Hartnell College
Buildings D & E
Classroom Studies Workshop and Discussion

APRIL 9, 2018
FINDINGS FROM FACULTY INTERVIEWS

- Preference for wider but shallower classrooms.
  Promotes better connection to all students.
  Allows for longer teaching wall for whiteboards, multiple projections.

- All faculty interviewed still utilize traditional lecture style (students oriented to teacher/teaching surface) for at least part of the class period, followed by group work.

- Acoustical separation between adjacent classrooms is a concern.

- All classrooms should be designed to accommodate 40 students minimum. Some classrooms will need to accommodate up to 53 students.
FINDINGS FROM FACULTY INTERVIEWS

- Entrance to classrooms should be at the rear to minimize distraction by students arriving late to class.

- In group work, groups tend to be 4 students or less.

- Teacher desks should not be in the center of the teaching wall as the desk blocks view to the writing surface or projected image.

- Greater control (variability) of lighting and better quality lighting is needed.

- Student “hubs” (similar to gathering areas in Building S) are desirable as the stairwells are the only places that students can currently gather or study.
FINDINGS FROM FACULTY INTERVIEWS

- Little support for Node desks
  Students don’t tend to use parcel shelf – leaving backpacks on the floor.
  Limited desktop surface.
  “Always looks messy”- teachers feel compelled to rearrange pods after class.

- Most teachers felt all chairs and tables should be on casters for flexibility.
ARCHITECT’S OBSERVATIONS

- Typical classrooms are utilized for 12-13 sections.

- The majority of existing classrooms are between 600-700 SF with the remainder being in the 900-1200 SF range.

- For classes requiring computer work, dedicated computer desks are inherently inflexible because the tables are cumbersome (heavy) and tethered to perimeter walls for power or, alternatively, require floor boxes or power poles.

- Laptops with charging/storage cabinets allow for flexibility and require smaller desks. On the other hand, they require additional effort by the faculty in distribution/collection of laptops and plugging them into charging cables.
ARCHITECT’S OBSERVATIONS

- The existing 6 foot tables appear to be too small for 3 students but too large and inefficient for 2 students.

- Based on information gathered to date, it is our recommendation that the “standard” classroom utilize 5 foot, two person tables on casters. Pairing two such tables face to face will facilitate group work for 4-6 students at each pair of tables.

- No apparent advantage to trapezoidal or curved tables. Simple rectangular tables seem to offer the greatest flexibility.
EXISTING STATS

Current space tally for the 4 classroom blocks being renovated:

Faculty Offices: 8 (Confirm 2 at E3)
Classrooms: 20 of varying size
Special Program Spaces: 2

Note: It is assumed that all non-scheduled computer labs (E211, E215, E 217 and E219) will be relocated to Building B.
PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDED CLASSROOM DISTRIBUTION

Typical Classroom:  900 SF  
                      40-44 Capacity

Super Classroom:    1360 SF  
                      60 +/- Capacity
PRELIMINARY CLASSROOM TEACHING ARRANGEMENTS

Six (6) Classrooms Per Floor
PRELIMINARY CLASSROOM TEACHING ARRANGEMENTS

Four (4) Classrooms Per Floor
PRELIMINARY CLASSROOM TEACHING ARRANGEMENTS

Five (5) Classrooms Per Floor
PRELIMINARY CLASSROOM TEACHING ARRANGEMENTS

Six (6) Classrooms Per Floor
- 40-44 Students
- Alternative Node Seating

Four (4) Classrooms Per Floor
- 40-60 Students
- Alternative Configurations

Five (5) Classrooms Per Floor
- 40-60 Students
- Alternative Configurations