FROM POINT A TO POINT B:

GAINING MOMENTUM THROUGH TRANSITIONS & NEW TYPES OF COLLABORATIONS

Rebecca K. Miller, Penn State University Libraries

MILEX 2016 Spring Program | March 18, 2016
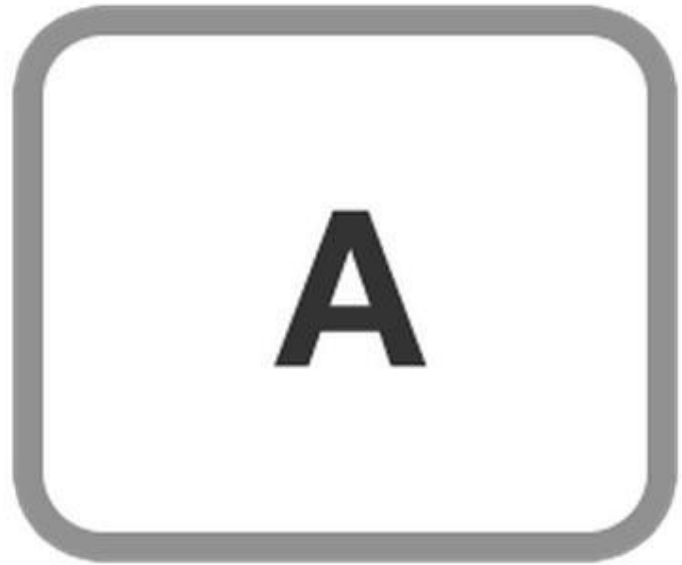
- My story

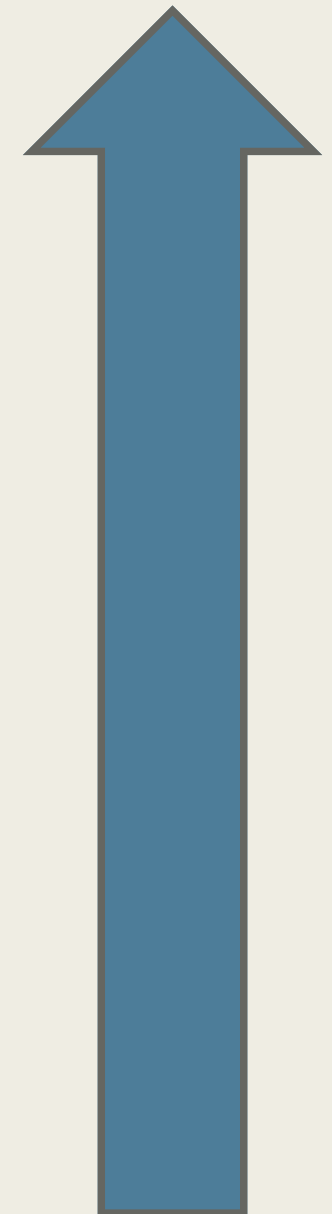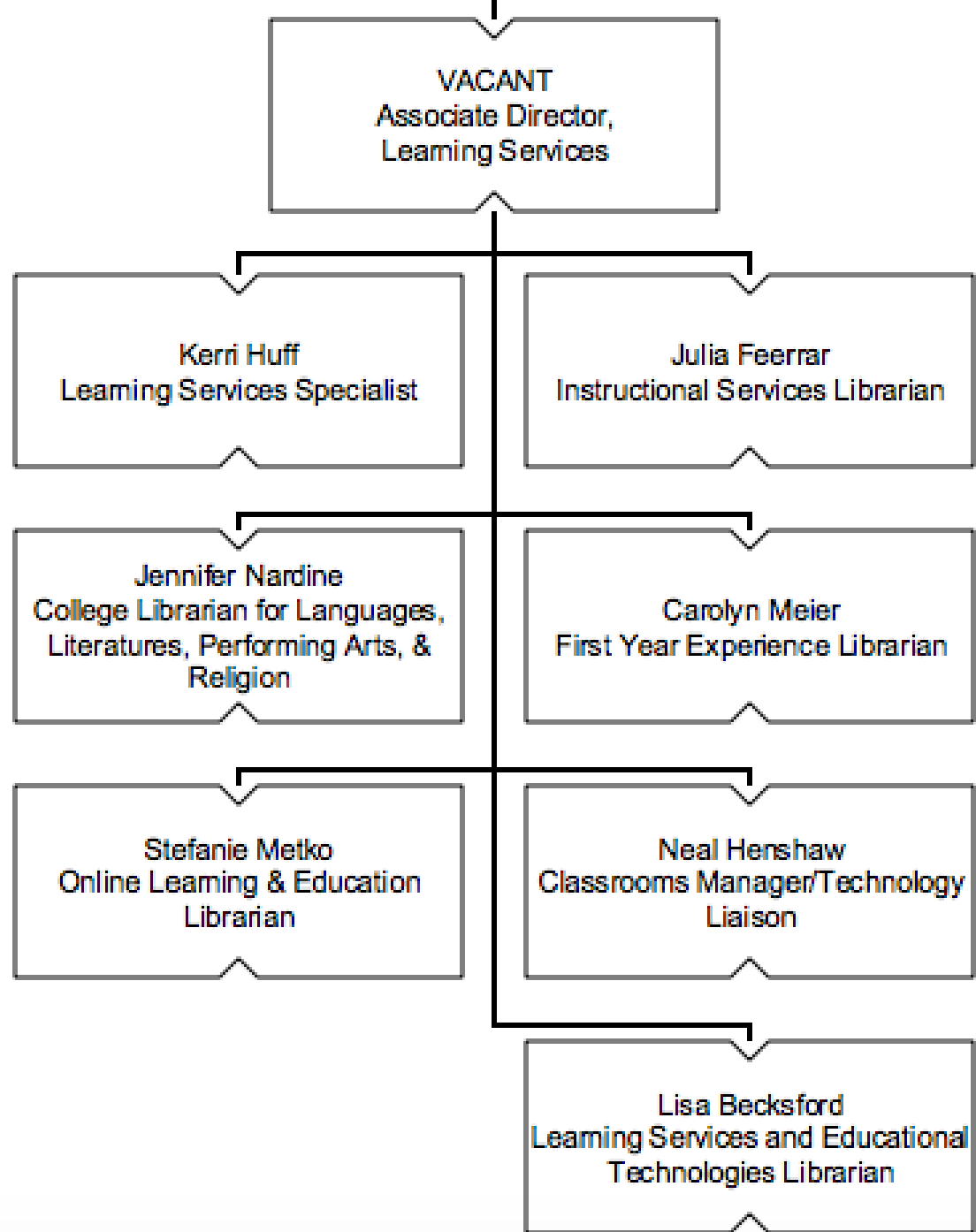- Our students

- Our role(s)

- Our programs

- My story
- Our students
- Our role(s)
- Our programs

Transition	What it means
Relationships	Redefined from peers to managees
Skills	Management skills can build on instrution skills, but they are not the same
Time management	Moved from maker time to manager time
Priorities and scope	Other peoples' work, and how I can support it, became a priority
Perspective	Others' perspective of me, and my perspective of the library and university shifted
Definition of success	Success is empowering and enabling others
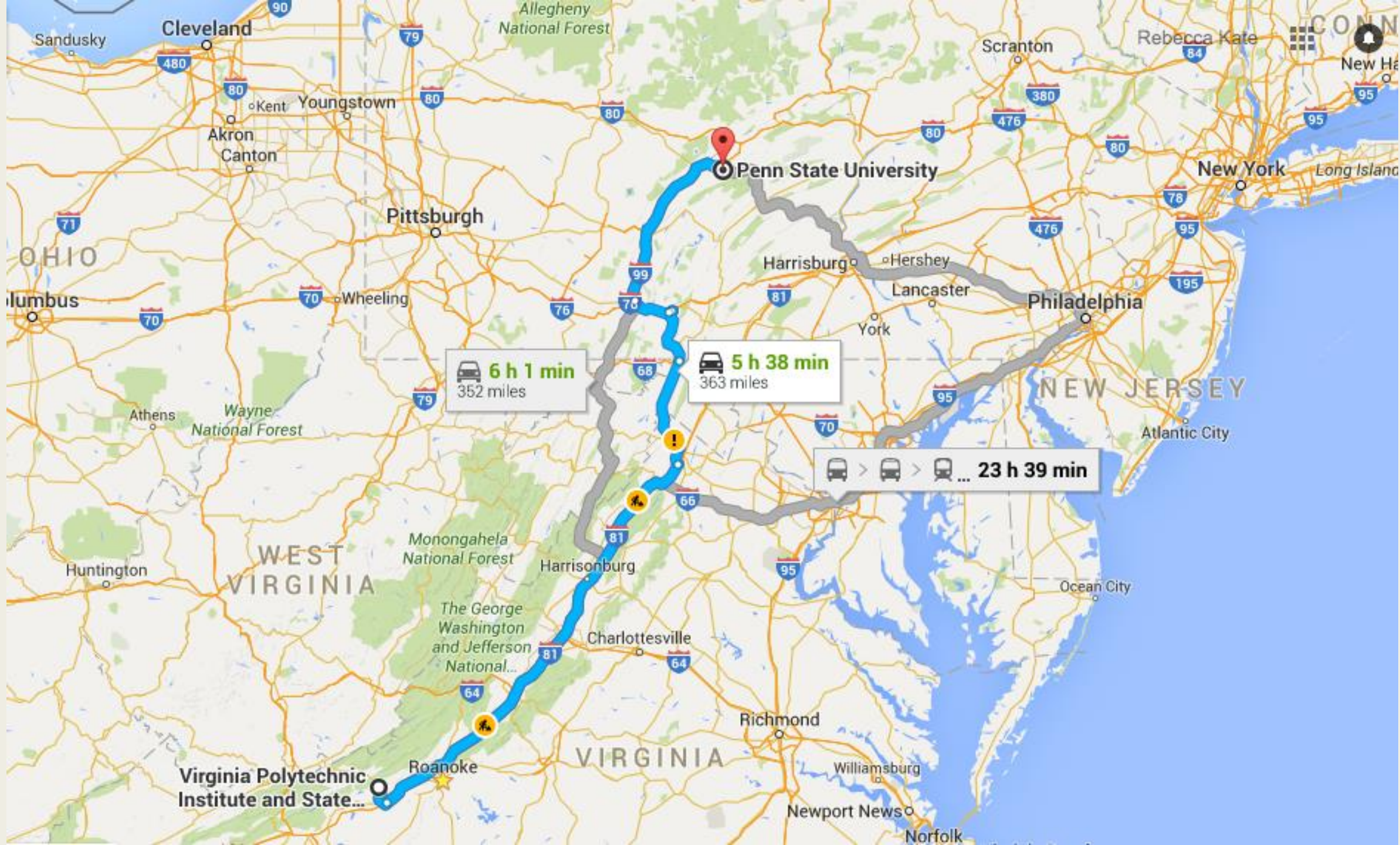
Whether one moves frequently or almost never, moving is an intensely emotional experience. The underlying psychological issues involved in real estate decisions are of great interest to therapists and psychologists, because housing and moving are filled with symbolism, the hope for new beginnings, crushing disappointments, loss, anxiety and fear.

"Panic can really set in around your home and your apartment," said Ronnie Greenberg, a Manhattan psychoanalyst. "It's a matrix of safety, so moving is incredibly stressful and people don't realize it — they mainly talk about the packing and the external part of moving."

Kershaw, S. "The psychology of moving." *The New York Times:* http://www.nytimes.com/2010/02/28/realestate/28cov.html?_r=0

Pattee 2

Video Viewing Room

Stacks level 2

W-206B

Arts and Humanities Library

Music and Media Center

W-211A Instruct Rm

STAFF

Paterno Humanities Reading Room

Malloy PA Center for the Book Exhibit Room

Henisch Photo-History Exhibit Room

Quiet Study area

Group Study area

(ramp)

4 things
20 seconds

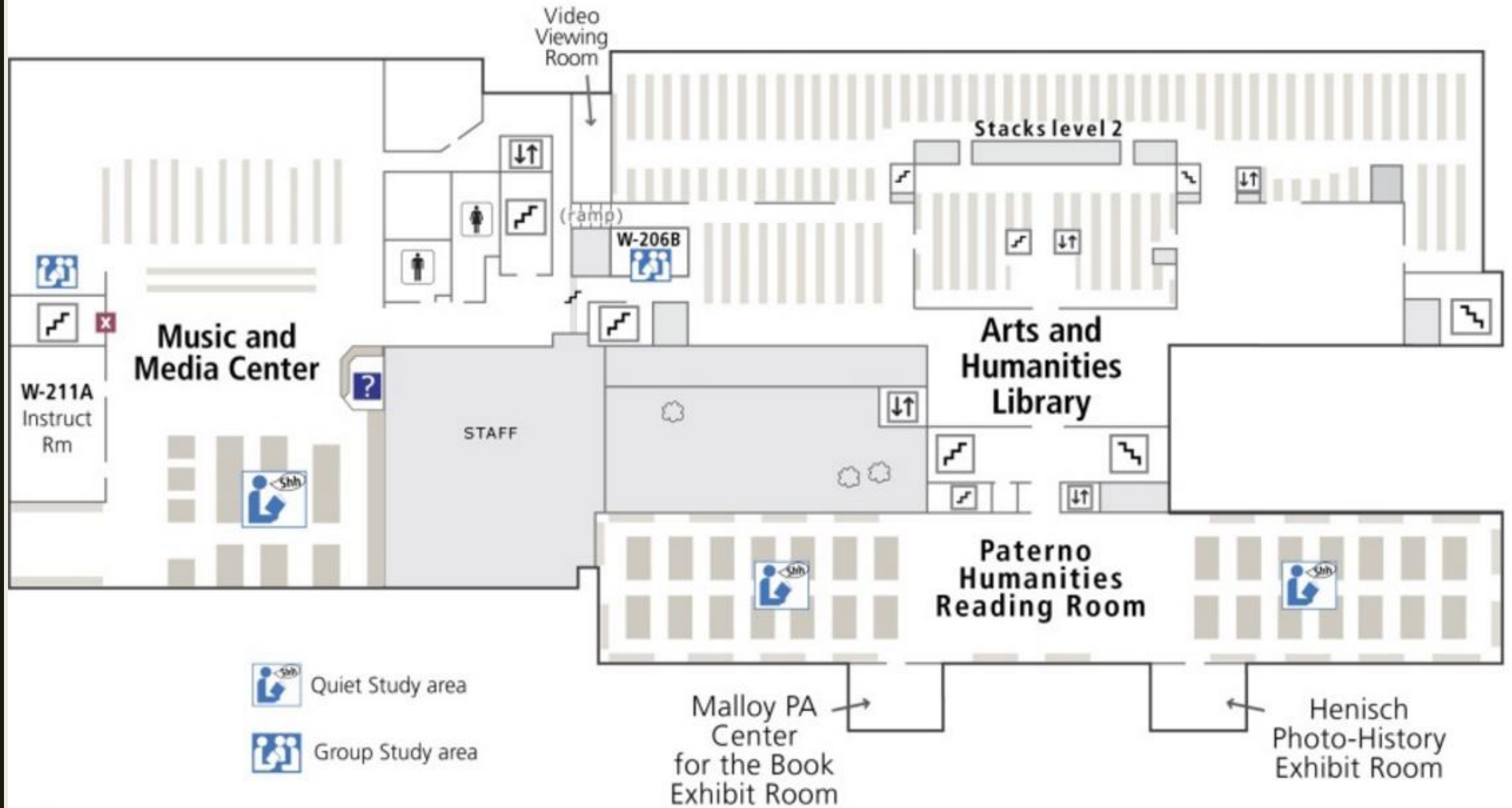See John Sweller's cognitive load theory

My story

Our students

Our role(s)

Our programs

PROJECT
Information Literacy

1. Average college library is 9 (print) and 19 (online) times larger than average HS library
2. 43% of freshmen had trouble tying together information they found
3. Most said that research competencies from HS were inadequate for college work
4. 29% of respondents indicated that the librarian and English instructor were most helpful in guiding them through college-level research

See *How freshmen conduct course research once they enter college.* 2013.

Beloit College

ACADEMICS   ADMISSIONS   ALUMNI   ATHLETICS   THE TERRARIUM   + MORE

DSET LIST

2018 LIST

BOOKS AND SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

FEEDBACK

PREVIOUS LISTS

FOR NEWS MEDIA

The 2018 List

2018 LIST

Students heading into their first year of college this year were generally born in 1996.

Among those who have never been alive in their lifetime are Tupac Shakur, JonBenet Ramsey, Carl Sagan, and Tiny Tim.

On Parents' Weekend, they may want to watch out in case Madonna shows up to see daughter Lourdes Maria Ciccone Leon or Sylvester Stallone comes to see daughter Sophia.

For students entering college this fall in the Class of 2018...

1. During their initial weeks of kindergarten, they were upset by endlessly repeated images of planes blasting into the World Trade Center.

2. Since they binge-watch their favorite TV shows, they might like to binge-watch the video portions of their courses too.

3. Meds have always been an option.

4. When they see wire-rimmed glasses, they think Harry Potter, not John Lennon.

5. "Press pound" on the phone is now translated as "hit hashtag."

6. Celebrity "selfies" are far cooler than autographs.

See the current Beloit Mindset list: https://www.beloit.edu/mindset/2019/

Students use a variety of sources to fund their first year of college.

$$$ **27%** Rely on Pell grants

52% Utilize merit-based grants or scholarships

54% Have taken out loans

65% Express concerns about financing their education

Students rely on multiple sources to supplement their learning...

17% Had special tutoring or remedial work in math

83% Learned something on their own via an online course

6% Participated in a summer bridge program

...And are open to additional support while in college.

+/− **28%** Anticipate needing tutoring or remedial work in math

48% Expect to seek personal counseling

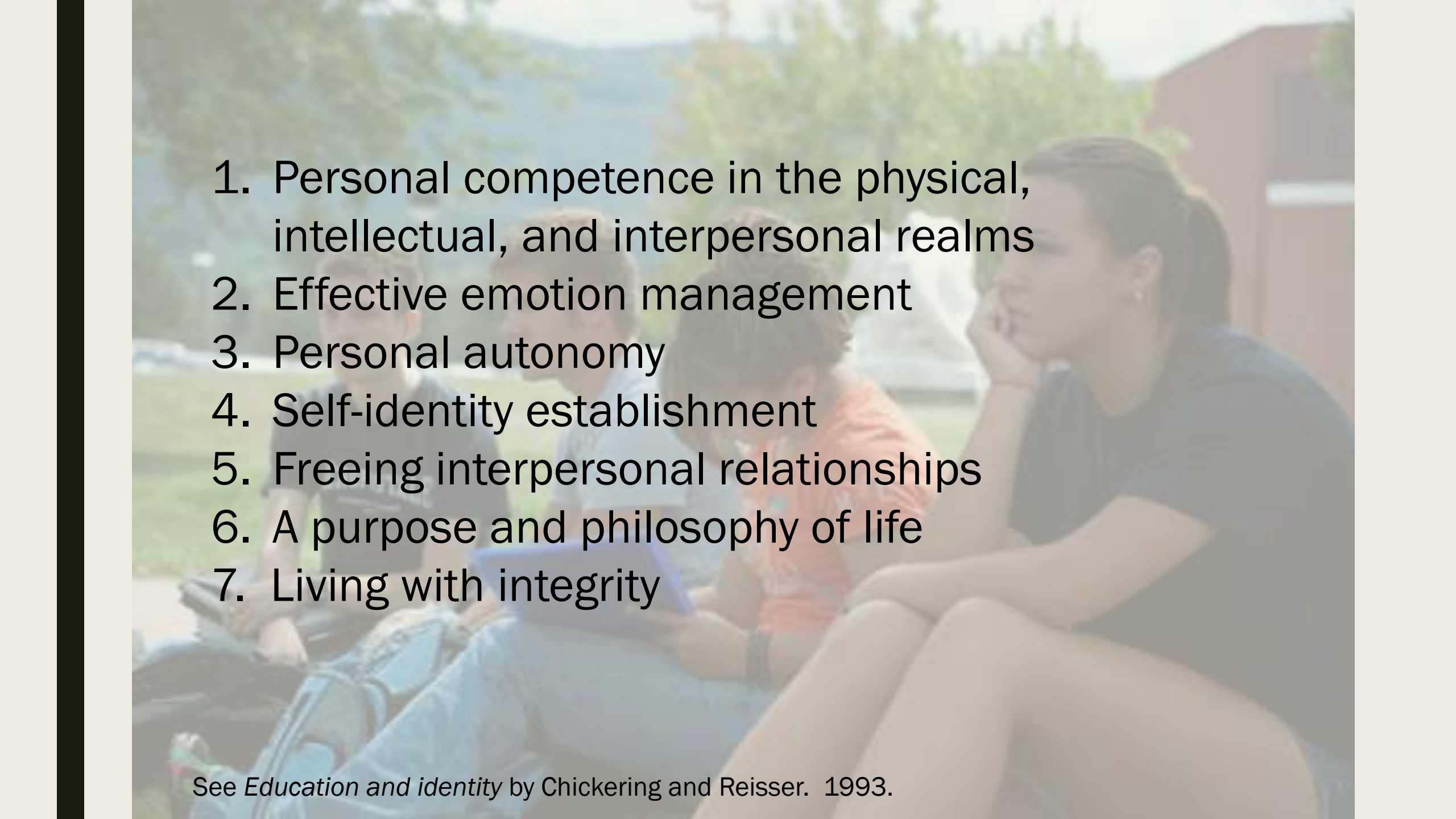See the *HERI CIRP Freshman Survey*: http://www.heri.ucla.edu/cirpoverview.php

Personal challenges

Intellectual challenges

Social challenges

See *The peer mentor companion* by Sanft, Jensen, and McMurray. 2008.

1. Personal competence in the physical, intellectual, and interpersonal realms
2. Effective emotion management
3. Personal autonomy
4. Self-identity establishment
5. Freeing interpersonal relationships
6. A purpose and philosophy of life
7. Living with integrity

See *Education and identity* by Chickering and Reisser. 1993.

In 2007, 38% of the more than 18 million college students in the US were older than 25.

- Multiple roles

- Flexible schedules

- Distance and web-based offerings

- Prior learning assessment

- Theories of adult learning

From a 2009 National Center for Education Statistics survey:
https://www.aacu.org/publications-research/periodicals/research-adult-learners-supporting-needs-student-population-no

Discussion!

Tell your group a story about a time you worked with a student in transition. What happened? How did you help the student connect the dots?

- My story

- Our students

- **Our role(s)**

- Our programs

Transition	What it means
Evolution of library instruction	Focus on concepts rather than tools and discrete skills
Evolution of information literacy	Framework expands the definition of information literacy to include dynamism, flexibility, individual growth, and community learning
Expectation of pedagogical expertise	Increased sophistication in approaches to teaching, learning, and assessment within the library setting
New avenues of collaboration and liaisonship	Formal relationships between the library and groups like student affairs and centers for teaching and learning, in addition to formal relationships with academic departments
Expansion of the librarian role and responsibilities	Into areas such as scholarly communication, copyright, open educational resources, and data management

"Teachers are faced with pressures for increased efficiency in the context of contracting budgets, demands that they rigorously "teach the basics," exhortations to encourage creativity, build citizenship, help students to examine their values."

See *The reflective practitioner: How professionals think in action* by Donald Schon. 1983.

CRISIS OF CONFIDENCE

Occurs when the following characteristics appear in a professional environment:

- Mismatch of traditional training, knowledge to current practice

- Complexity, uncertainty, instability

- Value conflict

- Competing images of the professional role

See *The reflective practitioner: How professionals think in action* by Donald Schon. 1983.

REFLECTIVE PRACTICE

Occurs when the following characteristics appear in a professional environment:

- Practitioner becomes a researcher into his own practice

- Recognition of error, with its resulting uncertainty

- Embracing uncertainty as a source of learning and discovery

- Making time for reflection

See *The reflective practitioner: How professionals think in action* by Donald Schon. 1983.

Discussion!

Tell your group a story about a time you experienced a professional crisis of confidence.   Were you able to overcome it? How?
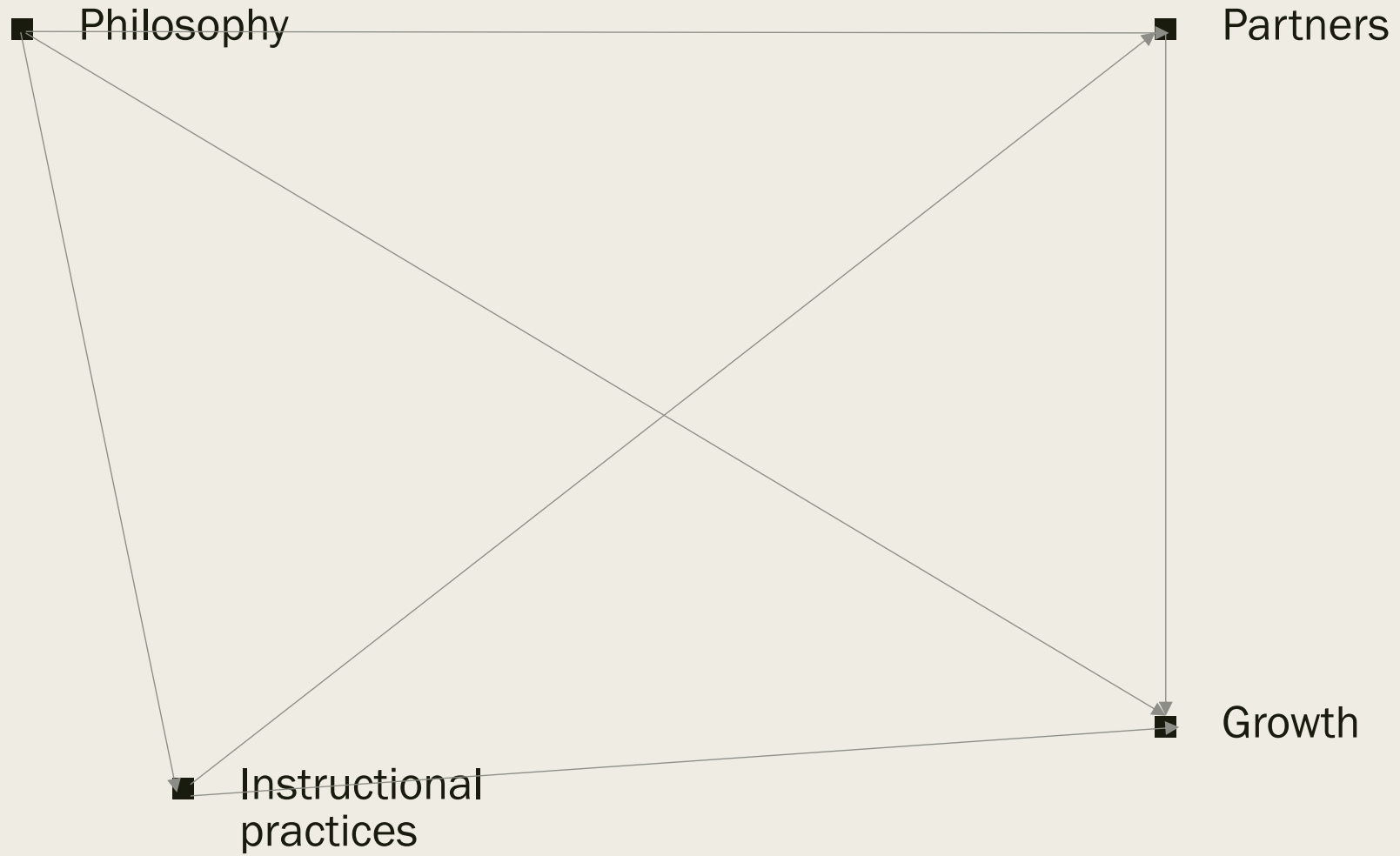
My story

Our students

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Philosophy

- We are student-centered, and should support students in the specific areas in which we know they are transitioning and growing

- We are leaders on campus in many areas, and need to be proactive about acknowledging and using our expertise

- We value continued growth of our instructors and our instruction program, but recognize that these need to grow in directions that make sense for our context, students, and institutional priorities

- We are strategic about selecting new directions and partnerships for our instruction program

Partners

- We seek partners and collaborators based on the scope and learning goals of the instruction program

- We are experts, and as such, we are full partners and sometimes the leading partner on projects and learning experiences

- We are also learners, so we acknowledge that we can learn from the partnerships in which we participate

- Partnerships are essential to integrating information literacy into the curricula and students' lives
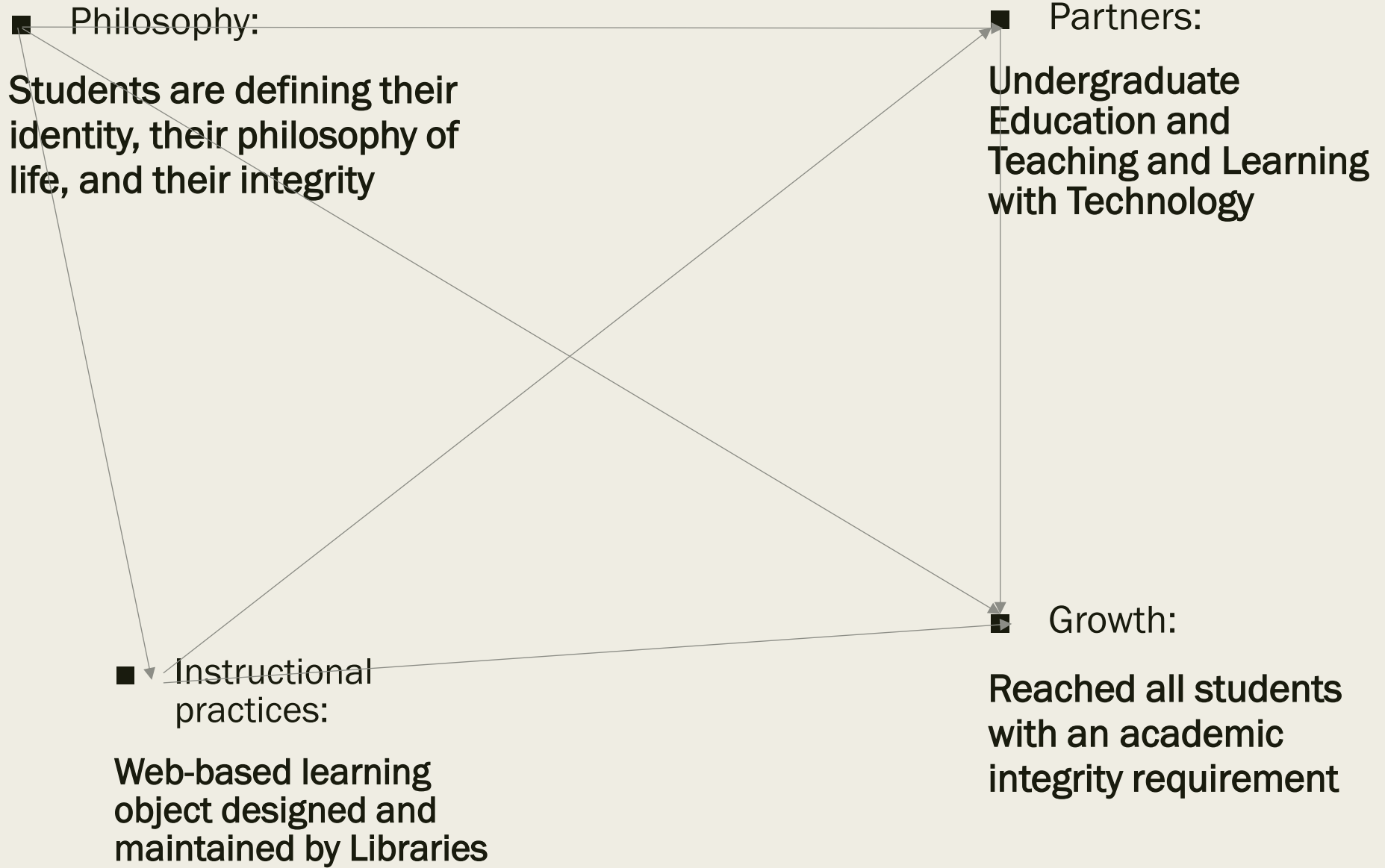
Instructional practices

- One-shot instruction sessions don't fully meet our need for integrative, sophisticated, and contextualized learning experiencs

- We need to develop a broad portfolio of instructional practices in order to enact our philosophy, work with partners, and grow our program

- Our broad portfolio will still rely on strong partnerships

- Portfolio options might include

– *Acting in a consulting role with faculty and other instructors*

– *Developing lesson plans and assignments that we don't deliver*

– *Creating web-based learning objects that can be used flexibly*

– *One-shots*

Growth

- Our instruction programs should grow, but not in all areas

- Our library instructors should grow, but not in all areas

- Both programs and instructors need to grow in strategic directions that make sense for an institution's context, priorities, and students

- Growth is hard, and instruction programs need to be safe places so library instructors can be reflective practitioners

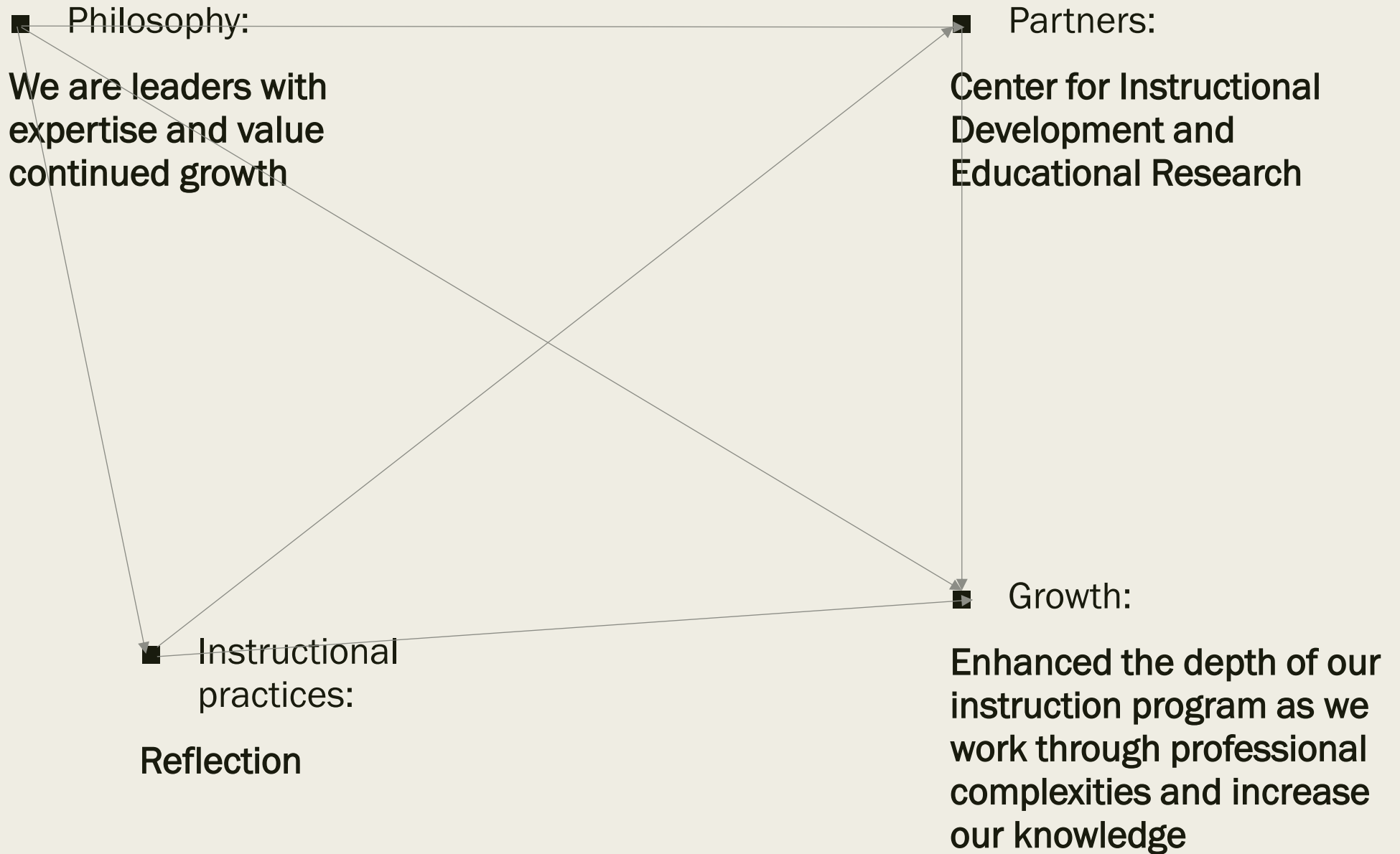- If we stop growing, and transitioning, it's all over

Example 1:

# Developing a campus-wide academic integrity tutorial at Penn State

Example 2:

Using a Community of Practice approach to grow the program at Virginia Tech

Philosophy:

We are leaders with expertise and value continued growth

Partners:

Center for Instructional Development and Educational Research

Instructional practices:

Reflection

Growth:

Enhanced the depth of our instruction program as we work through professional complexities and increase our knowledge

Discussion!

Tell your group one thing that you can do to help connect the dots in your instruction program when you get back to your library on Monday.
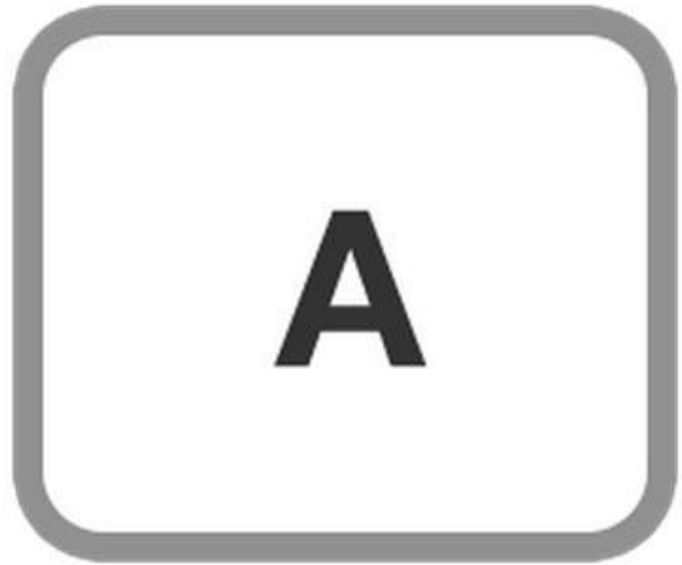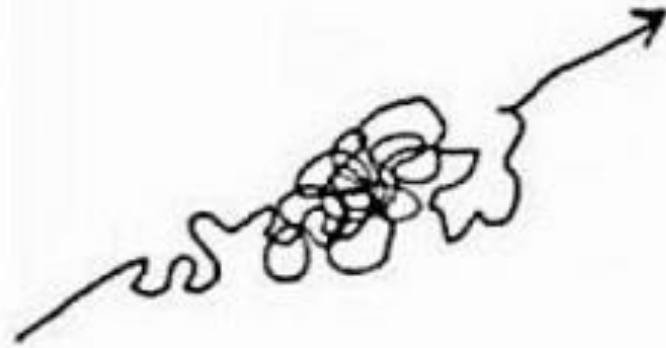
Success — what people think it looks like

Success — what it really looks like

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Image Credits

- New student challenges: http://www.rwth-aachen.de/cms/root/Studium/Im-Studium/~vcn/Erstsemestereinfuehrung/lidx/1/

- Education and identity: p://www.fe.psu.edu/Admissions/admitrequire.htm

- Many hats: http://selfstorageinsider.com/2014/07/30/wearing-many-hats-time-management/

- Demetri Martin success: http://www.swiss-miss.com/2013/03/success-4.html

- Thank you note: https://www.etsy.com/listing/47679612/connect-the-dots-thank-you-postcard