Space and Place to Inspire

Facilitating Student Communities and Success with Physical and Digital Learning Spaces

AMICAL CONSORTIUM | 19th annual conference, 14–16 June 2022 | Sarah Hutton, UMass Amherst

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Excerpt from 2022 ARL Film Festival Winner (Best Performance): Treasures Storing Up This Space - Written and Performed by Alondra Bobac Boston's First Youth Poet Laureate. Created to celebrate the Boston Public Library during National Library Week (U.S.).

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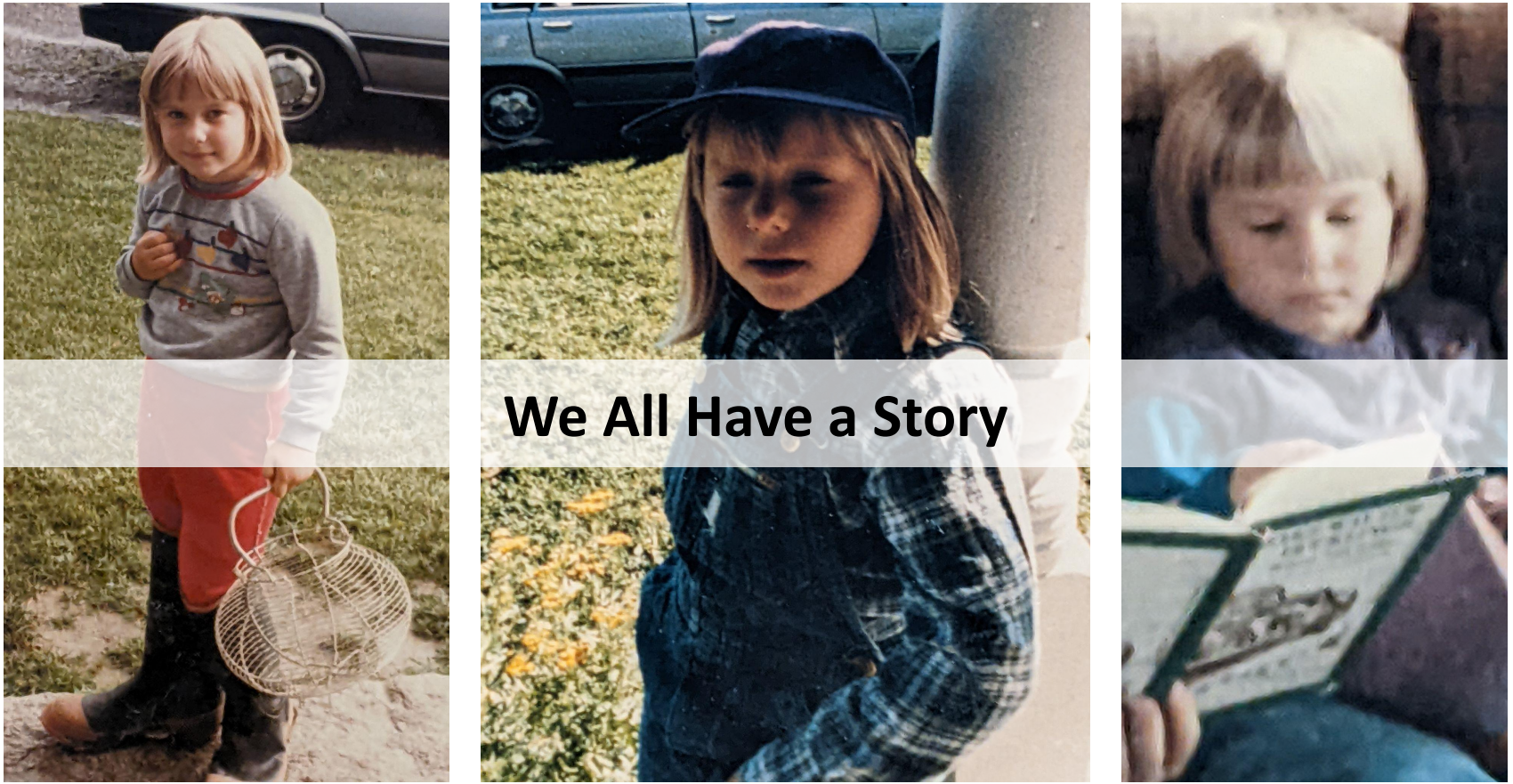

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Take a Moment to Consider YOUR Story

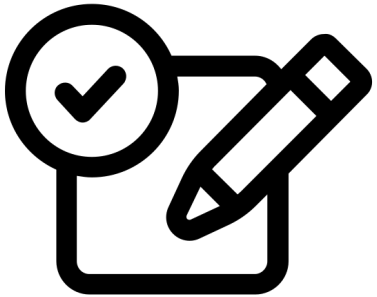
Think about a time when you felt inspired - to be creative, to learn, or explore.

Think about the SPACE, the PLACE, if there were PEOPLE around you, and how you FELT.

Take some time to review these questions and record your answers (pen/pencil/paper or digital - whatever works best for you).

Created by Arthur Shlain
from the Noun Project

Getting to Know Our Users, Our Campus, and Our Partners



Created by Adrien Coquet
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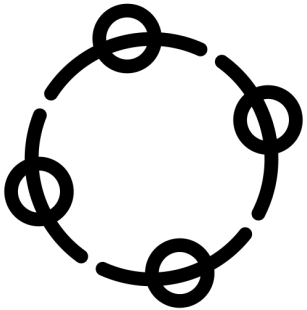

Created by alerma
from the Noun Project

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Case Studies

Learning Commons
Focus On: Assessment

Digital Media Lab
Focus On: Programming

Student Wellness
Focus On: Campus Partnerships

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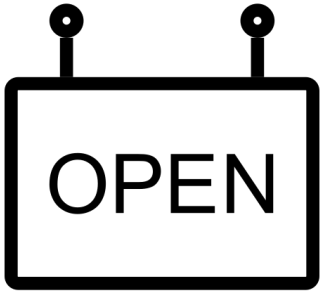
Our Vision: The Libraries are OPEN

We are open to change – to reexamining the past and continuously reinventing our future.

- ➔ Our doors are OPEN: both physically and digitally, welcoming in a global community that sees themselves reflected in our collections, spaces, services, and–most importantly–our workforce.
- ➔ Our collections are OPEN: to reevaluation, and to being examined through the critical lens of scholars shaping an understanding of the world around them.
- ➔ Our minds are OPEN: to reimagining scholarship, to breaking the barriers of conventional academic publishing, to helping to amplify marginalized voices in the knowledge creation process.
- ➔ Our hearts are OPEN: to new possibilities, to prospects, and to a better shared future for our society.



Created bv DinosoftLab

https://www.library.umass.edu/mission-statement-strategic-plan/

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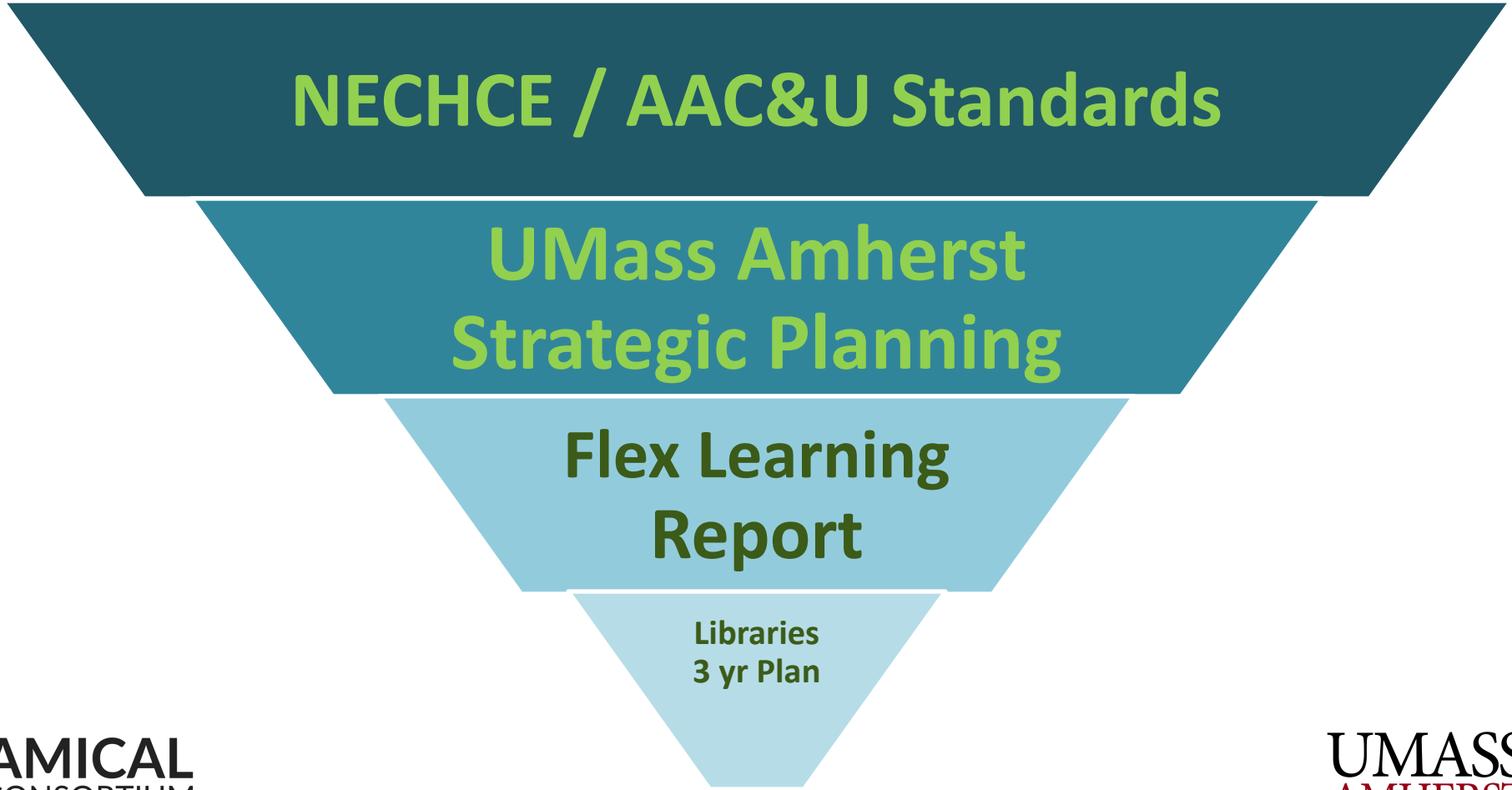

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Case Study: Learning Commons Focus - Assessment

A Changing Pedagogical Model: Collaborative, Experiential and Multimodal

Collaborative spaces for group work outside the classroom leveraging a team-based learning (TBL) model.

Flexible spaces provide room for **Problem-Based** and **Experiential Learning** Opportunities.

Technology and spaces to support **UDL Principles**.

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TBL Outside the Classroom: Library Structured Space

Multiple **Group Study Rooms** line the perimeter of the Learning Commons in the W.E.B. Du Bois Library.

Technology and **Table Space** are equally important.

Space infrastructure should be outfitted to support **Multiple Devices** for *each student*.

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TBL Outside the Classroom: Library UN-Structured Space

Where there is **Electricity** and **Table Space**, groups will naturally form.

For each **collaborative space,** ensure that **learners also have quiet spaces** available for individual study.

Public, protected, academic spaces invite working **alone together** or in groups.

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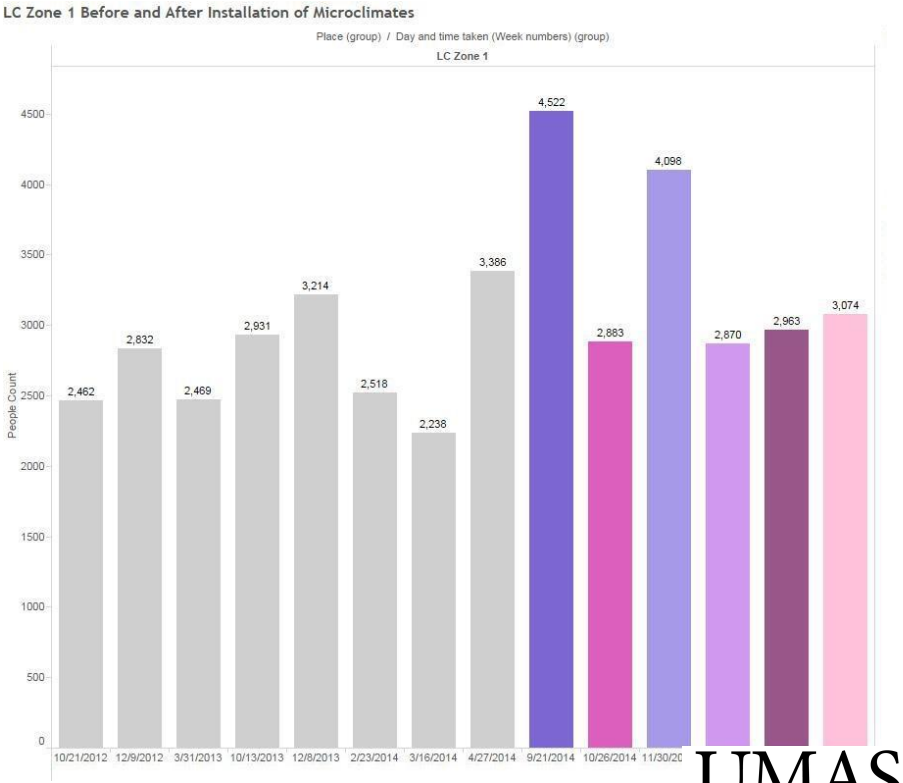
Assessment for Recalibration and Updates

1. How do students use the space, services, and technology in the Learning Commons?

2. How are undergraduate students motivated or discouraged from using the Learning Commons?

Quantitative Data Collection - overview

- ➔ headcounts
- ➔ LibQUAL
- ➔ gate counts
- ➔ circulation of items
- ➔ service desk interactions
- ➔ computer logins



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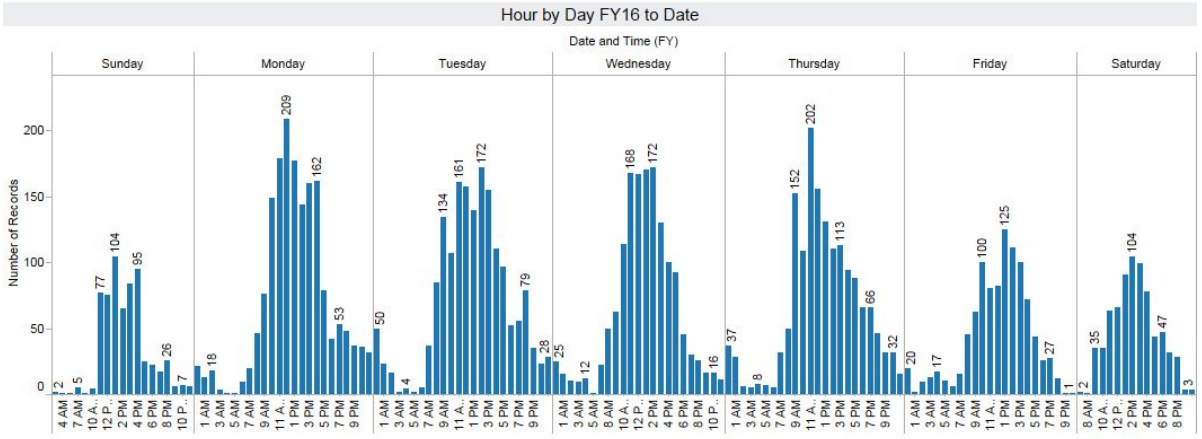
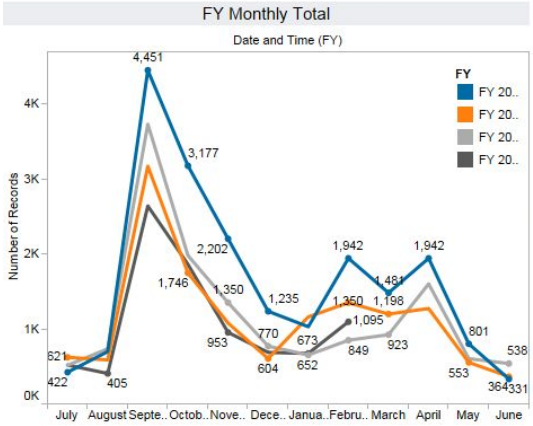
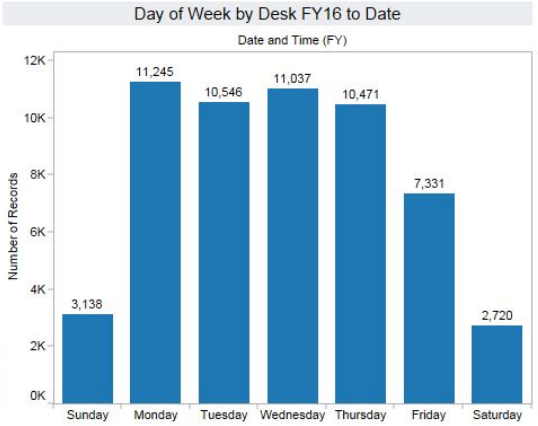
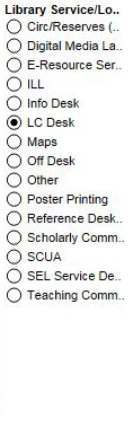
Desk Transactions DOW and Month









Entered by, hour, scale FY 14-present

Scale (group)	Scale	Hour of Start ..	Staff	Students
1	1	12 AM	38	41
		1 AM	2	8
		2 AM	3	5
		3 AM	7	1
		4 AM	6	
		5 AM	1	
		6 AM	1	
		7 AM	1	
		9 AM	2	
		10 AM	7	4
		11 AM	9	21
		12 PM	173	255
		1 PM	116	194
		2 PM	112	169
		3 PM	103	143
		4 PM	120	180
		5 PM	90	83
		6 PM	34	44
		7 PM	35	69
		8 PM	18	37
		9 PM	24	27
		10 PM	5	
		11 PM	4	
2	2	12 AM	35	6
		1 AM	1	2
		2 AM	4	1
		3 AM	4	
		5 AM	2	
		6 AM	5	
		7 AM	2	
		9 AM	1	
		10 AM	3	
		11 AM	14	10
		12 PM	96	41
		1 PM	80	45
		2 PM	66	36
		3 PM	79	55
		4 PM	85	35
		5 PM	116	19
		6 PM	29	7
		7 PM	27	6
		8 PM	18	4
		9 PM	21	3
		10 PM	11	
		11 PM	4	
3	3	12 AM	31	4
		1 AM	1	
		2 AM	3	2
		3 AM	2	
		4 AM	1	
		5 AM	2	
		6 AM	4	
		7 AM	1	6
		9 AM	2	
		10 AM	10	
		11 AM	19	9
		12 PM	57	17
		1 PM	52	25
		2 PM	61	33
		3 PM	67	39
		4 PM	71	32
		5 PM	39	12
		6 PM	22	6
		7 PM	19	6
		8 PM	8	4
		9 PM	10	12
		10 PM	6	
		11 PM	16	

Number of Records: 1 – 255

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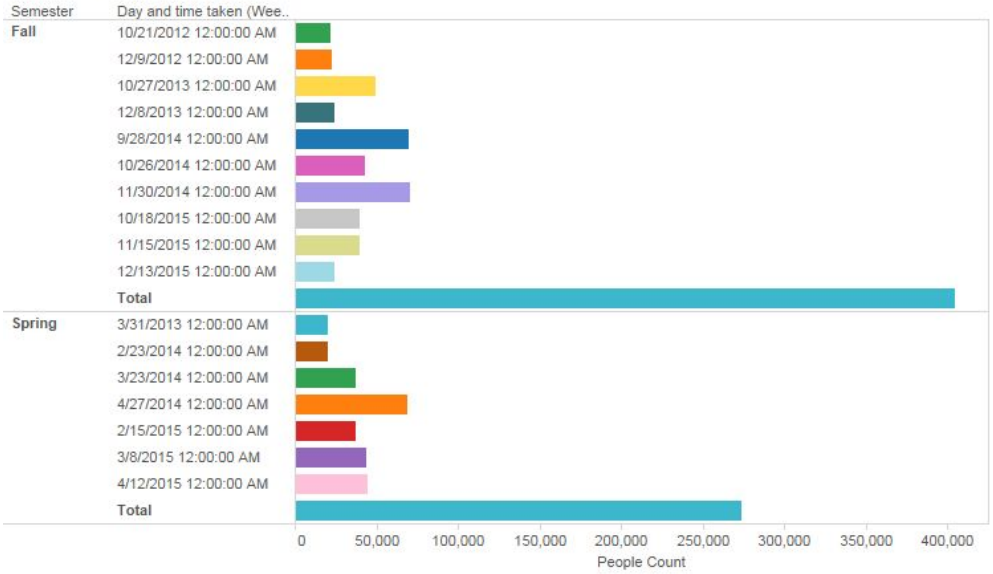
Fall vs. Spring Building Totals by Headcount Week



Total Study Room Use

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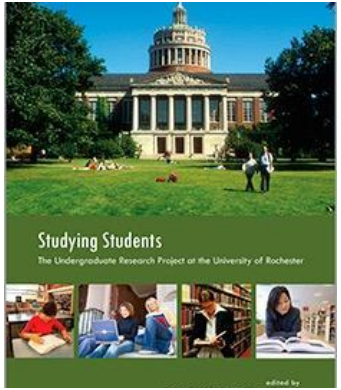
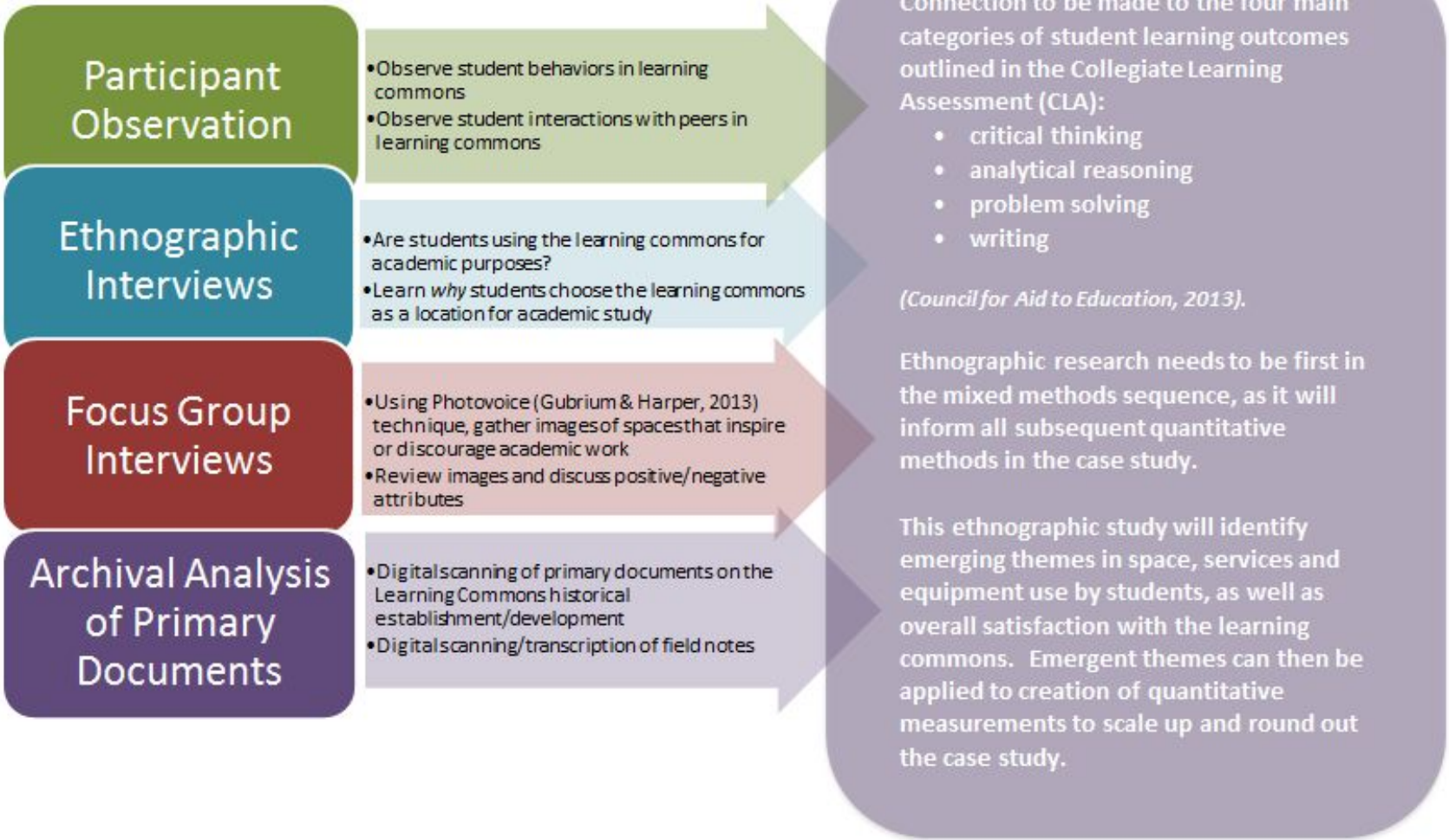
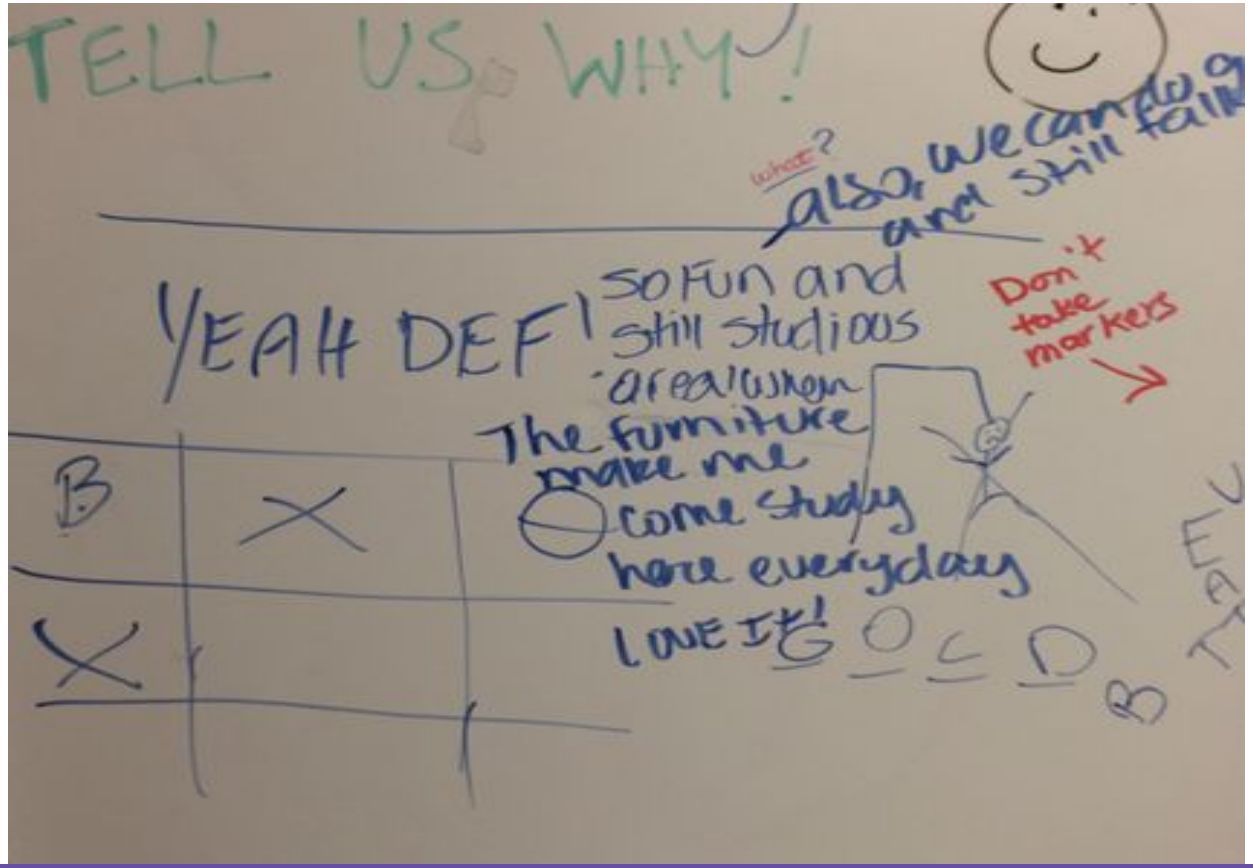
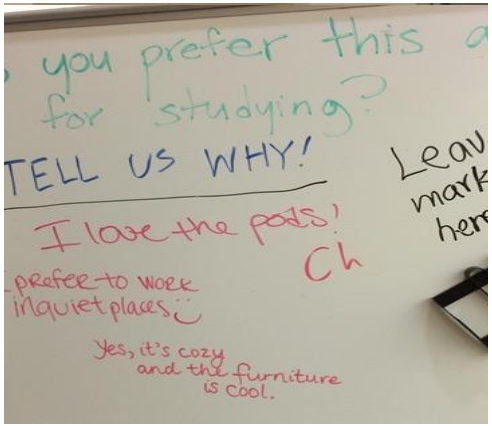
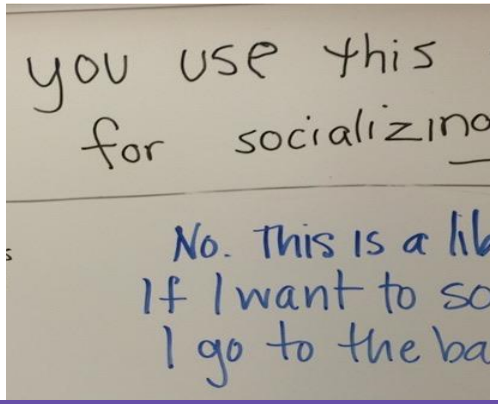


Connecting with Anthropology to Tell the User's Story

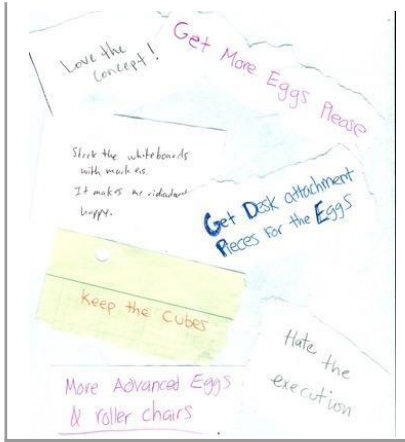

Participant Observation
•Observe student behaviors in learning commons
•Observe student interactions with peers in learning commons
Ethnographic Interviews
•Are students using the learning commons for academic purposes?
•Learn *why* students choose the learning commons as a location for academic study
Focus Group Interviews
•Using Photovoice (Gubrium & Harper, 2013) technique, gather images of spaces that inspire or discourage academic work
•Review images and discuss positive/negative attributes
Archival Analysis of Primary Documents
•Digital scanning of primary documents on the Learning Commons historical establishment/development
•Digital scanning/transcription of field notes
Connection to be made to the four main categories of student learning outcomes outlined in the Collegiate Learning Assessment (CLA):
• critical thinking
• analytical reasoning
• problem solving
• writing
(Council for Aid to Education, 2013).
Ethnographic research needs to be first in the mixed methods sequence, as it will inform all subsequent quantitative methods in the case study.
This ethnographic study will identify emerging themes in space, services and equipment use by students, as well as overall satisfaction with the learning commons. Emergent themes can then be applied to creation of quantitative measurements to scale up and round out the case study.







Feedback via Whiteboards: Inexpensive and Easy!



Comment Box: Also Inexpensive and Easy!

Study Findings

We have determined that students enjoy academic ambience, while still having their (perceived) privacy.

Alone Together

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Study Findings

There needs to be a better communication of services/what is available to our patrons. They aren't sure who's supposed to help with what, or where they should be going to get it.

Wayfinding/Communication

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Study Findings

Students do not currently feel comfortable with asking others to move from the group study rooms (even with current signage).

Room Reservation/Communication

Study Findings

Students view many spaces on campus, including some parts of the Learning Commons, to be 'White Spaces.' However, more students of color have been observed in the Microclimates. Why is this the case? *(further research)*

Safety/Inclusion for Diverse Population

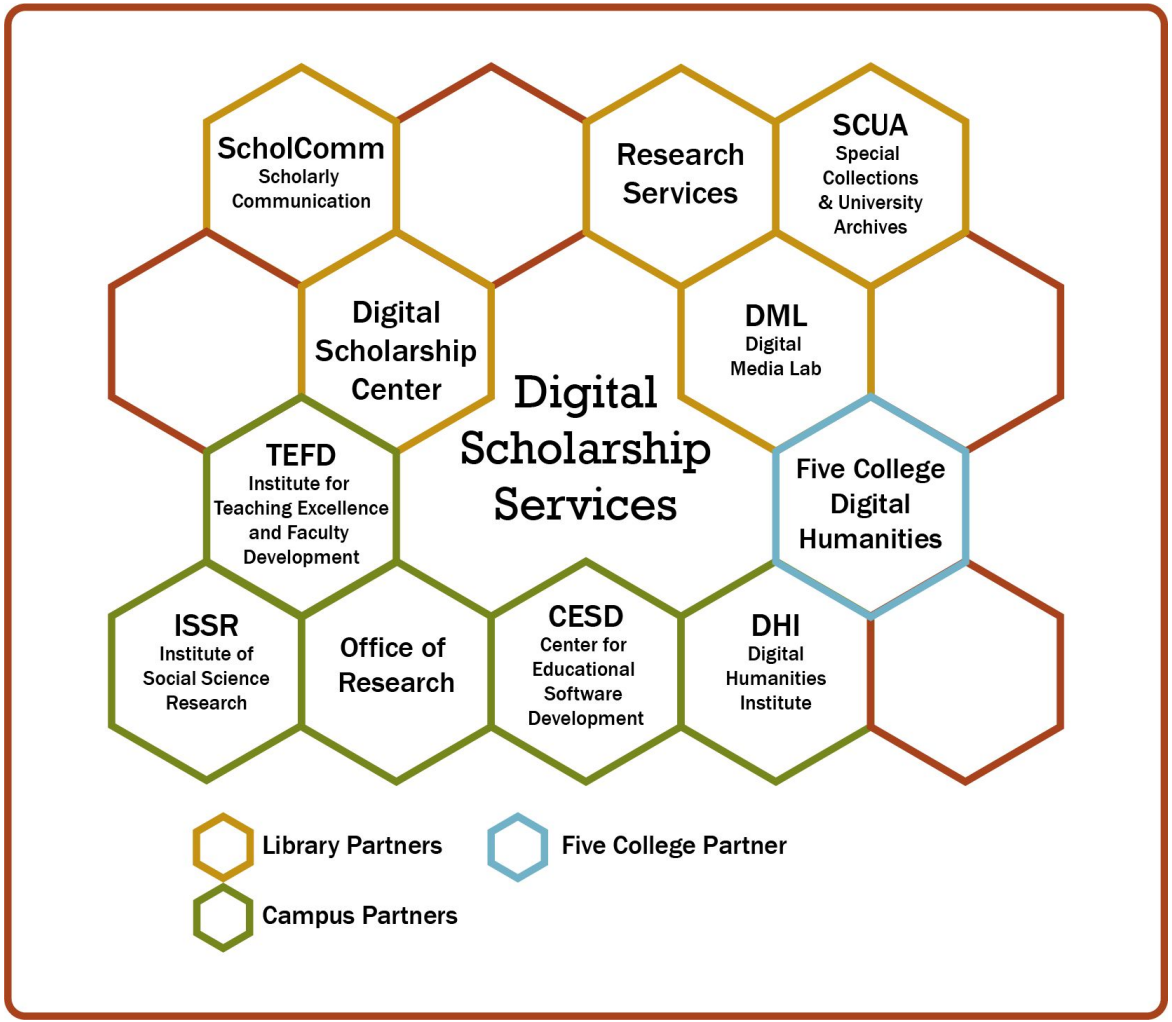
Case Study: Digital Media Lab Focus - Programming

Digital Media Lab (DML) - overview

Digital Storytelling with audio, video, and digital collections, making historical data come alive.

Reconstructing lost cultures, spaces and places with **VR/AR**.

Fabricating original **solutions** to real world problems.



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Digital Media and Open Collections - What's Possible?

- ➔ William Edward Burghardt Du Bois, 1868 - 1963
- ➔ Du Bois Papers housed in Special Collections University Libraries, UMass Amherst

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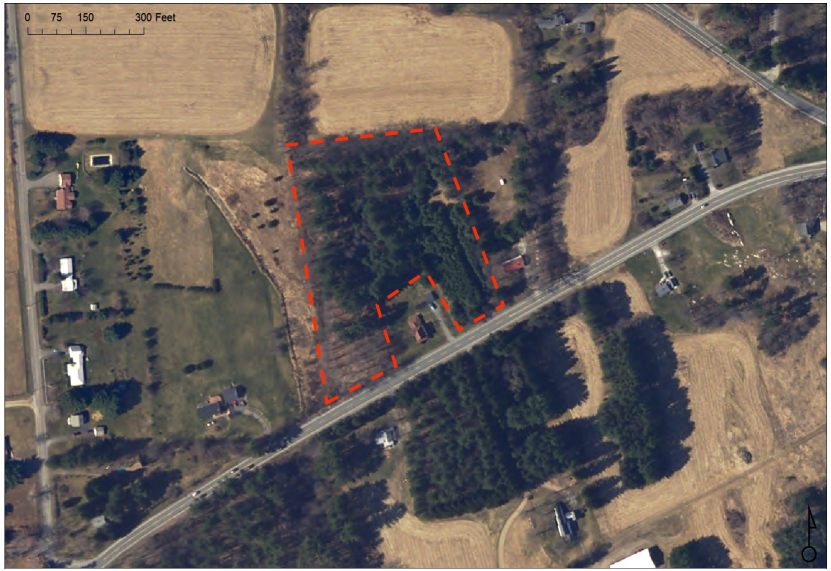
Digital Media,Open Scholarship and Public History - What's Possible?



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- Einscan Pro 2X Plus
- Unity - metallic parameters are tricky (esp for rust)
- Sketchfab upload (CC BY) for interactivity; download options: glb, glTF, USDZ

Digital Media and Open Collections - What's Possible?

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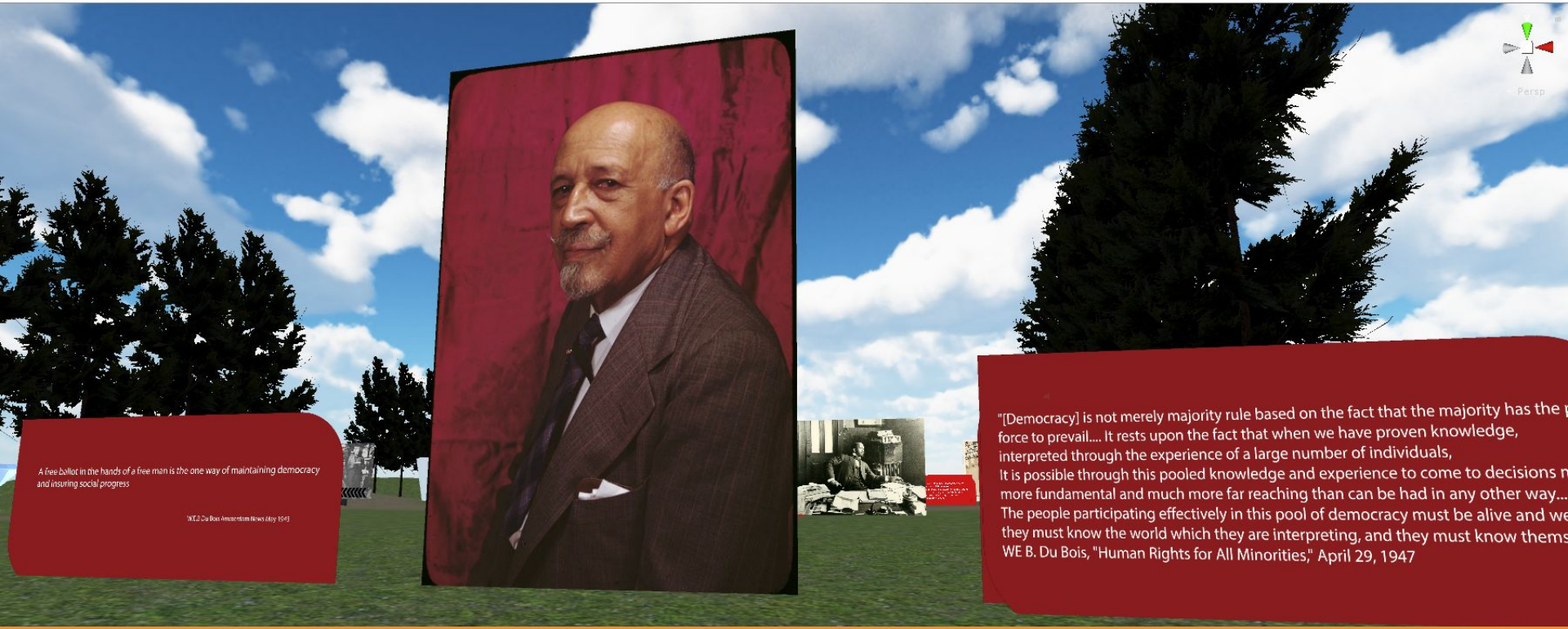
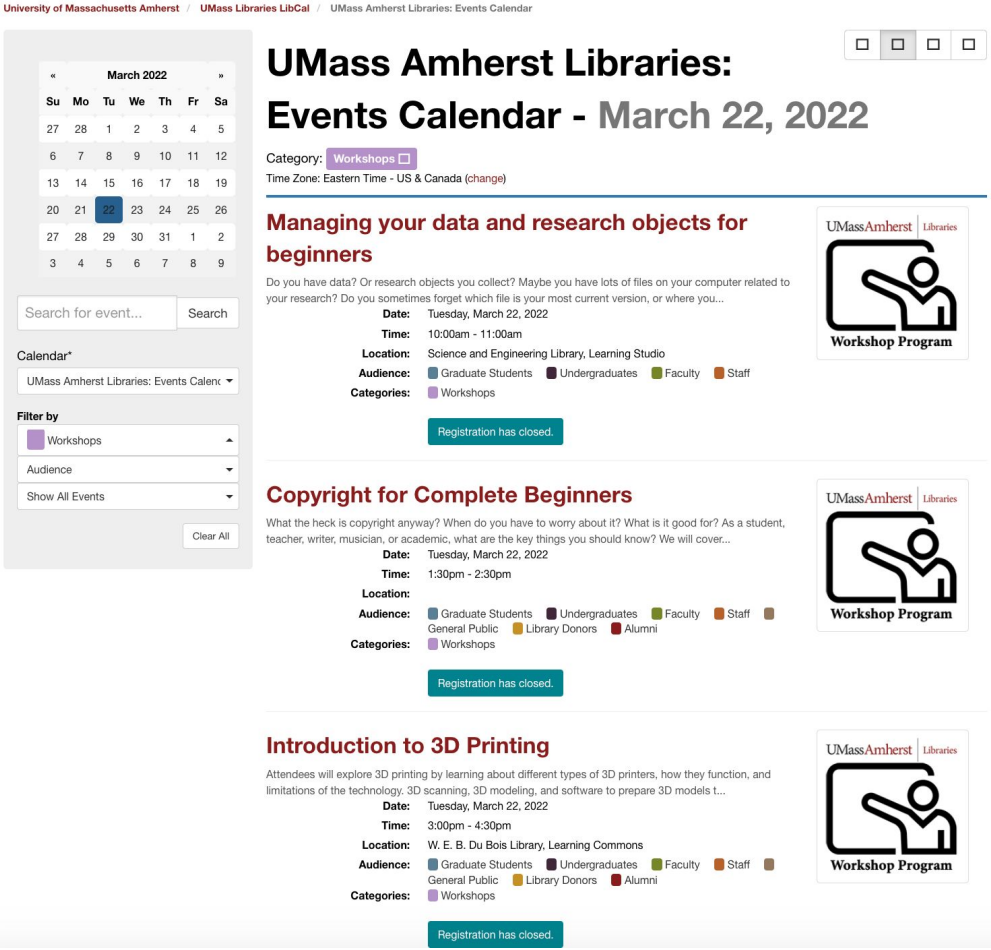


Digital Media and Open Collections - What's Possible?

Libraries

Ask Us



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Women in America: The Western Experience

Philosophy of Science

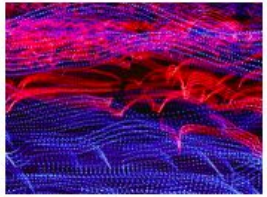
Designing with 3D CAD & BIM

Makerspace Leadership and Outreach

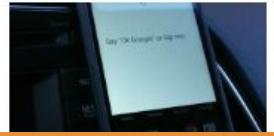
Children's Literature in Elementary and Middle Schools

Planet Earth Lab

Math, Art, and the Human Experience



Introduction to Digital Media



Libraries are critical collaborators on curriculum development, implementation, and assessment processes.

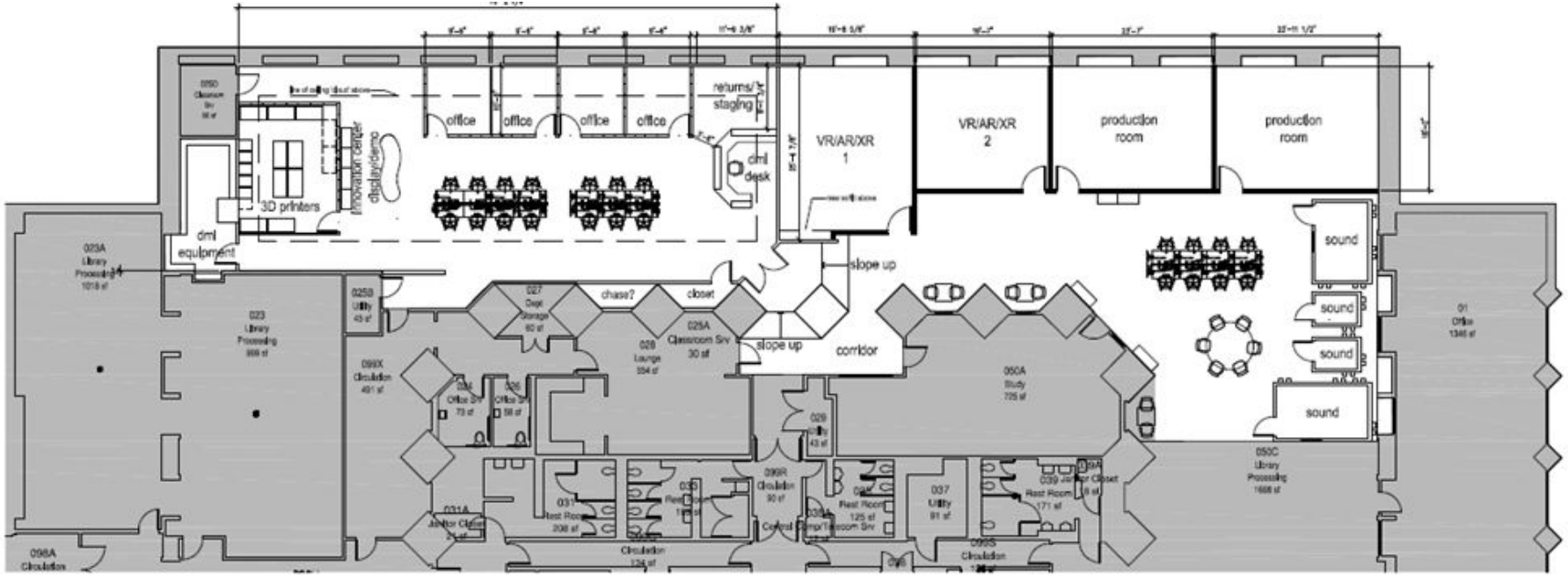
Libraries are hubs of academic exploration, creative expression, and social change.

Open Curriculum: library.uta.edu/makerliteracies

Open Student Scholarship: RASE

Open Student Scholarship: Virtual RASE

Preparing for Multiple Modalities



Case Study: Student Wellness Focus - Campus Partnerships

Increasing Partnerships in Support of Student Success

- Libraries and Student Affairs professionals share a commitment to **student success** and holistic development.

- Partnership between libraries and Student Affairs increases program **awareness**, availability of **resources**, and **university commitment** to shared goals.

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UMass Amherst Libraries Outreach Series

Come here to learn about offerings to connect with others on campus!

Home
UMass Amherst Libraries Outreach Series 2021-2022
Past Events
Spring 2021
Fall 2021

Annette M. Vadnais

Annette Vadnais
she, her, hers
Email Me

UMass Amherst Libraries Outreach Series 2021-2022

Please check this page throughout the semester for event updates.

Please note that all attendees must comply with UMass Amherst's Current Guidance for Campus Events.

Finals Fun
Coloring Contest
Top three prizes for:
Creativity
Color
Best Overall
Winners announced
December 20, 2016!
Hang your coloring contest submissions!
(or if you prefer, place in submissions folder in box)

UMassAmherst
The Commonwealth's Flagship Campus
GET YOUR
GAME ON!
7:30 - 10:00 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 3, 2017
Come to the Learning Commons in the lower level of the W.E.B. Du Bois Library for
GAMES, FOOD & PRIZES!

The Moment We're In

Deaths by suicides

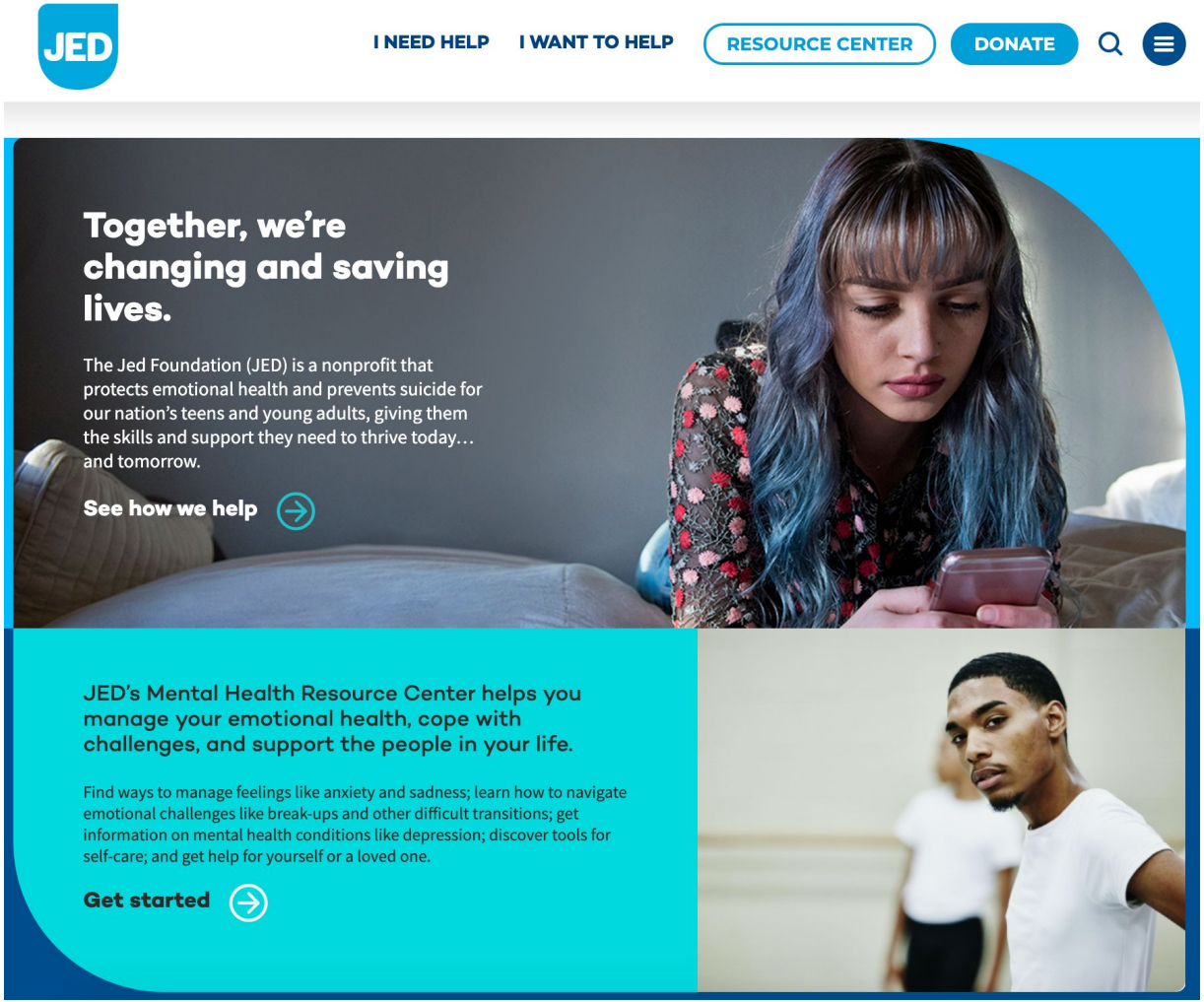
Though updated national statistics for college and university student suicides are not available, confirmed data from several colleges and universities suggests that the rate of death by suicide might have skyrocketed since the implementation of pandemic-related restrictions on college campuses. Here are just a few of the colleges and universities that have confirmed alarming numbers of deaths by suicide:

- Stanford University, four in 13 months
- Worcester Polytechnic Institute, five in one year
- Dartmouth College, two in one year

College commencement ceremony in 2018 in Lenox, Mass. *Gillian Jones/The Berkshire Eagle Via AP*

- Excerpt from USA Today, May 2022

- ➔ Increased **loneliness**, **hopelessness**
- ➔ Feeling a **lack of connection**
- ➔ **Uncertainty about the future**, ambiguity of place and space in the world



Students are in Crisis - what is the library's role in providing support?

More than ever, a focus on **mental health** awareness and clinical care needs to be holistic, and an interdepartmental effort.

Looking at the library as a **third space**, what are the opportunities?

jedfoundation.org

Center for Counseling and Psychological Health

Welcome to CCPH

The Center for Counseling and Psychological Health (CCPH) offers a community of care to UMass Amherst students to help cope with stress or anxiety, find strategies to overcome challenges, promote mental wellbeing, and succeed in college life and beyond.

Bank of America
ELECTRICAL
TRUE RELIGION
ALL HAIL

Wellbeing Wednesdays

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www.umass.edu/studentlife/wellbeing-wednesday-events

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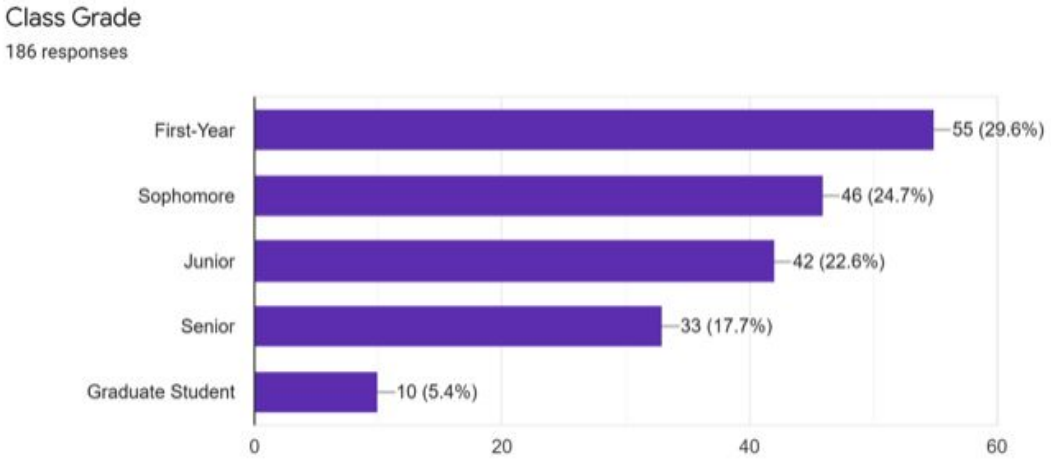
Libraries Outreach Series - Impact



Print surveys on Spr 2022 Outreach Programming

300+ responses collected

What did this event help with?

- ➔ **Wellbeing** 56.7%
- ➔ **Connections** 38.7%
- ➔ **Relax and Recharge** 91.7%
- ➔ **Fun and Happiness** were also included under "other"

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Playful Engagement

http://www.edutopia.org/blog/changemakers-reconnecting-adults-playful-learning-reem-rahman

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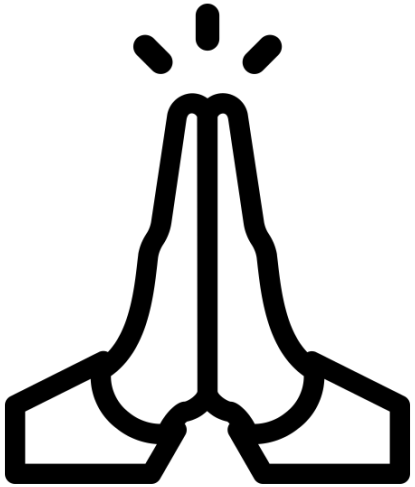
from the Noun Project

Thank You! Questions Welcomed.



Created by Rainbow Designs from the Noun Project

Sarah Hutton
Interim Dean, UMass Amherst Libraries

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