The next stage of the STL Renovation launched at the end of Fall semester with the clearing and closure of the top (Main) floor. Furniture and other items were either moved to the bottom two floors of the library, put into storage trailers, given to other campus departments or surplused. The contractor, Meyer Construction Corp. took possession of the main floor at the start of the year and has begun abatement and demolition. This project is supported by $14.3 million in funds from the State University Construction Fund secured as an additional state appropriation by legislators Assemblymember Kevin Cahill ('77) and State Senator John Bonacic in 2008.

The staff and services formerly located on the Main Floor have been moved to the lower two floors. A new entrance has been created on the Concourse hallway that leads to the lecture center. Immediately next to these entrance doors is our newly configured checkout desk with security gates flanking the entrance.

The Research Desk is now located on the Concourse level, near the back wall of the library as you enter. Guests will be able to access the usual services from both the Circulation and Research Desks. A reduced number of public PCs are situated near the Research Desk along with printers and scanners. As usual, iPads and laptops are available for library use at the Circulation Desk.

Wifi access has been expanded in the library, especially on the ground floor. In addition, many more electrical outlets have been made available on or near worktables for students to power their devices. We’ve also added a charging station on the Ground Floor by the copier machine. Reminder that the Library is not responsible for any devices or materials left unattended. Please be conscious of safeguarding your possessions.

As we anticipate that STL may be crowded and noisy at times during the renovation, we have identified other spaces that can be used by students as quiet study areas. The Late Night Study area will continue with the usual hours in the Terrace throughout the semester. This space will remain open until 8am, Sunday — Thursday during finals.

For your convenience we have prepared a special lib-guide with FAQs available at: newpaltz.libguides.com/stlrenovation. This guide will also contain the timeline for the renovation and other information as we receive it. It is the best place to track this exciting project.
Tips for Working in STL During the Renovation

The Library is open regular hours and is providing the same services the campus has come to expect. Some materials and resources are now in new locations so please feel free to ask at the Circulation Desk (right as you come in the door) or the Research Desk for assistance.

WORKSPACE—Although we’ve had to cut back on the number of seats available in the library there are still over 420 places to work on the Concourse and Ground Floor. If the Concourse level is very busy consider going down to the Ground Floor, the Wifi connection down there has been expanded. There are also eight individual study rooms available though the Circulation Desk.

COMPUTERS—There are 39 public computers available, 30 iPads (for use in and out of the library) and 32 laptops (for use in the library). We also have a quick print station and an overhead scanner by the Research Desk. There is a flatbed scanner and two public computers on the Ground Floor near the copier machine.

POWER—We have improved electrical access by locating power strips on several tables throughout the library. Bring your own charging cables.

GROUP STUDY—We encourage group study at the tables near the Reference Desk. This is one of our busy service points in the Library and along with the Circulation Desk will be one of the noisier areas.

QUIET STUDY—We have designated the ground floor and part of the Concourse level as Quiet Study Areas. This is one of the greatest demands in the library and for many students is the only place they can study in relative quiet. You can also checkout headphones at the Circulation Desk. Thanks for your cooperation in refraining from conversation, phone calls, etc. in these designated Quiet Study Areas.

CAFFEINE—Since STL Jazzman’s is closed the closest snack bar is in Parker Theatre or JFT. You may still bring covered beverages into the library, but NO FOOD (thank you!).

STL Stomps Out Finals Stress

When tests are looming and papers abound, there's nothing like recharging with some creative fun. During Fall finals week, nearly 50 students dropped by STL 18 for coffee, healthy snacks, origami, button-making, and jigsaw puzzling at our second annual Stomp Out Stress event. The soothing ambiance included kitten and puppy videos on the big screen. Dozens of students folded paper cranes and found that perfect magazine clipping to convert into a 1-inch button. "I found that watching kitty videos helps me get over my test anxiety," said Hilda Fournier. "Actually, I already knew that," she admits.

Stomp Out Stress week, which includes daily stress-reduction activities at various locations on campus, is organized at the campus level by Christina Cordier, Asst. Director of Wellness and Recreation for Fitness.