Sacramento State is California’s capital university, providing world-class education in the political, cultural, and economic center of the Golden State. At the heart of our campus, the University Library is the hub of intellectual discovery for our students, faculty, and community.

The Library breaks down barriers to access and makes knowledge available to everyone. We inspire intellectual exploration, thoughtful discussion, and critical thinking. We advance vital, problem-solving research. We foster social connections, cross-collaboration, and cultural engagement. Our Library of the future is a creative, flexible place that connects people and ideas for one goal: to build a better world.

At the Library, our mission is student-focused first. Everything we do is about providing the services, resources, space, and technology to ensure that our students succeed.

Soon we will launch the Library’s new MakerSpace, a hands-on collaborative learning environment that sparks innovation and creation. The MakerSpace gives all students a chance to take an idea and build, code, create, and experiment. This will be the central place for students to explore ideas, solve complex problems, and develop solutions for our future – giving them a leg up in today’s innovative job market.

The MakerSpace is one example of how we are re-envisioning the Library for tomorrow’s students. Today, we are redesigning Library spaces to foster intellectual exploration, study, creativity, collaboration, and connection; spaces for focused study groups to gather in team-based learning; spaces for students to access web-based academic resources; spaces for students with children to safely stay and study; and spaces for students to uncover and experience new ideas.

Additionally, as the hub for academic research at Sacramento State, the Library is the perfect home for a special award to celebrate undergraduate students engaged in research. Our vision is to provide a monetary award to students from any discipline to recognize their efforts in the research process, and encourage our students in academic discovery.

When you support the University Library, you elevate student success for all at Sacramento State.
Instead of starting her freshman year in college during the Fall of 2011 like her peers, Nayeli Casteñada ’18 was giving birth to her daughter, Shania. “That’s when I realized I needed to go to college and get a higher education to be able to provide for her,” Casteñada said. Casteñada enrolled in community college and got her associate degree. She then applied to several universities, but decided to attend Sacramento State because the University also accepted her daughter—specifically, into the Associated Students, Inc. (ASI) Children’s Center.

“I felt that they were seeing that I wasn’t a traditional student and that there was support for me,” she said. “They were seeing me as me, and not just the student number; that was really big for me.”

The University Library has also been a source of support for Casteñada while she obtained her undergraduate degree and, now, as she pursues a master’s degree in counseling. Namely, the Library’s Family Study Room has been an invaluable resource. The room is equipped with child-size desks and chairs, children’s books, a sink, and comfortable furniture for Casteñada and her, now, two children to use.

Casteñada says she appreciates that the Family Study Room is a safe space where she can keep an eye on her kids, have her own space, and still have access to all the materials and services that the Library has to offer.

Casteñada says the space, which is funded by donations to Sacramento State, shows that the entire community—administrators, donors and alumni—is thinking about the non-traditional students that have families and are supporting their unique needs.

“Hopefully, with my degree, I’ll be able to serve the community that has helped me to grow; not just personally, but professionally as well,” she said. “Looking at the end goal, one day I want to be in a position to be that helping hand to others like those who were there to help me.”

Campaign Priorities

**MakerSpace**

- Providing students with the space and resources to explore ideas, solve complex problems, and develop solutions for our future.
- Encourage learning beyond the curriculum.
- Inspire interdisciplinary teamwork.
- Build an entrepreneurial mindset.

**University Library Innovations**

- Redesign Library spaces to support the way students learn.
- Enhance study microclimates including group study spaces and the Family Study Room.
- Expand study hours on nights and weekends while also increasing the number of quiet study areas throughout the Library.

- Make critical technological updates and enhancements including: the creation of a greenroom; an augmented/virtual reality room; digitization of library collections for research and teaching; support and services for faculty publications; and access to state-of-the-art tools for student success and learning.

**Undergraduate Research Award**

- Recognize and encourage undergraduate students who have learned and grown through the process of critical thinking and academic library research.