4th Floor West Closed for Construction

As the Periodicals and Microforms reading rooms opened on the east side of the fourth floor, construction began on the rest of the floor. The west side of the fourth floor will reopen in summer 2001, completing the Philip L. Milstein Family College Library. When the final Milstein Reading Rooms open, the remaining books in the Milstein undergraduate book collection will be moved to their permanent locations on the fourth floor from temporary shelving in Rooms 503 and 504.

For your own safety, please do not enter the construction area. Please use the east elevators and stairs to reach Periodicals & Microforms in Room 401. Since there will be construction on the west side of the fourth floor through the Spring semester, please understand there will continue to be occasional noise, dust, and congestion in the first-floor hallways, stairwells, and adjacent areas. We appreciate your continued patience with the disruptions.

Plan of renovated fourth floor.

Periodicals & Microforms Merge and Move to 401

During the December 2000/January 2001 intersession, the Periodicals Reading Room moved from the third floor to newly renovated space on the fourth floor. Room 401 is also the permanent new home for the Microforms Reading Room, formerly housed in Room 501. The completion of the combined Periodicals & Microforms facility marks the realization of a long-term service improvement goal for Butler Library. Library patrons are now able to seek assistance with both the hard copy periodical collection and the microform collection at a consolidated service desk. All of the titles formerly located in the two reading rooms are now housed.
Periodicals & Microforms Merge and Move to 401, continued

together. The periodicals reading area overlooks the campus and includes shelving for all 1,900 currently received magazines and more than 25 newspapers. The entire microform collection of nearly 900,000 items, including microfiche, microcards, microprints, and reels of microfilm, has been relocated to the fourth floor. The most frequently used portion of the microfilm/microfiche collection is now stored in a room connected to the microform reading area and is accessible to readers. Less frequently used microforms can be paged for readers within a few minutes.

The new space has been fully renovated and includes new furniture with power and data feeds, armchair seating, and 18 microform reader/printer machines at specially designed individual carrels. The photocopy machine is now located in an alcove opposite the service desk. Staff offices are conveniently located along the interior wall. Wood bookcases and paneling contribute to the warm atmosphere. Lighting in the new space has been tailored to the special needs in the microforms space with the addition of dimmers and individual task lights for each station. Abundant natural light and energy efficient up/down light fixtures combine to provide pleasant, high quality illumination for readers in the periodicals area. New heating and air conditioning contribute to the comfort of this space. We are pleased to open this lovely, functional, comfortable, permanent home for the Periodicals & Microforms services. Please be sure to stop by and visit Room 401 when you are next in Butler Library.

Three-dimensional building models on the third floor at the top of the grand staircase help visitors locate essential library services. It was especially challenging to find a way to show the spatial relationships between the 15 stack levels and the 9 perimeter floors surrounding the stack core. Also depicted is the unusual second floor location of the building's main entrance.

Phase 3 Construction (July 2000–June 2003)

Completed January 2001:
- Periodicals & Microforms Reading Rooms, fourth floor
- Additional Philip L. Milstein Family College Library Reading Room (open 24 hours during Fall and Spring terms), third floor

Summer 2001 Construction:
- Completion of fourth floor Reading Rooms and Philip L. Milstein Family College Library
- West passenger elevator
- Stack Levels 9 and 10
- Libraries Administration and Meeting Rooms, fifth floor

Ahead for 2002 and 2003:
- Graduate Reading Rooms, fifth and sixth floors
- Electronic Publishing Initiative at Columbia (EPIC)
- Columbia Center for New Media Teaching and Learning (CCNMTL)
- Stack Level 11

Please feel free to direct your comments or questions to:
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Consult our new Web site:
www.columbia.edu/cu/web/indiv/butler_ren for "This Week's Work" and more information about the Butler Library renovation.