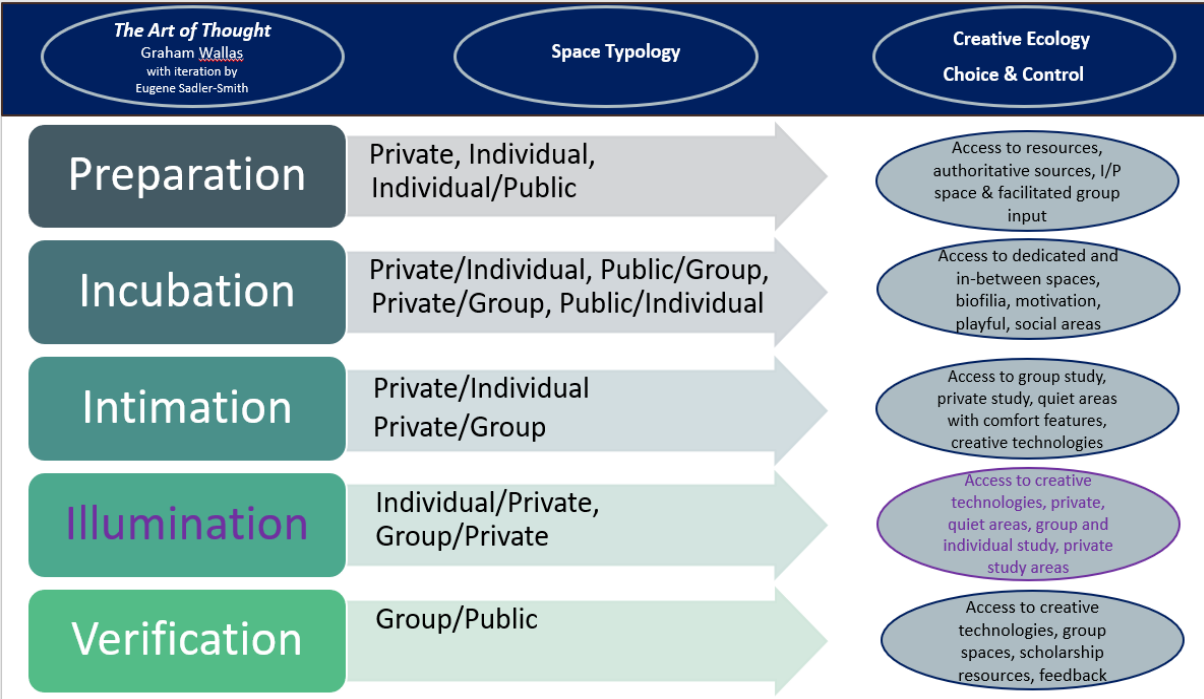


# The Creativity Index: Developing a Scalable Library Space Study Model




**Introduction:** In January 2020, librarians from a large, academic research library and researchers from the university's interior design department, developed a survey with a "creativity matrix" that featured adjective pairs to examine student views of how a library environment feels, and thereby how it supports the creative process. Combined with open-text questions, the survey offered a measurable view of conditions that students desire with tangible characteristics that future renovations can easily incorporate.

**Question:** How do library spaces facilitate innovative research, creative thinking, and problem-solving?

## Theoretical Frameworks used:



**Methods** included an online survey, student & employee focus groups, a space use analysis & employee designs for future space designs.

 <b>Statistical Analysis</b>	 <b>Qualitative Coding</b>	 <b>Focus Groups</b>
Descriptive Statistics Means Comparisons Related Samples Sign Test Reliability Scale	Space Typology Space Use Concepts System Wide Diversity (Traditional/Modern)	Current/Ideal ACL Results Additional perspectives

**Results: Student Perceptions of Current vs. Ideal Space**

	Current	Ideal		Mean Diff	Sig
1-Pleasant	1.78	1.28	5-Unpleasant	0.50	0.000
1-Relaxing	2.22	1.69	5-Distressing	0.53	0.000
1-Sleepy	2.93	3.78	5-Arousing	0.84	0.000
1-Exciting	2.88	2.18	5-Gloomy	0.71	0.000
1-Energetic	3.09	2.91	5-Calm	0.18	0.014
1-Quiet	2.48	2.07	5-Noisy	0.41	0.000
1-Playful	3.39	3.13	5-Serious	0.26	0.000
1-Social	2.93	2.55	5-Unsocial	0.38	0.000
1-Collaborative	2.90	2.38	5-Self-Reliant	0.52	0.000
1-Public	2.32	2.60	5-Private	0.28	0.000
1-Informal	2.47	2.52	5-Formal	0.05	0.417
1-Authentic	2.30	1.80	5-Superficial	0.50	0.000
1-Friendly	2.34	1.68	5-Unfriendly	0.66	0.000
1-Crowded	2.74	3.80	5-Uncrowded	1.06	0.000

**Contribution to Library Renovations**  
Shift away from "Grad-only space" vision  
Increase:  
Biophilia (e.g., plants, select artwork and a new aquarium)  
Private seating (booths) and variety  
Space within an individual's study area  
Computers on all floors  
Improve sightlines to restrooms and high-level signage  
Maintain occupancy visualization for building