LIBRARY SERVICES AND SPACE:  
a primer

Presented by: 
Anders C. Dahlgren  
Library Planning Associates, Inc.

2018 New Jersey Library Trustee Institute  
Holiday Inn National Conference Center  
East Winsor, NJ  
October 27, 2018
Pre-Internet

Collection - centric

Permanence
Stability
Individual
Quiet
Solemnity
Status quo
Storage
Content consumption
Planned-use spaces
Capacity trumps experience
Quantities

Collections

Post-Internet

User - centric

Responsiveness
Flexibility
Communal
Bustle
Playfulness
Innovation
Production
Content creation
Multi-use spaces
Experience trumps capacity
Qualities

Connections
Leaner inventories

### TOTAL INVENTORY (in 000s)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Inventory</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>691,331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>731,046</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>814,534</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>896,786</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>919,669</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>842,558</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>695,331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>760,513</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>815,605</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>816,099</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>733,428</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### ITEMS HELD PER CAPITA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Items Held Per Capita</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>2.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>3.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>2.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>2.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>2.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>2.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>2.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>2.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>2.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>2.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>2.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>2.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>2.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>2.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>3.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>3.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>3.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>3.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>3.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>3.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>4.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>4.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>4.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>4.55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
User experience: convenience

72” or 66” shelving is the new normal
User experience: high-view high tech

Highlight the tools users need
User experience: engagement
User experience: collaboration

For users, for staff
User experience: foster connections
Flexibility: multi-use

Fewer single-use spaces
Flexibility: power access
Where will technology lead?

Stores with no checkout
Autonomous cars
Virtual shopping
Augmented reality glasses
Voice-controlled assistants
Delivery drones

“It's not just Amazon Go: 6 amazing ways technology will transform how we shop”
USA Today
Sept 29, 2018
The library as an incubator for growth
Why it matters

Through the public library, communities combine resources to foster learning, self-improvement and advancement

Levels the field

Promotes economic independence for individuals, economic stimulus for communities

Today, the library meets this challenge by offering an increasingly diverse array of materials, tools, and technology

Master new skills, recreate yourself

The traditional place for static storage becomes an environment for engagement
Service + space needs assessment

Specify service / resource inventory

Figure out what the library needs to house to find out how big the house needs to be
  Define a service goal
  Apply a formula allowance to estimate space need

Establishes scope and scale of the project

Public Library Space Needs: A Planning Outline
https://dpi.wi.gov/pld/board-directors/space-needs
Service + space needs assessment

Seven (or eight) types of space

Collection space
  Print
  Nonprint
  Magazines

Technology space

Reader seating space

Staff work space

Meeting space
  Multi-purpose
  Storytime
  Conference

Special use space

Nonassignable space

Dedicated allowances (maybe)
Service + space needs assessment

Consider the library’s service population – how is it changing?
   Growing? Stable? Contracting?
   Essential demographic characteristics

Estimate the design population
   20-year forecast of primary jurisdiction population
   Consider accommodation of nonresident use

Preliminaries
Service + space needs assessment

Estimate future inventory needs
  State standards
  Growth rates
  Comparisons with other libraries
  Local demographics
  Impact of digital delivery

Apply the corresponding factor for volumes per square foot

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aisle width</th>
<th>Shelf height 84&quot;</th>
<th>Shelf height 72&quot;</th>
<th>Shelf height 60&quot;</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>36&quot;</td>
<td>13.50</td>
<td>12.00</td>
<td>9.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42&quot;</td>
<td>12.50</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>9.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48&quot;</td>
<td>11.00</td>
<td>9.50</td>
<td>8.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Collection space – books
Service + space needs assessment

Collections – nonprint
   Apply a factor of 10, 13 or 15 items per sq.ft.

Collections – magazines (current display)
   Allow 1.0 sq.ft. per title received

Collections – magazines (back issues)
   Allow 0.5 sq.ft per title per year held

Technology
   Apply a factor of 35, 45, or 50 sq.ft. per station
Service + space needs assessment

Other service components – Part 2

Reader seating
Apply a factor of 30, 35, or 40 sq.ft. per seat

Staff work space
Apply a factor of 100, 110, or 125 sq.ft. per staff station
Service + space needs assessment

Other service components – Part 3

Meeting space – multi-purpose
  Allow **10** sq.ft. per seat + speaker / stage
  (100 sq.ft. min)

Meeting space – storytime
  Allow **10 or 15** sq.ft. per seat + presenter
  (75 sq.ft. min)

Meeting space – conference
  Allow **30** sq.ft. per seat + 10 sq.ft. per
gallery seat

Meeting space – computer training lab
  Allow **50** sq.ft. per station + presenter
  (75 sq.ft. min)
Service + space needs assessment

Other service components – Part 4

Special use space
Allow 12%, 15% or 17% of gross building area

Nonassignable space
Allow 25%, 27% or 30% of gross building

Dedicated allowances
Bookmobile garage?
Automated Materials Handling?
Café / Friends store?
Something else entirely???
Service + space needs assessment

Collection space (print / nonprint / magazines)
+ Technology space
+ Reader seating space
+ Staff work space
+ Meeting space

SUBTOTAL 1

PRELIM = Subtotal 1 ÷ (100% - sp% - non%)
+ Dedicated allowances

https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/pld/xls/plspace.xls
Service + space needs assessment

Using the results

Evaluate options
- Build on?
- Build new?
- Remodel?
- Convert?
- Do nothing?

Assess site needs

Consider (entirely too preliminary) budgets
Building program statement

“A practical description of the library’s functional space needs based on its projected use and service goals”

The library’s instructions to the architect

Four key questions
- How big does the library need to be?
- What are the component parts (depts, rooms, areas)?
- How big do those functional areas need to be?
- What needs to be next to what?
Building program statement

Who prepares it?

The architect?  The library!

Statement of the solution
Focus on the spaces
What we *are going* to do

Statement of the problem to be solved
Focus on the services
What we *want* to do
Building program statement

How is it prepared?

Apply needs assessment as foundation

Use existing models

**IDENTIFY** departments and functional areas

**CLASSIFY** resources into functional areas

**SPECIFY** the appropriate settings (aisle widths and such)

**CODIFY** adjacencies
Collaboration is the key

Building program statement

The library

Inside-out

The architect

The solution

Outside-in
“The public library today is less about what we have for you and more about what we can do for you and with you.”

-- Sari Feldman
President
American Library Assn
Got questions...?

Contact info:
Anders C. Dahlgren
Library Planning Associates, Inc.
P.O. Box 406
Normal, IL 61761
309.846.2836
anders@libraryplan.com