

THE PROJECT

The Harvard Medical School (HMS) Longwood medical campus has approximately 1 million net square feet of space distributed over 12 buildings serving a range of academic programs and 1,650 enrolled students. In 2015 HMS launched a major redesign of the medical school curriculum which introduces clinical experiences earlier and placed a larger emphasis on active learning in smaller more collaborative environments rather than the very large didactic lecture halls. Dober Lidsky Mathey was teamed with NBBJ where our responsibility was to assess the utilization of instructional space and help to define the implications.

CHALLENGE

We were asked to identify the issues, policies and potential space utilization targets and to answer the following questions: How is the space being used today? How can we optimize its use? What are the best practices, utilization targets, and management policies we need to implement? What does low utilization cost?

SOLUTION

Using nationally accepted planning targets and HMS guidelines, we analyzed the data, identified opportunities and constraints, and identified potential options and policies that might change.

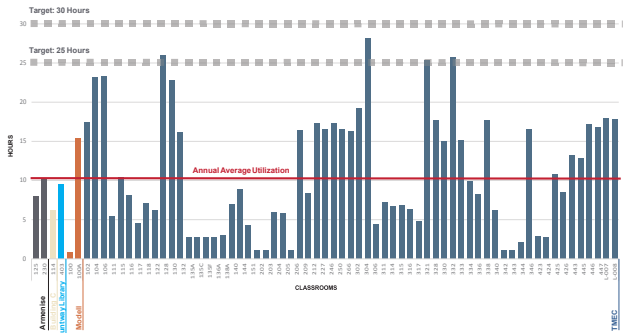
Essentially, HMS has sufficient classroom space to meet current and near future demand. However, the School should establish a policy on scheduling utilization targets. All classrooms and conference rooms should be added to the central scheduling system and criteria applied as needed for departmental use.

We also recommended the renovation of outdated rooms, the standardization of technology to reduce barriers to scheduling, and to reduce the disparity in interior space finishes and technology.

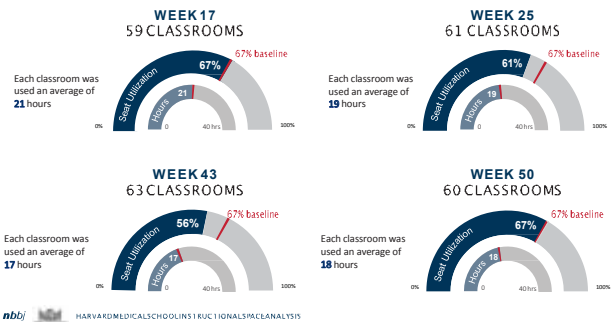
RESULTS

The success of the curriculum change is allowing HMS to rethink the types of instructional spaces that will be effective for active learning and increased student collaboration. The School can reprogram instructional spaces to meet ongoing curriculum redesign and the creation of new programs.

ACADEMIC AND NON-ACADEMIC SCHEDULED ROOMS (HRS/WK)
WEEKS 17, 25, 43, 50 // MONDAY - FRIDAY, 8 AM - 5 AM



ACADEMIC AND NON-ACADEMIC SEAT UTILIZATION
WEEKS 17, 25, 43, 50 // MONDAY - FRIDAY, 8 AM - 5 AM



REFERENCE

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