



**Duke University School of Medicine**

**Library Space Planning Committee**

## **Appendix A**

**Library Space Planning Committee Charge**

## **Duke University School of Medicine**

### **Medical Center Library Space Planning Committee**

#### **Charge**

Develop recommendations for alternate uses of Medical Center Library space over the next 5 to 15 years that would expand, enhance or augment educational programs and activities at Duke, as opposed to solving existing space issues. The Committee should consider the following:

- The transfer of the print collections (books and journals) to Duke's preservation quality storage facility, the Library Service Center
- The reallocation of space now used for stacks and other functions to support new and future activities within the facility
- 1998 Granary Associates report on refurbishment of the current facility
- Trends in health sciences and academic libraries concerning the use of space, off-site, storage
- Visiting other schools and library facilities and, seeking input from external sources/experts as appropriate

The Committee will provide a written report to the Vice Dean for Education stating its concrete recommendations for the future utilization of library space, including information on the specific costs for renovating or refitting the space.

#### **Rationale for Rethinking Library Space**

Technologies are changing how people use information resources and library facilities. With the advent of distributed networks and online resources, students, faculty and staff can have access to many resources from the point of need – in the classroom and research lab, and from the bedside or clinical setting. With remote access, library users are also finding it more efficient to work from their offices and homes.

The Duke University Medical Center Library has seen a decrease in the number of people coming into the library and in using the traditional print resources. A common response to user surveys is that the “best thing about the library is that I do not have to come to the library.” Those that do come to the Library are using technologies to tap into online resources and are using the facility for individual and group study.

There has also been a shift in how the Library delivers service. In-depth consultation services are replacing the traditional reference desk service. These sessions usually involve training, as well as the identification of relevant resources and searching various databases. Educational services have become more customized as well and are often delivered on-site within the clinical, research or classroom setting. The Library has learned that is most effective when it reaches out to the DUMC community and leaves its four walls.

The Library's Website has become the new virtual library for many users. The organization and presentation of e-resources on the Website are becoming more and more important as users have less time to come to the physical library and need to work from remote locations. Most services and resources can now be delivered by Internet technologies. The focus has become how to organize the Web-based resources for efficient use by the wide-variety of users.

In addition to these changes within the Library, Duke University's new Library Service Center (LSC) allows DUMC/SOM/SON to rethink its library space without losing access to its rich research collection. The LSC is a preservation quality storage facility designed for the long-term storage, preservation and fast retrieval of books, journals and document collections. MCL has the ability to move older and less utilized materials to the storage facility and retrieve them as needed. The means that space currently dedicated to stacks can be redesigned for other uses.

In its deliberations the task force should consider the following:

- The role of technology in education and access to information resources
- Possible integration of educational and classroom functions into the facility
- The increased need for informatics training and knowledge
- More collaborative and team-based approaches to learning, research, and patient care
- The integration of e-resources, of all types, with other systems, programs, and processes within DUMC
- Continued role of quiet study and research space
- The role of more informal social and group spaces within a library setting
- Continued need for Library staff space, including processing, delivery of services, and work with library patrons
- The need to have print materials available on-site as opposed to 12 to 24 hour retrieval from off-site locations
- Paper will continue to play a role for some current publications for at least next 5 to 10 years and most e-journals only started in the late 1990's and do not have extensive backup
- It is highly unlikely that large amounts of medical literature published 20 to 30 years ago will ever be available online
- There is still high demand for accessing the journal literature that is older than 10 years old (most often post 1970)