

CAMPUS LIFE AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE
LEHMAN COLLEGE SENATE
MINUTES OF CAMPUS LIFE AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING 3-5, 2025
VIA ZOOM, 2:05-2:28 pm

1. CALL TO ORDER: The Wednesday, MARCH 5, 2025 meeting of the Lehman College Campus Life and Facilities Committee was called to order at 2:00 pm by committee chair, Kofi Benefo. The meeting was held online via Zoom.

2. COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Kofi Benefo, Robin Auchincloss, Melissa Deri, Di Wu, Penny Prince and guest: Professor Michael Bacon, Music Department

3. COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Danielle Magaldi-Dopman, Kimarea Brown, Wilmary Dickson, Amna Ishaq

4. Meeting opened with introductions.

5. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS: Approval of minutes of Campus Life and Facilities Committee Meetings Dec 4, 2024 and Feb 5, 2025 postponed because the committee did not have a quorum.

6. GUEST PRESENTATION: Prof. Bacon presented his vision of what the third floor of the Music Building can become. It was a creative way to not only enhance this vital corridor leading to the Recital Hall and the Hearth Room, but to make it more conducive to students' meeting and conversing and relaxing, and to "sell" the space to prospective students and audience goers. His ideas focused on replacing the heavy brown oak doors with tiny windows with full glass windows, and to add comfortable-style seating in the hallway. Robin said this could well be included in the plan already in progress for the revitalization of Music Building room 306. She will meet with Michael and architects to discuss.

7. Facilities Report:

a. Robin provided highlights of Capital Project Work:

i. Davis Roof Replacement project is under construction.

ii. Shuster Exterior Restoration and Window Replacement in construction. This project includes some stair reconstruction at exterior of Fine Arts as well.

iii. At the Old Gym - a new Center for Teaching and Learning is under construction.

iv. Projects expected to start construction in the next year include: Music Building Roof Replacement, Carman Plaza Restoration, Library Window Replacement

8. CONCERNS ABOUT QUALITY OF TOILET PAPER – Robin informed committee that when current inventory of toilet paper requires restocking, facilities department will review alternate vendors on preferred vendor procurement contracts for more durable product.

9. CAFETERIA: A member revisited a question the committee has confronted several times before – namely the status of the current cafeteria vendor. Robin promised to check on the progress of the Cafeteria Committee and report.

10. ACCESSIBLE ENTRANCES TO CARMAN- Committee had a discussion about accessibility in Carman Hall during the Dec 4, 2024 meeting. Robin informed the committee that as part of the effort to improve campus accessibility power assists have been added to entrance doors on the first floors of Carman and Shuster.

11. BIRD COLLISIONS: Continuing from the Feb 5, 2025 meeting discussion with Macaulay Honors student Daniel Schwartz on Bird collisions on campus. Robin informed the committee that Daniel's Bird Collision study information was shared with the design team for upcoming Library windows replacement project. That project has specified Bird Friendly glazing with integrated subtle striping to prevent bird collision. Melissa reached out to the New York Bird Alliance, which could be a critical resource for addressing the issue. Katherine Chen kchen@nycbirdalliance.org a point person at the organization has indicated interest in working with us. Her response indicated they are working with other universities across NYC on similar projects, including Columbia University, CUNY's Advanced Science Research Center in Harlem, and NYU. Kofi reached out to Prof. Edward Kennelly in the Biology department who put him in touch with Prof. Sebastian Rojas Villa, the faculty advisor for the Biology Club. The exchanges indicated that the Lehman College Biology Club could also be a resource. Robin suggested that Earth Day may be a good time to present this information.

12. NEXT MEETING is April 2, Wednesday, 2-3 on zoom.

13. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting ended at 2.28 pm

Respectfully submitted, Penny Prince