



BEWell Built Environment

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Mission

The mission of the BEWell pod is to assure healthy, safe, and sustainable physical environments that promote walking and bicycling, physical activity, and clean air for all of UCLA.

Objectives:

1. Support projects that expand our reach and definition of built environment issues
2. Partner with Westwood Village Improvement Association
3. Develop a sidewalk campaign to highlight poor sidewalk quality in and around the UCLA campus
4. Maintain a commitment to diversity inclusive of persons with disabilities
5. Improve UCLA's walking and bicycling environment through new and existing initiatives
6. Create ways to engage and listen to UCLA stakeholders about their built environment needs

Objective 1: Support projects that expand our reach and definition of built environment issues

Engage and Partner with Students Supporting Lactation Spaces on Campus

One of our primary goals this year included forming and strengthening partnerships with other groups on campus to expand the purview of BEWell and to engage a broader range of interests into our work.

This year, BEWell supported the efforts of Creating Spaces, a student-led group, who launched exciting initiatives that continue to build support for parenting students, faculty, and staff at UCLA. In Fall 2016 and Winter 2017 an online survey was conducted with parenting students, faculty, and staff who have had to pump breast milk on UCLA's campus. The findings of this survey helped to build the case for more adequate lactation spaces. In addition, several



These UCLA staff and students made the new lactation space possible.

students and volunteers conducted assessments of existing lactation rooms and spaces by examining the quality, accessibility, and quantity of these spaces. They found that several rooms that were used as lactation rooms were inadequate (including janitorial closets) per the guidelines outlined by the American Institute of Architects. In addition, access was severely limited in almost all cases.



Sample signage of an improved lactation space on campus and the improved lactation space in the Student Activities Center.

In Spring 2017, Creating Spaces celebrated the grand re-opening of the lactation room in the Student Activities Center: a symbolic culmination of their work to date and vision for the future. The re-opening coincided with the launch of lactation education and counseling services that will be available through the Ashe Student Health and Wellness Center, Bruin Resource Center, and Student Health Education and Promotion. Certified trained lactation consultants on campus

will be accessible to students, staff, and faculty. BEWell will continue to support activities like these that ensure our built environment promotes the wellbeing of a diverse campus community.

Key Contacts: Creating Spaces, Reproductive Health Interest Group, Mothers of Color in Academia.

Activating Campus Spaces

Another key initiative this year included planning for campus space activation. A 2013 study conducted by the UCLA Institute of Environment and Sustainability examined the underutilization of spaces on the UCLA campus. You can read more on the study here: <http://bit.ly/2vgBWjs>.

Building on this study and a growing interest from the campus community, BEWell identified multiple avenues to engage the UCLA community and garner input on where improvements can be made to activate campus spaces.

BEWell tabled at several events during the year and crowd-sourced information from students, faculty, and staff. Participants were asked to write on campus maps or populate a blank map with post-its with their ideas for improvements. Ideas included: more areas to sit, outdoor outlets for electronic devices, spaces for rest and meditation, and spaces for low-impact recreation. Responses from the year have been collected and shared with the campus architect, Peter Hendrickson. Future meetings will rely and build on this information to inform potential changes to the UCLA campus. All responses have also been included on an interactive Google Map.

Elevator Wraps at Bunche Hall

In 2013, BEWell launched the StairWell project at the Fielding School of Public Health. This project has garnered a number of accolades and interest from other members of the campus community. One such interest came from Dr. Andrew Ward, a visiting professor from Swarthmore College, and Dr. Janet Tomiyama from UCLA, who approached HCI to find out how the elevator wraps were installed. Their interest stemmed from a desire to conduct a study on the effectiveness of elevator wraps in promoting stair use.

Dr. Ward and Dr. Tomiyama were connected to building administrators at Bunche Hall, who in the past had expressed interest in applying elevator wraps. After several conversations between building administrators, the interested researchers, UCLA Transportation, and the campus architect, all those involved agreed to conduct the study at Bunche Hall on a temporary basis. Based on the findings of their study, this may serve as the groundwork to advocate for elevator wraps across campus and beyond.

More details on the StairWell project are available at: <http://bit.ly/2uplvwZ>.

Objective 2: Partner with Westwood Village Improvement Association

Joint Great Streets Project Application

In Fall 2016, the Westwood Village Association approached BEWell to partner on an application for the Great Streets Initiative. The Great Streets call for applications sought to garner ideas from across Los Angeles on ways to activate ordinary spaces for people by creating “great streets.” In an ongoing effort to build strong community partnerships, BEWell collaborated with staff from the Westwood Village Association (a nonprofit organization in Westwood comprised of business owners, merchants, and representatives from UCLA) on a grant application and UCLA Transportation, HCI, and other UCLA partners provided letters of support for the project. The project was titled, “Walk ‘n Roll Westwood” and highlighted local businesses, existing and proposed transit infrastructure, and ways to activate spaces with pop-ups. This year, our application was not chosen as a recipient of the Great Streets Initiative grant. However, these efforts continue to build positive relationships with UCLA’s neighboring community.

Objectives 3 and 4: Develop a sidewalk campaign to highlight poor sidewalk quality in and around the UCLA campus; Maintain a commitment to diversity inclusive of persons with disabilities

UCLA Sidewalk Campaign

This year, building on previous work that addressed the need for improvements to walking facilities on campus, BEWell created a plan of action for the future of our sidewalk campaign. Spearheaded by Miso Kwak, an undergraduate UCLA student in the Psychology Department, the campaign seeks to improve the walking environment to benefit all users of the UCLA community, particularly those with disabilities. An outline for a memo has been drafted that will be completed and submitted to the City of Los Angeles, Council District 5, and sidewalk campaign advocates within the city.

Watch the student-produced video “Miso Goes to Class” on our HCI YouTube channel (@healthyucla) for a look into what it’s like navigating the UCLA campus as a visually impaired student.

Objective 5: Improve UCLA's walking and bicycling environment through new and existing initiatives

Geffen Walk/Bike Path

During the planning stages of the new David Geffen School of Medicine building on Tiverton Avenue, bike and pedestrian advocates on campus and UCLA Transportation seized the opportunity to include additional bike and pedestrian facilities. Building upon an existing relationship with the late campus architect, Jeff Averill, conversations were able to get underway to close down the Tiverton entrance to vehicles and create the first multi-use bike and pedestrian path on campus. Opened in Winter 2017, the path now provides a safe and efficient way to enter campus on either bike or foot.



Pedestrians and bicyclists use the new Geffen Walk/Bike Path.

Bruin Bike Share

UCLA is gearing up to join the ride with the launch of its bike share program in the 2017 - 2018 academic year. Like many cities in the Los Angeles area, UCLA will work with the vendor CycleHop. Bike hubs will be located on key parts of campus and in Westwood Village where there is already a significant amount of foot traffic. There are 16 planned hub locations, including at Powell Library, the Luskin Conference Center, the UCLA Ronald Reagan Medical Center, and Broxton Avenue in Westwood Village.

Bruin Bike Share will utilize 'smart bikes,' which provide real-time information on bike and hub availability, remaining rental time, and distance biked. UCLA students, faculty, staff, and visitors will be able to rent bikes using a smartphone app, Metro TAP cards, or via the kiosks at larger bike hubs. CycleHop summarizes the rental process in four steps: reserve, release, ride, and return. Flexible memberships and pay-as-you-go options will accommodate the needs of riders, but founding membership will be \$60 for the year.



Participants in the Tour De UCLA get ready to tour the bike facilities on campus.

Earn a Bike

The Earn-A-Bike program at UCLA incentivizes employees to ride bicycles to campus as a sustainable, economical, and healthy alternative to driving, by providing them with a free \$400 bicycle package when they trade in their parking permit for at least two years. The gift certificate is

valid at the local Helen's Cycles shop in Westwood Village. Each package includes a bike, lock set, helmet, light, and Bruin Commuter Club (BCC) welcome kit, that includes a cinch bag and additional resources to help make the most of biking at UCLA. The program supports numerous UCLA initiatives and goals, such as the 2008 Climate Action Plan, which is a major step in UCLA's commitment to addressing global climate change and sustainability. It also supports the 2014 Sustainable Transportation Plan, which aims to make UCLA a premier transportation and parking organization by providing an innovative, sustainable program that supports excellence in education, research, and public service. Currently, qualifying participants include UCLA staff and faculty members with a single occupancy vehicle parking permit and an appointment time of 49% or more. The program will soon expand to cover more members of the UCLA community.

Objective 6: Create ways to engage and listen to UCLA stakeholders about their built environment needs

Student, Faculty, and Staff Input on Campus Spaces

Over the course of the 2016 - 2017 academic year, BEWell solicited campus feedback on ways to activate underutilized campus spaces in order to better serve the needs of students, faculty, and staff.

Data collection included interactive mapping activities at BEWell pod meetings and crowdsourcing data at events, such as HCI's Annual Celebration and the Luskin Conference Center Grand Opening. Building upon a report created in 2013 by students and staff at UCLA Capital Programs on space use on campus, students overwhelmingly stated they want more spaces to meet and gather, spaces to study with access to an outlet, and places for low-impact rest and reprieve (such as yoga, tai chi, or stretching). The full report can be read here: <http://bit.ly/2vgBWjs>.



Participants at a BEWell pod meeting share their ideas for campus improvements.

Responses from the year-long effort were compiled into an online Google map and will be used to guide the direction of future projects to activate campus spaces.

Outreach and Engagement

BEWell sought to increase awareness and engage a broader swath of the UCLA community into the work of HCI. Outreach efforts included tabling at the HCI's Annual Celebration, the UCLA Transportation Fair, the grand re-opening of the Lactation Space in the Student Activities Center, and the Luskin Conference Center Grand Opening. In Winter 2017, Renée Fortier and Ana Bonilla co-led a presentation to Dr. Jackson's Built Environment and Health Class.

Participation in HCI's Annual Celebration

At this year's HCI Annual Celebration: #DreamRevolution, BEWell provided an interactive activity that sought to engage attendees and garner their ideas for improvements to UCLA's campus. Building on the theme of the night, we asked participants to indicate their dreams for improvements to the UCLA campus that would support their overall health and wellbeing. Respondents overwhelmingly indicated that their favorite campus spaces were those that had access to greenspace and nature.

Participants also wanted to see more frequent refuse collection and the adoption of greener sustainability strategies to include composting across campus.



Luchino Castagno and Ana Bonilla lead an interactive activity at HCI's Annual Celebration: #DreamRevolution.

Goals for the 2017 - 2018 Academic Year

- **Continue to support projects that expand our reach and definition of built environment issues**
 - This year, our partnership with Creating Spaces ushered in a new wave of built environment advocates in parenting students that wanted to see more access to quality spaces to pump breastmilk for their children. By expanding the reach and scope of the built environment, BEWell continues to grow a movement demonstrating that the built environment affects us all.
- **Partner with organizations, associations, and projects in the larger UCLA and Westwood community**
 - UCLA is located in the heart of Westwood and accommodates thousands of students, faculty, and staff every day. There are many potential projects where BEWell can build partnerships that will be mutually beneficial to UCLA and the Westwood community.
- **Maintain a commitment to diversity, inclusive of persons with disabilities**
 - While the sidewalk campaign highlighted the need to improve sidewalk facilities and infrastructure, particularly for students with disabilities, there are other avenues where insightful feedback can be given to future projects. BEWell should maintain a commitment to bringing these voices into the fold to plan for projects that benefit all students in the UCLA community.
- **Improve UCLA's walking and bicycling environment through new and existing initiatives**
 - Building upon several years of a successful partnership, BEWell will continue to partner with UCLA Transportation to promote and suggest projects that improve walking and biking on campus. This is one of the most proactive ways in which the health of the campus community can be promoted.

- **Create ways to engage and listen to UCLA stakeholders about their built environment needs**
 - Input from stakeholders on campus will continue to drive accountability to promoting and planning projects that meet the needs of students, faculty, staff, and other campus stakeholders.
- **Implement a project that seeks to activate an underutilized space on campus**
 - Several activities in the 2016 - 2017 academic year have set the groundwork for data collection that can inform where spaces on campus can be activated. In partnership with the campus architect, and Deans of various schools across campus, activating spaces can ensure that the UCLA campus meets the needs of current and future students, faculty, and staff.