



MEETING REPORT – COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES

REPORT DATE 20 February 2019
REPORT BY Sarah Mojzer
PROJECT SUNY Oswego
Facilities Master Plan Update
PROJECT NUMBER 1827
MEETING DATE 8 February 2019, 10:00 to 11:00 AM
MEETING LOCATION Park Hall 301
DISTRIBUTION Attendees

ATTENDING	OF
Frank Byrne	Associate Dean of Liberal Arts & Sciences, History Representative
Amy Shore	Chair, English Department
Paul Tomascak	Associate Dean, Liberal Arts & Sciences
Steven Skubis	Atmospheric & Geological Sciences
Jim MacKenzie	Biological Sciences
Casey Raymond	Chemistry
Marianne Hromalik	Electrical & Computer Engineering
Shashi Kanbur	Chair, Physics
Fehmi Damkaci	Chemistry
Douglas Lea	Computer Science
Mary Toale	Executive Assistant to the President
Mitch Fields	Associate Vice President for Facilities Services
Brittany Wallace	Junior Project Coordinator
John Inman	State University Construction Fund
Jean Stark	JMZ Architects and Planners
Sarah Mojzer	JMZ Architects and Planners

SUMMARY

Science Departments

Occupants of the Shineman Center, Stated Common Needs and Concerns

- Additional offices are required. The building was planned for 64 full-time faculty but there are over 90 using it today. Conference rooms and storage spaces have been converted to faculty offices. There is no space available for new faculty.
- The push toward STEM careers is increasing demand for service courses.

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- The shortage of offices has caused departments to become fragmented. Some view collocated, mixed-department offices as an aid to collaboration. All agreed that having adjunct faculty far away from a department's full-time faculty is not acceptable.
- Students need access to open computer labs with specialized software for projects and research. Enrollment has reportedly exceeded projections and there is not sufficient open lab space. The building has interdisciplinary student project space, yet not all departments are apparently allowing interdisciplinary use.
- The building does not have research space for new faculty. Room 236 is being converted to a Chemistry Research Lab, and one classroom will become an Electrical & Computer Engineering Research Lab.
- Faculty complained that grants are being awarded for research projects without regard to space needs, which further stresses already-crowded departments.
- Humidity control is inadequate throughout the Shineman Center.

Computer Science

- Have three times the number of students that were projected when Shineman was programmed.
- Wants all offices, classrooms, and labs located in same area of the building.
- Took over conference room 425 to create open lab for Computer Science students only. Very dissatisfied with everything in general.

Physics

- Worried about losing space to a larger department.
- There is no informal space for students.
- Have around 80 majors and has general education responsibilities.
- Has lost storage space.

Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE)

- Faculty are located on three different floors.
- Technician is located in a former closet.

Atmospheric & Geological Science

- Located on the third floor of Shineman.
- Meteorology enrollment steady at 75 to 80 students. Geology has around 60 students, but this number could grow. The environmental science track may attract more students with pressing issues to address, such as environmental remediation, energy, climate change planning and resource management.
- Faculty report that the NYS mandate for professional licensure of geologists means they will need additional laboratory space. However, only one of the four labs dedicated to geological and earth sciences/geosciences in the College's AiM data met utilization targets. The other four labs have capacity to accommodate additional course meetings.
- Lost Room 385 to Chemistry and Math faculty office.
- Specialty lab has card access control. Lab space is sufficient.
- Need additional faculty and staff office space. It's a growing department.
- Faculty would like their students to have a space of their own where they can collaborate and study informally.



- Four faculty currently use one lab for their research. This is not enough space because each faculty works with multiple undergraduate students on research projects. At least one additional lab is needed to accommodate faculty and student research.
- Room 390 is shared with Computer Science for VR capabilities.
- Additional storage space is needed. The Department recently added a significant core sample collection that fills their current storage space to capacity. There is no place to grow the sample collection.
- The inability to dim the lights on the north facing deck restricts the use of telescopes and weather viewing from inside at night (reflections on the windows).

Biological Science

- Need additional faculty offices. Program serves 150 freshmen and 50 transfers each year.
- Biology is the only sciences unit that employs enrollment management. If other programs did the same, there wouldn't be the crunch space that exists in Shineman.

Chemistry

- Require at least three additional offices for new faculty. There is one new faculty member coming in fall 2019. Two faculty are sharing an office. One faculty member will be returning from sabbatical.
- The three General Chemistry Labs hit the hourly and seat utilization targets. The Organic Chemistry Lab exceeded the hourly use target. Evening courses have been scheduled but it is viewed as a safety problem. If an emergency were to occur, responsible faculty may not be in the building during the evening.
- An additional General Chemistry Lab will be needed if the number of majors continues to grow, as anticipated. ECE is competing for lab space with Chemistry.

Potential Space Availability

- The Electrical and Computer Engineering open study space is reportedly underutilized.
- Three similarly-sized classrooms were used for ten hours or fewer during the study week.

History, English, and Interdisciplinary Programs Discussion

- Frank (History) and Amy (English) reiterated the need for a College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Digital Humanities Lab.
- The concrete plaza in front of Mahar, Lanigan, Penfield, and Hewitt is in poor condition and needs to be refurbished/redesigned.
- Many overlapping Liberal Arts disciplines need access to 24-seat computer labs (similar to CCIP labs) with the Adobe software suite. Computer labs should have screen sharing capability.
- Offsite storage would help departments in Mahar ease space pressure. Faculty currently store equipment and files at their homes because of the lack of storage space in Mahar.
- The HVAC in Mahar does not work well.

English

- The English Department likes the space in Poucher. However, many English faculty in Poucher are doubled- and tripled-up in offices and they are going to hire two more faculty in the fall. Faculty have



to meet with students in public places. There are 15 adjunct faculty who share four offices – trying to limit adjuncts to that number.

- English course caps generally range from 15 to 20 students; Cinematic History has up to 50 students. Additional classrooms for 50+ students are needed.
- They are willing to relocate the Writing Center to the Learning Center, if necessary.

Notes:

Atmospheric and Geological Sciences faculty have requested the following work be undertaken in their spaces in Shineman Hall:

- Rooms 370, 372, and 383: Improve the layout/connection of the laptop to the tower/desktop PC to the projector and have an ELMO overhead in these rooms.
- Room 390: Finish the interior (carpeting and ceiling tiles) in this room to help eliminate the “extreme echoing” in the space.

Action Items

Tasks to be Completed	Responsible	Status
All science departments (except Atmospheric and Geological Sciences): Please complete written responses to the Programming Interview Questionnaire that was distributed before the programming interviews.	Science Chairs	Pending

JMZ WILL PROCEED ASSUMING THIS REPORT TO BE ACCURATE. DISCREPANCIES SHOULD BE REPORTED TO OUR OFFICE WITHIN SEVEN (7) DAYS.