John Peace Library Third Floor Renovations
UTSA Libraries

OVERVIEW
The University of Texas at San Antonio Libraries System advances research and education, stimulates discovery and creativity, and engages and transforms our diverse communities by providing distinctive expertise, high-quality information resources, inspirational spaces, and innovative and responsive services. UTSA Libraries is comprised of nationally recognized research libraries, helping to maintain UTSA's R1 Carnegie Classification. With over 10,000 student visits per day, UTSA’s John Peace Library (JPL) is a primary resource for students in their studies and social lives. In order to meet the University’s target student population goal of 45,000 students by 2028, UTSA Libraries plans to renovate the JPL third floor, which will add critical study, collaboration, innovative, and lab spaces for students and enrich their academic experience.

CHALLENGE
As the academic heart of campus, the John Peace Library plays an integral part of the student experience. On a daily basis, UTSA students study, socialize, collaborate, conduct independent research projects, and create knowledge by delving into archives and digital resources, using specialized search engines and accessing the expertise of trained research librarians. National and local student satisfaction surveys show overwhelming positive feedback from our students with the exception that more modern library space is needed.

Built in 1976, the third floor in the John Peace Library is currently dominated by library stacks, and has remained virtually unchanged for almost 45 years. Over the last five years, physical circulation of these books has decreased by 50% at UTSA. During this time, the demand for knowledge creation tools and skills has increased. Renovation of the John Peace Library third floor presents an innovative opportunity to transform student experiences and faculty success.

To deliver a 21st century library, the JPL will balance the traditional and the modern. Keeping only the highest use physical books on the third floor, UTSA Libraries will have an opportunity to create (1) makerspaces - spaces equipped with high end computers, 3-D printers, audio and video capture, and editing tools; (2) more collaborative workspaces; (3) private contemplative spaces; (4) a modern teaching classroom that can also double as a theatre; (5) Augmented Reality (AR) and Virtual Reality (VR) technology rooms; and (6) flexible spaces that can be configured quickly based on student needs. Available to every student and faculty member on campus, these renovated spaces place UTSA Libraries on par with top libraries in the country.
IMPACT

UTSA's development of the Campus Master Plan discovered that the main student activity hubs were the John Peace Library and the adjacent Sombrilla Plaza. Renovating these spaces into dynamic activity hubs will manifest itself into a primary component of the student experience. From student belonging and student achievement to workforce preparedness, the renovation of the John Peace Library third floor positively changes the trajectory of these measures.

This renovation is not focused on just bricks and mortar, but more so, impacting the student experience. The Libraries plans to invest in programming to teach UTSA students how to take information they find in the library, evaluate it and synthesize it into a product – a video, a term paper, computer code, a blueprint drawing – using the latest technologies. Furthermore, plans also entail a large social belonging component as many students view the JPL as their “second home.” Through our work with UTSA’s Student Government Association (SGA), UTSA Libraries staff listen to students to inform programming and space needs.

The JPL Third Floor Renovation will provide a transformative impact. In 2009, the Libraries renovated the second floor of JPL from its 1976 floor plan, and it changed the student experience at UTSA. The Libraries now serves 1.7 million users per year in person. With UTSA’s growth projections, these renovations accommodate a pressing need for more study rooms and collaborative work rooms. Your support will help thousands of Roadrunners be the best they can be.

PHILANTHROPIC OPPORTUNITIES

The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) has launched a comprehensive campaign to support UTSA's 10-Year-Strategic Vision introduced by President Taylor Eighmy in 2017. Be Bold: A Campaign for Our Future, which also extends 10 years and has a working goal of $500 million, is focused on providing the infrastructure and resources needed to become a model for student success and research discovery. The campaign supports all divisions, schools, departments, and institutes across UTSA.

Capital Projects provide the necessary spaces to stimulate learning, research, creativity, and collaboration among students and faculty. The University of Texas at San Antonio also welcomes the opportunity to discuss a naming opportunity that can provide support beyond bricks and mortar. Supporting a naming opportunity can allow for major academic and programmatic transformations that will elevate UTSA to greater levels of excellence and increase its competitiveness on a global scale. Below are opportunities to support the John Peace Library Third Floor Renovation:

• The John Peace Library Third Floor Renovation
• UTSA Libraries Study Rooms and Collaboration Spaces
• The UTSA Libraries Makerspace
• The UTSA Libraries Technology Fund

UTSA also has multiple avenues available to make an incredible impact. Gifts made annually can provide scholarship, research, and programmatic support across all areas. Gifts made through certain assets also have many benefits and include stock, IRAs, donor advised funds, real estate, life insurance, intellectual property, collectibles, matching gifts, in-kind gifts, estate gifts, and more.

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