

RENOVATING A LIBRARY FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

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THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SOUTHWESTERN MEDICAL CENTER AT DALLAS LIBRARY

The UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas Library occupies a building completed in 1974. By the mid-1990s, many aspects of the building were obsolete. To accommodate changes in medical education and information technology, the Library was renovated between 1998 and 2001. The renovation goals are listed here and illustrated with post-renovation photos and with plans of the Main Floor.

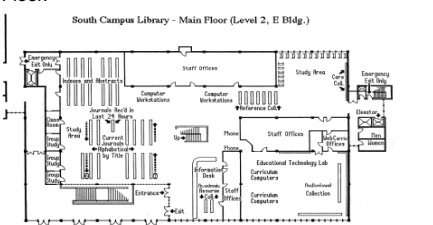
PANORAMIC VIEW INTO LIBRARY FROM ENTRANCE AFTER RENOVATION



Relocate the Information Desk close to the new entrance/exit and Computer Commons.

Make the service and collection locations more visible to clients as they enter.

Improve traffic flow at entrance. Provide lounge seating near entrance.



ORIGINAL PLAN OF MAIN FLOOR

NEW PLAN OF MAIN FLOOR



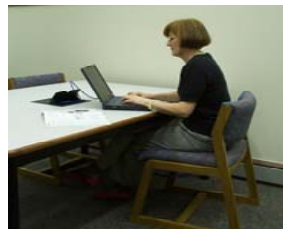
Create a Computer Commons adjacent to the Information Desk, and near the Library entrance.



Provide an Informatics Classroom suitable for a variety of teaching situations.



Create spacious group study rooms for collaborative learning among students. Seventeen group study rooms were built. The average size is 12.5 ft. by 12.5 ft.



Make power and network connections widely available. Every study carrel and many study tables now have pop-up power and network boxes.



For maximum flexibility in staff areas, remove permanent walls to create open offices. Use freestanding furniture to enclose staff workstations.



Create Privacy Rooms near open staff offices, to provide spaces for informal meetings or private phone calls. Average room size is 11 ft. by 11 ft.