X25 "Stories" Make the Case for Change

Using X25

Inside

Boise State University

Boise, Idaho

Products:
X25® Space Analysis & Benchmarking, *R25*® Scheduling System

Number of Students:
About 18,500

Number of Rooms:
156 rooms / 69 centrally scheduled

The Motivation:
The school's mission to become a metropolitan research university of distinction means more research labs, and a need to give up some classroom space to make room for them. But how to go about it when there already seemed to be a shortage of classroom space?

Why X25?
"With the support of a Provost interested in optimizing our use of space, we looked for a tool that could help us reassess classroom management."
—Kim Asbury, Coordinator of Class Development

The Savings:
"X25 has already paid for itself with what we're getting out of it." —Tim Ebner, Registrar

© Photos provided by Boise State University.

Profile

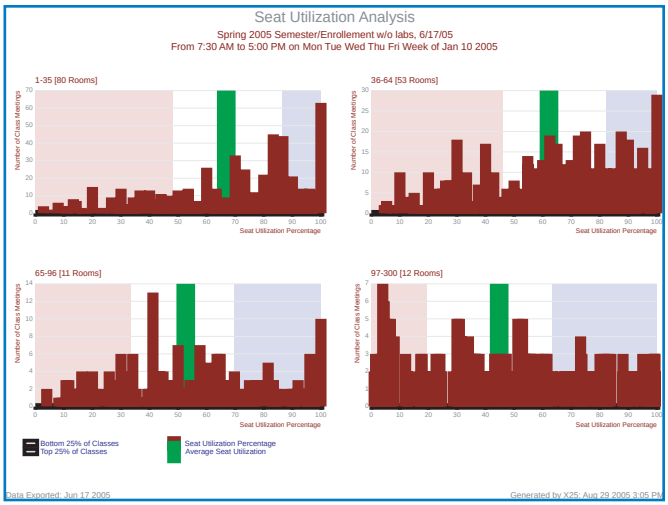
The largest university in Idaho, Boise State University recently committed to a vision: to become a metropolitan research university of distinction. In terms of campus space, this would mean converting some existing classrooms to research laboratories. It also meant more pressure on the Registrar's Office, which was already turning down requests to add sections because of an apparent shortage of usable space.

"We needed to say 'no' more often than we wanted to," says Registrar Timothy Ebner. Classrooms had also been too long overlooked for funding allocation, and were overdue for review and upgrade to meet present-day pedagogical expectations.

The time seemed ripe for a radical reexamination of campus inventory and space management practices, to determine how well current resources were being utilized. The Registrar's Office had ideas. What they needed was buy-in from key constituents across campus.

Challenge

A major challenge for those who have a significant interest in classroom management —including provosts, deans and faculty, facilities and maintenance managers, IT staff, registrars, and schedulers—is to ensure a quality learning experience for students while observing budgetary constraints. What the Registrar's Office at Boise State did was put together a Classroom Management Committee comprising all the major constituents to analyze campus space and find solutions that would work for everyone. A key ingredient in gathering information to present to the team was the acquisition of X25.



The Process

After deciding X25 was the tool they needed, Tim Ebner and his staff, which includes Kim Asbury, Coordinator of Classroom Development, and Marla Kerfoot, Room Scheduling Coordinator, worked intently to prepare the appropriate data in R25 and export it to X25. They then started generating reports to analyze class scheduling and room usage practices on campus. X25 gave them the graphic "story" they needed, along with the tabular data to back up the graphs. Armed with the evidence of where scheduling practices and space inventory were falling short, they made their presentation to the team. After viewing the X25 reports, the Provost, and the entire team, were convinced of the need to revamp current practices to better manage and enhance their space.

What's in the Future?

Boise State already had a scheduling policy, but X25 showed how erratically that policy was being implemented. They're now enforcing standard time blocks and have set a seat utilization target of 60 percent, so badly needed space can be freed up for other uses. They also plan to focus on satisfying class preferences for supplies and equipment. How will they measure their success in following the new guidelines? "X25 gives us this information at our fingertips," says Tim Ebner.

Benefits

X25 is giving the Registrar's Office the stunning graphical evidence necessary to effect a change in campus culture, so deans and faculty can fully understand that space is owned by the university and must be used efficiently. Nowadays, the Provost, too, is running her own reports. Though they still have a long way to go to meet their administrative goals, Tim Ebner asserts that "X25 has already paid for itself with what we're getting out of it." Kim Asbury adds: "We think X25 is just wonderful!"

Want to know more?

To discuss your challenges in the areas of space planning and optimization, and how X25 can help you, call 503.973.5200 or email sales@collegenet.com.

CollegeNET, Inc., 805 SW Broadway, Suite 1600, Portland, OR 97205 • 503.973.5200 • corp.collegenet.com
© 2007, CollegeNET, Inc. All rights reserved. Specifications are subject to change without notice. SR-F-098 9/07

CollegeNET, X25 and R25 are the registered trademarks or trademarks of CollegeNET, Inc.
All other company and product names may be trademarks of the respective companies with which they are associated.