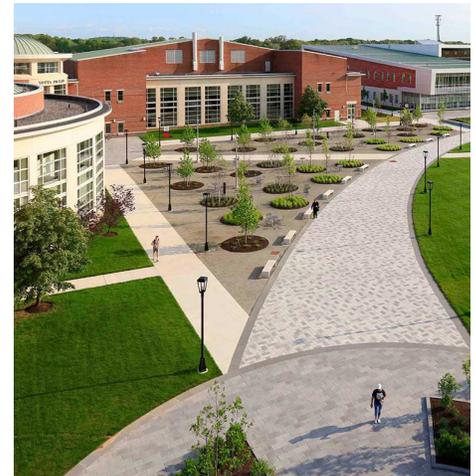
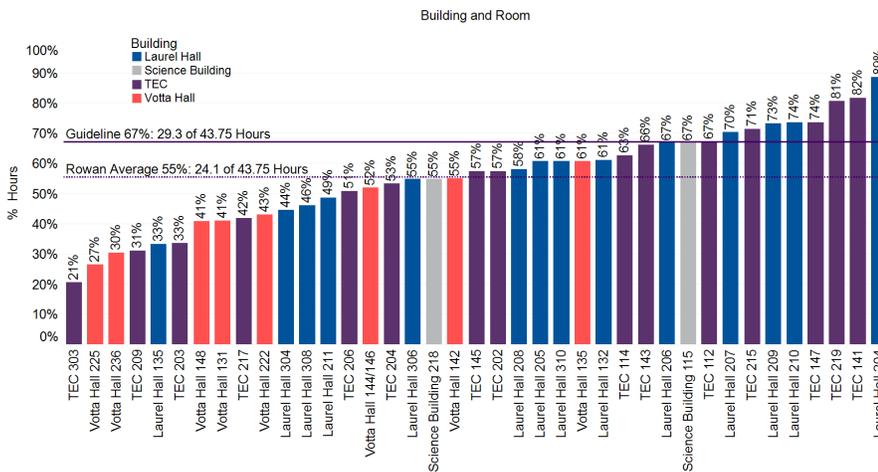


Rowan College at Burlington County

Instructional Space Utilization Analysis and Scheduling Study

Mount Laurel, New Jersey



Project Information

Completion Date

October 2020

Services Provided

Instructional Space Utilization Analysis

Rowan College at Burlington County is a comprehensive two-year college enrolling some 9,000 headcount students on three campuses and at two centers. Students can take advantage of the College's partnership with Rowan College to seamlessly complete their baccalaureate degree. The main campus is located in Mount Laurel, New Jersey, which was the primary focus of this study.

Collectively, there is almost 83,000 assignable square feet (ASF) of space allocated to direct instructional use on the Mount Laurel campus. This includes 39 general-use classrooms that are controlled by the Registrar and available to all, seven dedicated classrooms, and 32 teaching laboratories. These 78 instructional spaces are distributed among five buildings. In addition to scheduled use by Rowan College at Burlington County, two universities also schedule courses on campus. Additionally, Rowan wanted to explore the potential space implications of relocating courses currently held at its Willingboro site.

The study outcomes included recommendations regarding the numbers and capacities of instructional spaces needed, as well as non-capital suggestions for achieving those goals. In contrast to the 39 general-use classrooms that currently exist, 35 appropriately-sized classrooms would be sufficient to accommodate current course offerings as well as those courses currently offered at the Willingboro site. Ideally, there would be a different distribution of classroom capacities. There is a pronounced oversupply of classrooms seating between 31 and 40, in counterpoint to a need for classrooms seating between 51 and 60 students. This would allow Rowan to decompress currently overfilled classrooms with tight seating while also enhancing pedagogical flexibility.

On average, Rowan's discipline-based teaching labs are used below target rates, both in terms of scheduled weekly hours and average station occupancy rate. This suggests that there are opportunities to enhance use, such as for student projects, research, and practice. In contrast, the multipurpose computer labs are used above target levels on the days that they are scheduled. If current scheduling patterns are altered, it will alleviate pressure and eliminate the need to add a computer lab.