

WSU PULLMAN UNIVERSITY CLASSROOM STATUS - FALL 2017

General University Classrooms: Despite the addition of twelve classrooms in the new Spark building, the annual space use analysis shows Pullman classroom usage about the same as last fall. Because enrollment was flat, the addition of the Spark teaching space affected the statistics, but not significantly. On average, classroom fullness remained at about 64% but fewer sections were scheduled. Timeslots for scheduling courses at 8 a.m. and after 3 p.m. remained available in most campus locations.

Of the 136 general university classrooms, the largest auditoria continue to be heavily scheduled (see Chart A1-A2). Usage of the lecture halls met or exceeded state targets even with the addition of the 270-seat auditorium in The Spark. Charts B and C reflect other classroom trends over time.

Departmental Classrooms: These spaces account for 7% of total student contact hours compared to 75% scheduled in the general classrooms. The remaining 18% of contact hours are in labs or other campus spaces. Most departmental classrooms seat 50 students or less and may have discipline-specific materials and equipment housed in the rooms. Upper division and graduate courses comprised the majority of the usage. Tenth day data reflect credit activity in 54 of the 82 departmental classrooms on record, which is a decrease of six rooms scheduled, compared to a year ago.

Teaching Labs: Average lab usage dropped slightly. At tenth day, 107 of 150 teaching labs were listed as scheduled. The 43-room difference could represent a scheduling issue, use of labs for spring semester only or labs not scheduled for other reasons. Note that this analysis does not include use outside a nine-hour calculation block. Only the heaviest scheduled hours in a nine-hour contiguous block are counted. Some labs may be used only at night. While not counted, the data showing usage outside of the nine-hour block is available.

Other Spaces: Student contact hours were also associated with open labs and other types of spaces. Chart D illustrates all types of space associated with student contact hours this past fall.

College-Specific Reports: As in the past, college-specific reports for classrooms, labs and other teaching spaces will be shared with individual deans. The reports illustrate where scheduled teaching occurred, how well the spaces were used, list of spaces not scheduled by tenth day and the degree to which their departments relied on general university classroom spaces.

On-Going Committee Work: While the Spark building was being designed and constructed, the university classroom committee planned and completed critical upgrades to 18 existing classrooms of various sizes and campus locations.

The completion of the Spark building added modern and flexible classroom spaces to the campus inventory but was not intended to replace classrooms elsewhere on campus. The Spark was designed to provide space for new teaching styles (flipped classrooms, blended and hybrid courses) and furnishings for group-based work and the associated technology.

The Provost's university committee members monitor changes in classroom inventory to ensure it includes the right mix of small and large sized classrooms for undergraduate and graduate courses. Unless enrollment increases dramatically, the current inventory appears adequate although the largest auditoria continue to be in very high demand.

The committee site address is:
<http://provost.wsu.edu/procedures/classrooms/> for news, contacts, policies, FAQ's or contact: Deborah Carlson, Chair, Provost's General University Classroom Committee (335-3344, or email: dcarlson@wsu.edu.)

CHART A1 – How “Often” Are The Largest Rooms Scheduled?

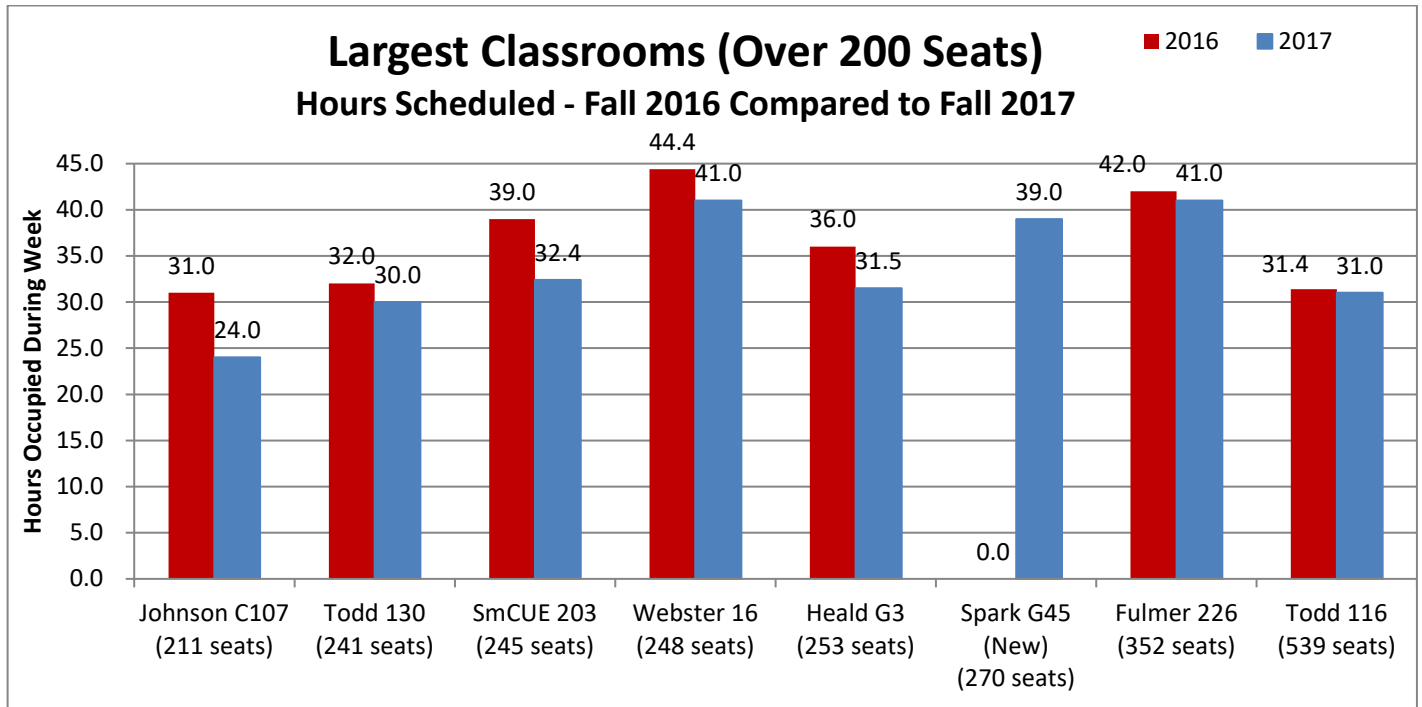


CHART A2-When Scheduled, How “Full” Are The Largest Rooms?

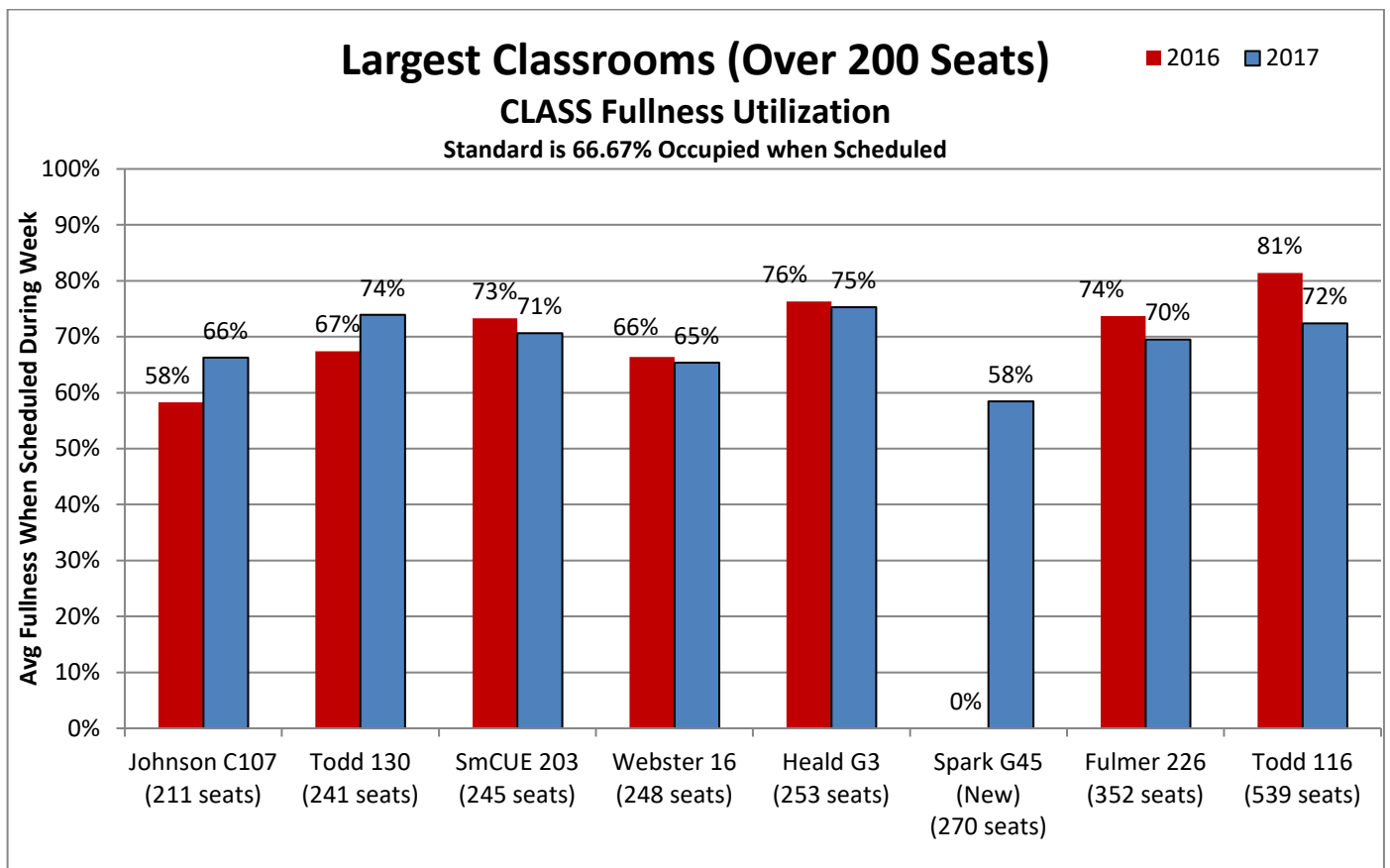
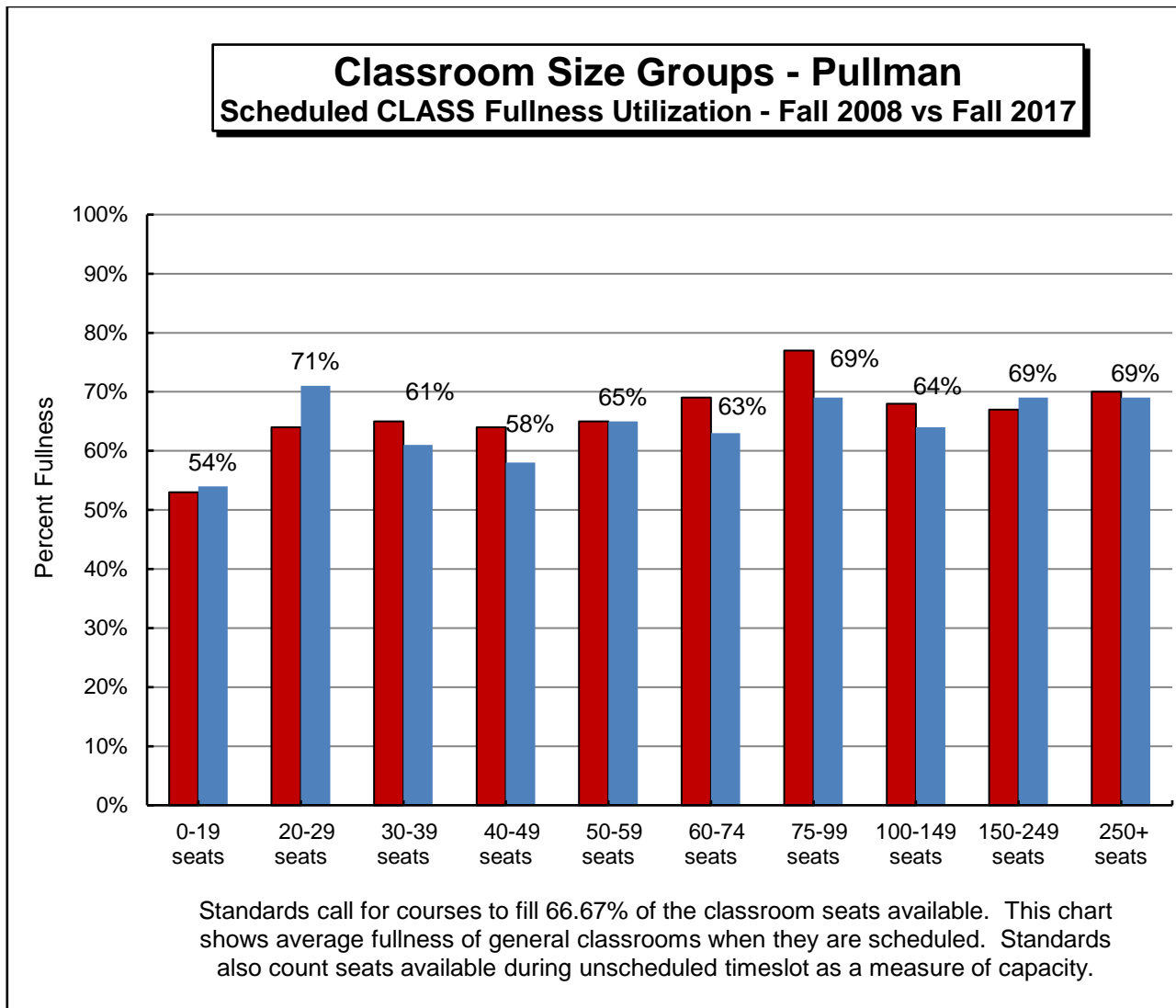


CHART B – Fall 2008* Compared to Fall 2017
Change In Fullness By Size of the General University Classrooms
(Room Size/Seating Capacity is the Horizontal Axis)



*** The new freshmen class in Fall 2008 was about 3,400 students and increased to 4,100 students by Fall 2011. The peak was 4,200 in Fall 2015 and this fall the new freshmen number 3,900. The chart above compares how full classrooms were before the first large increase in new freshmen, to how full the Pullman classrooms are now.**

CHART C1–General University Classrooms–3 Year–Day of the Week

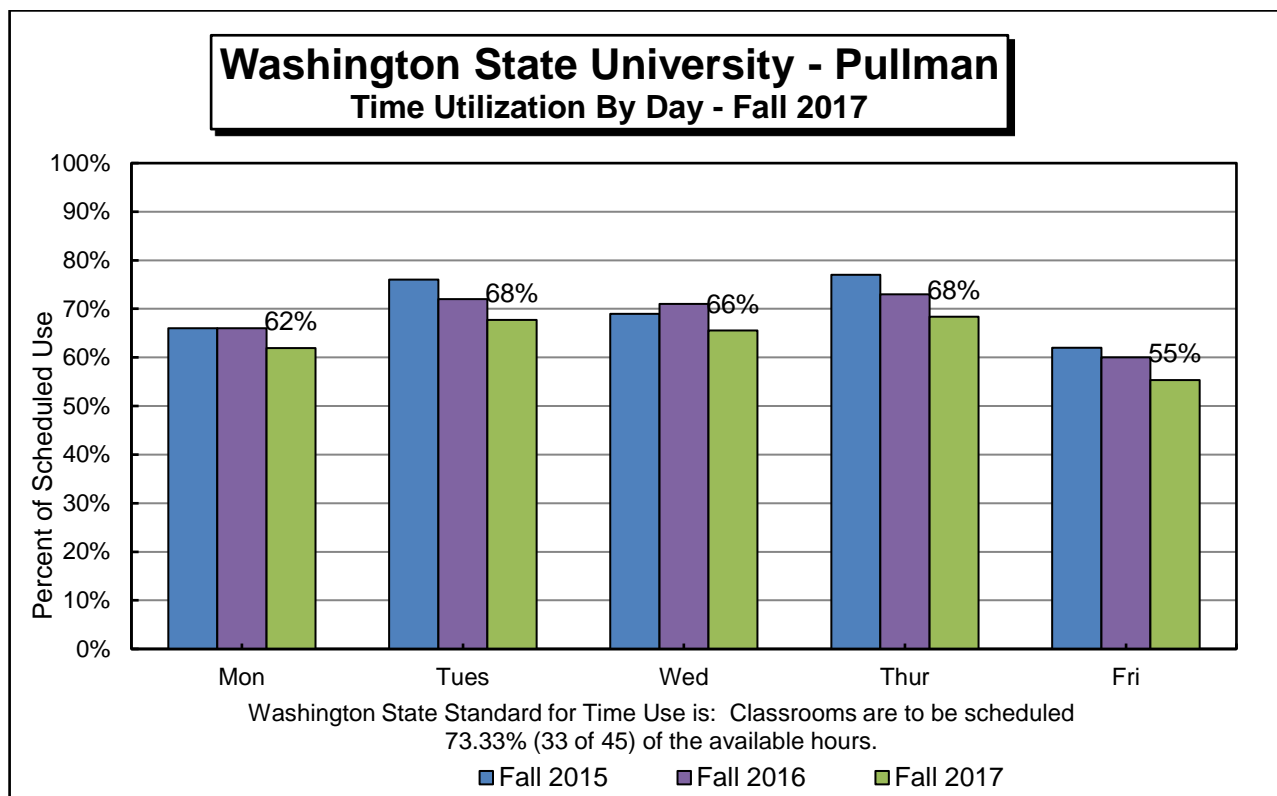


CHART C2 – General University Classrooms – 3-Year View - Time of Day

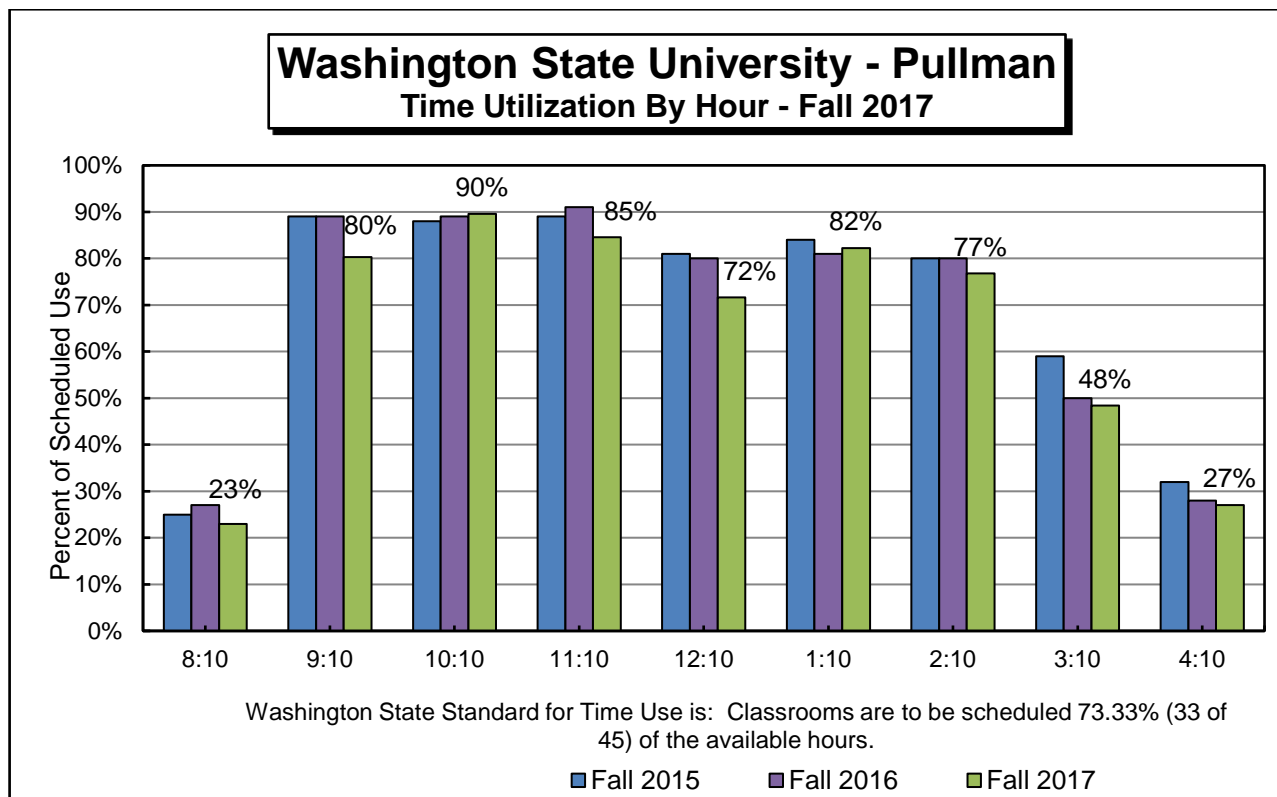


CHART D – Pullman Campus Instructional Spaces – Fall 2017

Types of Spaces and % of Scheduled Student Contact Hours in Each Type

