



THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY

Date: February 4, 2020

To: Budget Committee of Senate (BCOS)

From: Warren Asuchak, Executive Director, Campus Infrastructure and Sustainability

Re: TRUSU Annual Budget Consultation Report (2020/21) – Study Space

Attachment: TRU Responses to TRUSU Study Space Recommendations (2020/21)

The purpose of this memo is to provide BCOS and TRUSU with feedback regarding the issue of student space raised in TRUSU's Budget Consultation Report (2020/2021). Within the report, TRUSU made the following four recommendations with respect to study space:

- Provide adequate study space, particularly quiet space
- Improve study space management
- Improve study space design and amenities
- Improve the cleanliness and maintenance of study spaces and amenities

The attached document outlines TRU's response to each of the recommendations.

TRU Responses to TRUSU Budget Consultation (2020/21) Recommendations – Study Space

Recommendation: Provide adequate study space, particularly quiet space	
TRU's Commitment: Continue to move forward with increasing the number of seats and areas for student study space. Continue to consult with TRUSU and students throughout all phases of the study space upgrades resulting from the TRUSU Annual Budget Consultation Report (2019/2020) and implement quiet zones where it is feasible. Will encourage the Library staff to monitor noise levels. Provide literature and signage indicating acceptable noise levels in the study zones.	
Implementation Timeline:	Ongoing
Success Indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased net assignable square metres (NASM) to overall study space • Increased NASM to class 5 study space (Library- Formal) - Quiet

Recommendation: Improve study space management	
TRU's Commitment: Provide literature reminding students of expectations in study areas, reminding them to be respectful of their peers, and encouraging them to self-police or to reach out to security. Instruct Security to watch for nuisance behavior when doing their walkthroughs. Look into electronic options for noise level monitoring	
Implementation Timeline:	Ongoing
Success Indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fewer complaints about study space issues • More uniform and enjoyable atmosphere for all students

Recommendation: Improve study space design and amenities.	
TRU's Commitment: Continue to consult with TRUSU and students throughout all phases of the study space upgrades resulting from the TRUSU Annual Budget Consultation Report (2019/2020). Use "atmosphere" as a driver and consult with TRUSU when updating existing or constructing new study spaces	
Implementation Timeline:	Ongoing
Success Indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designs that adhere to best practices of health and wellness guidelines • In 2019, TRU developed a 'zoning' system for six different study space options on campus. Each zone was branded distinctly and a website was developed to ensure students could find spaces to best suit their needs quickly and easily. • As part of the study space project, TRU included student input collected through TRUSU consultations in the planning process.

Recommendation: Improve the cleanliness and maintenance of study spaces and amenities	
TRU's Commitment: Instruct janitorial staff to increase rounds in study spaces. Provide literature reminding students to be respectful and clean up after themselves. Work with Ancillary Services to have table maintenance included near study areas where food service is provided. Increase number of zero waste stations so they can be more easily accessed for students	
Implementation Timeline:	Ongoing
Success Indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cleaner study spaces with fewer student complaints