

# The Sky is the Limit: A Learning Space for Innovation

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# A Learning Space for Innovation

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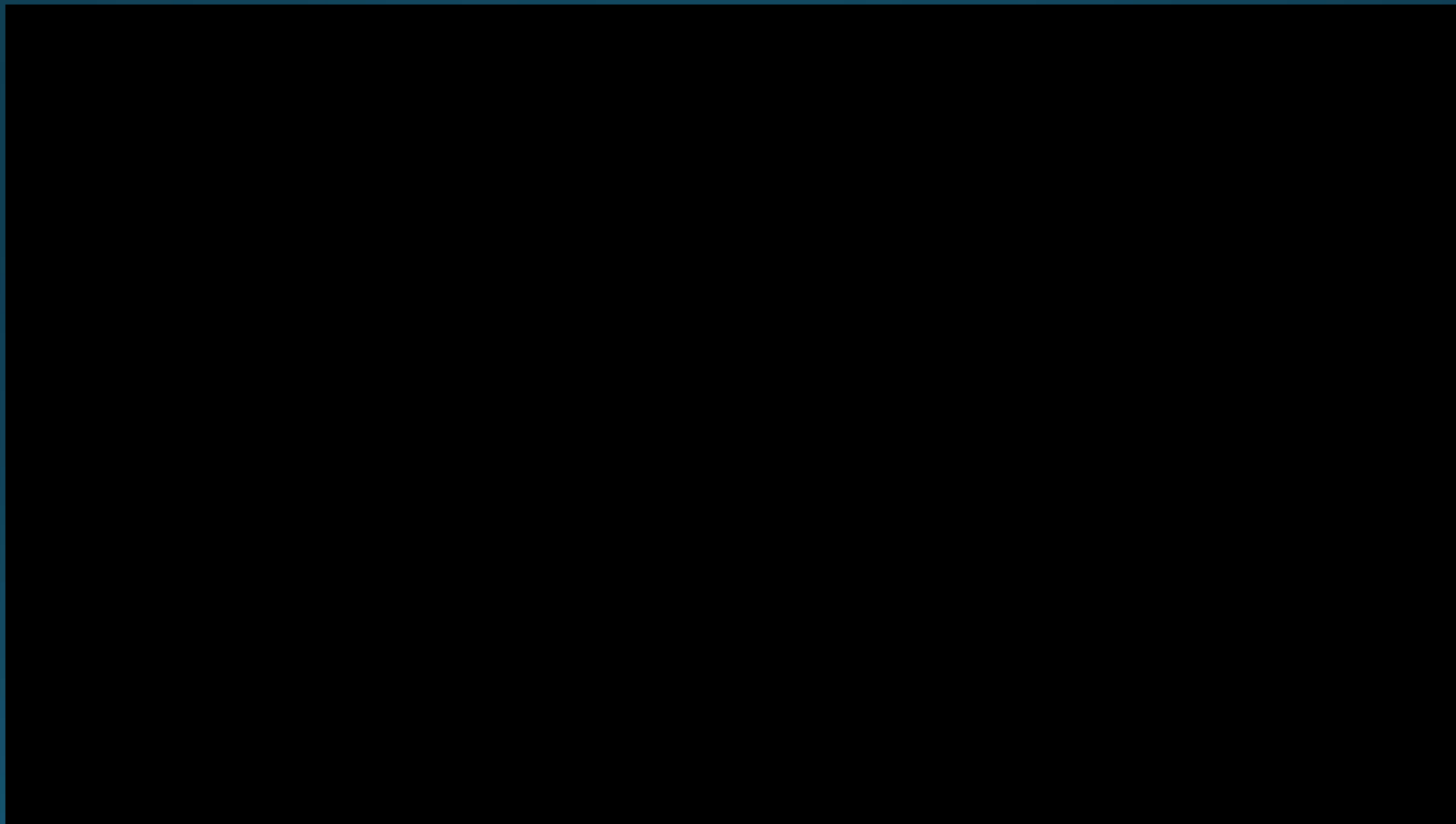


# College Overview

- Located at the Northeast between New York and Boston.
- South central part of Connecticut, servicing 18 surrounding towns.
- 4<sup>th</sup> smallest college among the 12 community colleges in Connecticut.
- 2900 full and part-time students (credit)
- 70+ degree/certificate programs – Associate Degree
- Students' average age: 26



# Learning Space Overview



# Project Background

- In Spring 2015, MxCC received a fund from the Connecticut Board of Regions to build 21<sup>st</sup> Century Classrooms.
- Phase I , 66K, remodeled a classroom as a prototype.
- Phase II, 327K to build innovated classrooms based on the Phase I prototype.
- The fund should be used in building something innovative, but not just remodeling classrooms with fresh paint, new computers, and new furniture.
- Instructional Technology Advisory team decided to solicit proposals from academic departments and student support services.
- The initial proposal was done by the student support services team.

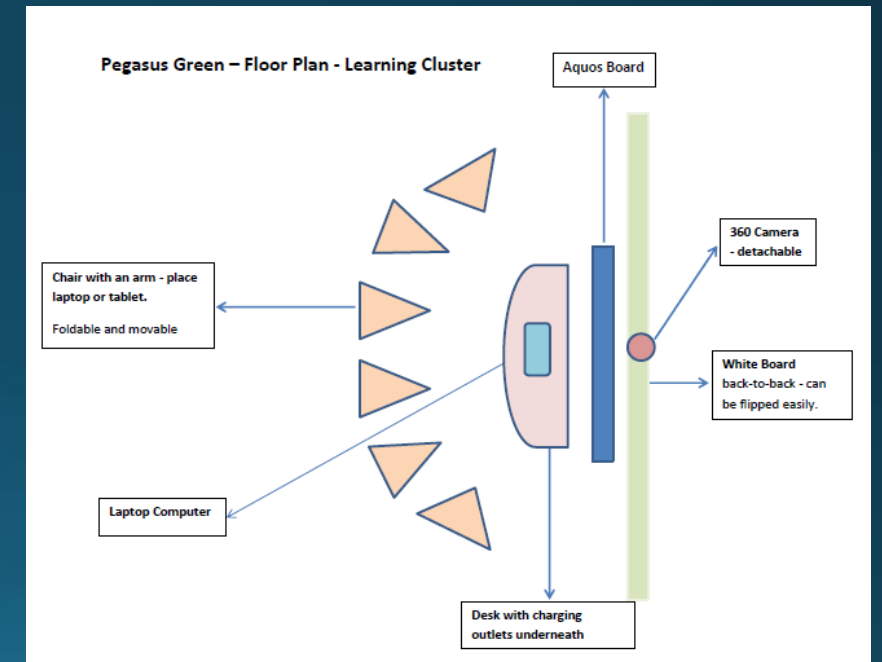
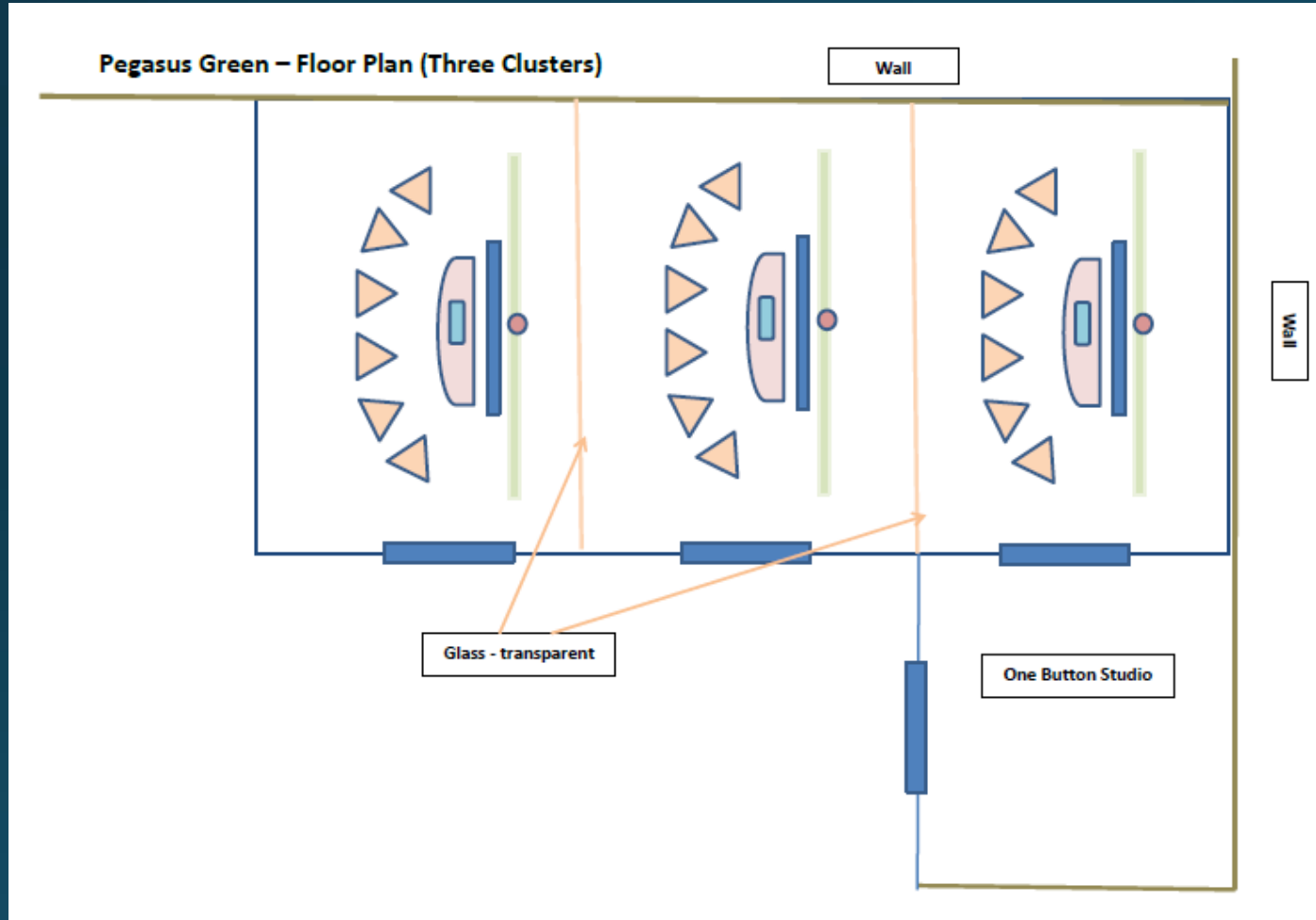
# Design Process – Initial Proposal

- A design team – academic support staff
  - Director of Educational Technology – lead
  - Director of Library Services
  - Coordinator of Academic Success Center
  - Student Retention Specialist
- Researched the literatures of knowledge commons, one button studio, and state-of-the-art technology in education.
- Director of Educational Technology drafted a proposal of knowledge commons and met with the college librarian specialized in emerging technology to refine the proposal.
- The team members met and finalized the proposal.

# Design Concepts

- Knowledge commons - information, data, and content are collectively owned and managed by a community of users, particularly over the Internet.
- Goals of the learning space
  - Engage students to work in small groups for presentations and media productions to facilitate active learning and collaborative learning.
  - Provide faculty with facilities to develop pedagogically sound instructions and involve student service staff for collaborative projects.
  - Provide virtual orientation, training, tutoring, and academic support services for online and Meriden students.
  - Provide students, faculty, and staff an opportunity to explore emerging technology and promote training in metaliteracy.
  - Serve as a vehicle for college recruitment and outreach as well as community engagement by providing virtual presentations and hosting web conferences to potential college populations.

# Learning Space – Initial Floor Plan





# Design Process - Refinement

- The proposal was presented to the Instructional Technology Advisory Group.
- Instructional Technology Advisory Group
  - Faculty from major disciplines, English, Math, Technology, Communications, and Business.
  - Academic Directors
  - Dean of administration
  - Dean of Academic Affairs
  - Director of Educational Technology – Chair
  - Director of Information Technology
  - Director of Library Services
  - Director of Academic Success Center
  - Retention Specialist
  - Media Specialist
- The Instructional Technology Advisory Group approved the proposal and refined the proposal in the aspects of goals/missions.

# Design Process - Consultants

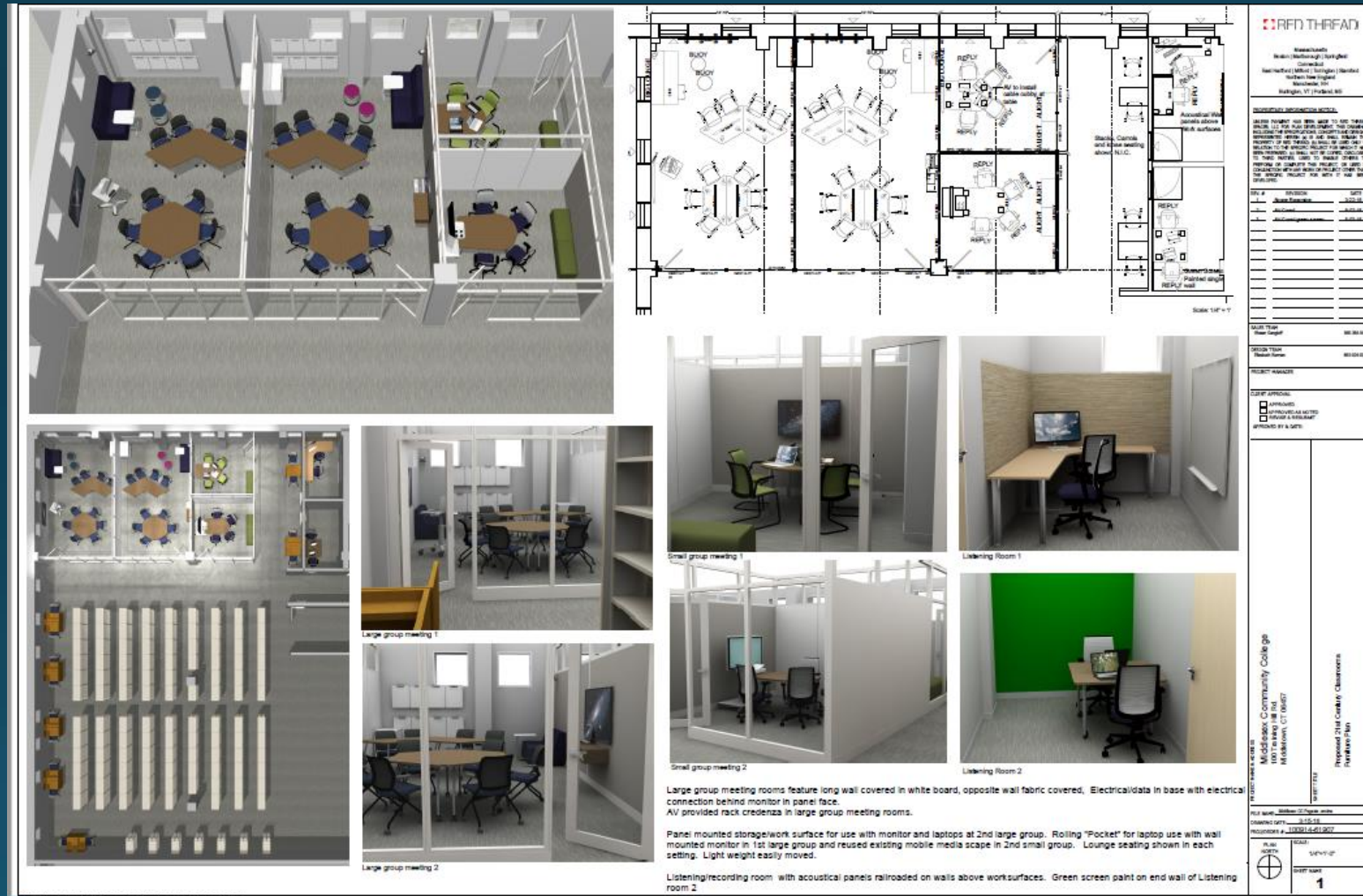
Dean of Administration brought in consultants from Red Thread.

1. Visited the area in the college library where the learning space would be built.
2. Drafted a floor plan and sent it to college for feedbacks.
3. The draft plan was reviewed by the academic support staff members and feedbacks were provided.
  1. Director of Educational Technology – Overall Functions
  2. Director of Library Services - space
  3. Director of Information Technology – technology and networking
  4. Dean of Administration – cost

# Design Process – Final Plan

- Consultants contacted the relevant personnel during finalization of the design plan.
  1. Director of Educational Technology – Overall Functions
  2. Director of Library Services - space
  3. Director of Information Technology – technology and networking
  4. Dean of Administration – cost
- Final design plan with the list of equipment and furniture was presented to the Dean of Administration.
- Dean of Administration drafted the final proposal with the construction plan and presented to the system 21<sup>st</sup> Century Classroom team.

# Overview of the Space

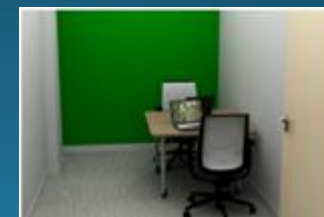


# The Floor Chart



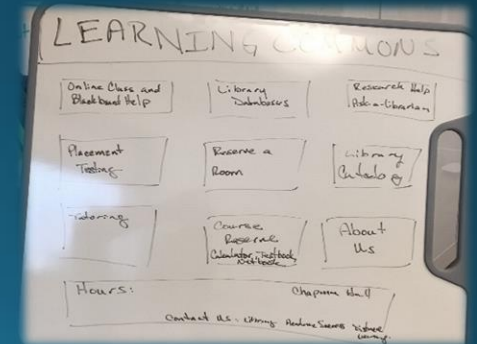


# The Area Rendering



# Learning Space – Large Rooms

- Group meetings for brain storming and presentations
- Video recording
- Up to 15 people



# Learning Space – Large Rooms

- Crestron Touch-IT Interactive PC and Display System -65 Inch
- Creston Interactive PC/Laptop Controller
- VGA and HDMI Laptop connection jacks
- Extron Video Recording Control Unit
- Wall Mounted Panasonic Camera/Mic
- Two Ceiling Microphones
- Wi-Fi
- Ten Steelcase small white boards
- Wall Mounted white board with markers and an eraser
- SMART kapp Board
- Ten chairs
- Three sofa seats for five people
- Four mobile tables
- One laptop stand
- Desk Phone



# Learning Space – Medium Rooms

- Small group meetings for brain storming or presentations
- Video taping
- Video conferencing
- Up to 4 people



# Learning Space – Medium Rooms

- Wall Mounted LG Display System – 40-inch
- Connecting cables up to 4 PC or Mac laptops
- Extron Video Recording Control Unit
- Wall Mounted Panasonic Camera with Mic
- Ethernet cable for wired network
- White wall with markers and an eraser
- Four chairs
- Two sofa seats
- Desk Phone
- Wi-Fi

# Learning Space – Small Rooms

- Video conferencing
- Video production
- Media production
- Up to 2 people



# Learning Space – Small Rooms

- PC Computer/Mac
- ClearOne Chat160 Speaker & Microphone
- Logitech Web Camera with Mic for Skype, WebEx Video Conference
- LED Dimmer Light
- VGA and HDMI Laptop connection jacks
- Ethernet cable for wired network
- Two Chairs
- SMART kapp Board
- Desk Phone
- Wi-Fi

# User Experience - Usage

- All rooms were in use starting Fall 2017.
- When the rooms are not booked, walk-in users are welcomed.
- During the semester, the rooms are very popular
  - Committee/club meetings
  - Small study groups
  - Small groups for projects
  - Small classes

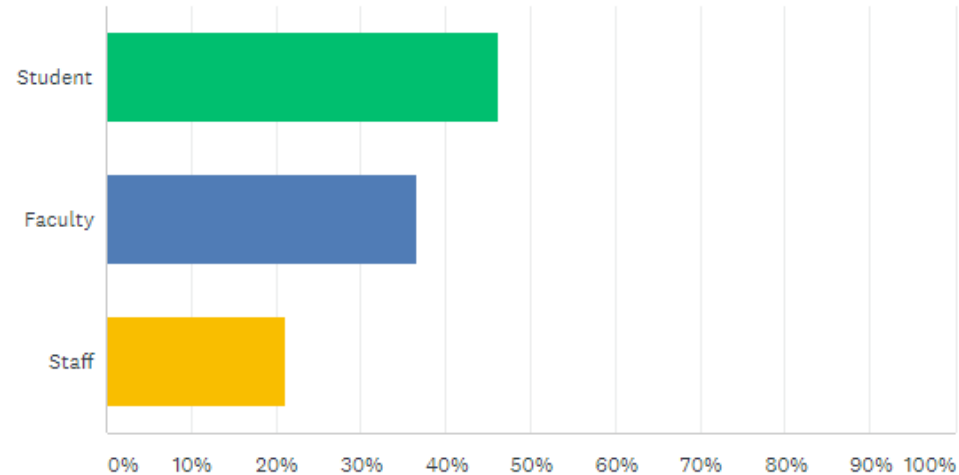
# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Classroom Survey

- What type of user are you?
- Check the rooms you have used:
- What did you use the classroom for?
- What features do you like the most in the room?
- Is there anything we could do better to enhance your experience in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Classroom?
- Do you have any suggestions to improve the scheduling process?

# User Experience – 21<sup>st</sup> Century Classroom Survey

What type of user are you?

Answered: 52 Skipped: 11



ANSWER CHOICES

RESPONSES

▼ Student

46.15%

24

▼ Faculty

36.54%

19

▼ Staff

21.15%

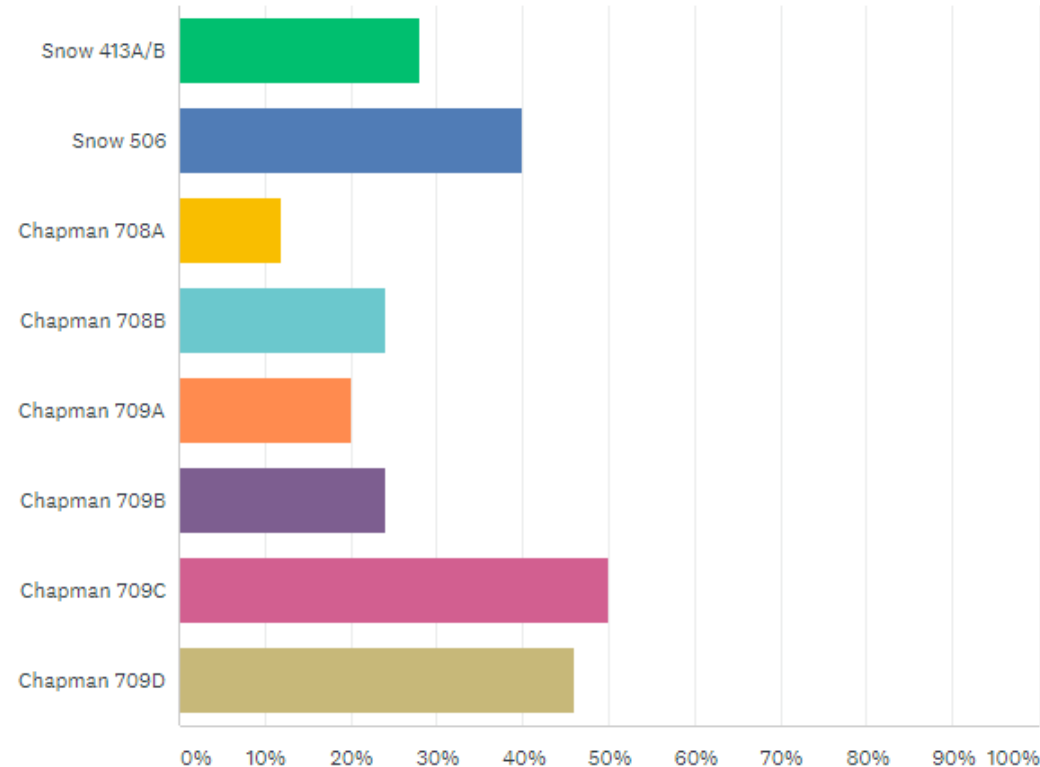
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Total Respondents: 52

# User Experience Survey

Check the rooms you have used: (refer to <http://mxcc.edu/learning-commons/pegasus-green> for details in the Chapman rooms)

Answered: 50   Skipped: 13

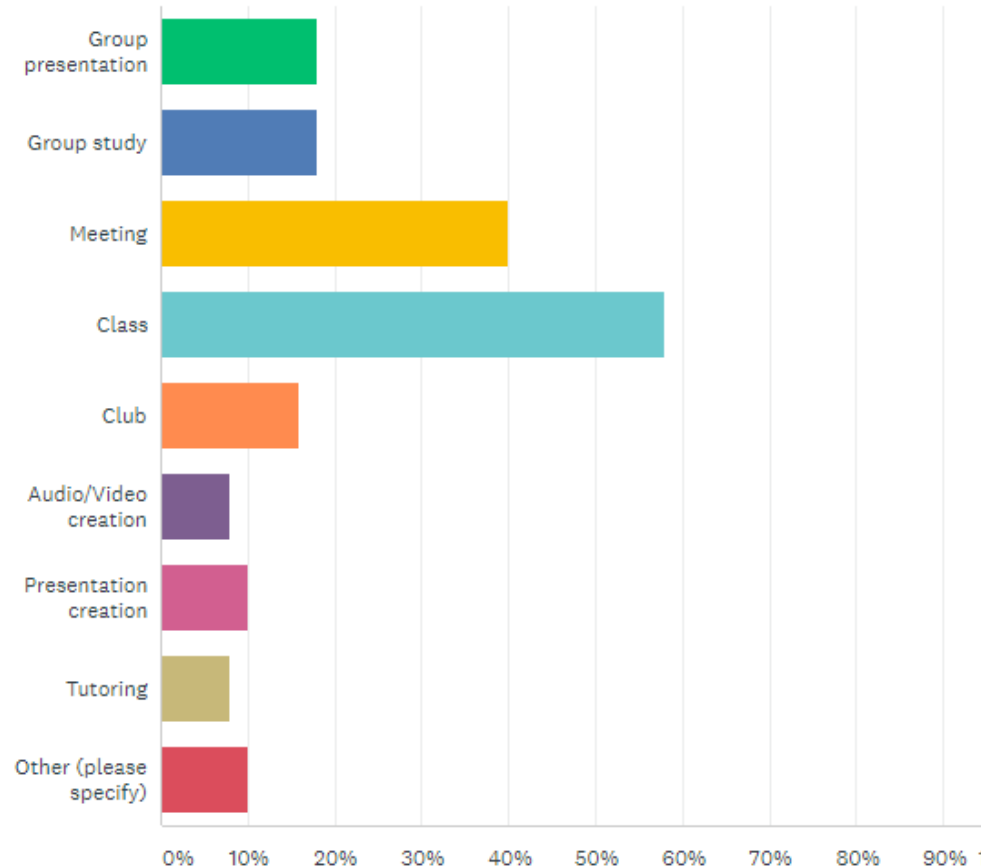




# User Experience Survey

What did you use the classroom for? Check all that apply.

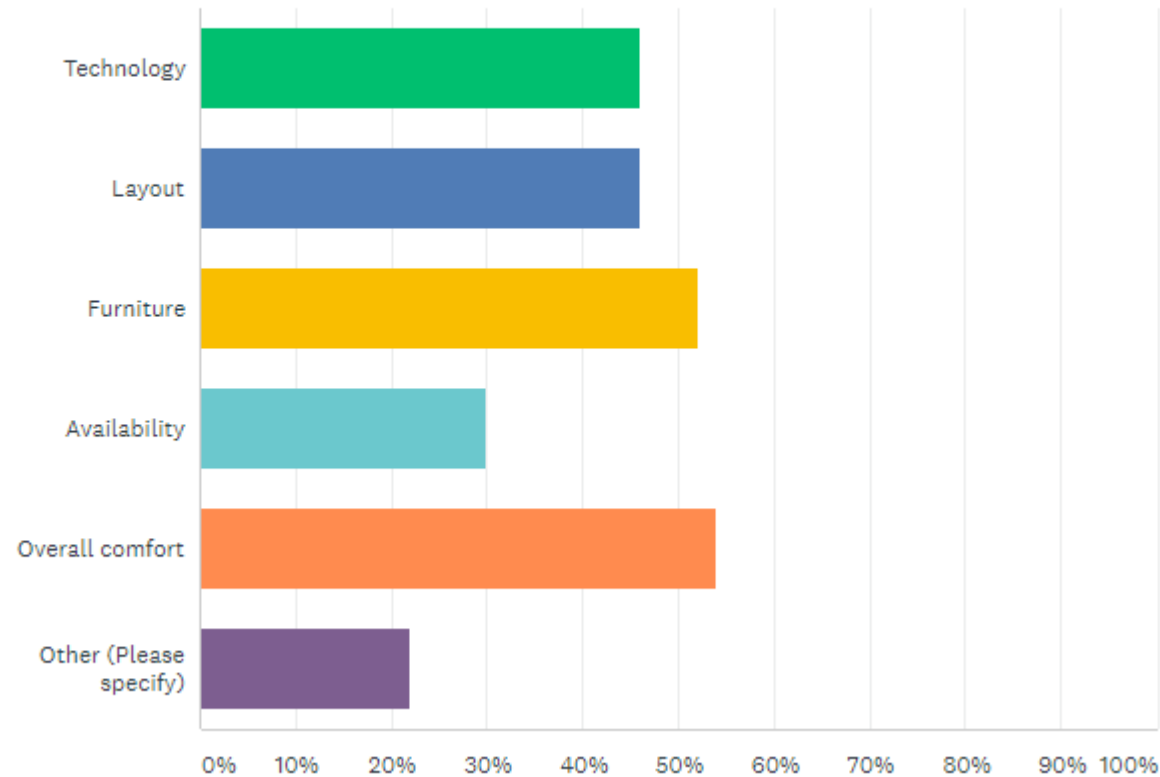
Answered: 50 Skipped: 13



# User Experience Survey

What features do you like the most in the room? Check all that apply.

Answered: 50   Skipped: 13



# User Experience Survey & Future Improvement

- Is there anything we could do better to enhance your experience in the 21st Century Classroom?
  - Adding more chairs in the two large rooms.
  - Improving audio quality in the large rooms.
  - Adding an additional computer in the small rooms.
  - Making more marketing of the different types of things you can do in the rooms – examples of innovative projects and use.
  - Providing communications of best practices.
  - Building more rooms that accommodate typical class sizes of 25-35 students.
  - Reserving all rooms via the event management system.

# Future Improvement

- Marketing the learning space.
- Making room reservation easy.
- Providing more training to students, faculty, and staff
- Promoting best practices.



# Special Thanks

- Kim Hogan, Dean of Business Administration
- Dr. Steve Minkler, Campus CEO and Dean of Academic Affairs
- Design Committee
  - Barbara Giffin, Lan Liu, Judy Mazgulski, Wei Cen
- Instructional Technology Advisory Committee
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# Questions & Answers



**The Sky is the Limit**

