

## **Describe your vision and long term objectives for your space:**

The primary mission of the Classroom Committee is to provide the proper educational environment. This includes sufficient suitable facilities for teaching classes, student needs, and hosting events at the Dallas Makerspace.

As we re-enter another growth phase, classes and events again play an important role in attracting the general public to the space and extending our primary mission of education.

## **What are limitations and bottlenecks in your current space?**

The main limitation today is that the number of available rooms is insufficient to meet demand. Instructors have stopped teaching classes because they have not been able to reserve a room during prime periods.

Storage is needed for chairs and tables when not in use to create more room and a more pleasant environment.

## **Causes and possible solutions?**

We currently have no open space for more classrooms. Obviously, the more rooms we have, the more Dallas Makerspace benefits in general.

We increase capacity for number of students, increase the diversity of classes, and attract more instructors and students.

As the several committees get more space, it is hoped that they will be more able to hold classes in committee space without blocking everyone else out. Yet offering more classroom space will enable committees to offer their main function to their constituents, while providing classes at the same time in another space.

Classes requiring computer usage continues to increase. Software classes such as programming, design classes for 3D modeling, illustration, digital photography, and more. Students often do not have or cannot afford the software to learn these tools and skills.

Providing a fully equipped computer lab will greatly assist in providing these classes. Providing a fully equipped lab creates a study place for students.

An additional benefit would be providing a place for computer based certification testing.

In five years, we see the need for two such rooms.

## **Opportunities an expansion would create?**

Many committees have a problem with members designing their projects on computers intended to control tools. For the past year or two, some members have envisioned a room outfitted with capable computers running commonly used design software. This room can be used to teach the use of these design tools without requiring students to bring their own computers and install their own software. And when the room is not used for classes, the computers are available for general use by members designing their projects.

## **What would it take to enable that opportunity?**

We need to be able to dedicate a medium-sized classroom for 20 students. The room should be more square than longer. In the Purple classroom, it is difficult to see text on the monitor beyond the second row.

A smaller room, such as Digital Media, would be ideal for the "CAD Room." This will be a joint project between the Classroom and Infrastructure Committees.

## **Any committees you should be near? Why?**

Although proximity to a classroom is a great value to any committee which moves tools and supplies to use a classroom, any committee which has adopted the rolling cabinet model can effectively use our classrooms regardless of exact location. There are no committees which we need the classrooms to be near.

## **Any committees you should NOT be near? Why?**

Classrooms should not be adjacent to or near committees which generate noise, dust or smells. Anything other strategic factors we need to know for our planning?

In general, classrooms should be in the front part of the building so that students and attendees do not need access to the workshop portions of the space.

## **Equipment list**

EPSON laser projector and large 150" diagonal screen (Lecture Hall)  
2 x Visio 75" 4K monitors (Interactive Classroom)  
2 x Visio 60" HD monitors (Purple Classroom and Interactive Classroom)  
1 x Samsung 50" monitor on a crash cart (Conference Room)  
OpenCast setup (Lecture Hall)  
audio-visual equipment (Lecture Hall)  
Everything is 120V.

We will need to acquire more monitors, open cast equipment, tables, chairs, power strips, and fans to outfit any additional classrooms we get.

In addition to committee equipment, we need enough electrical capacity to power member-owned computers. We appear to have enough in our current classrooms, but it would be nice to have at least one room in which more than one student can be using a heat gun at a time.

## **Summary**

We can put all the rooms we can get to effective use. As committees move from suite #104 to #102, we can make effective use of existing rooms with floor-to-ceiling walls.

We would like the big room in the southwest corner of suite #102 as a classroom, or the equivalent. That will give us three large classrooms including the current Interactive Classroom and Lecture Hall.

When Creative Arts consolidates their space, we would like to reclaim the CA Annex. It will serve two purposes. A second entryway to give us an option to temporarily subdivide the Interactive Classroom into two smaller rooms and for storage of tables and chairs when they are not in use. The room is too warm and dusty as it currently exists for most other purposes.

Three or four medium-sized classrooms with the square footage of Purple Classroom will meet the needs of many of the classes.

Small rooms like the Conference Room, 3D Fabrication, and Electronics work well as small classrooms.