

Classroom Advisory Subcommittee (CAS)
September 16, 2019
Minutes of the Meeting

These minutes reflect discussion and debate at a meeting of a committee of the University of Minnesota Senate; none of the comments, conclusions or actions reported in these minutes reflect the views of, nor are they binding on, the senate, the administration or the Board of Regents.

[In these minutes: Welcome and Introductions; Review of Last Year; Committee Chairs Meeting; Office of Classroom Management Overview; Conversation with Marc Partridge, University Architect]

PRESENT: Mark Bergen (chair), Todd Arnold, Keith Brown, Jim Cotner, Dave Crane, Michael Dunst, Dave Hutton, Roberta Kehne, Sandy Mand, Finn Schneider, J.D. Walker

REGRETS: Jay Hatch

ABSENT: Andrew Jenks, Abby Skapyak

OTHERS: Marc Partridge, University architect

1. Welcome and Introductions

Professor Mark Bergen, chair, called the meeting to order and called for a round of introductions. He asked that each member say what they hope to accomplish or address in the subcommittee this year. Members cited the following interests:

- How classroom space can support innovative pedagogy
- Bring an undergraduate perspective to the committee
- Connect pedagogical requirements to Office of Classroom Management (OCM) resources
- Explore what OCM does well and could do better
- Explore the effectiveness of active learning classrooms for different student populations, such as those with disabilities
- Advocate for more and more effective use of active learning classrooms
- Keeping accessibility at the forefront, including when spaces are designed/renovated
- Opportunities to visit new learning spaces being created at the University and throughout the Twin Cities area.

2. Review of Last Year

Next, Bergen directed the subcommittee's attention to its charge, noting that it had been revised the previous year. The subcommittee's charge is as follows:

The Classroom Advisory Subcommittee (CAS) shall be a standing subcommittee of the Educational Policy Committee. CAS is an advisory group for the Office of Classroom Management (OCM) in the execution of its broad responsibilities as the central point of contact

for all general purpose classroom, computer laboratory, and study space issues on the Twin Cities campus and academic scheduling system-wide.

CAS also shall be a broadly representative group that provides faculty, staff and student consultation and input on a wide range of issues forwarded to CAS from across the University relating to how our classrooms, computer laboratory and study spaces can most effectively support the teaching and learning and outreach and public service missions of the University.

Keith Brown asked whether virtual space is under the purview of the subcommittee; Bergen confirmed that it is. He then reviewed the activity of the subcommittee over the last couple of years, which included looking at active learning classrooms (what we have versus what we need); the relationship between pedagogy and space; how faculty/the subcommittee can provide feedback during the design process and what type of information would be useful; the [St. Paul Campus Strategic Facilities Plan](#); accessibility; and possible data that could be useful to know about classroom space and use thereof and possible ways to gather such data.

3. Committee Chairs Meeting

Bergen then informed members that University Senate Office would be holding a committee chair's meeting later in September. He noted that he had a conflict, and asked for a volunteer to represent the subcommittee at that meeting. Todd Arnold agreed to act in this capacity.

4. Office of Classroom Management Overview

Next, Bergen turned the floor over to David Crane, manager, Business Development, OCM, who provided an [overview of OCM](#) to the subcommittee.

During the presentation, Bergen noted that many businesses are moving to defining their value in terms of service and/or data, rather than a physical space or product. He gave the example of medical devices such as pacemakers, etc., which can gather data in addition to their primary functions. The data that they gather is often more valuable than the physical device itself. He asked Crane whether OCM has seen this shift in terms of their operations. Crane said yes, adding that, given the types of technology in many of the rooms, OCM could collect many types of data that could be useful to different stakeholders. Bergen proposed further discussion of this issue in the future, and Crane indicated this would be welcome.

The presentation ended with a list of challenges and opportunities for OCM over the coming year. Due to time constraints, the discussion of these was limited, and is an area for future conversation by the committee.

5. Conversation with Marc Partridge, University Architect

Finally, Bergen welcomed Marc Partridge, University architect, who gave a [presentation](#) on the following topics:

- Standardized project delivery model used at the University
- How information is gathered by the project, the project scope is defined, and delivery is tracked and communicated to stakeholders during implementation

- How projects use the triple constraints and what levers are available to stakeholders to help ensure outcomes are met

Bergen asked how CAS can be helpful during the planning and design process. Partridge suggested that the Project Advisory Committee, which meets about once a month, could be a point of intersection for CAS/faculty input on specific projects. He also suggested meeting to discuss global trends, issues, etc., that are not specific to any particular project but are applicable to all or most projects. He noted that he had also met with a working group of the Academy of Distinguished Teachers (ADT) on this topic. Bergen said that he would reach out to Partridge to facilitate further discussion. Partridge added that it would be good for Monique MacKenzie, planning director, Planning, Space, and Real Estate, to be involved as well.

Bergen asked whether there is a list of current projects the subcommittee could look at, and Partridge said that the annual capital budget contains such a list and is available online.

In the interest of time, Bergen thanked Partridge and adjourned the meeting.

Amber Bathke
University Senate Office