

East Carolina University  
Tomorrow starts here.

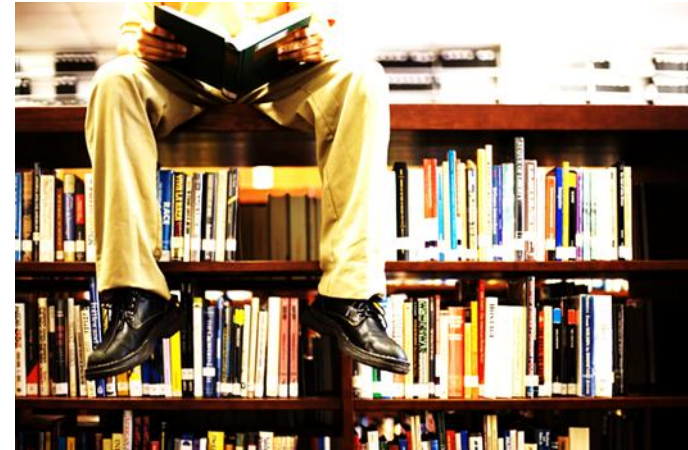


# Weeding One STEPP at a Time

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November 3, 2011

# Why Weed?

- Permit growth space
- Keep collection
  - usable
  - up to date
  - Attractive
- Reutilize critical space for other needs



# Trends:

- Use of library space for services rather than collections → large-scale weeding projects
  - Internal: eg., Information Commons
  - External: eg., Writing Center, Tutoring Center
- Transition of collections, physical to digital
  - Example: withdrawing JSTOR volumes



# Why Did We Have to Weed?

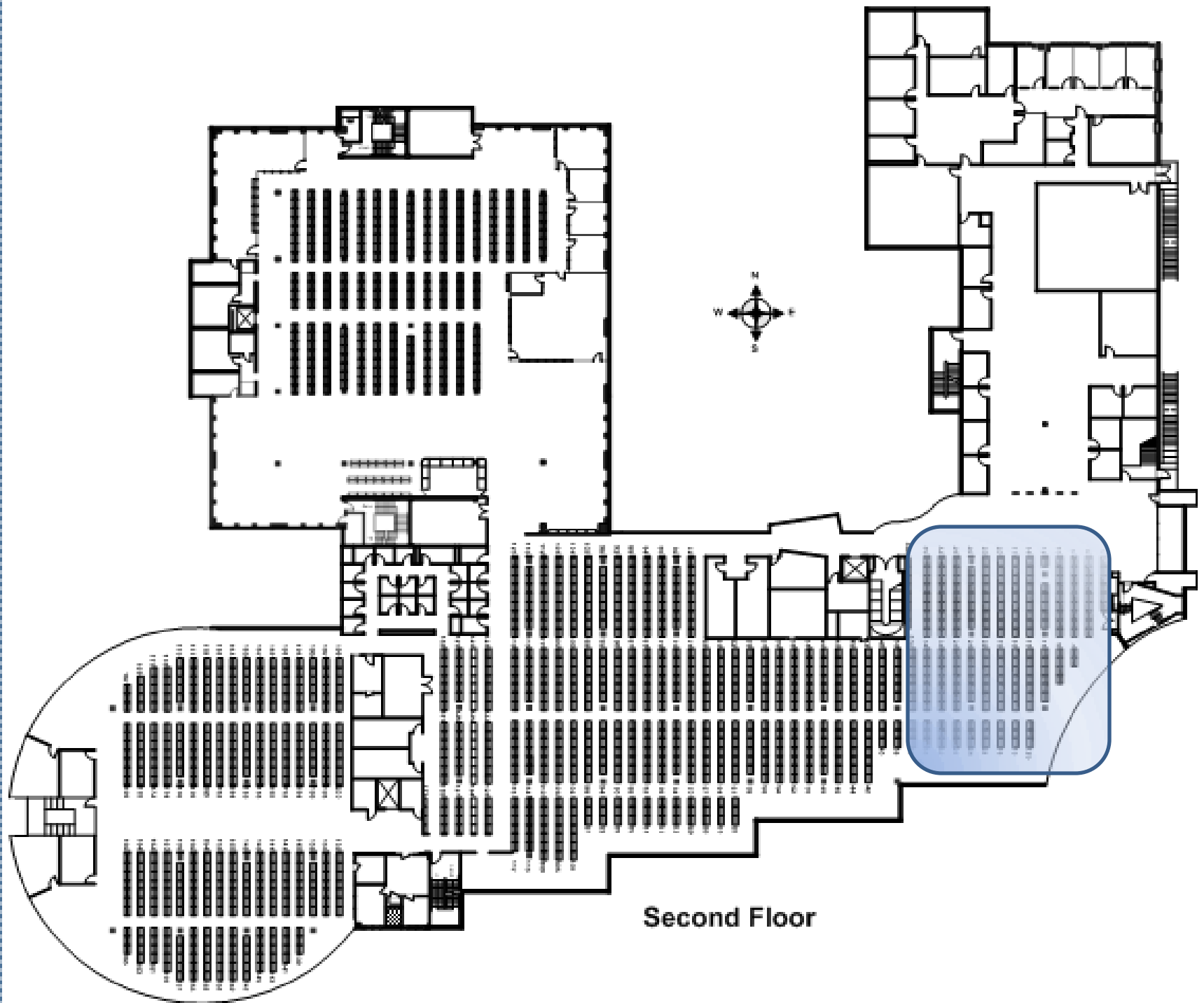
- ECU is short on space overall, and enrollment has grown 43% over the last 10 years
- Library is prime real estate
- Already housed gallery, info commons, tutoring, writing center, and coffee shop.....



# Project **STEPP**:

- Needed 3,000 sq. ft. for offices, meeting rooms, and study areas
- **S**upporting **T**ransition and **E**ducation through **P**lanning and **P**artnerships
- Provides academic, social, and life skills support to students who have identified learning disabilities





Second Floor



# University Admin Support:

- People:
  - 1 FTE Librarian (Reassigned with backfill)
  - 3 FTE Temp Staff
    - Cataloging, Circulation, Collection Development
- Electronic Collections:
  - Provided funding for journal backfiles





# Selecting Backfiles

- Purchased packages from 19 publishers to replace print volumes
- We had current subs from every publisher that sold us backfiles
- Univ Admin provided one-time upfront funds; Library Admin added some funds later on





# Planning:

- Total space needs → total volumes “displaced”
- Journals rather than monographs
- Create a “swing space” for short term and storage for long term
- Relocated oversized materials
- Timeframe: 12 months



# Principles:

- Aim: one decision per print title
- Microfilm: not our priority, but evaluate as part of title
- Current print subscriptions
  - Reevaluate our print subs for (non)renewal
  - Keep currently-received titles in the stacks



# Rules:



- Withdraw:

- Bound volumes in archival packages
- Dead runs or those incomplete runs no longer received in print, especially if:
  - Last volume 1999 or earlier
  - Fewer than 10 volumes
  - Not indexed
- Journals no longer relevant for university curricula



# Package-Based Weeding

- License – post-cancellation rights?
- Print holdings
- Verify coverage dates and completeness
- Evaluate quality of scans
- Incomplete/inadequate: librarian decision to withdraw or move to storage



# Rules:



- Send to storage:

- Long runs of titles no longer received in print, especially if:
  - Online access is available (from any provider)
  - Subject area importance
  - Other local reason to retain
- Poorly scanned or leftover volumes from titles in archival package (if greater than 10), if accessible online



# Rules:

- Keep in stacks:
  - Current print subscriptions
  - Recent long runs (30 vols or more) with no electronic access
  - Subject area importance
  - Significant value to local collections



# Exceptions:

- Significance for local collections
- Subject area consideration (eg., art images)



(Consistency and the lack thereof  
often go together.)





# Disposition of Materials



- Recycling is the answer.
- Timeliness of moving materials out was important.
- We used an outside records destruction vendor.











## Project STEPP space after construction:

- Comfortable seating
- 5 offices
- 10 study rooms
- 12 study carrels



# Advice:

- Take notes: you won't remember why you did what you did.
- There is no mistake that you can make that you cannot fix.
- Once you start giving away space you never get it back.



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