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Georgia Library Spotlight - Zell and Shirley Miller Library, Young Harris College

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Zell and Shirley Miller Library
Young Harris College

In October 2014, Young Harris College (YHC) opened the Rollins Campus Center, a transformative structure on the 129-year-old campus. Named for its $22 million lead gift from the O. Wayne Rollins Foundation, the Rollins Campus Center is the signature facility at YHC—the social and intellectual heart of campus.

The Rollins Campus Center connects four distinct areas in a single, state-of-the-art structure: a 40,000 square foot modern library, a 60,000 square foot multi-purpose student center, an expanded dining hall boasting a wide variety of food stations, and a 350-seat, versatile banquet facility.

The library—named for Young Harris’s most famous son, former Georgia Governor and US Senator Zell Miller, and his remarkable wife, Shirley—more than doubles the college’s existing physical space for its growing collection of academic resources that aid students in reaching their intellectual potential. In addition to designated space for permanent and special collections, there are group study rooms, reading carrels, computer stations, and a large 24-hour study area.

Located next to the Susan B. Harris Chapel—the College’s oldest structure—the three-and-a-half stories of this new glass, brick, and stone building creates a new hub of bustling activity, unifying social and intellectual aspects of a thriving college campus, while optimizing the surrounding mountain views and maximizing outdoor space with numerous porches for inspiration and renewal.

The proximity to other student-centered services, in addition to the space’s warm and inviting atmosphere, have increased student use dramatically. Students stay longer in the building and are taking greater advantage of the numerous services offered by the library. With this new space came more service hours, increased information literacy offerings, higher circulation and reference statistics, and a larger presence for the library in all aspects of campus life. Also in the Miller Library is a dedicated special collections area where aspects of the rich history of Young Harris College are displayed as well as tributes to Zell and Shirley Miller, Georgia poet and novelist Byron Herbert Reece, and the Rev. David Ogletree Lincolniana Collection.

For more information about the Zell and Shirley Miller Library at Young Harris College, visit http://yhc.edu/library