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Getting carded in a new century

For thousands of students who needed to track down a book at Rowan's libraries through much of the 20th century, the hunt started at stout card catalogs. Thumbing through a narrow drawer of index cards put them on the trail toward the right stack, the right shelf, the right book—or at least somewhere close.

The tactile task required a working knowledge of the Dewey decimal system and the library's floor plan. And if the card catalog didn't give up its secrets easily, savvy library staff could lead the way.

Digital catalog systems replaced cards and drawers when the Keith & Shirley Campbell Library opened in 1995, marking a new era for Rowan's central repository

of learning and discovery. After a two-year renovation, Campbell reopened this summer, redesigned to support a new generation of technology and a flexible information infrastructure for what comes next.

New features abound, making the library a more welcoming, inclusive and adaptable hub for learning, research and

student life. Each resource links traditional methods with advanced technologies and a 21st century universe of information to explore.

Today, vintage card catalogs charm the nostalgic eye—and library visitors' thumbs tap touchpads for new digital connections to discovery.

Learn more: go.rowan.edu/libraryupdate