

Plant Utilization and Planning Committee

**November 18, 2019**

2:00 PM to 3:30 PM

4065 Forbes Tower

1. Call to order and Introduction of attendees - *The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair, Debbie Miller, at 2:04pm. All persons in attendance introduced themselves to the group.*
2. Approval of October 2019 meeting minutes - *The minutes were approved as written.*
3. Presentations:  
Student Life Initiatives  
Community Engagement Centers & Community Relations

Julie Bannister, Assistant Vice Chancellor  
Lina Dostilio, Associate Vice Chancellor  
Paul Supowitz, Associate Vice Chancellor

Assistant Vice Chancellor, Julie Bannister provided an overview of “Student Life Initiatives”

- *The 2018 summer renovation of the Schenley Quad has been completed by transforming the area with added green and community space outside of the buildings, and expanded student activities.*
- *Litchfield Towers updates include renovations to restrooms, ADA showers, mail room to address less mail and more packages, and Market Central.*
- *The University vendor, Sodexo, along with student and staff representatives are working together to focus on “simple servings” (addresses allergies). We also added the mindful station with more healthy options with smaller portions, and a wide variety of choices. At Schenley Café in the William Pitt Union we added Auditions which features concepts on a rotating menu including ramen bowls, Peking Plates, District Dogs, and a Mediterranean concept, among others.*
- *Collaboration and partnerships are evidenced in Forbes Street Market with Giant Eagle and the Get Go Process, and Millie’s homemade ice cream in the University Book Store.*
- *Conducting in depth analyses to address cultural food requests, maintaining store hours during holidays and accommodating off campus students, and addressing “desert pockets” by looking at all campus location and needs.*
- *Providing a slow launch on lower campus with Starship technologies, an international company that utilizes food delivery robots to students.*
- *Questions/concerns about Starship can be communicated to Julie. Pitt is working closely with the City of Pittsburgh’s DOMI because every sidewalk is being used.*
- *Initiated the “choose to reuse” program. Four receptacles are located on campus for reusable food containers from vendors Einstein, and Auditions, providing a big push for sustainability*
- *Dining RFP process is currently underway. As an FYI, Sodexo has had the University contract for 29 years. It will be going out to bid with a goal to provide a premium experience across all areas of University Dining while addressing the community, using local providers, and providing sustainability and affordability. The contract is anticipated to be effective beginning July 1, 2020.*
- *Q-How do vending machines fit in? A: Vending services are through a different contractual arrangement. We continue to challenge ourselves and our providers, that food is different these days, students’ needs are different. We want to be a top institution.*

Vice Chancellor Paul Supowitz and Associate Vice Chancellor Lina Dostilio presented “Community Relations Initiatives and Community Engagement Centers”

- *An overview of the status of the Institutional Master Plan (IMP) was provided, which includes a public meeting hosted by the City on November 18<sup>th</sup>, an Oakland community meeting on December 5<sup>th</sup>, then final submission to the City Planning Commission with recommendation by city council to render a decision.*

- *The IMP provides opportunities for neighborhood enhancements that mitigate Pitt’s impacts on surrounding neighborhoods and enhances quality of life such as campus gateways improvements, greater facility access for community use and enhanced participation in ongoing community benefitting programs.*
- *Pitt has pledged to be an active participant in the City’s Oakland neighborhood planning process moving forward.*
- *Updates on Faculty and Staff Volunteerism opportunities were provided, including Day of Caring, Volunteer Opportunities and Christmas Day at Pitt. Refer to the website <https://www.cgr.pitt.edu/> for all programs.*
- *Updates on “Be a Good Neighbor” programming were provided, including tenant workshops and the development of a Student Community Action Team.*
- *CGR leads the rollout for Pitt’s Engagement and Outreach Map [www.engagementmap.pitt.edu](http://www.engagementmap.pitt.edu), a publicly-searchable, map-based inventory of Pitt’s community activities, world-wide. There are more than 250 activities currently in the map and rollouts will happen across the entire Pitt system throughout the spring and summer.*
- *The Community Engagement Center in Homewood celebrated their one-year anniversary in October 2019. Phase 1 is open with over 10,000 community members having visited, more than 4,000 returning for repeated uses, 667 events held, 41 ongoing programs, 30 Pitt schools and departments involved. Phase 2 in Homewood, which will house health and wellness and education programs will open in early 2020.*
- *SHRS and other schools are integrally involved in the Wellness Pavilion with participation by students and faculty in all disciplines such as a nutrition kitchen, mental health counseling suite, and social work.*
- *Kirk Holbrook is the director of the CEC in the Hill District. While still not in a dedicated facility, efforts are well underway, with programming spanning business development, youth enrichment, STEM learning, public workshops and reading offered by the Center for African American Poetry and Poetics, and significant Athletics community outreach.*

#### Announcements

- *Next meeting, December 16<sup>th</sup> with a University Grounds update and tour of 4<sup>th</sup> floor Posvar. Members may accompany Kristen Gusten from Forbes Tower after the meeting or meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of Posvar at 3:00pm for the tour.*

Adjournment - *Debbie Miller adjourned the meeting at 3:25 pm*

Next meeting: *December 16, 2019 – 4065 Forbes Tower*

- *Grounds Update*
- *Posvar – 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Tour*

#### **Remaining PUP Committee Meetings for 2019 - 2020**

- ❖ *December 16, 2019*
- ❖ *January 13, 2020*
- ❖ *February 17, 2020*
- ❖ *March 16, 2020*
- ❖ *April 20, 2020*
- ❖ *May 18, 2020*
- ❖ *June 15, 2020*