Learning and working environments – what students expect. Results of a Student Design Contest

The effect of new technologies on library design: building the 21st century library

IFLA Satellite Conference

Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia, USA, 10 - 11 August 2011
Starting situation

- Increasing student numbers
- Increased demands on the qualification and training of students
- Changed learning behavior, digital media
- Need for optimized study conditions - particularly in the area of infrastructure facilities on campus.

→ today needs?
How can requirements for the use of digital media and changing forms of cooperation between students with classical forms of work be brought together in libraries?

- Ask the students!
- → DINI CONTEST
What about DINI?

- German Initiative for Network Information
- Coordination and support to facilitate the management of modern information and communication technologies in Germany in the context of colleges and universities
- Member organization with more than 100 media centers, academic universal libraries, computing centers and research institutions and research organization.
- DINI addresses topics like repositories, networking, e-publications, standardization and even real and virtual learning spaces
- Contest: “Lebendige Lernorte”: living learning sites
Living Learning sites I

- How do the students define the ideal "living learning site"?

- What about the combination of quiet space for individual learning and well-equipped space for group working together. Can combine the two claims?

- Conditions:
  - Access to both digital and traditional media
  - Learning support technical and physical infrastructure
  - Web-based work environments
  - Learning support services
  - Promoting the learning processes of information and media literacy
Living Learning sites II

- 51 contributions, 5 finalists, 2 awards
- Broad mix of furniture designs, architectural designs and drawings for libraries as well as reflections on virtual learning systems, controllable electronic room booking system and a manifesto for green and alternative libraries
- Results: Examples and evaluation
Essentials

- Massive dissatisfaction with the given situation
- Students are looking for places of learning for the whole day, based on a full-time study
- Comprehensive and consistent solutions are requested: cooperation between different units is needed
Real and virtual Space

- How real and virtual world can be linked together properly
- Learning centers:
  - supporting teaching and learning
  - use of digital technologies and media
  - provision of learning environments
  - advice and support
  - access to print and digital media
  - offers to teach media literacy
- professional support of student learning has become a core mission of universities.
Environment, green library, ecology and – personal well-being
Place to identify

comfortably designed areas with plants and drinking water dispenser

Adoption of given room situations
Libraries – stationary or flexible

Konzept Lern-/Ideenterminals (Alexandra Klotz)

Requirements for technical equipment, services, web2.0

- few innovative technology-driven ideas
- quality and completeness of the equipment (for example, peripheral devices)
- connection of different media and types of learning
- Real services to facilitate the usage of university capacities
Furniture
Desktop – at your disposal
Furniture – extremly important
Furniture – flexibility again
Library design

- Zoning, (peace, communication, recreation)
- Functional and multi-functional rooms
- A pleasant atmosphere (light, air, colors ...)
- Restrained technology
- combination of real and virtual space
Flexibility, individuality, shared spaces, holistic approach
Transparency, harmony, enlightenment
Zoning
Flexible units also in the small-scale perspective
Traditional media and new learning approaches: a module concept

Touchscreen for information / circulation
Detailed sketch for the module
Learning & working landscape
Individual work: Clear spaces
Summary

- Strong demand for learning and communication centers in higher education – integral approach
- Increased use of on-site libraries – if the traditional and innovative approach join
- Technology is an important part of course, but not but not the all-important element
- The Living Learning Center: Some steps of expansion to become a central communication and learning site on campus
- Comprehensive, integrative and: small-scale units!