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Library Commons Basics

Phillips Memorial Library

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## Providence College Library+Commons Promotional Branding Material: Library+Commons Brochure

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# 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: **where** 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
- Inspiration of Need: visible presence of the full range of resources & services (one-stop-shopping from contemplation to *product*); pleasing aesthetics (*library as place*); intuitive signs of assistance and support (*affect of service*); seamless integration of research and processing resources and tools (*informational control*)

### The *Library + Commons* offers the patron the continuum of services and resources:

- 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
  - InTeLeR Station: tiered services at the **Interactive Teaching, Learning & Research** station; second floor, staffed by **InTeLeR©orps** research & technology support staff – 2 PC’s, a robust Macintosh, full array of software (MSOffice, Adobe Creative Suite) & 2 scanners, comfortable seating for 9-15 with power and roomy collaborative space
  - Information Station: tiered services on the main floor, staffed 8:30am-11:00pm /midnight most days by **InTeLeR©orps** research support staff, with two collaborative PC stations and one collaborative Macintosh station, each with double monitors, wireless keyboards and mice, a scanner, variable patron furniture for use in collaboration
  - Creation Station/Macintosh Lab: open-access on main floor, 4 robust Macintoshes with scanners, Adobe Creative Suite, VHS→DVD transfer console, comfortable seating and collaborative workspace for 12, supported by **InTeLeR©orps** staff
  - Digital Services: mediated access on main floor, staffed 10 am–10 pm most days by expert digitization support staff with access to PC and Macintosh computers and scanners: 8½X11, 12X17; photo-, slide- and negative scanner; plus ATIZ cradle scanner
- Easily accessible information resources in all formats – paper, electronic, microform – all **in** or **from within** the library or **from wherever the patron is** – *informational control*
- Richesse of technology in the *Library + Commons*



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- 72 high-end desktop PCs with DVD/RW capabilities, and MSOffice+; 6 PCs also have scanners
- 32 PC & Macintosh laptops for student check-out with MSOffice+
- 8 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-access 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
  - Wireless laptops available for checkout to enhance technology tools
  - Macintosh Creation Station for 12 persons, with high-end iMacs & scanners
  - Information Station desk with 3 collaboration stations (2 PC's, 1 Mac with scanner) each with computer, double-monitor, wireless keyboard and mouse, and ample comfortable & versatile furniture for 11 persons
  - InTeLeR Station desk with 3 collaboration stations (2 PC's, 1 Mac, 2 scanners) each with computer, double-monitor, wireless keyboard and mouse, and ample comfortable & versatile furniture for 9 persons
  - Lower Commons: seating for 75, collaborative tables and soft seating, 4 PC's with printer
- Access to tools: low- and high-technology, electric/manual small & large staplers, small & large hole-punches, pencils/pens, paper-clips, etc.; headphones & thumb-drives to loan
- 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 Macintosh 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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