Transforming our Library Reading Room for a Leisure Reading Collection

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Introduction—A Plan

Goals:

• Attract students to library
• Entice students to read more
• Update reading room for comfort, reading and studying
• Keep up-to-date with reading materials, displays and weeding
A Plan Comes Together
Leadership

“I had an unexpectedly wonderful moment two weeks ago when in the middle of a presentation about my library’s short-range strategy I displayed a photo of Dominican’s lovely popular reading room...The change-making image from Dominican wasn’t a comparison of what money can do. That photo was a comparison of what leadership can do” (Schneider, 2009).
Beginnings

- carpeting
- shelving and kiosks
- chairs with laptop tables
- additional electrical outlets
- study tables
- ottomans
Budget & Purchasing

• $3000.00 annual budget
• Buy from local bookstores and online when necessary
• Purchase paperbacks when available
• Decisions based on book lists from newspapers, library journals, and patron and staff suggestions
• Ongoing weeding
Shelving & Display

• Genre designations
  – Genre sticker on each book for shelving
  – Labeled with LC numbers for tracking

• New books displayed on kiosk

• Books faced out to browser

• Stands for paperbacks

• Rearrange frequently
Marketing

• Blog
  – Updates on newly added books

• Library Thing
  – “Catalog by genre” as first word in tags

• Facebook

• Suggestion Box

• Events
Student Satisfaction

Graphic Novels

Browsing the Kiosk
Student Testimonial
Results

- increased usage of reading room
- improved check out of reading material
- not only student, but also faculty and staff approval of collection
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