Library Renovation Update

Thank you for your continued patience as Galter Health Sciences Library & Learning Center undergoes its first major renovation in over twenty years. When the renovation is complete, we will have improved spaces for students and library staff, an expanded 24/7 study space, a new computer classroom, and a more inviting and appealing environment for study and research.

What's Happening Right Now?

December 2019

The Eckenhoff Reading Room will be closed for renovation beginning December 21, 2019 and will reopen in the weeks after we return from winter recess. During this time, we welcome you to use the newly renovated areas on the first floor of the library in the Searle Reading Room and surrounding areas, the Mezzanine study areas, and the West Reading Room and Dollie’s Corner on the second floor. The new areas provide a range of additional seating options, 18 public computers, study carrels, and print stations. The newly expanded seating capacity more than offsets the number seats in Eckenhoff, so we don’t expect any adverse effects to service or user experience with the temporary closure of that space.

Areas open to users:

- Searle Reading Room on the first floor (24/7 access)
- Newly renovated study spaces on and under the mezzanine
- The West Reading Room, Dollie’s Corner, and other study areas on the second floor

Areas closed to users:

- Eckenhoff Reading Room (closes December 21)
- Special Collections is closed until further notice. Limited historical reference services are available via email: ghsl-specialcollections@northwestern.edu. Please allow additional time for responses to requests.

Working Timeline

Work has already begun within the library and there will be construction in the library throughout most of 2019. The project is broken down into discrete phases to allow continued access to the library during construction. We appreciate your patience and understanding. Here is the working timeline for the project. We will update the timeline as the project progresses.

- **Winter 2018/19**: Construction of a new library computer training facility and a conference room on 2nd floor, construction of new student-centric space on mezzanine.
- **Spring 2019**: Physical connection to the Louis A. Simpson and Kimberly K. Querrey Biomedical Research Center via bridge, expansion of Special Collections and refurbishment of library staff workspaces on 2nd floor, and opening of new cafe in former Learning Resources Center teaching space on 1st floor.
Spring/Summer 2019: Expansion of 24/7 library space on 1st floor and refurbishment of study areas under mezzanine.

Summer 2019: Refurbishment of 2nd floor, including Dollie’s Corner, the West Reading Room, study areas, and conference (PBL) rooms; Construction of additional conference (PBL) rooms on 2nd floor.

Winter 2019/20: Refurbishment of the Eckenhoff Reference Room and library staff workspaces on 1st floor.

Questions About the Renovation

When will it get really noisy?

We are making every attempt to schedule the loudest work during early morning hours before most people visit the library. However, there will be times when it gets rather loud. Earplugs are available at the front desk.

Who should I contact if I have questions about the renovation?

Feel free to contact Galter Library Administration if you have questions.

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