

Senate Faculty Subcommittee on Faculty Space in the New Student Union

Overview: In discussions about how best to utilize the faculty space in the new Student Union, one principle emerged that guided the rest of the committee's recommendations: the need to divide the space into two separate areas, a work space and a casual space, in order to accommodate the needs of the entire faculty, especially those whose offices are not centrally located (or nonexistent in the case of some adjunct faculty members). Therefore, the committee recommends that the space be divided by (removable/adjustable) partitions into two separate areas and, since the layout of the space divides naturally into two sections, that the 15' x 30' portion (with the entrance/exit and the attendant noise) be used as the casual space with the remaining portion used for the work space. The committee also recommends using moveable partitions to divide the space, so as not to eliminate the possibility of utilizing the entire space for special occasions (meetings, discussions, informal gatherings, etc.) – although an equitable system will need to be created to facilitate such requests.

The committee recommends that the following be included in the work area:

- A combination of tables/chairs and individual work spaces for grading papers, preparing for class, etc. If it is possible, a few small semi-private areas should be created for meeting with students, especially for adjunct faculty and faculty members whose offices are not centrally located (or are non-existent). The committee cannot suggest specific sizes or number of feet for each work space without either seeing the space or being given precise dimensions and features for the entire space;
- Computer work-stations with e-mail, internet access, and printer.

The committee recommends that the following be included in the casual area:

- Telephone (with campus and local calling options);
- Lockers of various sizes (for storing materials, instruments, etc. in between classes);
- Casual furniture: armchairs, couches, coffee tables, etc.;
- Microwave oven;
- Message board (either inside for faculty-to-faculty notices, outside for faculty-to-student notices, or one of each).

The committee recommends that the following be included throughout:

- Wireless internet service.

The committee considered the following suggestions, but ruled them out for the reasons indicated:

- Drinks machine, vending machines, and coffee/tea maker – the committee assumed that such amenities would be located elsewhere in the Student Union;
- Refrigerator and copier – the committee decided that the cost of each unit (and the necessary maintenance) would be prohibitive and that it would occupy too much space.
- Supply cabinet (with chalk, markers, paper, etc.) – the committee did not know who would stock, maintain, and replenish a supply cabinet; space was also an issue;

Respectfully submitted,

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