OCM manages 328 classrooms and 40 study spaces on the U of M’s Minneapolis and St. Paul campuses. Keeping these spaces up to date and well maintained provides an improved academic experience for the University’s students, staff, faculty, and guests.

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In fiscal year 2015, University students spent 12,060 hours per week in OCM managed & supported learning environments. With students spending such a large amount of time in OCM’s 328 classroom spaces it is important that these spaces remain capable of providing a quality learning experience. OCM is able to refresh or update technology in approximately 70 classrooms per year.

Total student enrollment in OCM-supported classrooms reached 322,761.
CASE STUDY: The Tate Lab Ripple Effect

The University’s Tate Laboratory of Physics building was taken offline in summer 2015 for renovations which resulted in the loss of nine classrooms: 1,193 seats. The immediate impact is a ripple effect with classes typically scheduled in Tate moving to other nearby buildings, displacing classes in those buildings which in turn displace classes in other buildings.

Utilizing their unique relationships with other campus units, the Office of Classroom Management prepared, collaborated and planned for this renovation well before the project was undertaken. OCM’s Scheduling unit worked with departments to find suitable, alternate spaces. They worked with schedulers to make sure that enrollment capacities would be evenly spread throughout the day and into rooms with proper capacities. OCM Planning and Classroom Technical Services worked with the University Facilities Management team to design Tate’s new classroom audio and visual systems. This team will also be responsible for installing and maintaining the new equipment when the building comes back online in 2017. OCM’s Operations and Services team will manage support for the building’s new 11 classrooms, making sure they are ready for use on the first day of class and thereafter.

Funding

Over the past few years, OCM’s annual furniture and equipment costs have increased while actual funding has decreased, and satisfaction with OCM’s services and spaces has slightly decreased. This information highlights that with greater responsibility from expanded square footage and technical assets comes greater costs to maintain and support. OCM has maintained a high level of satisfaction, but with increased funding even more could be accomplished.

$7 million
2015 maintenance & replacement costs

$3.3 million
funding shortage for 2015

$3.7 million
2015 annual budget

Average satisfaction with OCM services & spaces