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### What's happening with the current library?

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH THE CURRENT LIBRARY?

WITH SO MUCH TALK ABOUT THE NEW LIBRARY  
RESOURCE CENTER, ONE QUESTION STILL REMAINS:

## WHAT WILL THE CURRENT LIBRARY BUILDING BE USED FOR IN THE FUTURE?

by HongDao Nguyen  
SPECIAL TO THE CHIMES

*With the Groundbreaking Ceremony this Friday, one question that has yet to be answered is: what will be done with the old Rose Mead Library?*

Several options are open as to what to do with the old library, but the main candidates "who badly need new facilities" are the Business department and the Psychology department, according to Ken Bascom, Director of Facilities, Planning, and Construction.

Both departments would prefer building new facilities, but moving into the old library is a little more realistic. For the Psychology department, which at the moment is working out of portable buildings, the old library space is the best option.

As for the Business department, which is located in Metzger (largely known as an administrative building), there is the possibility of raising funds to build new facilities for themselves, but if not, then they would welcome the space, Bascom said.

Besides these two departments, "no other department has said that they wanted the space...but when people discover that real options are open to them, they begin to clamor," Bascom added.

Faculty offices are another possibility for the space, as enrollment is definitely increasing, and Biola is looking to hire

more staff.

The space options would create a domino effect, however, because Biola would then have to decide what to do with the extra space in Metzger and the portables (assuming that those departments take over the library space).

Bascom is hopeful that "the school will know what to do with the old library before graduation this year, but for sure by October, as soon as it's emptied out."

Even when the decision is made, it will still take "several months to develop a good space plan, and several more to get the city to approve the building modifications," Bascom said.

"We're going to have to completely remodel the bathrooms; they're way too small. Also, we're looking seriously to add an elevator for full access to all of the floors, and to comply with the disability guidelines," Bascom said.

He is confident that "we'll make a decision ready for construction a year from September...it'll take 6 months of construction on the old library, and then the move, which is slated for the summer of '02."

As for the new library, the Groundbreaking Ceremony is set to be this Friday during Chapel time, and there should be construction activity a week after that.