

Approved *Jack K. Blake*
12/20/2018

Overview: This process is envisioned to address the permanent allocation of space for both Academic, Student support, research, administrative, and institutional support. It is not necessary that first there must be vacant space, though if requested space is not already vacant, significant priority will be assigned to the continuing tenant if the proposal involves in-voluntary relocation. One-time space use allocation decisions will continue to be made on a first-come-first served, space available basis.

Title of Request: PsyD and Human Factors Program Space Reallocation Proposal

Date of Request: 11/20/2018 Division/Department making Request: HSH/Psychology and Clinical Health and Applied Science Departments

- **General Description of space request:**

(Briefly identify the nature of the space request proposal, what space is being requested, and the operational requirement of the request)

This request presents two simultaneous actions. Arbor 1315.04 would be vacated by the Human Factors Psychology Program and utilized by the PsyD program. In replacement, the Human Factors Psychology Program would occupy SSCB 2102, the space recently vacated by the Fitness and Human Performance Program next to the previous Fitness Zone. These location shifts alleviate current concerns regarding accreditation issues as well as research limitations.

- **Current space use:**

(Briefly outline current space allocated to the program, function, etc. If the Program is new, attach program approval supporting documents)

PsyD Program

Currently the PsyD Program has no space designated for research purposes creating a potential issue regarding the current attempt for accreditation. The PsyD faculty members also run two other Master's Programs (Clinical Psychology and School Psychology), and both of these programs have no allotted research labs. Current space assigned can only be utilized in an office space capacity which is already being utilized while needs for a research space are not currently being fulfilled.

Human Factors Psychology Program

Currently, the program is assigned the Arbor 1315.04 suite. This suite includes three rooms currently outfitted as two experimentation areas, one large for group testing and a smaller one for individual testing and a one way mirror, accompanied by a control room containing video recording equipment enabled in each testing room. This space has allowed flexibility to run multiple types of studies ranging from website and equipment evaluations to Virtual Reality and Serious Game Development.

- **Challenges from current space use:**

(Briefly identify why/how the current space allocation inhibits the success of the program)

Recent developments have resulted in the re-evaluation of the current space allocated to the PsyD program in Health Service Psychology and the Human Factors Psychology program. First, the PsyD will need research space for their accreditation. Currently, they have no research space. The visit determining full accreditation will occur in January 2019. This timing necessitates rapid action in the determination of additional research space to respond to the accreditation concern.

With regard to the PsyD, currently there is no research space allocated to the PsyD program. Further, the PsyD Program is a combination of Clinical Psychology and School Psychology. Both of these programs do not have research space; thus, this would also give the faculty and students in these programs a place to conduct research. With regard to the PsyD program, we are only in the third year of the program, and student just began proposing their dissertations. However, if they do not have a space for data collection, they will not complete dissertations, which will prohibit them from graduating. Further, students from all three programs become more competitive for internships, employment, and further graduate studies when they have been

involved in research. Currently, they have a very hard time completing research projects, thesis, and data collection, as there is no space for students to do independent projects.

Additionally, the Human Factors program has benefited from an increase in enrollment and student success, as well as the success of multiple contracts and grant awards. Recently, the graduate program doubled its cohort size accepting more students (see Table 1 for 5-year enrollment). However, this increase has resulted in a pedagogical issue. This two-year (six semester) program requires students to conduct multiple research experiments in order to gain applied experiences desired by employers. Regrettably, the current space assigned to the human factors program severely limits the ability to run multiple studies as much of this work involves significant setup, such as the labs virtual reality work, restricting the ability to simultaneously run multiple studies. This challenge has resulted in significant scheduling issues. However, these applied research experiences have added to the extremely high success rate of the program, nearly 100% employment in the past five years including alumni employed at Apple, Microsoft, Hewlett-Packard, NASA, Chevron, among many others and was important in being granted accreditation by the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (one of the only terminal Master's program to receive this accreditation in the nation). Additionally a significant portion of this work is also being done in collaboration with faculty and students from other programs both within psychology and out. To provide some context, during the Fall 2019 semester 26 students along with 8 faculty were attempting to run seven research studies in addition to several class projects that utilized the space for collecting data. Adding to this scheduling difficulty, the two faculty assigned to this program, have also been the recipients of grants and industry contracts which has resulted in hesitancy to pursue additional external funding due to the limited research capacity and priority of our students. Over the last 3 years these two faculty have been involved in external grants and contracts totaling \$1.6 million in awarded funds and \$5.6 million in submitted applications or ones currently under review. Combined, these issues have resulted in limiting the applied student experiences which has previously maximized their employment success.

- Alternate solutions not requested:

(Briefly identify alternative solutions to the challenges identified above and why those solutions are not being sought)

While the programs would be willing to evaluate other spaces across campus, this solution presents an expediate solution based on the timing needs of the upcoming accreditation visit. Additionally, the spaces required would require minimal work and cost where other locations may require significantly more renovation and cost.

Recently, discussions have mentioned the possibility of moving either program to the Pearland location. However, this potential solutions has significant issues. The Human Factors Program is a concentration of the General Psychology program with both the faculty teaching with and outside the concentration and students requiring courses taught within and outside the concentration. This challenge would place significant restriction on the operation of the concentration if separated from the general psychology program and current collaborations with nearby entities including NASA. Additionally, the program is currently accredited as within the Department of Psychology. A division of this may require reaccreditation. The PsyD program is in a similar issue in relation to the Clinical and School Psychology Masters degrees along with the General Psychology program. Currently, the PsyD students teach over 25 classes a year in our General Psychology program. Further, all of the programs utilize and train in the Psychological Services clinic, which is housed in Arbor South. Between the three programs (Clinical Psychology, School Psychology, and PsyD), there are over 60 students working in that clinic during the year, with approximately each student being in the clinic 5 – 6 hours per week. Third, within the three programs, students take 5 – 10 classes in the General Psychology Program, and the faculty in these programs teach over 10 classes in the General Psychology Program.

- Proposal Metrics if applicable:

(Identify what metrics can be used to measure success of the program if this space request is approved, compare to current metrics)

Currently, these programs are valued for their high visibility along with graduate success. For the Human Factors Program in particular, as the more established entity of the two, has demonstrated a very high success rate due in part to the ability to offer an industry desirable experience. With a nearly 100% graduation rate

along with a nearly 100% employment rate, the program has been very well received by industry. Additionally, the program is able to recruit nationally with a significant amount of the cohorts being from beyond the Houston area. The program has also demonstrated a high level of research output along with significant effort in grant pursuits.

With regard to the PsyD, the space would allow for the completion of dissertation, thesis and/or research projects. Currently, research participation, dissertations, and research projects are required as part of the program. Thus, to be successful and to graduate, each student will need a place to complete these dissertations and projects.

• **Alignment with Strategic Plan:**

(Briefly identify how this proposal aligns with the strategic plan for the University, Division, or Department)

This proposal presents a clear link to all three goals President Blake announced during her investiture. The unique and critical experiences provided by research at the graduate and undergraduate level in the two programs identified help to provide effective education programs and activities. The organization and flexibility of the spaces identified in this proposal allow for more active student involvement as well as a greater ability to seek external funds with the goal of multiplying resources in order to deliver a second -to-none educational experience. All with the goal to transform graduates into much needed human capital for our region.

Endorsement:

Requestor:

Name: Nicholas Kelling _____ Email: _kelling@uhcl.edu _____ Date: _11/20/2018 _____

Division/Department: HSH/Psychology _____


Dean
Vice President:  12/6/18 Signature: _____

Approve this request: Y N (circle one)

Shared Governance Space Utilization and Allocation Committee Comments:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

SUAC Co-Chair: W. Suso Melonick
Mark Penney
Mark

Signature: W. Suso Melonick
Mark Penney

Rebecca L. Huss-Keeler

Rebecca L. Huss-Keeler

Chris Ward, Chair
FSSC

Table 1.

HF Program Graduate Student Enrollment				
2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
8	10	14	14	18

The HF Psych program is a 2-year (six semester) MS Degree

Original Proposal

PsyD and Human Factors Programs Space Allocation Proposal

Note: This proposal outlines a reallocation of the current Human Factors Lab (Arbor 1315.04) and the former Human Performance Lab (SSCB 2.102) located next the former Fitness Zone (SSCB 21.03). This proposal does not make any suggestion regarding the use of the Fitness Zone area in SSCB.

Space Needs.

Recent developments have resulted in the re-evaluation of the current space allocated to the PsyD program in Health Service Psychology and the Human Factors Psychology program. First, the PsyD will need research space for their accreditation. Currently, they have no research space. The visit determining full accreditation will occur in January 2019. This timing necessitates rapid action in the determination of additional research space to respond to the accreditation concern.

Additionally, the Human Factors program has benefited from an increase in enrollment and student success, as well as the success of multiple contracts and grant awards. Recently, the graduate program doubled its cohort size accepting more students (see Table 1 for program growth). However, this increase has resulted in a pedagogical issue. This two-year (six semester) program requires students to conduct multiple research experiments in order to gain applied experiences desired by employers. Regrettably, the current space assigned to the human factors program severely limits the ability to run multiple studies as much of this work involves significant setup, such as the labs virtual reality work, restricting the ability to simultaneously run multiple studies. This challenge has resulted in significant scheduling issues. However, these applied research experiences have added to the extremely high success rate of the program, nearly 100% employment in the past five years including alumni employed at Apple, Microsoft, Hewlett-Packard, NASA, Chevron, among many others and was important in being granted accreditation by the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (one of the only terminal Master's program to receive this accreditation in the nation). Adding to this scheduling difficulty, the two faculty assigned to this program, have also been the recipients of grants and industry contracts which has resulted in hesitancy to pursue additional external funding due to the limited research capacity and priority of our students. Combined, these issues have resulted in limiting the applied student experiences which has previously maximized their employment success.

Proposed Solution.

In collaboration with the PsyD Program, Human Factors program, the Department of Psychology, the Department of Clinical, Health, and Applied Science, and Dean Rick Short, we have developed a zero-cost solution to the issues defined above. In this plan, the human factors program would vacate their current space, Arbor 1315.04, providing the PsyD program with the essential space. In its current form, the human factors lab provides an ideal environment for desired research as it is already configured to include an interview room with one-way mirror, a modular group testing room, and a control room already outfitted with full suite cameras as well as experimental observation software and hardware. In this reallocation, no funds would be needed to renovate the space, nor any

additional funds to purchase furniture. A diagram of the areas of topic can be seen in Figure 1 outlining current areas as well as the proposed reallocation.

In return, the human factors lab would be relocated to SSCB 2102, the former location of the human performance lab, and renamed the VR, Immersive Technologies, and Gaming Lab. This move would leave the former Fitness Zone undisturbed as this space is not included in this proposal and could be instead reallocated to any other university need or function. This reallocation would provide the human factors program with enough space to allow for simultaneous experimental data collection as well as expand capabilities to pursue additional external funding at both the grant and industry contract level. Figure 2 details the location of the human performance lab in relation to the Fitness zone and Figure 3 provides a possible solution of subdividing the space to allow for multiple areas of use including dedicated VR space, computer testing, programming, and student researcher space. In this reallocation, no funds are requested as the open layout would allow for easy and rapid reorganization based on research needs. Additionally, no funds are requested for additional furniture as existing furniture can be reallocated from within the HSH college.

It should be noted that this proposal could be implemented extremely rapidly and completed easily over the winter break. This speed would allow for completion prior to the APA accreditation site visit and minimize potential impacts to student and faculty research and maximize research readiness for the Spring semester.

In summary, this proposal represents a zero-cost solution to address two significant issues that have direct impact on student success as well as program growth. Should any questions arise from this proposal, please feel free to contact Drs. Mary Short (shortmb@uhcl.edu) or Nicholas Kelling (kelling@uhcl.edu).

Figure 1. Current Human Factors Lab and Proposed Reallocation located in the Arbor Building



Figure 2. Current Human Performance Lab and Proposed Reallocation located in SSCB

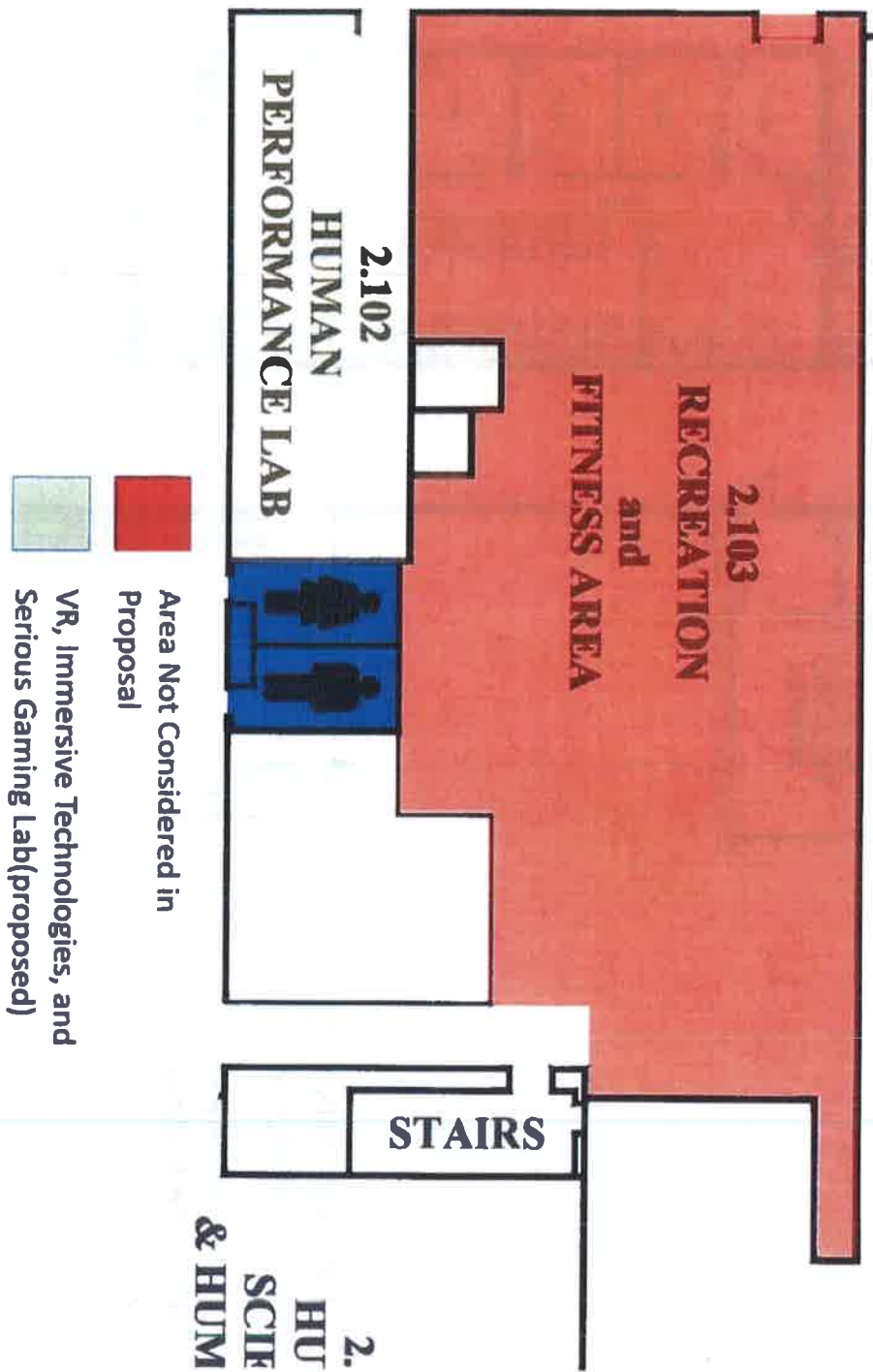


Figure 3. Proposed space utilization for the reallocation of the former Human Performance Lab

