**Question 13: Space**

*Task: Describe the unit’s needs for space and non-IT infrastructure.*

IAFS is housed in the University Club. Its administrative space includes several rooms on the building’s second floor: an office shared by the Program Manager and student assistants, offices for the Director and Assistant Director, and offices for the program’s two Academic Advisors. It also controls a suite on the basement level, which provides essential office space for non-tenure-track faculty and teaching assistants. The program shares the 27-person capacity classroom Club 6 with Jewish Studies as a program-controlled space. This designation allows for easy scheduling of seminar classes, Honors defenses, and small program meetings, but also necessitates an annual payment to OIT for technological support in the room.

IAFS has several primary interests in controlling more space within the University Club. The first involves program control over a larger room for program classes and special functions. Club 6 realistically reaches capacity around 18 people, yet the program’s 3000-level classes can enroll as many as 36 students. The room, then, can also only accommodate meetings of limited size. Adding a program-controlled classroom such as Club 4 with a fire-code capacity of 50 would make course scheduling significantly easier each semester and would lessen the challenge of reserving space far from the program’s headquarters for events and larger meetings.

Second, the program requires its academic advisors to remain in offices close to the program, and not in centralized location. Given the complexity of the IAFS curriculum and the need for continuous consultation and problem-solving between advisors and the program, keeping IAFS advising in close proximity to the IAFS program is a key concern (see Question 12: Staffing).

Third, students, faculty, and staff continue to lament the absence of a common area for students to socialize and support one another. Moreover, faculty offices are dispersed across campus in cognate departments and only a sliver of the major’s classes are offered within the building. Both realities create limited interaction among IAFS students. Program control over another classroom such as Club 10 (capacity of 20) could allow for the creation of a provisional lounge. A more permanent solution within the University Club, however, is still preferred to best improve program culture and student sense of belonging.