

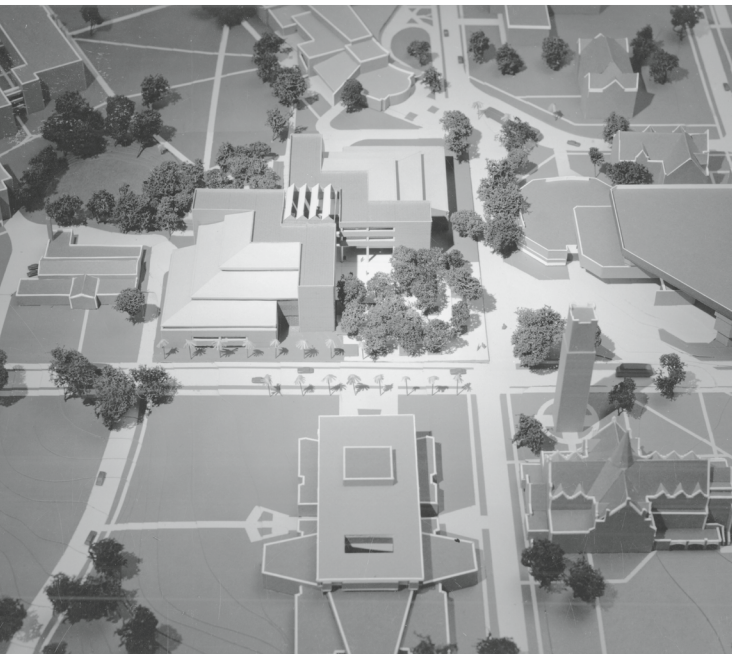


Above: Aerial view of campus in the 1960s; the spaces around Century Tower are the future location of Marston Science Library and the Computer Sciences & Engineering Building.

Welcome to the third issue OF THE SPECIAL SERIES ON LIBRARIES SPACES

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Above: Conceptual model of Marston Science Library and other adjacent buildings, 1986.

In last year's issues, we heard about branches large and small supporting a varied swath of academic disciplines, and about iconic spaces, some essentially unchanged for half a century, one recently transformed, and one in the process of being renewed. We also heard about facilities and programs storing, sustaining and making accessible important information resources for current and future use.

The stories of the Libraries spaces share & overlap common themes:

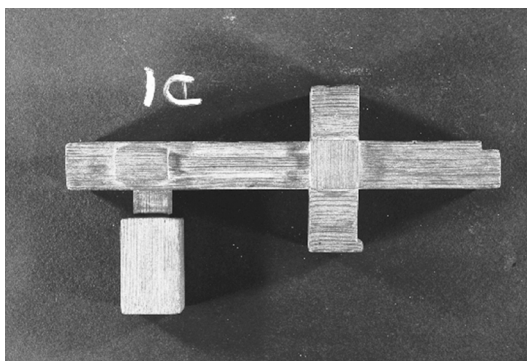
- The increasing demands of a growing university and its evolving instruction, learning and research models which position the Libraries to contribute in new ways.
- The adoption of new technologies to enhance impacts of the Libraries.
- An appreciation for aesthetics and their role in enhancing visitor experiences.
- The maintaining of historic spaces as entrusted legacies, while engaging in almost continuous repurposing.
- Commitments to expanding equity and inclusion for the UF community.

These themes will continue to appear in the four spaces presented in this issue.

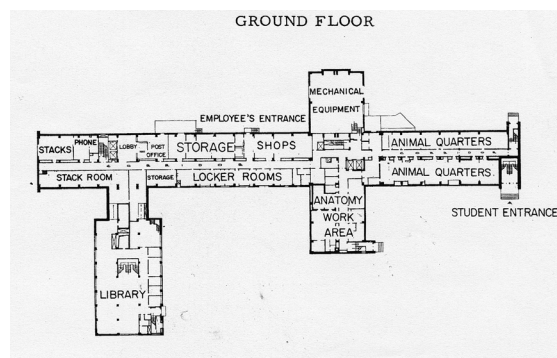
The Health Science Center Library (HSCL) in Gainesville and the Marston Science Library mark paralleling transformative investments to shape the future. Immediately after World War II, a state board identified the need for a state medical school and recommended it be located at UF. The University envisioned a center to integrate all of the health sciences and understood a new library would be critical to supporting the clinical, teaching and research outcomes that they sought. Decades later, university leaders envisioned a new center on the main campus that would bring engineering and computer sciences together. From the beginning the vision held a (then) modern library at its core, integrating various disconnected department-level STEM libraries and reading rooms across campus, and fostering cross-disciplinary research. As we will hear, both the HSCL and Marston Library delivered on the expectations of the leaders who made them possible and have continued to evolve with the University and library users over the subsequent decades.



Above: Aerial View of the J. Hillis Miller Health Center, 1958; George Harrell's original design with several editions.

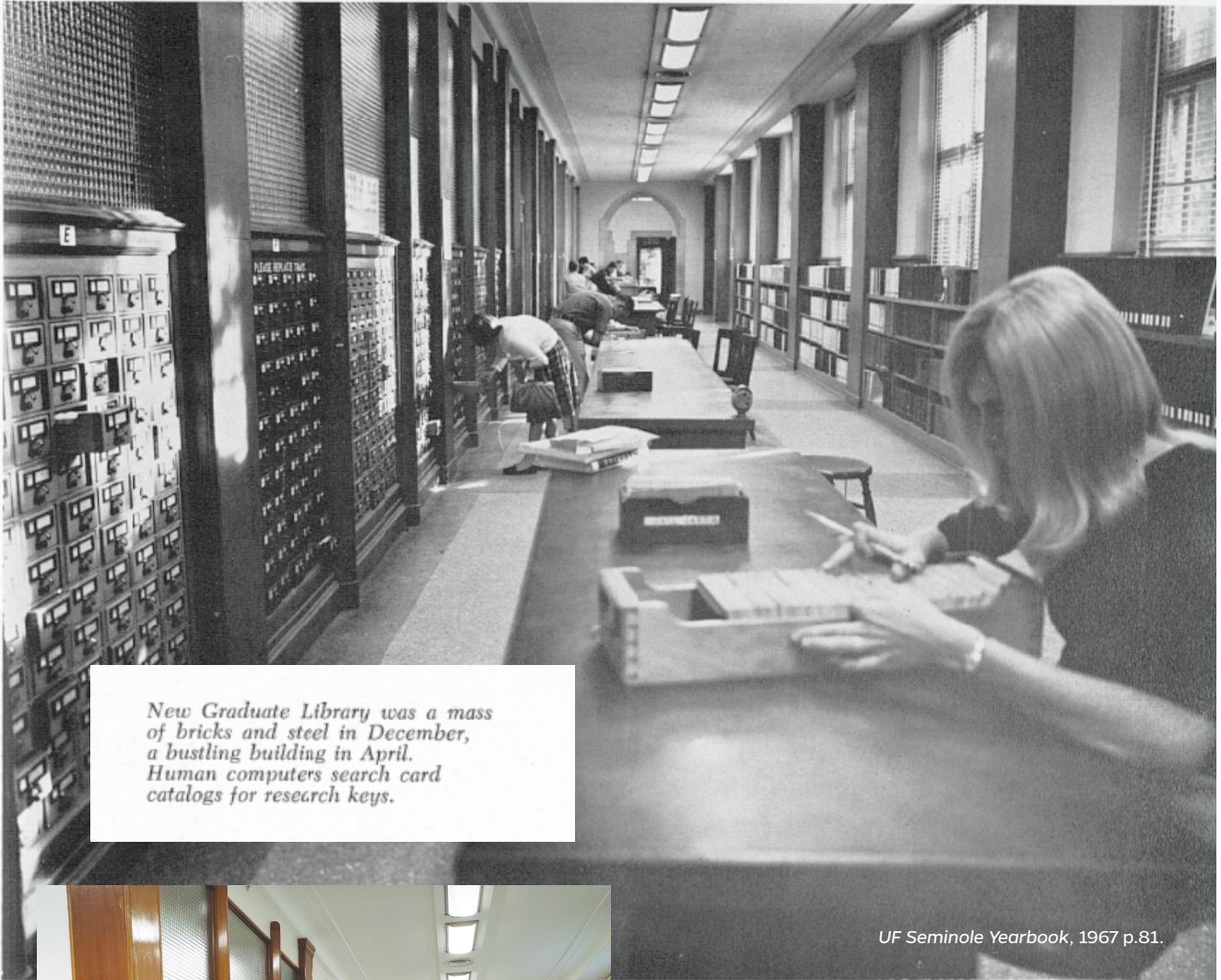


Above: George Harrell developed plans for organized and rational growth of the Health Science Center because he did not want it to grow as a confusing maze like most centers. His plan for the staged growth was demonstrated with a set of blocks. This picture shows the first stage—the medical sciences building including the library and auditorium.



Above: Printed floor plan of the Medical Science building, showing space usage in this, the first Health Science Center Building that includes the library.

NEW ADDITION EMPTIES STACKS



New Graduate Library was a mass of bricks and steel in December, a bustling building in April. Human computers search card catalogs for research keys.


UF Seminole Yearbook, 1967 p.81.



Above: Image of Nahmad Panama Canal Gallery in 2022; with card catalog removed.

The Smathers Libraries exhibit spaces increase the visitor's awareness of the vast (and sometimes obscure) collections. They also allow for the interpretation of how materials fit into the landscape of information, and tell us about the people and societies that made and used them. To achieve this, numerous unique spaces have appeared, sometimes organically, in UF Libraries over decades, and these eventually came to be home to a formal, professional exhibition program that is supporting learning and collaborations which expand the Libraries' contributions to learning across the curriculum. In this issue we will also hear about the Albert H. Nahmad Panama Canal Gallery, which expanded on the library

exhibition concept when it opened to the public in 2017. The Gallery is a historic venue, now rededicated for exhibitions on the history of the Panama Canal, featuring objects from the Panama Canal Museum. This space and the collection it draws from support the understanding of a transformative engineering feat, but also the communities that administered and called the surrounding area home. Like other spaces in this *SOURCE* series, these individuals and groups saw the opportunity, through their generosity, to create a legacy in the Libraries.

For these four installments, we have again asked library personnel who know the spaces best to tell the stories. Through their telling you will not only learn about the spaces, but have a glimpse at the expertise, commitment, and creativity of my colleagues and how these spaces contribute to the University of Florida and beyond. I hope you enjoy this third installment in this *SOURCE* series and all of the noteworthy stories collected here. With all well wishes to you and yours, thank you for reading. 



BRIAN W. KEITH



Above: Image of Smathers Lobby in 2022, featuring permanent exhibit space.

Left: University Library Entrance Lobby with Circulation Counter, 1950s.