The new master plan for Kennedy Library offers a vision for transforming the library to meet our students’ needs now. The plan will add urgently needed capacity for student-centered collaborative academic work, and create an exciting new digitally enhanced center for collecting, sharing, and preserving the stories of Cal Poly, our community, and the lands of the Central Coast.

24-Hour Peer-to-Peer Learning Center
The first floor of the library is reimagined as an expansive center for student peer-to-peer learning. The envisioned P2P learning center will be a hub where students develop and share skills in writing, GIS, statistics, communications, and more. Students will collaborate on cross-disciplinary senior projects, incubate entrepreneurial ventures, and get just-in-time help – driving student success across the curriculum.

IDEAS: Transforming Archives and Scholarship
Today’s learners are preparing for new digitally transformed careers in every discipline: from data journalism, to expressive technologies, to data science. The library will help foster the new skills of our digital age through iDi: Initiative for digital IDEAS (Innovations in Digital Expression, Access and Scholarship). The library’s fourth floor will become a home for iDi, where students will create, study and work with both unique, traditional artifacts and with born-digital content. Anchoring iDi will be Cal Poly’s Special Collections and Archives, with new space including an oral history lab, expansive exhibit areas, a multi-use classroom, and a climate controlled environment for fragile, rare materials.

Reading Room in the Sky
The Reading Room in the Sky, spanning the library’s fourth and fifth floors, celebrates Cal Poly’s beautiful surroundings while adding 3,000 square feet of new seating. Nearby are a graduate student reading room, and exhibit spaces featuring treasures and creative work from Special Collections and Archives. With views of Bishop Peak, double-height window views, and inspirational quiet study seating, it’s the perfect place for visitors, special events and alumni.