

A manual by John Dale Russell and James I. Doi, sponsored by the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers, (AACRAO), is a milestone in the development of "space utilization" technology. This contribution, published in 1957, has come to be referred to generally as the "Russell-Doi" study.¹

The Russell-Doi manual was published at a time of expanding interest in utilization studies and undoubtedly did much to stimulate increased activity in this field. A follow-up study on normative data about utilization, published in 1960, illustrated the dramatic increase in activity.

"... more institutions made space utilization studies during the two-year period between 1956 and 1958 than during the six-year period between 1950 and 1956, and the number of colleges planning to undertake such projects increased more than threefold."²

"Comparison of the returns of the two surveys also shows a large increase in the number of privately controlled institutions making space utilization studies. Of the 233 institutions reporting space utilization studies in the 1956 survey, publicly controlled colleges and universities were definitely in the majority. Most of these studies had been made in connection with statewide surveys of higher education. The Dyness survey of 1958 shows that 261, or 57 percent of the 457 institutions reporting either having made a space utilization study or planning to make one where privately controlled."³

The authors of the 1960 study also concluded that: (1) "... among degree-granting institutions of higher education, those with large enrollments make more efficient use of their instructional facilities than do those with small enrollments..." and (2) "... among degree-granting institutions, privately controlled institutions use their instructional space about as efficiently as do publicly controlled institutions of comparable size. There appears to be some difference in efficiency, but the degree of difference does not justify a separate set of norms of publicly and privately controlled institutions of comparable size groups."⁴

Many of the utilization studies reported in the AACRAO sponsored studies were "one-shot" affairs, some of which were repeated from time to time but on no fixed schedule. However, an increasing number of institutions and State systems of higher education have been establishing both continuing systems for evaluation of facilities utilization and needs, and standards for evaluating utilization and planning new facilities.

Much additional attention to utilization undoubtedly has been stimulated also by the guidelines for administration of Title I of the Higher Education Facilities Act of 1963, under which attention to utilization of existing instructional and library facilities is a required consideration in determining relative priorities of projects to be approved. This requirement is discussed at greater length later in this paper.

Several promising developmental activities relating to facilities utilization have been sponsored and supported by Federal agencies. The National Science Foundation recently published a report of a project on development of comprehensive information systems for institutions of higher education.⁵

One part of the report provides a proposed system for room-by-room inventory of facilities and a critical evaluation of methods and concepts relating to utilization studies. The principal contribution of this project may be that it emphasizes the importance of looking at facilities in the framework of a total information system which interrelates facilities to other aspects of the management of a university.

A second project was the "Cooperative Research Interinstitutional Space Project" (CRISP), financed by the Office of Education and being carried out by the University Facilities Research Center at the University of Wisconsin. The objective of this project was to develop a sophisticated system for maintaining a continual inventory of all types of facilities by function and current assignment, and for using the detailed information in the system for maximum effi-

¹ Russell, John Dale, and James I. Doi, *Manual for Studies of Space Utilization in Colleges and Universities*, 1957.

² Doi, James I., and Keith L. Scott, *Normative Data on the Utilization of Instructional Space in Colleges and Universities, July 1960*, page 1.

³ Ibid, page 2.

⁴ Ibid, pp. 12-13.

⁵ *Systems for Measuring and Reporting The Resources and Activities of Colleges and Universities*. National Science Foundation NSF 67-15.