

SPACE COMMITTEE
Wednesday, May 3, 2006
4:00 – 5:00 p.m.
VPAA Conference Room

Meeting Notes

Agenda:

1. Furniture plan for Stevenson 2091.
2. Stevenson 2065 - Restricting classrooms for use to specific departments & related security issues.
3. Report on use of classrooms by off-campus groups.

Present:

Christopher Dinno	Melinda Milligan
Vanessa Franklin	Kathryn Crabbe
Jim Christmann	Elaine Leeder
Saeid Rahimi	Katie Pierce
Les Adler	Mary Gendernalik-Cooper

Meeting began at 4:10

Furniture Plans for Stevenson 2091

Sociology uses this room quite extensively. They recommend new furniture, so that the tables can be arranged for seminars, or lecture-style, or for task-oriented projects. (2 page set of suggested furniture configuration passed out to committee.) The estimate from a vendor is \$6,900.

Vanessa: What would be the new capacity of the room?

Melinda: Now, with four large tables, maximum capacity is 30. With new configuration it would be 22.

Mary and Elaine: The school(s) should process the proposal first, then bring the recommendation to the Space Committee.

Chris: Classroom renovation funds come from General Fund. Minor Cap funds are also used. Smart classrooms are needed. ADA upgrades also take funds. Renovation is possible if other departments using the room would contribute to the cost.

Elaine said that, although it may be possible for Social Science to contribute to refurbishing, she believed strongly that the request for modification should cycle first through the School and Dean's Office for review.

Several members of the Committee expressed concern that any modifications that would decrease capacity.

Stevenson 2065

Vanessa: Because some classrooms have specialized equipment, when other departments want to schedule classes in that room, the “owners” are reluctant to have the classroom used by other departments.

Elaine: We could have Vanessa be “gatekeeper” to see that the room is used appropriately and is secured.

Les: This is more of a security issue, than a scheduling issue.

Vanessa: Only academic use would be O.K. The current rules deny use by any off-campus groups or campus program activities that are not specifically classes.

Kathryn: Room could be earmarked, like Art 108, which has certain restrictions regarding its use.

Classroom use by Off-Campus Groups

Per handout to the Committee, revenues for 2004-2005 were \$12,670.

Katie: We had hoped this would be a good source of funds for classroom renovation.

Les: Catering charges to academic departments are significant. Perhaps some of that revenue could be directed to classroom upkeep or improvement.

Jim: We can improve utility of rooms by making them more appealing to outside groups.

Elaine: SSE does contribute, but we need the income for classroom renovation.

Katie: However, the revenue is not ours. (KP will talk to catering)

Saeid: If academic departments bring in groups, then they should keep the revenue.

Katie: If rooms were “dressed-up” a bit, they might be more easily rented.

Jim: Do they have any idea why there are so many non-profits vs. profits. Profits don't have to pinch pennies – but the facilities are not comparable to commercial spaces – an argument for improving classrooms.

Katie: Had wanted to talk about St 1050. It will be on agenda for next meeting. Nursing does need a lab.

Chris: It will be a few months until SSU knows where we are in the line for a new building. After the November election, when the bond issue will be on the ballot, then we will know where we are on the list.

Saeid: Nursing needs a space, but St 1050 won't do. If a new building doesn't go through, we'll need a space for nursing. What will nursing do until then?

Chris: St 1050 will be refurbished with tab-arm chairs for Fall '06.

Mary: What else could be refurbished for their needs?

Les: How about using trailers for nursing.

Katie: Let's meet again in June.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00