



Quality of Life Sub-Committee Meeting

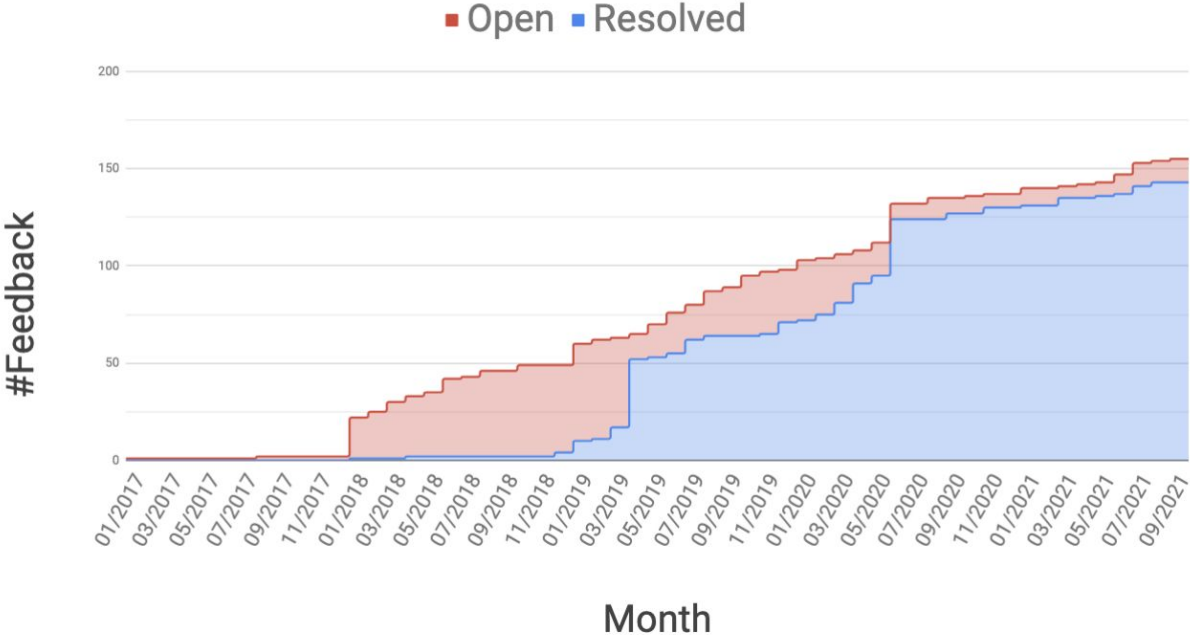
Sep 14, 2021
Aleena Rafique, Yuanyuan Zhang



Feedback Overview

UEC Feedback

One new feedback received during last month.
One feedback has been resolved.



(*) Includes items we don't publish

Open

Category	COUNT of Responsible		
	QoL	QoL & Fermilab Operations	Grand Total
Fermilab Operations		1	1
QoL	6		6
Grand Total	6	1	7

(*) Excludes items we don't publish

New feedback item

- Lack of gender inclusivity in on-boarding in FermiWorks

I happen to be **renewing my FNAL computing** at the moment. In the **on-boarding in FermiWorks**, I was looking at the drop-down options for the Gender question and I was **pretty disappointed in the lack of inclusivity** for people who exist outside of the gender binary of the "Male" and "Female" options. **The only other option appears to be "Unknown"**. Whilst this is better than having only the binary gender options, using language such as "Unknown", "Prefer not to say" or "Other" further marginalizes nonbinary people and people whose gender identity is something other than these options, who in most cases clearly know and are proud of their gender identity.

While this does not affect me directly, I know of friends and colleagues within the Fermilab community who would be affected by the lack of inclusive options in the question.

There was an article shared recently on NOvA slack, mainly talking about similar data collected by NSF and other funding agencies:

https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__www.scientificamerican.com_article_nonbinary-2Dscientists-2Dwant-2Dfunding-2Dagencies-2Dto-2Dchange-2Dhow-2Dthey-2Dcollect-2Dgender-2Ddata_&d=DwIB-g&c=gRgGjJ3Bklsb5y6s49QqsA&r=EGR3H9tJ0V1BO_24YJQQjPndKdaZkhuOLKGETLYqfil&m=8mzOwkYSe8AeYI2_uB3JCTPAmFQszwtFQyu_IVbpol&s=Bp1_KpCLShyaoRASiOdSGSGXd02Q-OXTeFvtxUq8SQ4&e= . This provided some advice on how to make Gender questions more inclusive. We may also wish to consult the SPECTRUM LRG to see if they have specific advice or input on how we can make this question more inclusive.

- We are thinking about involving EDI and Users offices to address this issue. Any other thoughts?

Open feedback items -- Rent increase in the village

- I am very surprised to see that recently the housing rent got hiked by 17%. As a student, I can only afford the dorm room here. I am living at the dorm room currently. It is very hard for us to rent a outside apartment. As a federal lab, it is very unfortunate and unfair to set the room rent as compared to market value. We are staying at the Fermilab housing because it is cheaper than the market and we as a student can afford it. Taking as a fact that market value raising, housing can increase their rent step-by-step with little amounts instead of whole lots of 17%.
- Hello I am writing to seek your involvement in hiking the housing rent matters. Since, most of the residents in village are phd or summer students so it would be really too much if the rent increases by 17%. We don't have many facilities inside the village-like there is no laundry in most of the dorms, there is no water machine, rooms need paint and renovation, no one cleans the carpet fully, and on top of that they are increasing rents. It's a government property and its not understandable why housing people involve private company to get the rate estimate. All the furniture in all dorms and houses are old, nothing new has happened so why there is an increase in rent? Please step into this matter and help us.
- Feedback: The FNAL housing office has increased the rent by 17% at once. This is not acceptable as they are not adding any extra facilities. 5% increase is understandable but 17% is too much. It would be great if UEC considers talking to the housing office and come up with a more reasonable rate.
- Hey, I am ***** , I am living at the Dorm *. I am very concern to know from housing office that my rent at dorm room will increase 30%. I am not getting any reasons or justifications for this announcement at this challenging time. Since housing are not implementing any new amenities (free washing/drying etc) for the dorm room, that's why it is very unfair to hike the rent a lot like 30%. Any small increments between 5-10% is manageable. The reason of market value agreement is very unfortunate, because federal lab don't want to make any profit from us. Please let us know your concern about this matter and how we proceed if we want to make any disagreement petition.
- Hello,I am very concern to know from housing office that my rent at dorm room (sharing kitchen and washroom) will increase ~32% from August however in the mail it was written 17%. I am not getting any reasons or justifications for this announcement at this challenging time. Since housing are not implementing the new amenities (free washing/drying etc) for the dorm room, that's why it is very unfair to hike the rent a lot like 32%. In 2019 it has increased 5% and again 32%. We understand the covid situation and any small increments between 5-10% is manageable. The reason of market value agreement is very unfortunate, because federal lab don't want to make any profit from us. Please let us know about your concern about this matter and how we proceed if we want to make any disagreement petition.

Open feedback items -- Rent increase in the village

Town-Hall meeting was held on Aug 11th.

- We thank the directorate office, users office and the housing office for setting up this event.
- Need to follow-up on the income-based subsidies/rents before closing the tickets.
 - Griselda will follow up with Anju from HR and will get back to us.

Open feedback

- Country of birth question on the Fermilab meetings registration pages
- From Kate Gregory:
 - The wording we expect to begin using the following new wording in registrant questionnaires beginning in late July:
 - “Please identify if you were born in, are currently a citizen of, or are otherwise affiliated with a State Sponsor of Terrorism as identified by the U.S. Department of State (see <https://www.state.gov/state-sponsors-of-terrorism/>).”
 - Country of birth question is still being asked in the same way for a meeting happening later September.
 - <https://indico.fnal.gov/category/22/>
 - Brought up in the UEC chairs and directorate’s meeting last month
 - Hema will follow up with conference office and Melissa and then will update us.



Resolved feedback item -- Users Meeting recordings not found

- I'm looking for the recordings of Users meeting sessions and don't see them on indico site where the pdf files are available. Can you please point me to the site where the recordings are uploaded?
 - Resolution: The Users Meeting recordings are now being populated to the Timetable in the indico agenda <https://indico.fnal.gov/event/49544/>. We need to obtain the consent forms from the people before we post those recordings online. You will find the remaining recordings on the same timetable as soon as they are available.