

Johns Hopkins University: Brody Learning Commons

Baltimore, MD



Johns Hopkins University was founded in 1876 on the principle that by pursuing big ideas and sharing what we learn, we make the world a better place. The Brody Learning Commons meets that vision and is the kind of 21st century library space that students need, where they can collaborate; research, read and study; tap into electronic resources; and learn to be scholars and critical thinkers.

The Learning Commons is a new four story addition to the Milton Eisenhower Library and includes group study spaces, seminar rooms, and a state-of-the-art lab designed to integrate the role of scientists into the field of paper and manuscript conservation. The Rare Books and Manuscripts collection is on prominent physical display, supplemented by digital presentation of materials that allows users to compare and contrast different editions of rare documents in virtual and physical form.

An atrium, which provides a transition between Brody and the Library, allows natural light to reach the lower levels of the Library while providing a civic space for the Learning Commons and the library community. This building adds an additional 500 seats (approximately 1/3) to the existing library and is completely wireless enabled.

Client: Johns Hopkins University
Architect: Shepley Bulfinch
Facility: Learning Commons
Project Size: 40,000 sq ft

Services:

- Technology Planning and Programming
- Architectural Design Support
- System Design
- Implementation Oversight

Technologies:

- Audiovisual Systems
- Telecommunications
- Data Networking
- Videoconferencing
- 100% Wireless Technology

Benefits:

- Provides a transformative learning environment, fostering community between students and faculty, and the campus and the rest of the world
- Links traditional tools of the past with the promise of the future
- Reinforces the role of the Library and the Learning Commons as the heart of the Homeland campus
- Encourages collaboration through innovative Educational Technologies