The renewal of Folsom Library’s second floor represents the first major refurbishment of the Library since its opening in 1976. Jorge Vidal ’91, with Rensselaer’s Design and Construction group, developed the overall design and managed the construction, drawing input from faculty and student surveys, library visits, the Rensselaer Plan goals and objectives, environmental scans and library staff input.

**Spatial**

Space is organized to support a learning environment. Primary function moves from preservation and security of materials to the “learning laboratory.”

**Functional**

User-focused and service-rich environment with cutting-edge technology.

**Global**

The “sails” art wall behind the Circulation desk consist of an inverted Hobo-Dyer Equal Area projection map of the world with Rensselaer’s theme “Why not change the world?” in many of our community’s languages.
**Inspirational**

Low-profile shelving and mobile, collaborative tables provide a flexible “learning laboratory” environment while providing welcoming, bright, inspiring and interesting spaces.

**Intellectual**

“Information hubs” disguise the concrete columns, integrating physical and virtual space while offering high-speed research access.

**Community**

Academic and social interactions are fostered in an attractive environment with newly opened vistas to the beautiful surroundings.

For more photos, visit:

http://www.lib.rpi.edu/images/renovation/InProgress/