

**NC STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**Library Master Plan**

**M S & R**

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## **Executive Summary**

Simply put, the NCSU Libraries strive to create a library system that will support the academic goals of the University. The basis of this goal is:

Advanced application of digital information technology and access to electronic materials,  
Individual and collective study spaces that support both quiet, contemplative study and collaborative interaction,  
Access to all of the required print materials

As a first-class science, engineering and technology institution, NCSU requires a first-class research library system. We define first class as:  
A library that houses a fully accredited collection, in all relevant formats, for use by the faculty, staff and students;  
A physical place that permits easy access to, and use of, the collection;  
An institution that provides unequalled library services to the University community—through collection development and management, assistance and support;  
A physical and cultural icon that symbolically represents the qualities of the University—now and in the future.

## **The current Library has:**

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Facilities that are severely physically undersized;  
Space which is in poor physical condition with antiquated building systems and poor space utilization;  
Space that suffers from over-crowding;  
Multiple additions that have been done without the benefit of a comprehensive Master Plan that is integrated with the plan growth of the University  
Space utilization that has developed incrementally over the years in response to collection growth and population served—within the physical restraints of the existing facilities;

## **Today, this has resulted in:**

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Inefficient departmental relationships;  
Poor and inadequate seating;  
Insufficient space for a collection growing to conform to accreditation requirements;  
Illogical and inefficient organization of the departments;  
Poorly located and undersized points-of-service for patrons;  
Recognized library space planning standards are not being met.

**These shortcomings:**

Create a visible negative affect on student and faculty use of Library facilities—including lack of space to work as individuals and in collaborative teams, over crowding, illogical organization of materials and counter-intuitive placement of departments;  
Limit the ability of faculty and staff to effectively utilize Library facilities in support of academic programs;  
Add to the inability for the University attract and retain top Library professionals; and,  
Place an immediate requirement on the University to renovate the existing D.H. Hill library to rectify these immediate shortcomings. This renovation is recommended in order to bring the building up to a minimum standard before additional work, such as an addition, is done. Unlike the past, this renovation will be done in the context of a Master Plan.

**The Master Plan:**

Assesses and identifies the current state of the NC State University Library system—including the utilization of its facilities, collections, places for study and collaboration, and staff;  
Develops criteria to guide development of the system over the next twenty years;  
Develops a strategy for use of funding allocated in the NC State 10 Year Capital Plan; and  
Develops recommendations for future funding of the Library system.

**Accepting the Recommendations of the Master Plan will:**

Bring the NC State University Library system into conformance with the University of North Carolina System and American Library Association standards;  
Provide students, faculty and staff with the materials and facilities needed to support and promote academic and research achievement;  
Demonstrate the University's commitment to address SACS facilities-related accreditation issues;  
Support the information needs of the University as it continues to increase its expansion through qualitative physical and academic improvements;  
Support expansion of the University into Centennial Campus.

### What *University* factors shaped this Master Plan?

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The changing demographics of the University population;

Rapid evolution of technology;

Changing nature of content creation, acquisition and delivery;

The desire to maintain the NCSU Libraries leadership in innovative and progressive delivery methods;

The emergence of the Library as an important intellectual and social center where students, faculty, staff and partners gather to interact as well as for individual study;

The dissolution of the boundary between intellectual and social interaction;

The evolving and complex needs for research and study;

Analyzing activities is the basis for programming the physical form;

Functionality includes a level of connectivity for each group of activities—whether it be reader seats, browsing the collection or working in a collaborative setting;

The increasing need for traditional holdings and services and to be, concurrently, on the leading edge of electronic material delivery.

### What *Universal* factors shaped this Master Plan?

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Libraries are places where social interactions take place in an *information-rich* environment;

Libraries are places where information is stored in an logical and easily accessible form;

Functions will take place in physical space and a virtual environment. No one can be certain which of these formats will dominate—or what the balance will be;

There are three primary library models for Universities:

**Centralized Building Model**—where information is stored in a central location, printed materials coexist with digital information and there is physical one-on-one interaction between library staff and patrons.

**Distributed Building Model**—where information resides at the user's location, printed collections are in a storage facility, and there is mediated interaction between the library staff and patrons.

**Hybrid Building Model**—where information resides both at user's location and at a central location, the centralized library facility is extended through a virtual network and interaction between library staff and patrons is determined by its content. This is the proposed model for the NCSU Library System.

The evolutionary disparity between information technology and building design is leading to new, hybrid forms of libraries, containing both physical and information infrastructures. Successful planning for both physical and information infrastructures must take into account the increasingly complex interaction between these physical and virtual environments—and the emerging importance of the library as a center of social life for students.

**The planning team was guided by:**

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The duality of the library service goals:

- 1) Critical, ongoing expansion of the print and digital collection;
- 2) Related expansion of collaborative workspace with a more relevant and exciting electronic work environments.

The need for expansion of library services to the Centennial Campus. This will

- 1) Necessitate division of the print collection
- 2) Introduce a certain level of redundancy—since convenience and timely availability of core reference materials and study spaces is an essential requirement.

**Generally, we recommend that NCSU:**

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Maintain its traditional emphasis on quality teaching, people and service;  
Enhance its physical presence to deal with serious shortcomings;  
Endorse growth and change to support continued enrichment of the University and its people; and  
Provide library facilities that function as a nexus for research, learning, and community.

**Specifically, we recommend that NCSU:**

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The library system will be renovated and expanded to:

House collections to support academics at the University as defined by recognized standards and in consideration of historic material acquisition statistics. This will result in a library system in twenty years housing 3.3 million monographs and 3.7 million total Bound Volume Equivalents (BVE)<sup>1</sup>, a 58% growth in print collections over the next twenty years;

Support the relocation of volumes to the satellite shelving facility—resulting in a temporary increase in the number of study spaces. As the print collections grow to meet accreditation requirements, these seats will be displaced—to be supplemented as new construction and renovation occurs;

Provide individual and collaborative seating for 7,269—for students, faculty, staff and partners. This is an increase of 5,879 over the current total of 1,490. This represents approximately five and a half times the number of study seats currently available in the Hill and Branch Libraries—and is the minimum for accreditation;

Provide efficient, flexible staff space. Current University space standards must be tested against the needs of the Library staff to insure that space provided for the staff is efficient and flexible. Analysis of the Library staff space in relation to University standards should be an integral part of the initial programming for the Phase I project.

Provide efficient, flexible user space that will provide for true collaboration and for access to the utilization of the very newest information technologies not yet ubiquitous on campus.

Consist of approximately 893,250 square feet of total space in the Hill, Centennial Campus and Branch facilities. This represents a 459,250 square foot increase over the Libraries' current 434,000 square feet—and is located in:

D. H. Hill Library—with 413,000 square feet;  
Centennial Campus—with 405,000 square feet; and  
Branch facilities and off-site storage for the remainder of 75,250 square feet.

These enhancements will eliminate current space and facility deficits and will satisfy Library facility needs for the next twenty years.

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<sup>1</sup> A "volume" is defined as a physical unit of work which has been printed or otherwise reproduced, typewritten, or handwritten, contained in one binding or portfolio, hardbound or paperbound, which has been cataloged, classified, or otherwise prepared for use.

**This work will be completed in four phases.**

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**PHASE I: D.H. Hill Library East Wing Renovation**

**Cost \$8.75 million**  
**Design Start Date: 2002**  
**Completion Date: 2005**

**Rationale:**

To modernize space, which is in poor physical condition with antiquated building systems and poor space utilization;  
Increase the number of study seats with relocation of some collections to satellite storage and renovation (approximately 450 additional study seats);  
Betterment of the quality and location of the staff space;  
Improve inefficient organization of departments with more rational workflow and collaborative adjacencies.  
Make space for Special Collections

**Tasks:**

Prepare a detailed facility assessment;  
Prepare documents for renovating 60,000 square feet  
Accomplish the work in accordance with the NCSU 10 Year Capital Plan

**PHASE II: Centennial Campus Library – Phase I**

**Cost \$70.75 million**  
**Design Start Date: 2005**  
**Construction Completion Date: 2010**

**Rationale:**

To reduce the accreditation square footage deficit by 202,000 square feet;  
Provide 1,450 study seats;  
Provide space for 871,000 volumes;  
To serve the specific needs of the Centennial Campus.

**Tasks:**

Prepare a design that conforms with the Centennial Master Plan  
Accomplish the work in accordance with Phase II of the NCSU 10 Year Capital Plan

**PHASE III: D. H. Hill Library Renovation and Addition**

**Cost \$82.75 million**

**Design Start Date: 2006**

**Construction Completion Date: 2015**

**Rationale:**

Replace the antiquated, inefficient and incompatible Erdahl-Cloyd wing of the Hill Library with new space to improve way finding, accessibility, service and function;

Complete the renovation of the east wing of the Hill Library to provide more study, collection and staff space;

To modernize the tower of the Hill Library;

Increase the number of study seats (approximately 2,030 net new additional study seats;)

To serve the specific needs of the Main Campus;

**Tasks:**

To reassess, if needed, the planning assumptions used to determine the library's needs;

Provide 412,643 square feet of modern purpose designed library space—an increase of 33,274 square feet or 9% (D.H. Hill is 379,369 total square feet—this does not include 23,724 being used for non-library functions.)

Complete the design to account for multiple construction phases—to maintain operation of the library during construction;

To design a building that will, when completed, function as close as possible like a new library—including electrical, data, mechanical systems; operational efficiency; flexibility; ease of use by staff, students and faculty;

**PHASE VI: Centennial Campus Library - Phase II**

**Costs and dates to be determined**

**Rationale:**

To complete the Centennial Library by adding 202,000 square feet;

To serve the specific needs of the growing Centennial Campus;

**Tasks:**

To reassess, if needed, the planning assumptions used to determine the library's needs;

To design the library to standards of the University and library planning current at the time.