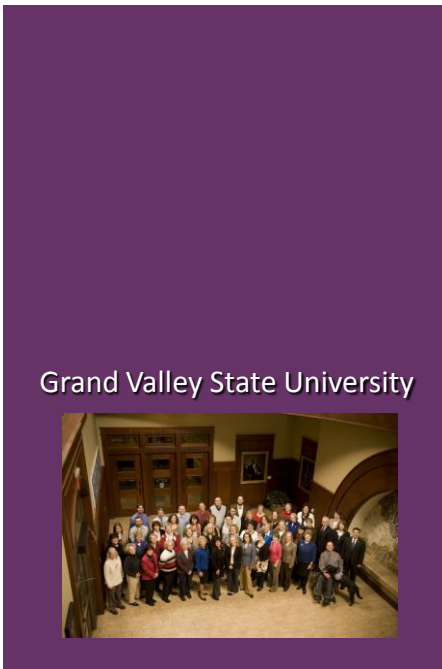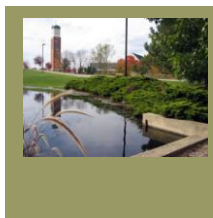# Flipping the model:
Making noise in the Library

Lee Van Orsdel
Dean of University Libraries
Grand Valley State University

2012

ACRL Excellence in Academic Libraries Award

Grand Valley State University

Why a new library?

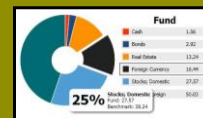# Assignments:

Work in teams

Multiple outputs:
  Research
  Written paper
  Graphic product
  Oral presentation
  Multiple software competencies

critical skills needed by college graduates

WHAT'S IMPORTANT TO HOOSIER COMPANIES?

Critical thinking/problem solving, oral communication, and professional/work ethic were the three most frequently mentioned skills necessary to being successful in one's career. This is not surprising but is concerning when we contrast that with ratings on how well college graduates and the current workforce as a whole perform in these areas, which we will see in the next section.

Below are the skills that at least nine out of ten indicated are necessary to being successful in one's career:

- Critical Thinking/Problem Solving
- Oral Communication
- Professionalism/Work Ethic
- Serving All Clients/Customers
- Reading Comprehension
- English Language
- Teamwork/Collaboration
- Written Communication

Most Important Career Skills

1. CRITICAL THINKING/ PROBLEM SOLVING
2. ORAL COMMUNICATION
3. PROFESSIONALISM/ WORK ETHIC
4. SERVING ALL CLIENTS/ CUSTOMERS

skills gap widely recognized

UNPREPARED GRADS

The perception of college graduate skill preparedness is very poor. Listed below are how Indiana companies rated college graduates on the areas they felt were most important. The percentage is the total rated as excellent and very good. The findings indicate college graduates are not prepared for the day-to-day aspects of a job.

Critical Thinking/Problem Solving	25%
Oral Communication	25%
Professionalism/Work Ethic	18%
Serving All Clients/Customers	18%
Reading Comprehension	31%
English Language	41%
Teamwork/Collaboration	29%
Written Communication	18%

The Council was also asked what skills college grads were lacking the most. Here's the top results:

GRAD'S MISSING PIECES

APPLIED SKILLS	KNOWLEDGE SKILLS
Professionalism/ Work Ethic	Writing
Written Communication	Field Specific Skills
Critical Thinking/ Problem Solving	Government/ Economics
Planning Skills	

LEAP* Goals focus on skills gaps
*Liberal Education and America's Promise

The Essential Learning Outcomes

★ **Intellectual and Practical Skills, including**

- Inquiry and analysis
- Critical and creative thinking
- Written and oral communication
- Quantitative literacy
- Information literacy
- Teamwork and problem solving

Practiced extensively, across the curriculum, in the context of progressively more challenging problems, projects, and standards for performance

problems, projects, and standards for performance

★ **Personal and Social Responsibility, including**
- Civic knowledge and engagement—local and global
- Intercultural knowledge and competence
- Ethical reasoning and action
- Foundations and skills for lifelong learning

Anchored through active involvement with diverse communities and real-world challenges

★ **Integrative and Applied Learning, including**
- Synthesis and advanced accomplishment across general and specialized studies

Demonstrated through the application of knowledge, skills, and responsibilities to new settings and complex problems

American Association of Colleges and Universities

A A
C U

shopping mall
everything in one place
consumer chooses
contagious energy
serendipity

what would an *academic* mall look like?

student in charge of experience

academic *and* social needs accommodated

one-stop shopping—lots to choose from

allow noise/buzz to generate energy

unexpected experiences/serendipitous learning

different, attractive, theirs

creature comforts

Finding the space

What about the books?

What about the books?
(total space in building: 150,000 sq. ft.)

60,000 sq ft for 600,000 books

or

3,500 sq ft for 600,000 books

Building design

Rendering for GVSU Mary Idema Pew Library by SHW Group

Renderings for GVSU Mary Idema Pew Library by SHW Group

Rendering for GVSU Mary Idema Pew Library by SHW Group

Programs

Knowledge Market

Rendering for GVSU Mary Idema Pew Library by SHW Group

Knowledge Market Partners

Library

Writing Center

Speech Lab

IT help desk

"trust the students mentality"

peer consultant experience

training
feedback
leadership
professional development
resume-worthy experience

Knowledge Market partner experience

cross-training

blended spaces

shared coaching sessions

shared scheduling and assessment software

interdependent identities

direct tie-in to professors and class experience

Speech practice rooms
Media prep rooms

Rendering for GVSU Mary Idema Pew Library by SHW Group

MediaScape for group work

Rendering for GVSU Mary Idema Pew Library by SHW Group; Steelcase MediaScape

Learning Alcove and and media programming
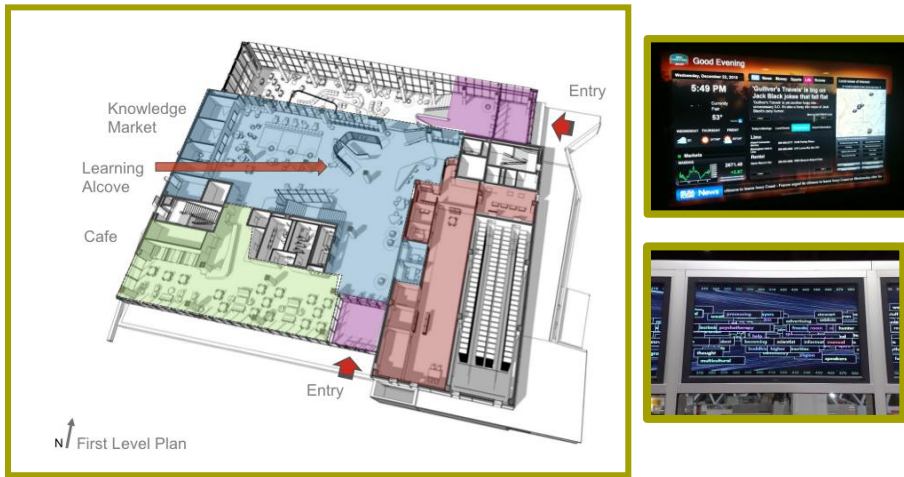
Rendering for GVSU Mary Idema Pew Library by SHW Group

LEED

••• *development news*

Idema Pew Library on GVSU's Allendale campus could raise bar on energy efficiency

THURSDAY, AUGUST 02, 2012

Construction of the Mary Idema Pew Library Learning and Information Commons on Grand Valley State University's Allendale campus includes so many energy-saving design aspects and high-efficiency materials that the facility will consume half the energy of a typical library its size.

That's the word from Scott Veine, project manager for Pioneer Construction, who is overseeing the project.

"We took the base model of a library that met all the program needs of GVSU and worked with Pacific Northwest National Laboratories, a subsidiary of the Department of Energy, to cut 50 percent of the energy consumption," Veine says. "We've successfully completed that over the course of the last year and we're now implementing what the DOE gave us."

The 150,000-square-foot building will have five stories, 80 percent of which have raised floors with 18

Special Spaces

Innovation Zone

PATRON SEATING

315

PATRON SEATING
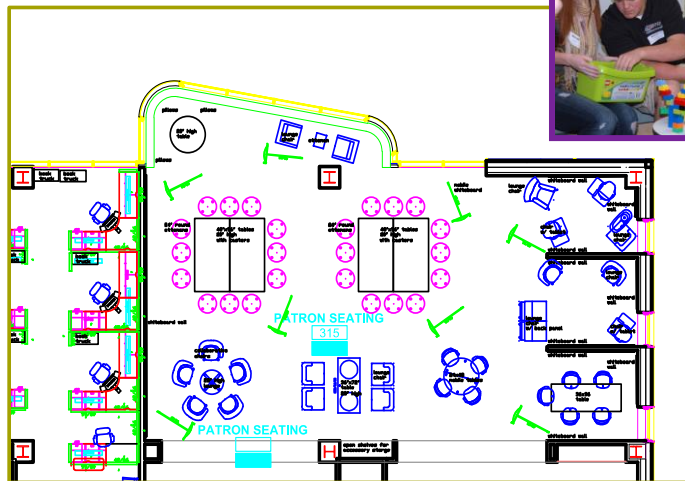
Rendering for GVSU Mary Idema Pew Library by SHW Group; photo of Noel Studio at Eastern Kentucky University

Paper clip exhibition space

Rendering for GVSU Mary Idema Pew Library by SHW Group

Multi-purpose room

Renderings for GVSU Mary Idema Pew Library by SHW Group

learn lab

Rendering for GVSU Mary Idema Pew Library by SHW Group

Hearth Room/quiet study

Rendering for GVSU Mary Idema Pew Library by SHW Group

Furnishings

Twenty group study rooms
Oversized tables and carrels
Window seats
Power within 2.5 feet and on table tops
Wheels on tables and chairs
Portable partitions
Portable white Boards
Online/walk-up reservation systems
Over 100 pieces of original art

Fresh Air

embedded natural air garden

Rendering for GVSU Mary Idema Pew Library by SHW Group

rooftop study deck

Rendering for GVSU Mary Idema Pew Library by SHW Group

amphitheater

Rendering for GVSU Mary Idema Pew Library by SHW Group

defining concepts
University Perspective

Students will have an academic home
outside of their classrooms

where learning is explicitly shared and valued,

where deeper engagement with peers invites
authentic, self-directed learning experiences,

and where artful exposure to the vast and diverse
richness of the university community enhances the
student experience in unanticipated ways

defining concepts
Library Perspective (work in progress)

The library will build cross-university collaborations that
provide students with an unprecedented array of
resources, services, programs, and spaces for learning;

to support the development of critical "soft" skills;

to build an environment that nurtures authentic
engagement with people and ideas;

and to put students in charge of their own learning;

....

defining concepts
Student Perspective

Students will manage their own learning
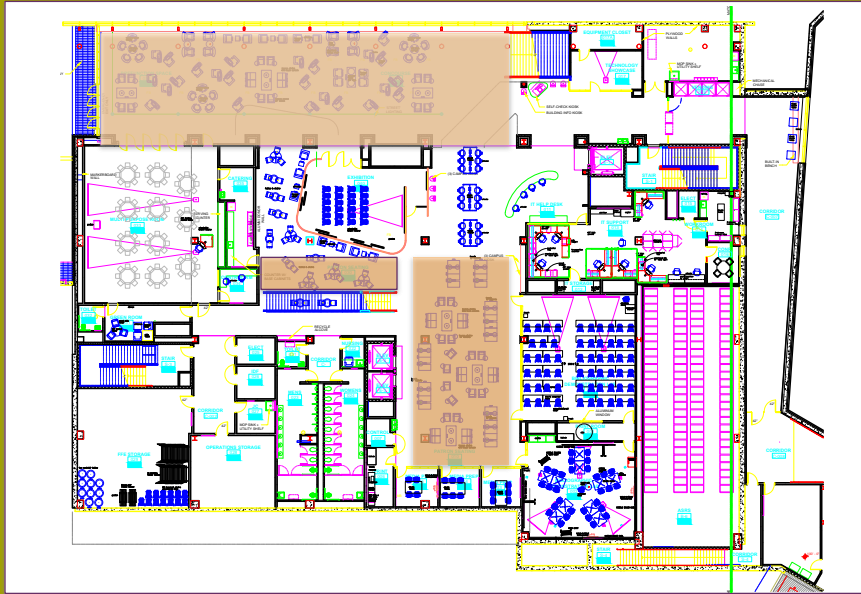
in a stimulating environment that fosters collaboration

and offers a seamless array of academic services and learning opportunities
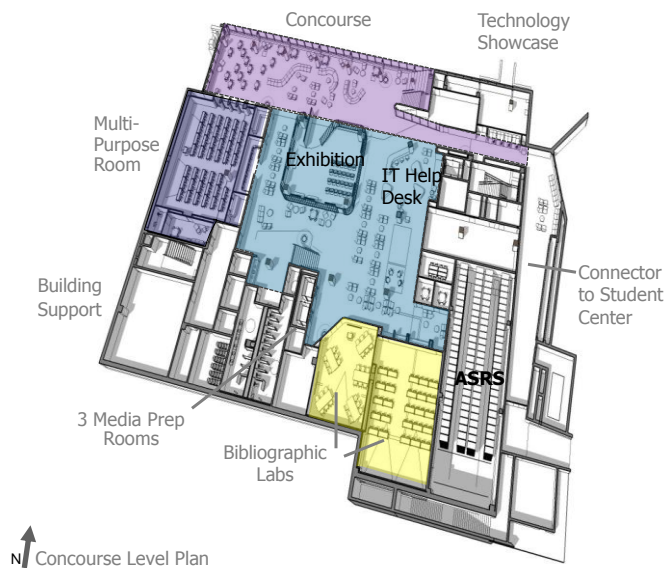

Mary Idema Pew Library
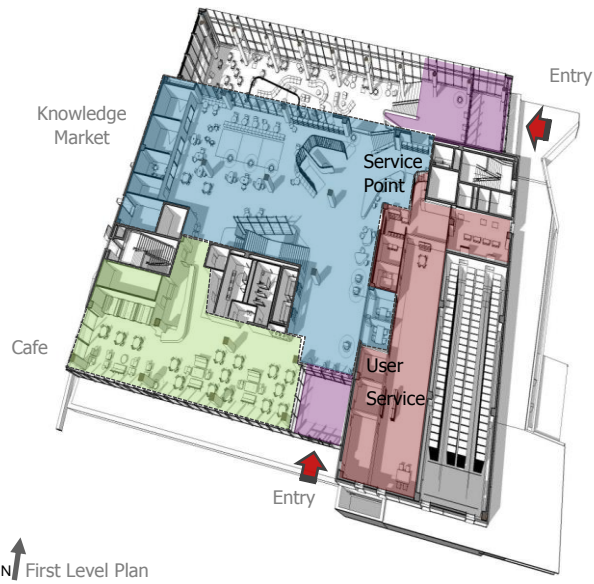Learning and Information Commons
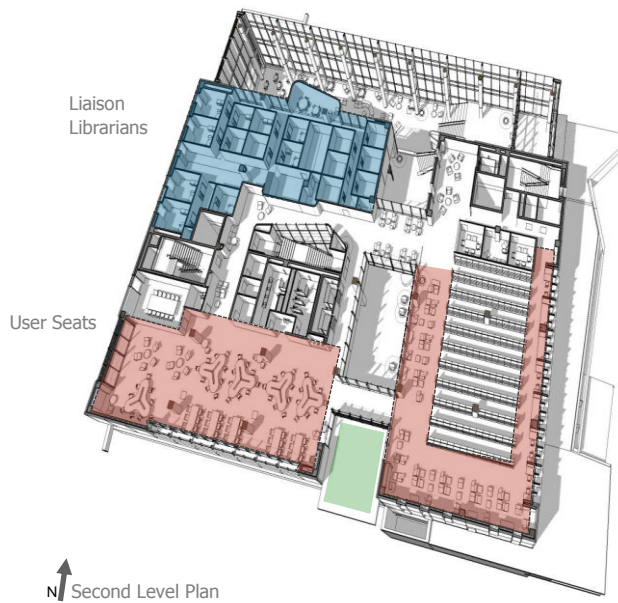Opening May 2013

Concourse Level

Layout by SHW Group for GVSU

Concourse

Technology Showcase
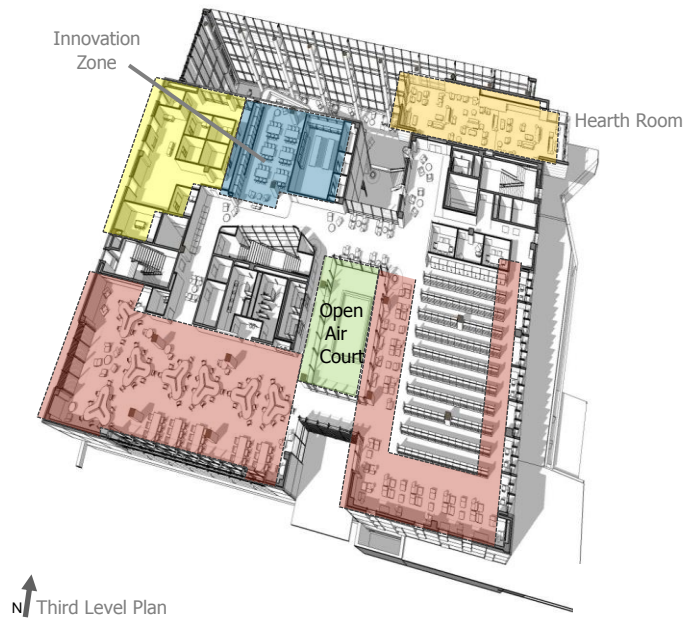
Multi-Purpose Room

Exhibition

IT Help Desk

Connector to Student Center

Building Support

ASRS

3 Media Prep Rooms

Bibliographic Labs

N Concourse Level Plan

14 June 2010

22

Knowledge
Market

Entry

Service
Point

Cafe

User
Service

Entry

N First Level Plan

14 June 2010

Liaison
Librarians

User Seats

N Second Level Plan

14 June 2010

Innovation Zone

Hearth Room

Open Air Court

N Third Level Plan

14 June 2010

Roof Terrace Study Deck

Upper Level Hearth Room

User Seats

N Fourth Level Plan

14 June 2010

Questions?
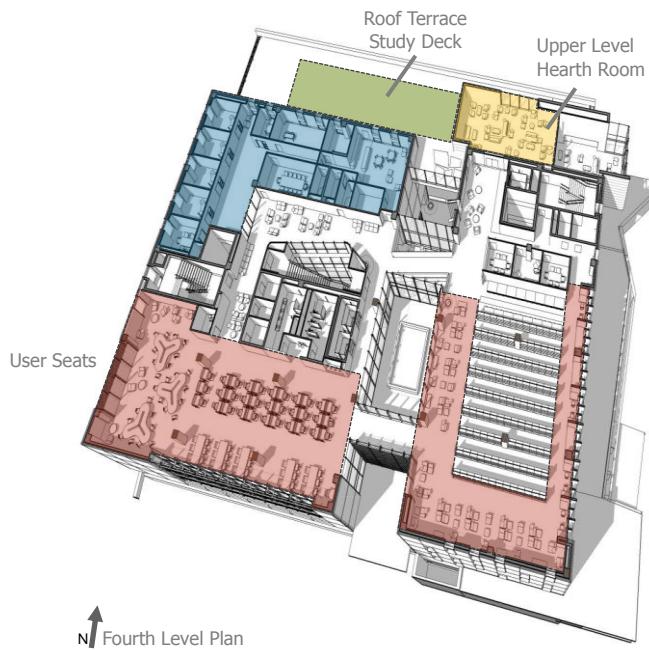
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