area could be used for an enlarged computer operation.

The ECP building then might be converted to condominium use which would make it financially independent.

Financing:

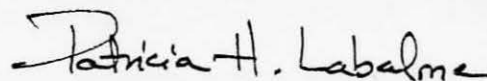
The critical issue in any new construction is that of resources. There are foundations which will give to buildings without insisting that their names be attached. There is also the Educational Facilities Act which might permit the floating of a small bond issue. Trustees together with Trustee connections might also make significant contributions.

One caveat to remember was that any reconstruction of an old building, as would have to be done with Buildings C and E, involved the application of new codes which might be very expensive. In this case, it might be better to build a free-standing structure which could be attached to the old buildings without involving their reconstruction.

A number of other issues were raised and discussed: the need to find Marshall Clagett a new office if the refurbished Library took over his present space; the relocation of the Library space now occupied by the American School in Athens; the new library technology which encouraged the use of video-disks rather than books.

The Committee agreed to continue to explore the idea of new construction to resolve the ECP situation.

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia H. Labalme
Secretary of the Corporation