

From: [DeAngelis, Justin A](#)
To: [StudentCOMServices](#)
Cc: [Feldman, Nathalie L](#)
Subject: Gender Inclusive Changing Spaces for Anatomy Lab
Date: Thursday, January 27, 2022 12:15:08 PM

This email pertains to all members of the LCOM Class of 2025

Dear members of the class of 2025,

We wanted to provide an update and some transparency on the work being done to improve our anatomy lab changing spaces. First of all, we thank members of your class and your class representatives for bringing the issue to our attention, both by direct email communications and through the learning environment reporting route on the end of course evaluations.

The issue in question is the lack of adequate gender inclusive changing spaces serving the anatomy lab. While minor measures were in place to address this issue, they were clearly inadequate and should have been addressed sooner. From the moment the issue was brought to our attention, our facilities management team was contacted and began work and planning on improvements. While many of these fixes will take time, there are some short term improvements that will occur in the meantime, and I wish to provide information on them below.

1. In time for your coming neuro anatomy lab sessions, both the currently designated "men" and "women" changing rooms will be designated gender inclusive and contain one private changing stall per space. Students can choose to change in either room or use the private stall in either room. The existence of a shared, gender inclusive changing area is in line with those present in many clinical settings, including many of the hospital floors here. Existing gender inclusive spaces outside of these changing rooms will remain the same. Existing gendered restrooms across the hall will remain the same.
2. By the start of the class of 2026, both changing rooms will be completely revamped and contain only private changing stalls, 9 total to be shared across both rooms. Existing gender inclusive spaces outside of these changing rooms will remain the same. Existing gendered restrooms across the hall are planned to be converted to gender inclusive restrooms, but the timeline for this is less clear.
3. In the next 2-5 years, the anatomy lab and in fact the entire floor will be redone. In regards to changing spaces, all lockers will be housed in a large shared changing space that will contain a multitude of private changing stalls and will have direct access to the anatomy lab without the need to walk back and forth through the hall for locker access. All newly constructed restrooms at LCOM will include gender inclusive single stalls only.

Thank you again for your communication on this important issue, and we apologize for the hardship this has caused. We will continue to work hard to improve, and do our best with your input, so please feel free to continue to communicate in the ways you have.

Justin DeAngelis, MD
Interim Assistant Dean for Students

Nathalie Feldman, MD
Director of the Learning Environment