

University Council Committee on Facilities Annual Report 2016 - 2017

Chair: Masao Sako, Department of Physics and Astronomy

General Committee Charge

The Committee on Facilities shall be responsible for keeping under review the planning and operation by the University of its physical plant and all services associated therewith, including transportation and parking.

2016 - 2017 Specific Charges

1. Continue to monitor bicycle plan, including its role as part of Penn's overall commuting and parking programs.
2. Continue discussion of efforts to reduce smoking on campus and expanding no smoking zones on campus.
3. Continue to follow up on the issues related to Active Learning classrooms.
4. Joint Charge with the Committee on Campus and Community Life (CCL) - Examine the Riverfront Development plans to identify untapped opportunities for improving housing, safety, or community engagement opportunities.
5. Monitor the progress of the *Climate Action Plan 2.0*.
6. Review and discuss this Committee's general charge and identify two or three issues that should be given the highest priority for the committee's work in academic year 2017-18.

The Committee met a total of six times over the October – February period and representatives gave presentations on the respective charges. One of the meetings was held jointly with CCL to discuss Riverfront Development plans.

Each charge is discussed below, followed by the Committee's recommendations related to that charge.

1. Bicycle, Commuting, and Parking Programs

There were two meetings devoted to this charge. In the first meeting on October 13, 2016, the Committee welcomed Brian Manthe, Director of Business Services, who gave an overview of biking, parking, and transportation at Penn. The second meeting scheduled for February 9, 2017 was cancelled due to weather. PowerPoint slides for the planned presentation by Chloe

Cerwinka, Landscape Planner from Facilities and Real Estate Services (FRES), were distributed instead and the Committee responded with comments and questions through email exchange.

The bike infrastructure has been growing and will continue to grow, building on collaboration between FRES, Business Services, and Public Safety, advised by an even more broadly representative University Bike Committee. There is now an additional bike repair station at 34th and Chestnut Street, several new bike corrals have been added, and there are protected bike racks in the garage at 34th and Chestnut Streets. The bike parking will continue to expand, both inside and outside of garages. There is a new Bike Commuter Expense Reimbursement Program that allows commuters by bike to submit expenses up to \$240/year beginning in tax year 2017. Eligible participants must have commuted by bicycle over 50% during any given month, but can use SEPTA in the winter months, for example. An additional Philadelphia Bike Share station will be added near the Vet School. There will be another Bike to Work at Penn Day on May 19, 2017.

The City has received funding from the state Multimodal Transportation Fund for Phase 1 of calming Chestnut St from 34th – 45th Streets and is moving forward on the City Council legislation process as well as design, outreach and stakeholder coordination. They intend to remove one of the three driving lanes for traffic calming, move the bike lane to the left side to avoid bus conflicts, and establish a parking-protected bike lane. The City is also coordinating with PennDot to relocate the existing right side bike lane east of 34th St to the left side in conjunction with the Chestnut St Bridge replacement project. Penn is closely monitoring these developments, and maintains direct contact with the City about them.

The parking garages at Penn continue to get facility upgrades and renovations. The elevators in the garages will be renovated in the next three years. The Penn Buses are upgraded and include bike racks on every bus, and are all ADA compliant. There is a new FMC shuttle and the Pennovation Works shuttle has been expanded. A pilot SEPTA@Penn Transportation Center will be set up in the back of the Penn Bookstore this Fall. Staff will be available to answer questions and tokens will be sold here.

Recommendations: The Committee is impressed with the many new efforts that encourage use of bikes and public transportation. We recommend continued cooperation with the City, which is aggressively pursuing new initiatives to improve bike accessibility.

2. Efforts to reduce smoking on campus

Ashlee Halbritter, Director of Campus Health, and Chris Hyson, Senior Health and Wellness Specialist from Human Resources, spoke to the Committee on January 24, 2017 about the initiatives to make Penn a tobacco-free campus. The Surgeon General has recommended that campuses should be a priority to become tobacco free. Frank Leone chaired a committee from January 2014 to July 2014 to research how to make this happen, and to develop implementation recommendations. The Committee determined that the approach should be one of a culture change, with respect for choices and not demand. In September 2015, Human Resources broadened the policy to include outdoor spaces as well as indoor spaces. The University added

no smoking signs to 15 campus maps and to 50 of the directional blade signs throughout campus and at specific outdoor spaces such as Penn Park, Kane Park, and Shoemaker Green. A brochure was developed with resources for Penn staff, faculty, students, as well as University contractors. Communications efforts have been made through student groups, flyers, Penn@Work, and Penn News.

This year, Penn, specifically the Division of Human Resources and Campus Health and Student Health Services, received a grant from the American Cancer Society and CVS for \$20,000 to continue implementation of the program. The money will be spent on communications, additional signage, and an urn removal pilot program. The urn removal pilot will study the effects of removing the ash cans from four locations on campus for approximately eight weeks. Currently about 1% of student are daily smokers, however 25% are considered social smokers. Metrics will be used through an annual student national survey, counselor sessions, participation in the tobacco cessation program and the Be In the Know program that is administered by the Division of Human Resources.

Recommendations: Continue with ongoing programs and initiatives. The Committee will monitor the outcome of the urn removal program and how the initiative continues to be communicated.

3. Issues related to Active Learning Classrooms

On December 8, 2016, the Committee welcomed John MacDermott from SAS Computing and Jeff Douthett from Classroom Technology Services on December 8, who gave a comprehensive history and overview of active learning classrooms at Penn. In May 2013, the University's first such classroom, Vagelos 2000, 42-seat capacity, was created and is managed by the Chemistry Department, which continues to manage it. In Summer 2013, the Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) developed a SAIL (structured, active, in-class learning) program that helped train faculty to teach in these rooms and provided consultation as needed. During the Fall of 2013, some classes were taught in the active learning style but without a proper classroom. In January 2014 ARCH 208, 56-seat capacity (central-pool classroom) became available as a new multipurpose space and active learning classroom. In Spring 2014, the Van Pelt Collaborative Classroom, 30-seat capacity, was added followed in the Fall 2014 by DRL 3N1H, 60-seat capacity (central pool) and in the Summer 2015 Towne 217, 90-seat capacity, managed by Penn Engineering. In the Fall 2015, another central-pool classroom was added, DRL A5, 72-seat capacity. In order to create DRL A5, two central-pool classrooms (formally A5 and A7) were combined to make one active learning room. In Fall 2016, a new room in the Levin Building, 72-seat capacity, managed by SAS was added, and in the Spring 2017 Wharton will add a mixed-use room.

The technology varies between these rooms and they have varying success rates (based on faculty and student feedback), but are generally being highly used throughout the week. Usage continues to increase and John MacDermott helps faculty find the right fit for their classroom and timeframe. They ask for requests for active learning spaces a few weeks before they are normally due so that the times that the classes are given can be adjusted to accommodate as

many classes as possible. The longitudinal study to measure the success of these classrooms is still pending. The number of departments who want access to a larger (~120 seat capacity) active learning room is growing rapidly. Current central pool classrooms cannot be used to create one. The central pool classrooms are needed for block schedules and are currently occupied more than 90% of the time. Faculty and staff in DRL also expressed their concerns about lack of access to their active-learning classrooms during off hours during which the rooms are locked.

Recommendations: Explore the possibility of creating a new 100+ capacity room. The Committee commends the critical roles taken by Classroom Technology Services and SAS Computing for overseeing the construction of the new SAIL classrooms, as well as CTL in bringing faculty together to discuss new and innovative pedagogical methods and their assessment strategies. The Committee feels further communication about CTL's programming would benefit both faculty and students. We also recommend a study to explore ways to allow access to the central pool active-learning classrooms during off hours.

4. Joint with CCL - Examine the Riverfront Development plans

At the joint meeting with CCL on January 23, 2017, David Hollenberg, Mark Kocent, and Tony Sorrentino presented to the Committees how our University is involved in surrounding City projects, how the *Penn Connects* Plan interacts with the City, and the work that is happening at Pennovation. At the root of our campus plan, *Penn Connects*, is the intention to connect Penn to Philadelphia. Many projects have been completed since 2009, including large scale City and private driven development surrounding campus.. Those projects include Cira Centre South comprised of the FMC Tower, Cira Garage and Green, and EVO, spanning 30th Street between Walnut and Chestnut Streets. In addition, projects that are beyond *Penn Connects* but with which Penn is involved include the 30th Street Station District Plan, created by a large number of stakeholders including Amtrak, Septa, Drexel, PennDOT, and Brandywine Realty Trust; Schuylkill Yards with Drexel and Brandywine Realty Trust; uCity Square with the University City Science Center and Wexford Science and Technology..

Pennovation Works is a University initiative that is located on the former site of DuPont Chemistry Labs, on the edge of Philadelphia's Grays Ferry neighborhood.. Penn has invested in this area by creating Pennovation Works and Center, but also by extending the mortgage incentive program to include these boundaries. There are both Penn – including Transportation and PennVet Working Dog Center, and non-Penn tenants located at the Works. The centerpiece of the Works is the Pennovation Center, home to the Penn Engineering Research and Collaboration Hub (PERCH) lab, co-working space, laboratories and inventor garages. The entire complex is intended to be a site for innovation and business incubation, often coming out of academic research at Penn.

An overview of recent *Penn Connects* projects located at the perimeter or critical intersections of campus was presented. It is important to note that we do not have hard physical boundaries to our campus, but rather include the City grid in our campus with a porous edge. Such projects include the Levin Building at 38th & Woodland Walk; Perry World House at 38th & Locust

Walk; New College House at 34th & Chestnut Streets; Hill College House Renovation at 34th & Walnut Streets; and Perelman Center for Political Science and Economics at 36th & Walnut Streets. The University has also been investing in deferred maintenance and energy savings projects through the century bond program by replacing lighting and HVAC systems. Everything in Phases 1 and 2 of the *Penn Connects* plan has come to fruition to date.

Mark Kocent gave an overview on recent *Penn Connects* projects and new classrooms included. Recently opened buildings include: Levin Building with a 180-person central pool auditorium, an active learning classroom, and additional classrooms and teaching laboratories; Perry World House with a central pool classroom and additional lecture room; New College House with two seminar rooms; Pennovation Center with event and seminar space. Opening in the next year are the Perelman Center for Political Science and Economics with a forum, seminar rooms, and classrooms, and the renovation of Hill College House which will have seminar rooms. Additional upcoming projects include a renovation within the University Museum, Ringe Squash replacement, new Wharton academic building and substation replacement, century bond investments, Pennovation Works investments, New Patient Pavilion, and the Center for Healthcare Technology.

Recommendations: Continue with ongoing programs and initiatives. The Committee recommends a study to improve access for pedestrians and cyclists to Pennovation Works.

5. Monitor the progress of the Climate Action Plan 2.0

Dan Garofalo, Director of Sustainability, provided an overview and update to the Climate Action Plan on November 10, 2017. The sustainability initiative started with President Gutmann signing the Presidents Climate Committee in 2007, which initiated the creation of the Climate Action Plan completed in 2009. In 2012 Penn committed to carbon neutrality by 2042 and in 2014 Climate Action Plan 2.0 was initiated. FRES works with other Divisions, students, and groups on campus to create and execute the Climate Action Plan, and the FRES team monitors, tracks, and reports on the progress of the Plan and runs the outreach and engagement component. There are seven initiatives within the Climate Action Plan: Operations and Utilities; Waste Minimization; Purchasing; Physical Environment; Transportation; Academics; Outreach and Engagement.

The presentation largely focused on the physical environment piece as that most closely relates to the charges of the Committee. The goals include a 7% energy reduction and a 10% carbon reduction by 2019, projects over \$5 million will target a minimum of LEED Silver certification, the creation of Green Guidelines for Renovations, Stormwater Masterplan, LEED Credit Bank, and the creation of an Ecological Stewardship Landscape Plan. In Climate Action 2.0, the boundaries for monitoring the carbon footprint of the University have been expanded to include the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Morris Arboretum, and the New Bolton Center. There are also goals for leased space and real estate projects on campus. There are sustainability coordinators and eco reps in all of the Schools and Centers, Green Office and Green Living Certifications, as well as the Green Fund Grant program that provides seed money to students, staff, or faculty with new ideas about making the campus more sustainable.

Recommendations: Climate Action Plan 2.0 has made tremendous progress through its first 2.5 years of the 5-year program. The Committee will continue to monitor ongoing programs and initiatives over the remaining 2.5 years.

6. Review and discuss this Committee's general charge and identify two or three issues that should be given the highest priority for the committee's work in academic year 2017-18.

- Continue to monitor the bicycle, commuting, and parking program.
- Continue to follow up on issues related to Active Learning classrooms.
- Continue to monitor tobacco-free initiatives on campus, including the urn removal project.
- Receive updates on Penn Connects initiatives and Climate Action Plan 2.0.
- Study and investigate the history and progress of gender-neutral restrooms on campus.