

## **Project Review: Campus Libraries Facilities Master Plan**

### **Present:**

#### **Design Review Board Members:**

Gary Brown	<i>Interim Chair, Design Review Board/FP&amp;M CPLA</i>
Annette Wilkus	SiteWorks
Fiske Crowell	Sasaki Design

#### **Ad Hoc Design Review Board Member:**

Lesley Moyo	Campus Libraries
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#### **State Representative:**

Jon Jenson	DFD
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#### **UW System Representative:**

Cathy Weiss	UWSA
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#### **Joint West Campus Area Comm Rep:**

Mary Czynszak-Lyne	Joint West Campus Area Committee
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#### **City of Madison:**

Tom DeChant	Urban Design Commission
Janine Glaeser	City of Madison DPCED

#### **Campus Affiliates:**

Carrie Kruse	Campus Libraries
Jim LaGro	Campus Planning Committee
David Darling	FP&M AVC
Margaret Tennessen	FP&M Deputy AVC
Megan McBride	FP&M CPD
Stu LaRose	FP&M CPD, <i>Interim University Architect</i>
Aaron Williams	FP&M CPLA
Rob Kennedy	FP&M Transportation Services
Terry Boehner	FP&M CPD

#### **Design Team:**

Alexandra Ramsey	Engberg Anderson
Joseph Huberty	Engberg Anderson

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## **Campus Libraries Facilities Master Plan**

### **Project Background:**

As changing demands, expectations, and resources emerge, campus libraries are taking a proactive approach to modifying how they function while ensuring high-quality service is preserved. The overall goal of the Campus Libraries Facilities Master Plan includes: assessing user needs across campus, strengthening the collections program, developing a comprehensive scholarly communications program, developing and investing in the expertise to meet campus libraries' goals, capitalizing on efficiencies, optimizing e-solutions and digital initiatives, and developing sustainable budget models to increase flexibility, income, and innovation.

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## **Campus Libraries Facilities Master Plan**

### **Presentation:**

1. This master plan is the conclusion of more than two years of planning.
2. Started with the Campus Master Plan (CMP) in 2015. The university currently has 22 libraries spread out across the campus.
3. Some are part of General Library System (GLS), others are departmental libraries.
4. In addition, there are 19 other resource centers.
5. There are two freestanding buildings but a majority of libraries are embedded within departments.
6. Campus libraries are going through many different initiatives.
7. A lot of changes have to do with collections and services, and also coordination with the CMP.
8. The design team has reviewed other unit facilities' master plans such as the College of Engineering's (completed) and L&S (in draft form).
9. First, did a comprehensive physical analysis of all of the library facilities.
10. Steenbock and Memorial libraries are both in good condition.
11. Memorial Library has approximately half of the total facility space allotted to campus libraries.
12. One third of Memorial is for book storage with ceiling heights of 8 feet—floor to ceiling—so not very adaptable to other future uses. It also has lots of structural columns that would make renovation and reprogramming very difficult.
13. There's a nostalgia for the space in the Memorial Library. Some spaces have already been remodeled, such as the graduate student lounge.
14. College and Steenbock libraries have space that's fairly functional but would require some physical upgrades, particularly with regard to restrooms.
15. One of the team's focus areas is on spaces that are no longer needed.
16. The team had a robust engagement process with students, faculty, and staff about what the role of libraries on campus should be in the future. They looked at the university's collections and what services campus libraries would or could offer. They also reviewed peer institutions for benchmarks in how university libraries are changing to meet future user demands.
17. A lot of initiatives are around services - one goal was to look at physical needs that support research on campus. What ways can it empower teaching and research on campus?
18. Libraries are open to everyone on campus, including in many cases the general public. Accessibility and promoting collaboration drove the notion that a hub model could serve the needs of campus libraries versus current more department-focused model. The focus is on collaboration between people rather than departmental access to a specific collection.

19. The idea for hub libraries is to concentrate physical space and staff, and explore the potential of technology and new teaching and research paradigms. Also, hub libraries support an ability to explore innovation and create larger event spaces for community interactions.
20. It's important to understand what is unique to UW-Madison and the interaction between university libraries and with the university's missions for a core library presence which drove the design team to think about the distribution of libraries on campus.
21. The main idea is to create a network of hub libraries: Memorial Libraries-humanities, College Library-undergraduates, Steenbock-west campus hub, Ebling-health sciences. Law would stay as a more focused collection.
22. Convenience is an aspect of all our libraries – looking for a five- to ten-minute walk anywhere on campus which is more challenging for west campus.
23. Looking at three major projects: Memorial Library Renovation/Addition; Expand off-site collections; Construct a South Campus Library Hub.
24. Memorial Library: shift physical collection and repurpose Memorial Library's single focus.
25. Off-site collections: Move physical collection off campus in an environment that preserves the collection and allows space to renovate the current library space for other academic support uses.
26. Construct a South hub library: the south campus zone needs a centralized library hub . A final site selection is open to discussion with the notion of potential synergies between south campus neighborhood events. A lot of academic programs are south of University Avenue. A south campus library hub could serve many different elements of those various academic programs.
27. The libraries master plan recommends shifting a lot of storage space off campus and transforms the space to be more browsable, more people-centric space. On campus, 23% of overall library space is browsable currently. This continues the trend that university allocates more library space and acknowledges libraries as a places to do serious work. Makes library space convenient for daytime and evening use.
28. The plan also recommends that Memorial Library be reconstructed because lots of the existing space there now is not functional. Memorial Library is a gateway as you come to campus with many town-gown iconic spaces nearby (Library Mall, State Street Mall, Alumni Park, the Red Gym, the Memorial Union, the Terrace, etc.). Research indicated as you come into the Memorial Library building, there's immediately a low ceiling. The draft plan recommends the demolition of a major portion of the building, including 150 vertical columns that would allow us to reorganize internal circulation. Internal organization and circulation is currently not clear. A massing model in the draft plan shows what that kind of space this would look like. The design team suggests that we need some kind of entry statement on State Street to the south and on the west toward Library Mall. They envision a series of public spaces on first floor.
29. Planning Model for next six years: First big project would be the addition to the Verona storage facility to allow more off-site storage of the existing collection. The renovations to the Memorial Library would be key to the plan as it has the most space and would gain efficiency to support services and initiatives, but funding this project will be difficult and may push it out on the timeline
30. The remodel of Steenbock Library would likely move more quickly.
31. And finally build a south hub library.
32. We can learn a lot as we move through plan and begin implementing some of the recommendations.

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## **Campus Libraries Facilities Master Plan**

### **Discussion:**

1. Lesley: Already have a number of libraries that we've consolidated.
2. Carrie: Off-site storage is important. We're not in a situation of needing access to as much of our collection. The collection will never go away. There is a clear understanding of the role collections play for a research library. The print collection does not go away and is an important factor.
3. Annette: Curious about the off-site storage.
4. Carrie: It's currently attached to the SWAP (Surplus With A Purpose) facility and is good enough to get stuff off campus for now. Collection is managed through a request system. Users cannot physically browse there because much of it is stored on high shelves. There are some models where they can see an entire run to see anything that's not digitized and then have the whole run collection delivered for further review.
5. Alexandra (Alex): Analysis of what portion of collection is used annually - it's about 3%, but currently the university is storing 25% of collection on campus.
6. Jim: Great ideas presented. Likes the scenario for Memorial Library building. Like the focus on creating new research synergies especially with interdisciplinary collaborations. With UW-Extension coming into campus, creating synergies and visualization spaces extends our outreach mission. Arizona State has a decision theater. Something like that in Memorial Library would be fantastic.
7. Tom: Libraries no longer just a pantry for books. It's so much more. The Madison Public Library now has media labs, for example.
8. College Library has been on the forefront of testing various innovative programming. It rolls out programs first and then they get pushed out to departmental libraries.
9. Lesley: From key conferences, the library staff are aware of developments that helped envision spaces. Have seen things at peer institutions. The other trend you see is having public spaces to display the university's various research programs and engage with the community.
10. Tom: Memorial Library presents a cold face to both the Library Mall and the State Street Mall and needs space for interaction.
11. Also, users want to be at the library and need amenities to stay at the library.
12. Carrie: Library hosting spaces for various types of services serves the entire campus - the only place on campus where those things are available to everyone.
13. Janine: How did you choose a new hub locations?
14. Alex: With the Physics Library, for example, you can't find the front door, it doesn't have its own identity. On the south side of campus, we thought about converting Wendt Library but that was just remodeled for interactive learning spaces. Hub libraries would be distributed across the campus and available during day and at night via the free campus bus. The design team looked at existing facilities that could be added on to or remodeled.
15. A south campus library hub allows us to continue planning for new facilities and programs on the south campus and think about the recommendations in the Campus Master Plan to create a more "campus-like" identity. The hub library could become part of the identity and making it part of a later phase gives us time make it fit into the overall facilities model from a funding and need standpoint.
16. Mary: Have you partnered with the State Historical Society?
17. Gary: There's a larger discussion about the statewide library consolidation. It's been an idea in the Madison area for a number of years but it never went anywhere because of too many moving players and lack of funding. The State of Wisconsin built a new facility on Dickinson Street now to

solve some of their consolidation and storage needs. The decision was made that the university couldn't be a partner due to lack of space and funding but it doesn't mean we can't in the future if they were to expand at that site.

18. Fiske: Initial reaction goes back to the Campus Master Plan and fitting the Campus Libraries Master Plan into the overall campus.. Appreciate clarity of presentation given the depth of investigation. Clearly something exciting is going on. So many moving parts to comment on. The slide that has the biggest impact is the implementation plan. As you go down, you need to have dollars attached. There is not a lot of money floating around to make these recommendations actually happen. Development options will have to negotiate a path and where does this go next because needs to have metrics attached.
19. Alex: We do include financial analyses and thoughts about total cost for each project.
20. Joe: For example, it's possible to renovate floor by floor rather than the entire building at Steenbock. That would not be possible at the Memorial Library.
21. Fiske: Off-site storage and the demolition of Memorial vacated spaces is an intricate web.
22. Gary: Financing the College Library renovations is important. College Library is a hub of undergrad experience. Made a giant step by putting SOAR (Student Orientation, Advising & Registration) there to help incoming freshman understand and engrain its use as they begin life on campus.
23. Cathy: Team has done great job. Happy to see how this is laid out. There's opportunities for smaller projects to move the overall plan along, breaking them into smaller phases. We knew we needed storage but we can do smaller projects to meet that need. The piece that has concerned me most is the new south campus library hub. I like that it's near the end of the master plan and is nicely tied to how the south campus develops. I applaud the team but can't guarantee state money in 2022 for any projects moving forward at this time.
24. Gary: We have known about the Verona storage facility addition for a long time. Not a surprise to anyone and we'll just keep building these projects into our long term capital budget plans. There could be some gift funds involved to help move the project along.
25. Cathy: Don't see anything in the plan that would prevent a south hub from happening sooner, especially if it is gift funded.
26. Alex: A south library can play an amazing role in the overall south campus development.

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### **Campus Libraries Facilities Master Plan**

#### **Summary:**

1. No action is needed at this time. This is just an informational presentation as a heads-up on what projects may be coming in the future.
2. The Campus Libraries Facilities Master Plan will be presented to Campus Planning Committee (CPC) this spring and is in the process of public review now to get stakeholder support.