

Clarkson Engineering and Applied Science Educational Complex (CEASEC) Project



Project Update Townhall

Bill Jemison, Dean of Engineering and Applied Sciences

Erik Backus, Academic Facilities and Construction Lead for the Solinsky Challenge

September 15, 2025

Outline/Agenda

- Project Context
- Connection to the Clarkson Community
- Consultant Understanding of the Project Vision & Goals based on:
 - Three months of design team effort and CU stakeholder meetings
 - Synthesis of CU internal efforts and vision
 - Articulation of Clarkson values and ethos
 - Preliminary analysis of building structure/mechanicals
 - Student recruitment, retention, and experience goals
- The Journey WE are on
- Space Utilization
 - classroom, laboratory, and co-curricular data; defining needs
- Where are we?
 - Overall Program Analysis
 - Spaces Defined (Expansion & CAMP/Rowley Reno)
 - Test Fits
 - SPEED Plus
- Ongoing Communication
- Thank You!



Project Context



Our Five Shared Priorities will guide the design strategy

**STEM is
Clarkson's
Core**

**Enrollment and
Student
Experience**

**Financial
Stability**

Work Together with Clear Communications

**Solinsky Challenge, Alumni, and Donor Engagement
Accelerates Our STEM Mission into the Future**

Connection to the Clarkson Community



Committees Structure

CEASEC Steering Committee

Operational leadership for the project

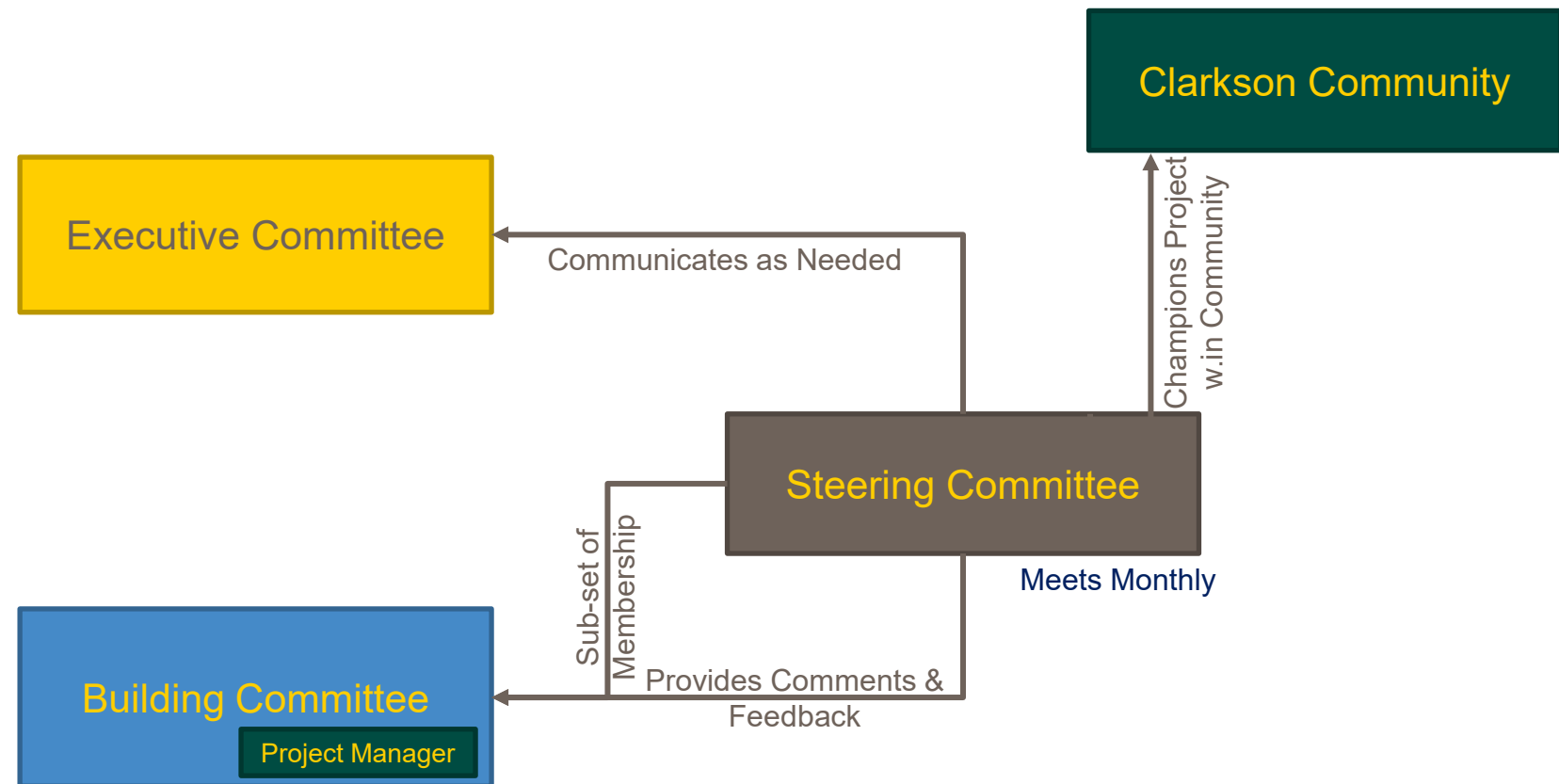
- Meet periodically
- Review and give comment
- Sounding board and advisement group for the project

Co-chaired by the Director CEM and Director of Facilities & Construction.

- responsible for sharing the recommendations of the steering committee that require approval to the Executive Committee

Members will serve as project ambassadors and key conduits of communication

Meet on a monthly basis throughout the duration of the project



Key:

Univ. Community	Text
Exec. Comm.	Text
Steering Comm.	Text
Building Comm.	Text
Adv. Comm.	Text
A/E & CM/DB	Text

CEASEC Steering Committee Membership (as of 15 Sep)

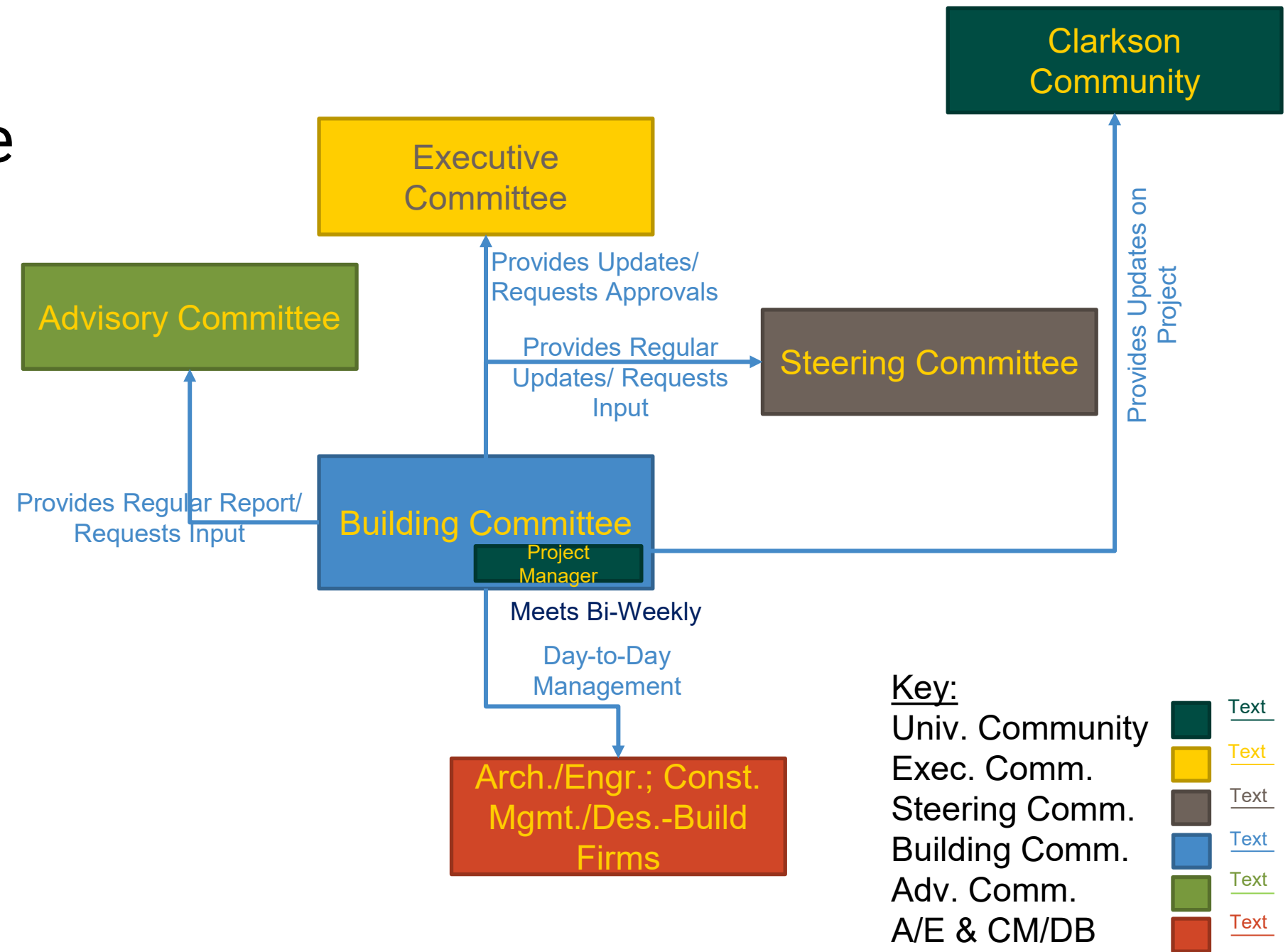
Position	Designee	Title	Email
Designated Project Manager	TBD	Temporary Capital Design & Construction Project Manager	
Learning Resources Committee, Faculty Senate Member	Krista Larock-We	Marketing Instructor, David D. Reh School of Business; Chair LRC	klarock@clarkson.edu
Vice President (VP) of Enrollment and Student Advancement Designee	Cathy McNamara	Associate Vice President of Academic Support & Student Engagement	cmcnamar@clarkson.edu
Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs & Student Achievement Designee	Amanda Pickering	Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs & Student Achievement	apickeri@clarkson.edu
Dean of the Graduate School/VP for Research & Technology OR Director of CAMP Designee	Devon Shipp	Director of CAMP	dshipp@clarkson.edu
Director the Institute for a Sustainable Environment Designee	Susan Powers	Director the Institute for a Sustainable Environment	spowers@clarkson.edu
VP of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Access Designee	Jennifer Ball	Vice President for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Access Professor ACT	jball@clarkson.edu
Director of Academic Technology & Support Designee	Laura Perry	Title VI, IX, ADA/504 Coordinator Director of Academic Technology & Support	lperry@clarkson.edu
Environmental Health & Safety Manager / Radiation Safety Officer / Emergency Response Manager	Erica Arnold	Environmental Health & Safety Manager / Radiation Safety Officer / Emergency Response Manager	earnold@clarkson.edu
Maintenance and/or custodial staff for the buildings being effected Designee	Jeffery Nugent	Senior Custodian	jnugent@clarkson.edu
VP of Financial Affairs Designee	Regis Quirin	Director of Budget & Planning	rquirin@clarkson.edu
Undergraduate student designee (CUSA Senate)	Ryan Lynch	Civil Engineering Student	lynchrt@clarkson.edu
Graduate student designee (GSA)	Gladys Pantoja	PhD Candidate	pantojgg@clarkson.edu
Development and Alumni Relations	Erin Londraville	Director of Donor Engagement, Stewardship & Foundation Relations	elondrav@clarkson.edu

Position	Designee	Title	Email
Associate Dean of the Lewis School of Health & Life Sciences	Tom Langen	Professor of Biology / Associate Dean Lewis School of Health & Life Sciences / Acting Chair of Physical Therapy	tlangen@clarkson.edu
Associate Dean for the Coulter School of Engineering & Applied Science	Doug Bohl	Professor / Associate Dean for Academic Programs	dbohl@clarkson.edu
Chemical & Bio-molecular Engineering	Simona Liguori	Assistant Professor	sliguori@clarkson.edu
Civil & Environmental Engineering	Robert Thomas	Associate Professor	rthomas@clarkson.edu
Electrical & Computer Engineering	Masudul Imtiaz	Assistant Professor	mimtiaz@clarkson.edu
Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering	Arthur Michalek	Associate Professor	ajmichal@clarkson.edu
Biology	Stefanie Kring	Associate Professor & Chair, Department of Biology	skring@clarkson.edu
Chemistry & Biochemistry	Silvana Andreescu	Professor and Chair, Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry	eandrees@clarkson.edu
Computer Science	Chuck Thorpe	Professor, Computer Science	cthorne@clarkson.edu
Mathematics	James Greene	Associate Professor	jgreene@clarkson.edu
Psychology	Lisa Legault	Associate Profesoor & Chair, Psychology	llegault@clarkson.edu
Physics	Jan Scrimgeour	Associate Profeessor	jscrimge@clarkson.edu

- 26 Member Committee
- Every affected department has a representative
- Over 40 faculty, staff, & students directly engaged throughout the process
- Alumni engagement (AALB & reunion)

CEASEC Building Committee

- Project champions at the functional level throughout the project.
- Aid the designated project manager, the selected A/E firm, and the Construction Manager in making the applicable recommendations to the steering and executive committees.
- This group will meet typically bi-weekly or more often as needed to aid the project manager.

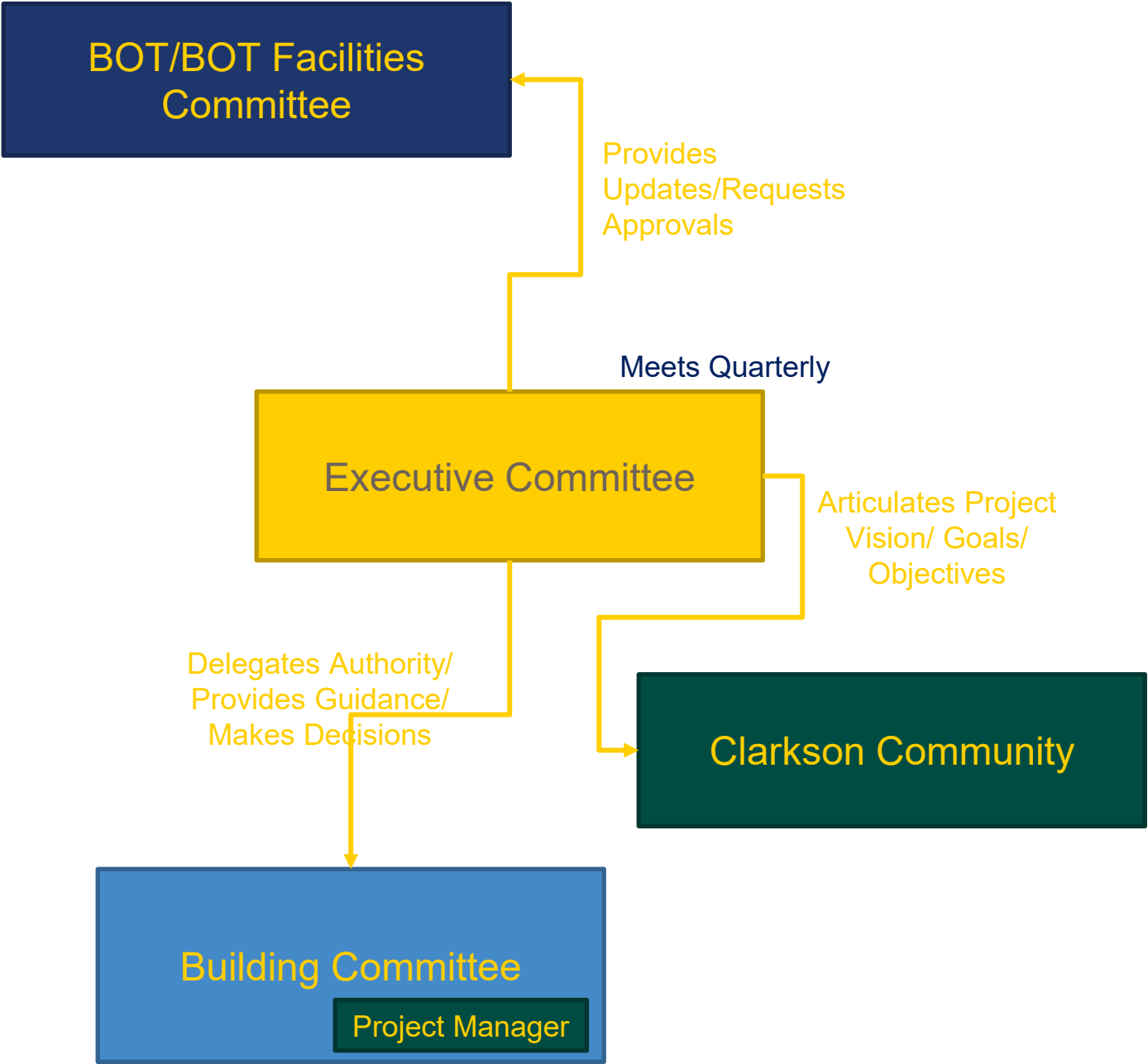


CEASEC Building Committee Membership (as of 15 Sep)

Position	Designee	Title
Department designee from one of the engineering departments (ChBE, CEE, ECE, or MAE), ideally the same as the designee for the steering committee	Arthur Michalek	Associate Professor
Department designee one of the applied science/math/computational science departments (Chem, CS, Math, or Phy) , ideally the same as the designee for the steering committee	Silvana Andreescu	Professor and Chair, Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry
Department designee one of the health science departments (Bio or Psy), ideally the same as the designee for the steering committee	Stefanie Kring	Associate Professor & Chair, Biology
Designated Project Manager for the capital project	TBD	Temporary Capital Design & Construction Project Manager
A representative from Student Affairs active in academic support activities	Cathy McNamara	Associate Vice President of Academic Support & Student Engagement
The full time project manager in Facilities	John Lawrence	Project Manager
Associate Dean for the Solinsky Challenge/Director of Construction Engineering Management	Erik Backus	Prof. of Practice/ Director, Construction Engineering Management
Dean, Coulter School of Engineering and Applied Sciences (ex officio)	William Jemison	Dean, Coulter School of Engineering and Applied Sciences
Dean, Lewis School of Health Science (ex officio)	Len Johns	Dean, Lewis School of Health Science
VP of Financial Affairs (ex officio)	Jeff Ives	VP of Financial Affairs

CEASEC Executive Committee

Title	Incumbent	Project Role	Notes
Dean, Coulter School of Engineering and Applied Sciences	William Jemison	Project Catalyst, Exec. Committee Co-Chair	Oversees the following academic departments: - Chemistry and Biochemistry (Chem) - Chemical and Bio-molecular Engineering (ChBE) - Civil & Environmental Engineering (CEE) - Computer Science (CS) - Electrical & Computer Engineering (ECE) - Mathematics (Math) - Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering (MAE) - Physics (Phy)
Dean, Lewis School of Health Science	Len Johns	Exec. Committee Member	Oversees the following academic departments: - Biology (Bio) - Psychology (Psy)
Dir. of Facilities & Construction	TBD	Exec. Committee Member	Oversees all facilities and capital construction for the University; Chief facilities officer of the institution In the interim, John Lawrence, FAS Project Manager is filling this role
VP of Financial Affairs	Jeffrey Ives	Exec. Committee Co-Chair	Chief Financial Officer of the Institution
AD for the Solinsky Challenge	Erik Backus	Exec. Committee Member	Director of the Construction Engineering Management (CEM) Program; Domain Expertise in Facilities and Capital Project Development; Solinsky Challenge milestones
Board of Trustees Representative	Kathleen Cline	Exec. Committee Member	Chair, Board of Trustees Facilities Committee
President	Michelle Larson	Ex-Officio Exec. Committee Member	Institution CEO, reportable to the Board of Trustees
VP of Legal Affairs & Risk Management	Debra Dresher	Exec. Committee Advisor	Chief Legal Officer of the Institution
VP for Information Technology & Libraries	Joshua Fiske	Exec. Committee Advisor	Oversees OIT; Chief Information Technology Officer of the Institution
Assoc. VP of Development	Steve Smalling	Exec. Committee Advisor	Fundraising support of the Solinsky Challenge and the Capital Project



Consultant Understanding of the Project Vision & Goals



Selected Firm for Conceptual Design



CEASEC Expansion & Renovation Concept Design Selection Rankings

The Clarkson Engineering & Applied Science Educational Complex (CEASEC) project team is proud to announce that we have completed the selection process for the design and construction service firm that will be helping Clarkson craft a concept design and plan for the development of this exciting project. LaBella Associates (<https://labellapc.com/>) who is partnering with S/L/A/M Collaborative (<https://slamcoll.com/>) and The Pike Companies (<https://pikecs.com/>), was ranked as the top/best qualified team.

Student Engagement in Pre-Design Preparation

Number of Students Engaged:

- 50+ (CivE, EnvE, ES&S, E&M, MechE, Data Analytics)

Courses Engaged

- CE448 - Intro to Architectural Engineering
- CE490 - CEE Capstone Design

Student Consulting

- Space Analysis Dashboards
 - 2013-2015: <https://lookerstudio.google.com/reporting/dba51dbd-a540-4984-a3d5-c394f207aecf/page/87jNF>
 - 2023-2025: <https://lookerstudio.google.com/reporting/31bacf74-dfb8-45eb-b1f4-4dfb957c7b06/page/87jNF>



Consultant Understanding of Project Vision & Goals



Vision, Goals & Project Drivers

1. Elevate the SPEED+ experience
2. Smart relocation / colocation
 - New teaching and learning modes to support experiential learning
 - Integrate science and engineering in a way that is distinctive among our peers
 - Rethink the Science Center
3. Engineering: Elevate the physical experience to match Clarkson Culture
 - Celebrate Hands on, immersive learning
 - Expand manufacturing experiences, prototyping & machine shop
 - Expand core research; celebrate undergraduate research
 - Core Labs
4. Elevate the Student Experience (celebrate Clarkson's unique focus)
 - The tour (recruitment)
 - Create the beehive effect (recruitment and retention) (mirror the success of the ERC)
 - Get freshmen in the building
5. Reconfigurable / Flexible
6. Identify Deferred Maintenance

The Journey WE are on



Solinsky Engineering Leadership Challenge

Solinsky Capital Financial Milestones:

\$24M totaling:

- \$2M for detailed design (anticipated: Oct 25)
- \$11M for expansion construction (~Summer 26)
- \$11M for renovation construction

Solinsky capital funding has to be doubled through matching (already have \$13M+ in hand)



Ken '71 and Grace Solinsky with their golden retriever, Kai

18 / 2021 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

PHOTO: JOHN GALVIN



Ken '71 & Grace Solinsky Engineering Leadership Challenge Is the Largest Philanthropic Commitment in Clarkson University History: A Generous Financial Commitment to Engineering That Challenges Others to Step Forward

Ken '71 and Grace Solinsky have made the largest single targeted financial commitment in Clarkson University's history through the Ken '71 & Grace Solinsky Engineering Leadership Challenge, a landmark financial commitment to advance engineering education at Clarkson University.

The Solinskys' generous financial commitment positions Clarkson to lead the nation in preparing engineering graduates for global challenges and elevating advanced manufacturing, which is central to the engineering profession and critical to the health and security of the American economy. Key components of the agreement are a set of mutually agreed goals. These include a systematic way of credentialing students in fundamental skills that cannot be taught within existing, constrained curricula; and a renewed emphasis on advanced manufacturing technology, artificial intelligence, robotics, product design and project management. "We are immensely grateful to Ken and Grace for their extraordinary generosity and leadership over the years. Their Solinsky Leadership Challenge gift will usher in a new era of excellence in engineering

education that will enable us to grow our engineering enrollments to support the workforce development and innovation necessary for American industry to regain its manufacturing prominence," says Clarkson University President Tony Collins. "As part of their continuing engagement with the University, Ken and Grace are challenging us and asking other stakeholders to match their investment by supporting a portfolio of programs to advance the reputation of the institution, the technical and business acumen and entrepreneurial mindset of our students, and the expansion of our facilities to support state-of-the-art engineering education and advanced manufacturing solutions." A significant portion of their investment will also go toward the expansion and renovation of the CAMP

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SOLINSKY ENGINEERING LEADERSHIP CHALLENGE

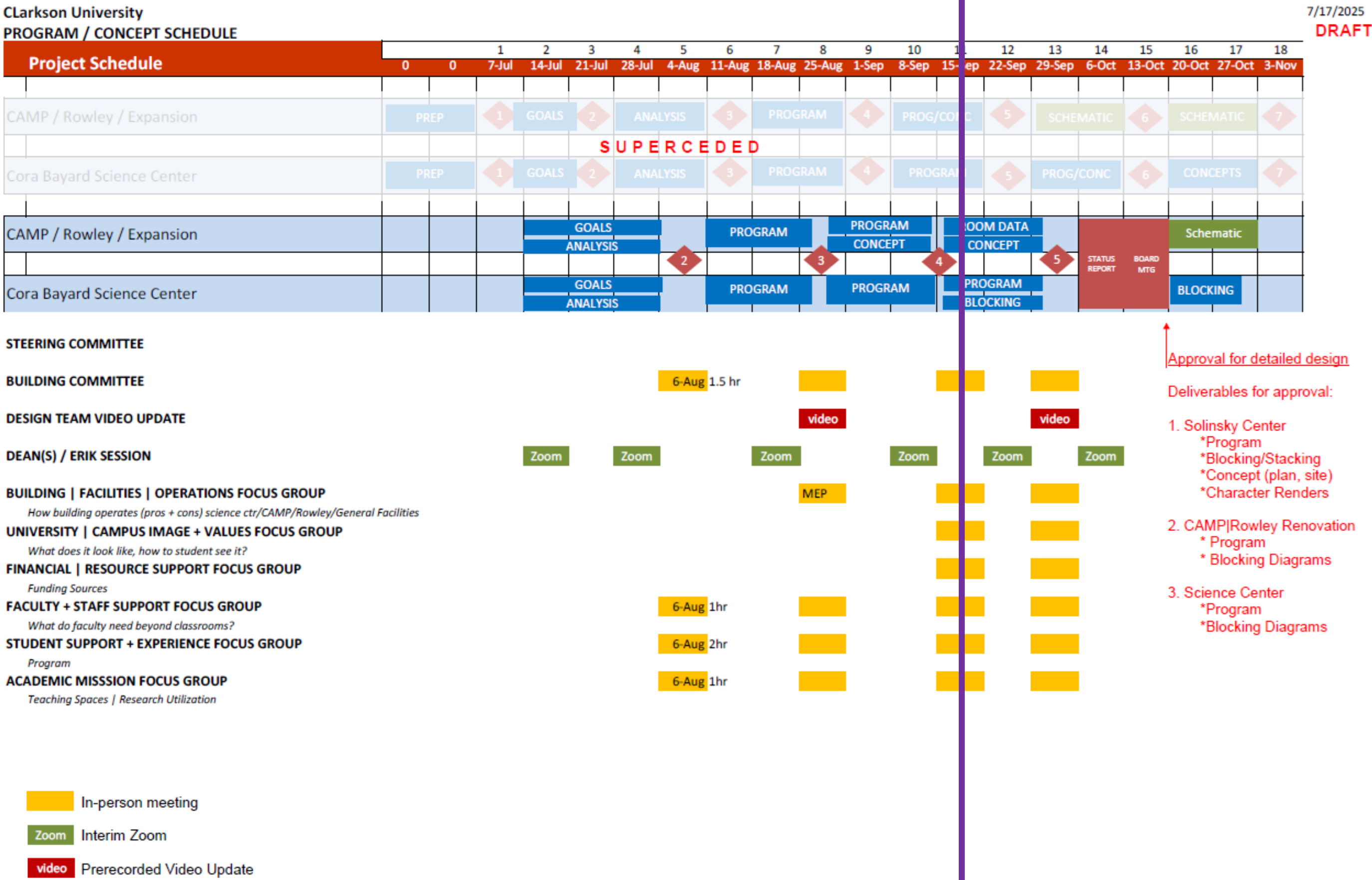
CLARKSON UNIVERSITY / 19

"We want the return on our investment to be pride" - Ken



CLARKSON ENGINEERING &
APPLIED SCIENCES EDUCATIONAL
COMPLEX

Current Workplan



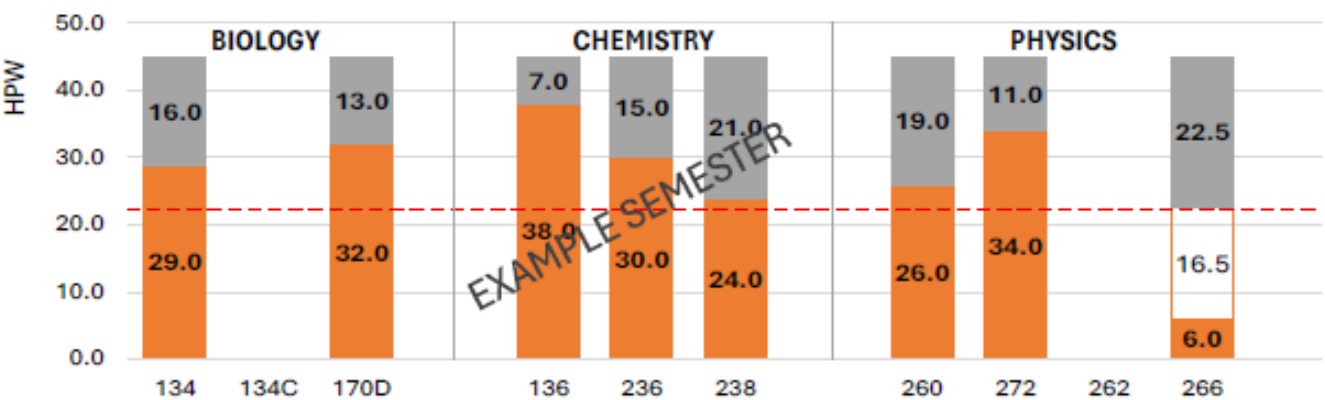
Space Utilization Analysis



Space Utilization – Example: Teaching Labs

Teaching Lab Need Overview

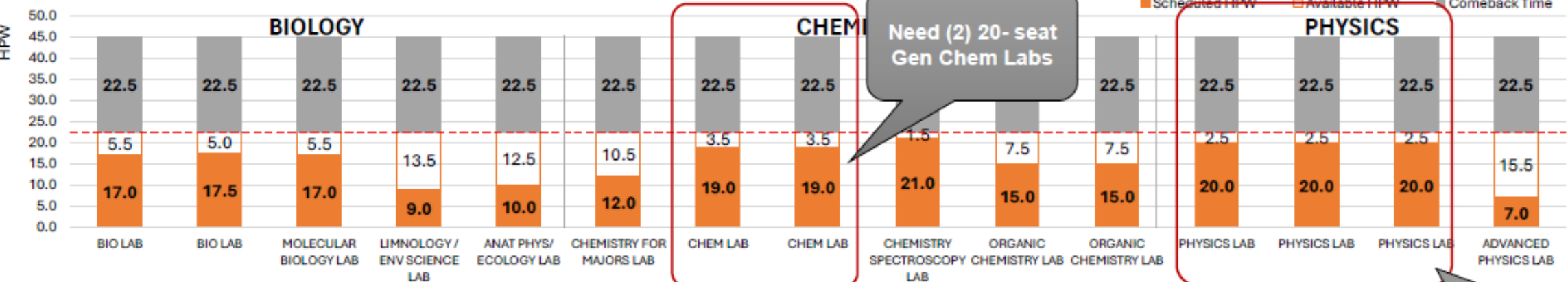
Teaching Lab Room Utilization, Fall 2014



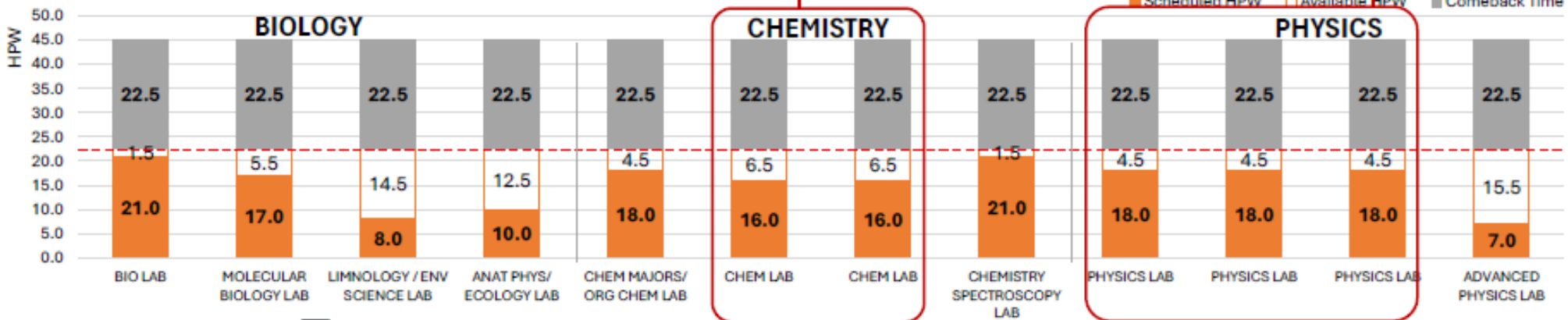
	EXISTING QTY OF LABS	TOTAL LABS NEEDED	TOTAL FRESHMAN* LABS NEEDED
BIO	3	5	
CHEM	3	4 - 6	2
PHYS	4	4	3 - 4
TOTAL	10	13 - 15	5 - 6

*in new construction

Teaching Lab Need (Historic Higher Enrollment)



Teaching Lab Need (2024-2025 Enrollments)



Need (3) 24-seat Gen Physics Labs?

Note:

- If Physics I & II class sections are to be shifted from 20-22 seats down to 18 seats, (4) Gen Physics Labs are needed.

Where are we at?



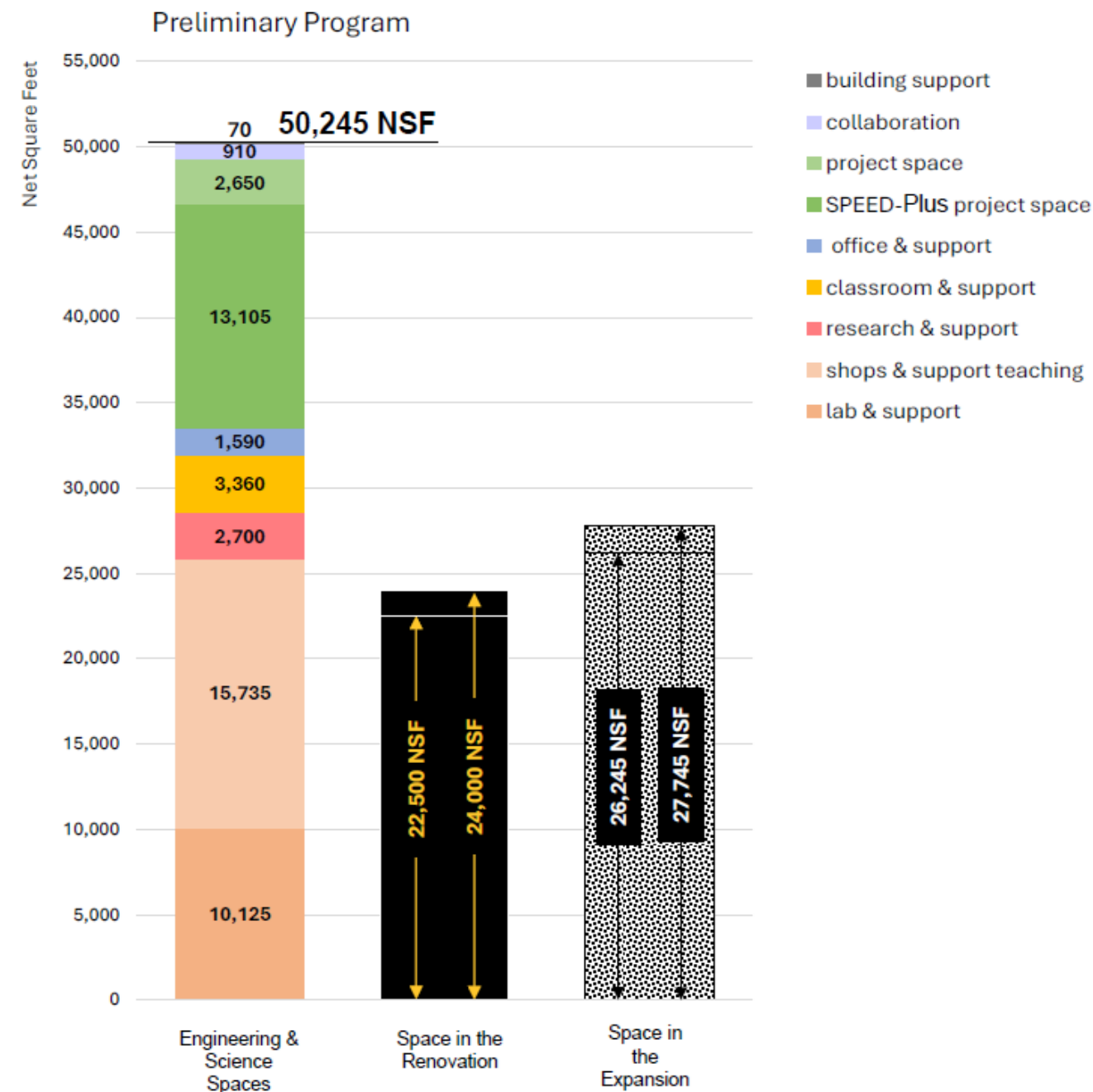
Programming Status

Where are we at? -

- Programming for the Expansion coming to an end (not yet final, but close)
- Programming for the Renovation of CAMP/Rowley & Science Center continues

CEASEC
Preliminary
Program Summary

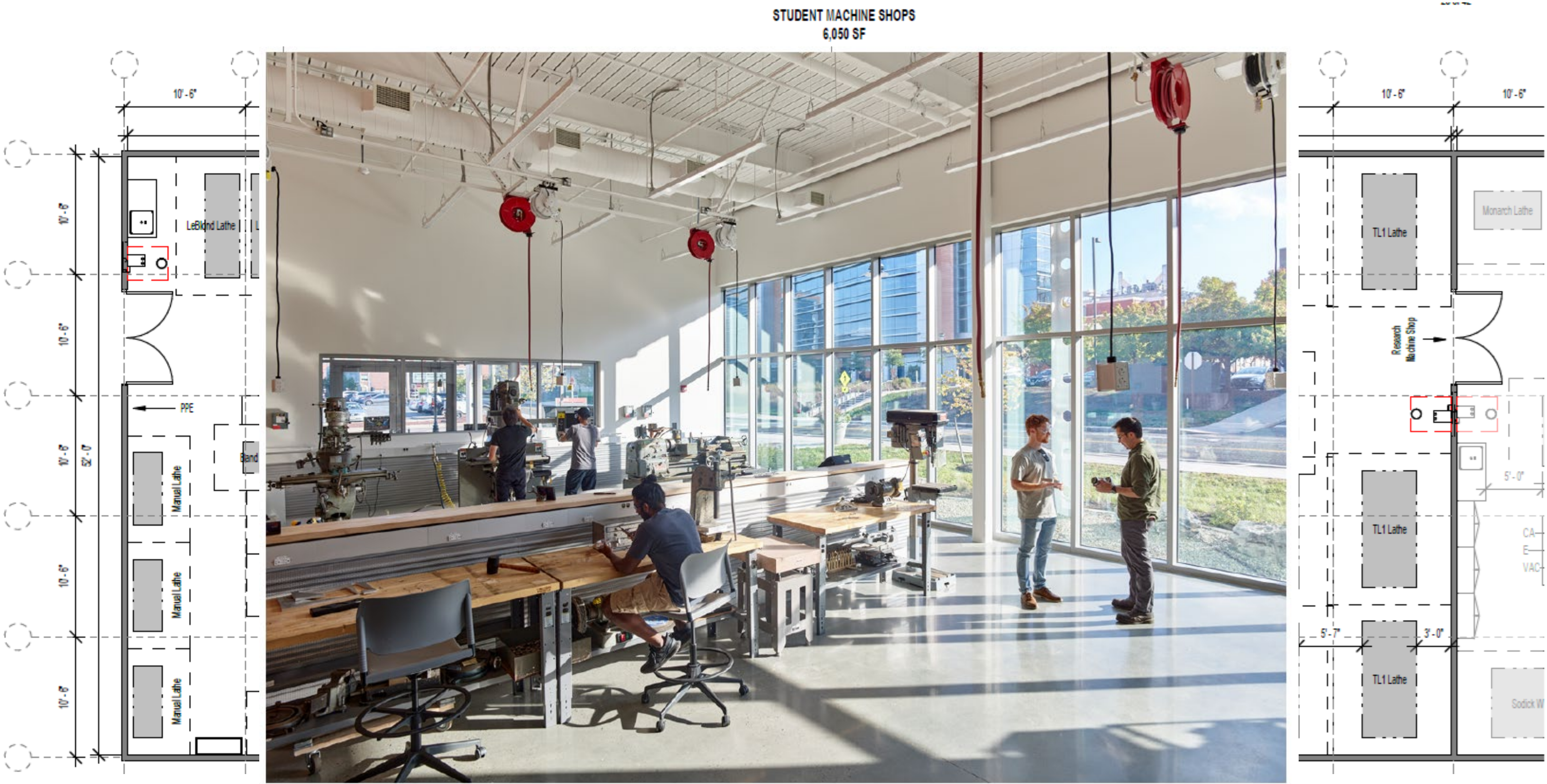
CAMP/Rowley



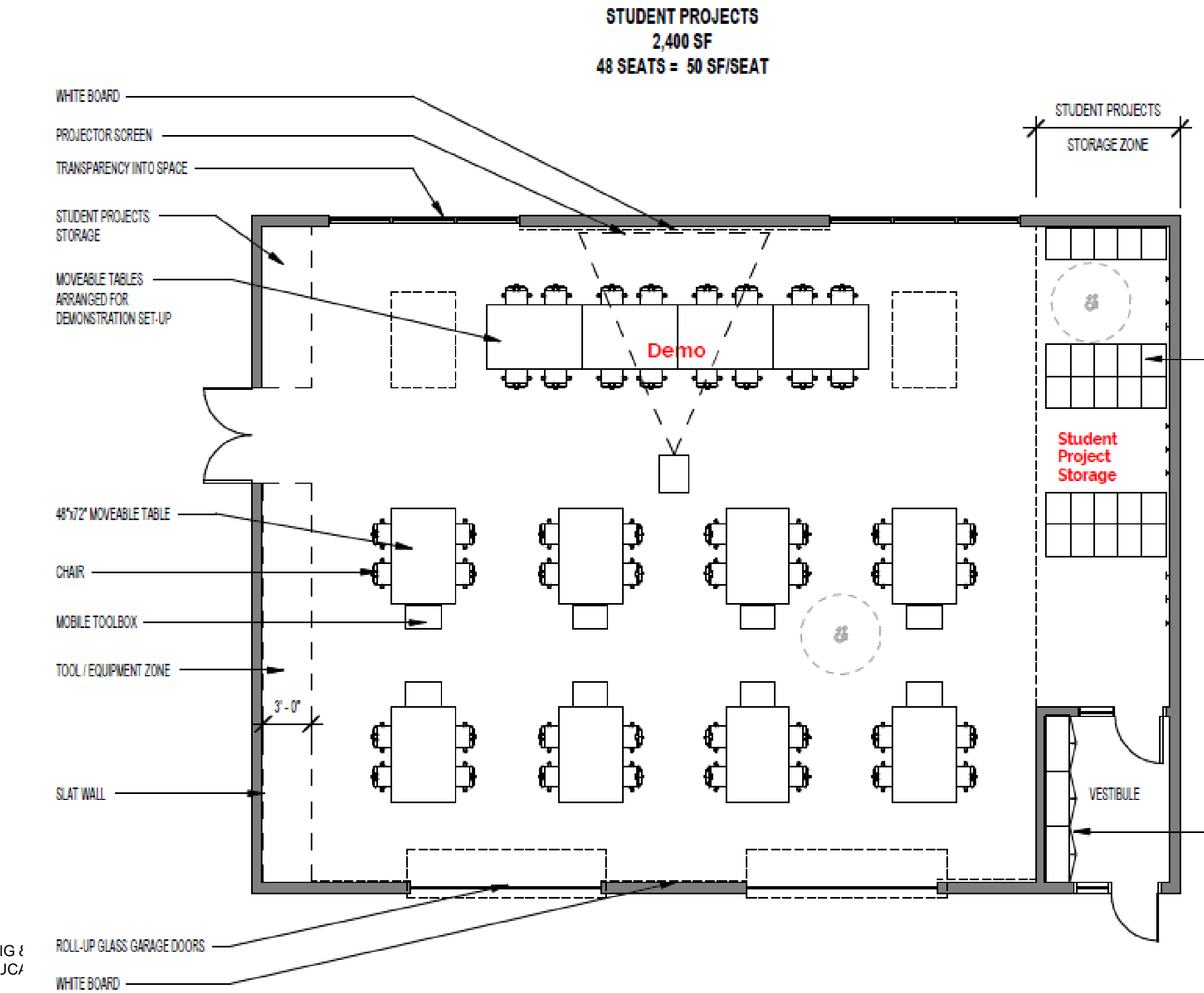
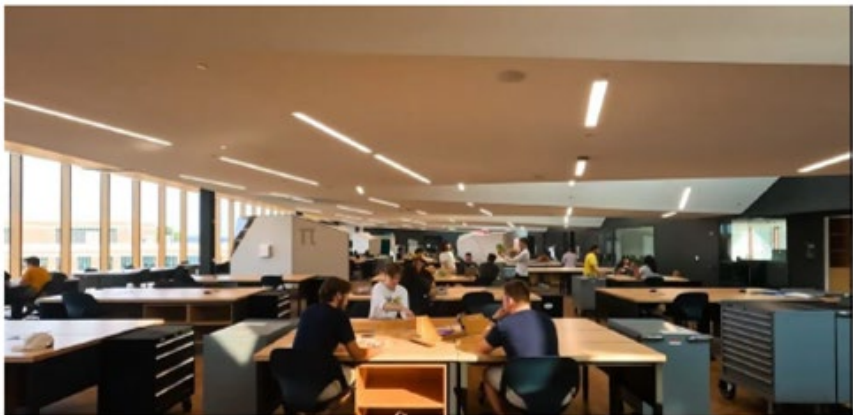
Space Program – Expansion & Renovation Spaces

Coulter School of Engineering & Applied Sciences		Chemistry & Biochemistry Department		Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering Department		Student Projects in Engineering Experience and Design (SPEED)	
CEASEC Shared Resources		Teaching Lab & Support		Teaching Lab & Support		Project Space	
Teaching Lab & Support		CHEMISTRY LAB		ME/AE LAB		BAJA SAE TEAM	
STUDENT MACHINE SHOP		CHEMISTRY LAB		- ME/AE LAB STORAGE		FORMULA SAE TEAM	
STUDENT CNC SHOP		- CHEMISTRY PREP / STORAGE				CLEAN SNOWMOBILE TEAM	
WOOD SHOP		CHEMISTRY SEMINAR RM				FORMULA SAE ELECTRIC TEAM	
WELDING SHOP		<i>Subtotal</i>		<i>Subtotal</i>		CHEM-E CAR TEAM	
COMPOSITE SHOP		Chemistry Subtotal		Office & Support		HUMAN POWERED VEHICLE TEAM	
SPRAY BOOTH		Physics Department		ME/AE FACULTY OFFICE		DESIGN-BUILD-FLY TEAM	
METROLOGY SHOP		Teaching Lab & Support				ROCKETRY TEAM	
TOOL ROOM		PHYSICS LAB		<i>Subtotal</i>		STEEL BRIDGE TEAM	
WATER JET ROOM		- PHYSICS PREP/ STORAGE		ME/AE Subtotal		CONCRETE CANOE TEAM	
MATERIAL STORAGE/ RECEIVING ROOM		PHYSICS LAB		Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering - Construction		AUTONOMOUS UNDERWATER VEHICLE TEAM (AUV)	
COMPUTER LAB		- PHYSICS PREP/ STORAGE		Teaching Lab & Support		TIMBER BRIDGE TEAM	
PRINTER ROOM		PHYSICS LAB		ARCHIVE DRAWING / MAP SPACE		COMBAT ROBOTICS TEAM	
<i>Subtotal</i>		<i>Subtotal</i>		STUDIO SPACE		FLEX TEAM SPACE	
Research Lab & Support		Physics Subtotal		SECURED EQUIPMENT STORAGE		TEAM OFFICE/ DESIGN SPACE	
RESEARCH MACHINE SHOP		Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering Department		<i>Subtotal</i>		WASH BAY/ UNLOADING/ MAT'L STORAGE AREA	
ADVANCED MANUFACTURING LAB		Teaching Lab & Support		CTC Subtotal		DYNO ROOM	
<i>Subtotal</i>		CHEM E LARGE EQUIPMENT LAB		Clarkson University		- DYNO CONTROL RM	
<i>Subtotal</i>		- CHEM E PREP/ STORAGE		Classroom & Support		DRUM/ GAS STORAGE	
Classroom & Support		- CHEM E LAB STORAGE		36- SEAT CLASSROOM		SPEED SHOWCASE	
SEMINAR ROOM		DISTILLATION COLUMN ALLOCATION		24- SEAT CLASSROOM		<i>Subtotal</i>	
<i>Subtotal</i>		<i>Subtotal</i>		SEMINAR ROOM		Office & Support	
Office & Support		Office & Support		<i>Subtotal</i>		CORP CONF CENTER/ TBL	
TECHNICIAN OFFICE		CHEM E FACULTY OFFICE		Project Space		CORP CONF ROOM (SMALL)	
SHOP DIRECTOR'S OFFICE		<i>Subtotal</i>		STUDENT PROJECTS SPACE		<i>Subtotal</i>	
<i>Subtotal</i>		ChemE Subtotal		GROUP ROOM		Building Support	
Shared Resources Subtotal				<i>Subtotal</i>		JANITOR'S CLOSET	
				Collaboration/Social		<i>Subtotal</i>	
				OPEN COLLABORATION SPACE		CU Subtotal	
				BREAK-OUT SEATS		<i>Total</i>	
				<i>Subtotal</i>			

Test Fits – Example: Student Machine Shop



SPEED-Plus



Communication



Project Communication - Website

- <https://sites.clarkson.edu/facilities/ceasec-updates-info/>

Clarkson's Engineering & Applied Sciences Educational Complex (CEASEC) Updates and Information

CEASEC Update – Fall 2025

Coming soon. Join us for the upcoming CEASEC Town Hall Sessions. With the Fall Semester in full swing and a lot of work happening over the summer, the Clarkson Engineering and Applied Sciences Educational Complex (CEASEC) project team is eager to give students, faculty, and staff an update on the project. For that reason, Clarkson Community members are cordially invited to join Deans Bill Jemison and Len Johns as well as the Academic Facilities Lead for the Solinsky Challenge, Erik Backus, at one of two University-wide Townhall sessions (please note the new time for the first session to allow for attendance at the New Horizons lecture previous to that session):

September 16th (Tuesday) from 4 to 5:30 pm in the Barben Room, Cheel Campus Center ***NEW TIME***

AND/OR

September 22nd (Monday) from noon to 1:30 pm in the Multi-purpose Rooms (MPRs), Student Center

CEASEC Input Form

At this link you will find a simple survey/form for you to provide input into the [Clarkson Engineering and Applied Sciences Educational Complex Project](#). To give input, you will need to be logged in using your Clarkson University credentials.

CEASEC Expansion & Renovation Concept Design Team Selection

The Clarkson Engineering & Applied Science Educational Complex (CEASEC) project team is proud to announce that we have completed the selection process for the design and construction service firm that will be helping Clarkson craft a concept design and plan for the development of this exciting project. LaBella Associates (<https://labellapc.com/>) who is partnering with S/L/A/M Collaborative (<https://slamcoll.com/>) and The Pike Companies (<https://pikecs.com/>), was ranked as the top/best qualified team.



Other Communication Mechanisms

- Semi-Annual Updates – University-wide updates
- Open Discussion Sessions – As needed/ad-hoc as well as before/after the semi-annual updates
- Periodic Reports – Bi-monthly report for internal and external audiences
- Targeted Communications – as needed/ad-hoc
- Drop-box Survey for input – Open 24/7 – On the Website:

“For the research spaces being built, it is important to consider reliable HVAC, as many experiments rely on controlled environmental conditions, as well as emergency power generators to prevent loss of expensive consumables and machinery.”

- Clarkson Faculty Member, 20 May 2025

Thank You!

