Change

“"I see the task of architecture as the defense of the authenticity of human experience."—Juhani Pallasmaa, Architectural Theorist

the inertia of the status quo

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“For whom are we designing libraries?” — Annie Dourlent
“It’s a lot easier to design a utopia than to deal with the complex reality of a present time and place. You don’t have to deal with the tension between memory and invention. You just take one or the other. If you do that, you inevitably create architecture that is thin, bloodless, weak, and boring.”

-ROBERT CAMPBELL, Pulitzer Prize winning architectural critic
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<tr>
<th>Principle</th>
<th>Round (history)</th>
<th>Flat (21st century)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Print</td>
<td>High density (obscure)</td>
<td>Low density (obvious)</td>
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<td>Reference</td>
<td>Print from the shelf</td>
<td>Computer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Study</td>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>Group, collaborative + single</td>
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<tr>
<td>Help</td>
<td>Librarian as oracle</td>
<td>Librarian as companion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meeting</td>
<td>Fixed + predetermined</td>
<td>Reconfigurable and smart</td>
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<td>Power</td>
<td>Fixed in the wall</td>
<td>Anywhere</td>
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<td>E-information</td>
<td>Hard wired access point</td>
<td>Ubiquitous wireless</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seating</td>
<td>Individual: rigid</td>
<td>Individual: options</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rooms</td>
<td>Enclosed with fixed walls</td>
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<td>Materials</td>
<td>Person-to-person</td>
<td>Person-to-machine</td>
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“Ideas and products and messages and behaviors spread just like viruses do.” —Malcolm Gladwell
Catching the idea virus

• The loudest is not always the smartest
• The absent need to be heard
• What is said is not always what is meant
• Present does not mean prescient
• Trust comes with time and respect
• Discussing the building is often about something else
Innovate or Protect

• Plan in the dark
• Fear exposes weak points
• What is protected may need the most innovation
Architects do not know everything...

Often people listen only with the intent of replying.
technology changes, humans don’t.
21st century library
improve efficiency
increase technology
increase study space
increase gathering space
better access
Tulsa City-County Library

reinvention
Downtown Thing of Beauty

You can get a dog license, file for homestead exemption, check out a book, or study government operation at the city, county or federal level within an area of a few blocks.

Furthermore, you can park—a distinct advantage in a downtown area.

All this is wrapped up in Tulsa's Civic Center, begun in 1955 with the County Courthouse and completed last December with the opening of City Hall and the Police-Courts buildings. Tulsaans have fought over it. Many contend the complex won't be complete until a theater and a state office building are added. But everyone admires it—particularly those cities that don't have the Civic Center's compact advantages.

Tribune photographer Ben
central library building
meeting with Charles Ward (original architect of the central library) and Pat Woodrum (former library director) and representatives from Tulsa Foundation for Architecture and Modern Tulsa
central library building
first opened vs. current state
central library building
first opened vs. current state
Madison Public Library

reinvention
- Control
- Deliberate Placement
- Immediacy
- Time Shift
- Order
- Quietude
Who will be invited?

Thanks....