Quiet Study Space and Seating Increased in the Library

As Jennifer Howard notes in “At Libraries, Quiet Makes a Comeback” in the July 16, 2012 Chronicle of Higher Education, smartphones, keyboards, collaborative work and coffee shops in libraries increase the overall ambient noise around our patrons. Although libraries, including the Janet D. Greenwood Library, have developed “noisier” learning and service models that reflect the needs of our 21st century users, we have heard students’ growing request for us to go back to “shushing.” Howard points out that several of our colleagues across the country, like Greenwood, are working to balance collaborative and quiet study space.

Evidence of our students’ desire for more quiet space was demonstrated in their low satisfaction rating with quiet study space as reported in our 2007 and 2010 LIBQUAL reports. LIBQUAL, a web-based survey offered to the library community by the Association of Research Libraries, was designed to measure the quality of library services based on the perceptions of students and staff. In addition to quiet space concerns noted in LIBQUAL, we had anecdotal information that the seating in the Library's atrium was insufficient during high-use times, and our staff needed lighter and more mobile furniture to accommodate cultural events sponsored by the Library.

The Library’s spring 2011 learning space improvement project was our proactive response to undergraduate students' request. We continued our collaboration with interior architects at American Office (formerly Chasen’s Business Interiors) to increase quiet seating upstairs and flexibility in the atrium. We also hoped to maintain a consistent "look and feel" in the Library based on our recent Learning Commons renovations.

(continued on page 2)

The Vincent Persichetti Collection

Greenwood Library’s Special Collections offers a unique collection of materials related to the life and work of the famous American composer Vincent Ludwig Persichetti (1915-1987). In the fall of 1990, Longwood announced the acquisition in a local press release providing details about the musician and about the manuscript materials related to Persichetti’s life and work.

The collection was acquired by Longwood from Dr. Rudy Shackelford of Gloucester, Virginia, whose research interests centered on the life and works of Persichetti. Dr. Paul Hesselink, a member of Longwood’s music faculty from 1966 to 1991, took the lead in acquiring this collection for Longwood.

Persichetti was a prominent 20th century American composer, teacher, and musician. He is best remembered for his musical compositions in which he integrated various new ideas in musical composition with his own original work. He is also known for the many noted composers he taught and mentored during his career at the Julliard School of Music. During his lifetime, Persichetti received many honors, including the Julliard Publication Award, Columbia Records Chamber Music Award, Symphony League Award, citations from the American Bandmasters Association, and the National Catholic Music Educators Association. He also received honorary doctorates and two Guggenheim fellowships.

The Persichetti collection is located in the Greenwood Library’s Special Collections Room. It includes published scores for the piano, organ,
Increased Space and Seating (cont)

A small working group was formed in January 2011 and reported progress at librarians' and Friends of the Library meetings throughout the spring. The installation began in the beginning of May, 2011 and was completed in July, 2011.

Second Floor Quiet Study Redesign:
Traditionally, the Library's Race Street side, 2nd floor was the quiet study side of the Library. However, the tables in the area accommodated four or more students, which was more conducive to group rather than independent study. We also had older study carrels, but they were unattractive and in disrepair. Through our work with American Office, we not only created more individual study spaces, but increased overall seating as well. In addition, we added electricity to most work areas and future capability for hard-wired Internet access. See the pictures below for our new "look and feel."

Atrium Redesign:
The Library's goals were to create a more contemporary look that remained compatible with the campus “feel,” maximized seating for group and individual use, and housed our recreational/new book displays. The Library knew our students liked the eight wooden tables in the atrium for their spaciousness and the ability to use dry-erase markers on the glass; however, because of their design and size, they did not accommodate many students efficiently for atrium use. We definitely wanted to keep these tables for the students. Therefore, we moved the eight tables from the atrium to the 2nd floor group study area where we already had many of the same tables. As a result, we had all matching tables together and kept spaces that students found useful.

In the atrium redesign, we increased our seating from 40 to 60+ and the number of tables from eight to 12-14 in our new "regular" configuration, and up to 24 tables if used singularly. This more flexible arrangement allows for individual and group work in multiple manifestations. Library staff appreciate the lighter weight and mobility of the furniture when moving it for cultural events. The result of our work may be seen in the picture below.

Our new learning spaces foster a full array of opportunities for individuals and small groups to engage in research, communication and quiet reflection. Not only is the space more attractive, but we now have a consistent look from the Learning Commons, to the atrium and through the 2nd floor quiet side. We look forward to future LIBQUAL surveys to determine if we have increased our ability to provide, as LIBQUAL states, "library space that inspires study and learning."

Message from Dean Suzy

I’m excited about the many new resources we’ve added to the Library in the last year. We continue to focus on acquiring materials in electronic format, and have been able to add some major databases for our students and faculty in FY 2011/12. The following titles will significantly enhance student learning and faculty research:

African American Archive
A unique collection of over one million pages of original historical documents pertaining to the African American experience over several centuries, richly detailed with narratives and quantitative data alike.

EBSCO E-Book Collection
Contains full-text versions of over 11,000 recent books such as reference works, scholarly monographs, literature and fiction as well as 3,400 titles from Project Gutenberg, Bibliobytos and other publicly-accessible digital libraries. This collection significantly increases Greenwood Library's e-book holdings.

Films on Demand
With requests from faculty to incorporate streaming video into their course materials on Blackboard, Films on Demand provides a seamless method and a rich collection of titles from the Films for the Humanities & Sciences, Cambridge Educational and many others. Subjects covered include Anthropology, Biology, Business, Education, Health & Medicine, and more.

JSTOR Arts & Sciences X
This is the latest “collection” to be added to JSTOR, a database with more than a thousand academic journals in the humanities, social sciences and sciences, and over 1 million images, letters, and other primary sources. JSTOR is considered one of the world’s most trusted sources for academic content.

Music Online
Covering music from the ancient world to the present, Music Online provides the most comprehensive database in streaming audio, video, reference, and scores on the web. It includes collections of American Song, Classical Music Library, Contemporary World Music, Jazz Music Library and Smithsonian Global Sound for Libraries.

Web of Science
A multidisciplinary database based on the Science Citation Index, with searchable author abstracts, covering the journal literature of the sciences. It indexes 5,300 major journals across 164 scientific disciplines, with all cited references captured. Greenwood Library’s content dates from 1992 to the present, and will be especially valuable for faculty research in the sciences.

“Dean Suzy”
Suzy Szasz Palmer, Dean of the Library
Persichetti Collection (cont.)

harpichord, orchestra, band, instrumental combinations, choral groups, and solo vocalists. In addition to scores, there are published articles about the composer and his music, unpublished biographical and analytical papers, the text of an early 1980s interview with the composer, outlines and notes by Shackelford for an unpublished book on the music of Persichetti, and a collection of letters from Persichetti to Shackelford written between 1972 to 1985. For additional information about this collection, please contact the manager of the Archives and Special Collections, Lydia Williams, at williamsLC@longwood.edu or at 434.395.2432.

Spring Library Events

On March 1, 2012, Tom Angleberger visited the Greenwood Library. Among the 83 guests, the Prince Edward Middle School Book Club attended the event after having read his book, The Strange Case of Origami Yoda. As he explained his inspiration for the book, Angleberger taught the audience how to make an “emergency” origami Yoda.

On March 30th, Kelly Cherry, Poet Laureate of the Commonwealth of Virginia, engaged the audience in conversation with her presentation of her poetry. Approximately 45 guests attended the event and book signing following the presentation. Everyone greatly enjoyed the evening.

Upcoming Library Events


A former staff writer for Congressional Quarterly in Washington, D.C., he has been a free-lance writer since 1986. He has written for many newspapers and magazines as well as entries for the Encyclopedia Americana, the Encyclopedia Americana Yearbook, and the Dictionary of Virginia Biography.

Since March of 1986, he has been arts editor and columnist for The VVA Veteran, the newspaper published by Vietnam Veterans of America. He teaches U.S. history at Lord Fairfax Community College in Warrenton, Virginia. He has been interviewed many times on radio and television, including on The Today Show, CNN, MSNBC, Fox News, All Things Considered, Talk of the Nation, To The Point, Morning Edition, The Diane Rehm Show, Irish Radio, and CBC (Canada).

Since the early 1990’s, he has been active in many non-profit groups, including board memberships on the Middleburg (Virginia) Library Advisory Board (President and Vice President), the Loudoun County (Virginia) Library Board of Trustees, the Library of Virginia Foundation (Treasurer), the Virginia State Library Board, the YMCA of Loudoun County (Virginia), the Goose Creek Association (Secretary), and the Mosby Heritage Area Association (Treasurer, President).

He graduated from George Washington University in 1967. After serving in the U.S. Army from 1967-69, including a year in the Vietnam War, he received his honorable discharge and went on to earn a Masters Degree in history from George Washington University in 1971. He lives with his wife Janna and their children, Devin and Cara, in Loudoun County, Virginia.
Options for Becoming a Member of The Friends of the Janet D. Greenwood Library

Levels of Giving

**Author:** $10 to $99
- Greenwood Library Newsletter
- Invitations to special events, such as book signings and book groups

**Editor:** $100 to $249
- One (1) bookplate in honor or in memory of an individual of your choice
- CD, DVD, and video check-out privileges
- And all of the above

**Publisher:** $250 to $499
- Two (2) bookplates in honor or in memory of an individual of your choice
- And all of the above

**Patron:** $500 to $1,249
- Five (5) bookplates in honor or in memory of an individual of your choice
- And all of the above

**Collector:** $1,250 to $2,499
- Ten (10) bookplates in honor or in memory of an individual of your choice
- Membership in the Longwood University President’s Circle
- Recognition on a donor honor roll located in the Library
- And all of the above

**Greenwood Society:** $2,500 and up
- Twenty-five (25) bookplates in honor or in memory of an individual of your choice
- Lunch with your favorite librarian
- And all of the above

**Become a Friend of the Greenwood Library!**
You may become a member of the Friends of the Library by making an annual tax-deductible contribution. Online contributions may be made through the Longwood University Foundation Office at [www.longwood.edu/advancement](http://www.longwood.edu/advancement). Please indicate "Greenwood Library" under “Allocation” as your gift designation. You may also mail your contributions to Friends of the Janet D. Greenwood Library, Longwood University Foundation Office, 201 High Street, Farmville, Virginia, 23909.

Planned Gifts, Endowment Opportunities and Other Options
Donors making qualifying gifts may request that a room be named in honor or in memory of an individual or organization. The naming of buildings, rooms, or other physical spaces is contingent on approval by the Board of Visitors. Call Franklin Grant at 1.800.281.4677, extension 3, for a confidential discussion about the opportunities available.

Contact Us
The Friends of the Janet D. Greenwood Library at Longwood University is governed by a steering committee composed of librarians, faculty, staff, students, and community members. For more information about the Friends of the Greenwood Library, please visit the Friends website at [www.longwood.edu/library/friends](http://www.longwood.edu/library/friends) or contact Suzy Szasz Palmer, Dean of the Library, at 434.395.2083 or palmerss@longwood.edu.