What happens when key campus partners are running very successful undergraduate education programs but don’t have adequate space for them? UCLA’s Center for Education Innovation and Learning in the Sciences (CEILS) and Undergraduate Research Center (URC)-Sciences were running collaborative and active learning programs to promote student success and decrease achievement gaps in STEM courses; however, both programs had significant space needs. In this poster, presenters will share an innovative pilot program where the Science Libraries rapidly repurposed an existing library space with limited budget to integrate peer-led drop-in academic support, TA workshops, and collaborative study space. The project has led to a large increase in space usage, more campus visibility for the library, and new opportunities for library engagement with students, staff, and faculty. The project includes collection of data on best practices in space design for one-on-one and small group collaborative learning in the sciences and will inform future library re-design efforts. The presenters will share tips on advocating for and creating DIY, low budget, and experimental use of library space in collaboration with campus partners.
DIY SPACES IN A TIME OF CHANGE:
CREATING A STEM COLLABORATIVE LEARNING CENTER WITH CAMPUS PARTNERS

Problem: Underutilized library spaces.

Solution: Collaborate with campus partners running successful programs in need of space.

No money? No problem!
- Repurpose existing furniture
- Go low-tech (it's better for collaboration!)
- Use existing data to advocate project to sponsors

Project Description:
The UCLA STEM CLC, in collaboration with UCLA's Center for Education Innovation and Learning in the Sciences (CEILS) and Undergraduate Research Center (URC)-Sciences, is an innovative pilot program where the Science Libraries rapidly repurposed an existing library space with limited budget to integrate peer-led drop-in academic support, TA workshops, and collaborative study space.

Number of seats utilized per hour from 9am to 10pm
- Open study
- Consultation room
- Workshop

Data to support how the room would share open study, workshops, and consultations.

15,000+ student visitors to the STEM CLC in Fall 2017

38% increase in space usage in Fall 2017

11,000+ STEM students benefit from peer learning through the Learning Assistant program

Happy Students
- "U guys r lit!"
- "Please keep this program! NEED IT!"
- "IT'S GREEEAAAAT!"

Impact
- Informing best practices in active learning space design
- Increased campus visibility
- New opportunities for library engagement with students, staff, and faculty
- Additional opportunities for partnership between campus partners with similar goals

Collaborate!

Science Libraries
Courtney Hoffner,
Juan Jaime,
Doug Worsham

UCLA CEILS
Shanna Shaked, PhD

UCLA URC-Sciences
Nadia Sallami, PhD

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