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THE CLAREMONT COLLEGES LIBRARY AWARDED NEW ACTIVE LEARNING CLASSROOM GRANT BY STEELCASE EDUCATION

*Third annual grant program provides 15 schools and universities new classrooms to promote inclusive pedagogy and student engagement*

Claremont, California, April 3, 2017 — The Claremont Colleges Library has been selected to receive a grant from Steelcase Education supporting the installation of an active learning classroom as part of the Active Learning Center (ALC) program.

With the installation of a classroom valued at $65,000, the Claremont Colleges Library will positively impact teaching and learning by supporting a variety of pedagogical approaches in a flexible and inclusive setting. The grant provides funding for modern, movable furniture, design support, onsite training, installation, and pre- and post- measurement tools.

The new Steelcase Education learning environment will be installed in the Keck Learning Room on the second floor of the library by Tangram, the designated vendor for Steelcase Education, beginning in summer 2017. Installation is scheduled to be completed before the fall semester begins. The new classroom has height-adjustable tables perfect for creating a clear sightline between students and instructors, enabling optimal conversation and collaboration.

The new space will enable librarians to incorporate active learning strategies into the classes they teach on information literacy, primary source literacy, and digital scholarship. It will also serve as the laboratory for the Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) housed in the Library, which is funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Faculty from across the seven colleges will be invited to learn about new pedagogies, concepts, and modes of teaching and learning in the dynamic, flexible environment of the new classroom.

“The Claremont Colleges Library was chosen because of a demonstrated commitment to active learning,” said Craig Wilson, Director of Market Development for Steelcase Education. “Research shows that space impacts behavior, and these classrooms will help a new group of librarians, faculty, and students explore the learning possibilities an interactive space can bring.”

In addition to receiving a new classroom, the Claremont Colleges Library will receive training from Steelcase on the uses of the furniture and technology in this new space, and will also have the opportunity to share insights and best practices with other educational institutions. Over the two-year program, Steelcase Education and The Claremont Colleges Library will partner to conduct assessments and research on the impact of the newly designed space.
“We are so excited to be recognized by the Active Learning Center Grant for our efforts in promoting personalized, engaged learning with our students,” said Kevin Mulroy, A.J. McFadden Dean of The Claremont Colleges Library. “The Steelcase award will allow us to complete renovations and improvements to the Keck Learning Room over the summer in time for a fall semester opening. We look forward to working closely with our CUC, Steelcase, and Tangram partners in completing this important project and creating an Active Learning Center environment in our primary classroom. With Steelcase Education’s support, we will continue our mission of fostering collaborations between students, librarians, and faculty in the classroom.”

**Steelcase Education**

As lifelong learners, Steelcase Education aims to make a difference in education. For students, educators and designers, the organization creates the most effective, rewarding and inspiring learning spaces. As a dedicated group within Steelcase exclusively focused on education, it brings evidence-based design, technology and innovative solutions to education environments, wherever learning happens.

Along with The Claremont Colleges Library, 14 other schools and universities out of over 900 applications were chosen for their unique approaches to active learning. For more information on the winners, visit the [Steelcase Education website](#).

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