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Subject matrices: An innovative, collaborative approach to serving the agricultural sciences

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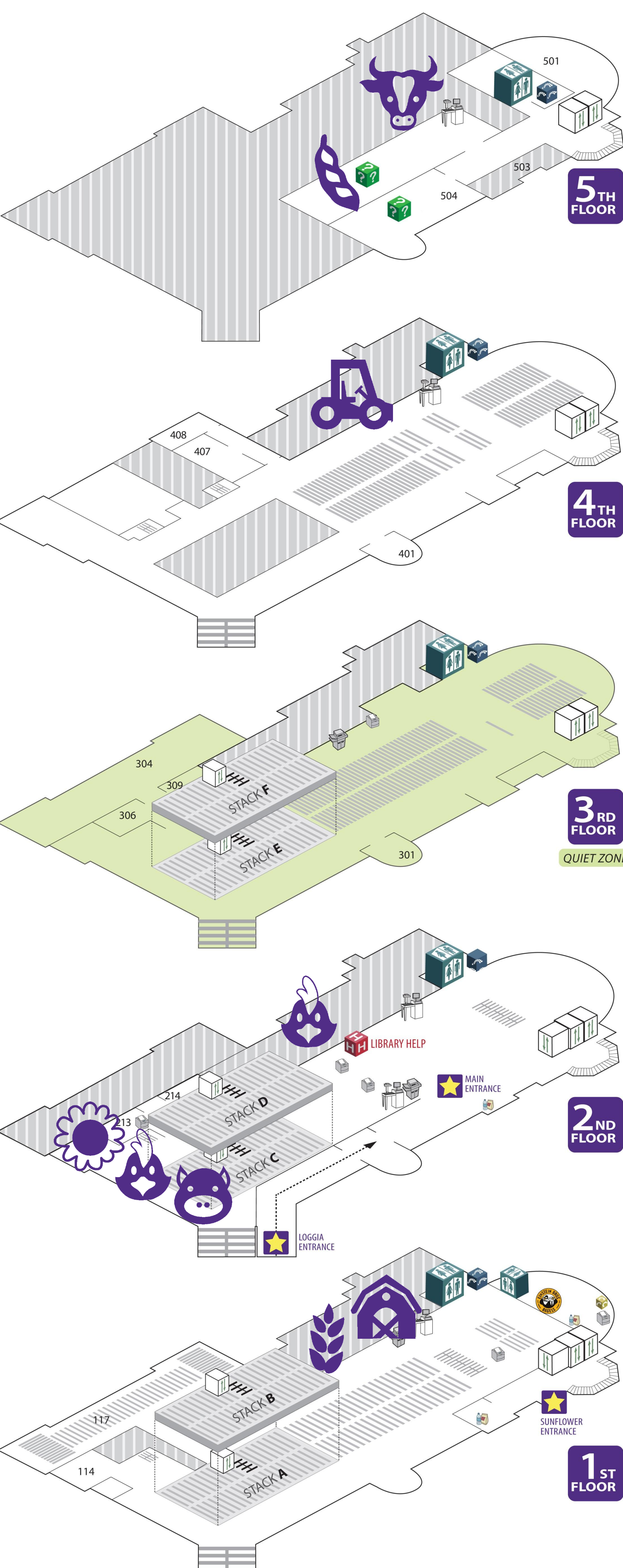
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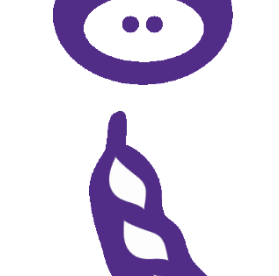

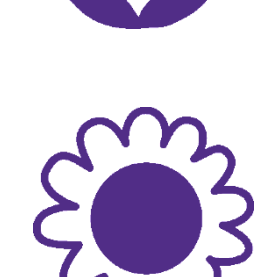

Subject matrices: An innovative, collaborative approach to serving the agricultural sciences

by Livia Olsen, Jenny Oleen, and Jason Coleman

Who is involved in the matrix?

- The matrix is people! Specifically, librarians from five of six K-State Libraries' departments located on four of five floors of Hale Library, the main library on campus, are involved.
- Research & Extension's librarian who is located across campus.



-  Content Development Librarian
-  Data Services Librarian
-  Faculty/Graduate Services Librarians
-  Instructional Design Librarian
-  Public Services Archivist
-  Scholarly Communications Librarians
-  Undergraduate/Community Services Librarians
-  Undergraduate Specialists
-  Research & Extension Librarian



***Many thanks to Tara Mosier, K-State Libraries Graphic Designer, for her assistance in adapting the Hale Library map for this poster.

What is K-State Libraries Agriculture & Biological Sciences matrix?

- After reorganizing, K-State Libraries no longer have subject librarians. The matrix is a way for librarians and other stakeholders with a common interest in agriculture and biological sciences to communicate, collaborate on projects, and share knowledge about the biological sciences and agriculture.

Principles of the matrix

- Subject-based – Our central concern is agriculture and science
- User-centered – We focus intently on meeting the goals of our current and potential patrons
- Collaborative – To facilitate learning from one another, all projects are accomplished through teams
- Voluntary – Members choose the amount of time they spend
- Egalitarian – Agenda and projects are selected by the group not by an official leader like a department head or assistant dean
- Social – Incorporates informal conversations and field trips to increase communication and learning

Current matrix projects


Dust Bowl exhibit



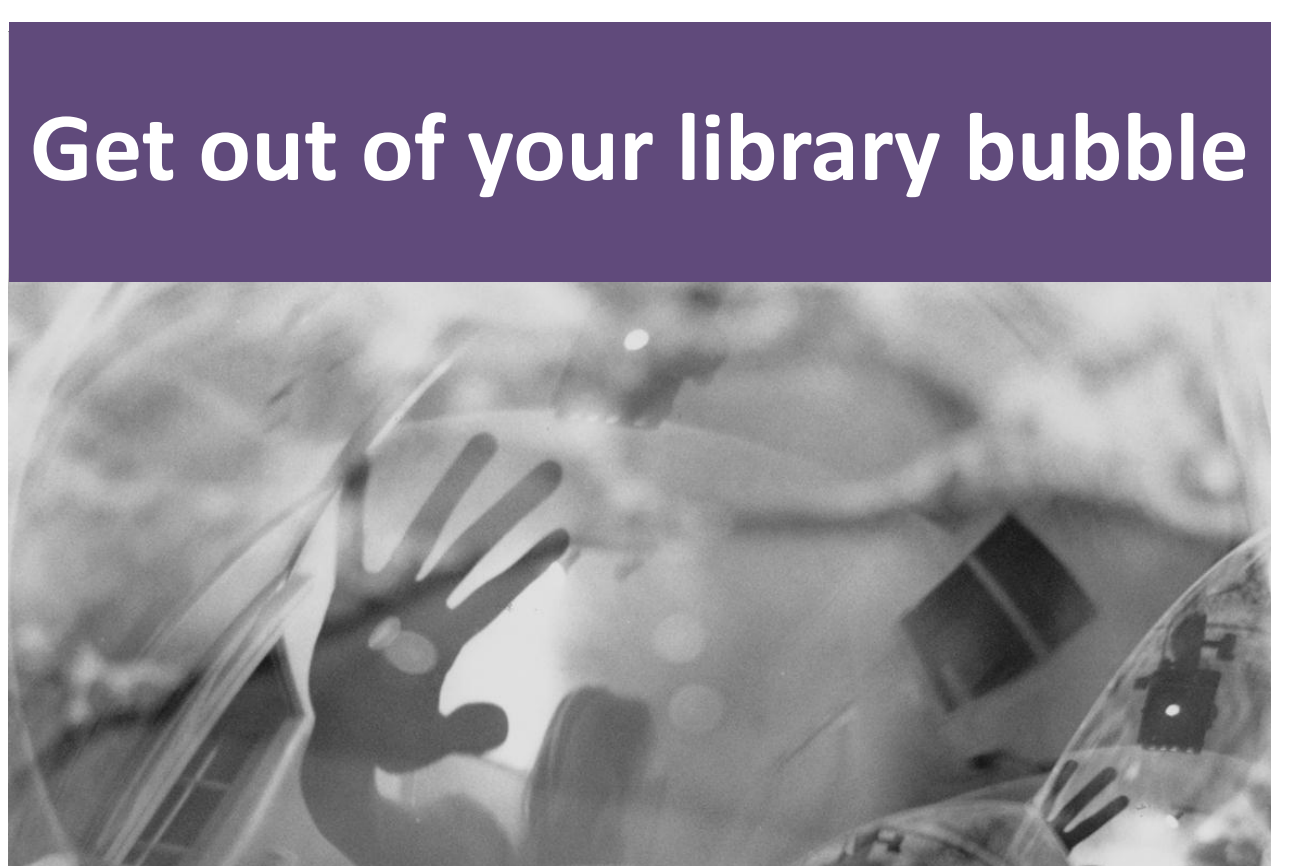
The "dandelion" Newsletter



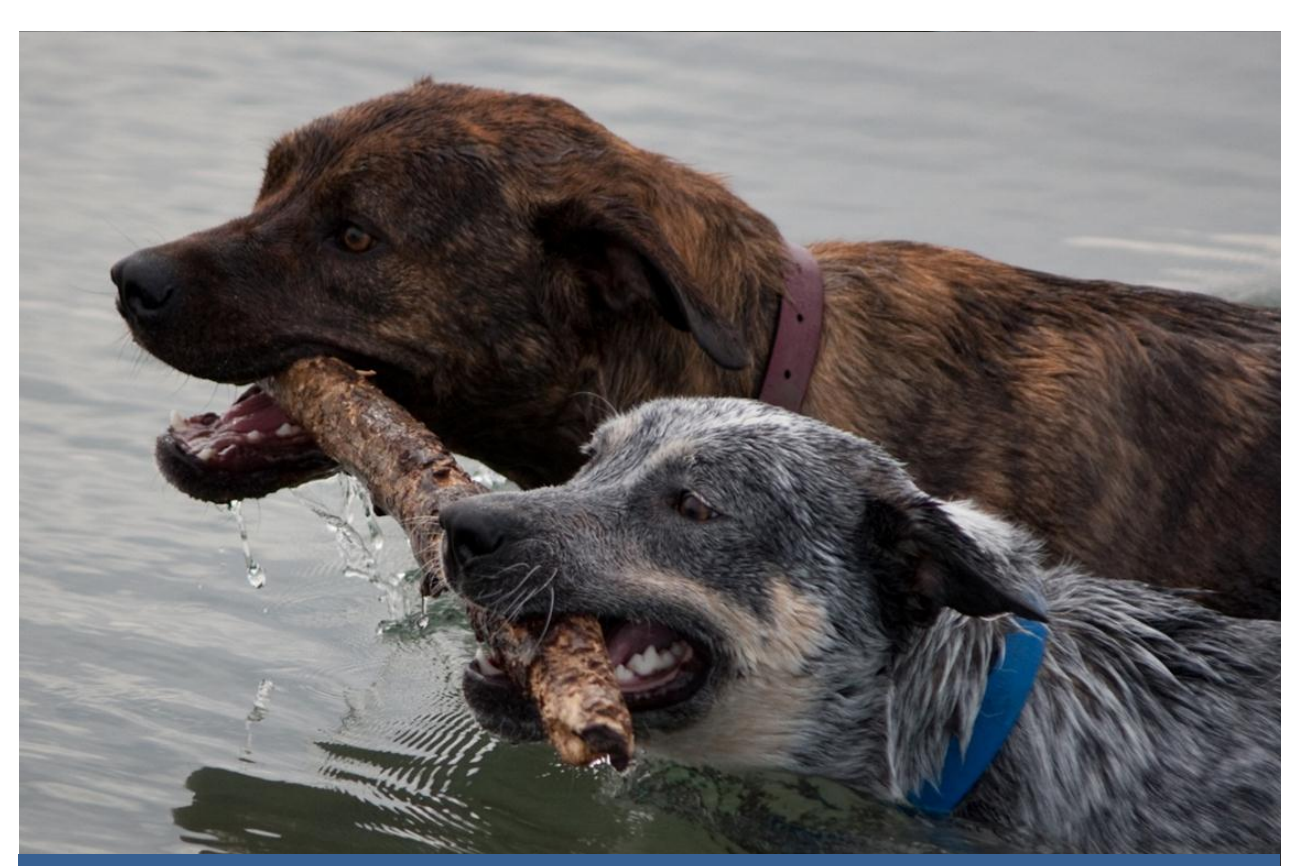
Ideas for adopting matrix principles at your library . . .




Disturb your ecosystem



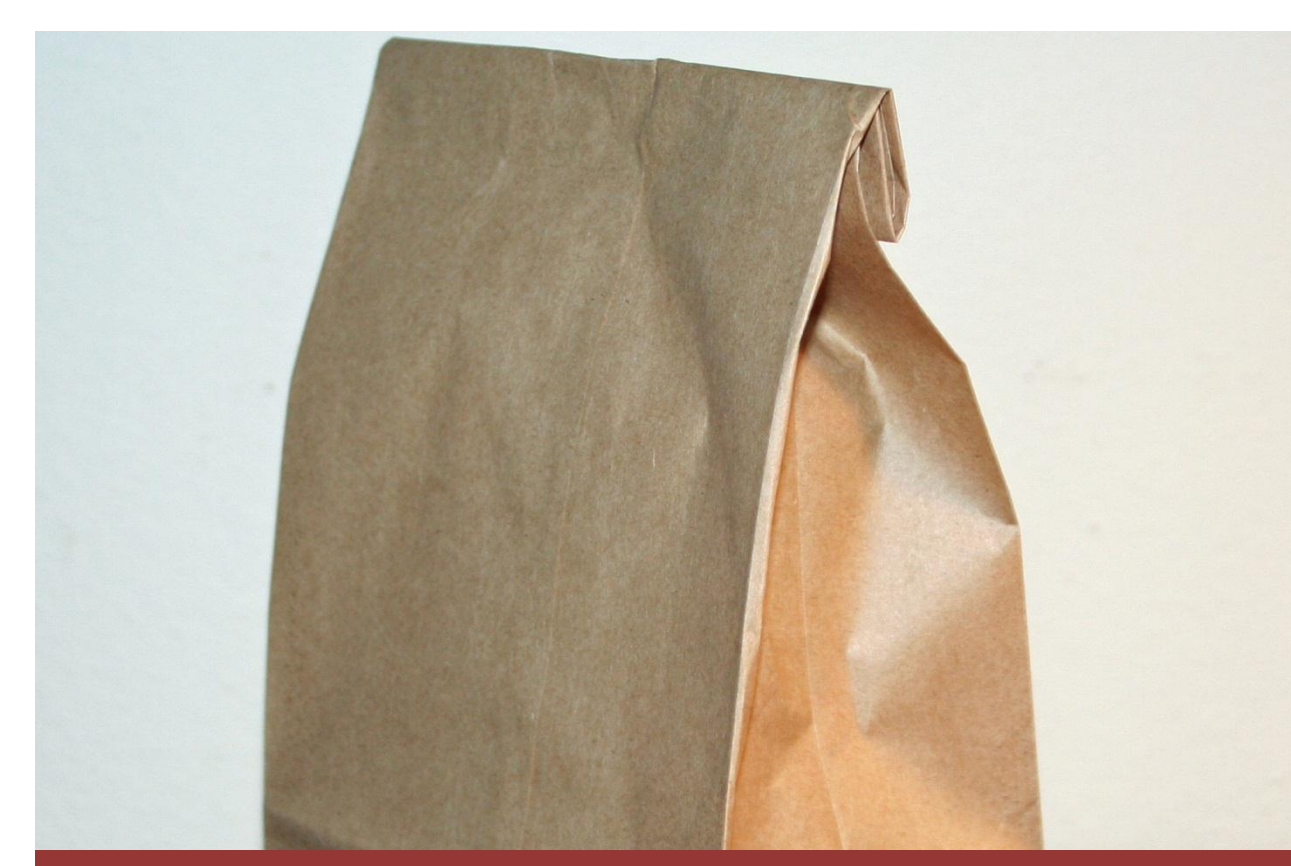
Get out of your library bubble



Formal support for collaboration



Survey your "environment"



Hot topics/brown bag presentations

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