

Uni students have always been enthusiastic active learners, and this year we have made progress in providing facilities for them to pursue their learning passions. Many alumni have fond memories of their Agora Day adventures, and Uni is committed to keeping that active learning spirit alive for the whole school year.

The Innovations in Learning fund provided a prototype active learning classroom this year, with technological and design advances to facilitate the experimental teaching and curriculum that Uni has embraced for decades. From mobile furniture to enhance collaborative learning to new technology designed to engage students to aesthetic updates to improve the learning environment, the new 106N marked a turning point in Uni's evolution.

The room provided such technology as a touchscreen TV and smartboard, moveable whiteboards, and upgrades such as carpeting to provide some soundproofing as well as to accommodate the reconfigurable furniture.

As Uni Director Jeff Walkington told The News-Gazette, "The students are able to produce knowledge, instead of consuming it. They come up with answers to present to each other. It's all more hands-on than receiving information."

Just a few short months after launching the new classroom, Uni received an anonymous \$1.25 million donation to the Innovations in Learning fund. The donation will be used to update Uni's classrooms and curriculum, including more active learning classrooms and a remodel of the chemistry lab, which has remained untouched since the 1960s. The magnitude of the donation will allow for additional innovations in curriculum, as well as open the door to modern and flexible spaces that will support Uni's mission in the future.

Donations to Uni help offset the fact that the school does not receive local property tax money, and relies heavily on the generosity of parents and alumni to maintain the educational excellence that Uni symbolizes.