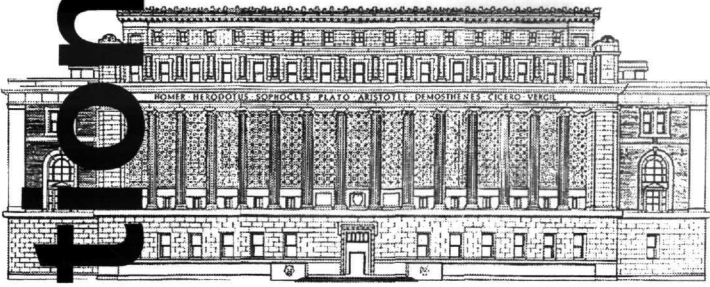


Renovation News



Butler Library Renovation

Columbia University Libraries
Butler Renovation News
October 2001
v. III, no. 2

Philip L. Milstein Family College Library Completed!

As the Fall 2001 academic year gets under way, the Philip L. Milstein Family College Library in Butler Library has been completed. The newest spaces, located on the fourth floor, opened in July. Before the last book was moved onto the new shelves, several students were already studying at the new tables and carrels, feeling right at home in this most recent addition to the Butler Renovation. Now the finishing touches are falling into place in time to greet Columbia's returning and new students, faculty, and staff. We are delighted with the results and hope you will be too!

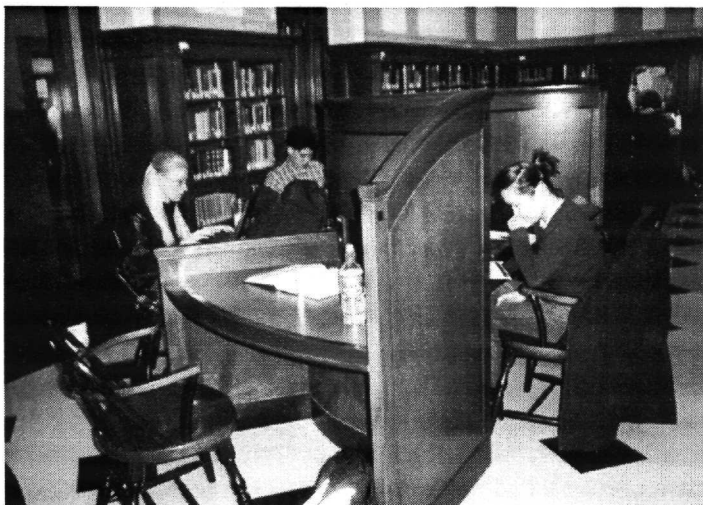
The Philip L. Milstein Family College Library ("Milstein," as it is commonly known) spans the second, third, and fourth floors of Butler. It includes reading rooms of varying sizes, each with open study tables, individual carrels, and lounge chair seating. Also available are CNet and/or LibraryNet terminals, ample data/power connections for laptop users, a walk-in AcIS computing lab, networked JAKE printers, six new group study rooms, Butler Reserves, the Butler Media Center,

an Information Resources Training facility, and, of course, the Milstein collection of circulating books. There are more than 600 seats—all of which are available for 24-hour use during the Fall and Spring semesters. The fourth floor group study rooms will enhance the Libraries' study space options and we anticipate their frequent use.

From the outset, the Butler Renovation plan included the concept of creating an inviting library space to serve the needs of Columbia University undergraduates as one of the top priorities. Early in the planning process, students, faculty, and library staff at Columbia and at other institutions were consulted to help envision a library to support research and study and individual and collaborative work, while optimizing access to collections and services and combining the best of a comfortable traditional library atmosphere with the latest advantages of technology. All of this planning became "renovation reality" for library users starting in 1998, as parts of Butler's second floor closed for construction. Readers and staff found ways to work around the inevitable noise and inconvenience of the rebuilding process. Though renovation is still very much with us on the upper floors of Butler, at least now we can see the results of the occasional disturbances in many areas.

It is probably hard to recall—or even imagine for today's first-year student—that prior to renovation, when one entered Butler, only half of the second floor was "public space." In fact, what is now just one reading room in Milstein, Room 209, was the ENTIRE College Library and the only 24-hour library space available! Ever since the first of the Milstein spaces opened in the Fall of 1998, students have filled the increasing number of seats and made use of the workstations, services, and collections in record numbers.

What's in store for Milstein now that renovation is moving to other areas of Butler? The Libraries can now concentrate on refining and enhancing services located in these spaces. Butler Reserves, for example, is continuing to streamline its workflow to help get faculty reserve requests processed more quickly. Starting this semester, in addition to having an on-line database of the materials



Students hard at work in Room 202 of the Philip L. Milstein Family College Library.

continued on back

Philip L. Milstein Family College Library Completed!, continued

"on reserve" for courses, Butler Reserves is participating in digitizing the full text of selected items so students may use this material without waiting in line to check out a traditional paper copy. The Butler Media Center is enhancing its services too by adding digital video editing and multi-media development tools to some of its workstations. Laptop use is increasing in Butler. AcIS and the Libraries are working together to facilitate laptop printing to the many networked JAKE printers in Butler and elsewhere on campus. These are some of the service improvements, which would have been very unlikely in the pre-renovated Butler.

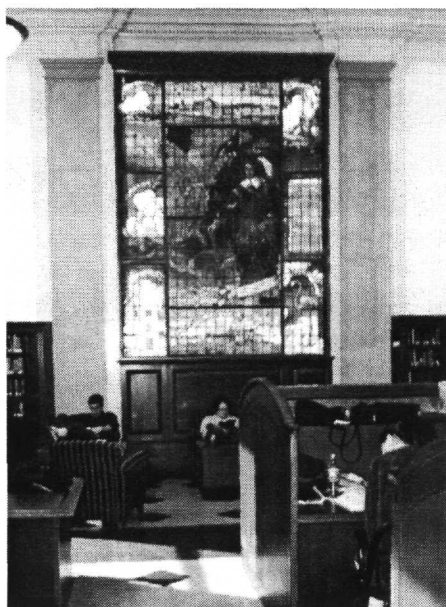
The Milstein book collection will also receive a great deal of attention in the coming years now that the books are all shelved in one, continuous call number sequence from the second to third to fourth floors. Undergraduate librarians will review the content of the collection to make sure that it strongly supports the undergraduate curriculum and is interdisciplinary in scope. Milstein materials are represented in the CLIO on-line catalog and are all cataloged in one classification system, making this material easy to identify and find. Books from the Milstein collection may be checked out for four weeks (with one renewal), which helps to ensure that materials are available for

course-related study during the semester.

As the school year progresses, we hope that you will have an opportunity to use the newly completed Philip L. Milstein Family College Library as well as other areas of Butler. We look forward to seeing you and encourage you to share your opinions and reactions to the renovation as well as any library-related concerns you may have. Contact the Philip L. Milstein Family College Library staff at: undergrad@libraries.cul.columbia.edu.



Original embellished woodwork, brass railings, decorative plaster ceilings, wrap-around mezzanines, and shelf light fixtures were refurbished during the renovation of the Philip L. Milstein Family College Library. Room 210 is pictured here.



New back lighting enhances the stained glass panel in Room 209 of the Philip L. Milstein Family College Library, a gift of the people of the Netherlands commemorating Peter Stuyvesant's arrival in the New World.



All three passenger elevators have been completely replaced in Phase 3 of the renovation. New machinery results in faster moving, more efficient elevators. Stack elevators will be renovated in a future construction phase.

Phase 3 Construction (July 2000–June 2003)

Completed:

- Periodicals & Microforms Reading Room (401)—January 2001
- Philip L. Milstein Family College Library—July 2001
- East and West Passenger Elevators
- Stack Levels 9 and 10

Fall 2001 Construction:

- Libraries Administration and Meeting Rooms, Fifth Floor
- Please note: Temporary Location of Human Resources is Room 501*

Ahead for 2002 and 2003:

- Research 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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Aline Locascio or Kris Kavanaugh
(212) 854-1641 (212) 854-7754

Consult our Web site:

www.columbia.edu/cu/web/indiv/

butler_ren for "This Week's Work" and more information about the Butler Library renovation.