WEBSTER LIBRARY TRANSFORMATION GRAND OPENING
A COLLABORATIVE SUCCESS
FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 2018
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

11 a.m.  Arrival of guests (LB-2)

11:30 a.m.  Introduction and remarks (LB-2)
            Guylaine Beaudry, vice-provost, Digital Strategy and university librarian
            Graham Carr, provost and vice-president, Academic Affairs
            Hélène David, member for Outremont, minister responsible for Higher Education, minister responsible for the Status of Women
            François William Croteau, borough mayor for Rosemont–La Petite-Patrie, member of the Ville de Montréal Executive Committee responsible for the smart city, information technology and innovation
            Alan Shepard, president

12 p.m.  Guided and self-guided tours (LB-2 and LB-3) and refreshments (LB-5)

12 p.m.  Silent disco performed by students in the Department of Contemporary Dance
            (students of professors Silvy Panet-Raymond and Michael Montanaro)

1 p.m.  Event ends

INAUGURATION OF THE WEBSTER LIBRARY

The high usage rate of university libraries is undeniably linked to their wealth of resources. It is therefore paramount to lend our support to these university institutions so that they can provide students with ideal study conditions. Making this a reality requires access to material and digital resources. The $37 million investment in the Webster Library as part of our government’s Plan quinquennal des investissements universitaires aims to foster a welcoming learning environment for Concordians — especially students — as well as the entire surrounding community.

Hélène David
Member for Outremont
Minister responsible for Higher Education
Minister responsible for the Status of Women
INSPIRING SUCCESS

It is with a sense of profound joy and satisfaction that the Concordia University community welcomes you to new spaces in the Webster Library!

We are proud to share the fruits of many years of work. Our expectations were abundant as we wanted the future library to be:

• a place that facilitates exchange and active and collaborative learning;
• a place that is inviting, warm and filled with beauty;
• a place where students take charge of their learning;
• where student time is valued by optimizing their comfort;
• where the latest technological innovations are offered.

Thanks to dozens of people with complementary talents and skills, our expectations and our wildest aspirations have been met. Our Library combines the fundamentals of a university library and a deep dive into rich and diverse digital environments.

We warmly thank all of those who contributed to the 21st century transformation of the Webster Library. You gifted us with a splendid library that is now a place that inspires intellectual pursuits and student success.

Alan Shepard    Guylaine Beaudry
President     Vice-provost, Digital Strategy and university librarian
In fall 2014, Concordia’s Board of Governors approved the Webster Library Transformation. The project broke ground in winter 2015 and wrapped up in winter 2018. The project addresses a longstanding need for more study space in response to tremendous growth in Concordia’s student population since the library first opened in 1992. At that time, there were 25,935 students enrolled at Concordia. Today, more than 46,000 students pursue their studies here.

As part of the new Webster Library Transformation, an additional floor of the McConnell Building was allocated to the Webster Library, adding much-needed space in the process. The Webster Library now occupies the 2nd to 5th floors of the 10-storey McConnell building.

The Transformation also provides a dramatic shift in the collective perception of libraries — 22 different types of study and research environments to accommodate a range of learning styles — all designed in response to the expressed needs of Concordians.

Hallmarks of the project include a transitional staircase that plays curated audio content, vibrant colours throughout, spaces optimized to stream natural sunlight, living green walls and an interactive technology program that facilitates individual and collaborative learning.

Project funding was provided by the Gouvernement du Québec’s Plan quinquennal d’investissements universitaires. Funding was also provided by Concordia’s undergraduate students who contributed more than $1.25 million through the Library Services Fund. This was made possible with the collaboration of the Concordia Student Union.
This major expansion and renovation project aimed to create a landmark on campus, a central location to boldly integrate digital technologies and anticipate changes inherent to the next generations of libraries. The main challenges were concerned with the redeployment and optimization of existing spaces to increase the seating capacity from 1500 to 3300 seats, the redefinition of service areas [service desks, offices, consultation] and use [reading areas, collaborative work], the maximization of stack space for books and the enhancement of the digital collection.

MENKÈS SHOONER DAGENAIS LETOURNEUX Architectes’ conceptual approach produced a clear strategy regarding the organization of the collections and users’ circulation routes. Playing on the theme of anamorphosis, the project proposes a complex network of lines and color swatches which challenge the user’s perception and suggest that learning and knowledge are constructed from an individual point of view. The new library is a reflection of evolving knowledge and active learning as a new way of sharing knowledge.

Thus, the pavilion housing the library is polychromatic and marked by the use of multiple grids of finishes. The main finishes consist of black (stack spaces) and white (individual workspaces) which clearly differentiate and distinguish the premises in the new library. A skillful variation of secondary colors indicates the transition between the four floors of the project.

Strategically located at the edge of the stairs, the loan counter and the “Ask Us” reference area identify their presence as a first point of service. Further on, no-noise zones, quiet areas, solo and collaborative work spaces are efficiently identified, and planned to modulate levels of silence depending on their location.

The program elements (loans and information desks, etc.) are small volumes of wood, sometimes covered with metal inserts, sometimes connected by a white, triangulated ceiling element.

Designed to meet the needs of everyone, each area of the Webster Library benefits from improved visibility while affirming its own identity.
CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY
Access Center for Students with Disabilities
Advancement & Alumni Relations
All students, faculty and staff who contributed to the many consultation activities throughout the project
Department of Education
Environmental Health & Safety
Facilities Management
Financial Services
Instructional & Information Technology Services
Legal Services
Library
Library Services Fund Committee (with the collaboration of the Concordia Student Union)
Office of Community Engagement
Procurement Services
Print Store
Security
University Communications Services

SPECIAL THANKS FOR YOUR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS!

PROFESSIONALS
ALF Ltée
Bouthillette Parizeau et Associés
Davidson & Associés Inc.
Groupe EGP
GSM Project
Installation Bureau Plus
Intégral Jean Beaudoin
Jodoin Lamarre Pratte et Associés / Manon Asselin Atelier Tag
Menikès Shoorer Dagenais LeTourneux Architectes
Pomerleau
Prisma

RESTAURATION AND ADAPTATION
OF PUBLIC ART WORK
Conservation of Sculptures, Monuments and Objects
Effets Publics
Infravert

SUPPLIERS
Applied Electronics Limited
Docu-Dépôt Inc.
Four Winds Interactive
Image Access
Johnson Controls Inc
Julien Côté et fi
Latitude Nord
Les Solutions de rangement Prisma
Mobiler Avant-Scène
Ottawa Business Interiors Ltd.
Sentry Custom Security
Smartpixel.tv
Solutions PFT
Sono Vidéo
Steelcase
Teknom Limitée / Bureau Spec / Groupe API
Trium
XYZ Technologie Culturelle