Flipping the model: Making noise in the Library

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2012
ACRL Excellence in Academic Libraries Award
Why a new library?

Assignments:

Work in teams

Multiple outputs:
  Research
  Written paper
  Graphic product
  Oral presentation
  Multiple software competencies
Critical skills needed by college graduates

WHAT'S IMPORTANT TO HOOSIER COMPANIES?

Critical thinking/problem solving, oral communication, and professional/work ethic were the three most frequently mentioned skills necessary to being successful in one’s career. This is not surprising but is concerning when we contrast that with ratings on how well college graduates and the current workforce as a whole perform in these areas, which we will see in the next section.

Below are the skills that at least nine out of ten indicated are necessary to being successful in one’s career:

- Critical Thinking/Problem Solving
- Oral Communication
- Professionalism/Work Ethic
- Serving All Clients/Customer
- Reading Comprehension
- English Language
- Teamwork/Collaboration
- Written Communication

skills gap widely recognized

UNPREPARED GRADS

The perception of college graduate skill preparedness is very poor. Listed below are how Indiana companies rated college graduates on the areas they felt were most important. The percentages are the total rated as excellent and very good. The findings indicate college graduates are not prepared for the day-to-day aspects of a job.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skill</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Critical Thinking/Problem Solving</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral Communication</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professionalism/Work Ethic</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serving All Clients/Customer</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Comprehension</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Language</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teamwork/Collaboration</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Written Communication</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Council was also asked what skills college grads were lacking the most. Here’s the top results:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skill</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Specific Skills</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government/Politics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical Thinking/Problem Solving</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning Skills</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LEAP* Goals focus on skills gaps
*Liberal Education and America’s Promise

The Essential Learning Outcomes

- Intellectual and Practical Skills, including
  - Inquiry and analysis
  - Critical and creative thinking
  - Written and oral communication
  - Quantitative literacy
  - Information literacy
  - Teamwork and problem solving

Practiced extensively, across the curriculum, in the context of progressively more challenging problems, projects, and standards for performance

American Association of Colleges and Universities

shopping mall
everything in one place
consumer chooses
contagious energy
serendipity
what would an *academic* mall look like?

student in charge of experience
academic *and* social needs accommodated
one-stop shopping—lots to choose from
allow noise/buzz to generate energy
unexpected experiences/serendipitous learning
different, attractive, theirs
creature comforts

Finding the space
What about the books?
(total space in building: 150,000 sq. ft.)

60,000 sq ft for 600,000 books
or
3,500 sq ft for 600,000 books
Renderings for GVSU Mary Idema Pew Library by SHW Group
Knowledge Market Partners

Library
Writing Center
Speech Lab
IT help desk

“trust the students mentality”
**peer consultant experience**

- training
- feedback
- leadership
- professional development
- resume-worthy experience

**Knowledge Market partner experience**

- cross-training
- blended spaces
- shared coaching sessions
- shared scheduling and assessment software
- interdependent identities
- direct tie-in to professors and class experience
Speech practice rooms
Media prep rooms

MediaScape for group work

Rendering for GVSU Mary Idema Pew Library by SHW Group; Steelcase MediaScape
Learning Alcove and media programming

Rendering for GVSU Mary Idema Pew Library by SHW Group

LEED

Development news
Idema Pew Library on GVSU’s Allendale campus could raise bar on energy efficiency

Construction of the Mary Idema Pew Library Learning and Information Commons on Grand Valley State University’s Allendale campus includes many energy-saving design aspects and high-efficiency materials that the facility will consume half the energy of a typical library its size.

That’s the word from Scott Wine, project manager for Pioneer Construction, who is overseeing the project.

“We took the basic model of a library that met all the program needs of GVSU and worked with Pacific Northwest National Laboratories, a subsidiary of the Department of Energy, to cut 50 percent of the energy consumption,” Wine says. “We’ve successfully completed that over the course of the last year and we’re now implementing what the DOE gave us.”

The 136,000-square-foot building will have five stories, 80 percent of which have raised floors with 18
Special Spaces

Innovation Zone

Rendering for GVSU Mary Idema Pew Library by SHW Group; photo of Noel Studio at Eastern Kentucky University
Paper clip exhibition space

Multi-purpose room

Renderings for GVSU Mary Idema Pew Library by SHW Group
learn lab

Rendering for GVSU Mary Idema Pew Library by SHW Group

Hearth Room/quiet study

Rendering for GVSU Mary Idema Pew Library by SHW Group
Furnishings

Twenty group study rooms
Oversized tables and carrels
Window seats
Power within 2.5 feet and on table tops
Wheels on tables and chairs
Portable partitions
Portable white Boards
Online/walk-up reservation systems
Over 100 pieces of original art
Fresh Air

embedded natural air garden

Rendering for GVSU Mary Idema Pew Library by SHW Group
rooftop study deck

amphitheater
defining concepts

University Perspective

Students will have an academic home outside of their classrooms

where learning is explicitly shared and valued,

where deeper engagement with peers invites authentic, self-directed learning experiences,

and where artful exposure to the vast and diverse richness of the university community enhances the student experience in unanticipated ways

defining concepts

Library Perspective (work in progress)

The library will build cross-university collaborations that provide students with an unprecedented array of resources, services, programs, and spaces for learning;

to support the development of critical “soft” skills;

to build an environment that nurtures authentic engagement with people and ideas;

and to put students in charge of their own learning;
defining concepts
Student Perspective

Students will manage their own learning in a stimulating environment that fosters collaboration and offers a seamless array of academic services and learning opportunities.

Mary Idema Pew Library
Learning and Information Commons
Opening May 2013
Questions?

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