

2014

Christopher Center for Library and Information Resources (2014 Brochure)

Valparaiso University

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Christopher Center

for Library and Information Resources



Welcome to Valparaiso University's Christopher Center for Library and Information Resources

As the intellectual center of campus, the Christopher Center was designed to bring all campus information services to a single location while best serving the needs of students. The result is a welcoming, state-of-the-art learning environment that also serves as an important campus social center.

Christopher Center Library Services 1) will provide Valparaiso University students and faculty with a transformative experience in their lifelong pursuit of information, knowledge, and wisdom; 2) will lead and proactively partner with Valparaiso University students and faculty in the creation, dissemination, and preservation of their scholarship and research; and 3) will be renowned worldwide as a center for Lutheran and interfaith studies.



Christopher Center Facts:

In 1859, Valparaiso Male and Female College opened with a “small library.”

By 1907, the school had been renamed Valparaiso University, and the library held 12,000 “choice reference books.”

Our mission is to provide active learning environments in which students, faculty, and staff use innovative tools and resources to create and access information intelligently, efficiently, and with integrity.

Three generations of the Christopher family have graduated from Valparaiso University. This includes Jay's parents, Maxine Cimaglio '37, and Walter '34, '36 J.D., brother Scott '68, '73 J.D., and daughter Kelley '97. Walter served as president of the Alumni Association board in its earliest years.

Part of a \$33 million project, the Christopher Center was made possible through gifts from alumni and friends, including a \$16 million gift from Jay '67, '99H and Doris '99H Christopher. Jay continues to serve in leadership roles at the University. Doris and Jay each hold honorary doctor of laws degrees from the University.

The Christopher Center replaced the former Henry F. Moellering Library. Dedicated in 1959, that building was constructed with the aid of a major gift from Margaret

Moellering, widow of Henry F. Moellering. Henry was a member of the board of directors following purchase of the University by a group of Lutheran clergy and lay leaders who created the Lutheran University Association. The Moellering name will be associated with the University in perpetuity. The Christopher Center holdings are now known as the Moellering Collection in honor of the family who also counts three generations as Valpo supporters. The third generation includes Harold '65, Richard '64, Robert C. Jr. '58, '74H, '80H, Carl '64, Barbara '66, and John '76H.

Support of the University's *Three Goals, One Promise* campaign made construction of the Christopher Center possible. Among the major donors to the building project are those whose gifts are recognized in special areas of the building.



Christopher Center Facts:

The Christopher Center is the fourth library to be constructed on Valpo's campus.

The departments in the Christopher Center are among the largest student employers on campus.

The Steinway piano in the Community Room was purchased with donor funds.



Valparaiso University library faculty play an important role in the University's mission to create a community of learning, grounded in scholarship, faith, and service. Library faculty apply their professional knowledge by teaching in both formal and informal settings; selecting, acquiring, and organizing material; and providing guidance so users can create and access information intelligently, efficiently, and with integrity.

Faculty teaching librarians:

- Provide information literacy instruction across the disciplines
- Create online research guides
- Develop Christopher Center resource collections to support teaching and research
- Assist with course development and assignment design

Every Valpo department and major program has a specialty guide created

by the subject librarian that provides a one-stop gathering place for all resources, services, and use recommendations in that subject area. For faculty who request them, librarians also create course/assignment-specific guides which may also be used when teaching information literacy sessions for those assignments.

Each instruction session is based on the course assignment and needs, with sessions that range in content from a

basic introduction to the Christopher Center Library Services and its many resources to subject-specific research concepts and skills. Designed to complement the instruction students receive in their classes, these hands-on sessions address college-level research and writing learning objectives. Students gain the skills they need to be information literate in today's high-tech world.

Christopher Center Features

Contemporary Design

The 105,000-square-foot Christopher Center for Library and Information Resources was designed by Esherick, Homsey, Dodge, and Davis of Chicago to *break the mold* of institutional libraries. The wireless building accommodates all study preferences with both study carrels and soft furniture in living room-style settings, several complete with fireplaces. Snacks and beverages are available at Grinders Café and may be taken to all areas of the Christopher Center. Group study areas in a variety of sizes and computer clusters support current teaching methods that encourage collaboration as students work on group projects and presentations.

The grid-like structure flanking the south and east sides of the building's exterior provides a striking appearance while serving as a valuable sunscreen. This protects the books from harmful, constant exposure to sun rays and helps soften the sunlight entering the two-story reading room overlooking Resurrection Meadow south of the Chapel. At the same time, Christopher Center users enjoy spaces bathed in natural light.

The building's thoughtful design allows the Christopher Center to evolve and change in response to increasing numbers of students using the space and their

differing needs. The 2014 Senior Class voted to dedicate their Senior Class gift to fund new furniture and the opening of new study spaces in the Christopher Center. During the 2013-2014 academic year, many students participated in surveys and activities that resulted in moving all desktop computing from the quiet third and fourth floors to the first and second floors. A newly established laptop loan program, coupled with a wireless connectivity throughout the building, supports students' needs to access resources in all formats from wherever they are in the Christopher Center.

The Automated Storage and Retrieval System

Provided by a gift from Herbert F. Stride, the Christopher Center's Automated Storage and Retrieval System (ASRS) is an immensely useful tool for Valparaiso University students and faculty. Operating as a storehouse for items that are used intermittently, the ASRS allows patrons almost immediate access to material kept in a more consolidated area. When the Christopher Center opened in 2004,

Valpo was one of five universities operating an ASRS in the nation.

The material is requested through the Christopher Center's catalog and is available for pickup at the main Circulation Desk within minutes. Standing two stories high, two aisles of 936 bins (1,872 bins total) are accessed by two cranes which retrieve the bin housing

the requested item. The bins can hold approximately 300,000 items in only one seventh the amount of space normal shelving units can hold, which nearly doubles the number of items held in the Christopher Center and also opens up space for student usage within the building.



A Community Resource

Members of the greater community are welcome to use materials in the Christopher Center and to avail themselves of the study areas. Borrower's cards are available to the public for a nominal cost.

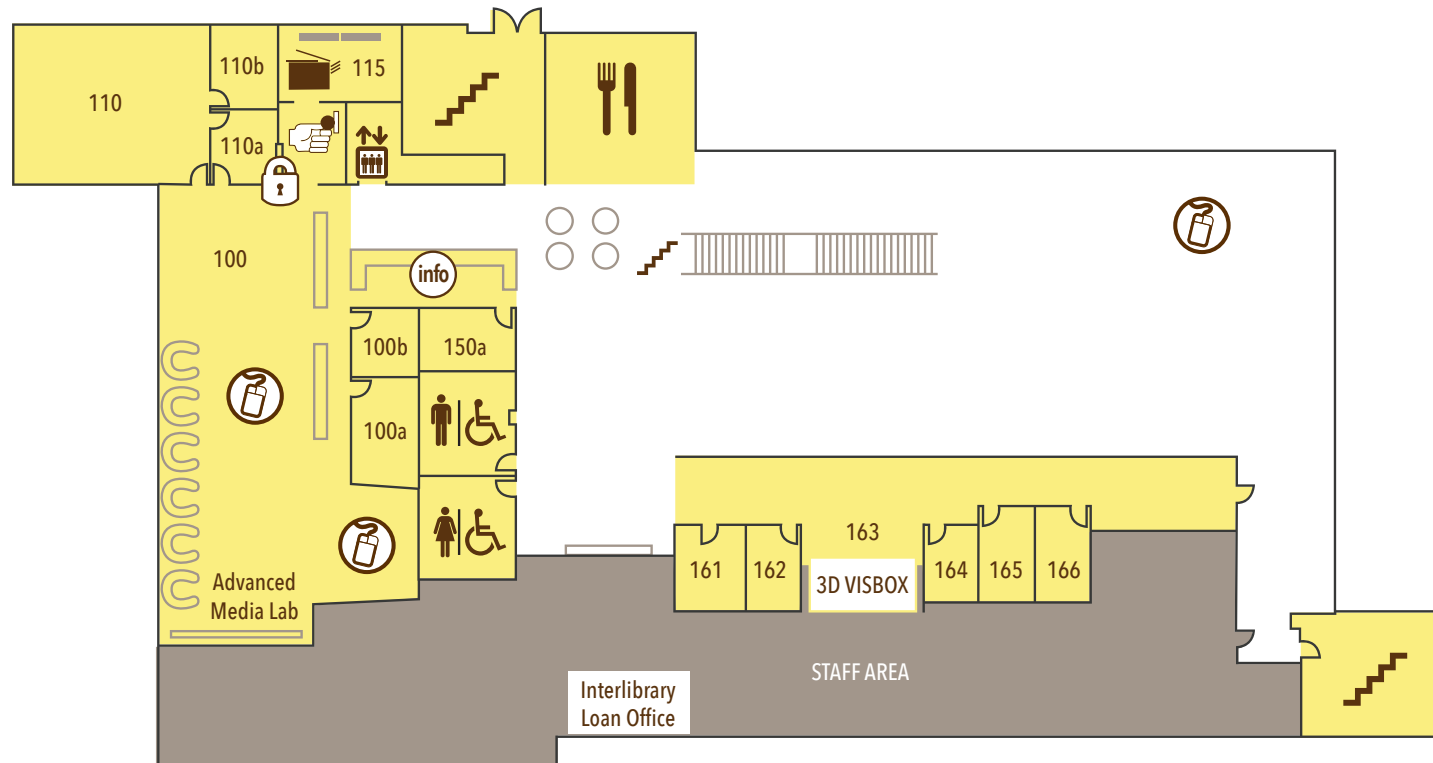
Christopher Center Facts:

The Christopher Center has won numerous architecture awards, including the 2008 Merit Award for Architecture from the AIA California Council, the 2006 Library Interior Design Honor Award from the American Library Association, the 2005 Distinguished Building Award from AIA Chicago, the 2005 Excellence in Architecture Award from AIA San Francisco, and the 2005 Regional Award for Interior Lighting Design from the International Interior Design Association.

Managed by the Christopher Center, the University's institutional repository, Valpo Scholar, hit its 1 millionth download on June 10, 2014, a notable achievement for a resource just three years old.



Christopher Center First Floor

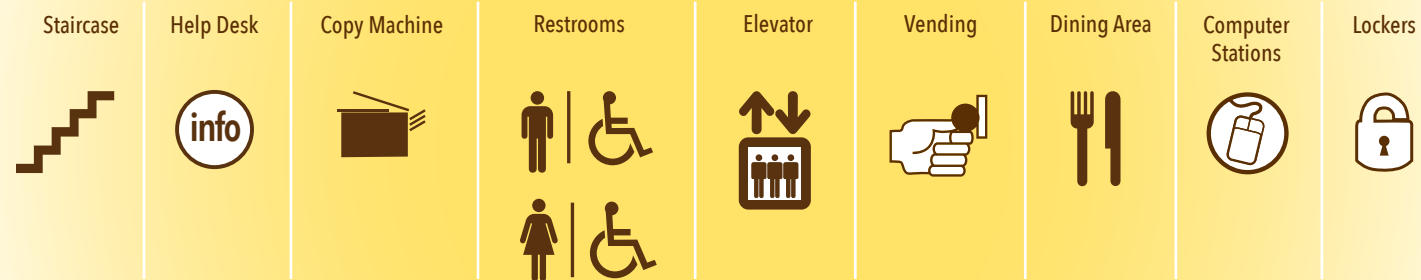


One of the University's largest study areas is found in the southeast corner of the Christopher Center's first floor, overlooking Resurrection Meadow. The view is inspiring with drinks and snacks just steps away at Grinders Café.



First Floor Features

- Academic Success Center
- Ashline Media Library
- Grinders Café
- Media, map, and Stager collections
- First Floor Entrance (Chapel side)
- Kettner Viewing Room
- Help Desk
- Staff Offices (Librarian & Library Services, IT)
- Interlibrary Loan Office
- Volk Meadow Reading Room
- IT Client Services
- 3D Visbox



Legend

- East entrance, ground level book drop next to the entrance
- Media/IT Help Desk
- 100: Computer workstations
- 100a: Disability Support Services
- 100b: IT Client Services
- 110a: Writing Center
- 110 & 110b: Academic Success Center
- Christopher Center Metadata Services
- Media Collection
- 163 – 164: Visbox
- 166, 166a: VITAL services

Christopher Center Facts:

It's rarely quiet in the Christopher Center: the 2013-2014 academic year's door count finished at 829,695 visits.

110 public-access computers are available on both the 1st and 2nd floors.



Provided by Jeff Will

Christopher Center Second Floor



Legend

North entrance (Chapel Drive)
 200, 201: Community Room
 205: Classroom
 210: Board of Directors Room

220: Fireplace Reading Lounge
 240: Circulation Desk
 240a: Circulation Office
 240b: Automated Storage and Retrieval System (ASRS)

250, 262 – 268:
 Christopher Center Faculty Offices
 251: Microforms Room
 261a, 261b: Instructional Classrooms



Room 205:
Melahn Tiered Classroom

Second Floor Features

- Main Entrance, The Board of Directors Room
- Duesenberg Community Room
- Melahn Tiered Classroom
- Anderson Foundation Circulation Desk
- Herbert F. Stride Automated Storage and Retrieval System (ASRS)
- Woiwod Office
- The Thomas E. and Marilyn Koch Ochs Fireplace Reading Room
- The Merle and Louise Bachman Reference Room
- The Alice S. Melahn Instruction Training Room
- The George and Charlotte Spear Instruction Training Room
- Reference, current print journals, government documents, and microform collections

Christopher Center Facts:

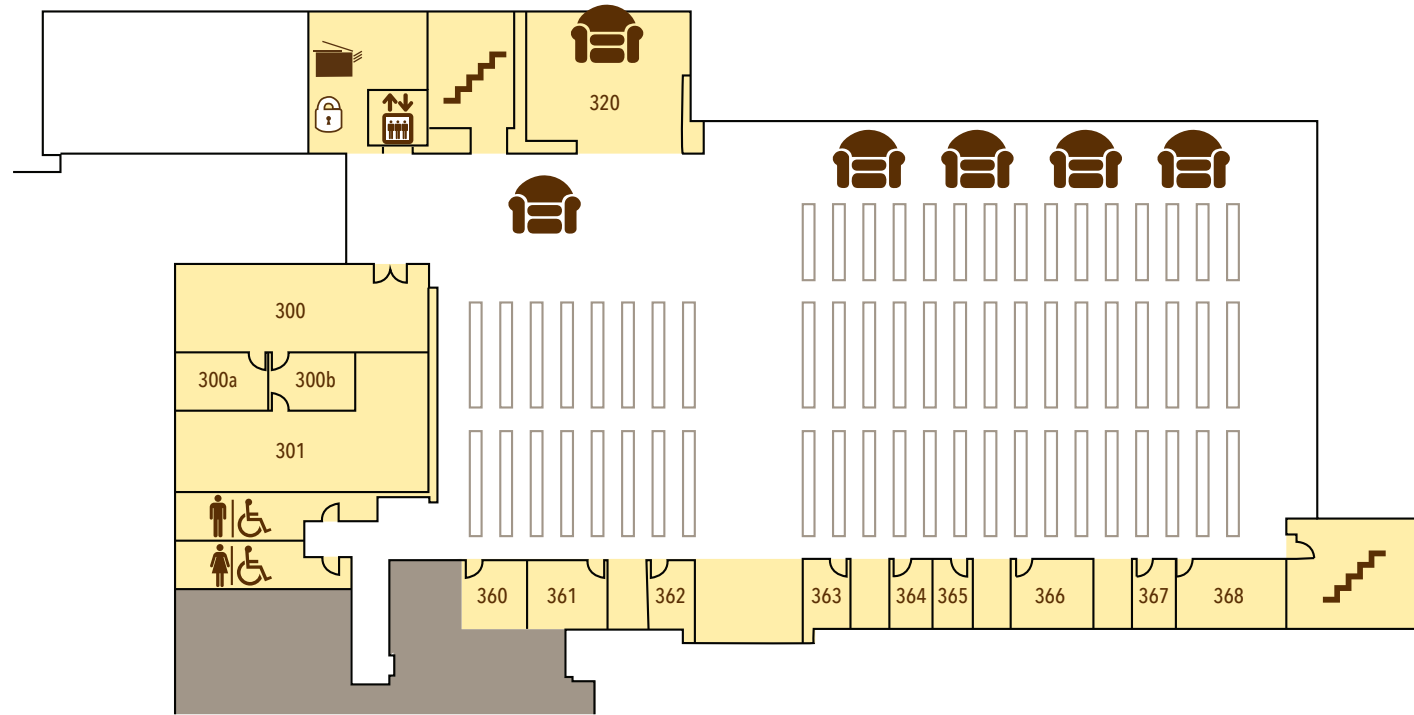
The building's teaching spaces are in constant use: 940 bookings from the Christopher Center, IT, and across campus in the 2013-2014 academic year.

Jessica Kholamian '15 and Buck, her three-year-old therapy dog, began a partnership with the Christopher Center in Spring 2014 to provide weekly volunteer pet therapy service on-site.

In addition to the yearly activities centered around Banned Books Week, Christopher Center displays and programming explore wide-ranging topics, such as "Valpo Library celebrates mustaches" or "Be a kid again at the library!"



Christopher Center Third Floor



Lockers



Staircase



Copy Machine



Restrooms



Elevator



Soft Seating



Legend

300 – 301: University Archives, Special Collections
320: Fireplace Reading Lounge

Book Collection: Call numbers A-L
360-367: Collaboration and Group Study Rooms

368: Conference Room Study carrels

Third Floor Features

- University Archives, Special Collections
- The Valparaiso University Guild Fireplace Reading Room
- Book Stacks, Call numbers A – L
- The John and Cynthia Felton Group Study Room
- The Glenn J. Tabor Group Study Room
- The Jim and Joanna McGill Team Study Room
- The NiSource Conference Room



Christopher Center Facts:

The largest collection of University historical artifacts and papers are held in the Christopher Center Archives.

A 1768 Lutheran Bible was donated to the Christopher Center's Special Collections by Mrs. Ruth Christine Drews Shipman on July 25, 2013.

Christopher Center Fourth Floor

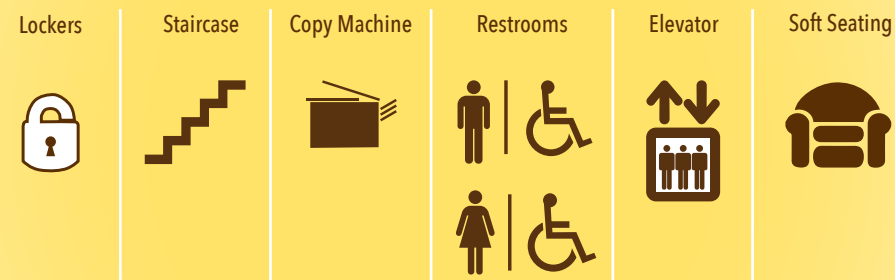


Enjoy the sweeping views of Resurrection Meadow and main campus from the Rupert and Ruth Dunklau Terrace.

Peter Aaron/Otto

Fourth Floor Features

- Library Services Administration Suite
- Teaching Resource Center, Faculty Study
- Book Stacks, Call Numbers M – Z
- The Rupert and Ruth Dunklau Terrace
- The Carl A. and Isabelle Brauer Group Study Room
- The Jim and Susan Hooker Team Study Room
- The Rolland and Sharon Preuss Group Study Room
- The Steven and Kathryn Hronec Fireplace Reading Room



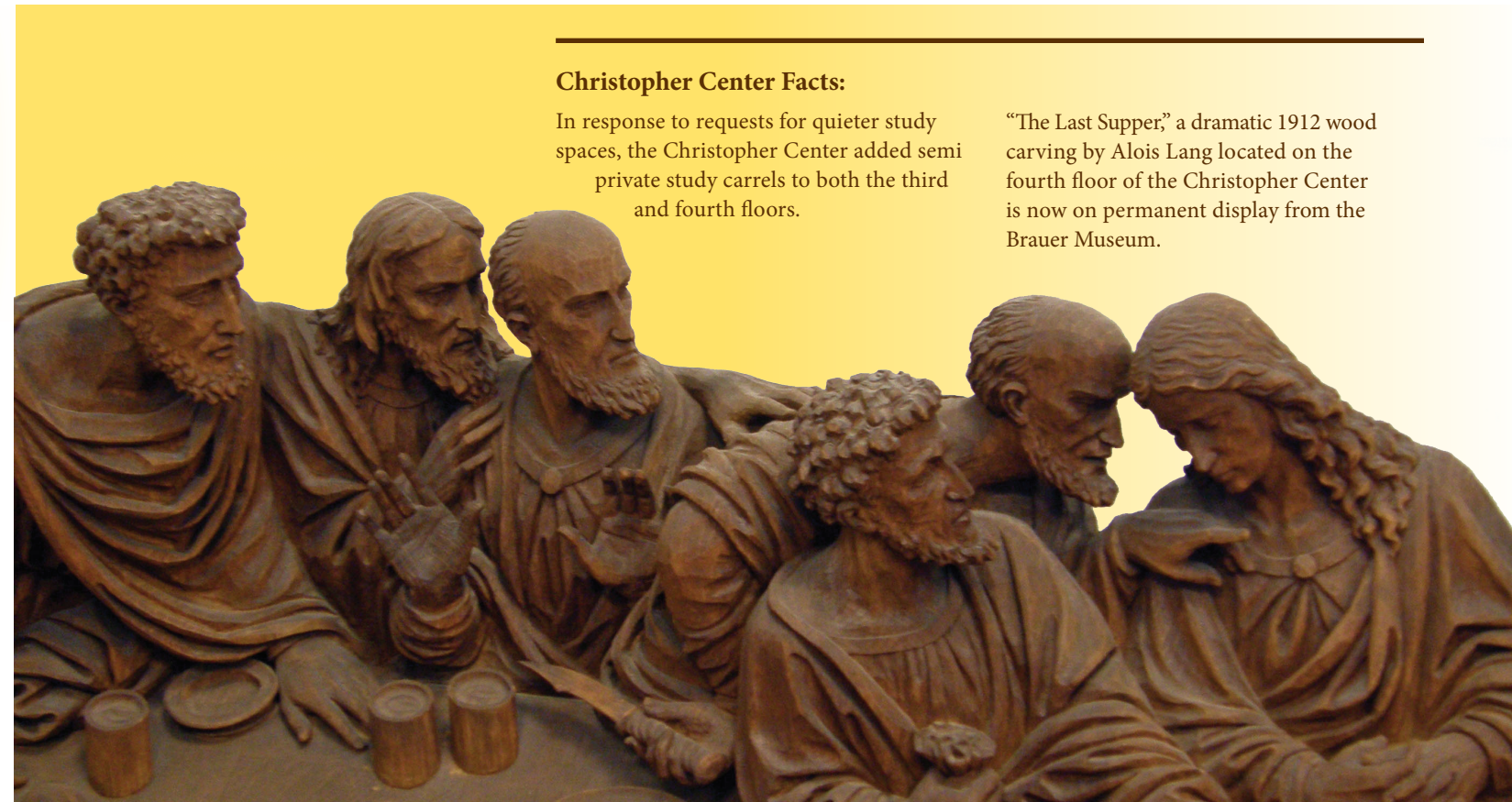
Legend

- | | | |
|---|---|----------------------|
| 400: Faculty Study, VITAL Services | 420: Fireplace Reading Lounge | 468: Conference Room |
| 410: Christopher Center Services Administration | Book Collection: Call Numbers M – Z | Study Carrels |
| | 460 – 467 Collaboration and Group Study Rooms | Outdoor Terrace |

Christopher Center Facts:

In response to requests for quieter study spaces, the Christopher Center added semi-private study carrels to both the third and fourth floors.

“The Last Supper,” a dramatic 1912 wood carving by Alois Lang located on the fourth floor of the Christopher Center is now on permanent display from the Brauer Museum.



CHRISTOPHER CENTER FOR LIBRARY AND INFORMATION RESOURCES

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