

WCSU Physical Working Conditions Committee
End of Year Report 2008-2009

The Working Conditions committee met the first Monday of each month throughout the school year (with the exception of January).

Highlights of the year;

Chairperson elected; Joan Palladino

Members; Charles Rocca, David Skora, John Burrell, Carol Frascione, Mike Ercoli, Margaret Cicalese, Irene Sherlock, Frank Lazetera, ex- officio member, Luigi Marcone

Luigi Marcone provided updates on WCSU's recycling campaign and compensation injuries to the committee.

Dan Costello updated the committee on the budget cuts to the maintenance budget.

The committee received less complaints pertaining to snow and ice. This may be due in part to an increase in school closures and delays.

Last year the Working Conditions Committee clarified for the WCSU community the proper communication pathway to facilitate how repair work should be requested. The procedure is to email "Request Maintenance," stating the location and nature of the issue before bringing unresolved issues to the committee. Luigi Marcone sent out an email detailing the use of "School Dude" to request maintenance. The committee decided that any complaint that is brought to the committee that has not requested maintenance first will be referred back to the individual to follow proper procedure. The committee continued to direct faculty and staff to follow this procedure rather than having the Working Conditions Committee be the first attempt to request repair work.

The Senate requested that the Physical Working Conditions Committee look into ways of enforcing the No Smoking Policy within 15 feet of doorways. This was passed by the Senate last year and the policy is up on the Human Resources Web site. The Committee did not know the policy existed and much of the WCSU community also did not know. The committee consulted with the Human Resources Department and the WCSU Police Department and found that it is not enforceable through legal action. The committee decided that educating the community was a good first step and a blast email went out to the entire WCSU community informing them of the policy. The committee is still working with the university to have signage placed on the doors or in front of the buildings. The two issues with signs are cost and where to place them to fit with the university sign policy. The Chair updated the Senate in February about these issues. It was also pointed out that in many cases there is not 15 feet between buildings.

Joan Palladino, Chair, was also involved in the Facilities Strategic Planning Committee.
Last meeting 5/4/09

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Palladino