Balancing centralized project commitments with local priorities.

Off the beaten track:

- Raspberry Pi home-grown ventures:
  - Looking for an alternative to something like the appealing-looking Brennan b2, (pictured left, ~$900 CAD) using:
    - 3x Pi models for RuneAudio (to the stereo), KODI (to the TV), with a NAS (hard-drive mirroring device);
  - Library implications? (The Raspberry Pi is replacing Spinetix for digital signage)

- Ditching Labstats for powershell to monitor public machine usage:
  - Where could R fit in? What about Gephi, check U of G Gephi online tutorial?

Cameron Metcalf
University of Ottawa Library
Code4Lib North – May 31, 2019

Does metadata register irony and/or sarcasm?
Behold…

NEUROSCIENCE
CARELETON UNIVERSITY
2018

…(Almost as good as the U.S. *Navel* Academy Diplomas)

Centralized IT Projects - Feb-May 2019

- Multi-factor authentication – employees;
- SAML (ADFS) - (benefits ArcGIS Online);
- Office 365 – employees;
- Desktop optimization;
- Password access management;
- Ticketing system changeover (from ServiceNow to TopDesk);
- External mail message warning.

Local Library Projects – Requiring Student information system data, Virtual Machines

- Room-booking system (co-op student developer);
- ARES (nearly launched, after 14 months);
- Collaborative Futures - Ex Libris Alma – nine months along;

Improved communications focusing on change in documented governance:
- Architecture Review Board intake process and presentations;
- System Information Documents and reviews

Seeing a trend in development focus on:
- "Middleware" development and project-management provided by Senior Programmer;
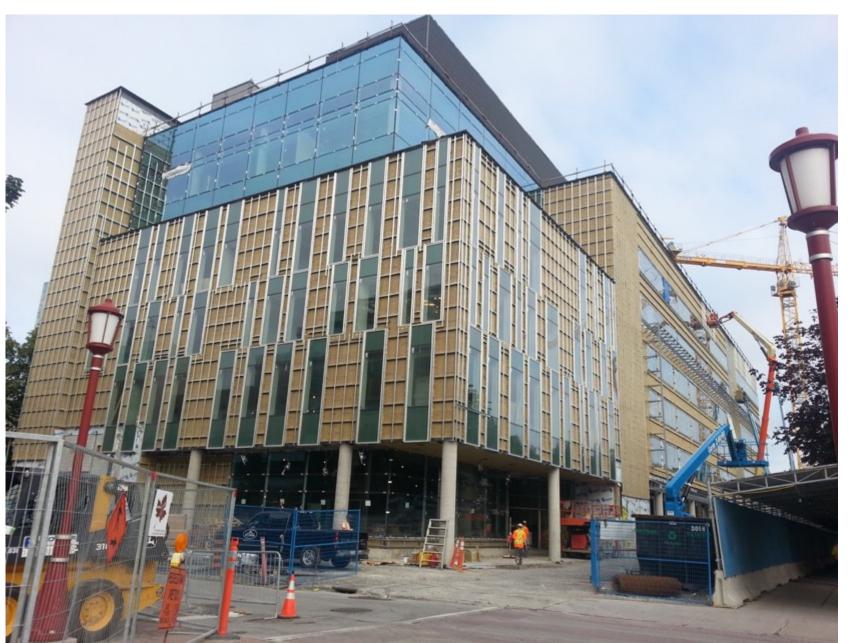
Effect of Centralization Initiatives

- Increased formal communication channels (governance and responsibilities);
- Re-distribution of effort and time with fewer resources available to be devoted to project-development and planning (this year as we adjust);
- Less local discretion over timing (central initiatives launched during academic sessions due to perceived security risks);
- Second-guessing future considerations where to host (off-campus, AWS?)
- Replacement of pre-established, robust local solutions:
  - Password management (local version of Royal TS becomes obsolete);
  - Local Intranet and Slack messaging in favour of MS Office 365 (is the Intranet dead…again?)
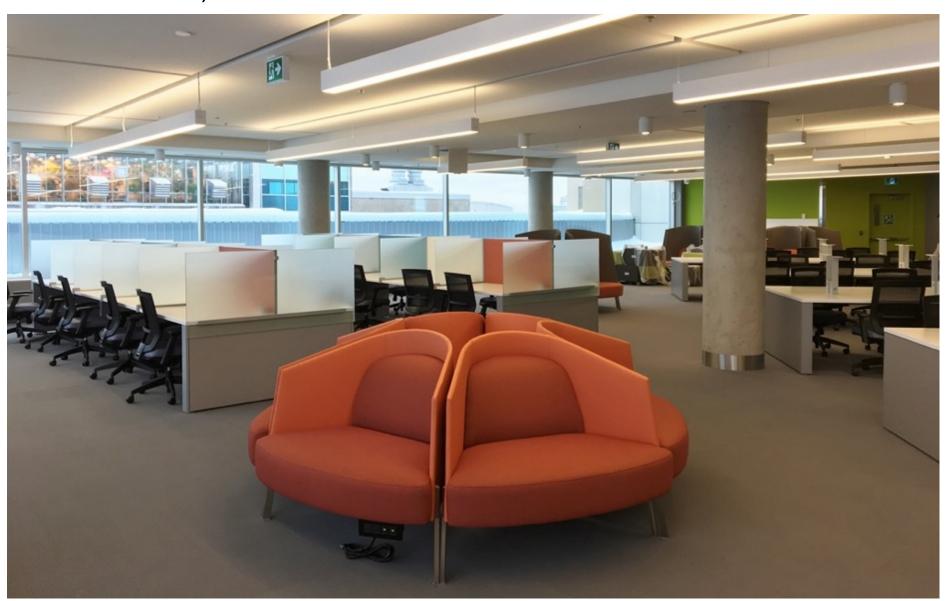
New Buildings and Challenges for the Library

- The balance of specialized spaces that can still be flexible and broadly appealing without diluting its specialized functionality;

- Teleconference / AV needs - keeping up with demand and sharing procedures to improve communication (make the complicated simple, accessible) and meet expectations;

- Sell a vision or an idea by providing a picture (even if it is a photo mock-up);

[uOttawa Learning Crossroads](#) (CRX)

Space shared with the Library, Faculty of Education, Teaching and Learning Services

Carrels (background) are used to full capacity by those bringing their own devices, in CRX .

Resource-provision student researchers

- Desktop upgrades in all Library labs, with priorities to busiest areas, training environments, persisting in high-end stations for data analysis;

- Investigation of leveraging the Faculty of Engineering's success with Software-as-a-service and VDI;

  - Testing this summer with new machines machines as network switches are replaced and upgraded.

- Pilot test of peripheral-only stations the majority of which will go to graduate-level floor, based on usage-patterns.