BSUFA Hagg-Sauer resolution response

Resolution – Please provide rationale/evidence for the proposed mix of classrooms currently proposed for the new Hagg-Sauer building with a particular focus on the large lecture halls and the two active learning rooms.

i. Faculty were concerned that there were too many large lecture halls and there were not enough rooms to handle 40-60 students.

Based on feedback, and analysis of the classroom needs, we are planning to take one of the 125 seat classrooms in the new building, and convert it into 3 40-seat classrooms.

In reviewing the class offerings for Fall 2014, we determined that only 23 out of 910 classes (2.5%) would not fit the new configuration of classrooms, with the current class schedules. Twenty-two of these classes that did not fit had a capacity of 40 or less, which led to plan to add additional 40-student classrooms. (Incidentally, 13 of the 23 classes that did not fit with the current schedule were offered T, Th at 10). We will also look at other steps, such as only having a 15 minute span between course offerings on T, Th, to increase space utilization, and increase options for scheduling courses.

ii. Faculty felt that the active learning rooms, as they were described in the meetings with the architect, would not be utilized.

We recognize this concern. Current design has the rooms configured as Active Learning classrooms similar to those under construction in Memorial Hall. If this does not meet the needs of the faculty for providing flexible instructional environments beyond baseline smart classrooms, subsequent design phases will address those needs. Like Memorial Hall, all the classrooms will ultimately be specifically designed by the faculty who will teach in them.

b. Additionally there are a list of concerns the faculty offered during senate that we would offer as part of our official position on this project.

i. There is great concern that there were no faculty, a major long-term stakeholder, on the steering committee for this project.

The intent of the predesign steering committee is to take feedback from stakeholders and combine the wide-ranging and diverse feedback into a comprehensive recommendation for the Executive Leadership Team. The condensed timeline for this project and having to start discussions in July also influenced the make-up of this group. Besides administration, staff who could address key issues related to current class use patterns, and technology-related issues were added to the group. We have worked hard to include faculty in the discussions, and have made changes to almost every aspect of this project, based on feedback from faculty.
When we move into the schematic design phase of this project, we will form a new group that will include significant faculty representation.

ii. An issue raised by a number of departments relates to the faculty office proximity to students and classrooms. It does not seem to be addressed in the current plan. How will the steering committee address this issue?

One way that we are attempting to address this concern is by planning to make the faculty office spaces adjacent to areas intended to be used and frequented by students (lounges, tutoring space, practicum rooms, as well as classrooms).

Below is a list of changes in the number of classrooms in the affected buildings, indicating that there will be classrooms available in every building to provide a balance of classrooms that will be most heavily scheduled by faculty located in those buildings. However, there is also an understanding that many classes will be held in the new facility.

**Sattgast:** Convert one classroom (S248) to a computer lab (40 stations) and Student Study Center. Dedicated Practicum labs for Geography will be incorporated into the design, and appropriate software provided to existing computer labs for Computer Science and Geography.

**Bangsberg:** Creation of three classrooms intended for general education classes, and a Language Lab.

**Bensen:** Reduction of three classrooms on 4th floor; addition of one classroom (40 stations) on the third floor, and renovation of two third-floor classrooms to 30 stations each, to make them more usable.

**Bridgeman:** No change, except for conversion of laboratory space into a ceramics studio.

iii. Will classroom space be improved or added in the areas where departments are being relocated?

Yes, as noted above, renovations to classrooms are being planned for Bangsberg, Bensen, and Sattgast.

iv. There is concern that much of the discussion around shared lab-spaces and “hoteling” is not an effective strategy or does not take into account the specific needs of certain departments/programs. What strategy does the steering committee and/or administration have to work with faculty and departments to ensure the quality of educational experiences they offer are not adversely effected by this redevelopment project.

We are planning to get feedback via open fora and stakeholders meetings this week, prior to the submission of the Predesign. Although the project as a whole will be largely set at that point, there will be an opportunity to revisit portions of the design to meet specific needs during the next phase of the project.