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24/7 Student Space
Sylvia Mosiany, Smith College Class of 2016

This geometric and minimalist design is not of a much-needed 24-hour room on campus, which would be a part of the library. It achieves an efficient use of space by hosting sustainable programming: it is both a study area and a place where electronic equipment (laptops, ipads, cameras). The concept of the design is multi-purposing ordinary book stacks. It is inspired by the stacks in the current Nelson Library. These stacks are re-configured to enable both storage and seating. Use of stacks as the primary architectural element proposes that there be some thoughts on how current elements within the current library’s design may be improved, rather than simply done away with. The primary material of the space is wood which would be recycled from old elements from the current library. This design intends to preserve the historical value of Nelson Library.

- **Dual Function Stacks:** Storage and seating functions achieved by the multi-purpose stacks that define the space.

- **Architectural Element:** Stacks define the spaces of the library. This makes the design universal; it may be placed in different rooms and maintain the concept.

**Circulation Space Within Library**

**Programming:** The space serves a variety of functions, efficient circulation is maintained, comfortable furniture provided and technological facilities are present.

**Lighting:** High windows and a progressively sloping roof allows natural light to filter into the space. Artificial lighting is provided by LED lights and these also take advantage of the sloping roof ensuring equal distribution of light. The LED lights are adjustable to the preferences of users within the space at any given time.

**Precedents:** Sea Shore Library by Vector Architects in China inspires this design. In particular its use of stacks to define sub spaces and use of high windows. The book-case design on the right inspired the use of varied rectangular shelves. Such shelves increase storage capacity and allow categorization of books by size.