**Moving a Library 400 Miles:**
SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA (MILL VALLEY) TO ONTARIO, CALIFORNIA

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**Why Leave SF Bay Area?**
Neighborhood at odds with the seminary over development issues costing $1M/yr. in legal fees.
Marin County is one of most expensive places in the U.S. to live.
Failing infrastructure in campus housing and other buildings with expensive repair costs
Other financial issues . . .

**Goodbye, Golden Gate Library (1981-2016)**

**Why Ontario, California?**
Greater LA area has a growing multicultural population base, too.
Inland Empire, east of LA, has a lower cost of living.
Ontario has an airport, multiple freeway connections.
Baptist are better established in Southern California.

**When**
2014–(April 1) Initial Announcement Made
2015–NCC Staff offered positions at Ontario, or end of employment effective May 2016 (with benefits)
May-June 2016 NCC staff packed the library, said final goodbyes, and either went home or packed their homes and left for southern California.
Library movers packed, moved and set up the collection (100k+ volumes). Library staff packed archives and rare books.
June – July 2016 Ontario staff unpacked the library and their homes.
August 2016 Ontario library opens! No internet or phone service for two more weeks (cell phones and mobile hotspots saved the day).

**Ontario to Fremont via NCC Academic Building**

**How**
What went: bound periodicals, music scores, accumulated junk, old compact shelving, deer, views of San Francisco skyline.
What was new: small lake, new compact shelving, ducks and turtles, seating, comp.
Overton & Associates: One of three nationally known movers willing to bid on the project.

**What**
Move main collection from Mill Valley to Ontario.
Move Brea campus collection to Fremont.

**Who**
5 FT staff, one FT volunteer and 6 part-time employees (mainly students) at Northern California Campus (NCC)
2 FT staff resigned in 2015 and replacements were hired (moved to NCC and then to Ontario)
1 FT staff and 1 volunteer retired summer 2016
1 FT staff stayed in Bay Area as Fremont campus librarian
4 FT staff moved to Ontario area (1 in 2015, 3 in 2016)
2 new FT staff started at Ontario in summer 2016
3 new PT workers hired summer 2016 at Ontario, 1 returning and 1 new PT worker at Fremont campus library.

**Lessons Learned**
The library is the most complex part of campus move.
Library staff are the only ones who will know that.
Start planning the library move as soon as you learn that you’re moving! Expect nothing to go as planned.
Don’t let administrators assume they know more about libraries than the library staff or that all architects know how to plan an academic library.
Double the time you think it will take to do everything once you get into your new space.
Don’t forget your mission.

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**Footnotes:**
- Ontario has an airport, multiple freeway connections.
- Ontario is one of the most expensive places in the U.S.
- The library move was complex and required planning.
- The library staff faced many challenges, including limited internet service.
- Lessons learned included the importance of starting the planning process early and not relying on administrators' knowledge of libraries.
- The library staff worked diligently to ensure the move was successful.
- Financial support was provided to help with the move.