Library Space: Dimensions of the Imagination

Michael D. Miller
ALCTS Midwinter Symposium 2011
Stories

✦ Changes to technology
✦ Changes to collections
✦ Changes to space
✦ Changes to service
✦ Changes to staff
✦ Changes to perceptions
✦ Changes to mission
California Polytechnic State University

Member, California State University system

Located on the Central Coast

Master's institution

19,000 students, mostly undergraduate

Polytechnic curriculum - Engineering, Architecture, Science, Agriculture

“Learn by Doing”
Robert E. Kennedy Library
Opened 1980
220,000 sq. ft.
5 Floors
- no renovation over 30 years
- built for 12,000 students
- pre-digital construction
Building Status

• Program Plan resubmitted to State in 2008 for 120,000 sq. ft. expansion
  • Still unfunded and waiting
  • Completion 5 years?
• Main building renovation postponed
  • Program plan will wait for the addition
  • Completion 15 years?

What to do?
Changes to Collections

Paper to digital
- creates new possibilities

✓ Reduce duplication
  ✓ Own it once
  ✓ Favor online access

✓ Aggressive weeding
✓ Highlight the unique
The Plan

- Differentiate use by floor
  - 1st and 2nd floors: busy, noisy use; service points; group study; no stacks
  - 3rd floor: mixed use; half stacks, half group study
  - 4th and 5th floors: posted as quiet space; stacks, individual tables and carrels
The Plan (con.)

- Invest in changes to 1st & 2nd floors
  - Eliminate stacks on 2
  - Create
    - 24 Hour Space
    - Café
    - Collaboration Spaces
- Change furniture on upper floors to suit program

- Investment needs to pay off within 10-15 years
- Refurnish, don’t renovate
- Add power where possible
Changes to Space
Changes to Space
Types of Space

- 24 Hour Space
  - Active space
  - Quiet space
  - Computer lab
- Collaboration Spaces
- Social Spaces
- Public Spaces
- Labs & Classrooms
KENNEDY LIBRARY RENOVATION PLANS

NEW COMFY COUCHES!

8 NEW STUDY ROOMS!

TAKE A BREAK AT OUR NEW CAFE!

MORE STUDYING SPACE!

COMING FALL 2008
Collaboration Rooms

- 16’ x 20’ modular room w/sliding door
- Movable tables & chairs
- Whiteboards
- Flat Panel Display
- Power in walls & floor
Collaboration Space

Project based learning needs project space.
Social Space

- Café area
- Mostly round tables
- Couches
- Art on walls
- Installed AV system
Science Café

“Freshly Brewed Science”

JURASSIC BEER
Brewing a 45 Million Year old Beer
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10
3:30 – 5:00 PM
FEATURING
DR. RAUL CANO,
Professor Emeritus
Biological Sciences, Founding Scientist of Amergene
Corporation and Founder & Director of the
Environmental Biotechnology Institute

CAL POLY SCIENCE CAFÉ PRESENTS
WEDNESDAY, MAY 12TH, 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.
Kennedy Library 2nd Floor Café Lounge
FREE — All are welcome — Refreshments will be served
VISIT lib.calpoly.edu/sciencecafe
freshly brewed science, arts & humanities
Become a fan!
Public Space

- Take advantage of natural light
- Comfortable seating
- Clusters of furniture
- Movable
- Exhibit space
Public Space

Being alone in public.
Exhibits

Typing in public
Friday May 14th
11am - 2pm
2nd floor
Kenny

NISEI DIPLOMA PROJECT
Stories from Cal Poly Polytechnic State University

CHISMEARTE
A PUBLICATION OF THE CONDOR DE ARTES POPULAR
SUMMER ISSUE - VOL. 2, NUMBER 1

MARS WITHIN REACH
ARCTIC MELLODY AND SCIENCE FROM THE RED PLANET
NOVEMBER 7 - JANUARY 12

Image courtesy of University Archives, Cal Poly SLO
readinginpublic.com
Labs & Classrooms
Changes to Service

*Space for scholars – not just for collections*

- Supporting how scholars work now
- Academic event & exhibit space
- Active, dynamic environment responsive to user needs
Changes to People
Shifting skill requirements

- **Collections:**
  - Licensing
  - Negotiating
  - Rights management
  - Scanning operations

- **Services:**
  - Web developers
  - Usability testers
  - Marketing
  - Event coordination
  - Assessment
  - Media producers
Changes to Perception

**Science Café** – breaking college silos

Creating environments where students can be productive

**Exhibits** – discovery across disciplines

Provost says…

“The library is the living room of the University.”

Voted “Best Study Place” last 4 years

Library considered a “Common Good”
Common Good at Cal Poly

Common Good units are those that:

- Enrich the intellectual or cultural life of Cal Poly and the entire region;
- Support the academic mission of the University and foster life-long learning;
- Enhance the University's value to the community by being open to everyone;
- Rely on financial support from the University, alumni and friends.

http://lib.calpoly.edu/about/commongood.html
Changes to mission

Importance of community

Innovation in service

• Bringing colleges together
• Fostering interdisciplinary learning
• Reaching out to the local community
  • OLLI at Cal Poly
• Managing space for the campus
Strategic Themes

Advancing Scholarship
– Enhancing Discovery
– Supporting Knowledge Creation & Sharing

Innovation
– Collaboration
– Experimentation

Connecting Communities
– Across Disciplines & Professions
– Cal Poly & Beyond

Citizenship
– Inclusive Excellence
– Sustainability
One Story

- Changes to technology
- Changes to collections
- Changes to space
- Changes to service
- Changes to people
- Changes to perceptions
- Changes to mission
Questions?

Coffee banned from library premises

You kids need to calm down. Also, no more pizza.

Read about the now Coffee Law

Photo by sleepyneko at http://www.flickr.com/photos/ejchang/3327411688/