What Is The *Library + Commons@Phillips Memorial Library?*

The *Library + Commons* is the **seamless integration** of the
Traditional Library ↔ with the ↔ Technology-Rich Commons.

The Traditional Library
-- books, face-to-face services and interactions, etc. --
↔ **+** ↔
The Technology-Rich Commons
-- electronic resources, anytime-anywhere services and interactions --

The *Library + Commons* is the library *designed & focused exclusively on patron needs*:

- Point of Need: <u>where</u> patrons are in their work:
  reflection→ research→analysis→synthesis→processing-to-product→evaluation

- Level of Need: freshmen, graduate, faculty research
- Time of Need: anytime, 24/7
- Place of Need: in-library, dorm, across town, the country, the world: anywhere
- Format of Need: although we often guide patrons to the entire collected series, the book, chapter, or journal article, our patrons prefer, and are accustomed to, using key-word searches (Google, etc.) to find *only* **the page, the chart, graph, sentence or phrase**
- Speed of Need: although we often prefer that patrons spend **10-45 minutes** *with us* to find the best collection of information for their research needs, they often prefer to do quicker searching and fill their need in less than **5 minutes**, often in **30 seconds** or less

The *Library + Commons* offers the patron <u>the continuum of services and resources</u>:

- Comfortable, aesthetically-pleasing surroundings: chairs, sofas, lounges, collaborative spaces, art, cared-for areas: the *library as place*
- Friendly, helpful, capable staff: desired *affect of service* at desks, pleasant, helpful, "roving" staff, staff who are there **when** the patrons needs assistance
  - **Information Station:** main floor, staffed 8 am-11:00 pm/midnight most days by research support staff, with two collaborative PC stations and one collaborative Macintosh station with double monitors, shareable wireless keyboards and mice, a scanner, variable furniture for use in flexible ways for collaboration
  - **Support Station:** second floor, staffed many hours each day by research support staff with access to scanners
  - **Creation Station/Macintosh Lab:** main floor, accessible during all library hours, supported by *Library + Commons* staff at all times with computers and scanners
  - **Digital Services Lab:** main floor, staffed 10 am–10 pm most days by expert digitization support staff with access to PC and Macintosh computers and scanners
- Easily accessible information resources in all formats -- paper (in-house, HELIN loan, interlibrary loan), electronic, microform -- all *in* or *from within* the library or *from wherever the patron is* – *informational control*

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- Richesse of technology in the **_Library + Commons_**
  - 50 high-end desktop PCs with DVD/RW capabilities, and MSOffice+; 4 PCs also have scanners
  - 18 high-end desktop PCs with DVD/RW capabilities and MSOffice+ in the electronic classroom
  - 29 laptops for student check-out with MSOffice+
  - 5 high-end iMac Macintosh computers and scanners with Microsoft Office, Adobe Creative Suite, and Apple iLife software
  - Digital Services Lab with 2 high-end PCs and 2 Macintosh computers, scanners for various formats, and full range of productivity & digitization software
  - Wireless 802.11 a, b, and g access for College and patron computers
  - 10 high-end scanners (8½"x11" and 11"x17") with Photoshop image manipulation and OCR/Optical Character Recognition software
  - 6 public printers (color printing options in the future)
  - 5 public scanners on the main floor, 2 public scanners on the second floor, and additional format scanners in the Digital Services Lab
- Spaces for collaboration
  - 3 open group study rooms with high-end PCs for 8 to 9 persons
  - 1 open group study/presentation rehearsal room for up to 25 persons with data projector and screen, available laptop computer and video recorder
  - Macintosh Creation Station with high-end iMacs and scanner
  - Wireless laptops available for checkout to enhance technology tools
  - Information Station desk with 3 collaboration stations each with computer, double-monitor, wireless keyboard and mouse, and ample comfortable & versatile furniture
- Access to tools: high-technology, electric/manual small & large staplers, small & large hole-punches, pencils/pens, paper-clips, etc.
- Access to refreshments: gourmet hot drinks on ground floor, drinks in covered containers allowed in the building

Into the Future:

The **_Library + Commons_** will perhaps:

- Add more Macintosh computers, scanners and laptops for checkout, and more collaborative group study spaces over time, as patron use and preferences suggest;

- Provide more refreshments over time, as patron use and preferences suggest; and

- Provide extended hours over time, as patron use and preferences suggest.

Still the central components of the **_Library + Commons_** will remain the same:

- *Explicitly focused on patron needs*

- *Seamless integration of the traditional high-touch Library with high-tech Commons*

- *The full range of resources enabling and facilitating all academic research activities from reflection→ research→analysis→synthesis→processing-to-product→evaluation*

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