



MEETING MINUTES

BRW PROJECT NO: 000000.00 UTA UNIVERSITY CENTER STUDY
RE: STUDENT ENGAGEMENT WORKSHOP 3 (5:30 PM)
DATE: OCTOBER 5, 2023
LOCATION: BLUEBONNET SOUTH

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DISCUSSION:

1. Student thoughts about getting the Campaign information out to students living on campus and commuter students:
 - Social Media – rebrand our old one?
 - Create Poster with information. (SM)
 - Post pictures on social media of us on University Tours. (TP)
 - Use an APP that manages all social media and use it as our platform. (HT)
 - Ask questions or pose questions to students about Student Center. (MP)
 - Include information in Shorthorn. (VG)
 - Hosting a Townhall Meeting with students, architects, etc. to answer questions about the project.
 - Get the word out to other campus student organizations and have them help spread the word. (MW)
 - Tabling at locations near student residence halls. (VG)
 - Use social media for tabling to reach more people.

- Students elected Chair for Tabling: Vaishnavi Guttikonda and Chair for Social Media: Miranda Diaz.

2. Dot Exercise Results

- Commons
 - SHSU
 - Liked openness but didn't like stairs and bridge blocking views to the room.
 - Maybe stairs could follow the walls so you can see everything you need to see in the space.
 - Liked seating options the best.
 - The room with the piano felt out of scale, the TV was too small, and piano location seemed undignified.
 - UH
 - Liked entry openness.
 - Likes seating arrangement for commuter students.
 - Is bowling a good fit for commuter school? Put things in budget that everyone might like and use instead of just a Fuzzies restaurant.
 - Big stairs – Some liked it, but others didn't.
 - Big stairs were used for sitting not just to get to another level.
 - Took a long time to get down the stairs which wasted time.
 - UNT
 - Didn't like stairs in the middle of the space.
 - The space under the stairs didn't seem like a comfortable space to be in and has terrible lighting.
 - Like two story space with a Fuzzies restaurant. (Syndicate) The bar like theme was nice. The space was dark and secluded, and it was a nice room to watch sports.
 - Liked how the room had an area like a stage but not a real raised up stage. Seemed like a great venue for music and other uses.
 - Big stair – seemed too small for the space.
- Dining
 - SHSU
 - Liked seating arrangements at Sam Houston.
 - Round tables bad, square tables good because you can push them together to sit with other people.
 - Softer chairs instead of metal chairs so it's more comfortable.
 - The booth seating is nice because it feels more secure.
 - People seem to gravitate to partially enclosed space instead of out in the open space.

- The stairs outside dining space doesn't feel secure or private for people inside.
- Glass could be engineered to make it safer. Could also tint the glass.
- Having restaurants more spread out was not good.
- UH
 - Liked entry openness.
 - Likes seating arrangement for commuter students.
 - Is bowling a good fit for commuter school? Put things in budget that everyone might like and use instead of just Fuzzies.
 - Big stair – Some liked it but others didn't.
 - Big stairs were used for sitting not just to get to another level.
 - Didn't like the dining space at the bottom of stairs. Felt like you were running into the people at the bottom. There were too many chairs and tables. No organization to people waiting in line at Starbucks.
 - The distribution of restaurants was good. You can get your food and go sit outside.
 - Too many chain restaurants.
 -
- UNT
 - Liked dark lighting at Fuzzies (Syndicate)
 - Some felt lighting in general was dark and felt like some spaces were like a cave.
 - Didn't like all the columns within the rooms which made you feel trapped in the space.
 - Like the seating arrangement in a circle around the food court.
 - Food options at UNT seemed more diverse. There were restaurants and an area in the center like a market which was nice.
 - Like you could get whatever food you wanted and check out at one place.
 - What do we do about payment options for Maverick Dining (cafeteria) vs franchised restaurants. UTA's feels segregated now and doesn't allow friends to sit together without card access.
- UNT's centralized food and checkout system seems to address paying for food at one location and allowed everyone to outside together.
- Meeting / Event
 - SHSU

- The stage seemed too small for the room size. The UTA Bluebonnet room can be more customized because there is no permanent stage.
 - Having the room painted white helps provide a blank canvas for multiple uses.
 - UH
 - The space between seat aisles in theater tiered seating was wide enough to provide good clearance.
 - The chamber meeting room with central sunken area made some feel uncomfortable and small. The ceiling felt low.
 - The UTA oval office next to outdoor patio was nice.
 - Meeting rooms with windows were preferred. Windows looking at nature was ideal.
 - Like the shaded space in the courtyard beneath the building which provided areas for outdoor activities like tabling, etc.
 - Plastic furniture not desired.
 - UNT
 - Entry to event space felt out of scale and too large.
 - The variety of lighting and ceiling in the Meeting at UNT was interesting and nice.
 - Students loved the outdoor patio idea. Look at incorporating fresh air shaded outdoor spaces so students aren't always in still air.
- Additional
 - Meeting / Events
 - Image 12 – The group felt the ceiling height was too high for dining.
 - Image 4 was too corporate.
 - Image 2
 - Liked nature light and bamboo looking ceiling.
 - Some concern for safety because of visibility through all glass
 - All glass also makes it more visible for people who might want to rent it
 - A smaller size room with lower ceiling might feel better.
 - Could add canvas awning outside to break up the glass. This could allow room for covered add tabling areas.
 - Image 1
 - Some didn't like all glass fishbowl feel.
 - Wood made it feel warm and inviting.

- Bright lighting is nice in the room.
 - Unique shaped space but could feel exposed to outside the room.
 - Frosted or stained glass could help make the room feel more private.
- Commons
 - Image 7
 - Some thought it was a cozy space with a fireplace and seating.
 - Liked the fireplace but it should be smaller to provide more space in the room for seating.
 - Tables seem to close to the greenery.
 - Image 8
 - Liked seating arrangements around stairs.
 - Stairs vs. ramps – stairs important. Ramps take up a lot of space that could be used for other functions.
 - Liked variety of spaces
 - Image 5
 - Sofa seating would be nice with a folding wooden table.
 - Sofa seating allowed more people to sit together.
 - Long tables allowed more room where multiple people can spread out their stuff.
 - Image 6
 - Some felt seating arrangement was not logistical with small tables and no room for backpacks, notebooks, etc.
 - Some liked the idea of hanging banners off balconies to show university pride.
 - Others thought the banners detracted from the beauty and cool feel of the space. Banners cause shadows
 - Some liked the idea of using color or logo on the wall, floors, and furniture to show school pride. SHSU did a good job of weaving in color and school pride throughout
 - UNT mural on the wall was nice.
 - Lighting fixtures – are they too small for the space? Combination of lighting and daylighting is good
 - UH bar lighting that came down from the ceiling into the space was nice.
- Dining
 - General comment - Scale of room is important.

- Image 10 - Coffee area felt too tight, tables need to be spread out.
- A higher ceiling would help make it feel like a bigger space.
- Local coffee company nice vs Starbucks is a nice idea.
- A combination of the feel of Image 7 with the seating more spread out like Image 3.
- Less cluttered areas and more open not crowded is preferred.

3. Next meeting is Workshop 4 on Thursday, October 19 in Bluebonnet South.

The previous minutes are our recollection of the project discussion. Should there be any discrepancies, please notify our office within seven days of receiving this report.

SUSAN WRIGHT, AIA
PROJECT MANAGER

CC: Executive Committee

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