

Minutes
Plant Utilization and Planning Committee
April 19, 2021
2:00 PM to 3:30 PM
Zoom Meeting

1. Welcome and Introductions

Dave Beck, Co-Chair

- *The meeting was called to order at 2:01pm. All committee members and attendees were introduced [David Beck, William Santa, Ted Fritz, Christine Jackson, Leslie Hammond, Lucy Russell, Paul Supowitz, Eugene Wagner, Gregory Smith, Scott Bernotas, Bruce Nmezi, Doris Dick, Susan Jones, Kathy Kelly, Paul Munro, Irene Frieze].*

2. March 2021 Meeting Minutes Approval

David Beck, Co-Chair

- *Meeting minutes were approved as written.*

3. University Resilience Framework/COVID Plans – Update Chancellor’s Liaison(s)

- *No updates for the pandemic planning.*

4. Campus Safety and Accessibility

Ted Fritz, Vice Chancellor for Public
Safety and Emergency Management

- *Emergency Management at Pitt exists to prepare for all emergencies and collaborate with external groups and government agencies.*
- *Emergency operations center was implemented in 2019.*
- *Most of the guidance for emergency situations can be found on emergency.pitt.edu. Also, emergency management guidelines can be accessed in my.pitt.edu.*
- *In addition to the emergency notification service, there is a safety app available called Rave Guardian. This allows for many safety precautions including informing police of activity.*
- *Campus safety has a seat at the Allegheny County EOC. Member of PEMA’s region 13 Task Force. Annual submission of building emergency plans to local authorities. Member of DHS sponsored Western PA public safety.*
- *Kuali Ready – a software to implement continuity planning for emergency preparedness throughout the Pitt campus. Guided planning to make the process simple for stakeholders.*
- *Pitt participates in an agreement that allows the University to share equipment, personnel and other resources to other Universities.*

- *The University police department has a total of 195 total personnel on all of the campuses which includes officers, guards, call takers, dispatchers, supervisors and support staff. The University police have jurisdiction within 500 yards of university owned facilities. Third largest police department in Allegheny county. Officers are certified in police education, including a 14-week field training program. Trained in sexual assault response.*
- *Pitt's Specialized Emergency Response Team is trained to assist in situations that are beyond routine patrol. Conducts active shooter response training. University Police have several required cultural competency courses.*
- *Crime rates are trending downwards. The police department have changed their way of patrolling, to strategize on incidents. Also, the police have made community wide efforts to help locate potential problem spots in the area.*
- *EHS – Occupational health and safety and environmental protection support emergency management, safety training, research safety, fire safety, life safety and construction safety.*
- *Occupational Safety – safety and health in the workplace. Protections from workplace injuries have trended downward and are under the Average for universities. Occupation health – administers vaccinations and evaluates exposures.*
- *Chemical hygiene plan and hazmat spill responses as well as hazardous waste safety. Chemical waste disposal has been working on ways to repurpose waste product as opposed to other methods of disposal. Biosafety Programs have worked on being ahead of hazards and training lab professionals in safety.*

5. Safety Culture

William Santa, Construction Safety Manager, Department of Environmental Health & Safety

- *Goal is for Pitt to be the world's safest campus, to protect the traveling public, to eliminate any unmitigated safety hazards, and to focus on construction safety.*
- *Office of Facilities management – 500+ individuals in charge of maintaining, preserving, and enhancing the university's physical assets.*
- *Process for any project or hazard – recognize issues by risk/exposure, evaluate, and control to minimize the exposure and mitigate the risk. A team is employed to evaluate and prioritize issues.*
- *Safety culture - there is always a greater chance for problems when taking a shortcut. Unsafe acts lead to injuries or fatalities. The more times you use an unsafe act the greater the chance for injury. Always look ahead of the curve to avoid unsafe conditions.*
- *OSHA injuries on campus is 0.56, which is half of the national industry average.*
- *Public protections have diligently been added. Construction fence improvements provide for better optics and improved safety.*

- *Pre-planning – make provisions to have flaggers, spotters, isolation barriers to allow access and guide public movement. Professional safety staff are used to communicate all planning.*
- *Hot work permits – checklists for contractors to comply with certain safety culture on campus work sites. Many precautions taken to assure safety: check sprinkler systems, shield combustibles, 60-minute fire watch, etc.*
- *Fall prevention – Evaluate existing systems at all buildings. Measures must be an integral part of design phase for all new construction projects and renovations.*
- *Public Safety – maps designed to show potential bottleneck situations and sent to all local authorities*
- *Safety audits – Inspections are done on a regular basis and have advanced. Now everything is done digitally.*
- *Safety review committee is able to maintain consistency of safety across all facilities. Monthly review any incident to find root causes and prevent near-misses.*
- *Continue to improve our safety culture to permeate safety onto the daily activities of the University. Main tenets are high visibility and being a resource to both internal and external customers.*

6. Announcements and New Business

ALL

- *The Committee will need a new Chair or Co-Chair if someone is interested in collaborating with current Co-Chair Debbie Miller. Voting members were asked to reach out if they are interested in such positions.*

7. Executive Session (when applicable)

Elected committee members

- *No need for executive session.*

8. Adjournment

- *Dave Beck adjourned the meeting at 3:08pm*

Next Meeting: Monday, May 17, 2021 – 2:00pm (Zoom meeting)