

JACK K. WILLIAMS LIBRARY, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY AT GALVESTON

Natalie Wiest

Williams Library was dedicated November 1, 1986. Cost of the entire project was \$4.9 million for 27,000 square feet of building; 24,000 net usable square feet. Pelican Island, on which it sits, is a dredge spoil-enhanced island separated from Galveston Island by a causeway and the Galveston Channel. It is approximately 1.5 miles from the mainland of Texas. 100' deep pilings were needed to stabilize the single story structure, which is part of the high cost per square foot for construction.

The Library seats 200 users, and currently has shelving for approximately 70,000 volumes. The user community of Williams Library includes 1200 undergraduate students in marine and maritime studies. There are 7.5 full time staff employed by the Library. Additional facilities in the Library are a Learning Resource Center (one full time staff, plus student workers), video conference room, photocopy room, three small (6-10 users) and one large (up to 25) meeting rooms. The Library is free-standing and one story in height, with a minimum elevation above sea-level of 15 feet.

I have been the Library Director for TAMUG since 1982 and was involved in the planning and move-in operations for Williams Library. Interiors and overall construction supervision by the Facilities Planning and Construction Division of Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas.