

**UNIVERSAL DESIGN AND ACCESSIBLE SPACE:
ASSESSMENT OF POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE SPACES ON CAMPUS**

This report offers the main findings from the “Universal Design and Accessible Space” project, followed by lists of positive and negative spaces.

Background

In the spring semester of 2007, a group of students and staff affiliated with the Disability Resource Center of the University of Arizona conducted research on campus accessibility. Using aerial maps of campus, they interviewed 25 people about their experiences on the UA campus. They publicly presented their results in April. For more information or for their report, please visit <http://www.cultureplacehealth.org/spacegrant/>, where you can also view a sample map from one of the interviews.

Key findings:

1. In our attempt to seek consistency in relationship to positive and/or negative spaces on campus, what we found was inconsistency. In saying this, we are suggesting that what one person may view as a desirable campus space for one reason, another person might find this space desirable for other reasons. The analysis of space as it pertains to the campus community is subjective.
2. Two campus athletic facilities (Arizona Stadium and Bear Down Gym) were two of the most negatively perceived spaces at UA according to interviewees.
3. Despite noted design flaws, (from the perspective of interviewees) such as uneven outdoor surfaces and inaccessible indoor features (such as dining tables being inaccessible to individuals who use wheelchairs) the Student Union Memorial Center (SUMC) and the UA mall elicited the most positive responses from interviewees.
 - Mall and the ILC
 - University Blvd into Old Main
 - Street just east of the Yuma dorm
 - Walk around the mall
 - Entrance into Forbes
 - Walkway by life sciences south.

Positive Spaces on Campus

At the request of members of the audiences, the class decided to share some of the basic findings. However, it is important to stress that these data were collected from a non-random sample through open-ended interview. The data was analyzed inductively, mostly using basic frequency counting

The following areas on campus were frequently mentioned as **positive** areas:

- Union/mall (and immediate surrounding area)(8)
- The education building (7)
- DRC (7)
- East end of Koeffler (3)

- Main Library
- Parking for disabled on east and west ends of vet sciences
- Rec Center (3)
- McKale ??? (perceptions of facility vary, both positive and negative)
- Admin (perceptions of facility vary, both positive and negative)
- University Blvd. (+) & (-)

Other positive spaces noted:

- Disabled parking areas on east and west ends of Vet Sciences
- East side of Old main
- Entrance to the Arizona Museum
- Walkway between Centennial Hall and the south museum
- Sidewalk on Highland next to dorms
- Lift into the pool for disabled at the rec center
- Handicapped parking on the east side of psychology
- Parking lot by math east
- Handicapped parking at 2nd St garage
- Pima house
- Cherry St between 2nd St and Speedway
- Park outside of DRC
- Walkway on Highland from biosciences to the mall
- Walkway on the south side of the union
- Entrance to the Highland market corridor
- Automatic doors at AME
- Student Union
- Administration bldg
- Mall and the ILC
- University Blvd into Old Main
- Street just east of the Yuma dorm
- Walk around the mall
- Entrance into Forbes
- Walkway by life sciences south.

The following areas on campus were frequently mentioned as negative areas:

- Arizona Stadium (6)
- Ramp at Admin (5)
- Bear Down Gym (4)
- Hillenbrand stadium and surrounding area (4)
- Highland Avenue crossing of 6th street(4)
- Walkway between Union and Modern Languages between 2nd Street and Union (3)
- Circle drive north of union is bumpy (3)
- Forbes Building (3)
- McKale(2)

- Intersection where sidewalk ends by Koeffler (2)
- Sidewalk on 6th street in front of stadium and Sanset Field (2)
- 6th street garage (2)
- Sanset Field (2)
- Ramp in to Modern Languages (2)
- Giddings
- Walkway between Mountain and Highland, just south of 2nd Street garage
- Highland between DRC and Chemistry Building
- University Blvd. between Cherry and Warren on the north side of the street
- West end of DRC
- University Blvd. on south end of Chavez building
- North side of 2nd street at Olive
- 2nd street east of Olive
- PAS building
- 4th street on the north side of PAS
- ILC
- Concerns about signage
- Kuiper Building does not have movable furniture
- Dining facilities at Union
- 2nd street to Speedway on Mountain
- Crossing from 6th street garage
- 4th street just to the east of Yavapai
- College of nursing

Other negative spaces noted:

- ✓ Mountain north from 2nd St to Speedway
- ✓ Street/walkway just east of ECE
- ✓ 4th St just east of Yavapai dorm
- ✓ Sidewalk on 6th St in front of Arizona Stadium and Sanset Field
- ✓ Sidewalk on N/W corner of Tennis facility
- ✓ Walkway on DRC mall
- ✓ Entrance to Rec Center and sidewalk in front
- ✓ Areas near the Center for English as a Second Language
- ✓ Bio-sciences east
- ✓ Old Main and circle drive nearby
- ✓ Speedway between Cherry and Campbell
- ✓ Ramps of the south side of Education
- ✓ Curb cuts on 2nd St between Palm Dr and Olive
- ✓ Intersection of Mountain and 2nd St
- ✓ Intersection of Cherry and 4th St
- ✓ Walkway just east of La Paz
- ✓ North and south sides of 6th St between Campus Rec and Santa Rita St
- ✓ Walkway on north side of mall in front of Modern Languages to the Union
- ✓ Park Ave from Lowell to 2nd St on east side of street
- ✓ South end of civil engineering and ramp into speech and hearing

- ✓ Santa Rita St between parking garage and 4th St
- ✓ Bad curb cuts at University and Park
- ✓ Parking just north of speech and hearing
- ✓ 6th St garage
- ✓ Circle drive by 6th St garage
- ✓ College of Nursing

Main Travel Routes Noted

DRC to west end of campus (5)

DRC to north end of campus (2)

UA mall to east and west ends of campus

DRC to center of campus