Convergence of Knowledge and Culture

Calgary’s Design for the Future

OCLC Distinguished Seminar Series

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University of Calgary

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Taylor Family Digital Library
The University of Calgary Mandate

Education, Research and Service
Our Goal

To Realize the Full Extent of the University Mandate Possible within the Scope of our Vision and the Capacity of our Knowledge, Imagination and Resources
The Vision

21st Century Learning

Knowledge Creation and Dissemination

Cultural Enrichment

Intellectual and Technical Innovation

Curation of the Record of Scientific & Artistic Achievement & of Human Experience

Service to Community
Calgary, Alberta
Population 1 Million

University of Calgary
42 Years Old

“The Research Library”
$16 Million Operating Budget - $12 Million Materials Budget
Information Resources Formed in 1999

The Nickle Arts Museum Added in 2000

Administrative Aggregation - Operational Cross-Walks

Information Commons opens in 2000

Canadian Leader in digitizing special materials
Libraries and Cultural Resources, 2006

Main Library, Four Campus Branches and Doha, Qatar

Health Information Networks
  Five Knowledge Centres

The Military Museum
  Library, Archives and Art

Gallery

Urban Campus
  Downtown Calgary
Taylor Family Digital Library Project

Opening in Fall 2010
265,000 sq.ft.

New Central Library
University Museum
The Centre for Student Success
University Press
University Archives
Alumni Association
High Density Storage Facility

Opening in Spring 2010

Built to hold:

Books, Journals, Archives & Art
1.6 million volume equivalency
Taylor Family Quadrangle
Completion Summer 2010

Newly landscaped “green space” in heart of campus

As the principal approach to the new Library
Taylor Family Digital Library
A place of learning, both formal and self-directed

A place to synthesize and create new knowledge
An international showcase of technology

A living laboratory for university research

An organic facility that produces unexpected learning outcomes
Design for the Future: Learning
Design for the Future: Learning

From Information Discovery to Knowledge Creation

Information Commons, 2000

to

Learning Commons, 2010
Design for the Future: Learning
Creation Technologies

Media Production  Collaborative Spaces  Visualization Lab

Digital Object Tables  Editing and Display Capabilities  Digital Globes

Presentation Practice Rooms
Design for the Future: Learning

Centre for Student Success

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Design for the Future: Learning

Art & Archives

Class Instruction & Workshops

Student & Faculty Research Support

Community Involvement
Design for the Future: Research
Design for the Future: Research

Library as an Instrument of Research

Blending Collections and Media
Design for the Future: Research

Expanding E-Data Content and Research

Multi-Dimensional Visualization Capabilities

Digital Globes and Object Touch Tables

Media within Walls of the Building

Digital Curation

Building as “Living Lab”

Broad Research Dissemination

Research Data Centre
Design for the Future: Research

Where students can EXPERIENCE and MANIPULATE information in new ways
Design for the Future: Convergence
Design for the Future: Convergence

Library    Archive
Museum
“True collaboration...devises a new vision for a new way of doing things.

It inevitably and fundamentally involves change.

Collaboration is transformational, and the elements, institutions and individuals involved in collaboration.”

Ken Soehner, Chief Librarian, Metropolitan Museum of Art
Design for the Future: Convergence

Building the Taylor is not essential to convergence

Nor will building it guarantee convergence
We Have to Change
Design for the Future: Convergence

Centre for Arts and Culture
A Concept in Development

Archives, Rare Books, Special Collections, Art & Artifacts

In Physical and Digital Form
Design for the Future: Convergence

Centre for Arts & Culture

Where Curators & Archivists actively collaborate

*Principle Considerations*
- Converged Mandate
- Integrated Management
- Common Exhibition Program
- Encompassed within TFDL-Wide Collaboration
Design for the Future: Scholarly Communications
Scholarly Communications

University of Calgary Press

Institutional Repository

Synergies Project

OPEN ACCESS Authors Fund

$100,000 Annually
The Role of Research Libraries and University Presses in Changing the Paradigm
Design for the Future: Media

Multi-Media is an antedated word describing the Library of yesteryear

Media is the medium, is the message, is the transformable ubiquity of an increasingly digital world
Design for the Future: Media

From the seemingly ephemeral form of the electronic journal, the digital medium will evolve ever further until it becomes completely vaporous
“The telephone industry has gone from the dial phone, to the push button phone, to the cordless phone, to the cell phone, to the …. Eventually the cell phone device will disappear. We do not need to be able to see technology to interact with it.”

Thomas Frey, Da Vinci Institute
Design for the Future: Media

The Task of Libraries Will Be to Provide Tangible Interfaces to the Intangible

Colleen Sharpe, University of Calgary
It is not the Technology;
It is the Media
Thomas Frey:

All technology ends.

Next generation search technology will include the ability to search for such attributes as taste, smell, texture, reflectivity, opacity, mass, density, tone, speed and volume.

Libraries will transition from a center of information to a center of culture.
The Collection of the Future

Taylor Family Digital Library

Redefining the Collection
The TFDL Is a Library, Archive & Museum

It is a Digital Library

It is a Learning Space

It will house Books and Journals,

And Much, Much More!
The Collection of the Future

Not Just Book and Journal Counts
The Collection of the Future

Active text based communication lives on the Web

Formal text based communication has less relevance to the intellectual life of students and researchers

Real-time digital primary resources are valued
Interest is growing in using digital streaming media for teaching and learning, as is interest in moving images and audio files as objects of scholarly interest.

Academic studies of events, such as performance, often depend on digital recordings.
The Collection of the Future

We see growing interest in rich learning environments that use primary source materials and artifacts as the basis for inquiry based learning.
The Collection of the Future
Making Collections Work for Users

Accessibility
Not just description and cataloguing.

It also means accepting that user interaction with collections is a primary purpose.
Usefulness
It isn’t good enough to have the right content;

The content has to be in the right format and have the right attributes.

Rights for sharing and re-use

Software Compatibility

Stability

Deliverability
The Collection of the Future

Being Digital

To commit to being digital, certain problems must be faced; these issues, not numbers of, will define the quality and effectiveness of the library collection.

- Stability
- Description
- Discovery
- Rights
- Appropriate software and technology
- Digital Curation – from New Media Art to Electronic Records to E-Data
- Preservation
The Collection of the Future

“These are the shelves and spine labels of the digital collection, the irreducible accompaniments that make information accessible and useful.”

Helen Clarke, University of Calgary
The Collection of the Future
Special Collections, Archives & Museums

The cost and strain of building collections of commercial resources often pushes collections of unique, rare, or specialized resources to the periphery.

These materials can be engaged in a struggle for attention and resources, including access to staff, collection budgets, technology and facilities.

However –
Rare and unique content can be seen as a way for institutions to mark their individual character and their contribution to scholarship and cultural heritage.

The importance of primary sources, including art and artifacts and data, in supporting learning is increasingly recognized.

The creation of digital collections from rare and unique collections is seen as an important way in which LAMs can return value to their communities.

Building, curating, and distributing awareness and access to these collections should be a mainstream activity.
The Collection of the Future
Special Collections, Archives & Museums

Digital Art & Research Exhibitions

Digital Art will be a unique focus in our new research space
The Collection of the Future

Building will become a teaching tool in itself

Building Management System
Stream real-time energy usage to display screens on the media walls

“Living Library”
Stream real-time LAM statistics to display screens on the media walls
Student Participation

Students to contribute content to the building

Images & videos for the various media screens

Tagging our collections

Regular feedback to facilitate the continual improvement of the building and LAM programming