The Campus Planning and Development Committee met twice during the year, once on Nov. 13 and then on April 2. This year, a new format was introduced, wherein the committee requested a detailed briefing from Linda Snyder, Vice President of Operations, and Lois Stanley, Director of Campus Planning, for circulation ahead of the meeting. That allowed committee members to review the documents before the meeting, so that meeting time could be used more efficiently for questions and general discussion. The committee was very grateful to Linda and Lois for honoring this request, and we hope to continue this format in the future. The committee co-chairs also requested that Operations consider a “rapid response consultation” with the committee, outside formal meeting times, for input on new capital projects or ideas. Such a “rapid response” would be provided by those committee members able to convene or to email responses. While we all realize that the large scale budget decisions require input from diverse constituencies, we also feel that faculty committees should serve as sounding boards and advisors in planning decisions, rather than simply receiving reports of ongoing projects ex post facto.

One topic of great concern that was discussed at both meetings is the impact of the Green Line Extension on student housing off campus. Tufts currently operates essentially as a 2-year residential program, with the majority of students either studying abroad or living off campus for their last two years. Availability and affordability of off campus housing in surrounding neighborhoods will change drastically in the near future based on the Green Line extension, and the committee voiced the fear that students with limited means would soon be forced to live at an inconvenient distance from campus. It was suggested that some of the wood-frame houses that currently serve administrative programs could be converted to student housing, but requirements to meet universal access standards may prohibit this conversion. Graduate education will also be threatened by the loss of affordable housing near campus.

Other discussions included the disparity between the new high-tech systems being designed for projects such as the SEC, the Central Energy Plant, and 574 Boston Ave. and our ability to maintain and service these systems. Operation and maintenance of the new Central Energy Plant is scheduled to be outsourced. The development of in-house capacity to manage high-tech, sustainable systems is an area of concern.

Redevelopment of the area around the new Green Line Station was discussed during a visit of UEP students who were commissioned by the Sustainability Office to plan for better access to the station plaza. Concerns included pedestrian and bicycle safety, universal access, and the “face” of the university that would be presented to those arriving at the new T stop.

Learning space design is another target area for near-term planning. With the impending renovation of Barnum after Biology is relocated to the new SEC, two major lecture spaces will be lost. The design of most campus teaching spaces does not suit modern methods for active
learning. Space within residence halls for group work, co-curricular projects, etc. is difficult to arrange, and independent project labs are nonexistent. Future planning should integrate academic and residential experiences for students in a more significant way.

For the Committee: Justin Hollander (UEP) and Juliet Fuhrman (Biology)

**Faculty Members:**
Clay Bennett, Chemistry
Jane Bernstein, Music
David Feldman, Child Development
Hugh Gallagher, Physics and Astronomy
Mary Glaser, Math
Anna Hardman, Economics
John Mulligan, Drama and Dance
Donna Slonim, Computer Science
Reed Ueda, History
Jeffrey Zabel, Economics

**Student Members:**
Charles Kelly
Jack Eidson
Clinton Perry

**Ex Officio Members:**
Linda Abriola, Dean, School of Engineering
James Glaser, Dean, A&S
Yolanda King, Dir/Residential Life
May Pat McMahon, Dean/Student Affairs
Barbara Rubel, Dir/Community Relations