

MEETING OF FACULTY LIBRARY COMMITTEE - MARCH 21, 1958 at 2 p.m. in BARN 56

Fac. Lib.
Bldg.
Comm.

Present: Mr. Brockway
Miss Schlachach

Mr. Fels
Mrs. Foster

Miss Hopkins
Mr. Tony Smith

- Brockway Told the meeting of a letter from Mr. Fowlie asking for a language laboratory in the new Library. In the original plans 2 cubicles had been provided for this purpose but this idea had been scrapped.
- Hopkins Original plan was to have an audio-visual room. This was abandoned in favour of an audio-visual area, i.e. tables with earphones. Couldn't use corner of present night-study room because expensive equipment must be locked up.
- Foster Why necessary to have this laboratory in the Library?
- Fels Useful to have it there because of supervision of tapes, etc.
- Hopkins In any case there are plans to have tapes and records for use of faculty and students housed in Library. Necessary to have booths or a single room to accommodate Mr Fowlie's scheme because there would be noise, conversation and speaking into recording machine.
- Foster Could the seminar room be used for this purpose.
- Hopkins Original idea was to use seminar room for interviewing student assistants, instructing freshmen in use of the Library etc.
- Fels Suggested combining typing and seminar functions in one room and using present seminar room for audio room. When the idea of an audio-visual room was abandoned it was believed that listening tables and an audio-visual area would be adequate. Now appears that it would not. Question as to whether the typing is larger than necessary.
- Hopkins It is larger than necessary when considered as a daytime typing room, but it is not too large if it is also to be a night-study room.
- Schlachach Suggested keeping typing to one end of the room, so that a seminar or meeting could still take place at same time.
- Hopkins Seminar room would be useful and one would be able to do more instructing in use of the Library. However, Library staff do not take up possessive attitude towards this and it would be possible to manage without.
- Fels Pointed out that this would not be an audio-visual room so much as an audio room.
- Hopkins Mrs. Brown had raised the question as to whether the seminar room was necessary.
- Fels Desirable to have an undifferentiated space. Would it be possible to divide the typing room with sliding doors so that an area at one end could be separated off for use as seminar room.
- Smith Seems practical idea.

Hopkins Architects had said it would be possible but not desirable.

Smith Modern fold doors not soundproof, but a sliding partition across the whole wall would completely shut off one end.

Schlabach Is there any reason why typing-night study room should be all one room.

Fels One end for typing, another for quiet study, possibly with door between.

General feeling of the faculty was that an audio room should be provided, and this recommendation was given to Miss Hopkins, to be passed on to Mrs. Brown.

Further general discussion followed from points raised by Miss Hopkins, chiefly taken from Mrs. Brown's comments on the plans.

Hopkins Desk to be moved so that it does not face front door.

Foster Felt this was much more attractive as it gave sense of entering straight into library, books, etc.

Hopkins There would be chairs and tables adjacent to reference area.
Felt perhaps the plan was tight on square footage - only 16,500.
Question again raised as to whether it is necessary to allow for expansion to 75,000 volumes. (General feeling that this was necessary).

Smith At first sight felt that the plans were rather tight but on closed inspection felt the architects had done a good job. Well thought out in terms of concept of the building. Feeling of building is lost when space is split into too many small alcoves, etc. Feeling as of "pens".
Question as to whether corner of basement will be dark.

Brockway Would it be difficult to locate books.

Hopkins Mr. Metcalf was talking this morning to the architects about the progression of books, etc.

Schlabach Worried about lighting of carrels.

Smith There does not look to be any natural light here. No indication of windows.

Brockway Worried about 8' walk at top of basement floor - expense of building this, expense of ploughing snow off it, danger to faculty children, no privacy for persons in Library.

Fels Certainly these questions must be raised but it will probably give a feeling of space and lightness to the building which is architecturally necessary.

Hopkins Building has been moved further away from Swan house and Commons.
Mr. Metcalf in favour of not having shelves in carrels, as students are liable to leave books there by mistake.