

**The Academic Commons  
Dedication Celebration**

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Main Level, Mudd Center  
Oberlin College  
Friday, September 28, 2007  
4:30 - 5:00 p.m.**

## **Presiding**

*Ray English*

Director of Libraries

## **Speakers**

*Sebastiaan Faber*

Associate Professor of Hispanic Studies,  
Chair, General Faculty Library Committee

*Ann Sherif*

Associate Professor of Japanese, Member,  
Academic Commons Planning Committee

*Cynthia Murnan*

Director of Client Services,  
Center for Information Technology

*John F. Hedge*

DesignGroup Architects, Columbus, Ohio

*Courtney Merrell*

Student

*Marvin Krislov*

President of Oberlin College

## **Donors to the Academic Commons**

Oberlin College gratefully acknowledged the following donors to the Academic Commons project:

Anonymous alumnus

Mimi Halpern '60

William G. Roe '64

Sarah Sharpe '82 (The Sharpe Family Foundation)

Estate of Richard and Geraldine '42 Meyer

Anne '62 and Charles '64 McFarland

Madeleine M. Anderson

# The Academic Commons

The Academic Commons is designed to provide coordinated research, information, technology, and learning assistance for Oberlin students, and to facilitate academic community on campus.

Key features of the Commons include:

- A central service desk for reference and technology assistance
- Six group study rooms designed for multiple academic purposes, including the Writing Center, peer counseling, tutoring, and ad hoc groups
- A variety of collaborative seating for small group work and laptop use
- Thirty public-use workstations for library research and other computing functions
- An electronic classroom for library and other learning support instruction; the classroom becomes an open computer lab when not used for instruction
- A multimedia presentation area with equipment for creating multimedia projects of various kinds
- Redesigned space for circulation, interlibrary loan, and reserve functions; consolidated video collection; reserve collection on moveable compact shelving
- A current reading area that features displays of popular periodicals and newspapers, new library books, new faculty books, and a leisure reading collection
- Comfortable lounge furniture in various locations
- Enhanced wireless connectivity

Azariah's Café, located in the southeast corner of the main level adjacent to the current reading area, has a seating capacity of sixty, including booths, café tables, and lounge chairs.

Architects: DesignGroup, Columbus, Ohio  
Project cost: \$1.5 million

# Academic Commons Floor Plan



# **Academic Commons Planning Committee**

Ray English

Director of Libraries

Jane Boomer

Coordinator of Services for Students with Disabilities

Albert Borroni

Director of OCTET (Oberlin Center for  
Technologically Enhanced Teaching)

Alan Boyd

Associate Director of Libraries

John Bucher

Director of the Center for Information Technology

Allison Choat

Student

Leo Evans

Project Manager, Facilities Planning and Construction

Jessica Grim

Reference Librarian and Instruction Coordinator

Rebecca Karasick

Student

Shozo Kawaguchi

Associate Dean of Students for Community Life

Cindy Murnan

Director of Client Services,  
Center for Information Technology

Ann Sherif

Associate Professor of Japanese,  
General Faculty Library Committee Representative

Fred Zwegat

Director of Audiovisual Services

## **Planning Subcommittees**

### **Services, Staffing, and Management**

Jessica Grim

Jane Boomer

Albert Borroni

Allison Gallaher

Head of Circulation, Main Library

Cynthia Murnan

Kathryn Stuart

Dean of Studies

Fred Zwega

### **Constituent Input**

Haipeng Li

Reference Librarian and Outreach Services Coordinator

Albert Borroni

Jessica Grim

Shozo Kawaguchi

Scott Saluga

Client Support Analyst,

Center for Information Technology

### **Mudd Center Space Planning**

Alan Boyd

John Bucher

Cynthia Comer

Head of Reference and Instruction

Ray English

Allison Gallaher



## **Café**

Mark Bates

Associate Vice President for Finance

Ray English

Gary Kornblith

Professor of History

Michele Gross

Director of Dining Services and Business  
Operations, Division of Student Life

Rick Panfil

General Manager, Campus Dining Services

## **Academic Commons Website Project Team**

Alan Boyd

Xi Chen

East Asian and Web Development Librarian

Megan Mitchell

Reference Librarian and Electronic  
Services Coordinator