UCD Development Studies Library
Re-organisation & promotion of a specialist library.

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No.1 Background

UCD Development Studies Library (DSL), a specialist research library for development issues, was founded in 1987 by UCD and the Department of Foreign Affairs. From 1987 – 2011 the DSL has been supported by the Department of Foreign Affairs, the National Committee for Development in Education (NCDE) and Irish Aid. This library provides print and electronic information resources and specialist support services to the development community in UCD and in Ireland.
Collections include: reports and publications from Irish and international NGOs and institutions including the European Union, Irish Aid, the United Nations and the World Bank.
Multidisciplinary subject content includes: Aid, Agriculture, Economics, Environment, Human Rights, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), Politics, War, Rural/Urban Development. It is open to the public.

No.3 Team Work-Cross section of teams involved.

• Facilities Staff – dismantling & re-erecting shelving, health and safety checks of layout.
• Floor Services staff – re-shelving stock.
• Information Resources Management staff – cataloguing, amending and updating records.
• Development Studies Library staff – planning and overseeing project.
• Academic Services Manager.
• Senior Management.
• Cleaning staff.
• Designer, carpenter & painter.

No.4 Challenges

Summer work: Project had to be done out of term time to minimise disruption which caused time pressure.
Sequencing: Each team dependent on previous team completing their work, before the subsequent stage could begin. This was a slow process and involved excellent communication skills across all teams.
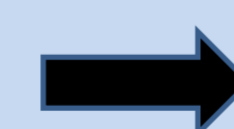**Sick leave/Annual Leave:** Process slowed further through sick leave/annual summer holiday leave .
Weeding: Many DSL resources are unique to this collection. With weeding, staff had to be extremely careful so as not to lose any important material. Cross checking material was a slow process.

No.5 Results for users.

• Collection is easier to locate & navigate around.
• There is now room for growth on the shelves.
• The area is brighter, cleaner and more defined.
• The themed wall panels give a sense of identity to the space.
• Classmarks now in line with the rest of UCD library so easier to find on the catalogue.

No. 2 Re-organisation in 10 steps: May 2010-Sept 2011

In Summer 2010 it was decided to mainstream the processes in this library bringing them in line with standard UCD Library practices. The collections were re-organised, the space re-designed, and the Library promoted to a wider community.

1. Development Studies Library is at capacity, no room for growth on shelves.

2. Small amount of money made available to "brand" the library-give the space /collections their own identity.

3. Extra shelving becomes available from another library project.

4. Plan to re-design collection layout with the extra shelving.

5. Stock taken off shelves, stored on tables, shelves dismantled.

6. Once space is empty, new design lay-out marked on the floor. Change from 6 short separate runs of books/journals to 3 long rows of shelves holding Reference, Long loan books, older journals and reports.

7. Current journals now located adjacent to the back issues to make them easier for users to find.

8. Shelving cleaned and re-erected. All stock put back on shelves leaving one shelf per bay empty for growth.

9. Collection is mainstreamed by the Information Resource Management team. (I.R.M) by assigning a suffix to all development journals, making them easier to locate.
Catalogue records are amended. Collection is weeded of single issues/duplicate journals.
Loose-leaf material is re-boxed and re-labelled.

10. Creation of a meeting room for the development studies community. Space redesigned by:
Painting 8 surrounding grey pillars white with a Millennium Development Goal (MDG) graphic on each of them.
Painting the collection shelf-ends orange to highlight collection. Other shelf-ends on the floor are blue.
Commissioned designer creates and installs 3 development themed wall panels to circle the library.
Funding for re-design and promotion donated by the UCD School of Politics & International Relations.
See photograph examples below of this process.

No.6 Promoting the collection

Visuals- 3 new wall panels. Shelf ends painted orange to highlight collection.
Website-New promotional webpage http://www.ucd.ie/library/finding_information/our_collections/devstudies/
Conferences-Attendance and participation by library staff at related conferences & seminars.
Meeting Room available for group study, tutorials, open to all members of the development community.

1. Before. Blank wall

2. After. Themed wall panel

3. Before. Blank pillar

4.After. Painted pillar with MDGs graphics

5.Before. Empty floor space with new design layout.

6. After. Completed new collection design layout with extra shelving .