

# Copley Library

*Elevating the Learning Experience*



## Facility Upgrades and Outdoor Study Area: \$1.5 million

### Background

The Copley Library seeks \$1.5 million to complete **facility upgrades and an outdoor study area**. The plan is to add two outdoor patios to the existing building. The patios will provide 126 seats at tables and accommodate 326 chairs. San Diego's excellent year-round weather makes outdoor seating well suited for Copley Library. Currently all seating is inside.

### Objectives

The spaces for outdoor seating have been identified:  
*South Patio:* This area will be accessible to the left of the main library doors.

*East Patio:* This area will be located between the 1985 addition and the original Mother Hill Reading Room buildings and accessible from the first floor of the library.

The outdoor seating patios will be landscaped and will feature a coffee cart, umbrellas and tables, soft seating, wireless access, and power outlets or charging stations for electronic devices. A gate will enclose the patio areas and a security mechanism will prevent access to and theft of library materials. The idea of students and faculty studying outdoors in a beautiful environment is consistent with Mother Rosalie Hill's original vision for the campus.

Since the outdoor seating areas will be located adjacent to the Department of Art + Architecture, it will be convenient for users of this building to visit the coffee cart and patios as well. Most new libraries, even those located in cold climates, are built with outdoor patios and terraces that often expand a library's capacity to not only accommodate more students, but also to offer events.

New libraries with outdoor seating include: California State University, San Marcos; Loyola Marymount University; Santa Clara University, Grand Valley State University; North Carolina State University; Salisbury University; and the San Diego Public Library's Qualcomm Dome Terrace.

### Impact

The outdoor seating patios will be integrated into the library's regular services. Library users will have the option to study in the fresh air or relax in the sun while enjoying a cup of coffee. The settings will accommodate faculty/student meetings and allow students to work in groups. This space may also be used by the university for receptions and programming.

The outdoor patio will also expand the seating capacity of the library and extend spaces for learning from the library building to the outside.

It will also serve as an additional informal gathering space on campus.

### For More Information

**Theresa Byrd, EdD**

Dean

University Library

(619) 260-2370

[tsbyrd@sandiego.edu](mailto:tsbyrd@sandiego.edu)

[leadingchange.sandiego.edu](http://leadingchange.sandiego.edu)