

Dear Advisory Board Members,

Given the busy time of year, I thought it would be best to update you via email in lieu of meeting in person. I would welcome your comments and feedback on anything included in the update or on any other ideas related to learning environments.

The update below has been divided into three categories: learning space project work, assessment and engagement, and other initiatives. We've been productive since our fall 2016 meeting, despite being short one staff member, and I'm excited to share our progress with you.

I'll be in touch again this fall to schedule our next Advisory Board meeting.

Sincerely,

Dave

Learning Space Project Work:

Fall semester 2016, West Campus

Minor Capital Projects

- Disability Health and Social Policy Building room 204: We created a new classroom for the Department of Disability and Human Development for their new undergraduate minor and proposed major. The classroom included new acoustical ceiling tile, dimmable lighting, motorized shades, whiteboards, finishes, furniture and Audio-Visual (AV) system. See photo below:



Summer 2017, East Campus

Major Capital Projects

- Science and Engineering Lab Buildings: the renovation work to the public spaces is ongoing, but over spring break we were able to install most of the furniture in the dozen new Oasis spaces. Students started using the furniture the Monday morning after spring break. See photos below.



- Thomas Beckham Hall classrooms: the conversion of the former retail space to learning spaces will be completed this summer and will include seven new classrooms spaces, numerous Oasis spaces and a C-Stop with a help desk and printing capabilities.

Minor Capital Projects

- Burnham Hall B6: this classroom will undergo a major renovation with new acoustic treatment, dimmable lighting, whiteboard, finishes and AV system with surround sound for film classes.
- ETMSW 2433 and 2435: these classrooms will undergo a minor renovation with new whiteboard, finishes and AV system.
- GH 204: this classroom will receive new furniture, AV infrastructure and AV system so it may serve as an experimental classroom (see Other Initiatives below)
- BSB 113, 115, 119, 133, 137, 161, 165, 311, 315, 319, 331, 335, 337, 381, 385 and 388: these classrooms will receive AV system upgrades
- Lecture Center E1: this classroom will receive an AV system upgrade

Summer 2017, West Campus

Minor Capital Projects

- Pharmacy room B8: this College of Pharmacy classroom will undergo a major renovation with new acoustic treatment, dimmable lighting, whiteboards, finishes and AV system for video conferencing with remote sites.
- SPHPI B34: this School of Public Health classroom will undergo a major renovation with new acoustic treatment, dimmable lighting, whiteboards, finishes and AV system.

Years 2017 to 2019, East Campus

Major Capital Project

- Live-Learn Building: Per the Chancellor's State of the University address on 3/30/17 we have started on a public-private-partnership project to construct a new 50,000 sf classroom building connected to a 500-unit residence hall. Design work is underway and the anticipated completion date is August 2019. See architects rendering below of the academic portion of the project.



Assessment and Engagement:

Learning Space Assessment:

- During the fall semester we completed our data gathering on a research study to evaluate the Burnham Hall B10 Learn Lab. The data was analyzed and a report was created and posted to our website at the following link: [Learning Environment Evaluation](#)

TLC Teaching Conversation:

- The Center for the Advancement of Teaching-Learning Communities invited us to lead a conversation on 1/25/17. The focus was on the role of the physical space on active learning and the conversation was attended by 24 faculty members. Attendees participated in a team based learning exercise and the data was collected, analyzed and a report was created and posted to our website at the following link: [Faculty Focus Group on Active Learning Spaces](#)

Faculty Affairs Administrators Brown Bag:

- Faculty Affairs invited us to lead a conversation on 1/24/17. The focus was on the role of the physical space on active learning and the conversation was attended by 25 staff and faculty.

Other Initiatives:

Experimental Classroom

- During summer 2017 we will be converting Grant Hall 204 into an experimental classroom where we will test different furniture solutions and wireless projection solutions over the course of the fall semester. Each five weeks we will try a different solution and at the end of each five week period we will ask the users (faculty and students) to evaluate the solution. The results from this experimental space will be used to inform future classroom renovations.

Professional Organizations and Outreach:

- In April 2017 I gave an innovation talk at the Higher Education Facilities Forum, which is a gathering of select facilities leaders. The topic of my talk was Active Learning Environments that foster Student Success and the content included results from our benchmarking study of exemplary active learning spaces and our planning process for the academic portion of the live-learn building (aka the Learning Hub for those of you who participated in the conceptual design process).

