

University of Massachusetts Medical School
eScholarship@UMMS

Library Posters and Presentations

May 2003

Managing a Library Renovation Project: A Team Approach

Mary E. Piorun
University of Massachusetts Medical School

Et al.

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

Follow this and additional works at: https://escholarship.umassmed.edu/lib_postpres



Part of the [Library and Information Science Commons](#)

Repository Citation

Piorun ME, Lucia D. (2003). Managing a Library Renovation Project: A Team Approach. Library Posters and Presentations. Retrieved from https://escholarship.umassmed.edu/lib_postpres/8

This material is brought to you by eScholarship@UMMS. It has been accepted for inclusion in Library Posters and Presentations by an authorized administrator of eScholarship@UMMS. For more information, please contact Lisa.Palmer@umassmed.edu.



Managing a Library Renovation Project: A Team Approach

The Lamar Soutter Library, University of Massachusetts Medical School

Overview

By the mid-nineties The Lamar Soutter Library was in desperate need of beautification and updating to accommodate the current advances in technology. In 1998, the first team was formed to look at the condition of the Library and recommend both short and long term improvements. Four years and five teams later, the Library has undergone a complete renovation with new furniture, paint, carpet, computer instruction area, audiovisual viewing room, and an improved layout that better serves the electronic access needs of Library patrons and creates a better working environment for Library staff.



Old Reference Desk



New Reference Desk



Old Circulation Desk



New Circulation Desk



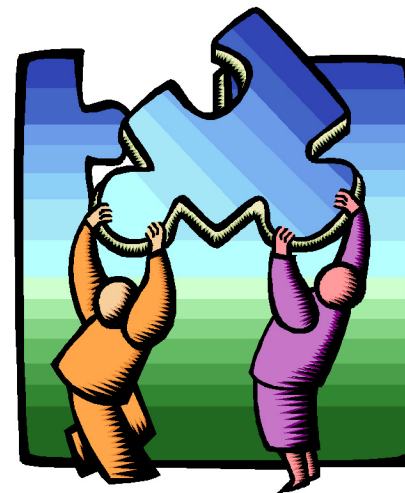
Facts and Figures

The Lamar Soutter Library is a mid-size academic health science library that houses 280,000 volumes. The Library occupies 41,000 square feet within the medical school and employs 52 full time employees. The renovated Library has 119 public access workstations and a wireless network with 25 laptops available for checkout. There are two public service points in the Library, a Circulation Desk and a Reference Desk which accommodate approximately 400,000 visitors a year. The Library has been using a team-based approach to operational problem solving since 1998.

Medical Library Association
Annual Meeting 2003, San Diego, CA
Deanna Lucia, MSLIS and Mary Piorun, MSLS, AHIP

Team

**A group of people collaborating
in their professional work,
or in some enterprise or assignment
to achieve a common goal or outcome.**




**Facilities Team
1998 - 1999**




Identified facility issues for remodel.
Composed of: Library Staff

**Space Study Team
1999 - 2000**




Evaluated options for Library growth and modernization.
Composed of: School Administration

**Remodel Planning Team
2000-2001**



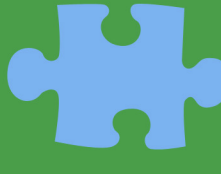
Designed new layout and aesthetics
Composed of: architects,
Library staff and facilities

**Remodel Follow Up Team
2002-2003**



Identify unresolved issues and determine solutions
Composed of: Library Staff

**Remodel Implementation Team
2001-2002**



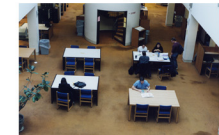
Executed plan for Library's new design
Composed of: Library staff, facilities

Conclusion

The renovation improved the Library's physical space by providing patrons with more seating options, better lighting and increased accessibility to the Library's collection and resources. The renovation provided staff with work areas that are centralized by department and a more open work environment that is conducive to collaboration.



Old Study Tables



New Study Tables



Old Computing Area



New Computing Area



The renovation was also successful because the team-based approach to its management made faculty, staff and students feel like they were included in the decision making process throughout the project. Having staff members from every department involved in all of the various teams allowed each department's specific needs to be considered during each step of the project. Involving Library staff in the decision making process resulted in staff buy-in to the project and has given staff a sense of ownership for the "new" Library. This sense of ownership is reflected in the new sense of pride in the Library and interest in its upkeep shown by all faculty staff and students.