

Creating a Learning Commons Space in your Library: Opportunities, Challenges & Considerations

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Agenda



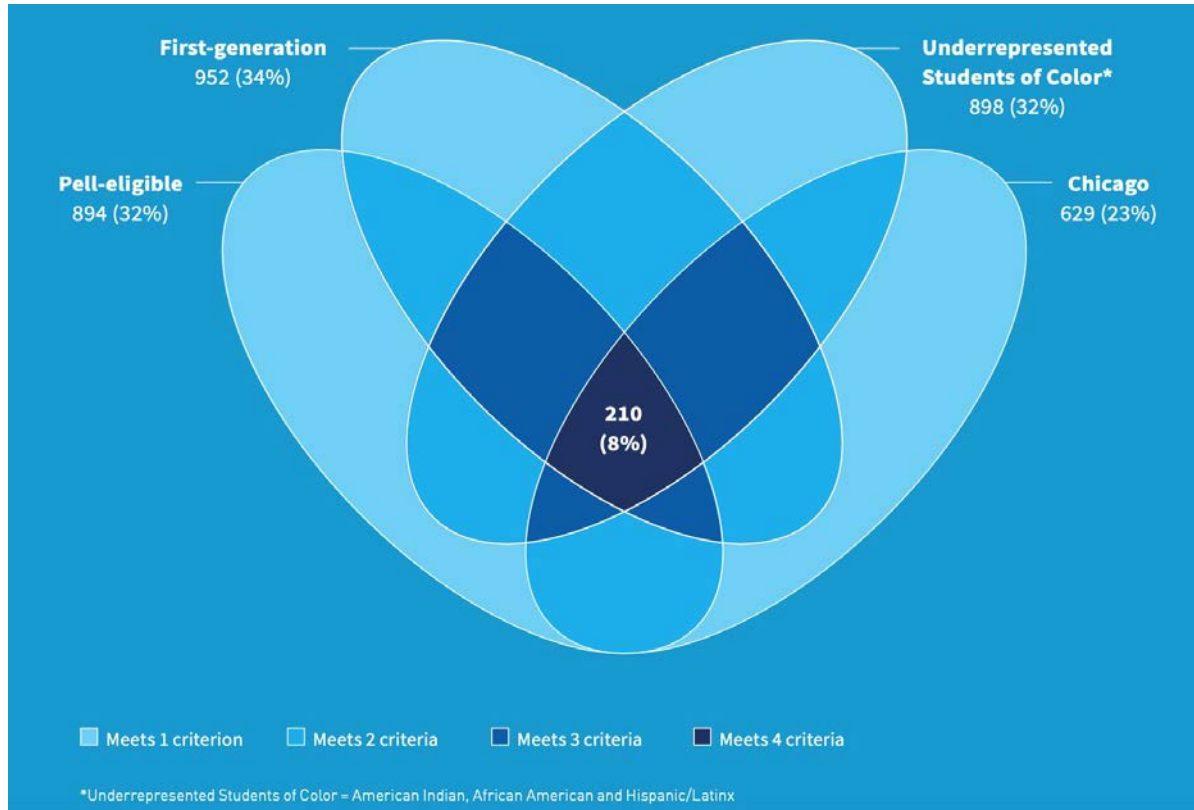
- Context & background
- Opportunities
- Challenges
- Lessons Learned & Practical Considerations
- Further Reading
- Questions & Discussion

About DePaul University



- Largest Catholic University in the United States
- Two campuses in Chicago
- Diverse student body

First Year Student Demographics



Central to DePaul's mission is the commitment to the education of first generation college students, especially those from the diverse cultural and ethnic groups in the metropolitan area.

Library Renovation and Foundations for Success Initiative

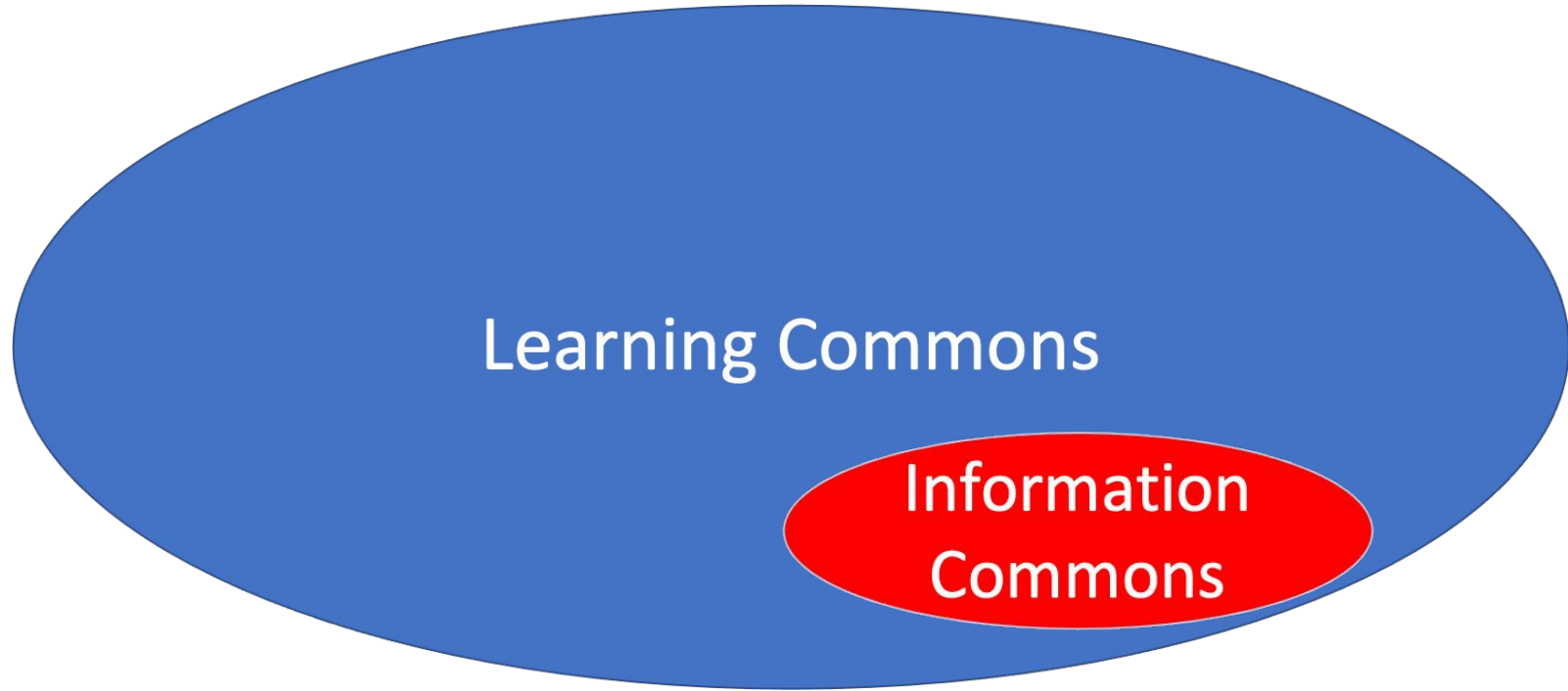


Foundations for Success initiative



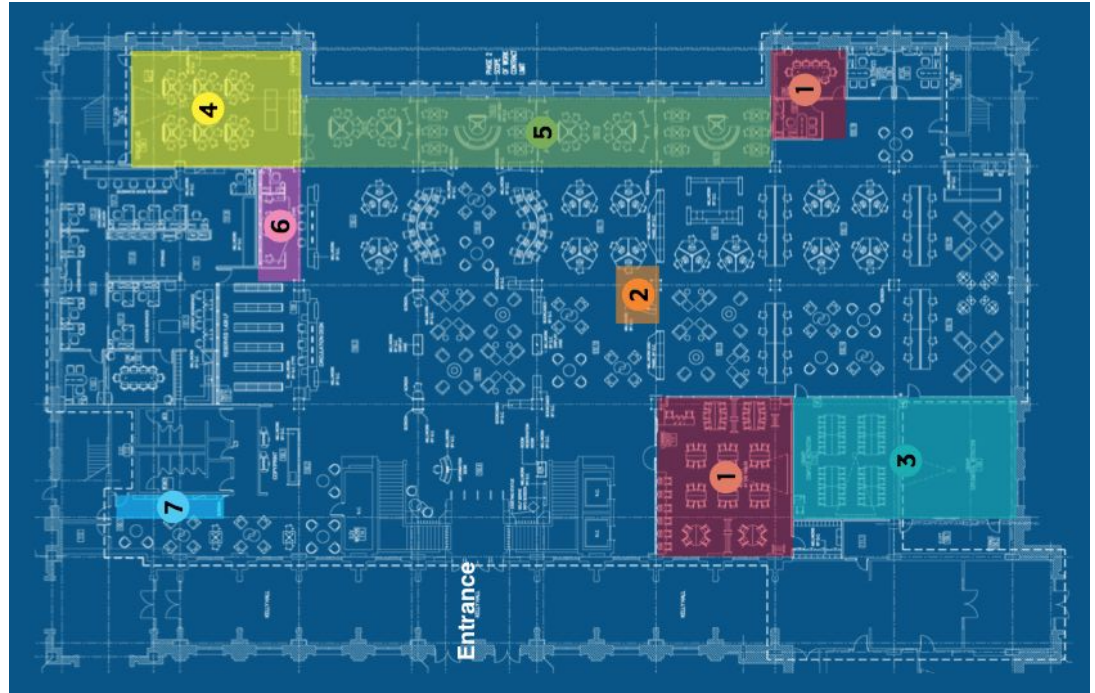
- Learning Commons
- Early Feedback
- Support for Transfer Students
- BlueStar Retention Solution Software

Information Commons vs. Learning Commons



Spaces & Services

1. Learning Commons
2. Research Help
3. Teaching & Learning
4. Scholar's Lab
5. Collaborative Workspace
6. Genius Squad
7. Reading Room



Spaces & Technology



29,499
SQUARE FEET

111
COMPUTERS

355
SEATS

114.5
OPEN HOURS
per week

20
LAPTOP
CHARGING
LOCKERS

12 MEDIASCAPE
TABLES

3 INTELLIPRINT
STATIONS

1 PLOTTER
PRINTER
for large-format posters

1 SCANNING
STATION
for books and documents

Learning Commons at DePaul



Opportunities

Flexibility

Visibility

Convenience

Collaboration

Cross-Pollination

Marketing



Challenges

Flexibility - Privacy

Visibility - Access

Convenience - Inconvenient

Collaboration - Competition

Cross-Pollination - Decentralization

Marketing - Invisibility



Lessons Learned & Practical Considerations

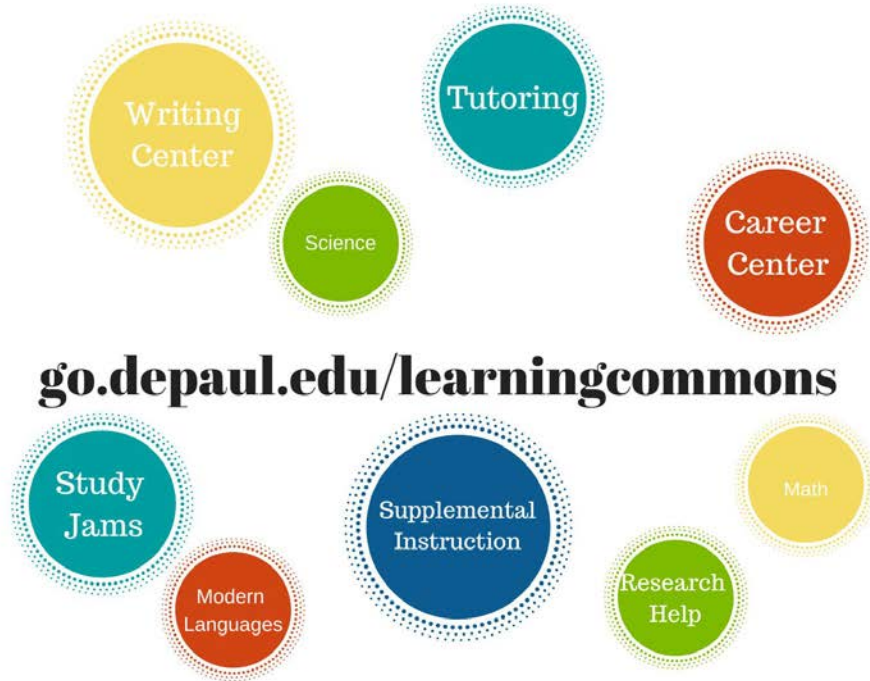
Planning

Space

Staffing

Assessment

Benefits



New Directions



Further Reading

Asher, A. D. (2017). Space use in the commons: Evaluating a flexible library environment. *Evidence Based Library and Information Practice*, 12(2), 68.

Badke, W. E. (2018). The learning commons: Challenges and opportunities for information literacy. *Online Searcher*, 42(6), 60-62.

Blummer, B., & Kenton, J. M. (2017). Learning commons in academic libraries: Discussing themes in the literature from 2001 to the present. *The New Review of Academic Librarianship*, 23(4), 329-352.

Dallis, D. (2016). Scholars and learners: A case study of new library spaces at indiana university. *New Library World*, 117(1), 35-48.

DeFrain, E., & Hong, M. (2020). Interiors, affect, and use: How does an academic library's learning commons support students' needs? *Evidence Based Library and Information Practice*, 15(2), 42.

Lampert, L., & Meyers-Martin, C. (2019). *Creating a learning commons : a practical guide for librarians* . Rowman & Littlefield.

Murphy, J. A. F. (2017). A new student learning focus for the academic library: From geographical proximity of the learning commons to organizational proximity within the library. *Journal of Library Administration*, 57(7), 742-757.

Questions & Discussion

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