Research Facilities & Infrastructure Survey
2010/11

University Senate Research Committee 2010/11:

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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

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)

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

* 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)

- **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.