

Annual Report for the Council on the Physical Environment (COPE) for the 2020-2021 Academic Year.

Membership of COPE (AY) 2020-2021

Member (Term Expires)	Source	Affiliation (Alternate)
Jake Boswell (2021)	Faculty Council	Architecture
Scott Schricker (2023)	Presidential	Dentistry
Kerry Ard (2023)	Faculty Council	CFAES
Cinnamon Carlarne (2021)	Faculty Council	Law
Adriana Derksen (2021)	USG	(Pablo Manon Mateos)
Scott Dickson (2021)	Staff - Steering/USAC	Schottenstein/Facilities
Jacqueline Gargus (2023)	Faculty Council	Architecture
Emma Hetson	IPC	Pharmacy
Michael Hofherr (Ex-Officio)	Executive VP and Provost / Designee	(Leslie Weibush)
Jordan Klapper (2021)	USG	(Kathleen Fink)
Gala Korniyenko (2021)	CGS	Architecture
Aaron Moore (Ex-Officio)	SVP, Admin & Planning / Designee	
Margaret Mudge (2023)	Faculty Council	Vet School
Scott Potter (Ex-Officio)	SVP Designee, Business & Finance / Designee	(Aaron Moore)
Sebastien Proulx (2022)	Presidential	Arts and Science

Meetings

COPE held eight meetings during the academic year. The meetings were scheduled for the first Tuesday of every month from 4-5 PM. Due to COVID restrictions the meetings were held via zoom. Due to the extended break the January meeting was held on January 12.

Jake and Scott (Chairs) would meet one week prior to the committee meetings to finalize the agenda and minutes from the previous meeting. They would also discuss potential future meetings and potential presentations.

The Chairs were also members of the President and Provost’s Council on Sustainability(PPCS). This committee meet met several times during AY 2020-2021. The PPCS discuss the metrics used by the University to measure sustainability and initiatives to achieve carbon neutrality. There were also presentations regarding community sustainability initiatives.

The chairs also participated in monthly meetings of Faculty Cabinet. The Cabinet had a series of meetings with President Johnson to discuss specific topics. One topic was graduate students, and the chairs gave a presentation that requested the creation of a working group to address graduate and family housing. We discussed many of the issues that had been brought up during COPE meetings. For instance, any graduate housing should consider access to childcare, education, public transportation and community facilities.

Structural Changes.

COPE discussed potential structural changes to better facilitate our mission. At the start of AY 2020-2021 it was decided that COPE would have a chair and a co-chair. At the end of the year we voted and approved having a chair and a chair elect. COPE felt that this would improve continuity and sustain long-term goals and initiatives.

The Senate had a subcommittee to examine the structure and charges of the committees. COPE submitted thoughts regarding the scope and mission on the council. Briefly, we asked for a more focused mission, the current language is very broad. We also requested better alignment with University business groups and regular updates and reports.

Initiatives/Resolutions

The primary resolution that COPE dealt with was the CSG resolution regarding the Combined Heat and Power Plant (CHP). The resolution can be found at: https://usg.osu.edu/posts/documents/doc_1092020_164953936.pdf and encourages the University to make the CHP carbon neutral as quickly as possible and achieve carbon neutrality as quickly as possible. COPE voted to support this resolution in the December 1 meeting.

Committee Meetings

Several University business units presented to COPE: We heard a presentation on potential sites for graduate and family student housing from Amy Burgess at Administration and Planning. We heard a presentation on the effect of COVID on the classroom and how classrooms might be different going forward from the Provosts office. That meeting resulted in two member of COPE being included on the new Classroom Master Plan committee (Jake Boswell and Jordan Clapper). COPE also heard a presentation from Planning, Architecture and Real Estate (PARE), that describes how projects go from ideas and planning to actual buildings or infrastructure. Transportation and Parking presented their long-range plan for transportation and mobility around campus--the culmination of a process that PARE was involved with from the beginning.

One common theme and frustration with the members of COPE is how to have meaningful input on projects on campus. We heard many presentations and provided some general thoughts and feedback. However, there is not a clear pathway for COPE to propose initiatives or to provide input on projects while they are being actively planned. The presentations are either very broad and a year or more out from their approval, or designs have already been approved or a plan issued and there is little chance for input. Transportation and Parking's CTP3 plan is an exception to that rule, and perhaps represents a good model of how to move forward. In that instance, members of COPE provided feedback throughout the process and were included as part of the planning committee. We would hope that other projects currently

in their early phases like the Classroom Master Plan and the plans for Grad and Family housing would follow this model. However, it is very hard to stay apprised of, let alone participate in, all such initiatives on campus.

After speaking with PARE, we felt that this better model might be facilitated in two ways. First, by having a member of PARE assigned to COPE. Second, by having members of Administration and Planning present what they see on the horizon for that year at an early COPE meeting every year. This would allow COPE to get a broad sense of what is happening around campus, and then to choose projects that we want to track and/or hear more about. Another issue that became clear in speaking with PARE, is that there are some physical changes that happen on campus that do not go through the normal Administration and Planning pathways. A good example is the new CHP facility. Given that, it would be helpful to have representation from external entities like Engie and Campus Parc on COPE as well.

AY 2021/22

Scott Schricker has been elected to chair COPE for the 21/22 Academic Year. A chair-elect will be identified in the Fall semester of 2021 once new appointees are present.