Z. Smith Reynolds Library has carved out a unique spot in American academia by its willingness and aptitude to serve Wake Forest University across a comprehensive array of offerings. While providing a rich collection of nearly 2 million volumes, ZSR is not defined solely by books. It is a place for study and services supporting research, writing and information literacy.

“ZSR is the physical building that keeps the dynamic culture at Wake Forest thriving. ZSR is the heart and soul of Wake Forest. I enjoy going there and studying because it makes me feel that I am a part of something greater than myself and committed to bettering myself and my community.”

— WILLIAM HARDY (’17)

Advancing Knowledge

ZSR impacts the lives and scholarship of all Wake Foresters by fostering the perpetual and joyful pursuit of knowledge. It does so by:

RUNNING one of the most robust for-credit elective library instruction curricula in the country. In these classes, students become familiar with the ZSR Library, its resources and academic research; learn how to evaluate information to determine its level of value and credibility; and address issues in information including copyright, plagiarism, impact of the Internet on our society and more.

SERVING as the home of The Writing Center, in which staffers help make students confident, critical readers of their own writing.

ASSIGNING librarians to a specific academic discipline. Librarians are embedded in classrooms at the invitation of faculty to provide students with research advice. This collaboration has grown 83 percent in the past four years, and it includes every academic discipline in Wake Forest College, the Graduate School, the School of Business and the School of Divinity.
Building Community

ZSR is not simply a facility; it is a facilitator. Specifically, it supports the campus community by hosting and organizing a variety of events that bring students, faculty and scholarship together to create a sense of belonging. They include:

**WAKE THE LIBRARY**, a well-known event that lasts through exam week and seeks to quell pre-final stress. Events in the past have included: midnight snacks, dance group performances, surprise ice cream handouts and therapy dogs.

**WRITERS CAMP**, a creative, overnight gathering of students who get a topic, write whatever comes to mind and turn in their work a few hours later. The result is a published collection of fiction, non-fiction, poetry, drama and whatever else brilliant, creative minds can conjure.

**SENIOR SHOWCASE**, a selective honor for soon-to-be graduates who present their best research to an intellectually curious audience. Over the past four years, the 17 recipients have represented 15 different majors. ZSR provides each student a monetary award in recognition of the scholar’s excellence.

**THE LIBRARY LECTURE SERIES**, in which speakers share their research, acknowledge and accentuate the current library collection, and bring together the many diverse points of view found in our community.

**THE DEAN’S LIST GALA**, which honors students who made the Dean’s List. The event is part of ZSR’s commitment to cultivate and recognize academic excellence.

“This course was extremely helpful in teaching me how to more effectively and efficiently approach research projects and make research decisions. I now feel much more equipped to tackle intense research projects because of my newfound knowledge of the extensive resources that Wake Forest and the ZSR Library provide.”

— BLAIR HUNTLEY (’20), STUDENT IN A FOR-CREDIT LIBRARY CLASS
Looking to the Future

ZSR is being transformed from a facility built in mid-1950s to a 21st-century academic powerhouse. Recent upgrades have delivered:

**New Classrooms** to meet the growing need for new library classes.

**A New Home** for The Teaching and Learning Collaborative, a resource center for Wake Forest faculty of all career stages and areas of scholarship.

**The Scholars Commons**, a renovated space with productive and ergonomic furniture with an electrical outlet at every seat.

**The Digital Scholarship Collaboration Suite**, supporting modes of humanities research through emerging and existing technologies and design thinking.

All told, these achievements and plans get at the heart of what a library is supposed to do — help students learn — but they do so in specific, dedicated, hands-on ways. ZSR creates opportunity, educates students and inspires further scholarship, making ZSR the first and favorite source for Wake Foresters in their quest for knowledge.
How You Can Help

ANNUAL ZSR LIBRARY SUPPORT: Gifts of any size further the mission of our campus’ greatest academic and intellectual hub. Giving Societies recognize Wake Forest’s most generous and loyal alumni, families and friends, all of whom are dedicated to the continued successes of Wake Forest. Membership in a Giving Society may be directed to the Wake Forest Fund for ZSR, which directly supports the ZSR Library at a general level and requires a five-year commitment.

NAMED CURRENT-USE OR ENDOWED FUNDS: These gifts, which require a commitment of $50,000 or more, can either enhance existing programs such as Wake The Library, Writers Camp and Senior Showcase, or help inspire and generate new, innovative offerings.

PLANNED GIVING: In addition to the impact you can have on Wake Forest by making gifts during your lifetime, you have the opportunity to leave a legacy for future generations through a bequest provision. From Wake Forest’s very beginning, bequests have always been critical to the fiscal welfare of the University. Many alumni and friends have chosen this personal way of being permanently identified with the ZSR library.

“To me, there was no better way to give back to the entire student body than to donate to ZSR. The library represents the vast knowledge available to members of the university community.”

— BRIAN SISKA (’78)
“The future of academic libraries rests with the services, programming and facilities we offer; but this future also depends on an investment in the people and spaces that provide and support these services and programs. Thanks to support from the ZSR Annual Fund, ZSR Library offers Wake Forest students and faculty the latest innovations in teaching and research. Your support will help ZSR continue to expand its impact on campus and in our community.”

— DEAN TIM PYATT