

Review of public rooms in the Knight Library

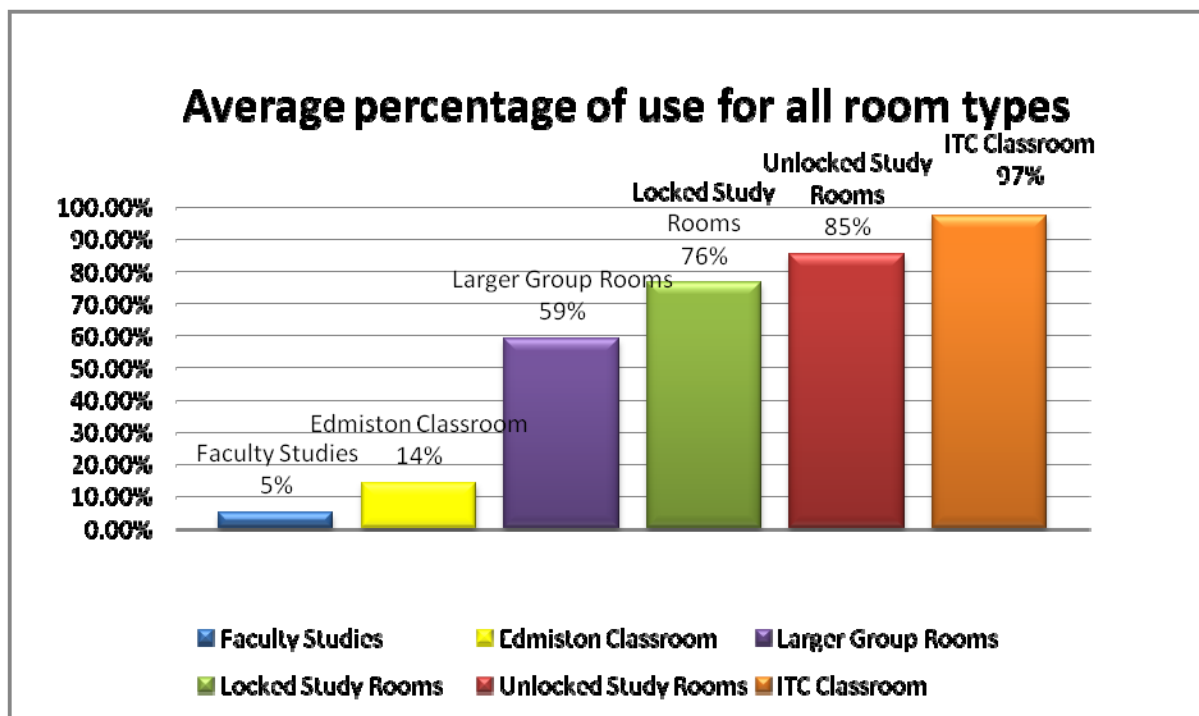
Objective: “The UO Libraries will provide physical and virtual environments that promote interactivity, exploration, discovery and community.” Goals include:

1. Maximize the use of library space.
2. Remove barriers and disincentives.
3. Create spaces and services that encourage faculty to use the facilities.

Process

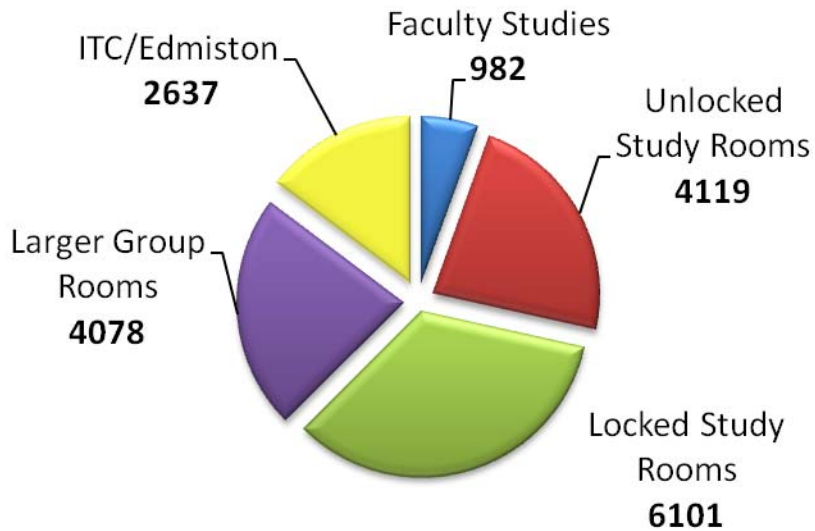
During winter term 2008 staff surveyed the use of the classrooms, meeting rooms, and faculty studies in the Knight Library. Staff examined the data by type of room: classrooms (Edmiston, ITC); large group rooms (Reed Seminar, 401, 322, 222, MacKinnon Room, Collaboration Center); faculty studies; locked study rooms; and unlocked study rooms. Observations were made at various times throughout the day from the middle of week three to the end of finals week. A total of 279 observations were recorded.¹

Results



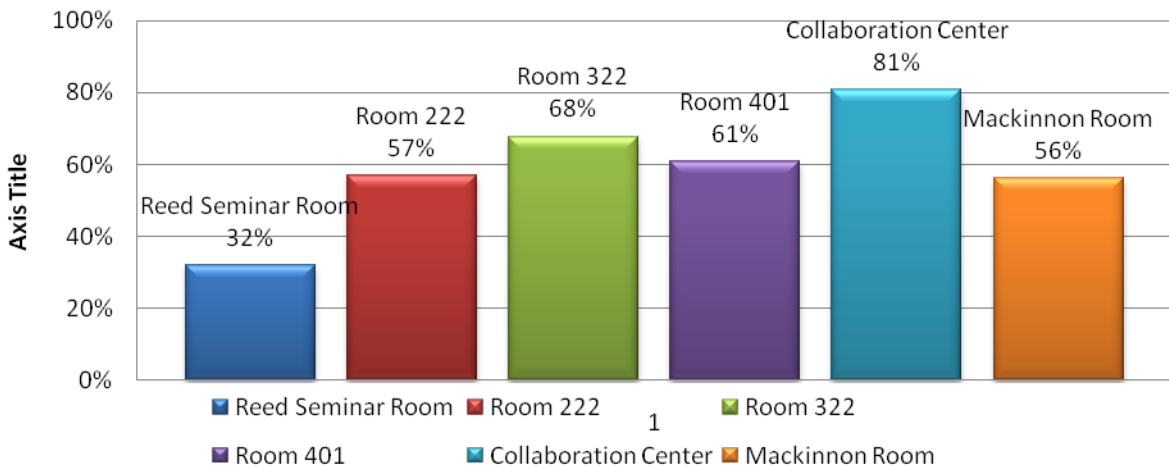
¹ Safety Staff are scheduled to work afternoons, evenings and weekends. No counts were taken before 11a.m. This skews the data collection a little but we know the primary user groups are here later in the day.

Total # of people using each type of room



Larger Group Rooms

Average percentage of time rooms were in use



Summary Findings:

- A. The ITC classroom was in use 97% of time. This space is an unlocked classroom equipped with individual workstations, so when classes are not scheduled it is heavily used.
- B. Unlocked study rooms (total of 9 rooms) were in use 85% of the time. These rooms cannot be reserved. Although they are very popular—a total of 4,119 uses were counted—only one person was in a room 36.5% of the time.

- C. Locked study rooms (total of 12 rooms) are also heavily used with 6,101 users counted. These rooms are self-bookable and were reserved 3,758 times during winter term. The rooms are used primarily by groups; 17% of time only one person was in the room.
- D. The Collaboration Center was in use 81% of the time and the Presentation Practice Room (one of the locked rooms providing students the opportunity to practice presentations) was in use 42% of the time.
- E. On average the larger group rooms were in use 59% of the time, primarily in the evenings. Day use was relatively low. These rooms range in size from 15 to 22 seats. They have not been used in the past for teaching CRN courses but would be suitable for this purpose for smaller enrollment courses particularly if the rooms were upgraded with data and video projection, screens and more flexible seating.
- F. Faculty studies were in use only 5% of the time. There were 19 faculty studies never in use during this survey period and another 12 were discovered to have had only one use. Only 13 of the 64 rooms were found in use more than 10% of the time.

Decisions:

Edmiston Classroom is locked when a class is not scheduled. This room is equipped with individual workstations. Given the high use of the ITC classroom, Edmiston will be open those times when classes are not scheduled.

Five of the larger group rooms will be released to the registrar to schedule CRN classes between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. The Classroom Committee will consider sharing in the costs of any needed upgrades.

For ULC Discussion:

What additional opportunities exist to achieve the stated goals and objectives?