Facilities Demands Report
Justin James, DC ’21
Eli Swab, ES ’20
Introduction
This year, the YCC has sought to use a portion of its own independent funding, drawn from the YCC internal endowment, to pilot new programs it sees as having significant potential to improve Yalies' lives. This semester, we have focused on two projects: a sleeping pod pilot project and getting water bottle filling stations installed in every residential college.

Background
Currently, there are no designated napping or resting locations in any shared space at Yale. However, with a renovation of Bass Library scheduled for the summer of 2019, there is the potential for a successful pilot project to lead not only to more temporary nap or sleeping pod installations, but also to areas dedicated to rest being built directly into one of the main study spaces on campus.

Although there are water bottle filling stations in some colleges, and at the very least, drinking fountains in every college, the student body has expressed interest in having a water bottle filling station in at least every residential college and on Old Campus buildings for added convenience.

Peer Institutions
Many schools have recognized the wellness benefits of designated rest or sleep areas, and have installed a few, or in some cases, many, in shared spaces. UC Berkeley and Michigan, in particular, have developed successful and popular programs, as described in this video and this article from Time Magazine.

Goals
1. Install at least one pilot sleeping pod in Bass Library to work out any potential problems with sleeping pod expansion and to gauge student interest.
2. Install at least one water bottle filler in every on-campus residential area (including each residential college and Old Campus) where one does not yet exist.

Progress
- Have met with three Yale Librarians in charge of undergraduate outreach and discussed necessary next steps to move project forward. While communication has stalled, we are aiming to get a sleeping pod in place within the first third of the spring semester.
- The water bottle filling station project is expected to be funded under the capital project in the residential colleges for the summer of 2019. The planner of the project is Margaret (preferred: Maggie) McInnis. This upcoming summer, the Office of Sustainability will be looking at swapping out existing basement level fountains in Davenport and Pierson Colleges. Timothy Dwight will also receive a new fountain of this water bottle filler type.
Saybrook and Branford Colleges and Lawrence Hall will have upgraded fountains the following summer in 2020.

**Challenges**
- Some minor concerns about the logistics of the sleeping pods still need to be addressed
- Getting responses to our communication attempts has proved challenging
- For the water bottle filling stations, it is easy to run into structural problems. For example, it becomes cost prohibitive to install water bottle filling stations in areas where plumbing does not already exist.

**Next Steps**
- Reaching out to Emily and Kelly at Bass Library
- Reaching out to Ken, who helped with the Plan B Vending machine
- Reach out to the JE Head of College for JE’s water bottle filling station
- The Office of Sustainability may be able to address other Old Campus buildings this upcoming summer, as yet to be determined.
- Check back in with the Office of Sustainability in the upcoming year for progress and any potential change of plans, and to assess the feasibility of adding water bottle filling stations to other Old Campus buildings

**Conclusion**
This is a great opportunity for the YCC to make a simple, straightforward change happen.

At the very least, the YCC has provided administration with valuable student feedback that pushed the office to commit funding for water bottle filling stations. The plan is for the Office of Sustainability to phase these improvements into the colleges over the next 2-3 summers.