Design for Learning:
Success in Creating Library Instruction Classrooms
Paul Glassman
Felician College
Developing a proposal

- Include a rationale for the project.
- Outline benefits.
- Improve odds for funding and approval.
- Identify users.
- Suggest planning group.
- Identify the client(s).
The architectural program

- Provides scope and parameters
- Lists functional requirements
- States the problem, not the solution
- Quantifies rather than qualifies
Benefits of an interior architect

- Asks questions client may not think of
- Coordinates the construction schedule
- Supervises construction
- Estimates cost with accuracy
- Is familiar with sources for equipment and materials
- Can develop specifications for equipment and materials
Space inventory

- Helps identify options and possibilities
- Lists features, such as square footage, geometry, structural and spatial intrusions, lighting, ceiling heights, level of HVAC, condition of surfaces
Essential components of the smart classroom

- Computer work station for each student
- Proctor station for instructor
- Projection equipment
- VCR, DVD player, stereo receiver & speakers
- Storage for supplies
- Multi-media cart
- Printer and printer stand
- White board
Standard projection option

- LCD (data) projectors
- Suspension from the ceiling allows for better sight lines, a direct projection angle, and preservation of calibration.
- Replacement bulbs are costly.
Alternate projection option

- LCD television monitor
- Small screen is suitable for small classrooms only.
- Aspect ratio often needs adjustment.
- Background images are sometimes erased.
- May be positioned on a multi-media cart.
- A separate lectern for the keyboard is essential, so that the monitor is not blocked by the instructor.
- Maintenance costs are minimal.
First spatial prototype

- **Fixed seating**
- Must include adequate space between rows
- May impede communication between students and instructor if large monitors are selected
Second spatial prototype

- Flexible or clustered seating
- Allows students to work in smaller groups
- Facilitates discussion
- May be achieved through trapezoidal tables on wheels
Third spatial prototype

- **Stadium seating**
- Provides better sight lines
- Requires adequate space between rows
- Needs work station at entry level for ADA compliance
Anthropomorphic data

- Developed by industrial designer Henry Dreyfuss
- Useful for mock-ups of space between rows
White boards

- Do not locate behind projection screen.
- Interactivity is provided by SMART Technologies.
- Select between SMART Board and Sympodium.
**Lectern**

- Consider location carefully.
- Position to side so as not to block screen.
- Position in center to achieve equidistance.
- Be cautious of catalog options.
Classroom management software

- Controls hands-on experience
- Broadcasts information to individuals or entire class
- Serves as disciplinary tool
Lighting

- Ambient
- Task
- Reflected ceiling plan
- Placement of light switches
- Rheostatic controls
- Separate controls for ambient and task lighting
Power

- Install outlets near each station.
- Customized furnishings often include outlets.
- Power outlets and data jacks are usually integral.
- Remember to provide power for the printer.
Heating, ventilating & air conditioning (HVAC)

- Most spaces were designed for lower heat loads.
- Computer equipment more than doubles the heat load.
- A dedicated thermostat is a welcome feature.
Types of work stations
Desktop computers

- Modularity
- Lower cost
- Consume more area
- Obtrusive monitors
Types of work stations

Laptop computers

- Smaller footprints
- Fewer cords
- Reconfiguration of space easier
- Closeable covers
- Short battery life
- Difficulty of internal mice
- Fixed relation between monitor & keyboard
Maintenance

- Technology services
- Housekeeping
Conclusion

- Increasing engagement by library administrator in space planning & design
- Benefits of thorough information gathering
- Wisdom of doubling the time anticipated