# COLUMBIA LAW SCHOOL STUDENT SENATE

## Room Usage Survey Response

### QUESTION 7

“Any additional thoughts on the subject?”

*(freeform comment section)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response Text</th>
<th>Response Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. People were reserving the seminar rooms for days on end during finals week from 6am-2am. That's patently ridiculous. Y'all need to get this situation under control because apparently people in this school aren't mature enough to share.</td>
<td>Fri, 2/29/08 11:44 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. 4 hours is the max, but it should be less if all the rooms are getting booked.</td>
<td>Fri, 2/29/08 3:28 AM</td>
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<td>3. Please don't subject us to having the gunners schedule out the open space. Also probably not necessary.</td>
<td>Fri, 2/29/08 1:42 AM</td>
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<td>4. Reserving rooms was instrumental for my study group in preparing for exams.</td>
<td>Thu, 2/28/08 10:39 PM</td>
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<td>5. I think the primary problem with room availability has been in the past year since the change in scheduling shrank the lunchtime to only about 40 minutes. This has made it incredibly difficult to hold lunchtime events - which are vital to the fabric of student life at the law school, and are the main enrichment events most students attend. Access to lecture halls at an extended lunchtime is a far more important issue than access to seminar rooms at other times, in my opinion. However, in general I feel there are not enough spaces at the law school for students to hold meetings other than Lenfest Cafe. I don't think it's a matter of ability ot reserve space, but rather a shortage of these spaces to begin with.</td>
<td>Thu, 2/28/08 10:17 PM</td>
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<td>6. I think you should match rooms randomly, so people can make new friends and find new sexual partners.</td>
<td>Thu, 2/28/08 9:59 PM</td>
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<td>7. Will a group of students, reserving a room, be able to reserve for a period of time equaling (the max. amount of time) x (the no. of students)? If not then people can reserve as if reserving for one person... nevermind...</td>
<td>Thu, 2/28/08 7:18 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. the current system is ridiculous. the same people reserve the same rooms for the entire semester. there needs to be a cap on individuals total allotted reserve time, especially for &quot;study groups.&quot;</td>
<td>Thu, 2/28/08 6:49 PM</td>
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</table>
9. I also very much dislike the new late night and weekend policy of essentially locking students out of every classroom in the building.

Thu, 2/28/08 6:47 PM

10. It's great to be able to reserve a room for a group. I think anyone should be able to do this, not only people assigned as 'group leaders' or something, as long as it's intended for more than 1 or 2 people. (And more than that in case it's a big room.)

Thu, 2/28/08 6:19 PM

11. Make sure personal/study group requests are second to student groups. Consider only letting study rooms be booked day-of or a few days in advance.

Thu, 2/28/08 6:13 PM

12. I know we don't have anything like the group work rooms in the business school library, but those things are awesome, and the way the b-school students can reserve them might provide an interesting model for seminar rooms, especially during exam study times.

Thu, 2/28/08 5:31 PM

13. I honestly have no strong opinions on this; whatever the present policies are, they haven't had any negative impact on me.

Thu, 2/28/08 5:28 PM

14. what's the big deal? why not just let the administration sort it out? this school is full of children so might as well treat them that way!

Thu, 2/28/08 5:27 PM

15. NO

Thu, 2/28/08 5:25 PM

16. Part of our tuition presumably goes to fund the operation of the building; we should be able to use it.

Thu, 2/28/08 5:25 PM

17. Bring back the room reservation system! It is greatly needed as there are no real/good/available group study areas.

Thu, 2/28/08 5:15 PM

18. Study groups need their space.

Thu, 2/28/08 4:59 PM

19. It needs to be easier-- I get questions ALL the time about how to reserve a room. There should be a number to call for when your request doesn't fit well into the form (e.g. for when you need a room every other week, but not every week). The link should be easier to find. The calendar of available rooms should be inside the form, so that you can pick out a room that's actually available at the time you request it.

Thu, 2/28/08 4:35 PM

20. I think it's ok if not everyone is allowed to reserve a room, just as long as we can look up which rooms are reserved and groups who have the privilege of reserving

Thu, 2/28/08 4:29 PM
really use the room when they reserve it. When I need a room (usually just to meet for an hour or two with other students and/or probono stuff) I just look to see what's not reserved and then use the room without reserving it, which usually works out.

21. Classroom schedules posted outside rooms don't always seem to be accurate. Also, faculty can be very rude about kicking students out - i.e. even when students are clearly packing up to vacate a room that they did not know was booked, faculty act put-upon by the "intrusion."

Thu, 2/28/08 4:17 PM

22. First come first serve, hollaaaa

Thu, 2/28/08 4:08 PM

23. On a very serious note, I think our law school study space (if you can even call it that) is awful. Try finding an empty room to do work during exams, or even approaching exams. It is a disaster. I don't think the problem is fixing the room-assignment system. People will just sign up weeks in advance. It will be the same competition that exists in the law school -- except over study/meeting space. People do work in GROUPS very often -- where are the small meeting rooms that most other universities have? It is really awful and pathetic. Makes me miss undergrad - a LOT.

Thu, 2/28/08 4:04 PM

24. If students are reserving rooms because they just want a place to study with their friends, the time limit should be lower and minimum group size higher. However, if student groups need to schedule a meeting/event, the time limit should be higher and group size should be lower. This is because student groups serve the greater good and are open to all students, but personal study groups are just closed cliques, and those students who want to study with their friends currently have plenty of other options not requiring a room reservation.

Thu, 2/28/08 4:02 PM

25. A listing of what rooms can be available would be a good idea (right now you have to request a specific room, and 1Ls generally don't know what seminar rooms there are in the law school). There may be an issue of always requiring more than one person to sign up for a room, perhaps there would be a system where a group could grant one person the right to sign up for that group, or create a group name with which to sign up?

Thu, 2/28/08 4:02 PM

26. It's been useful for studying and it would be a shame if students in the future were not permitted to do the same.

Mon, 2/25/08 11:11 PM
27. Make sure that at least four names of students are necessary to reserve a room and that there is only one room reservation per student per day.

28. 2 or more students should be able to reserve rooms in the law school when they are not in use, especially since the law school offers classes like negotiations, deals, and the like that requires students to meet to work together. Due to the nature of Manhattan's real estate landscape (i.e. lots of people have at least one roommate who is not accommodating), there is demand for space where students can have some quiet to work. Please do not restrict such access, since such access is already limited. Otherwise, please provide group rooms in the library where students can reserve small rooms for projects. Thank you!

29. It would be good if we could see which rooms are reserved and for what group size so that if a later booking sees an opportunity to reoptimize they can ask a smaller group meeting in a larger room to swap. I guess that would mean seeing a contact name and email to go with each booking too.

30. I strongly disagree with the proposed Senate policy, as it would limit the amount of space available for events by sanctioned student groups. Moreover, given the number of rooms we have, allowing room reservations for personal use will always be inequitable since (despite publicity), only a small segment of the student body will know how to use it. Better solutions include (1) designating small group rooms reserved during finals, with a sign-in sheet, no reservations, and one hour limit, (2) having more quiet study space reserved, (3) plan to construct small-group study rooms in the library or elsewhere.

31. I am for no personal reservations. Let people figure it out.