Theme 05: “FLEXIBILITY”

“Flexibility”: Exploring Fixed vs. Flexible vs. Evolving in the library
09/23 // “WHAT DOES FLEXIBLE MEAN TO YOU?”
planning - maybe adaptable/evolving more than flexible

* EVOLVING - layering
  - exhibit spaces
  - cafe - could be a - teaching spaces
  - computing - not necessarily fixed!

* MOBILE - added new descriptor
  - who is enacting the change and over what amount of time?
  - what are the characteristics of the space vs. of the technology

* ADAPTABLE
  - carrels - changes in use
  - exhibit spaces

Ashley + Smith should create agreed-upon definitions for the scope of this project

CONSIDERATIONS:
- security
- temperature
fixed
unchangeable
unmoveable
inflexible
stable
not broken
video studio - specialized infrastructure
cafe - legacy spaces

flexible
changeable
moveable
can be repurposed
suitable for multiple uses + ways of thinking
lots of range
seating < study
walls/dividers (not tech. heavy)

adaptable
not rigid
accommodating
facilitates changing needs
stacks -

24 hr. room
classroom

Evolving
present/future
forward motion
progression
positive change
exhibit spaces
evolving tech needs
FIXED

- square footage of the libraries
- stacks
- café - service/equipment
- video studio
- legacy spaces

HOW? WHO? WHEN?

- campus rules make some things fixed
  - ex. only certain people can move things in the Browsing Room

FLEXIBLE

- seating
- study seating
- walls/dividers
- meeting spaces

HOW? WHO? WHEN?

- students can move study spaces throughout the day
- staff can change displays - involves tech/lighting

Relinquishing control

- don't always know how people will choose to use the space or tool
Fixed = static, set, certain, predetermined

Flexible = movable, fluid, variable

Post

Present = short term

- study spaces
- exhibit spaces
- stacks
- meeting spaces

Evolving = changing, morphing, progress, meeting changing needs

- café
- teaching spaces
- computing
- innovation lab

Adaptable = same as flexible ???

Changing due to surrounding conditions
Conforming to needs

Future = long term

- classrooms
- carrels
**Flexibility Lexicon**

**Fixed**
- Past, specialized infrastructure, static, set, certain, unchangeable, unmovable, inflexible, stable, not broken

**Evolving**
- Changing, morphing, progress = meeting changing needs
- Present-to-future = growing
- Forward motion, progression, positive change

**Adaptable**
- “Requires outside force to change”
- Future, long-term
- Not rigid, accommodating, facilitates changing needs
- Conforming to needs

**Flexible**
- Changeable, moveable, can be repurposed, suitable for multiple uses, fluid, variable, relinquish control, present, short term

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Flexibility Lexicon

**fixed**
- Café service equipment
- Legacy spaces
- Total square footage of library
- Stacks
- Video studio

**evolving**
- Computing
- Evolving tech needs
- Exhibit spaces
- Teaching spaces

**adaptable**
- Carrels
- Event Space
- Exhibit spaces
- Teaching spaces
- Stacks

**flexible**
- Meeting spaces/group spaces
- Seating
- Study seating
- Not tech-heavy
- Stacks / Curated collection
Major Influences on definitions

**Time**
Immediate change vs. change at regular intervals by staff vs. change over time to respond to changing needs

**Users:**
What level of user control or autonomy exists to implement change?

**Level of technology / connectivity**
Specialized infrastructure vs. plug and play

**Mobility:**
Wheels, light weight, made to move

**Scale / connection to building or systems**

**Funding**

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