

**College Council Report
From the Facilities Council
January 2019**

The Facilities Council has a rather unique position within the college governance system, as it is the true foundation for making learning happening in the brick and mortar world of education. The Facilities Council monitors, creates and updates policies that effect the physical infrastructure from a classroom space to a study area.

There is complex, yet positive, interaction that happens to merge and understand the needs of students, faculty and the community with those in the service side of facilities planning and implementation.

There is also a need to understand the sustainability of materials, building construction or retrofitting and how those all work in conjunction within budget parameters. There are other key elements in utilization, scheduling and sustainability that are all intertwined.

Once a place for learning has been constructed and presented, there is much to learn about how students and staff travel to a commuter college. All 5 campuses or centers are commuter locations. Understanding and supporting transportation options help with the college's commitment to the Climate Action Plan.

The protection of those who work, study or visit these campus locations need a sense of security in addition to the importance of protecting the assets of the college.

Facilities Council is situated right in the middle of these important foundational pieces trying to support student learning through the use of policy and procedures. The council has numerous responsibilities:

Who We Are

The Facilities Council has a well rounded membership that includes representatives from management, faculty, classified and students. Of these members, there are members by position that represent the college functions of facilities management, scheduling, sustainability and safety.

The Council Connections

The Facilities Council has a long standing connection with several college committees that are not formally a sub-committee of the council by charter. The council engages in strategic conversations and receives updates from these committees to enrich the work of the council. These committees include the Sustainability Committee, the Safety Committee and Emergency Preparedness.

Responsibilities

- Master Plan
- Facilities-related policies

Sustainability: Design and Construction	Policy	Facilities Council
Sustainability: Recycling	Policy	Facilities Council
Naming Buildings and Facilities	Policy	Facilities Council
Hours: 30th Ave Campus	Policy	Facilities Council
Recycling	Policy	Facilities Council
Space Assignment Policy	Policy	Facilities Council
Classrooms: Food and Drink	Policy	Facilities Council
Sustainability: Energy Conservation	Policy	Facilities Council

- Assess effectiveness of existing policies and procedures

Governance councils receive criticism for not following through with their work plans or being stuck in perpetual discussions without action. The Facilities Council is proud of their achievements and yet still look to improve their effectiveness.

Accomplished

- Climate Action Plan (CAP) review and collaboration
- Bond 2008
- Policy review and revision
- Sustainability
- Transportation Plan

The Facilities Council has historically looked at itself as a governing body and done internal self evaluations. The council's strength comes from listening to each other and listening to the community at large. The council has had numerous strategic conversations with government agencies, community groups, student groups, faculty and staff to determine how the council can support student and community learning through the use of the college facilities.

What We Do Best

- Listening, community engagement
- Reviewed most policies within the last 3 years (2 exceptions)
- Documenting our work and reporting out to campus community
- Review and provide feedback and guidance to procedures and facilities usage requests
- Advising and collaboration with Facilities Management and Planning

Of course, any council can certainly learn from the past, modify things in the present and look to the future for stronger support to the college. The council has identified several changes that could help the council and the college in the future.

What Can We Do Differently?

- Review annual construction/remodel/renovation plan
- Review list of policies from charter to determine if Facilities Council can help with implementation or policy, i.e. Space Assignment
- Review the Master Plan, once completed, for recommendations
- “Nesting Dolls” of policies - review owners and responsible parties for coherent reading
- Safety Committee reports back to Facilities Council
- Branding policy or procedure -colors, design guidelines, furniture, digital paper, aesthetics...

Finally, the Facilities Council has a list of items from their annual work plan that need time to be processed and finalized as a recommendation or a policy to be moved up to the College Council for approval. The difficulty with any governance council is the amount of time dedicated in person meetings. At best, the council may have seventeen – two-hour meetings during an academic year. Surprisingly though, the council does make progress on our work plan and do some work offline in subcommittees.

To Do List

- Update 2006 Transportation Plan
- Review Emergency Preparedness Plan/Emergency Response
- Review Sustainability: Design and Construction policy, perhaps in collaboration with Sustainability Committee
- Review Building Naming policy

The Facilities Council is an integral part of student learning and success. We have an ambitious work plan and we are ready to continue our work as an effective work group in a college governance wrapper.

Respectfully Submitted,

The Facilities Council Membership

--Alen Bahret, Chair

--Brian Kelly, Vice Chair