Learning in a Library: Active Learning Classrooms & Odegaard Library

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• UW TOP 5 RESEARCH INSTITUTION IN THE USA
• 140 ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS IN VARIOUS SCHOOLS @ UW SEATTLE
• 32,000 UNDERGRADUATES (FALL 2016) @ UW SEATTLE
Odegaard Library

- ODEGAARD OPENED IN 1972 AS UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT SPACE & CENTER FOR LIBRARIES’ TEACHING AND LEARNING
- 10,000 STUDENTS VISIT PER DAY
- WEAR & TEAR
- CHANGING NEEDS
Stakeholders

**Office of the Provost**
- Office of Planning and Budgeting
- UW Architectural Commission

**Finance & Facilities**
- Capital Projects Office

**University Libraries**
- Odegaard Undergraduate Library
- Suzzallo and Allen Libraries
- Research Commons

**Undergraduate Academic Affairs**
- Classroom Support Services
  - Center for Teaching & Learning

**UW Information Technology**
- Classroom Technology & Events
- Learning Technologies
- Academic & Collaborative Applications
- Planning, Facilities & Data Centers

**Student government**
- Associated Students of the University of Washington
- Graduate & Professional Student Senate

**College of Arts and Sciences**
- Odegaard Writing and Research Center Faculty

**Student Life**
- Housing & Food Services
BEFORE

AFTER

Photos: Odegaard Library & Miller Hull
Phase 1 of Renovation

• $16.5 MILLION U.S., STATE FUNDED
• COMPLETED IN 2012-13
• GRAND RE-OPENING FALL 2013
• HONORS
  – AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS 2014 HONOR AWARD
  – LIBRARY JOURNAL “NEW LANDMARK LIBRARIES” 2016
Odegaard Library Services

• New Odegaard Writing & Research Center (16,000 consultations per year)
• Technology help for students, faculty & staff
• Library research & technology workshops
• Information & course reserves
ODEGAARD ACTIVE LEARNING CLASSROOMS

Need for active learning spaces

Teaching & learning orientation of Odegaard Library

24/5 Flex space

Photo: Miller Hull
ODEGAARD ACTIVE LEARNING CLASSROOMS

90 & 63-person classrooms

Tables of 9 with installed monitors, power for 9, connections to monitor, student mics

Instructor podium

Photo: UW-IT
ALC COURSES

Education
Environmental Studies
Chinese
Public Health
Biology
Comparative Literature
Psychology
Film Studies

150 courses taught since 2013

Photos: Elizabeth Wheat & Sara Lopez
STUDENT FEEDBACK ON THE RENOVATION: SURVEYS & OBSERVATION STUDY
What do students say about the renovation?

- 90% of Odegaard users are UW undergraduates
- 122% increase in number of library users post-reno
- Individual work space remains critically important, confirmed by both surveys
- 70/30% distribution of individual observed
What do students say about the renovation?

- 40% to 60% of students use personal devices (depending on time of day)
- Access to online/print collections, assistance from staff, lab computers, collaborative tools ranked as important or very important
ACTIVE LEARNING
CLASSROOM RESEARCH,
YEAR 1
2013-14
• What classroom features are effective in supporting active learning?

• What can we learn that could inform best practices for active learning strategies, appropriate support plans, and future classroom designs?
YEAR 1 RESEARCH METHODS

• Observations
• Faculty & student surveys
• Faculty focus groups

Photos: Odegard Library
FINDINGS

• Instructors need support before and during their quarter teaching in the ALC
• Learning to teach in an ALC takes time, motivates reflection on practice
• Instructors and students report greater engagement, participation, interaction with peers and with instructor
FINDINGS

• Students report greater gains in learning than instructors when comparing experience in ALC to traditional classroom
• Some features of the room were valued more highly than others by instructors and students
• Design of ALC makes some aspects of teaching and learning challenging
ACTIVE LEARNING
CLASSROOM RESEARCH,
YEAR 2
2014-15
Investigate the extent to which ALCs promote educational alliances (Baepler & Walker), including:

- Mutual Respect
- Shared Responsibility for Learning
- Effective Communication and Feedback
- Cooperation
- Trust and Security

COURSE PROFILES IN ACTIVE LEARNING

CHIN 102 Active Learning Profile, Nyan-Ping Bi

BIOL 401 Active Learning Profile, Dr. Alison Crowe

PSYCH 445 Active Learning Profile, Dr. Nicole McNichols

C LIT 397 Active Learning Profile, Dr. Stephen Groening

Photos: Courtesy of instructors
RESEARCH THEMES

• ALCs and instructor pedagogy encourage student preparation
• ALCs and instructor pedagogy encourage student accountability to instructors and peers
• ALCs and instructor pedagogy encourage classroom community
Year 1 research report
4 course profiles in active learning

guides.lib.washington.edu/activelearningclass

Photo: UW-IT
Links & References

Odegaard Renovation (Libraries website):
http://www.lib.washington.edu/ougl/renovation

Miller Hull Partnership page on renovation:

AIA Honor Awards for Interior Architecture 2014:
http://www.aia.org/practicing/awards/2014/interior-architecture/odegaard-library/


UW Television “Ode to Odegaard” video:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xBBZ_O-5K9s

Odegaard Active Learning Classrooms Research Reports and Pedagogy:
http://guides.lib.uw.edu/c.php?g=342298&p=2838500