library
SPACES
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The reimagined and renewed Georgia Tech Library will continue to be the important hub for campus knowledge creation, collaboration, and scholarship that it has always been.

(http://renewal.library.gatech.edu/white-papers/reimagining-the-georgia-tech-library)
No longer only a place for information creation, the library is now the place for information creation.

This includes spaces for:

- Individual spaces for quiet study and reflection
- Group study spaces with tools for creation and the sharing of ideas
- Spaces for individual and group viewing of media and audio listening
- Music practice rooms and recording studios
- Reading Rooms in special collections and archives
- Gallery space for the exhibition of unique collections and student or faculty projects

Knowledge and artistic expression is being created and supported with:

- Makerspaces
- Multimedia rooms
• Video production, interactive media, photography and recording studios
• Facilities for post-production
• Labs that support virtual and augmented reality creation and participation
• Gaming areas
• Data visualization and GIS (geographic information systems) labs

Knowledge is not created in a vacuum. Researchers will not solve the world's global challenges by themselves. Which is why we need to create spaces for collaboration.
The trend is open, flexible and convertible space. Furniture is on wheels and can easily be moved depending on users' needs. Technology is BYOD (bring your own device) ready, allowing users to plug in laptops or mobile devices for easy idea sharing or to carry out a Skype meeting with team members. The space can also be converted to encourage interaction and social encounters.

The open floorplans may include zones such as active, semi-active and quiet. We see this at Sorrells Library in the way it is divided.
Spaces for scholarship support both knowledge creation and collaboration.

Digital Scholarship Centers support the synthesis and dissemination of information: publishing, digital humanities, data visualization, analysis of big data, emerging and interactive media. My team members will be talking about these areas more. They are collaborative and interdisciplinary spaces, staffed by librarians and specialists, that allow for training, consultations, workshops, and classes. These are also spaces to showcase the innovative research and creative expression that is underway across the university. Display walls or screens reach out to the rest of the library community. Glass walls open create a “fishbowl” that invites users to watch, learn and perhaps become so curious, they want to know more.

Another example of spaces for scholarship would be areas for specific users – Georgia Tech has an undergraduate Learning Commons. Duke, a Graduate Research Commons. Washington University in St. Louis features faculty study rooms.
I believe it's important to use new, open, flexible library spaces for wellness and just plain fun to enrich the quality of the student experience.

Duke University Libraries added FitDesks, stationary bikes with desks, in December 2016. They also have areas with standing desks.

Book nooks and unplugged zones provide escape spaces to relax, meditate, read, or take a nap.

There's room for more stressbuster activities such as therapy dog visits and free chair massages. Or pop-up makerspaces or hands-on workshops such as puzzles, Lego, coloring book stations, and zine making.

Simple, short-term, low-cost placemaking solutions can transform community spaces. Projects could include idea walls and indoor hammocks OR we could take the libraries outside with Little Free Libraries and bookmobiles.
It’s time to address the elephant in the room.
WHAT about those books? Where are the books in these open spaces with furniture on wheels and data viz walls?

Libraries have never been just a building with books. Our mission hasn't changed but our users’ needs and the direction of scholarship has changed.

These new uses of library space give us amazing opportunities to impact the evolving research, teaching and learning needs of our university community.

I think all the libraries that I researched had storage facilities. Case Western calls their facility the Retrospective Research Collections Center.

Two storage facilities stood out because they were actually highlighted and promoted on library websites. In these cases, the offsite storage facility is an extension of the library.
University of Chicago
Joe and Rika Mansueto Library

- Grand Reading Room
- 180 seats
- 2 glass research cubicles
- 1 listening station

- underground, 50 ft. high storage racks
- ASRS (automated storage & retrieval system)
- 3.5 million book capacity
- 5 min. retrieval time
- climate controlled

Joe and Rika Mansueto Library at the University of Chicago
Dedicated in 2011
Emory University and Georgia Tech partnership dedicated in March 2016.

There is only a 17% overlap in the institutions’ collections so this is a great asset for both.

95% of GA Tech’s print collection is at the LSC.
Not a peer institution, but it’s included as an example of everything I’ve mentioned in this presentation.

North Carolina State University’s James B. Hunt Jr. Library

- on-site automated storage
- 2 million book capacity
- 5 min. retrieval time
- Virtual Browse system: The Libraries’ Virtual Browse feature in the online catalog allows you to see a virtual bookshelf with all of the materials that would be located near your item of interest by call number, including the growing number of electronic books in the collection.
- Robot Alley viewing area
- 1/9th the space as regular shelving

Allows for all the spaces I’ve talked about in this presentation.

- Media Production
- Music Rooms
- Teaching and Visualization Lab
• Creativity Studio
• MakerSpace
• Emerging Issues Commons
• Immersion Theatre
• Next-Gen Learning Commons takes up an entire floor
• Game Lab
• Faculty Research Commons
• Graduate Student Commons
• Multipurpose Room
• Technology Showcase space
• Terrace and a Rain Garden
Results from the survey we sent out a couple weeks ago indicate that many of us see a need for more space, support flexible-use spaces and are interested in spaces dedicated to special use and specific users.

I do want to mention that in terms of space issues, many of our peer institutions appear to face the same challenges we do such as older buildings and budgetary constraints. They may have the specialists, but not the shiny new facilities with the latest equipment and technology.

But we can't wait until we have a new building or plans for massive renovation and redesign projects. So let's start to reimagine our spaces now. What can we do tomorrow? In a year? 3 years? 5 years? What do OUR users need? And what do we, as the folks who spend 5 days a week in our spaces need?