Georgia Library Spotlight - Atlanta Technical College Library

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What happens when politics and academia meet? No, not another structured class but more like a serviceable collection. That collection can be found at the Dr. Robert A. Holmes Law Library housed within the Atlanta Technical College (ATC) Library.

The Law Library is named in honor of Dr. Robert A. Holmes: businessman, civic leader, and Georgia state legislator for thirty-four years. It supports the training and educational needs of students enrolled in the Paralegal Studies Program. One descriptive word to profess the legacy of Dr. Holmes is “supportive.” Along with his governmental role, he has a passion for education, and so to attribute the college’s law library to him is more than fitting as the mission of the library itself is to serve the educational and informational needs of its students, faulty, and staff.

Dr. Holmes was a key contributor to the renovation and expansion project of the ATC Library. From the day of its first reveal in the summer of 2012, the modernized facility continues to make a memorable impact on those who walk through the doors of the more than 16,000 square foot building. Upon entering the impressive facility, visitors are drawn to the contemporary display case housing some of Atlanta Tech’s many accolades and awards granted to outstanding student achievement as well as to the college itself. With over 51,000 items including books, technical manuals, professional journals, popular periodicals, and supplements to library materials, the spacious facility is not only aesthetically pleasing but also practical.

Students have access to group study rooms, a film editing suite, a twenty-five-seat capacity electronic classroom, and more than 120 computer workstations. Four of the meeting spaces are equipped with Smart lecterns called Tech Turns and available to students for practice and rehearsal of projects and presentations. In addition, more than 30,000 e-books are available to users. The library staff oversees a variety of media equipment such as smart mobiles, LCD projectors, and laptops to be borrowed and used for instructional purposes.

It’s been quoted and asked many times, “what’s in a name?” One answer: expectations. When traveling on the I-285 perimeter and the Bob A. Holmes Freeway sign is seen, one might think “significant.” Upon visiting the Atlanta Technical College Library and seeing the law collection and the Dr. Robert A. Holmes Law Library lettering, another thought might be “prominent.” However, Dr. Holmes has stated that he wants to be remembered by
“righteousness” and how he always tried to do what was right. The ATC community can expect the campus libraries to live up to its name and mission of service, helpfulness, and providing the necessary resources for student success.