

2018 - 2019
Report of the University Council Committee on Facilities
April 8, 2019

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Chair:	Michael McGarvey
Faculty:	William Braham Erick Guerra Jinyoung Kim Allison Lassiter Kathryn Michel Claire Mitchell
Graduate and Professional Students:	None appointed
Undergraduate Students:	Amani Bey Maria Curry
PPSA:	Patrick Dolan Tom Wilson
WPPSA:	Laura Naden Lara Fields
Administrative Liaison:	Mark Kocent
Staff:	Taylor Berkowitz

COMMITTEE GENERAL CHARGES

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.

2018-2019 SPECIFIC CHARGES

1. Continue to monitor progress of all gender restrooms on campus.
2. Continue to monitor tobacco-free initiatives on campus.
3. Continue to monitor the bicycle, commuting, and parking program, and explore traffic, pedestrian, and bicycle safety on campus.
4. Review and comment on Penn Connects and Climate Action Plan initiatives.

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

The committee met 6 times during 2018-2019. In addition to scheduled meetings to address our specific charges, meeting time was scheduled for orientation, review of our general charges, and time dedicated to discussion of any formal recommendations from the Committee and review of our final report.

RESPONSE TO 2018-2019 SPECIFIC CHARGES

1. Progress on All-Gender Restrooms on Campus

This charge was discussed by Committee at the meeting on December 3, 2018. We welcomed Erin Cross, Director of the LGBT Center as a guest to our meeting.

Erin Cross and Taylor Berkowitz gave a presentation on all gender restrooms on campus, providing critical insight and experience in this area to the committee. Philadelphia is the 6th friendliest LGBT City in the US and Penn has been named the #1 trans-friendly campus. The average transgender population nationally is 0.5%, the Penn Campus has 3% of its students identified. This does not account for staff or faculty. It was explained the students/staff/faculty who work or study in a building without an all gender restroom can sometimes have health issues from trying to go extended amounts of time between restroom breaks. All gender restrooms serve everyone and work better for families or those who may need assistance. As an urban campus, space is an extremely valued commodity, particularly when balancing programmatic and social needs on a complex, diverse, and interdisciplinary campus. Further, many of our historic buildings do not have any single-use restrooms and cannot be easily retrofitted. Single-use restrooms also separate and exclude a segment of the population.

In 2011, the Provost's Office, VPUL, LGBTC, and Facilities and Real Estate Services formed a partnership to identify and convert 80 single-use restrooms to all gender. An online map identifying the over 120 current locations of all gender bathrooms is on the FRES website: (<https://www.facilities.upenn.edu/maps/printing-campus-map>). We have continued to identify the need to convert and add new all gender restrooms on campus. With the renovation of Hill College House, all of the restrooms in the residence hall are all gender, including the multi-stall restrooms on the residence floors. The multi-stall all gender restroom is desired because not all buildings have a single-use restroom, and it is considered more inclusive since it does not isolate or exclude anyone, and is a growing trend nationally both at educational institutions, theaters, and restaurants. The University engaged an architect in a feasibility study to determine the scope and order of magnitude costs to convert a gendered multi-stall restroom to an all gender multi-stall restroom. The project committee which consisted of representatives from the Provost's Office, LGBTC, FRES, and five Schools/Centers, agreed on the characteristics and guidelines necessary for the conversion: visual openness at the entrance with glazed entry doors; maximum privacy between the stall with either a partition system or full height walls; each stall or toilet room needs ventilation and lighting; multiple panic alarms and more circulation space by the sinks; and eliminate sight traps at the entrances. The signage standard is the same as for the single-use all gender restrooms and should just state "Restroom," along with a room number. In public areas the sign may state "All Gender Restroom." It is up to the individual Schools and Centers to prioritize the conversion during restroom upgrades and improvements. The renovation costs for a conversion to all gender for a multi-stall restroom is more than a typical refresh or replacement of fixtures, so funding is critical.

Recommendations: The Committee overall is pleased with the progress that has been made here, but recommends continued effort to convert more gendered restrooms to all gender, in particular, the multi-stall restrooms. We understand that these conversions are an active process, the Committee would like to follow the progress of these conversions over the

next year and potentially begin to specifically identify publically accessible and classroom buildings on campus without all gender restrooms. The Committee also recommends that central administration consider novel ideas to incentivize conversions in Schools or central administrative buildings where all gender bathrooms do not exist.

2. Tobacco-Free Initiatives on Campus

The Committee discussed this topic on January 29, 2019, and welcomed Ashlee Halbritter, Director Campus Health, to aid in the discussion.

In 2015, Penn updated its no smoking policy to include e-tobacco products, hookahs, and certain outdoor areas. In 2017, the policy was revised again to include all outdoor spaces. The campus has been non-smoking since this point. As an urban campus, public sidewalks will continue to be a location where smoking is allowed, although with a continued culture change it is hoped that the number of smokers on campus will continue to decrease. The policy is written in the spirit of a culture of compliance rather than enforcement. The efforts have been focused in communications, removing environmental cues such as tobacco urns, and providing tobacco cessation resources. Information is included in New Student and Staff Orientations, on lawn signs 1-2 times per year, no smoking symbols have been added to the campus open space blades, directional signage, and exterior campus maps, and an online map of tobacco-free spaces is on the Facilities website. In the future, the team would like to see each school get more personally involved in the tobacco-free campus efforts. Each School/Center is so distinctive, and has the most direct communication with their constituents, that their direct involvement would likely have a stronger impact. The committee is also interested in the current and long-term effects of the use of e-tobacco products are having on our community, including compliance within the program.

Recommendations: The Committee is pleased with the progress being made in this area, but wishes to continue to monitor this initiative, particularly the effects of e-tobacco products.

3. Bicycle, Commuting, and Parking Programs

This charge was reviewed at our meeting held on February 25, 2019.

This year's review focused primarily on campus vehicular circulation. Mark Kocent provided an update to the 2009 Campus Traffic and Circulation Study. To date, all of the recommendations from the 2009 Study have been implemented, with the exception of an upcoming 2020 PennDOT construction project to calm traffic on the I-76 eastbound exit at University Avenue. The University has just completed a new study for 2018, with Facilities and Real Estate Services, Penn Medicine, Business Services, and Public Safety represented on the Committee for the 2018 Study that focused on the health system precinct. There were 51 intersections looked at in the study, the most critical is intersection at 34th Street and Grays Ferry Avenue, which has a very low capacity. The second lowest capacity intersection is South Street and Health Sciences Drive. The University is just completing this study and is exploring options to improve these areas with other stakeholders including the City of Philadelphia. Future plans by the University to improved campus traffic include clear wayfinding and destination signage; widen Health Sciences Drive toward South Street; encourage increased service to University City train station once the SEPTA 2020 Arsenal

Interlocking Reconstruction Project is complete; and investigate creating a quadrant interchange at 34th Street & Grays Ferry Avenue.

One issue that was raised by the Committee was the issue of delivery and service vehicles parking and blocking pedestrian pathways. The Committee Liaison acknowledged this as an on-going issue, which the University is currently working to improve but that may deserve continued monitoring by the Committee.

Recommendations: While the Committee has no formal recommendations, the Committee is impressed with the work the University continues to do to improve automotive traffic and safety throughout the University, specifically goals to improve traffic around the Health System. We eagerly await progress in this specific area once the results of the 2018 traffic survey are formally reviewed and further strategies can be developed. We recommend continued efforts to alleviate vehicular traffic near campus, including incentivizing public transportation and other modes of non-vehicular transportation. The Committee will continue to monitor progress, including issues that arise with parking and likely a more formal investigation of the issue of service and other vehicles parking on campus sidewalks.

4. *Penn Connects Initiatives and Climate Action Plan*

Two meetings were devoted to this charge.

On October 17, 2018, Mark Kocent, University Architect, gave a presentation on Penn Connects 3.0. Penn Connects, our campus masterplan, was created in 2006, and then renewed with Penn Connects 2.0 in 2011. Penn Connects 3.0 is from 2017-2022, and utilizes the themes established in 2.0: Teaching & Scholarship; Research & Clinical Care; Living & Learning; Campus & Community; Past & Future Reinvestment. The Plan aligns the strategic vision, capital campaign, and campus development goals of the University. Phase 3, or 3.0, will add approximately 2.5 million square feet (sf) of new construction and renovate 600,000 sf of space. Specific projects and renovations were discussed in detail, including updates on current projects, including: Penn Medicine's Pavilion (including a pedestrian bridge from the University City Train Station to the hospital); Center for Healthcare Technology (including a new daycare facility); Wharton Academic and Research Building; New College House West; and the Penn Museum Renovation of the Coxe and Harrison Wing.

On November 14, 2018, the Committee held a meeting with multiple members of the Division of Sustainability regarding implementation and progress of the Climate Action Plan.

The initiative started in 2007, when Dr. Gutmann signed the Presidential Climate Commitment. In 2009, the Climate Action Plan was written, and it was renewed in 2014 with Climate Action Plan 2.0. In the fall of 2019, a new sustainability plan will be launched. The initiatives or focus areas for the Plan are: academics, waste minimization & recycling; physical environment; utilities & operations; transportation; purchase practices; outreach & engagement. There is now a Sustainability Course Inventory, key academic initiatives, and an alternative spring break for students. Our campus has almost 300 species of trees, and over one million gross square feet of LEED certified buildings on campus. Bike parking spaces and repair stations continue to be added, and 49% of Penn employees use commuter benefits. Green catering practices, environmentally friendly print and online defaults, and

Penn Marketplace enhancements contribute to better purchasing practices. Outreach and engagement continue with student, staff, and faculty eco-reps and the establishment of SAGE, the Student Advisory Group for the Environment.

There has been a 6% decrease in total landfill waste since 2014. The campus has an 11% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions since 2014. By 2042, the goal is to have over a 50% reduction from the baseline established in 2009. It is possible that Penn will have to participate in the purchase of carbon offset credits in order to meet the goal. It was noted that the Health System is not part of the current campus analysis. The issue of our carbon footprint due to air travel was extensively discussed during the meeting. Air travel in FY17 accounted for about 23% of total emissions, and in FY18 it was about 25%. Furthermore, this is only a partial accounting, as this data reflects air travel booked or reimbursed through our Concur system and does not reflect student travel expenses.

There were several concerns raised by the committee regarding this charge. There were concerns raised by the Committee regarding why it will be necessary to buy carbon credits to meet our goal of 50% reduction of greenhouse gases by 2042. There were also concerns raised regarding the substantial impact of air travel on Penn's carbon footprint and whether Penn's current use of air travel is appropriate and justified based on its mission.

Recommendations: The Committee has no recommendations regarding Penn Connects initiatives. There is a concern regarding the University's Climate Action Plan and the committee eagerly awaits the roll out of the University's sustainability plan this fall. The Committee does see the tremendous progress the University has made to lower its carbon footprint, however, concerns have been raised by the Committee regarding the potential need for the University to buy carbon credits to meet its reduction goals. The significant impact air travel has on Penn's carbon footprint should be further explored to better understand the data. The Committee also feels that an awareness campaign to faculty and staff regarding the impact of air travel on the campus footprint may influence a positive behavior change.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE CHARGES

The Committee feels that all of its specific charges are still active and should be continued for review by next year's committee including:

1. Continue to monitor progress of all gender restrooms on campus.
2. Continue to monitor tobacco-free initiatives on campus.
3. Continue to monitor the bicycle, commuting, and parking program, and explore traffic, pedestrian, and bicycle safety on campus.
4. Review and comment on Penn Connects and Climate Action Plan initiatives.

Specifically, of concern within these topics are the progress the University is making regarding all gender restrooms, particularly multi-stall all gender restrooms; and the substantial impact air travel is having on Penn's carbon footprint and whether the University's use of air travel is appropriate and can be justified based on its mission.