Evolving Libraries:
People and Technology
Collaborating to Build Communities

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The New Academic Ecosystem

- Higher education is rapidly evolving, becoming increasingly technology-driven and interdisciplinary, which requires greater collaboration.

- Contrary to predictions, the IT Revolution not replaced the libraries but expanded their mission.

- Libraries are evolving from being repositories to active partners in teaching and learning

Libraries Beyond Walls

- Design and architecture emphasize collaboration and teamwork in distinctive and essential ways.

- Students expect institutions, especially libraries, to exemplify and support collaborative practices

- They are becoming hubs of intellectual, creative, and social exchange, essential sources of human expertise, places to explore, experiment, collaborate, and inspire.

From supporters to partners, from repository to collaborative space


- Faculty recognize librarians as co-educators and subject specialists

- Librarians curate discipline-specific collections, create online tutorials, research guides, and other teaching materials.

- Librarians provide expert reference assistance and subject consultations. Information literacy is embedded across curricula.

- Librarians act as facilitators and recorders of ongoing curriculum development and institutional history.
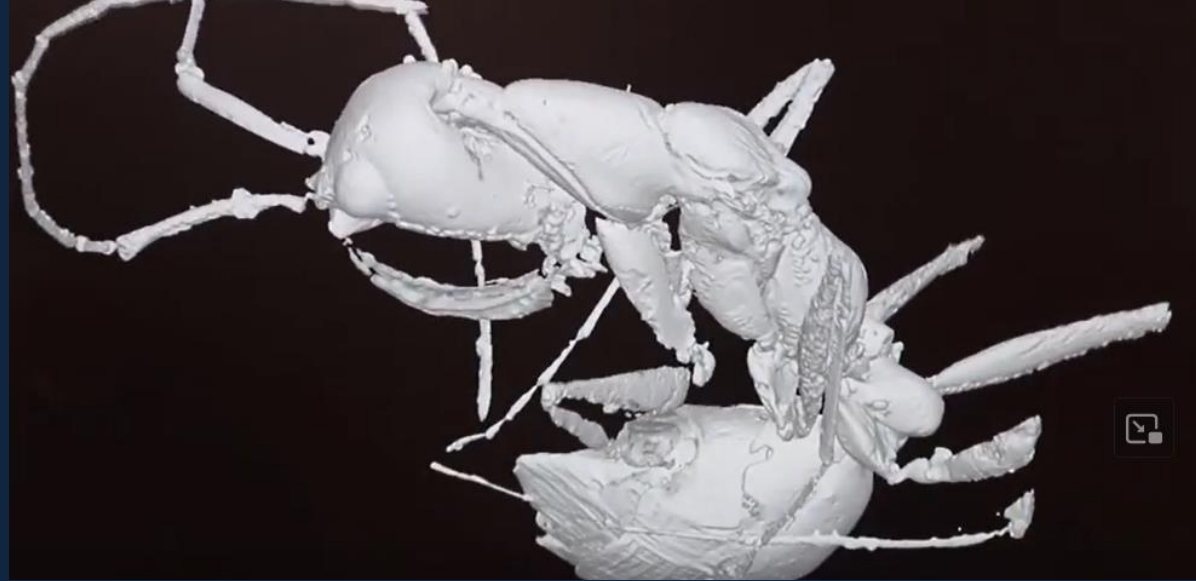
Select Digital Projects: Building Community

Campus Maps

- Digital Archive of Newark Architecture (DANA) (dananjit.omeka.net) is a collaborative repository of materials focused on Newark's built environment.

- It supports courses across the campus, helps preserve collective memory, and encourages discussions about the city's past, present, and future.

- Students and faculty contribute to the Archive their research and creative work becoming co-authors rather than simply users.

Michael Graves   Hillier Group   Ernst F.Guilbert   Gwathmey Siegel


Allan Chimakoff   IKON5
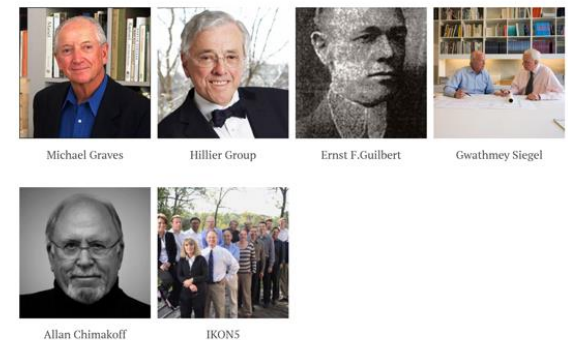
Digital Scholarship Lab

- Digital Scholarship Lab supports experimental projects and fosters integration of mixed reality and holographic devices in studio projects.

- The Omeka platform is used to build interactive exhibits. Scalar - for online publishing

- VirtualSpeech software with VR and AI feedback helps to develop public speaking, interview preparation, and professional presentation skills.

Scalar platform
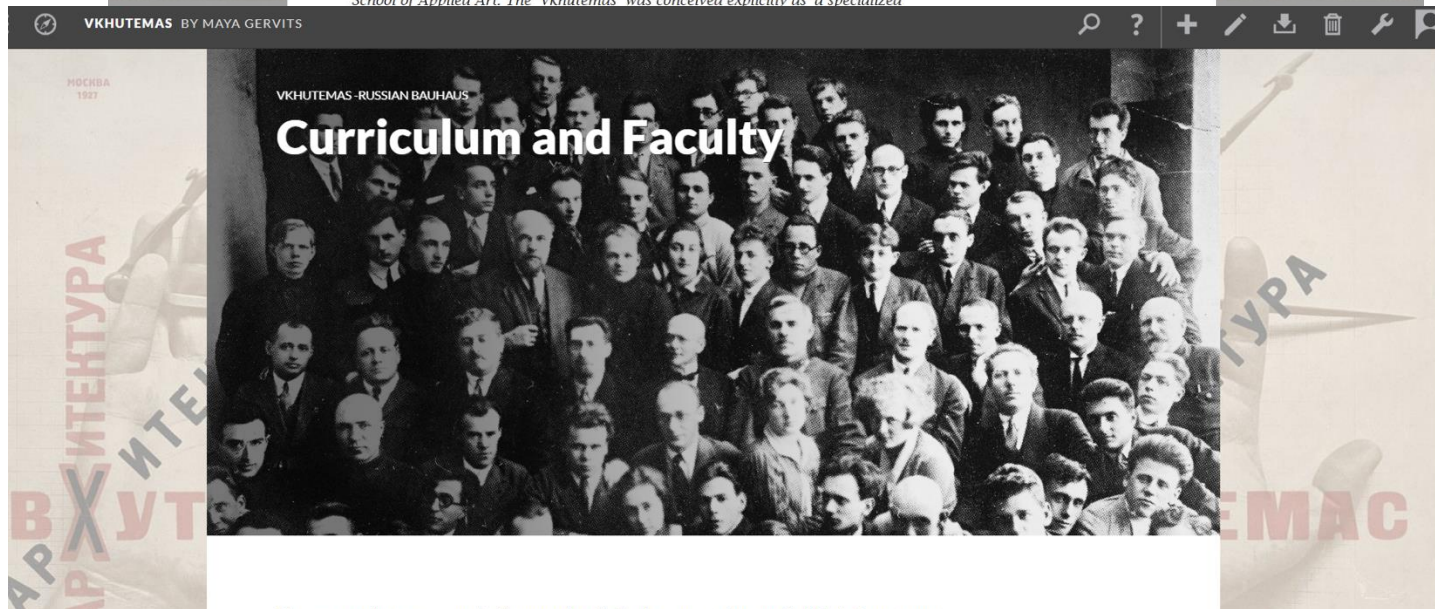
Omeka platform

History

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Mental Hygiene Bureau
———
Dr. Charles V. Craster, Health Officer, Newark, N. J.

As the result of our work during the past year we have begun to appreciate the importance of educating the public more definitely with regard to what mental hygiene really is. People have not yet learned to realize that there is a fundamental difference between psychiatry and mental hygiene. Psychiatry is that part of mental medicine which deals with the treatment of mental disorder. Mental hygiene is the science of the prevention of mental disorder by adjustments of behavior. It is concerned with the problems of the individual as a whole, the development of his personality and his relations to the community and his environment.

https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?
id=mdp.39015069431826;view=1up;seq=205

Mental Hygiene

In the early 20th century, offices of public health around the country made efforts to develop programs and outfit facilities with the necessary medical accommodations for those suffering from mental illness. A new emphasis on "mental hygiene" and an increasing reliance on science and biology as the underlying cause of mental illness prompted state and city officials to document and report on mental health cases, data, treatment, and facility solutions. The Essex County Hospital for the Insane was described as having a "well appointed pathological laboratory, the patients are scientifically and humanely cared for and everything connected with the institution and the management of the patients seems worthy of commendation." (New Jersey Legistlative Documents, vol. 5, 1908). Organized in 1872, The Essex County Hospital for the Insane located on South Orange Avenue, administered to both accute and chronic cases of mental illness (Urquhart, 1913). Overbrook, a more expansive facility would later be errected in Cedar Grove, NJ.

In an attempt to quantify and describe symptoms that were often times varied and imperceptible, doctors and other medical personnel sometimes relied on moralistic, vague, and biased characterizations.

"Too great fondness for 'movies'?"

Mental Health in Turn of the Century Essex County, NJ

History

Facilities and Care

Buildings and Architecture

Overbrook

Gender, Race, and Class

Census

Newark's Architectural Treasures

Newark's Architectural Treasures

Newark's Architectural Treasures

VirtualSpeech software with VR & AI

Virtual Exhibition *The World of Robotics* is a result of collaboration between library, faculty, and students

(archlib.njit.edu)
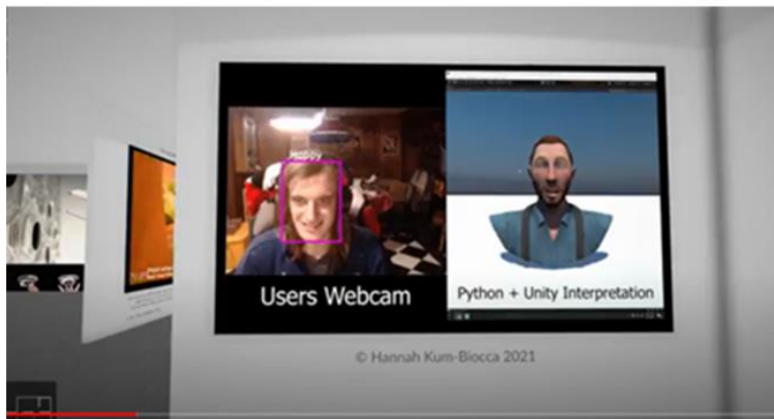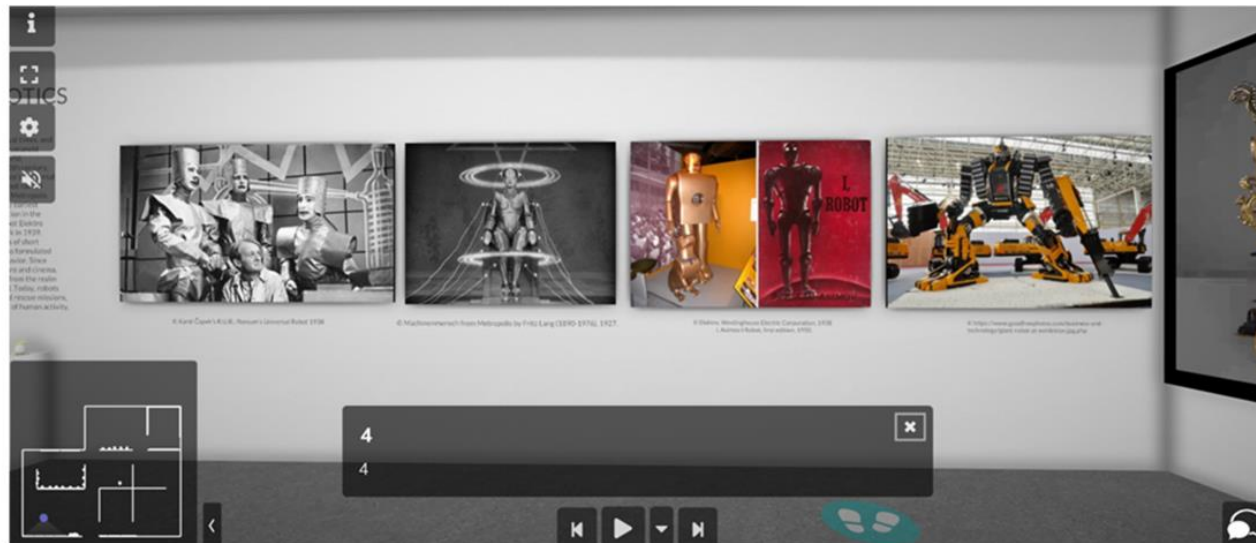
Hybrid Resources: Material Library

- Librarians collaborate with Material ConneXion consultancy and subscribe to its database.

- Co-curate a collection of material samples that allows for the tactile examination of material properties.

- Create a hybrid environment that supports experiential learning.
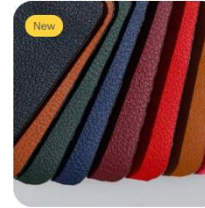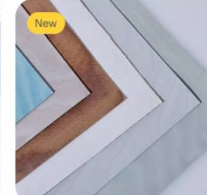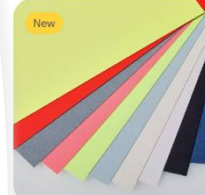
Student Engagement and Belonging

- Library functions as an inclusive community space.

- Collaboration fosters a sense of ownership and belonging.

- Events such as Tea with Alumni, Skills Exchange Program, Author Book talks, Jeopardy, colloquia, research seminars, exhibitions, and concerts encourage peer connection.

- Monthly Newsletter and social media presence keep communication active and the community engaged.

Impact of Collaboration

Improved engagement is confirmed by:

— higher volume of reference transactions,

— Increase in library visits,

— growing demand for information literacy sessions,

— increased print book circulation and expanded use of e-books.

Increase in library visits
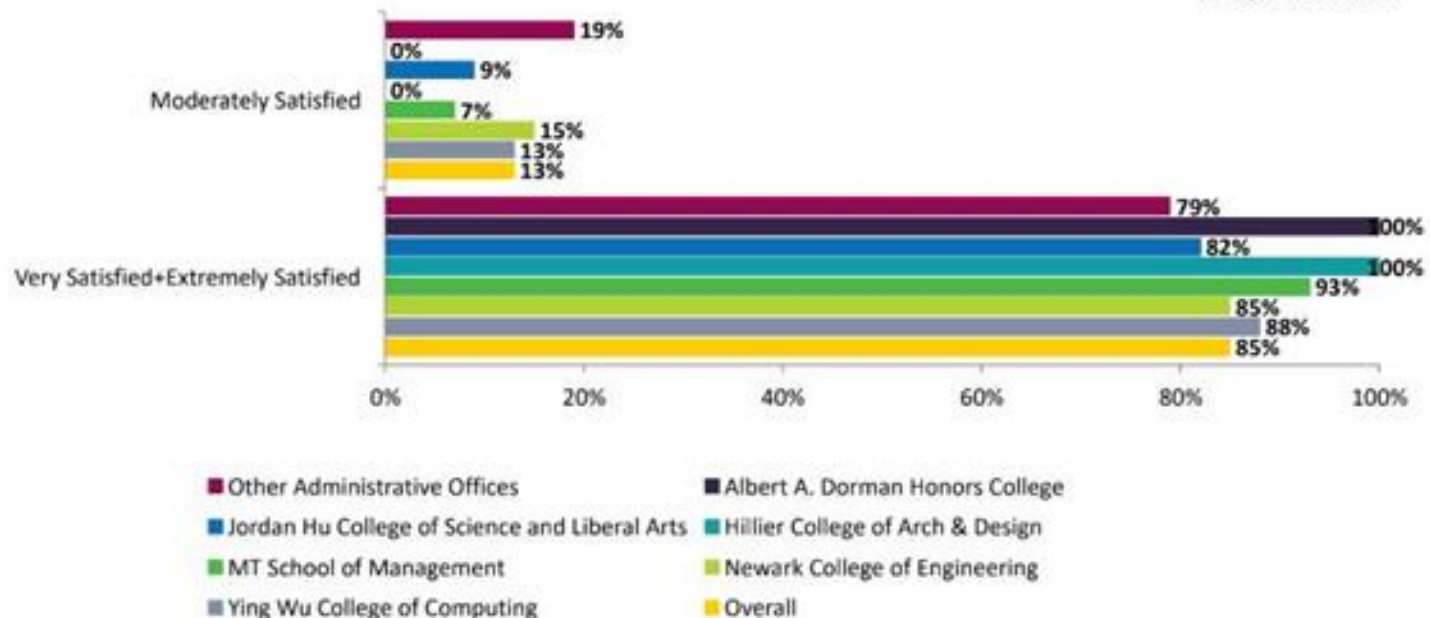

Increase in e-book usage
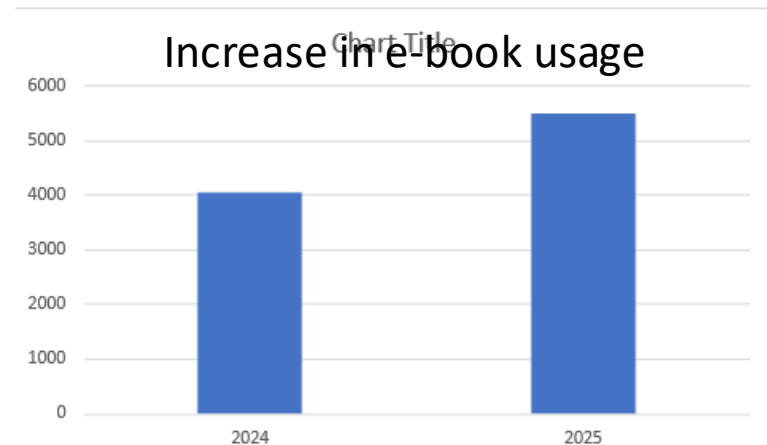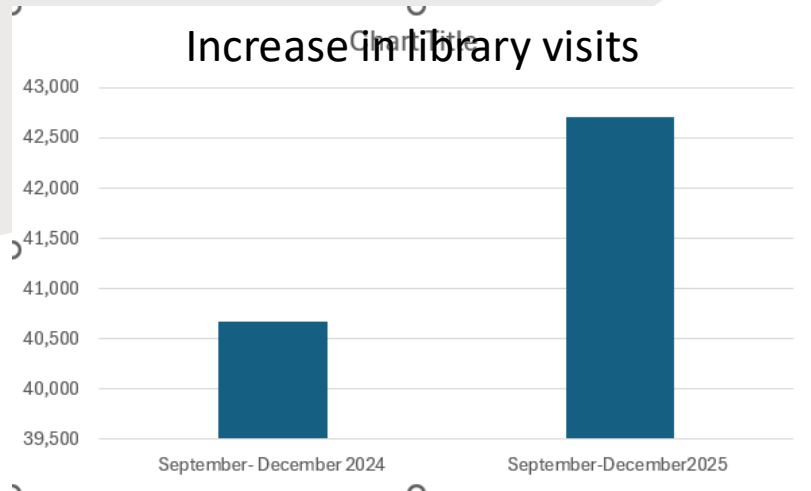
Survey Results

Student and faculty surveys confirmed patrons' satisfaction. Surveys and a suggestion box provide feedback and foster engagement.

How satisfied are you with the:: Library's service in finding research related information (Continued)

Weighted Score: 4

Legend:
- Other Administrative Offices
- Albert A. Dorman Honors College
- Jordan Hu College of Science and Liberal Arts
- Hillier College of Arch & Design
- MT School of Management
- Newark College of Engineering
- Ying Wu College of Computing
- Overall

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Future Directions

We plan to deepen partnerships, expand digital initiatives, sustain an inclusive environment, and conduct regular assessments.
Academic outcomes should be evaluated in a separate study.

Powerful Partnership: "Only when everyone on campus shares responsibility for learning will we make significant progress."

Thank you!

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