

Advantages for Combining the Libraries

Lehigh Valley Health Network

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ADVANTAGES FOR COMBINING THE LIBRARIES

I. MORE EFFICIENT UTILIZATION OF PERSONNEL

- A. 8 hour coverage Monday - Friday by a fulltime Library Technician to assist all users in locating materials and using audiovisual equipment.
- B. 8 hour coverage Monday - Friday by a fulltime Medical Librarian to handle reference requests for all users.
- C. 4 hour coverage Monday - Thursday evenings by a part-time Library Aide to assist all users in locating materials and using audiovisual equipment.

Presently there is no one to assist nursing students in using their library during peak hours as the Medical Librarian is not available for consultation; she is physically located elsewhere. Coverage for reference services in the Medical Library is inadequate, also, during certain hours as the Medical Librarian is physically located elsewhere.

The medical library presently has no evening coverage.

II. AVAILABILITY OF ALL LEVELS OF RESOURCES TO ALL USERS

- A. An excellent nursing collection would be available to nurses and allied health personnel of the hospital as well as student nurses.
- B. An excellent medical collection would be available for all persons doing in-depth research.

All levels of material would be available to all library users. Presently, the hospital employees are restricted to use of the nursing school library only when there is someone available to assist them.

Nursing students do not adequately use the materials in the medical library because there is no one available in the evening to assist them.

III. SECURITY CONTROL

- A. Because of the location of the school of nursing library, all users other than student nurses must be restricted. There is no one in the library to ensure that users do not remove things from the library. Inventories continue to show that library materials disappear when the library is not covered by the Librarian or Library Aide.
- B. The medical library must also be locked after 5 p.m. to ensure patients or visitors do not take materials. Inventories continue to show that library materials are taken by legitimate library users and that the materials are not returned. Keys are available to these users during hours when the library is unattended and this creates a security problem.

Combining the libraries would allow for adequate coverage during during the day and the evenings. Coverage could possibly be extended during weekend hours to provide all users with equal availability of resources when they needed them, while also preventing materials from being removed without having been "signed-out."

IV. AVOIDING DUPLICATION OF RESOURCES

- A. The school of nursing library library presently purchases certain texts that appear in the medical library as the library is required to provide levels of information beyond that found in nursing text books.
- B. The medical library presently purchases certain texts that appear in the school of nursing library to provide adequate levels of information for nursing and allied health personnel in the hospital.

The combined collections are excellent, but both are individually under utilized.

V. AVOIDING DUPLICATIONS OF FURNISHINGS

- A. Librarians office space.
- B. Number and types of seating.
- C. Audiovisual equipment.
- D. Photocopier.
- E. Sections for current journal display.
- F. Circulation areas, card catalog, and index areas

VI. LIBRARY WHICH IS ACCESSIBLE TO HANDICAPPED PERSONS

FACT SHEET

Number of potential users - provide space for 40 users. Even though standards require seating for a larger population of users, the only standard that must be adequately met is the one for the National League for Nursing.* Since the school of nursing library is never utilized by more than 30 students at any hour of the day, the additional 10 seats would be available for other users.

The present medical library has seating for 9 users. It is often filled to capacity. However, an additional 20 seats would be available to its users if the libraries were combined (Students use the library during the evening; employees use it during the day)

MEDICAL-DENTAL STAFF AND ASSOCIATED SCIENTIFIC STAFF		350
RN's and LPN's (FTE)		265
DEPARTMENT HEADS		35
OTHER HEALTH PERSONNEL (Laboratory, Physical Therapy, Etc.)		350 (min.)
HOUSE STAFF		68
STUDENTS		115
Allied Health	40	
Medicine	20	
Nursing, Degree	30	
Nursing, LPN	25	

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Seating should be provided for 10% of potential readers (standards)

* National League for Nursing requires seating capacity for 25% of the potential users

HOSPITAL	TOTAL	118
SCHOOL OF NURSING STUDENTS AND FACULTY - 225	TOTAL	<u>56</u>

RECOMMENDED NUMBER OF SEATS FOR COMBINING THE TWO LIBRARIES

174
40