Approval, funds’ needed for building design

“Design will not start until the project is approved and funds have been identified,” Willett said.

A steering committee has been established to make decisions pertaining to the fine and performing arts center.

“Consensus of the committee developing the project is that the corner of California and 23rd streets, where Markoe Hall is now, would be the best location with the front of the building facing northwest,” Willett said. Markoe Hall would be torn down.

“The proposed fine and performing arts center is being planned to provide space for the performing arts, visual arts, theater, music, dance, painting, life drawing, photography, printmaking, sculpture, ceramics and art history,” Willett said.

There will also be gallery, lobby, theater, classroom and office space.

“Funds will come from gifts,” he said. “The Development Office has the fine and performing arts building high on its list of priorities. Development will identify the funding sources, and the use of those funds will be approved by the university’s Board of Directors.”

“The target cost is $10 million. The space requirements identified at this time are driving the costs somewhat higher, therefore the steering committee is searching for some areas to reduce cost,” Willett said.

“Hardy, Holzman and Pfeiffer Associates were chosen from other architects by a selection process which included review of each firm’s experience and presentation of their work,” he said. “The firm with the most experience in the fine arts field was chosen. Much of the professional support will be provided by local firms.”