

Unisex Restrooms Project

Goal: Create unisex restrooms that are safe and accessible for all campus members and visitors, including families, people with disabilities or attendants, and transgender people.

Terminology:

Unisex Restrooms: facilities labeled “Restroom” that any person may use.

Gendered Restrooms: facilities labeled “Men” or “Women” that are sex-segregated.

Single Occupancy Restrooms: facilities with locking exterior doors and no privacy stall inside.

Single Stall Restrooms: facilities with usually unlocked exterior doors and one privacy stall inside.

Multi Stall Restrooms: facilities with usually unlocked exterior doors and two or more privacy stall inside.

Action Steps:

1. Take an inventory of single stall and single occupancy restrooms on campus, including identifying which restrooms are wheel-chair accessible.
2. Post information on UCR website.
3. Convert single occupancy restrooms to unisex with new signage that says “Restroom” instead of “Men” or “Women.” Include accessibility sign when appropriate.

UC San Diego – Inventoried and found 186 single stall or single occupancy restrooms. Converted 88 single occupancy restrooms from gendered to unisex. Listing of these restrooms can be found at the following page on UC San Diego’s website:

<http://link.ucsd.edu/Blink/External/Topics/Policy/0,1162,13561,00.html>

Info from Gary Matthews, UCSD Assistant Vice Chancellor over Physical Plant Services, <gcmatthews@ucsd.edu>:

The costs included the associated labor to conduct the inventory, which was completed by Custodial staff, as well as the signage and installation costs.

The initial labor of custodial staff was not tabulated, as it was performed during their scheduled assignments. Identify and list locations was the assignment within the context of their duties to inspect all facilities. No additional cost was incurred for the initial assessment.

Staff were assigned to assemble and input data into our Business Portal (Blink). About three hours total time was utilized @ \$50/hr. Cost@ \$150.00

Signs were purchased and installed for about \$30.00 per sign.

UC Santa Barbara – Converted 17 single occupancy restrooms from gendered to unisex and are investigating the feasibility of converting an additional 17.

UC Los Angeles – Identified approximately 30 single occupancy restrooms and has posted map locations and information about them at the following web page:

<http://www.lgbt.ucla.edu/unibathucla.html>

None of the three campuses have received negative feedback for their action. San Diego ran into obstacles with handicapped access signage that requires symbols for men and women, but the issue was resolved. Conversions consisted of signage changes and, in a few instances, installation of locking mechanisms. San Diego and Santa Barbara reported negligible costs to do their conversions.

Please note that the UC nondiscrimination statement includes “gender identity” and is consistent with the California Fair Employment and Housing Act. Learn more at:

<http://www.ucop.edu/ucophome/coordrev/policy/12-18-03.html>