

May 20, 2026

Agenda

- **May 20, 2026**
 - Identify any additional infrastructure needed to support the polytechnic vision.
 - Construction of new buildings
 - Amount of space needed (academic)
 - Amount of space needed (other)
 - Renovations to existing buildings
 - Labs
 - Classrooms
 - Offices
 - Support Space
 - Other

- **May 20, 2026**
 - Identify any additional technology needed to support the polytechnic vision.
 - Equipment
 - Technology Staff Offices
 - Support Staff Offices
 - Other

DRAFT

Executive Summary

The Central Connecticut State University Physical and Technological Infrastructure Task Force was one of several committees charged with conducting an assessment of Central Connecticut to determine the needs and next steps if the University pursues and gets approval for an R2 Polytechnic designation. This report should serve as our collective input related to how the Physical and Technological Infrastructure can affect next steps.

Central Connecticut State University's pursuit of Carnegie R2 classification and a polytechnic institutional identity will require a coordinated, long-term investment in physical infrastructure that the university's current capital portfolio is not yet positioned to deliver. The strategic shift toward applied research, experiential learning, doctoral education, and a meaningful out-of-state STEM enrollment pipeline introduces facility demands including, research wet and dry laboratories, computational and AI infrastructure, advanced manufacturing space, health and life science labs, instrumented teaching environments, and competitive residential capacity. These differ, not merely in quantity, from those that have shaped Central's comprehensive regional university footprint but equally important is the need for state-of-the-art research spaces, teaching spaces and technology.

In the process of the overall assessment, it is equally important to the polytechnic identity that a deliberate, well-resourced integration of the humanities, theatre, and social sciences alongside engineering, computing, and applied science programs be assessed and integrated into the planning process. Central's comprehensive model will not just focus on STEM, equally important is the commitment to the applied humanities, social science, design, and immersive arts into a single project-based educational model. This plan therefore makes substantive facility commitments to a Polytechnic Humanities, Theatre, Art, and Social Sciences track in parallel with the STEM-side commitments, both to substantiate the polytechnic identity at scale and to concretely refute narrative concerns about the access alignment of Central's research ambition.

Instructional Space

CCSU's general-purpose classroom inventory includes approximately (sample) 220 to 240 scheduled rooms across the academic core, with the largest concentrations in Vance Academic Center, Bassett Hall, Copernicus Hall, the Innovation Hub, Barnard Hall and Willard–DiLoreto.

A working estimate is that fewer than 25 percent of CCSU's general-purpose classrooms currently meet contemporary technology-enabled standards, with most rooms still configured for lecture-forward delivery with single-projection AV. Reaching a defensible polytechnic instructional posture will require systematic renewal across roughly (sample) 130 to 160 rooms, with full reconfiguration, not merely AV refresh, in approximately (sample) 100 of those rooms.

Room utilization shows meaningful variation: prime-time utilization in the academic core regularly exceeds 75 percent, while early-morning and late-afternoon utilization remains below 50 percent.

The constraint is therefore not raw inventory but instructional capability, the proportion of classrooms equipped for the active-learning, hyflex, computational, and seminar pedagogies that polytechnic instruction requires across both STEM and humanities programs will require additional spaces to support growth, state of the art labs and classrooms and research labs.

Format

- Executive Summary
- Assessment of current Instructional Space
- Alignment with new programs / Programmatic Drivers (Provost Task Force)
- Research Lab Space / Lab Space / Classroom Space
- New Construction / Major Renovations / Minor Renovations
- Capitol Planning in the State of CT / Programing / Desing / Construction
- Enrollment Impact In-State / Out of State / Housing
- Assessment of current Instructional Space
- Alignment with new programs / Programmatic Drivers (Provost Task Force)
- Phased Implementation aligned with Financial Resources
- Conclusion