Top Shelf: The Newsletter of the Robert W. Woodruff Library

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Phase I of Woodruff Library Renovation Begins in May, Library Closed to the Public May 11-31

Have you heard? We’re renovating the Woodruff Library! That’s right, at the conclusion of spring semester classes in May, the Robert W. Woodruff Library of the Atlanta University Center will begin its first major renovation since opening in 1982.

Phase I of the renovation will begin with the service, study and stack areas on the Library’s Main Level. During this phase of construction, circulation, information and research consultation services will be relocated to the Lower Level “Quiet Study Room.” To minimize service disruption and inconvenience to our RWWL users during relocation activities, the Library will be closed to the public from May 11-31.

NOTE: Users needing to clear their accounts during the closure may do so from 9 AM – 5 PM, Monday, May 11–Friday, May 15, in the Library’s Atrium.

RWWL will reopen to the public Monday, June 1 with service operations in the temporary location (Quiet Study Room) and collections accessible on the Upper Level.

The “New Woodruff” will feature a totally redesigned Main Level Learning Commons, with Media Creation & Presentation Center, more collaborative study rooms, café, multipurpose classrooms, and after hours study area.

There will also be significant enhancements to the Upper Level Archives & Special Collections area and a new Graduate Study Suite and redesigned Reading Room Lower Level.

Other expected service changes are listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SERVICE CHANGE</th>
<th>EXPECTED BEGINNING/ENDING DATES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exhibition Hall Reservations Temporarily Suspended</td>
<td>April 1, 2009-March 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Closed to Public</td>
<td>May 11-May 31, 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Entrance Moves to Rear of Building</td>
<td>May 11-November 2009</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUMMER SEMESTER 2009</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Library Service, Public Computer Access Move to Lower Level Quiet Study Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Main &amp; Lower Level Collections Relocated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Main &amp; Lower Level Group Study Room Reservations Temporarily Suspended</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Library’s “Transformation Station” Furniture Showcase A Hit!

From Feb. 17-March 6, AUC students evaluated the different “Transformation Station” furniture options and provided written feedback.

From February 17-March 6, the Robert W. Woodruff Library (RWWL) of the Atlanta University Center (AUC) presented one of the first tangible signs of interior changes to come — a display of 30 furniture options for AUC student feedback dubbed “Transformation Station.” During the three-week furniture showcase, AUC students, faculty and staff were asked to evaluate the displayed items for design, function and how they support activity within the Woodruff Library.

Nearly 150 participants completed online and hard copy surveys, as well as provided 250 verbatim responses on flipcharts. AUC students were involved in the planning and implementation of the event, providing input on everything from the items selected for the display, to the surveys used to evaluate them.

In addition, the Library’s Student Advisory Council co-sponsored a February 16 “Pre-Launch” reception for their fellow student opinion leaders (SGA and Class Council Presidents). During the “Pre-Launch,” SAC members from the four AUC institutions provided a student-to-student orientation on the functionality and features of the Transformation Station furniture items.

NEW FOR YOU! RWWL Renovation Web Site and Blog

Continuing its commitment to timely renovation communications, The Robert W. Woodruff Library recently launched a new renovation web site.

Located at [http://www.auctr.edu/renovation-site/index.asp](http://www.auctr.edu/renovation-site/index.asp), the web site will feature all of the latest renovation news and information, including library service changes (timeline). In addition, viewers will get a complete overview of the renovation planning and development process and learn more about the design and construction team selected by RWWL to create and build the “New Woodruff.”

There’s also information on how you, our AUC users, can submit questions and comments about renovation activities as they unfold.

Click on the “Renovation Update” hard hat on the RWWL home page ([www.auctr.edu](http://www.auctr.edu)) and you’ll find:

- Renovation blog for “real-time,” interactive communications (web streams, photos and written content) throughout the duration of the year-long construction project
- Latest renovation news and events
- Contact information for renovation-related questions or comments
- Architectural drawings and conceptual images
- Design and construction team background information
- Renovation planning and development overviews
- AUC users can also submit questions and provide feedback on construction activities by email to: [libraryrenovation@auctr.edu](mailto:libraryrenovation@auctr.edu).