

Abstract

The objective of this study is to propose a design of Bangkok Innovative Learning Center (BILC). Using the lifelong learning concept as a guide, BILC offers various types of media and spaces for individuals to exchange their knowledge. The environment created at BILC would encourage Thai people across age groups to continuously acquire knowledge. This study covers the following six areas: 1) the various ways of learning; 2) the space usage and differences in human perception; 3) the relationships between the space usage in the learning environment and users; 4) the management of learning center; 5) the possible location of BILC in Bangkok area; and 6) the analysis and design of the BILC on the selected site. The study of BILC was evaluated by architectural design experts and has been revised in order to function and perform architecturally.

The results of this study indicate that the design of Bangkok Innovative Learning Center should consider the nature of how people learn in relation to the learning environment. More specifically, there are six ways that people use to acquire knowledge including: 1) learning through the direct instruction in a classroom; 2) learning through discussions; 3) learning from examples and cases; 4) learning by doing; 5) learning through research; and 6) learning from the use of technology. The learners' learning preferences can be categorized into six types: 1) those who feel most comfortable in learning by reading; 2) those who prefer to follow instructions; 3) those who learn best when teaching others; 4) those who learn best through communication with others; 5) those who prefer learning in the quiet environment; and 6) those who learn best when incorporating what they learn with their body movements. Because there are associations between learners' preferences in relation to the learning environment, the learners in each type would differently respond to the similar learning environment.

In terms of the location of BILC, the survey reveals that Samyan Market, where shophouses and student dormitories are located, on Rama 4 and Phayathai road

across Chamchuree center would be the most appropriate. This location covers plot number 21-22 with an area of 21,390 square meters. The building functional areas include: 1) a public service area with a space of 4,477.20 square meters; 2) an academic service area with a space of 12,365 square meters; 3) a management and administration area covering 534.75 square meters; and 4) a service area covering 380.00 square meters. The functional area is 23,084.03 square meters in total. The budget of building BILC is approximately 2,000,000,000 baht. It is also co-invested by Chulalongkorn University and the Office of Knowledge Management and Development (OKMD).