



Research Facilities & Infrastructure Survey 2010/11

University Senate Research Committee 2010/11:

Lisa Benz Scott (Health Care Policy and Management)

Hugo Benitez-Silva (Economics)

Christopher Cutler (Periodontics)

Galyna Cyrmachevska (Undergraduate Student)

Aimee DeChambeau (Library) (until 05/11)

Paul Firbas (Hispanic Languages)

Joseph Lauher (Chemistry)

Michael Hadjiargyrou (Biomedical Engineering)

Marci Lobel (Psychology)

Thomas Robertazzi (Electrical Engineering) (Co-Chair)

Arthur Samuel (Psychology) (until 12/10)

Dominik Schneble (Physics & Astr.) (Co-Chair)

Gina Sorrentino (Graduate Student)

Wei Zhu (Applied Mathematics and Statistics)

Introduction

Why this survey?

“to evaluate the current state of infrastructure and conditions under which research is performed at the University, and to identify pressing needs.”

From survey announcement - Nov 2010

“It is also hoped that this survey and its recommendations will be useful in providing guidance for strategic planning of improvements and maintenance of Stony Brook’s research infrastructure and facilities.”

From survey report - Sept 2011

Time line

- 2010: USRC designs survey following a recommendation of VPR John H. Marburger III, and in consultation with Nancy Daneau, Deputy to the VPR.
- Nov 2010: online survey is open (10 days)
 - Announcement e-mailed by Senate President "To All Faculty"
 - ~ 2700 recipients
 - 385 responses ~ 14%**
- Spring/Summer 2011: USRC analyzes responses & formulates recommendations

Implementation



University Senate Research Facilities/Infrastructure Survey

Page 8

More About Yourself

7. What type of research do you conduct (check all that apply)?

- Basic
- Applied
- Clinical
- Translational
- Other, please specify

8. What is your highest degree?

- Masters or equivalent
- Ph.D. or equivalent
- M.D. or equivalent
- Other, please specify

SelectSurvey

thanks to
Ying Xiong
Assessment Specialist,
Faculty Center

Survey questions

- Physical plant
- research space: HVAC & electrical
- waste management/janitorial services
- lab & office security
- lab renovations
- data links / teleconferencing

□ Mixture of multiple-choice and open questions

Most populated buildings*

(in terms of tenure-track/tenured faculty)

HSC/Hospital	266
Math/Physics	103
Social & Behavioral S. (SBS)	99
Humanities	60
Life Sciences	52
Light Engineering	44
Staller Center	39
Harriman	37
Computer Science	35
SOMAS buildings	31
Chemistry	30
Psychology A&B	30
Earth & Space S. (ESS)	24
Melville Libr.	19
Old Engineering	14

* raw data provided by OVPR

Findings

(from multiple-choice questions)

Reported problems

(% of respondents)

- **Physical plant**
SOMAS (100%), Life Sciences (73%), Chemistry (56%)
- **research space: HVAC & electrical**
HVAC: SOMAS (70%), Comp. Sc. (63%), Staller Ctr (60%)
Electr.: SOMAS (40%), Comp. Sc. (38%), ESS (30%)
- **waste management/janitorial services**
Chemistry (73%), Psych A&B (56%), SOMAS (50%)
- **lab & office security**
Library (50%), SOMAS (50%), Math/Ph & Comp. Sc. (43%)
- **lab renovations**
Staller Ctr. (75%), Harriman & Comp. Sc. (50%), Math/Ph (40%)
- **data links / teleconferencing**
data: Staller Ctr. (50%), Comp. Sc. (50%), Melville Libr. (40%)
tele: SBS(100%), Light Eng. (100%), Comp Sc. (86%)

Reported problems

(absolute number of respondents)...

- **Physical plant**

HSC (25), Life Sc. (16), Math/Ph & SOMAS (10)

HSC: 266
Math/Ph 103
SOMAS 31

- **research space: HVAC & electrical**

HVAC HSC (25), Life Sc. (16), Math/Ph & SOMAS (10)

Electr HSC (11), Life Sc. (4), SOMAS (4)

- **waste management/janitorial services**

Math/Ph & HSC (9), Chemistry (8), Life Sc. & SBS (6)

- **lab & office security**

HSC (24), Math/Ph (24), SOMAS & Libr (5)

- **lab renovations**

Math/Ph (6), HSC & Comp. Sc. (4), Staller Ctr. (3)

- **data links / teleconferencing**

data: HSC (8), Life Sc. (5), Melville Libr & SBS (4)

tele: HSC (22), Life Sc. (12), SBS (10)

Recommendations

A) The following problem areas were frequently mentioned* by survey respondents and should be addressed to the extent possible:

Physical Plant

- 1) Poor physical condition of buildings.
- 2) Electric power (reliability and quality).
- 3) Climate control for laboratories, offices and library.
- 4) Lack of laboratory space.
- 5) Renovations and repairs to laboratories, offices and library facilities are prohibitively expensive and take too long.

Equipment and Infrastructure

- 1) Need for more shared equipment and core facilities.
- 2) Equipment upgrades (repairs, maintenance and insurance).
- 3) Computers (supplies and upgrades: particularly for Humanities, Social Sciences and Fine Arts).

Support Services

- 1) Insufficient janitorial services.
- 2) Insufficient security (Laboratories, offices and library).

* Both in multiple-choice and in open questions

B) *Deficiencies in buildings* described in this report's tabular data should be addressed to the extent possible.

Additional Specific Recommendations

C) Increase use of direct costs (IFR) or indirect costs by colleges and departments to support research infrastructure needs.

D) Encourage strategic planning between the Office of the Vice President of Research and the Office of Facilities and Services on issues of research infrastructure.

E) Facilitate opportunities and create/find space for interdisciplinary collaborations.

F) Have Property Control maintain a highly accessible, web-based list of surplus equipment across the university.