

When You Need To Be Able To Turn On A Dime: Strategies for Building a Flexible Library

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UCSD Biomedical Library Building Project: An Addition and Renovation

Current Library

- Built 1969
- Two story building
- 27,764 ASF
- 237 seats
- 210,000 volumes
- No group study rooms for patrons
- 1 training/staff conference room
- No 24 hour access zone

Finished Project

- Expected completion 2006
- Two story building
- 51,094 ASF
- 900 seats
- 210,000 volumes
- 20+ group study rooms for patrons
- 3 training/staff conference rooms
- 24 hour access zone

Construction Project anticipated: July 2004 – September 2006

Architects

- Hardy Holzman Pfeiffer Associates LLP
- Cost: \$17.8 million

Primary Population Served by the Library

- School of Medicine : 700 faculty, 1100 students
- School of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences: 21 faculty, 165 students
- Division of Biological Sciences: 70 faculty, 2453 students
- UCSD Healthcare: 500 residents, 2500 staff, 2000 voluntary faculty

Guiding Principles for the Project:

Make the Library a Beacon

- Provide access from North and South
- Use a breezeway to increase traffic
- Create potential 24 hour access zone
- Emphasize the signature roofline

Create Adaptable Learning Spaces

- Design abundant open space
- Make room sizes modular (our rooms are based on 110 ASF modules)
- Install lights and doors to allow for change
- Pay careful attention to light levels

Design for Redesign

- Construct floors for compact shelving expansion (the floor load must be able to accommodate expansion)
- Put utilities, elevator, and telecom in a central core
- Install high ceilings throughout
- Keep HVAC vents off the floor

Provide Ubiquitous Infrastructure

- Install data and electric everywhere
- Use wireless friendly materials
- Trench floor for future expansion
- Put in extra electrical circuits

Facilitate Reconfiguration

- Design a modular service desk
- Use low shelving for smaller collections
- Minimize built-in units
- Purchase standardized furniture
- Install generic signs

Additional information is available at <http://scilib.ucsd.edu/bml/building>

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