

## **Campus Beautification and Preservation Committee December 2019 Report**

**Chair: Carrie Nordlund**

During the fall 2019 semester, the Campus Beautification and Preservation Committee met monthly to discuss topics and queries that emerged from faculty and staff campus emails and were brought forward from the representative members of varied colleges and divisions. Our discussions primarily centered on the following: (1) Facilities– lantern fly processes, denial and prioritization of work orders, weed control applications and environmental sustainability consciousness/practices; (2) Committee Responsibilities– by-law review, balances between campus aesthetics and safety; and (3) KU galleries and collections– complexities of donations, lack of budget/support to accomplish needs (e.g. framing, repair/restoration, storage/preservation, etc.), archiving vs discarding works, insurance and appraisal issues, theft of works, installation of new works.

The following tasks were accomplished by the committee this fall semester: (1) obtained signage for research site between Boehm and Grim; (2) inspected lighting outside Boehm; (3) requested future notices of tree removals and (4) requested Facilities to resolve safety concern of Sharadin building door opening into A8 parking lot (scheduled summer 2020).

From our meetings we would kindly request Senate to help communicate to faculty and staff as well as support the following:

- Senate may solicit queries for the Campus Beautification and Preservation Committee. Comments and concerns are welcomed.
- Facilities is having to carefully prioritize their work due to lack of budget and personnel. Campus messages sent in email can seem really negative to Facilities members. Senate discussions and actions may be a more productive process.
- KUs art collection was registered in the past and such outcomes are currently listed in a spreadsheet on ehive. Senate could assist and support by announcing to stakeholders the following: (1) obtaining works of art and maintaining them is a complex process that needs budget and personnel support and (2) all artworks within campus spaces and offices should be monitored with any removals, additions, and/or movement of collections communicated in advance to Karen Stanford in the Miller Gallery. When the origins and history of works of art on campus are unclear, then Karen Stanford should be consulted. Works in offices that are changing hands should be monitored.

In the spirit of collaboration, the committee has worked well together. Our future agenda will consider drafting a statement on the sustainability of outdoor beauty (e.g. weed control). We will also look towards a review of the mission for how campus spaces are managed and will seek delineations in the University Master Plan.