

What about Exams?

Each year, a significant number of students in Div III classes take self-scheduled exams administered through the Young Science Library (between 7,000-8,000 last year). With Young's closing in January 2017, we need to make alternative plans.

The Provost has charged Rob O'Connell, Director for Discovery and Access in the Libraries, and Tom Laughner, Director of Educational Technology, to work with Science Planning Committee to identify viable options for exam administration. This work is just beginning.

We need to find faculty members who are willing to pilot new approaches for exam administration in their classes during this fall semester. If you would like to volunteer, please let Patty DiBartolo know.

After fall pilots, we will hone our new process in the spring semester when Neilson is still open so that we can have a viable alternative in place by the Fall of 2017 when Neilson will be entirely offline.

Look for further updates this fall and feel free to share your thoughts (pdibarto@smith.edu).



FROM THE CLARK SCIENCE CENTER DIRECTORS' OFFICE

Summer 2016

Special Neilson Enabling Issue

The entire Smith campus is busy preparing for the construction and [redesign of the Neilson Library complex](#). Work for the project has already begun in the Science Center, with several summer projects underway to relocate existing users of the Green Box and Young Science Library (see p. 2).

There is still more work to do. Take a look at the [enabling timeline](#) for an overview. Young Library will close in January 2017, with its staff and some functions transferred to Neilson for the Spring 2017 semester. With the closure of Young, the science collections will be relocated, with most books and other physical resources moving to storage awaiting the completion of the Five College Library Annex. For Spring 2017, 2,500 of Young's titles will be moved automatically to Neilson (if used 5 times in the last 5 years). You can find a [full list of these flagged titles here](#). If there are other books you need accessible during the spring semester that are not on the list, you can send a request (youngcirc@smith.edu) to retain these items in Neilson this spring. See the [enabling timeline](#) for additional details about Young library material access from Interterm 2017 and beyond.

We're sure you have a lot of questions and that's why we're writing. In order to ensure that science faculty and staff are well-prepared for these shifts, take a close look at the [enabling timeline](#) as well as [the FAQ sheet](#) prepared for us by the Libraries. *Everyone will need to plan ahead for this transition.*

Thanks for your patience, engagement, and collaborative generosity during this period. Please be in touch with any questions or concerns and Margaret and I will look to get the answers you are looking for.

--Patty DiBartolo

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Young Science Library will close in January 2017

CLARK SCIENCE CENTER ENABLING CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

This summer, Facilities has been busy transforming Burton 016/017 into an engineering design studio made possible through the generous relocation of some Geosciences spaces. The old herbarium in Burton 406 will soon provide flexible design studio space needed by Landscape Studies. A special thanks to the cooperation and patience of the Center for Microscopy and Imaging staff and users who had to relocate temporarily due to this construction.

A new project is on the horizon. Facilities Management will supervise the renovation of McConnell B05, changing it from a fixed auditorium style classroom, to a flexible classroom, replacing Green Box space.



The space is not scheduled with any Fall 2016 classes. The project is expected to be complete by the beginning of November. Facilities will work with contractors to avoid disruption during class times and events. Charlie Conant is the project manager for Facilities Management (with Peter Gagnon filling in the week of 8/15).

Normal working hours on the project will be 7am-3pm. The southeast stairwell will be blocked for access periodically, and some staging will take place in the hallway outside of the room. Vents inside the room will be covered, and air movement in and out of the room stopped to avoid circulating dust. The elevator will also be used frequently by the work crew.

Facilities would like to start the **demolition** phase of the project within a week or so, in order to complete it before orientation activities start and students start returning. This work will involve saw cutting and hammering the concrete floor, as well as raising the strip of lower ceiling on either side of the room. The good news is we are looking at about 6 hours total of the most disruptive work, so it could be completed within a couple of days, barring any unforeseen delays.

Please reply to Heather McQueen (hmcqueen@smith.edu) to let us know if this schedule of work will cause problems for you or your lab's work. Some flexibility is possible, such as starting work earlier in the day. Look for updated information and the latest news on Facilities' projects on our website at <http://www.science.smith.edu/buildings/summer-2016-facilities-management-projects>

THE NEILSON ENABLING AND DESIGN TIMELINE

Please be sure to review the [timeline providing important information about library services](#) during the Neilson construction project.

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