

Principles for Enabling the Library

November 2015

The rethinking and redevelopment of the Neilson Library and Alumnae Gym will significantly alter the location and uses of existing spaces on campus, in what are called “enabling projects” – modest alterations that enable the renovation to happen. In some cases, these alterations will be temporary, in some cases they could be permanent. In all cases, various moves and enabling construction on campus will be complex and costly and we hope to satisfy as many short and long term interests in the process as we can. So in order to guide our investment of resources, the Provost, Facilities, and Planning teams have together established goals and guiding principles for moves and relocations that will enable the library project.

Goals of enabling projects:

1. All occupants and functions in Neilson Library and Alumnae Gymnasium must be relocated for the duration of the renovation project.
2. For those occupants and functions who will return to the renovated library complex, a temporary relocation must be implemented for the construction period.
3. For those occupants and functions who will not return, a permanent relocation must be implemented prior to construction.

Guiding principles:

1. The Neilson project cannot solve all existing campus planning challenges. However, in the enabling and relocation process, incremental progress towards long-term goals will be accomplished where possible. Identified problems that cannot be solved will be tracked for future capital and campus planning efforts and we will report back on that tracking to those who proposed them.
2. Functions that are permanently relocated will receive priority. Functions that are relocated to a new permanent home will receive the greatest consideration in attempts to meet their needs for size, campus location, co-location with colleagues, etc.
3. Functions that are temporarily moved (i.e. returning to the renovated Neilson) may be asked to compromise. Temporary spaces serving functions that will return to Neilson are likely not to meet the full needs and requirements of each stakeholder. Because these spaces are temporary and will receive a new home in the renovated Neilson, this condition needs to be considered acceptable. We will make every attempt to ensure that temporary

conditions are the best we can provide, within reason, and that the total number of moves for any one person or department are minimized.

4. All relocations will be at most one-for-one replacement of existing spaces. New space reprogramming of existing functions may occur during the relocation process but only when the result is a decrease in space. Because increases in square footage entail permanent allocations of resources, the college cannot make such increases via a relocation process, outside of the capital planning process, particularly for permanent relocations.
5. Space reductions, consolidations, and increases in intensity of use are encouraged. Where possible, resources may be made available to renovate spaces to become more flexible, technology-rich, or desirable, if such changes will result in increased usage and sharing, as well as an overall reduction in campus square footage – consistent with sustainable use of the campus. Such proposals will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.
6. Those being relocated temporarily should expect periphery siting as a likely outcome. It is not possible for all functions to be in the center of campus. It is also not possible for all functions to have ideal proximity to parking. These items may be considered in relocation planning but cannot be construed as governing criteria. We also note that relocations and redistributions of functions provide an opportunity to enliven the campus perimeter.