

UNIVERSITY SENATE
ANNUAL COMMITTEE REPORT 2019-20

Committee Name: **Campus Aesthetics & Environmental Concerns**

Number of meetings held this year: **2 (several other planned meetings were cancelled)**

Committee Chair: **Dianne Garyantes**

Committee Members:

Campus Aesthetics & Environmental Concerns	Total 22 - including Chair
Dianne Garyantes, Chair	Faculty
Brand, Keith	Faculty
Duran, Daniel	Faculty
Morschauser, Scott	Faculty
Barbro, Patrick	Faculty
Conradi, Jan	Faculty
Everett, Jess	Faculty
Falck, Claire	Faculty
Crumrine, Patrick	Faculty
Hristescu, Gabriela	Faculty
Dashefsky, Patricia	Professional Staff
Finer, Cindy	Professional Staff
Rick Hunt, Division Planning & Real Estate Planning & Operations	Administrator, Facilities, Planning & Operations
Arijit De, Assistant Vice President for Facilities, Planning & Operations	Administrator, Facilities, Planning & Operations
Benson, Mike	Faculty and/or Professional Staff
Calio, Brian	Faculty and/or Professional Staff
Foley, Ray	Faculty and/or Professional Staff
	CWA Representative
Tighe, Karla	AFT Representative
	IFPTE #195 Representative
Robert Emmanuel	SGA Representative
Jason Fisch	SGA Representative
Fiona Hughes	SGA Representative
Skeff Thomas	Ad-Hoc Rep.

Purpose of/Charge to Committee:

The Committee facilitates communication among the campus community and primary facilities users, as well as the Rowan Division of Facilities, Planning and Operations, on matters related to the aesthetic quality and environmental integrity of the campus. It reviews and recommends proposed changes that affect the aesthetic quality of the built and natural campus environment and the impacts

these changes may have; reviews existing aesthetic qualities and environmental impacts and recommends needed changes; and addresses campus environmental and safety concerns that affect the health and well-being of the university community and the natural environment.

Summary of Activities this Year:

I. The committee's first meeting of the year was held on Nov. 15, 2019, where we discussed several ongoing and new subjects relevant for the committee's work. Ongoing issues included:

- Lighting issues on Glassboro Campus,
- Art with new School of Earth and Environment, Hawthorne and a new SGA art project highlighting diversity on campus,
- Placement of the RCA logo on stained glass at Campbell Library (the committee would weigh in on the design of the frame),
- Proposals for new CHSS building and Agora Project, and
- Traffic and pedestrian safety on campus.

New business included:

- An SGA proposal on the use of scooters by students to get around the Glassboro campus,
- Sustainability on campus, including progress of the new Sustainability Committee on campus.
 - Idea was discussed to make sustainability the fifth pillar of the university's mission in South Jersey.
 - Another idea was adding signage near stream and environmental interesting areas and ID'ing trees on campus.

II. The committee scheduled 3 dates for tours of the Glassboro campus during the fall semester (with a committee meeting scheduled before the tour), but each tour was cancelled because a member of the Facilities & Operations was not available for the tour. The last tour date was scheduled for Dec. 20. We decided to reschedule the tour for the spring semester, possibly in May when the weather would be nicer.

III. The next meeting took place on March 6, where we discussed the following:

- Proposed bench outside of the engineering building (the committee unanimously approved the bench)
- Agora project
- Discovery Hall
- South Jersey Tech Park
- West Campus fields

We also created subcommittee for the committee because some of the concerns of the committee, and the expertise of the members, are specialized. Three subcommittee were formed:

- Art and Aesthetics
- Environmental Concerns
- Safety Concerns

The list of the members of the subcommittees follows:

Mike Benson	Art & Aesthetics
Patricia Dashefsky	Art & Aesthetics
Keith Brand	Art & Aesthetics
Jan Conradi	Art & Aesthetics
Arijit De	Art & Aesthetics
Patrick Crumrine	Environmental Concerns
Dan Duran	Environmental Concerns
Jess Everett	Environmental Concerns
Pat Barbro	Environmental Concerns
Brian Calio	Environmental Concerns
Gabriela Hristesa	Environmental Concerns
Skeff Thomas	Environmental Concerns
Rick Hunt	Environmental Concerns
Karla Tighe	Safety Concerns
Ray Foley	Safety Concerns
Dianne Garyantes	Safety Concerns
Cindy Finer	Safety Concerns

IV. A fourth meeting was scheduled for April 17 and we were planning a Glassboro campus tour for May, but the closing of the campus due to the coronavirus forced us to cancel the meetings.

V. In addition, the committee chair attended bi-monthly meetings with Joe Campbell, Divisional Vice President of Facilities Planning & Operations, Senate President Bill Friend, and Committee Member Skeff Thomas. The meetings provided updates of ongoing and planned construction projects on campus.

SUGGESTIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Suggestions:

- To continue to provide input into aesthetic, environmental, and safety matters on all of Rowan's campuses.
- To continue the use of subcommittees for this committee. Some of the areas the committee addresses, according to its mission statement, are distinct. For example, concerns over traffic

safety are much different than feedback needed on public art projects on the new buildings on campus.

- To hold Facilities staff and administration more accountable for attending meetings and scheduled tours of the campus. Having to reschedule the Glassboro campus tour three times this fall because Facilities staff could not attend was a bit frustrating. I also had to contact our Facilities representative before our committee meetings to ensure attendance.

Recommendations:

- To continue to maintain a collaborative relationship with Facilities staff and administration to make Rowan's campuses as safe and aesthetically pleasing as possible.
- To maintain the committee's subcommittees so that committee members with expertise and interest in particular areas can make recommendations to the full committee on the distinct matters of aesthetics, environmental concerns, and safety.