

NC A&T STATE UNIVERSITY



From their roots as an 1890 land-grant university, North Carolina A&T State University has expanded and adapted to become the largest HBCU state school in the country. They still have award-winning faculty, intensive research programs and community-focused initiatives — but now their campus is more diverse, with a robust curriculum that includes nanoengineering and an idea of public service that encompasses not only Greensboro, but the world.



GOALS

- Create a vibrant space with more natural light.
- Design an inviting space that students want to use.
- Keep a consistent thread throughout the library.

STRATEGIES

- Utilize flexible furniture solutions that support various applications.
- Incorporate furniture that encourages both collaboration and individual work.

The Bluford Library at NC A&T wanted to create a vibrant space on their first-floor level. The current furniture in the space was worn out and dated, so they needed new furniture solutions that supported the way students interacted and utilized the library. Bluford Library began their renovation by converting the stacks to lower, curvy bookcases, which created movement and allowed natural light to illuminate the space. Quiet areas were maintained on the second and third floors, while still connecting to the main floor with similar furnishings and fabrics.



Listening to their needs, the Kimball team was able to coach them on flexible furniture solutions with creative ways to utilize the furniture to achieve their goals. In addition to helping incorporate furniture that supports a multitude of applications, they were able to create a more informal, collaborative space where students wanted to be – providing a fresh look and feel to a once dated campus library.



A combination of Pairings, Villa and Joelle provided flexible solutions on the main floor allowing students to easily gather or have individual privacy when needed. Dock tables were built around existing columns as a way to creatively adapt to the space. Dynamic upholstery selections were used as a way to create a vibrant, updated aesthetic.



Xsede Height Adjust benching was used to provide areas for focused work with the ability to adjust the height of the work area to their personal preference. This is not a furniture application you would typically see in a library, but NC A&T wanted an alternative to study carrels in order to better serve the needs of the users. Power is easily accessible in all of the furniture, giving users complete connectivity and technology integration.

Kimball helped create an environment we had envisioned within Bluford Library that will allow the students to utilize the space in a way that will best meet their needs. The pops of color add energy and personality for a space all students want to be in.