LIBRARY STUDY - FEASIBILITY OF RELOCATING

SUFFOLK UNIVERSITY
Boston, MA

THE PROJECT

This study was undertaken by DOBER LIDSKY MATHEY (DLM) at a time when the University was considering acquiring a new building. Part of the decision to purchase this building hinged on the feasibility of relocating the Library to the new facility. Although this building will be used for a variety of functions, a prime University objective is to provide more and better space for the Library. Accordingly, this project preceded a broader DLM study of University facilities in light of the substantial amount of space this building will add to the inventory.

The study began with developing a detailed facility program describing all required library spaces. From that program, a concept plan was created showing layout of the library in the new space.

CHALLENGE

The new building is multistoried, and much of the space is currently leased. Some of the areas will remain leased for five or more years. This resulted in a phased plan that must work in both the short- and long-term. In addition, public access to the leased space must be maintained, which affected the short-term Library layout.

SOLUTION

The Library Facility Program defined a need for 242 spaces and 55,370 net assignable square feet. Many alternative locations were investigated, all with the public entrance directly accessible from an existing building entrance. The best alternative was one that put the Library on three levels, the public entrance level and two contiguous levels above. Not all the programmed space will fit within those three floors.
DLM helped the Library determine the best way to fit the program to available space.

RESULTS

The University acquired the facility; The Library relocated to the renovated/new space.

*Project completed under previous name: Dober, Lidsky, Craig and Associates, Inc.

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LIBRARY FLOOR PLAN SCHEME

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