Math Learning Lab Moves into the Library

We Call It the Extreme Makeover...

From Andrea Schokker, Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, and Matt Rosendahl, Director of the Kathryn A. Martin Library

We are excited to announce that the Mathematics Learning Lab (aka, the Math Emporium) will be moving from its current location in Solon Campus Center to the library. The move began with construction of new offices in the library over spring break and is scheduled to be completed by June 2, 2014.

The Math Learning Lab (MLL) will be located in L215 in the space that has housed the library’s Technical Services Department.

In order to facilitate the move, several new offices are under construction behind the circulation desk. Circulation staff and functions will shift to these new office locations, Technical Services staff and functions will shift from L215 to L110, and remodeling of L215 will occur to accommodate the new Math Learning Lab.

The new location will allow the MLL to gain about 15 seats (bringing the total to 75) with a potential to expand to 120 seats, pending funding for further construction.

Teaching developmental mathematics courses in a lab setting, which offers both web-based materials and instructor support, has been a national trend for several years. This method caters to the needs of each student, allowing students to move more quickly through topics that are not as difficult for them and then focus more time on topics with which they are struggling. Instructors can more effectively provide students with the assistance they need to be successful with the course.

The UMD Department of Mathematics and Statistics established the Mathematics Learning Lab with 60 seats in fall 2013. In its first year, all sections of Math1005: College Algebra (520+ students) were moved into this format. The department plans to teach all of its developmental mathematics courses in the MLL, including Math1005, Math1250, and SSP103. About 1,200-1,300 students each year at UMD take these courses.

Here is the new office area
Here is one of the offices:
Here was our old office space under construction: