

Board of Trustees Meeting – May 21, 2013  
Verbal Update Re: Math, Technology & Science Complex  
Administrative Reports – Presidents – Dr. Azari

This preliminary information is based on phone conversations between Charlie Wyckoff and Michelle Rosales from Forensic Analytical as well as Joe Del Monico from p2s. We expect to have a full report by the end of the week.

**Preliminary, verbal report from Michelle Rosales of Forensic Analytical on the air quality in the MTSC:**

- Based on their sampling, the air quality is good.
- Only 12 compounds were identified in air collected over an 8-hour period in 12 different evacuated canisters and none of them were dangerous compounds
- All compound levels were low and (many were lower than the control samples taken of the outside air). All samples were well below OSHA limits.
- Our readings were in the very low parts per billion range; OSHA standards are generally in the parts per million range.
- There were some issues with hydrogen sulfide (essentially sewer gas) at levels high enough to smell, but not nearly high enough to be dangerous. We are establishing a procedure to keep the traps in the emergency equipment (eyewashes, showers in labs) drains filled.
- VOC (volatile organic compounds) levels like the benzene derivative found in the initial testing by Forensic Analytical were zero in all rooms but one, and that one had a level of 100 to 200 ppm, still well below OSHA standards.
- The screen removed from Dr. White's lab is being tested in an off campus lab and we should have the results by the end of the week.
- Water sample results from drinking fountains indicated a higher than normal presence of copper in drinking fountains on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> floors, but less than maximum levels permissible.

## **Preliminary, verbal report from p2s on HVAC system:**

- Three primary issues identified by faculty/staff interviews: odors, temperature and acoustics (noise)

### **Temperature:**

- Some spaces were below the code minimum requirement of 68 degrees
- System as currently designed and installed is not capable of maintaining 68 degrees when outside air temperature falls below 34 degrees
- Solution may require installation of an additional boiler
- Conclusion: "The AHU (air handling unit) system design for this building is not adequate to meet the heating needs of the building."

### **Odors:**

- Odors appear to be entering the rooms through the drainage system; the required negative air balance in the labs (so that odors in the labs do not escape into hallways) is apparently drawing odors into the labs from the drains.
- Need to investigate as to whether trap primers were installed (trap primers periodically spray water into traps to maintain the water level in the trap, thereby keeping odors from entering the rooms. p2s will investigate.
- Airflow to corridors appears to be inadequate, creating a "stale" smell, especially on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor
- Some issues were uncovered ductwork that was not properly connected

### **Noise:**

- The as-built drawings called for hard duct connections. Some flexible ductwork was retrofitted after the building opened, but more needs to be added to address the noise problem
- Preliminary recommendation is to provide a minimum of four feet of flexible ductwork between the registers and hard ductwork in all labs.