



# SUB BALLROOM STUDENT UNION BUILDING UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO | MOSCOW | IDAHO

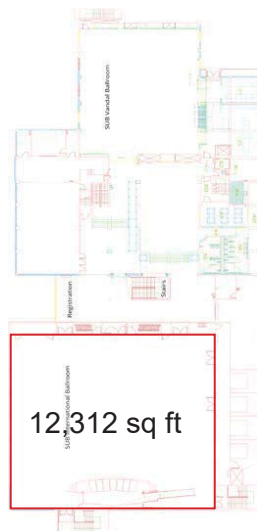
BEINING SUN | EAMONN PARK | XUE FENG

## STUDENT UNION BUILDING BALLROOM BUILDING DESCRIPTION



Location: 709 Deakin Ave, Moscow, ID 83844

The SUB Ballroom is located on the University of Idaho campus in the Student Union Building. It is being across the street from the University Book Store. The north has lot a small parking.



## STUDENT UNION BUILDING BALLROOM DESCRIPTION



The SUB Ballroom is the Student Union's largest room. With a varied capacity, depending on the seating and table setup, the SUB Ballroom can hold large formal dinners, multicultural events and full concerts. This place provides sound and lighting for most events in the Ballroom. The built-in sound system provides for simple conferences and speakers.

Building 'full concert system' is ideal for concerts in the SUB Ballroom and includes the following:

Crown amplified EAW speakers

Separate monitor board

ETC computer controlled lighting system

(U of I Official Website )

ACOUSTIC ANALYSIS - ACOUSTIC MATERIALS



**01 Absorbing Ceiling Panels**  
The absorbing ceiling panel are covered entire space in order to reduce the sound reflection



**02 Acoustic Panels**  
Two types of acoustic panels cover upper of the surrounding walls

**04 Wood Wall**

3/4 of the wall surface are covered with wood as primary material



**03 Angular dry wall**  
Angular dry wall distributue at the back side of the rppm

ACOUSTIC ANALYSIS - ACOUSTIC MATERIALS



**01 Gypsum board**  
Overing hanging above the stage to reflect sound



**02 Wood absorb panels**  
Distribute along the stage, with soft material in between

**04 Audience**

Maximum occupancy of the room is 1520 people based on building code

**03 Speakers**



2 groups of speakers toward the audience seat and pointing different derictions



**ACOUSTIC ANALYSIS**

**REFLECTIVE**



Room(Full Occupancy)@ 500 Hz					
Surface	Material	Area (sq. ft)	Absorbency	Absorption(S)	
Ceiling	dry wall	10200	0.05	510	
Ceiling, absorptive	Acoustic CMU	8200	0.52	4264	
Side Wall	plywood panels	2100	0.05	105	
Side Wall, absorptive	soundsoak wall panels	1050	0.6	630	
Rear Wall, lower	Drywall	1950	0.05	97.5	
Front wall	plywood panels	1250	0.52	650	
Front wall, absorptive	soundsoak wall panels	600	0.6	360	
Floor	Wood	9700	0.1	970	
Stage Opening	Draped absorbing material	1000	0.88	880	
Audience	seated in upholstered seats	9650	0.1	965	
	Volume (cu. Ft.)	Total Absorption		9431.5	
Room Volume	205800	Reverbation Time		1.06920426	
Room(Half-Occupancy)@500Hz					
Auditorium (less audience)				8466.5	
Seats	Well-upholstered seats	300	0.56	168	
Audience	seated in upholstered seats	500	0.8	400	
		Total Absorption		9034.5	
		Reverbation Time		1.12	

**ABSORBTIVE**



**ROOM VOLUME: 205800**

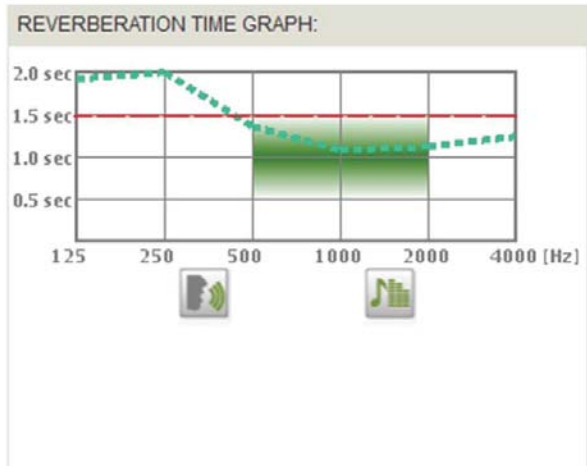
**Total Absorption: 9431.5**

**Room Reverbation Time: 1.12    Surface Reverbation Time:1.06**

**Audience in Upholstered seats**

**ACOUSTIC ANALYSIS ARMSTRONG**

FREQUENCY:	125	250	500	1000	2000	4000
Recommended RT with proper treatment:			0.5-1.5	0.5-1.5	0.5-1.5	
Existing RT of the space:	1.91	2.35	1.35	1.08	1.11	1.24
SPACE SURFACES	PREDOMINANT MAT.	SF	OTHER		TREATMENT	
Wall 1	Thin plywood paneling	2100.0	Soundsoak 60 Wall Panels, 1050.0		-no-	
Wall 2	Thin plywood paneling	1260.0	Soundsoak 60 Wall Panels, 630.0		-no-	
Wall 3	Thin plywood paneling	2100.0	Soundsoak 60 Wall Panels, 1050.0		-no-	
Wall 4	Drywall (1/2" or 5/8")	1960.0	-no-		-no-	
Wall 5	Thin plywood paneling	150.0	Soundsoak 60 Wall Panels, 75.0		-no-	
Wall 6	Thin plywood paneling	150.0	Soundsoak 60 Wall Panels, 75.0		-no-	
Floor	Wood parquet on concrete	10290.0	-no-		-no-	
Ceiling	Drywall (1/2" or 5/8")	10290.0	Cortega, 8232.0		-no-	



**ARMSTRONG RECOMENDED Tr= 1.5 SEC**

**ARMSTRONG RECOMENDED Tr= 1.35 SEC**

**Result from**  
<http://www.armstrong.com/reverb/step.jsp>

STUDENT UNION BUILDING BALL ROOM  
**ACOUSTIC ANALYSIS**

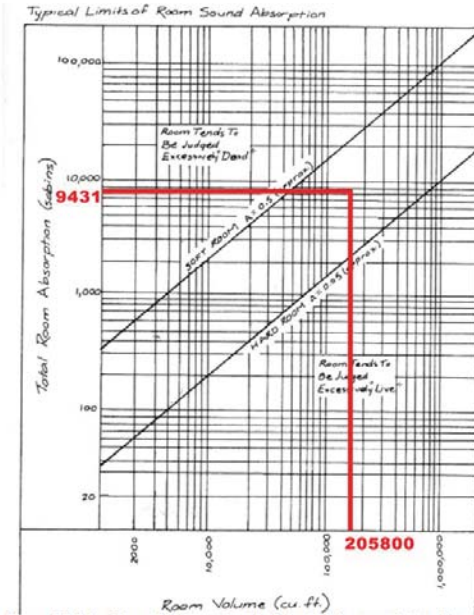


Figure E3.2.1 Room Liveness Graph. Adapted, by permission, from Flynn and Segil, *Architectural Interior Systems*, 66.

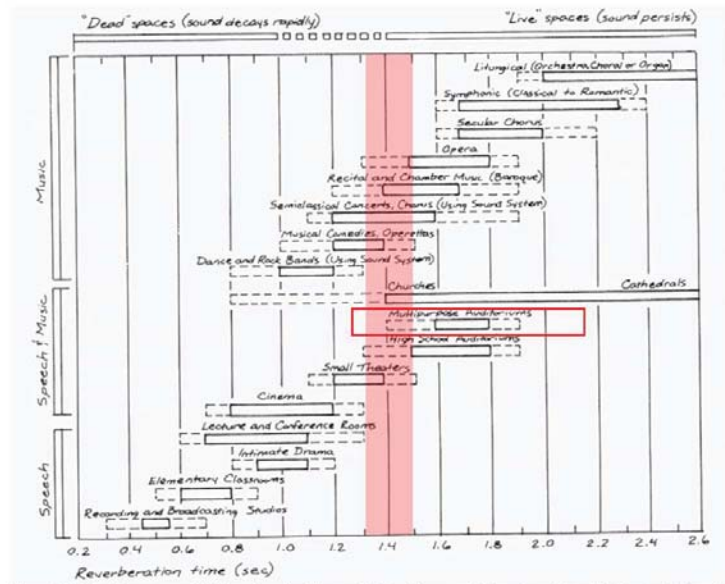
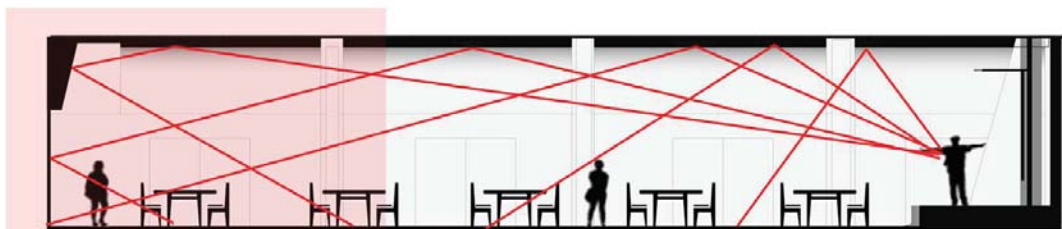


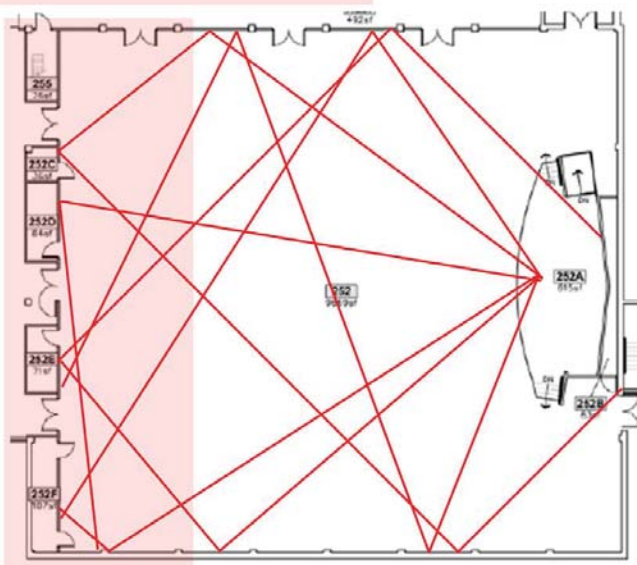
Figure E3.3.1 Recommended Reverberation Times. Adapted, by permission, from Egan, *Architectural Acoustics*, 64.

STUDENT UNION BUILDING BALL ROOM  
**ACOUSTIC ANALYSIS**

**RAY TRACING**



Section



Floor Plan

**As you can see from the plan and section, the back side of the room is not designed the best. Especially in the plan view, the room is big and the walls are causing the sound to reflect poorly**



**STUDENT UNION BUILDING BALLROOM  
ACOUSTIC ANALYSIS ACOUSTIC MATERIALS REDESIGN**



**+ THE ADJUSTMENTS NEEDED TO ACHIEVE AN ACOUSTICALLY BETTER ROOM WE SUGGEST MAKING SOME MINOR CHANGES TO THE STUDENT UNION BALLROOM. FIRST, REPLACING A MAJORITY OF OF THE ABSORTIVE CEILING MATERIAL WITH REFLECTIVE CEILING TILE. SECOND, THE ADDITION OF ELECTRONIC SPEAKERS AT THE REAR OF THE ROOM WILL HELP TO FULFILL A FULLER AND MORE COMPLETE SOUND.**

**STUDENT UNION BUILDING BALL ROOM  
ACOUSTIC ANALYSIS**

**REFLECTIVE**



Room(Full Occupancy)@ 500 Hz		Area (sq. ft)	Absorbency	Absorption(S)
Surface	Material			
Ceiling	dry wall	10200	0.05	510
Ceiling, Reflective	Gypsum, smooth finish	7000	0.02	140
Ceiling, absorptive	Acoustic CMU	1200	0.52	624
Side Wall	plywood panels	2100	0.05	105
Side Wall, absorptive	soundsoak wall panels	1050	0.6	630
Rear Wall, lower	Drywall	1950	0.05	97.5
Front wall	plywood panels	1250	0.52	650
Front wall, absorptive	soundsoak wall panels	600	0.6	360
Floor	Wood	9700	0.1	970
Stage Opening	Draped absorbing material	1000	0.88	880
Audience	seated in upholstered seats	9650	0.1	965
	Volume (cu. Ft.)	Total Absorption		5931.5
Room Volume	205800	Reverberation Time		1.700109584
Room(Half-Occupancy)@500Hz				
Auditorium (less audience)				4966.5
Seats	Well-upholstered seats	300	0.56	168
Audience	seated in upholstered seats	500	0.8	400
		Total Absorption		5534.5
		Reverberation Time		1.82

**ABSORBTIVE**



**ROOM VOLUME: 205800**

**Total Absorption: 5931.5**

**Room Reverberation Time: 1.82    Surface Reverberation Time: 1.70**

**Audience in Upholstered seats**

**STUDENT UNION BUILDING BALL ROOM  
ACOUSTIC ANALYSIS AFTER REDESIGN**

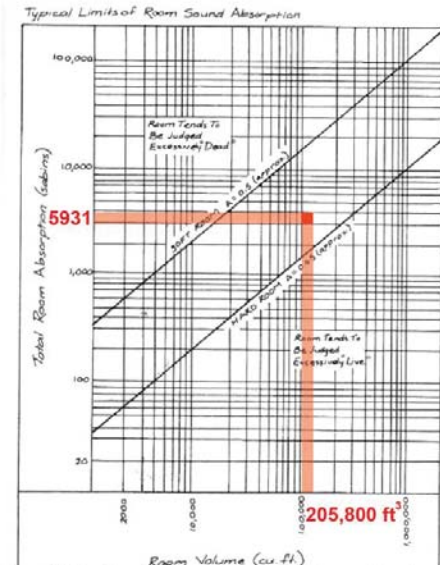


Figure E3.2.1 Room Liveness Graph. Adapted, by permission, from Flynn and Segil, *Architectural Interior Systems*, 66.

**+ BY ADJUSTING THE AMOUNT OF ABSORBITIVE AND REFLECTIVE MATERIALS IN THE BALLROOM WE HAVE IMPROVE THE ROOM'S TOTAL ABSORPTION FROM 9,431 TO 5,931**

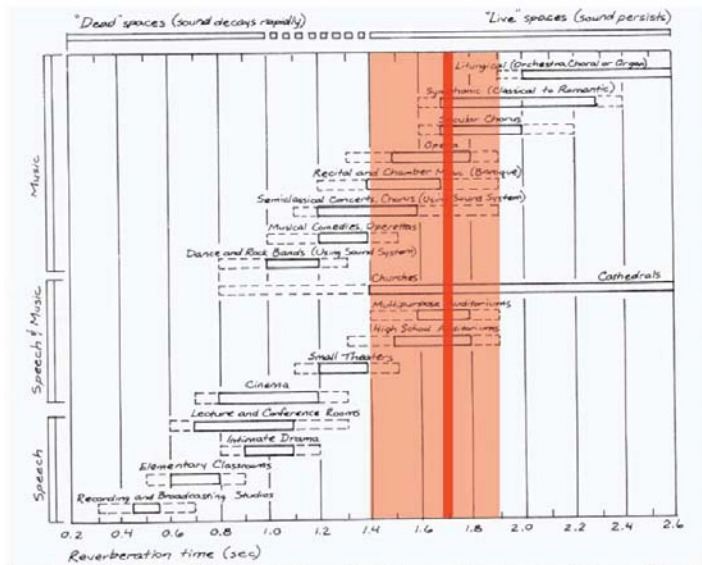


Figure E3.3.1 Recommended Reverberation Times. Adapted, by permission, from Egan, *Architectural Acoustics*, 64.

**+ ADJUSTING THE VOLUME OF THE STUDENT UNION BALLROOM COVERED BY ABSORBITIVE MATERIAL HAS HELPED US TO REACH A MORE APPROPRIATE REVERBERATION TIME OF 1.70 SECONDS FOR A MULTI-PURPOSE SPACE**

**STUDENT UNION BUILDING BALLROOM  
ACOUSTIC ANALYSIS CONCLUSION**



**+ OUR INITIAL INVESTIGATION OF THE STUDENT UNION BALLROOM, AS WELL AS THE INSIDE OUT EXERCISES HAVE ALLOWED US TO DETERMINE THAT THE ROOM'S CURRENT CONDITIONS DO NOT PERFORM IDEALLY FOR A MULTIPURPOSE ROOM OF ITS SIZE BECAUSE THE ACOUSTIC MATERIALS ARE TOO ABSORBITIVE, DISALLOWING SOUND TO REVERBERATE THROUGH THE ROOM IN AN APPROPRIATE TIME.**

**+ OUR SOLUTION TO THE BALLROOM'S REVERBERATION ISSUES ARE SIMPLE. IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE BETTER SOUND QUALITY IN THE SUB BALLROOM ROUGHLY 85% OF THE ABSORBITIVE CEILING MATERIAL NEEDS TO BE REPLACED WITH A SMOOTH FINISH GYPSUM THAT ALLOWS MORE SOUND TO REFLECT FROM ITS SURFACE. IN ADDITION, ELECTRONIC SPEAKERS NEAR THE BACK OF THE ROOM WOULD PROVIDE A FULLER SOUND DURING PRESENTATIONS AND PERFORMANCES.**