



CAMPUS BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE  
KUTZTOWN UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

**Date:** April 14, 2009

**Action Item:** Lytle Courtyard Reopening and Rehabilitation:

We recommend that the Lytle courtyard be reopened and landscaped. It is a valuable space that is presently going to waste since it is not being utilised, it is an eyesore with concrete covering approximately 90% of the ground, it has potential to be a peaceful respite area for faculty, staff, and students (especially those who work or have class in Lytle Hall)<sup>1</sup>

Dr. McLoughlin, Dr. Mahosky & Dr. Kackley volunteered to coordinate the creation of making the space into a peaceful 'zen' garden with help from students. Dr. Kackley is an expert in plant biology; Dr. Mahosky is an expert in art; and, Dr. McLoughlin loves to garden.

We request that the Lytle courtyard landscape plan be developed by our committee with input from all (especially from members of the Department of Mathematics, the Department of English, and the Department of History which are housed in Lytle Hall) and direction by Mr. Will Meeker, Dr. McLoughlin, Dr. Mahosky & Dr. Kackley. We would like to keep the four Japanese maples and one cedar tree, we would like to break-up the concrete around the trees and near the building so that there is a small central sitting area. We would like to mimick the round central sitting area like the sitting area in the Stratton courtyard garden (with seating 'organically' situated). We request the project require minimal upkeep, have some plants included that fit within a theme of a Japanese tea garden; and include places to sit (which may include side seating areas rather than a central seating area). We also are interested in making the courtyard into a place worthy of an outside venue for student display of art. Moreover, we recommend the project be commiserate with respecting the view of the occupants of inner offices facing the courtyard.

**We therefore recommend that the Lytle courtyard be reopened and landscaped and that the Lytle courtyard project be made a project designated by the Administrative Council as a project worthy of being funded and be reopened by Spring semester of 2011.** We believe that time-line would allow for planning the space to be completed and for the Administrative Council to debate the worth (or lack thereof) of the project and seek input from constituent groups on campus. If revisions to this proposal are necessary, then such a time-line would allow for the proposal to be sent back to the Campus Beautification Committee for review, revision, and resubmission.

**Motion to approve this project and forward it to the Administrative Council and to the University Senate.**

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<sup>1</sup>Since Lytle isn't being torn down it seems that with a minimal amount of effort we (the Kutztown University family) can create a space that would add positively to the university.