

Library Showcase: The Mathewson–IGT Knowledge Center at the University of Nevada, Reno – Interview with Carol Parkhurst

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LOCATION ADDRESS

Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center
University of Nevada, Reno
1664 N. Virginia St.
Reno, Nevada 89557

PROJECT INTRODUCTION

Technology is everywhere at the Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center at the University of Nevada, Reno. Features include A/V systems, HD LCD Monitors, a nine-screen video away, and wireless network access throughout the building. Carol Parkhurst was the library administrator who spearheaded the renovation of the University of Nevada, Reno library.

Please describe the new construction project that was featured in the American Libraries 2010 Library Showcase.

The brochure attached to my email has floor plans and describes all of the major (public) features of the Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center.

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See this Website (<http://knowledgecenter.unr.edu/libraries/kc/about/default.aspx>) for additional information about special features of the building, which include:

- **Five-Story Brick Building:** Classical architectural features of the Knowledge Center are compatible with other campus buildings. An atrium and large windows provide plentiful natural light. The high-tech infrastructure is gracefully integrated into the building.
- **Automated Storage and Retrieval System (ASRS):** The system accommodates four times the volume of traditional shelving and retrieves requested materials in less than 15 minutes. This system makes more space available for people and their activities and allows the collections to be locally housed and to grow without impacting other areas.
- **Comfortable and attractive Quiet-Study and Group-Study Areas:** The fifth floor is entirely a “quiet” floor.
- **Collaboration and Conference Rooms:** Built-in network connectivity, screens and projectors in all group study and conference rooms support meetings and enable collaboration on multimedia projects.
- **Smart Classrooms:** Technology-smart instruction and training rooms feature the latest audio-visual equipment: dual-projection, computing and video systems, wireless microphones, and more. There are several videoconference rooms.
- **Faculty and Graduate Student Reading Room:** A spacious and comfortable community area with a kitchen is dedicated to faculty and graduate students for their formal and informal use. The Reading Room is also used for social events and community programming such as book talks. Adjoining private and semi-private carrels can be reserved by individual faculty.
- **Multimedia Center:** This area houses videos, DVDs, sound recordings, and other media along with areas and equipment for viewing and listening to media.
- **Dynamic Media Lab:** A media production lab with state-of-the-art equipment, software and assistance for faculty and students developing video projects.
- **Online Course Support and Web Services Center:** Instructional designers and information professionals assist faculty with the development of online and multimedia course materials.
- **Books and Journals:** Open stacks house over 500,000 newer books and print journals.
- **Computing and DataWorks Labs and Services:** Large, well-equipped general-access labs are available for regular student use. The DataWorks Lab provides specialized hardware, software, server space, and expert support for data access and management and high-end computing, including data visualization and GIS applications.
- **Research and Computing Help and Consultation:** Information and computing professionals are available in a central location for quick answers and in-depth assistance.
- **Basque Library:** The Western hemisphere’s largest collection of Basque language newspapers, magazines, films, and other materials is co-located with the Center for Basque Studies, providing a reading room area and a conference/classroom.
- **Café:** Students, faculty, staff, and visitors can purchase beverages, sandwiches and light snacks, and can consume these at café tables in the lobby or anywhere in the building.
- **Popular Collection:** A reading area adjacent to the main atrium has current newspapers, periodicals, and best-selling books.

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