Big Changes, Big Moves, Smaller Footprints: Strategies for Rightsizing the Onsite Print Collection for the 21st Century Library

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Located throughout New York City’s five boroughs,

The City University of New York includes:

- 11 senior colleges
- 7 community colleges
- Macaulay Honors College
- 5 graduate and professional schools
- 273,000 degree-credit students

CUNY is the third-largest university system in the United States.
Hunter College

Founded 1870s as a women’s college
Main campus: Manhattan’s Upper East Side (68th & Lex)
Fully accredited institution of higher education
Academic programs cover more than a hundred fields

Bachelor and Master degree programs
Several CUNY doctoral programs

23,000 students enrolled
**HUNTER COLLEGE LIBRARIES**  (24 librarians)

- Leon and Toby Cooperman Library  (aka “main” library)

Branch libraries

- Health Professions Library

- Social Work & Urban Public Health Library

- Zabar Art Library  (main campus)
  opened 2008
  outside funding supported construction of additional shelving
  (e.g., photography book collection donation)
Pre-2014  the rumors begin

2014
new Student Success Center
“re-envisioning the Cooperman Library as a vibrant, multifaceted center for student learning in the 21st century”  --  Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Offsite storage
originally considered to be installed at Health Professions Library (E.25th Street)
impracticable (no news there)
too costly (NYC real estate!)
loss of browsing capability (especially relevant to N class)
Early 2014

N & P classifications on 7th floor to be shifted to 5th floor

Weeding (my preferred term = “pruning” - better analogy for collection health and growth)

Circulation reports loaded onto iPads for selector’s mobile use from within the stacks
(basic bibliographic info, Call #, Date of last return, Number of total loans,)

Date of acquisition

Physical condition / duplicate copies / reference titles

CUNY libraries holdings (31 libraries) & OCLC holdings

“Red dots” project / lesser use books shifted to B2 (269 books marked – time limits)

HC Administration provides funding to renovate unused Basement 2 floor to install 25,000 linear feet of compact shelving
March 2014

Clancy-Cullen contracted for collection shifting
6th and 7th floors closed
Keeping patrons informed –
Libraries website updated for regular updates on relocations and collection availability
Example of when administration, facilities, and libraries are communicating well
2017 – announcement that 5th floor to undergo complete renovation

Major review of bound journals
- each librarian “selector” assigned list of titles to review
- encouraged to complete task during spring recess
- administration provides funding to acquire e-journal access to replace and discard print volumes
- title runs designated for discard marked with blue tape and added to Serials Librarian’s spreadsheet
- departmental faculty feedback
  “poorer quality of reproduction associated with periodical interlibrary loan”
  Artnews bound holdings covering 1930 to 2015 be discarded?
  lesser academic significance?
  “the original magazine pages show how features, advertising, etc. related in very important ways”
  “11 feet is very valuable space in NYC”
- microfilm: Washington Post & Life magazine (large runs = e-journal); ILL test – turn-around time
- considerations: e-access, curriculum support, years covered
- art journal trimming results in gain of 62 LF

Summer: Clancy-Cullen moves the following from 5th floor to B2 compact shelving
N class (1862 LF) + P class + Bound journals = overall total 10,500 LF
bound serial “American Fabrics” covering 1947 to 1976 (OCLC: 1479831)
30 volumes
five linear feet
donated to the Museum of Modern Art Library
B2 floor compact shelving
----spacesaver.com-----
KLARA AND LARRY SILVERSTEIN STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER

6th floor (East Building)

**Bobbie & Lew Frankfort Education Library** (books LB5 – LC7501)

**Dorothy Keyger Center for the Macaulay Honors Program**

7th floor (East Building)

**Mary P. Dolciani Mathematics Learning Center**

**Elizabeth Hemmerdinger Screening Center**

**Dr. Murray & Anne C. Rokowitz Writing Center**

**Skirball Science Center**

An additional 590 available outlets!
Bobbie & Lew Frankfort Education Library (rendering)
5th floor  -- vacated early 2017; renovation pending

Goals:

• Consolidation of libraries administration spaces

• Create space for departmental faculty and librarian collaboration
e.g., curriculum development

• Compression of print storage to increase seating capacity

• (even more electrical outlets!!)

• Thank you for your time