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Faculty Senate Resolution Regarding Gulf Park Hardy Hall

USM Faculty Senate

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Faculty Senate Resolution Regarding the Hardy Hall Auditorium June 10, 2005

Hardy Hall Auditorium is a large, open multipurpose room which looks out over the Mississippi Sound. Currently, much of the Hardy Hall Auditorium is slated to be converted into a bookstore.

For the following reasons, the USM Faculty Senate resolves that plans for the conversion of the Hardy Hall Auditorium into a bookstore be halted.

1. Hardy Hall Auditorium is an excellent location for large meetings and get-togethers. Unlike the AEC Auditorium, Hardy Hall Auditorium has a flat floor without fixed seats, making it adaptable for large or small conferences, luncheons, award ceremonies and meetings. A similar space does not exist on the Gulf Park campus.
2. The Hardy Hall Auditorium has excellent acoustics and is amenable as a venue for plays, recitals, concerts, and other similar programs. Its use in fine arts activities also enhances the importance of the USM Gulf Park campus as a link to the coast community. For example, the USM Gulf Coast Civic Chorale uses this auditorium for concerts.

The modification of the Hardy Hall Auditorium into a bookstore will make it unusable for the purposes listed above. The Faculty Senate therefore resolves that the USM administration halt the conversion of the Auditorium into a bookstore. We recommend that a portable (modular) building be rented or another space used until a more permanent bookstore is built.