

**STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROJECT SUPPORT DOCUMENTATION**

FA 0749/0627

ATTACH to DB70/SBC-1

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DEPARTMENT : The University of Tennessee
PROJECT TITLE : **University Libraries Commons Phase 2**
INSTITUTION : The University of Tennessee, Knoxville

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A. PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:

(Description of project. Does not have to be every nut and bolt but inclusive of all major items that need to be accomplished)

Continue development of Commons Phase 2, Hodges Library

Furnishings for Melrose entry area and Mary E. Greer room \$99,900

The original design plan for the Commons included refurbishing the Melrose entry and the Mary E. Greer room to create an area that provides a campus intersection for the exchange of ideas through presentations, teaching, displays, and group or individual meetings. For under \$100,000 we could purchase new furnishings for the areas, one component of the renovations planned in Phase 2. The intent is to match the style, configurability, and utility of furnishings in Commons North and South.

B. EVIDENCE OF NEED:

(Justification for project, not necessarily economical justification)

Dramatic increase in gate count and circulations to undergraduates followed the opening of the Commons on 2nd floor of Hodges Library.

Consultation with SGA, Dean's Student Advisory Group, and Technology Advisory Board consistently yields requests for continued improvements and development to the area.

Steadily receive requests from colleges, academic departments and other groups on campus wanting to use space in the Commons for their academic services.

In-Library user survey conducted Spring 2009 indicated user desire for more computer equipment and dedicated user space for both individual study and group work. Extend hours of operation also noted as important. 51% of those surveyed visit the library 4 or more times per week.

C. HISTORICAL PROFILE:

(Can be historical for building, program project is for, etc.)

The Commons on the 2nd floor of Hodges Library is a partnership between the University Libraries and the Office of Information Technology that offers students and faculty the tools and information they need to be success learners and teachers in the 21st century. Opened in August 2005 (phase one), the Commons was planned as a multi-phased project that would adapt to meet student needs and technological advances. Initial

Phase 2 renovations were undertaken in 2007. Completion of Phase 2 and initiation of Phase 3 await funding. The area is open 24/5, closing at midnight on Friday and Saturday. It has proven to be heavily utilized by the student population around the clock when classes are in session. Demands for additional seating and other furnishings could be met through stimulus funding. This is high impact campus space and represents continued critical investment in student learning.

D. RELATED REQUIREMENTS:

None. *(Most likely none, but if there is a definite relationship to another project that must be done before this one can be done, or is waiting on this one to be done, explain here)*

E. SUMMARY RESULTS AND DATE OF PHYSICAL FACILITIES SURVEY:

Not applicable. *(This will not apply to any of these projects)*