



BMCC Campus Facilities & Security Committee

MINUTES

November 3, 2021

2:00 p.m.

Zoom Meeting

- **COVID Building Operations (Jorge Yafar)**
 - Students have begun experiencing more consequences to not providing proof of vaccination. This includes receiving WA grades and being denied access to Testing Centers.
 - Thanks to these consequences there has been a significant increase in students successfully uploading proof of vaccination
 - Improvements to air quality continue. UVC 2nd generation units will be installed in every classroom and high occupancy area by the Spring Semester.
 - On October 28th at the Main Campus there was a successful vaccination clinic done in partnership with the City government. Over 100 people were seen.
 - There will be another vaccination clinic on November 10th where in addition to vaccines, there will be assistance uploading proof of vaccination documents to CUNYFirst.

- **Classroom Renovations (Judy Cheung)**
 - There are ongoing upgrades to several classrooms on the 4th and 5th Floors of Main Campus.
 - The driving force behind these renovations are improvements to ventilation.
 - Ceiling tiles, lighting, flooring, wall equipment and furniture are being addressed.
 - These new classrooms will feature combinations of interactive televisions and whiteboards for instruction.
 - This includes a series of sliding whiteboards that can cover the interactive television or be pushed to the side.
 - The new computer classrooms feature specialty powered furniture which also has the capability to hide its computers, enabling the room to function as a non-computer classroom.
 - Feedback regarding the location of the instructor's desk in these classrooms was sought:
 - It was suggested by Gerard Clock that in addition to the instructor's computer desk, located to the side, there be a central table and chair. This would offer the instructor flexibility on where to sit and also provide a station to distribute materials. An ergonomic sit/stand desk for this purpose was advised against.



- **Facilities Projects (Eric Lugo)**
 - Procurement is happening for the 2nd phase of the Main Campus window replacement project, adding new operational windows to classrooms and administrative spaces. Phase 3 is expected in FY 2023.
 - Capital Projects
 - The Main Campus cooling tower replacement project continues. Currently there is asbestos abatement ongoing during the evenings. The completion of the project is anticipated in April 2022.
 - The Main Campus ramp project is completed save for punch list items.
 - Within the next eight months, an upgrade of the fire alarm systems on Main Campus should begin.
 - The renovation of the Main Campus library floor is a future project.
- **Environmental Health and Safety and Risk Management (Michael Spath)**
 - Inspecting lab hoods begins soon.
 - On a conference call with other colleges, BMCC was described as a model of UVC installation.
- **Public Safety (Michael Korn)**
 - There continue to be issues with students failing to upload necessary documents to CUNYFirst, preventing access to the turnstiles.
 - There has been an increase in e-mail scams coming to students and staff. These include spoofed e-mail addresses, sometimes even BMCC addresses. One common ploy is messages about job offers.
 - If one encounters these emails, please notify Public Safety and they will help refer the issue to the appropriate authority.
- **Old Business**
 - Gerard Clock requested follow up on the reopening of athletic facilities, including the swimming pool. Jorge Yafar said they would be reopening shortly thanks to the installation of ID card readers. These readers enable verifying vaccination status allowing the College to comply with Executive Order 225.
- **New Business**
 - Gerard Clock asked if unvaccinated students will be prevented from registering for in-person classes for the Spring Semester. Jorge Yafar said he'd inquire.
 - As of November 8th, students are able to register for the Spring 2022 semester, but if proof of vaccination is not uploaded at least two weeks prior to the semester's start, they will be dropped from any in-person or hybrid class
 - Igor Zaitsev asked if partially vaccinated students, such as those in the two-week waiting period after their final dose, will be granted leeway in regards to staying enrolled in classes or registering for the next semester. Jorge Yafar said he'd inquire.



- As of November 8th, some level of flexibility is being provided to those students who have uploaded proof of vaccination, but have not met the 14-day requirement after the second dose—provided they are not required to be on campus.
- CUNY in the Heights had a ribbon cutting ceremony on October 29th. In attendance were Chancellor Rodríguez, Representative Espaillat, Councilmember Rodriguez, Assemblymember De La Rosa, and Borough President Gale Brewer among others.
 - The ceremony was recorded and can viewed here:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JItUTMIpxqY>
- Gerard Clock asked if the next meeting of this committee, December 1st, could be rescheduled or cancelled because it conflicts with the Academic Senate.