SPACE SURVEY Methodologies

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About Us



Charlotte Gallant (UNIV) Director of Cost Analysis and Compliance, Harvard FAS

- Harvard University
- Faculty of Arts and Science
- 15 years in Higher Education Research Administration
- F&A Rate proposals (long form)
- Recharge/Service center policies and reviews
- Equipment policy and reviews
- Research Administration Compliance



Grace Shin (HMS) Associate Director of Cost Analysis Harvard Medical School, Finance

- Finance professional 16 years experience
- 12 years in Higher Education Harvard
- Pre and post award management
- Equipment inventories
- Business analyst for custom software
- 8 years at Harvard Medical School
- Recharge/service center policies and reviews
- Space surveys
- F&A rate proposal (long form)



Eric Wang (Huron) Manager Huron Consulting

- Huron Consulting Group
- Higher Education Research Enterprise Solutions
- 11 years in Higher Education Consulting
- F&A rate proposals (short & long form)
- Space surveys
- Recharge/service center policies and reviews
- Animal per diem rates
- DS2
- Business analyst for custom software



Institutional Profile HARVARD







Let's talk space

Space Survey 101

Space Survey PREPARATION & DATA

Space Survey TRAINING, MEETINGS, & SURVEYS



SPACE SURVEY 101





What is a Space Survey?

- The purpose of a space survey is to document the people, funding sources, and activity within specific rooms on campus during a given fiscal year
- Space surveys are used to help an institution demonstrate how its facilities costs are actually supporting sponsored research
- Salaries and Wages may not be representative of activity happening in lab spaces



Question #1 – Do you conduct a space survey?







What are we surveying?

- The Uniform Guidance defines activity codes for classifying space, codes include:
 - Organized Research (OR): Research activity funded by federal and non-federal grants that are separately budgeted and accounted for
 - Department Research (DR): Research activity that requires no formal application/approval process. Includes research funded by gifts, endowments, seed funding, start-up funding, and indirect cost recovery monies
 - Instruction (IN): All instructional activity including teaching, TA activities for grad students, and unpaid undergraduate student research workers
 - Other Sponsored Activities (OSA): Activity funded by federal and non-federal grants that support outreach initiatives including clinical trials
 - Other Institutional Activities (OIA): Activities of an institution except for instruction, departmental research, organized research, and other sponsored activities.





When do we survey?

Identify the base year

 The survey should be conducted near the end or after your base year has concluded.

Availability of participants

- Central Administration
- Department Administration
- PI/Lab Managers/Researchers



Question #2 – When do you do a space survey?

During Base Year

After Base Year





Identify the population for the survey



Submission





Comparison: Survey Population

	Charlotte Gallant (UNIV)	Grace Shin (HMS)	Eric Wang (Huron)
•	Review all departments and space Threshold based on Research Expenditures	 Review all departments and space Identify Research and Non-Research departments Survey Research departments Non-Research departments – Use SW 	 Survey all space and all departments Identify specific room types Research %/\$ threshold 80%+, 90%+, 95%+ \$500k, \$1m, etc SW vs Total Expenditures Research SQFT threshold Research density in buildings
Consider survey population			



PREPARATION & DATA





Using up to date data



Building Code/Name



Room #



Department Occupant Room Type Hegis Code





Different types of space to consider



RESEARCH





Who do we need to conduct survey?







Comparison: Data Elements

Charlotte Gallant (UNIV)	Grace Shin (HMS)	Eric Wang (HURON)
 Principal Investigators Occupants and Visitors – how often, how long Functionality of space – research projects and funding sources Clustering approach Shared research space HHMI Space Service Center Space Single Function vs. Joint Use 	 Principal Investigator or Spaceowner Occupants and visitors Clustering approach Service center space Shared research space HHMI space Projects, Funding sources, Activity Codes Full time equivalency (FTE) Comments 	 Sub room type code Primary usage notes Number of desks Entry restrictions

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Focus on relevant data elements



DATA How will you capture the results? **Paper Survey Electronic Survey Survey System** Low learning curve Data entry occurs once Prepopulated data elements Easy to survey room by room Most are familiar with the typical Standardized data output applications; excel, word, Built in validation UI/UX optimized for data access. collection Can be shared electronically Laptops/tablets Manual distribution of files Freeform fields require data to Learning curve due to new ٠ ٠ be standardized prior to using Data entry required convert technology Manual creation of forms Black box results into rate development Version control tool ٠ No backups

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Sample Space Survey Timeline

Before Base Year			
Communicate to participants to track occupancy	During Base Year	After Base Year	
	Collect data to conduct survey reflective of entire base year		
information		Participants will need to recall accurate usage of space	



Question #3 – How long did your survey take?







Comparison: Timeline

Charlotte Gallant (UNIV)

- Before the base year starts
 - Remind departments to track lab occupancy throughout the base year
- During the base year
 - Updating space inventory
 - Plan out the process
 - Communicate the plan
- Space Survey base year and beyond
 - Begin last quarter of base year (Spring/Summer)
 - Internal analysis (Summer)
 - ~6 months

Grace Shin (HMS)

- During base year
 - Update space inventory
 - Update occupant information
 - Identify when participants will be available
 - Communicate project plan
- Space survey
 - After base year Summer/Fall
 - ~4 months

Eric Wang (Huron)

- Summer population
- Consider holidays
- Avoid waiting until winter
- When do you want to submit?

Communication is key!



TRAINING, MEETINGS, & SPACE SURVEY





Provide training to all participants



Materials

- Institutional interpretation of Uniform Guidance
- Reminder of base year/fiscal year
- Space survey instructions
- Timeline of survey
- FAQ
- Additional resources
- Contact information

Consistency

- Definitions for each space function
- Consideration for occupants
 - Training grants
 - Emeriti faculty
 - Visiting scholars/scientist
- Funding sources
 - Space vs Base
 - Example: University sponsored research

Sessions

- Population
- Timeline
- Location
- Availability
- Other scheduling factors
- Virtual vs Live





Provide training to all participants

Paper Survey	Electronic Survey	Survey System
 Distribute files to all participants Folder/binder Designated area to add detail or identify changes Plan on how to transfer results for review 	 Walk through template How strict are you on the formatting of the document? How to provide updates Version control Data transfer plan 	 Hands on training How to seek additional help System helpdesk email/phone#/chat Backup plan for participants without access





Comparison: Training

Charlotte Gallant (UNIV)	Grace Shin (HMS)	Eric Wang (Huron)
 In-person Trainings 2 High level department directors Individual department meetings Documents General Instructions Definitions System user guides Space data (floorplans) and functionalization templates Expectations, Procedures and Timeline 	 4 Training sessions In person Documents Regulations Definitions Institutional data Survey System Data elements How to use the Survey System Space Survey timeline & resources 	 Training sessions (1-5 depending on size) Recorded Virtual "Org" chart

Stressing the significance of their participation











Comparison: Meetings

Charlotte Gallant (UNIV) Grace Shin (HMS) **Eric Wang (Huron)** • 1 on 1 department sessions with • 1 on 1 session with department administrators: Phone meetings Email grant managers/lab managers and Review survey data (2-4 hours) • Virtual desktop share administrators (4-8 hours) Address questions (1-2 hours) Completing the survey Retrain (1 hour) Review survey (1-2 hours) Interpreting occupancy • PI office visits (30 min to 1 hour) Follow up department meetings (1-3 hours)Final department reviews (sign off via email or in-person) Using webex, phone calls, and inperson methods Meetings are essential



Question #4 – How many people ran the survey?



• 2-4 FTE

• 4-6 FTE

• More than 6 FTE





Review results



Space vs Base

- Space functions need to be supported with expenditures
- The way people are paid should be considered
- Validating projects to survey spaces





Comparison: Survey review

Charlotte Gallant (UNIV)	Grace Shin (HMS)	Eric Wang (Huron)
 Identify PIs Review space data Review research projects Account for all people Students Undergrads and Grad Visitors HHMI Paid vs. not paid Emeriti faculty Maintain records 	 Identify all PIs Identify all on research projects Account for all people Paid vs not paid HHMI Students Visitors Emeriti faculty Record all notes 	 Space vs base Costshare Identify all on campus projects
	Check Space vs Base!!	

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THANKYOU & QUESTIONS

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