

Student Responses to Closure of the EB 3340 Computer Lab

Jake Fenton
Marc Vandenberg
Jason Brownell
Tess Huelskamp

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1 Introduction

In a past faculty meeting it was observed that there was little perceived reaction by the student body of the Computer Science and Engineering department to the planned closure of the EB 3340 computer laboratory. It was the belief of the undergraduate student representatives for the FS17-SS18 school year that the student body was likely unaware of the planned closure since

no news of it had reached the representatives. The representatives then sought to source and aggregate student feedback so that it may be presented to the department.

In their long form comment responses to the survey students expressed a range of frustrations, from taking issue with the less-than-professional appearance of many of the labs (which some cite as the reason they're "hidden" away on the third floor) to having even less space to collaborate with the classmates, who they rarely have the opportunity to interact with due to most of the introductory classes moving online.

In general, students understand the constraints the university is working under but are frustrated by the lack of available workspace and how badly maintained the few existing labs are.

2 Methods

The representatives created a survey to collect student responses to the closing of the EB 3340. The survey was hosted via Google Forms and its full text is available in Appendix A.

The survey was disseminated primarily via a post to the new community website clubs.cse.msu.edu where it was accompanied by a short description giving some context to the issue. The article is available in Appendix B.

The above article, including the survey, was also disseminated via a post to the Computer Science Facebook group, the full text of which is available in Appendix C. The Facebook group contains 831 members, though many are alumni. This post garnered several comments from the community as well, some of which are included in this report. The full text of the relevant comments can also be found in the appendix.

3 Summary of Results

102 students responded to the survey, though not all responded to each question. Demographically, 48 were seniors, 27 were juniors, 14 were sophomores, 7 were a combination of freshman, graduate and alumni, and the remaining 6 chose not to identify their class level.

Students overwhelmingly responded that the Computer Science Department does *not* have enough lab space, 94 responses to 6.

75 students responded that they use the labs to work on homework assignments alone, 96 responded that they use the labs to work on homework with peers. 86 students said they use the labs for consulting hours or helproom, 50 said they use the labs to socialize.

Students were also able to respond with long-form comments at the end of the survey, 48 of which chose to do so. Some excerpts from their responses are highlighted in the "Excerpts from Student Comments" section. All of the long-form comments are included in Appendix D at the end of this document.

3.1 Statistical Analysis

Note: The statistical data was run before the final two responses were recorded. The last two responses did not affect the statistical data, since the last two respondents either chose not to classify themselves or identified as "alumni" respectively—neither of which were subject to the statistical analysis.

The results for the four yes/no questions provide an opportunity to perform some light statistical analysis. The four questions are numbered in Table 1.

Question	Text
1	Do you think that the CSE Department has enough lab space?
2	Do you think that the Capstone lab needs more space?
3	Do you think moving CSE231 and CSE232 helproom into the Hive in Wilson was a good change?
4	Have you taken (or are you currently taking Capstone? (CSE 498)

Table 1: Numbering of survey questions

The respondents were able to specify their class standing, allowing the results to be viewed in light of their context. Table 2 gives a breakdown of the results.

Class Standing	Question 1	Question 2	Question 3	Question 4	Response Total
Freshman	0	1	2	0	2
Sophomore	1	8	6	0	14
Junior	1	7	18	0	26
Senior	4	33	31	11	48
Graduate	0	3	2	1	3
Alumni	0	1	1	2	2
Unspecified	0	2	1	1	4
Total	6	55	61	15	99

Table 2: Tally of "yes" responses to the survey questions

4 respondents declined to specify their ranking, and the breakdown of results by class standing shows that the majority of respondents were upperclassmen. The small sample sizes of freshmen and sophomores can't be analyzed individually due to the inability to reliably fit the results to a distribution. The results of questions 1 and 4 require no analysis, the results show that respondents believe the CSE department does not have enough lab space, and a minority of respondents have taken or are currently taking CSE 498. The total responses of questions 2 was first analyzed using a two-sided 1-sample proportion test with a null hypothesis that $P=0.5$ to conclude if a majority of the population believes that the Capstone lab needs more space. Minitab was used to generate results for the test which are given in Figure E1. The majority of all respondents think that the Capstone lab needs more space, but the results are not conclusive that the majority of the population believes that the Capstone lab needs more space at a 95% confidence level. The total responses of question 3 were analyzed with the same method as question 2 and the results are given in Figure E3. The null hypothesis is rejected and it is concluded that the majority of the population believes the move of CSE 231 and CSE 232 helproom hours into the Hive was a good change.

The senior class was of particular interest in regard to question 2, as they are the ones who may have more well informed opinions on the space needs of the Capstone lab. However, only 11 out of 48 senior respondents have taken or are taking CSE 498, and of those 11 only 6 responded that they thought the Capstone lab needs more space. With a sample size of 11, the seniors who have taken Capstone that also responded to the survey can't be meaningfully tested with

a proportion test. Figure E3 shows the two sided 95% confidence interval on question 2 for the senior class. The null hypothesis is rejected, and it is concluded that the majority of seniors think that the Capstone lab needs more space. Question 3 was analyzed as well for the senior class and shown in Figure E4, and the null hypothesis cannot be rejected at the 95% confidence level. The junior class data were analyzed with the same methods as the senior class, and results are given in Figures E5 and E6. The null hypothesis was rejected for question 2, and it was concluded that a minority of the junior class respondents believe the capstone lab needs more space. Question 3, the change in helproom location for CSE 231 and CSE 232, was inconclusive for the junior class, as the results were not significant at a 95% confidence level. The other subgroups could not be analyzed due to insufficient sample size.

The data gathered does have some bias. A voluntary survey is subject to respondents that feel more strongly about a topic on the survey, and the survey may not have effectively reached the freshmen and sophomores. Seniors and juniors represent the majority of the sample, so the upperclassman opinion has more weight in the results.

3.1.1 Conclusions

In the opinions of the respondents, the capstone lab does not conclusively need more space. The seniors believe Capstone needs more space, but a minority of seniors have actually taken or are taking Capstone. Due to a minority of senior respondents taking or having taken the course, their data should not be given more weight. The significant majority of the respondents believe that moving the CSE 231 and CSE 232 helproom hours to the Hive in Wilson. Most notably, the majority of respondents believe that the CSE department has a lack of lab space, a problem that cannot be solved exclusively by reassigning existing lab space.

4 Excerpts from Student Comments

Excerpts are presented as-is, with spelling and grammatical errors intact. Note that these are indeed excerpts and may not constitute the entirety of the comment they're taken from. However, all comments are included in their full text in the appendix. Each excerpt is attributed to the comment it is taken from so you may examine the full context for yourself.

There were a few themes present throughout the comments and they are grouped together here. Some common observations note that there isn't ample space for collaboration, that the CSE labs do not look as professional or as clean as other labs on the first floor, and that many CSE students are still experiencing difficulty logging into the other DECS systems in the building.

Additionally, common frustrations include Capstone taking large amounts of resources from the department while only being a single course, which lead several students to comment that perhaps capstone should be moved to a different facility to free up lab space within the Engineering Building.

4.1 Limited Lab Space

Several students noted that there routinely isn't enough space to work, collaborate, or socialize in the labs. In light of many classes moving online, these students note how this makes growing a computer science community difficult. Other students note the difficulty this will give new students in finding friends and social support within the program.

Additionally, students note that due to decreased lab space help rooms are crowded – even with 231 and 232 help rooms being moved to Wilson.

I've been told by employers that what they like about students from MSU is that we're helpful and are great to work with on teams. Part of that comes from the collaborative space the lab provides for people to work in and help each other. Without that space, the CSE community wouldn't be nearly as close as it is which I feel helped me to succeed in the degree. If I didn't meet my CSE friends in the labs my freshman year of college, I would've changed my major to be something else which would be unfortunate as a graduate, I now love my career. (Student Comment #48)

The CSE labs are for everyone in CSE and capstone is just for people in capstone. The CSE labs are already so crowded it doesn't make sense making an exclusive space for a select number of people that isn't used all the time. Since 231 and 232 are online now, underclassmen and students need a space to meet, work, and collaborate. Taking away open lab space for one course doesn't benefit students. (Student Comment #42)

If there is an increase demand for being a CSE major, please increase the lab sizes instead of kicking everyone to the curb like the current system. This is one of the primary reasons we lag behind other universities in terms of having a collaborative environment. (Student Comment #1)

CSE labs get really busy during evening hours. Students taking online courses like CSE 335 require in person help. Given the large number of students taking the course, the number of students coming to consulting hours is large. Near submission deadlines, smaller labs like Bone get crowded and students have to find spaces in other labs. I bet this is the case for other courses as well. I have experienced days when Bone lab had about 5 TAs sitting in the lab from 3 different courses. That leaves not a lot for seats for students. Looking at lab schedules you would see help rooms going as far in to the night as 10 pm, these timings are not because of TAs/students preferences but because of limited lab space availability and this is a burden for both students and TAs. (Student Comment #24)

It sucks trying to go to help room and not even find a seat because four different classes are holding help room in the same room. Two labs is not okay. (Student Comment #29)

Note: In the above comment Student 29 is likely referring to the diagram in the SpartanCS post, where only two labs, EB 3203 and EB 3353, are labeled as "General Purpose."

WE DESPERATELY NEED MORE LABS, DURING HELPROOM AND CONSULTING HOURS THERE IS NOT SPACE FOR STUDENTS TO WORK ON THEIR HOMEWORK AND PROJECTS (Student Comment #31)

Having the CSE labs is very helpful for being able to actually get to know people in the CSE program. We aren't the most social program, and I hate to lose more space than we have to just for the capstone class. (Student Comment #37)

It leaves very little room for collaboration for students specifically in Computer Science. Usually you'd have a good working environment to help productivity, this diminishes how much collaboration and connection we can have with our fellow CSE peers. (Student Comment #25)

4.2 Labs Infrastructure Concerns

Students noted that the labs do not look professional and that they lack amenities that would make them a more productive environment. Even though there was a recent addition to Anthony that was designed to add study space, it was noted by a student that there aren't enough power outlets or ethernet jacks to fully supplement the existing study space. The Anthony addition also does little to address student concerns regarding availability of CSE-administrated workstations.

Frankly, besides the Capstone lab, the CSE labs are ancient, ugly rooms that we don't bother to show new students (for good reason). The CSE department in general is in need of an overhaul, and I think the labs and lab space are a good place to start. Adding lab computers and more outlets/ethernet jacks to the Anthony study space would be a good way to begin making this issue better. (Student Comment #8)

The Bob Lab is one of the few rooms that have a decent AC for when the EB is very warm (quite often) and is a center for CSE students to work together. Bone Lab is in horrendous shape and deserves a remodel if they are to expect us to use it. It smells bad, it is uncomfortably warm, and uncomfortable to be in. (Student Comment #6)

We need more lab space for people to work both together and with their peers. Also, our computer labs could use a facelift. ... The CSE labs should be something we can proudly show to prospective students and donors, not just the capstone lab. Instead it's an embarrassment that we hide on the third floor. (Student Comment #7)

It's ridiculous that we have one of the s***** facilities and that MSU is one of the top 100 schools in the world. With the number of funding and donations Engineering dep't receives it's a disgrace to our department to have such a degraded level of Computer Lab spaces and equipments. This needs urgent response. MSU CoE should up its game ASAP. (Student Comment #47)

This is trash. Stop making every room a capstone lab. You already took over the Linux computers and made them windows (which is awful) and no I don't want to remote in. I want to actually use a computer. More computer labs. Make it happen! I pay tuition. (Student Comment #43)

The Engineering College needs to accommodate more space and better materials for CSE majors. The CS class size is continuing to grow and we tend to be extremely reliant on the university computer resources. It's frustrating that out of all the labs in the EB, the CSE ones have the worst monitors/keyboards/mouses and maintenance on top of a lack of space. (Student Comment #34)

In addition to the above statements, it is also very apparent that the labs are not up-kept very well. Sometimes trash is not emptied for days, and some of the walls/carpets/chairs are peeling and falling apart. In some of the labs with blinds, those blinds are tangled and unable to be used. The keyboards and mice usually leave a slime-y feeling on my hands, and the temperature variance between labs and days is frustrating. A large number of the computers in the labs also only have one of their monitors working. (Student Comment #13)

4.2.1 DECS Administration Issues

In addition to the general infrastructure problems, several students commented on difficulties they've had with the transition to the labs moving under DECS' administration. Students specifically noted the removal of the Linux workstations and unreliable remote connections.

Personally, I'm honestly extremely disappointed that they removed the Linux machines from the CSE lab. As computer scientists it's so important to be comfortable working on a native Linux environment as most of us are. Also, DECS has had the same problem for over a year now, that CSE students can't access the first and second floor machines so we literally can't work anywhere else if we want to be on the MSU network using their machines. Were the second or third highest populated major and it's a little ridiculous that we're paying for resources we ourselves can't use. (Student Comment #16)

... moving management of the CSE labs to DECS has negatively impacted my ability to complete my assignments in the labs - as far as I can tell Linux workstations are no longer available as a result of this change, and I much preferred working on a Linux workstation to working remotely via X2Go, which is slow and unreliable. (Student Comment #5)

DECS sucks. I hate the fact they've taken over the CSE labs (Student Comment #40)

4.3 Capstone Specific Comments

The majority of people understand why the Capstone lab needs more space but are frustrated that this space will come at the expense of students losing a place to collaborate, learn, and study. People are additionally frustrated as Capstone is a single course (and not even the biggest one).

Students do note, however, that the Capstone lab is crowded as is and acknowledge the need for more space for the Capstone lab.

Capstone serves 100 students per semester, making it larger than the 400-level CSE electives but significantly smaller than CSE 231, 232, 260, 320, 331, or 335. Therefore as CSE's 7th-largest class it does not seem reasonable for Capstone to get special reserved access to two additional rooms. Specifically, if Capstone students need access to additional conference room space in addition to the large lab already reserved for Capstone, the existing CSE conference rooms should be opened up to them, but Capstone students should not get a designated conference room that is unavailable for student groups and department meetings. (Student Comment #49)

I understand there is a cultural idea that Capstone students have "earned" their special access to the Capstone lab, fridge, and water cooler, but I think it would be very unfair to expand this "territory" to additional rooms at the expense of the majority of CSE students. (Student Comment #49)

The lab space is important for students to be able to collaborate and learn. With classes going online, having lab space is crucial for students to help each other and make friends. The Capstone Lab is also getting very crowded and cannot hold all the students in the class so I do support expanding that, but I hate how it will restrict other CSE students. (Student Comment #14)

Perhaps it's capstone that needs to move elsewhere? We seem to be moving a lot of people around with the result of the inconvenience of every other CSE class. Why not just move the capstone lab and avoid moving displacing everyone else? (Student Comment #28)

Capstone lab is currently too cramped, and Capstone class sizes keep increasing year after year. Right now there are about 100 students in FS17 Capstone and we have serious space issues. This is only going to get worse and this expansion will do a lot to relieve this problem. (Student Comment #6)

I personally don't care about the room Capstone plans to take over, and I completely understand why more room is needed. However this does bring to light a much bigger issue which I think is the root of the entire problem, and that is the lack of actual room computer science has in general.

There should be a push for a lab meant for homework and studying. A lounge such as one on the first floor but more computers and inviting to computer science students specifically. Ideally this would mean taking over more rooms for this, but I think it would be better to move capstone out of the CSE wing and find a more exclusive space for it and give that area to CSE majors to do their homework and study. (Student Comment #41)

I think expanding Capstone lab is a good idea. Capstone is a really important course, and all students will end up benefiting from this lab expansion when they take Capstone.

Capstone lab is currently too cramped, and Capstone class sizes keep increasing year after year. Right now there are about 100 students in FS17 Capstone and we have serious space issues. This is only going to get worse and this expansion will do a lot to relieve this problem. (Student Comment #38)

A Survey text

What follows is a PDF of the full survey text as it appeared to respondents throughout the period it was available.

MSU CSE Lab Feedback

Feedback for the changes to the CSE labs in the engineering building

CSE498 (Capstone) has planned expansions into EB3340 otherwise known as the Bob Lab. For clarification a map can be found here:

https://www.egr.msu.edu/sites/default/files/content/third_floor_0.pdf

This form is intended to collect responses from students about changes in the lab allocations, to be used both by the CSE department in determining allocations and in talks with the Engineering College to allocate more lab space.

1. Do you think that the CSE Department has enough lab space?

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

2. Do you think that the Capstone lab needs more space?

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

3. Do you think moving CSE231 and CSE232 helproom into the Hive in Wilson was a good change?

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

4. Have you taken (or are you currently taking Capstone? (CSE 498)

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

5. What do you use the CSE labs for?

Check all that apply.

- ☐ Working on homework alone
☐ Working on homework with peers
☐ Socializing with peers
☐ Consulting hours / helproom
☐ Class
☐ Other: _____

6. What is your class level?

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Freshman
- ☐ Sophomore
- ☐ Junior
- ☐ Senior
- ☐ Graduate
- ☐ Alumni
- ☐ Staff/Faculty

7. Please share any other thoughts you have on this

If you would like to be contacted about your opinion, please fill out the following

Your personal identifying information will be removed before this is shared with either the CSE Department or the Engineering College--Your contact information will only be used by student representatives.

8. Your name

9. Your email

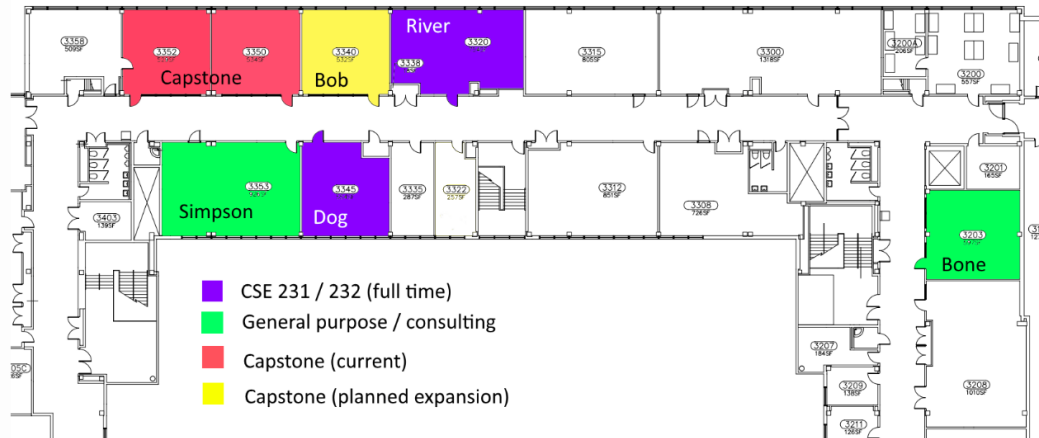
Powered by



B SpartanCS Community Post

CSE Lab Space Changes

Sep 22, 2017



CSE 498 (Capstone) has plans to expand into the Bob Lab (EB 3340).

With CSE 232 in EB 3345 (Dog) and CSE 231 in EB 3320 (River) this will leave only EB 3203 (Bone) and EB 3353 (Simpson) as available labs.

EB 3353 is typically reserved for lab hours for classes like CSE 220 and for consulting hours for CSE 410 and CSE 320. CSE 335 and CSE 331 hold consulting hours in EB 3203 (Bone), along with several 400-level courses.

CSE 450 and CSE 476 both currently have consulting hours in EB 3340 (Bob).

CSE 232 and CSE 231 both have moved their helproom hours to the Hive in Wilson for want of space.

This leaves very little space for students to work on homework with peers in a lab easily or even just to socialize (adding to our issues in forming a student community).

If you would like to voice your concerns on this you can fill out the Google form linked below or you can email the Computing Environment Committee representative, Jason Brownell, at browne93@msu.edu and he can represent your views in the CSE Curriculum Committee, as well as forward them onto the rest of the student representatives.

The contact info for all current student representatives can be found [under the About page](#)

The Google form can be [found here](#)

C Facebook post

Note: This post contains incorrect information regarding the system administrator's office. The post claims that the Capstone expansion included the office. A clarification, countering the incorrect information, was posted shortly after.

As posted by Jacob Fenton on September 22nd:

Hi all, some news about the CSE labs:

CSE 498 (Capstone) has plans to expand into the Bob Lab (EB 3340) and the System Administrator office (EB 3322).

With CSE 232 in EB 3345 (Dog) and CSE 231 in EB 3320 (River) this will leave only EB 3203 (Bone) and EB 3353 (Simpson) as available labs.

EB 3353 is typically reserved for lab hours for classes like CSE 220 and for consulting hours for CSE 410 and CSE 320. CSE 335 and CSE 331 hold consulting hours in EB 3203 (Bone), along with several 400-level courses.

CSE 450 and CSE 476 both currently have consulting hours in EB 3340 (Bob).

CSE 232 and CSE 231 both have moved their helproom hours to the Hive in Wilson for want of space.

This leaves very little space for students to work on homework with peers in a lab easily or even just to socialize (adding to our issues in forming a student community).

If you would like to voice your concerns on this you can fill out the Google form linked below and/or you can email me at fentonj6@msu.edu and I can represent your views in the CSE Curriculum Committee, as well as forward them onto the rest of the student representatives.

The contact info for all current student representatives can be found here:
<http://clubs.cse.msu.edu/about/#student-representatives>

Form: <https://goo.gl/forms/cwCzO6itdaM3FCDs2>

D Student Comments

Below are all of the student comments in their entirety.

1. If there is an increase demand for being a CSE major, please increase the lab sizes instead of kicking everyone to the curb like the current system. This is one of the primary reasons we lag behind other universities in terms of having a collaborative environment.
2. This needs to be passed up the chain as far as possible. It is a direct result of the university not valuing our field and ignoring our expansion.
3. There is not enough room in general for the engineering department. If we had a library to go to or more labs in Wilson or something with computers that had all the capabilities that we need, then that would be good.
4. Making the CSE Labs the responsibility of DECS makes my life difficult.
5. CSE students do not have enough available lab space as-is, and moving Capstone into the Bob lab (instead of new, additional lab space) will take even more space away from students wanting to work on assignments. Additionally, moving management of the CSE labs to DECS has negatively impacted my ability to complete my assignments in the labs -

as far as I can tell Linux workstations are no longer available as a result of this change, and I much preferred working on a Linux workstation to working remotely via X2Go, which is slow and unreliable.

6. The Capstone Lab is big enough to support the course. The Bob Lab is one of the few rooms that have a decent AC for when the EB is very warm (quite often) and is a center for CSE students to work together. Bone Lab is in horrendous shape and deserves a remodel if they are to expect us to use it. It smells bad, it is uncomfortably warm, and uncomfortable to be in.
7. We need more lab space for people to work both together and with their peers. Also, our computer labs could use a facelift. Take a look at the first floor computer labs, and it's easy to notice how unprofessional the CSE labs look in comparison (bundles of ethernet wires going into holes cut in the ceiling and power strips everhwhere - accidentally kick it and unplug your machine). That leads me to my other point: me, as well as some of my other CSE friends, still can't log into the first floor computers. We can't even work down there if we wanted too. The CSE labs should be something we can proudly show to prospective students and donors, not just the capstone lab. Instead it's an embarrassment that we hide on the third floor.
8. Frankly, besides the Capstone lab, the CSE labs are ancient, ugly rooms that we don't bother to show new students (for good reason). The CSE department in general is in need of an overhaul, and I think the labs and lab space are a good place to start. Adding lab computers and more outlets/ethernet jacks to the Anthony study space would be a good way to begin making this issue better.
9. Since a large majority of Capstone work is done on personal computers, it seems to me that rather than reserving another lab some more conference room space would be just as good. This would leave more computer labs available for other classes, as well as general collaboration of CSE students. Also, now that all labs in the EB are managed by DECS shouldn't it be possible for CSE classes to start reserving some of those for help-room/class time? That would leave a bit more time free in the current CSE labs for more flexible collaboration on projects.
10. We need more than just re-purposed rooms to support the growing program, we need additional rooms. That would most likely come in the form of a new building, or rooms in another building. It would take time, obviously. But band aid fixes shouldn't be treated as permanent ones.
11. For me, I rarely work in classrooms where there there seems to be a party taking place, judging by the number of people present. Holding additional labs in these spaces could lead to a disruptive atmosphere for students seeking to work in peace and quiet.
12. The labs are already too crowded as it is. We already lost the engineering library, and the Linux labs and the library is a pain in the a** to work from.
13. In addition to the above statements, it is also very apparent that the labs are not up-kept very well. Sometimes trash is not emptied for days, and some of the walls/carpets/chairs are peeling and falling apart. In some of the labs with blinds, those blinds are tangled and unable to be used. The keyboards and mouses usually leave a slime-y feeling on my hands,

and the temperature variance between labs and days is frustrating. A large number of the computers in the labs also only have one of their monitors working.

It would also be nice to have a designated 'quiet' lab, because sometimes all of the few labs that I do have access to have people having very loud conversations, and I want a place to get work done between classes, and it would be inconvenient for me to go back to my house, when so much of what I do in my day occurs at the EB.

I think the transition of 231 to the Hive/Wilson is good (however I haven't seen/experienced that), I think 232 fits in better at the EB since mostly Engineering Students take that, especially some junior/senior AES students who probably never thought they'd have to go back to South Neighborhood.

331 TA hours probably don't need to be held in one of the computer labs, it would be nice if they were able to schedule a classroom for that time, but I know that classroom scheduling is a pain this semester, as well.

Thank you for collecting feedback!

14. The lab space is important for students to be able to collaborate and learn. With classes going online, having lab space is crucial for students to help each other and make friends. The Capstone Lab is also getting very crowded and cannot hold all the students in the class so I do support expanding that, but I hate how it will restrict other CSE students.
15. I really want better monitors in the lab.
16. Personally, I'm honestly extremely disappointed that they removed the Linux machines from the CSE lab. As computer scientists its so important to be comfortable working on a native Linux environment as most of us are. Also, DECS has had the same problem for over a year now, that CSE students can't access the first and second floor machines so we literally cant work anywhere else if we want to be on the MSU network using their machines. Were the second or third highest populated major and its a little ridiculous that were paying for resources we ourselves can't use.
17. I would like it if there wasn't even less space for cse students.
18. If there's a way to build onto the EB to open up more computer labs for the growing field of Computer Science that should be done.
19. I believe it would be better to continue allowing computer science students to use labs
20. The new Interdisciplinary Science and Technology Building should include extra CSE labs.
21. I would like to see more lab spaces in the computer science department, along with an increase/return of Linux systems on campus.
22. CSE revolves around computing and it makes sense that they would need more computer lab space
23. Even if the department had the inclination and funds to construct an entirely new lab; that certainly can't happen overnight. I think the lab facilities need to be reexamined; students having open access to work on coursework alone or in groups needs to be at the forefront. If we assume everyone has a laptop or can just print things out, it is possible that helprooms like CSE 331 don't need to be held in a lab.

24. CSE labs get really busy during evening hours. Students taking online courses like CSE 335 require in person help. Given the large number of students taking the course, the number of students coming to consulting hours is large. Near submission deadlines, smaller labs like Bone get crowded and students have to find spaces in other labs. I bet this is the case for other courses as well. I have experienced days when Bone lab had about 5 TAs sitting in the lab from 3 different courses. That leaves not a lot for seats for students. Looking at lab schedules you would see help rooms going as far in to the night as 10 pm, these timings are not because of TAs/students preferences but because of limited lab space availability and this is a burden for both students and TAs.
25. It leaves very little room for collaboration for students specifically in Computer Science. Usually you'd have a good working environment to help productivity, this diminishes how much collaboration and connection we can have with our fellow CSE peers.
26. I see this as yet another attempt to frame Capstone as the most important experience of a CSE student's lifetime, but this time, it has the possibility of inflicting serious harm on underclassmen's ability to become upperclassmen. I'm sure Dr. Dyksen has several claims of Capstone being an important meeting space for students to meet with their "clients". Most corporate partners don't care what the lab looks like: They know it's a college lab. I'm sure he also claims each team needs their own space to work in and meet in. They don't: My entire team was always working at home and messaging each other about it. We chose not to work together in the capstone lab because it was more convenient for our schedules, and the space in the lab was not a deciding factor.

I'm sure Dr. Dyksen also claims that his amazing Macs need more space, and he needs more computers per team. My team never used the Macs because only one person on our team had one, and the rest of us had never used a Mac before and didn't feel like figuring out how.

Good gosh, how has this even up for debate? Having the capstone course exist was already outdated when I was a student. Now that most students are scoring great internships, many don't put Capstone on their resumes, and the experience of working on a tech team is already in their skill set without taking capstone. If anything, this entire class could be eliminated in favor of a mandatory co-op or internship experience, the way that the University of Waterloo is known for. Taking away valuable resources from underclassmen, to devote them to a low-value, single-semester course is shocking.

Honestly, I work at a great tech company right now, one with zero connections to MSU asides from me. I know it would be a great company for MSU grads, and I've been pushing the HR team to send me to a career fair or send me to a tech talk. Seeing this makes me wonder if I should still be doing that, because I truly believe the quality of student grads would decline if they're not able to collaborate as underclassmen. My company would probably be a great Capstone sponsor, too, but my personal experiences with Dr. Dyksen left me with no desire to get involved there.

27. The 15-minute logout timer on the new Windows OS is not nearly enough. Often time, a peer in the lab will need help understanding a concept, which I will explain either on the lab whiteboard or peer's computer. When I return, my computer is logged off, losing both saved data and forcing me to re-open everything and return to my previous state. Some people even get logged off after a bathroom break. It is a tremendous pain being tethered

to one's computer to avoid the auto-logoff. Suggestion: please raise this to 30 minutes. Over the past 3 years i have never run into the problem of not finding a computer because people are afk for too long.

28. This doesn't leave much room to work with groups on group projects (see Owen classes) especially if the group members do not own a laptop and need access to CSE labs to work on projects or work in groups. Perhaps it's capstone that needs to move elsewhere? We seem to be moving a lot of people around with the result of the inconvenience of every other CSE class. Why not just move the capstone lab and avoid moving displacing everyone else? Are there any classrooms that aren't used much on the third floor that could be converted into labs?
29. We need more space. Business college gets a whole new building and we can't even have enough space for our engineering students. That is a bit ridiculous if you ask me. It sucks trying to go to help room and not even find a seat because four different classes are holding help room in the same room. Two labs is not okay.
30. Barely enough room as is without dedicating an entire second lab for Capstone.
31. WE DESPERATELY NEED MORE LABS, DURING HELPROOM AND CONSULTING HOURS THERE IS NOT SPACE FOR STUDENTS TO WORK ON THEIR HOMEWORK AND PROJECTS
32. I think another room needs to be renovated for an additional lab!
33. We need lab space. Capstone does not need bob lab.
34. The Engineering College needs to accommodate more space and better materials for CSE majors. The CS class size is continuing to grow and we tend to be extremely reliant on the university computer resources. It's frustrating that out of all the labs in the EB, the CSE ones have the worst monitors/keyboards/mouses and maintenance on top of a lack of space.
35. I believe that everyone should have access to labs. If capstone needs more room why don't they take over an empty class room that is adjacent to the current capstone lab. Capstone uses Mac's anyways so I am assuming that they would gut that lab and bring in their own equipment anyways. For this reason I believe that capstone should just take over one of the many classrooms and use that for their extra lab space. There are many rooms while there are only 5 labs currently and all are always used. Another way to alleviate the pain would be having all software on the computers be available through the remote services through DECS. Personally I come to the labs because the software is only available through the lab computers and not through Remote Desktop. Please contact me if you have any questions.
36. I agree with the sentiment, but I'm unsure of what can really be done about this.
37. Having the CSE labs is very helpful for being able to actually get to know people in the CSE program. We aren't the most social program, and I hate to lose more space than we have to just for the capstone class.

38. I think expanding Capstone lab is a good idea. Capstone is a really important course, and all students will end up benefiting from this lab expansion when they take Capstone.
Capstone lab is currently too cramped, and Capstone class sizes keep increasing year after year. Right now there are about 100 students in FS17 Capstone and we have serious space issues. This is only going to get worse and this expansion will do a lot to relieve this problem.
39. I think there should be more space for students not in capstone too.
40. DECS sucks. I hate the fact they've taken over the CSE labs
41. I personally don't care about the room Capstone plans to take over, and I completely understand why more room is needed. However this does bring to light a much bigger issue which I think is the root of the entire problem, and that is the lack of actual room computer science has in general.
There should be a push for a lab meant for homework and studying. A lounge such as one on the first floor but more computers and inviting to computer science students specifically. Ideally this would mean taking over more rooms for this, but I think it would be better to move capstone out of the CSE wing and find a more exclusive space for it and give that area to CSE majors to do their homework and study.
42. The CSE labs are for everyone in CSE and capstone is just for people in capstone. The CSE labs are already so crowded it doesn't make sense making an exclusive space for a select number of people that isn't used all the time. Since 231 and 232 are online now, underclassmen and students need a space to meet, work, and collaborate. Taking away open lab space for one course doesn't benefit students.
43. This is trash. Stop making every room a capstone lab. You already took over the Linux computers and made them windows (which is awful) and no I don't want to remote in. I want to actually use a computer. More computer labs. Make it happen! I pay tuition.
44. I only think moving CSE 231/32 to the hive was a bad choice because it seems like CSE students shouldnt be pushed out of the engineering building as a permanent solution. It was a good choice as a quick fix for the situation however. It may be a petty argument so consider that a soft no!
45. There are definitely not enough labs. And moving the Simpson lab to just be consulting hours takes away even more computers. I have struggled before with a computer breaking before finals and had to live in the lab everyday, now with the consulting room being full from consulting it would be hard to purposely stay on a computer for a long length of time.
46. We need more collaborative space for students to get together. Especially with courses such as CSE 335, we need to have space so students can work on projects collaboratively.
47. It's ridiculous that we have one of the s***** facilities and that MSU is one of the top 100 schools in the world. With the number of funding and donations Engineering dep't receives it's a disgrace to our department to have such a degraded level of Computer Lab spaces and equipments. This needs urgent response. MSU CoE should up its game ASAP.

48. Capstone doesn't have enough space. Neither do the labs.

If students had more access to conference room space the lack of conference room space wouldn't be nearly as bad of an issue. The space on the east end of the EB helps a little with finding places to study but it's not a great place to meet for a conference call.

I've been told by employers that what they like about students from MSU is that we're helpful and are great to work with on teams. Part of that comes from the collaborative space the lab provides for people to work in and help each other. Without that space, the CSE community wouldn't be nearly as close as it is which I feel helped me to succeed in the degree. If I didn't meet my CSE friends in the labs my freshman year of college, I would've changed my major to be something else which would be unfortunate as a graduate, I now love my career.

Help rooms in Wilson are a good idea since a large number of students do live in South Neighborhood their first years of college. However, there are a fair number of students that also live off campus and it's harder to find parking near there than it is at the EB. It would be a lot better to have help room hours at *both* locations since they usually overcrowded.

49. The Engineering Building is more centrally located and closer to parking lots than Wilson. If a large majority of CSE 231 students do not live in South Neighborhood, it is unfair to push services like Help Room out of the EB to Wilson. The department should survey students (or just look in their address records, if possible) to determine if this is the case. If a large majority of students do not live in South Neighborhood, then CSE 231 Help Room should be given as much space as it needs within the Engineering Building, possibly expanding into two computer labs instead of one.

Capstone serves 100 students per semester, making it larger than the 400-level CSE electives but significantly smaller than CSE 231, 232, 260, 320, 331, or 335. Therefore as CSE's 7th-largest class it does not seem reasonable for Capstone to get special reserved access to two additional rooms. Specifically, if Capstone students need access to additional conference room space in addition to the large lab already reserved for Capstone, the existing CSE conference rooms should be opened up to them, but Capstone students should not get a designated conference room that is unavailable for student groups and department meetings. If this overcrowds the existing conference rooms, then it would be reasonable to convert the sysadmin office into an additional conference room, one that would be available for Capstone students, student groups, and department events. With the conference space moved out of the Capstone lab there should be a more than fair amount of reserved space. I understand there is a cultural idea that Capstone students have "earned" their special access to the Capstone lab, fridge, and water cooler, but I think it would be very unfair to expand this "territory" to additional rooms at the expense of the majority of CSE students.

Note: The above was commented on the Facebook Post by MSU alum Erin Hoffman, who requested attribution should her comment be included in any form of report. The above post also references incorrect information that was posted, where the system administrator's office was mistakenly included in the expansion plan for Capstone.

E Minitab Output Images

Test and CI for One Proportion

Method

p: event proportion
Exact method is used for this analysis.

Descriptive Statistics

N	Event	Sample p	95% CI for p
99	55	0.555556	(0.452241, 0.655457)

Test

Null hypothesis $H_0: p = 0.5$
Alternative hypothesis $H_a: p \neq 0.5$

P-Value
0.315

Figure E.1: 1-sample proportion test of question 2 on all respondents

Test and CI for One Proportion

Method

p: event proportion
Exact method is used for this analysis.

Descriptive Statistics

N	Event	Sample p	95% CI for p
48	33	0.687500	(0.537486, 0.813404)

Test

Null hypothesis $H_0: p = 0.5$
Alternative hypothesis $H_a: p \neq 0.5$

P-Value
0.013

Figure E.3: 1-sample proportion test of question 2 on respondents from the senior class

Test and CI for One Proportion

Method

p: event proportion
Exact method is used for this analysis.

Descriptive Statistics

N	Event	Sample p	95% CI for p
99	61	0.616162	(0.513014, 0.712164)

Test

Null hypothesis $H_0: p = 0.5$
Alternative hypothesis $H_a: p \neq 0.5$

P-Value
0.027

Figure E.2: 1-sample proportion test of question 3 on all respondents

Test and CI for One Proportion

Method

p: event proportion
Exact method is used for this analysis.

Descriptive Statistics

N	Event	Sample p	95% CI for p
48	31	0.645833	(0.494568, 0.778394)

Test

Null hypothesis $H_0: p = 0.5$
Alternative hypothesis $H_a: p \neq 0.5$

P-Value
0.059

Figure E.4: 1-sample proportion test of question 3 on respondents from the senior class