

UNC's First Interactive Lecture Hall

Call for Instructors



Introduction

High-enrollment course sections are an important part of the Carolina experience. Large courses have historically been associated with passive instructional methods such as the lecture, but many faculty members and departments are implementing interactive learning methods known to improve student engagement and learning outcomes.

Unfortunately, the auditorium-style classrooms that host large courses at UNC are designed for presentation, not interaction. Compact fixed seating discourages eye contact among students, limiting effective discussion and small group work opportunities. Faculty movement throughout the classroom and interaction with students are often constrained by inaccessible seating and steeply graded aisles and staircases.

This summer, a proposal to establish **the University's first interactive general purpose classroom of more than 100 seats** was funded by the Budget Committee. **101 Greenlaw Hall** is located on central campus across from the main entrance to the Undergraduate (House) Library. Fixed stadium seating in the room (Figure 1) will be replaced with a combination of moveable tables and tablet chairs on casters. Larger tiers will be constructed to accommodate learning zones that can be easily accessed by faculty



Figure 1: 101 Greenlaw, current configuration



Figure 2: Conceptual drawing for renovation of 101 Greenlaw

members and teaching assistants (Figure 2).

Course content and student work will be digitally displayed on multiple walls of the room, facilitating eye contact and discussion. The design will support multiple instructional modes, allowing faculty members to transition easily between lecture,

discussion, and small group activities. The renovated classroom will seat between 105-110 students. The renovations will be completed by the summer of 2015 and the classroom will be available for the 2015 Fall Semester.

Apply to Teach in 101 Greenlaw

On behalf of the Classroom Policy Steering Committee chaired by Vice Provost Carol Tresolini, **the Center for Faculty Excellence (CFE) is reaching out to faculty members interested in teaching in the new classroom during the 2015 Fall Semester.** We are looking for faculty members who meet the following criteria:

- Full-time faculty member at UNC-Chapel Hill in *any academic unit*
- Teaching a course (3-4 credit hours) during the 2015 Fall Semester with an enrollment of at least 75 students, and no more than 105.
- Currently using interactive instructional techniques (e.g. small group activities) to supplement lecture OR interested in adopting such techniques for the first time
- Willingness to participate in orientation activities that will help prepare you to make effective use of the new classroom
- Willingness to work with the CFE to evaluate the impact of the new classroom on student learning outcomes and student and faculty attitudes

Faculty members who comply with the above criteria will be eligible for a \$500 stipend.

Those interested in teaching in Greenlaw 101 during the Fall 2015 semester should begin by completing a brief [online application](#) no later than **close of business Friday, October 24, 2014**. All submitted applications will be reviewed by CFE staff, in consultation with the Classroom Policy Steering Committee. We will schedule as many interested faculty members in the classroom as possible, but keep in mind that our ability to place you in the classroom will be constrained by a number of factors including the days and times you are available to teach the course and any departmental preferences about when the course should be offered. Selections will also be based on ensuring as broad a representation of disciplines as possible. Applicants will be notified before the end of this semester.

A call for use of the classroom during the Spring 2016 semester will be issued during the Spring 2015 semester.

Contact Information

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