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Jerry Falwell Library

1-23-2014

Jerry Falwell Library Spaces, Services, Technology, Collections, Vision, and History

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Recommended Citation

Cobb, Mike; Cox, Kathryn; Pasque, Cooper; Patterson, Rory; Rollins, S. Elisa; and Taylor, Drew, "Jerry Falwell Library Spaces, Services, Technology, Collections, Vision, and History" (2014). *Faculty Publications and Presentations*. Paper 93.
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[Spaces](#) | [Services](#) | [Technology](#) | [Collections](#) | [Vision and History](#)

The Jerry Falwell Library is located at a central point along the main academic pedestrian corridor. Thorough analysis and research showed us that the design of the Jerry Falwell Library couldn't be one that looked back to the traditional research libraries of the past. We also couldn't neglect the rich heritage that's so much a part of the great state of Virginia. You'll see a design that joins those two standards together, in a blend of contemporary themes with "Old Virginia" styling. In the new Jerry Falwell Library you'll find a destination that includes both collaborative work spaces as well as aesthetic spaces for inspiration, creativity, and relaxation. There is an emphasis on bringing the beautiful Virginia climate inside by including 9 balconies and several terraces. Additionally, you'll be able to work together in one of over 30 group study rooms, each with electronic self-scheduling at the door to the room, on kiosks, and online. The advanced resources are easy to learn independently or, by taking advantage of the customer support staff we'll have spread throughout the library who are tasked with providing you welcoming, informative, fast, and impressive service.

While your old library space had roughly 60,000 sq. ft., your new building has 170,000 sq. ft. and a capacity for 2300 of us to use at any one time. Frequently used print books are immediately accessible either in the four story book tower or in the richly appointed Caudell Reading Room, while other books are quickly accessible from our Automated Storage and Retrieval System. We've also spent time making your electronic resources more readily accessible through a streamlined, newly designed website

Spaces

With 170,000 square feet of space, the new Jerry Falwell Library is nearly three times the size of the former Guillerman Library in DeMoss. The extra space means that the new Jerry Falwell Library will offer you ample space for both collaborative and individual study in a variety of exciting environments!



Balconies

The Jerry Falwell Library has 9 balconies off of the upper levels. Each balcony is equipped with wifi, seating, as well as plugs to power your personal electronic devices. If you want a great view of the Blue Ridge Mountains, check out the Scholar's Lounge Balcony on the third floor of the North Wing; and if you prefer a water view, be sure to visit the Gallagher Lakeside Balcony off of the third floor commons in the South Wing.

Terraces

In addition to the balconies on the upper floors, the new Jerry Falwell Library also has several terraces off of the ground floors, and a Rooftop Terrace which provides a close-up look at our Green Roof above the Esbenshade Atrium.

Learning Commons

Learning Commons are located adjacent to the Book Tower on the Terrace, First, Second, and Third floors of the South Wing of the new Jerry Falwell Library. Each level is a designated "zone." The Terrace and Second floors are designated as "Quiet Study"; the First floor Carter Learning Commons is designated as "Collaborative"; and the Third floor is designated as "Deep Quiet." Each level of the Learning Commons also has a small collection of computers available as well.



Group Study Rooms

The new Jerry Falwell Library provides more than 30 Group Study Rooms. Each room is equipped with writeable walls and table tops! Shortly after opening, Group Study Rooms will be able to be reserved either online, by visiting one of our many Information Desks, or at the Customer Service Center. Future expansion of electronic self-scheduling of Group Study Rooms will include the ability to schedule rooms on any of our information kiosks, or by using the electronic pad

outside each room!

Dodak Technology Commons

Located on the first floor just off of the Esbenshade Atrium inside the main entrance, the Dodak Technology Commons houses the highest concentration of computers (both Mac and PC) in the building. Also located within the commons is one of several print stations scattered throughout the building, as well as an



IT Help Desk to provide assistance with any technical issues that customers may have.

Tinney Café

Located on the terrace and first floors (directly below the Caudell Reading Room), the Tinney Café houses several exciting food and beverage vendors. On the first floor there is a Starbucks Café with ample seating, while on the terrace level there is a Tsunami Sushi, a Brioche Dorée, and a Pizza Hut Express. There is also be seating outside on the Lakeside Café Terrace!

Caudell Reading Room

Located on the east side of the South Wing on the second and third floors, and designated as a “Quiet Reflective Study Area”, the Caudell Reading Room provides a space conducive to thoughtful and contemplative reading. The Literature and Language section of the main collection is located on shelving spanning both floors, while on the lower level, customers can find the “Oversized Books” and a selection of current Periodicals.

Active Learning Classroom

Innovative technologies facilitate an interactive learning environment in the Active Learning Classroom, which will be used by Research Assistance Librarians to teach information literacy workshops throughout the semester. Training is available for faculty who would like to host a session in this hi-tech classroom.



Event Spaces:



Esbenshade Atrium

This serves as the connecting hub between the north and south wings of the new Jerry Falwell Library. The upper level serves as the main entrance to the library and houses the Welcome Desk, Customer Service Center, and the Media Wall. There is a grand staircase leading down into the lower atrium with additional seating. This is an excellent space for a variety of large events.

Terrace Conference Room

Located just off of the lower Esbenshade Atrium, the Terrace Conference Room can hold about 96 seats, but can also be configured with tables for a variety of event needs. Additionally, the room can be divided into two equally sized rooms for even more event options. A catering kitchen is available for use in a location adjacent to the conference room.

Services

IT Help Desk

IT staff are available in the Dodak Technology Commons to assist with technology.

Customer Service Center

Whether you are checking out or returning books, making copies, looking for items in the ASRS, or are in need of research assistance, the Customer Service Center is your central location for finding help at the Jerry Falwell Library. Look for Information Desks spread throughout the library for quick access to assistance.



Research Assistance

Research assistance is readily available to all students, faculty, staff, and the community at large. Ask at the Customer Service Center to connect with a Research Assistance Librarian or catch one of our roving support personnel spread throughout the Learning Commons for on the spot help. Working on a dissertation? Schedule a research consultation with the Graduate Research Assistance Librarian. LUO students can receive help by phone, chat or email from Liberty University Online Research Assistance.

Interlibrary Loan

The Interlibrary Loan Service (ILL) requests materials from other libraries to be used by Liberty University students and faculty. Document delivery of print articles in the Jerry Falwell Library collection conveniently places information right at your fingertips.

Digital Commons

The Digital Commons captures and showcases the scholarship of Liberty University as a repository of LU faculty authored articles, presentations, book reviews and more, as well as theses and dissertations by the student population.

Technology



Media Wall

The 24x11 foot Media Wall is easily visible as you enter the Esbenshade Atrium. It is made of 198 microscreens; you can interact with it by the use of one of three Kinect sensors. It highlights social media from the campus community. Tag your Instagram photos with #LibertyUniversity and your pictures might end up on it!

Pixel Surface tables

There are four Perceptive Pixel tables placed in various locations around the library. These interactive tables are used like large screen tablets. You can view information about and photos from mission trips done by Liberty University students, browse digitized archive materials such as “The Liberty Champion”, and, in the future, access study aids such as flashcards loaded by your professors.

Surface Pro/Kiosks

The Library has kiosks made of Surface Pro tablets to help you find campus maps, schedule a group study room, check the bus schedule, or answer other quick information needs.

Active Learning Classroom and Screenhub

You can use Screenhub in six of the Library’s group study rooms – or during a class in the Active Learning Classroom. Collaborate with your group on a project, all using the same screen. All group study rooms are designed to encourage creativity and thought. If your group study room does not have Screenhub, you can still use a black or blue dry erase marker on the walls and class surfaces in the room to write out your ideas or study notes.

Collections

Designed With You In Mind

The newly designed, forward thinking Jerry Falwell library is designed for 21st century students, faculty, and staff. The bulk of the physical collection is in a quick robotic retrieval system which we titled the ASRS (Automated Storage and Retrieval System). We spread the highly used materials throughout the four floor book tower and the Caudell Reading Room. This allows for more space for collaborative work as well as thoughtful contemplation. There is a blend of intuitive design and challenging technology to appeal to a wide audience. You’ll be able to find what you need or use one of our dozens of support staff to help you reach your scholarly pursuits.

A Physically and Virtually Browsable Collection

The library’s book tower covers four stories, and serves as one of the central features of the library. It contains about 65,000 of the newest and most frequently used books. The virtual shelf browse will allow you to search for titles in the library’s collection and then see other titles that would be shelved adjacent to the title you search. The literature and language collection, along with recent issues of the most popular journals and newspapers, will be in the Caudell Reading Room. New books and DVD’s will be available outside the Customer Service Center. Digitized items such as the *Fundamentalist Journal*, the *Liberty Champion*, and the campus yearbook (*Selah*) will also be available on one of our four Perceptive Pixel Tables.





ASRS

The ASRS (Automated Storage and Retrieval System) houses an expansive collection in 1/7th of the space necessary for traditional book storage, resulting in less real estate development and more open space reserved for campus uses. At opening it will have approximately 250,000 items with a total item capacity of approximately 420,000 items collected in just over 4200 bins. Customers will make requests for these items from the ASRS and they can normally be picked up at the Customer Service Center within ten minutes.

Vision and History of the Jerry Falwell Library

Our Vision

Discover. Create. Share. The Jerry Falwell Library is a state-of-the-art facility designed with technologies and spaces to encourage collaborative learning as well as reflective study. The library also provides the highest level of customer service, including assistance with research and technology. The purpose of this magnificent facility and library team is to support Liberty University's students and faculty as they strive toward their highest academic potential. The centrally located facility is visible to the Lynchburg community, and will serve as a focal point for enrichment and engagement. The resources and spaces available from the Jerry Falwell Library will facilitate the development of the highest levels of research and scholarship and serve as an example of the integration of faith and learning.

Our History

October 2010

At a Liberty University faculty meeting, librarians Tyler Veak and Diane Garber suggested that Liberty University construct a free-standing library building.

November 2010

The new library project was added to a five-year strategic plan approved by the trustees of Liberty University.

March 2011

The VMDO Architectural Firm was awarded the contract for constructing the new library.

April 2011

A consultant from BrightSpot was brought in to help us focus on service design

The decision was made to use a robotic system for storing and retrieving books in the new facility.



October 2011

Chancellor Jerry Falwell, Jr. announced Liberty University's intention to construct a new library.



November 2011

A trip was made to Georgia Southern and North Carolina State University to benchmark library technology and services.

January 2012

Library staff met with VMDO architects to design the spaces of the new facility.

Plans for library on the table

Self-check points, virtual browsing option and extra study space are proposed in order to give students better service at new library

By Bob Mays

Liberty University's students have not yet seen all the changes happening on campus, because in the weeks ahead plans for a new library. The new library is set to be the preeminent center of learning in terms of scale and location, according to Dean of the Integrated Learning Resource Center Carl Meitz.

"We have not yet reached the design stage yet," Meitz said.

Even though the design has not been decided, it is clear what to be expected of the new building. According to Meitz, students should expect the building to be a unique mixture of traditional and contemporary design. Also included is a mixture of technologies which will make the learning experience a whole new experience to students.

"The building, which will replace the

current Schilling building, will be primarily four floors," Meitz said. "It will have atrium space and natural light."

The building will include flexible learning and reading spaces in most floors, but the idea is to create a higher a person goes, the quieter the floor will be. Plans also include a Writing Center, Curriculum Library, Reference and Research services, Graduate and Faculty Offices and Honor offices. However, most of the space will be dedicated to undergraduate students.

The customer service is also expected to be of a new, high standard because of the inclusion of multiple service desks. There will also be an integrated service point with mobile service and self-check points located in different parts of the library. Another helpful feature will be the virtual browser aspect of the LUC's catalog, where you can find whatever you are looking for in mere seconds instead of having to go down

side after side to find a single book. Perhaps the most exciting feature of all will be the automated storage and retrieval system, referred to as an "book retrieval system," where users can check out books and locate them in a simplified, Web interface such as Amazon.com, University of Chicago, Google, North Carolina.

State and even host Great College here in Lynchburg embracing the use of the book, it is sure to become an instant hit with Liberty's student body. The new library is also estimated to hold 400,000 volumes of print collection, up from the 275,000 volumes currently in the library.

for LIBRARY AZ



March 2012

Construction crews broke ground for the new Jerry Falwell Library.



Summer 2012 to Spring 2013

Construction progressed at a rapid pace!





February 2013

Librarians went to Johns Hopkins and NCSU to investigate new library technology

Discussions began on the possible inclusion of technologies such as a Media Wall, Perceptive Pixel Tables, and TeamSpot Stations.



April 2013

The library began pre-loading bins with books set aside for the new facility's robotic system.



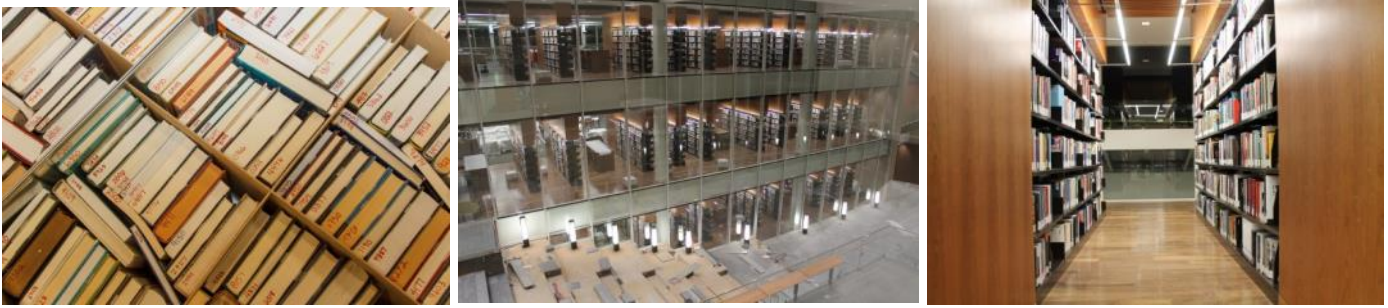
August 2013

The library finished loading the materials destined for the robotic system.



December 2013

The remainder of the library's collection was moved from the old facility to the new one and placed in the Book Tower.



January 2014

The Jerry Falwell Library stages its Grand Opening.



Tours of the Library

Grand Opening Day, Wednesday January 15: 1:00pm; 3:00pm; 5:00pm

January 16-31:

Monday – Friday: 8:30am; 11:30am; 2:30pm; 5:30pm; 7:30pm

Saturday: 1:30pm; 4:30pm

Individuals may sign up for tours at the Welcome Desk. Groups may request special tours by contacting Cindy Schmidt at cschmidt3@liberty.edu or 434-592-4012

Directions to Campus

[Directions to Liberty University and our Visitors Center](#)