The Academic Commons
Dedication Celebration
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Main Level, Mudd Center
Oberlin College
Friday, September 28, 2007
4:30 - 5:00 p.m.
Presiding

Ray English
Director of Libraries

Speakers

Sebastiaan Faber
Associate Professor of Hispanic Studies,
Chair, General Faculty Library Committee

Ann Sherif
Associate Professor of Japanese, Member,
Academic Commons Planning Committee

Cynthia Murnan
Director of Client Services,
Center for Information Technology

John F. Hedge
DesignGroup Architects, Columbus, Ohio

Courtney Merrell
Student

Marvin Krislov
President of Oberlin College
Donors to the Academic Commons

Oberlin College gratefully acknowledged the following donors to the Academic Commons project:

Anonymous alumnus
Mimi Halpern ’60
William G. Roe ’64
Sarah Sharpe ‘82 (The Sharpe Family Foundation)
Estate of Richard and Geraldine ’42 Meyer
Anne ’62 and Charles ’64 McFarland
Madeleine M. Anderson
The Academic Commons

The Academic Commons is designed to provide coordinated research, information, technology, and learning assistance for Oberlin students, and to facilitate academic community on campus.

Key features of the Commons include:

- A central service desk for reference and technology assistance
- Six group study rooms designed for multiple academic purposes, including the Writing Center, peer counseling, tutoring, and ad hoc groups
- A variety of collaborative seating for small group work and laptop use
- Thirty public-use workstations for library research and other computing functions
- An electronic classroom for library and other learning support instruction; the classroom becomes an open computer lab when not used for instruction
- A multimedia presentation area with equipment for creating multimedia projects of various kinds
- Redesigned space for circulation, interlibrary loan, and reserve functions; consolidated video collection; reserve collection on moveable compact shelving
- A current reading area that features displays of popular periodicals and newspapers, new library books, new faculty books, and a leisure reading collection
- Comfortable lounge furniture in various locations
- Enhanced wireless connectivity

Azariah’s Café, located in the southeast corner of the main level adjacent to the current reading area, has a seating capacity of sixty, including booths, café tables, and lounge chairs.

Architects: DesignGroup, Columbus, Ohio
Project cost: $1.5 million
Academic Commons Floor Plan
Academic Commons Planning Committee

Ray English
   Director of Libraries
Jane Boomer
   Coordinator of Services for Students with Disabilities
Albert Borroni
   Director of OCTET (Oberlin Center for Technologically Enhanced Teaching)
Alan Boyd
   Associate Director of Libraries
John Bucher
   Director of the Center for Information Technology
Allison Choat
   Student
Leo Evans
   Project Manager, Facilities Planning and Construction
Jessica Grim
   Reference Librarian and Instruction Coordinator
Rebecca Karasick
   Student
Shozo Kawaguchi
   Associate Dean of Students for Community Life
Cindy Murnan
   Director of Client Services, Center for Information Technology
Ann Sherif
   Associate Professor of Japanese, General Faculty Library Committee Representative
Fred Zwegat
   Director of Audiovisual Services
Planning Subcommittees

Services, Staffing, and Management

Jessica Grim
Jane Boomer
Albert Borroni
Allison Gallaher
   Head of Circulation, Main Library
Cynthia Murnan
Kathryn Stuart
   Dean of Studies
Fred Zwegat

Constituent Input

Haipeng Li
   Reference Librarian and Outreach Services Coordinator
Albert Borroni
Jessica Grim
Shozo Kawaguchi
Scott Saluga
   Client Support Analyst,
   Center for Information Technology

Mudd Center Space Planning

Alan Boyd
John Bucher
Cynthia Comer
   Head of Reference and Instruction
Ray English
Allison Gallaher
Café

Mark Bates
  Associate Vice President for Finance
Ray English
Gary Kornblith
  Professor of History
Michele Gross
  Director of Dining Services and Business Operations, Division of Student Life
Rick Panfil
  General Manager, Campus Dining Services

Academic Commons Website Project Team

Alan Boyd
Xi Chen
  East Asian and Web Development Librarian
Megan Mitchell
  Reference Librarian and Electronic Services Coordinator