Highlights

3 No Masterpiece of Architectural Design

4 Filling in the Gaps
Digital Library Initiatives

8 Science Fiction Acquisitions

9 The History of UI Libraries

12 2004 Honor Roll

The pages of a book are held together by its binding.
Sewn together, one after another, each page adds to the book, creating a whole.

Bindings represents the continuing relationship between alumni and other supporters of the
University of Iowa Libraries, its students, and faculty.

Sesquicentennial Memories

I knew little about Iowa City when I arrived from New York City in 1973, bringing with me certain stereotypes about the Midwest. These were quickly dispelled, including the availability of a library comparable to the ones I depended on while attending the City University of New York. What a great collection of libraries we have at Iowa! — Ozzie F. Díaz-Duque, M.A. (1976), Ph.D. (1980) Romance Languages

Fortunately, I was able to do most of my assignments in the Classical Languages Library which was in Liberal Arts, adjacent to the Romance Languages Library. Here the stacks were open, tables were available, and the lighting was adequate. A graduate student was at the desk. I think he was paid ten cents an hour for assisting us. — Katheryn E. Marriott, B.A. (1936), M.A. (1940)

My association with the University of Iowa Libraries began with my obtaining a card to use the library more than half a century ago, when I was still a student at Iowa City High School. I had to get a letter from the high school librarian, presumably to assure the University librarian that I was a responsible boy who liked to read. — Laird Addis, Professor Emeritus, Philosophy

I remember browsing the stacks with a friend and discovering Flannery O’Connor’s thesis. We took it to special collections believing it too precious to be on the regular shelves. That’s how I met Frank Paluka. I later would study in Special Collections because it was a quiet and peaceful place. When I was through, if Mr. Paluka was around, we’d chat. He knew I was a writer, so he shared Laurence Housman’s letters to George Galloway as inspiration to me. I’ll never forget Frank Paluka for whetting my appetite about scholarly research. — Rochelle Lynn Holt, English/Writers’ Workshop (1970)
Preparing for our Sesquicentennial Celebration, I am reminded of the ways in which the careful decisions of those who came before us have shaped the University of Iowa Libraries.

For example, in the 1880s when Frederick Humphrey, the University’s first librarian, requested congressional approval to receive all federal documents published in Washington, he set the Libraries on the course to being designated as one of the earlier federal regional depository libraries, now one of only 53 in the country. Today our government publications librarians sponsor government information workshops and provide access to the countless government publications to people across the state of Iowa.

The hiring of Ralph Ellsworth re-energized the push for the construction of a library building, and finally in 1951, the new Main Library opened. Ellsworth’s vision for the library established a precedent for collaborative learning and research between librarians, faculty and students. This collaboration continues today in our strong library instructional program.

When the Libraries’ joined the Research Libraries Group (RLG) for cataloging support in 1979, automation was introduced. Leslie Dunlap, then Dean of Library Administration, made the critical decision that started the Libraries down the path of offering the services and resources online that our students and faculty enjoy today.

Under the leadership of my immediate predecessor, Sheila Creth, we created the first Information Arcade® in the country. Now such facilities are commonplace for all libraries. Similarly, she helped establish the Iowa Women’s Archives that has become an invaluable and heavily consulted resource in just thirteen years.

As the current University Librarian, it is both humbling and inspiring to consider how our current decisions will set in place the course of action for generations to come. As we shape the library of the next 150 years, I can only hope that our decisions today will continue a tradition that has been innovative and responsive to the needs of our campus community.

When the UI Libraries celebrates its 300th anniversary, I hope the University Librarian at that time will look back at our accomplishments as those that brought about equally important developments.
When visitors first come upon the Main Library at The University of Iowa, they don’t find a stately gothic building reminiscent of the European academic libraries. Instead they find a place where form was designed to follow function. Ralph Ellsworth, former Dean of Library Administration, once said of this library that it was “no masterpiece of architectural design.”

Historically, academic libraries had been monumental edifices that were esthetically beautiful but were not practical for the shelving and storage of books and did not provide comfortable reading spaces for users. The small, oddly shaped rooms in these libraries impeded the actual use of the space as a library.

After World War II, university education changed. The number of people going to college grew, faculty began using new teaching styles and students learned in different ways. Instead of simply memorizing facts from lectures and textbooks, students were encouraged to explore documents and read books of their own choosing. With these changes, the role of the library changed as well. The size and breadth of library book collections increased, and the need for study spaces grew.

The old-style libraries did not function as well as they had in the past. By the 1940s, libraries were moving into an age of modular design. This new style of design was marked by use of small, movable walls that could be rearranged into different configurations depending on user needs.

Ellsworth felt the library was the center of the university, and the students’ reading experience was directly related to the library space. As an undergraduate at Oberlin College, Ellsworth was very frustrated by the fact that he couldn’t get into the stacks. He felt his education was stymied because he couldn’t see all the materials the library had. By the time Ellsworth began working as a librarian, he was convinced that the stacks should be open to students in order to provide them with the best possible learning experience. When Ellsworth was the library director at the University of Colorado, he wanted to build a modular library, but the idea was quashed by the faculty and the administration. About this time The University of Iowa was planning to build a new library, and administrators thought Ellsworth would be the person to do it.

Ellsworth believed in the serendipitous nature of the learning process. It was important to him that students read widely. He felt that the physical location of students among the books aided their reading experience: browsing the shelves could lead readers from one book to another. He believed students needed unrestricted access to the books. Ellsworth described it as a “library,” modeling humanities research in the library on scientific research in the lab. He felt that this kind of learning could help create critical thinkers who could come up with ideas of their own and deal creatively with the problems of post-war America.

Controversy and Questions

As the planning of this new library was coming to fruition, people around the country thought Ellsworth’s building wouldn’t work. Many people at Iowa, however, were open to his ideas. In a letter to Ellsworth in 1948, President Virgil Hancher wrote, “We have an opportunity here at Iowa to determine the patterns which university library construction will follow for the next 50 or 100 years provided we are willing to rid our minds of the idea that university libraries should be like the public libraries that Andrew Carnegie dotted all over the countryside.”

When the library first opened, students used it solely as a study space, but eventually it became a social space as well. Students began using the library in a much less formal way than they had used the reading rooms of the thirties and forties. People were just flocking to the new library in droves. They seemed to be impressed with the “modern” library. Though the library was built smaller than originally planned, two major additions were constructed later when the University could better fund the projects.

The building of this library did spark a change in the way libraries were built around the country and even to some extent around the world.
Filling in the Gaps  Digital Library Initiatives

Paul Soderdahl, Coordinator, Digital Initiatives

Some say libraries are relics of the past and soon everything we need will be online. Others say they will never curl up in bed or lie on the beach with a good computer. So where does the library fit in this age of bits and bytes and books?

Do we follow the digital path, foregoing books, or do we continue stocking our bookshelves? As an academic research library, we can’t choose one path over the other because the needs of our users are too diverse. With that in mind the UI Libraries has undertaken a digital library initiative as a complement to our traditional collections and services. The truth is that curling up in bed or lazing on the beach is rarely where scholarly research takes place. While we may be a long way from a paperless office, we are not far from exclusively digital research of the literature across disciplines.

Digital libraries create new forms of access in several ways. First, they make materials available without physically requiring users to go to the library. While one obvious beneficiary is the student in a dorm room on a cold winter night, the real winners are scholars from around the world who wouldn’t otherwise have access to our unique resources, and scholars and students at UI who have access to digital libraries elsewhere. Second, in digital form, the full text of resources can be mined far more effectively. Because digital information requires little physical space and storage for digital information is becoming ever cheaper, digital libraries can provide access to resources that may have never made it into a traditional library.

Beyond Text

The UI Libraries’ digital library efforts, however, go far beyond text on paper and microfilm. Digital collections often include photographs, sound recordings (both music and spoken word), maps, historical documents, videos and sheet music. Of particular interest are those resources that document the history and cultural heritage of the University and the state of Iowa. The Calvin Photographic Collection in the Geoscience Department, for example, consists of more than 7,000 lantern slides from the 1880s through the 1920s. These photographs, produced by Samuel Calvin (professor of natural sciences) and his colleagues, document the Iowa geological landscape, as well as mines, quarries, mills and other buildings.

The John P. Vander Maas Railroadiana Collection, held in Special Collections, includes hundreds of images of locomotives and railroad depots across the country that, when digitized, will be a valuable resource for both railroad aficionados and scholars. These historical resources are not only part of the University’s digital library but also will be included in the Iowa Heritage Digital Collections, a statewide project documenting Iowa history and culture, containing collections from colleges and universities, public libraries, schools, historical societies, museums and archives.

Audio and video collections will be included as well, such as the University of Iowa Writers’ Workshop Audio Archive, a growing collection of audio recordings of public poetry and fiction readings sponsored by the Workshop. This audio archive is just one element of a more extensive writers’ archive being created under the leadership of the School of Library and Information Science.

Elusive Material

Our library houses more than 200,000 rare books, manuscript collections, and other historically valuable materials, primarily in the special collections department. Included in these archives are resources that no one else owns, and through local digitization efforts, we can make many of them available to the world. Other materials may not be rare but have local or regional interest and may not be on anyone else’s horizon. Take, for example, the Proceedings of the Iowa Academy of Science, dating back to 1875, or the archives of The Daily Iowan, published since 1901—both local resources of historical importance.

In addition to digitized materials from the Libraries’ collections, the digital library can hold individual collections that faculty have built for their own teaching and research. Richard Baker, professor emeritus of geoscience, has amassed a collection
of photographs of U.S. national parks. Professors in the School of Art and Art History have built a slide collection of more than 50,000 pieces of art used daily in art history classes. Both of these collections can find a home in a digital library.

The digital library, as part of a broader institutional repository of digital objects, can also be a place for elusive material that may have never made it into the print library—“grey literature” such as technical reports and working papers, data sets, preprints, materials supporting published research and so forth. Thus, the digital library is more than a digital representation of traditional library materials because it provides a mechanism for exposing resources that may otherwise be hidden or lost altogether.

**Born Digital**

Finally, the digital library provides a home for the preservation of and continued access to born-digital materials and can serve as the basis for the library’s support of local electronic publishing. Scholarly communication is changing. As academic libraries across the country continue to struggle with the increasing volume and cost of scholarly resources, scholars and librarians are working to provide alternatives to traditional publishing models. More than a dozen scholarly electronic journals emanate from The University of Iowa, and the digital library provides a home for these resources and an infrastructure to ensure their perpetual availability.

Clifford Lynch, executive director of the Coalition for Networked Information, writes that digital libraries offer “a relatively mature set of tools, engineering approaches, and technologies that are now ready to be harnessed.” By creating a new digital library services department, the UI Libraries is poised to offer these tools with their related services and support to the campus community and to begin to build the Iowa Digital Library.

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**Changing the Library Landscape**

*Chris Shaffer, Assistant Director, Hardin Library for the Health Sciences*

The internet search engine giant Google sent shockwaves through the library world last fall with the debut of Google Scholar and Google Print. These two projects could change the library landscape forever, bringing Google’s search engine and technological expertise to bear on the problem of linking scholars to academic resources in the electronic age.

Google’s single-box searching appeals to tech-savvy students and faculty. Through Google Scholar, users can search peer-reviewed papers, theses, books, preprints, abstracts and technical reports from broad areas of research. Google Print is working to digitize the book collections of several major research libraries and make this content searchable online.

Though the promise of these two projects is great, some significant obstacles stand in the way. Currently, the information in Google Scholar is not guaranteed to be up-to-date or complete. For example, one study showed that Google Scholar’s copy of medical literature from PubMed, the preeminent National Library of Medicine database, is only current through February of 2004. While Google Print’s goal is to build a searchable digital library, scanning book collections will take years. Copyright laws are another challenge for Google Print. Until a book moves into the public domain, copyright restrictions only allow a few lines of a searched book to be viewable to the user. In the meantime, some publishers are disputing Google’s right to digitize material still in copyright.

It will be several years before the effects of these Google projects are fully understood. Until then libraries around the country will seek to exploit the new services and resources offered by Google as they continue to develop their paper and digital collections.
Celebrating 150 Years
Connecting Users to the World of Ideas

To celebrate this anniversary, we invite students, faculty, staff and friends to join us at events planned throughout the fall. To learn more about events, check online at www.lib.uiowa.edu/sesqui.

Saturday, September 3
Library Awareness Day at Hawkeye Football

September – November
Beyond the Bun: A Look inside Librarian Culture Exhibit
North Exhibition Hall, Main Library
This exhibit explores the stereotype of the librarian and breaks down the myths.

September – October
Student Essay Contest
Students are invited to share how the UI Libraries has been a part of their college experience at The University of Iowa. The winner will be awarded a $200 gift certificate at the Campus Party.

September – December
Libraries’ Memory Site
UI alumni, faculty and students are invited to share their memories of the UI Libraries. To submit your memory and to read those of others, check online at www.lib.uiowa.edu/150/memories.

September – December
cARTalog Project
Before the card catalog was retired in January 2005, a team of library staff began pulling cards for this art project. For more information, check online at www.lib.uiowa.edu/pr/cartalog.

September 26 – October 10
1:30 – 3:30 p.m.
Branch Libraries Open Houses
Join staff in the Engineering, Chemistry, Business, Physics, Psychology, Biological Sciences, Geosciences, Hardin and Mathematics libraries to celebrate the Sesquicentennial.

October 27-30  8 p.m.
Librarian Film Series
Shambaugh Auditorium, Main Library
Over the past century, hundreds of films have depicted librarians in their stories. Our film series will showcase classic, comedy, action/adventure and drama. All screenings are free and open to the public.

November – February
Connecting You to a World of Ideas for 150 Years: The University of Iowa Libraries Exhibit
North Exhibition Hall, Main Library
This retrospective exhibit will highlight memorable moments in the UI Libraries history.

Thursday, November 3
1 – 4 p.m.
Campus Party
Main Library
UI faculty, staff, students and friends are invited to join Libraries’ staff for food, fun and festivities.

Thursday, November 3  7 p.m.
Sesquicentennial Celebration
Shambaugh Auditorium, Main Library
Speaker Dr. Mark Edmundson from the University of Virginia will talk about the role of liberal arts education in the university and where libraries fit. A video celebrating the Sesquicentennial will also be screened.
For the last 150 years, the University of Iowa Libraries has opened worlds of understanding for students, faculty and community members. Its holdings have allowed users to experience the past and envision the future.

We now are at a pivotal moment that can determine the direction of the UI Libraries’ future. During this our sesquicentennial year, we need loyal alumni and friends like you to generously support the Libraries, the cornerstone of our great University. Without the UI Libraries, this University would not be the outstanding teaching, research and service institution it is today.

Our Main Library, Hardin Library for the Health Sciences and ten branch libraries are what make such excellence possible. Not only do the Libraries play a central role in the University’s teaching and faculty research, but they also benefit every student on campus by providing additional educational opportunities. That’s why every student on campus needs your generous gift for the Libraries this year.

If your cumulative giving for the Libraries reaches $5,000 or more, we will—with your permission—include your name on a special plaque honoring you as a member of the Library Excellence Club. This plaque will hang in a centrally located space in the Main Library and will be updated annually. We hope to unveil the initial plaque during the Libraries’ sesquicentennial celebration in the fall of 2005.

In addition to celebrating the Libraries’ sesquicentennial year, we also are in the final year of the University’s comprehensive $1 billion fund-raising effort, Good. Better. Best. Iowa: The Campaign to Advance Our Great University. Your gift for the UI Libraries in 2005 will count toward this campaign—which is helping the UI transform students’ lives.

I would welcome the opportunity to talk with you further about how you can support the UI Libraries, and I also would be glad to discuss the many ways in which you can make a gift for the Libraries.

With help from generous contributors like you—this year and beyond—we at the UI Libraries and The University of Iowa can continue to celebrate the past while looking toward the best future possible.

For information about how to give to the UI Libraries, contact Chris at chris-collins@uiowa.edu or at 319-335-3305 or 800-648-6973. To make a gift for the Libraries online, go to www.uifoundation.org/libraries.

Transforming the Future

Chris Collins, Associate Director of Gift Planning and Libraries Liaison, University of Iowa Foundation
Thanks to an eBay-shopping English professor, the University of Iowa acquired more than 250,000 science fiction fanzines and almost overnight increased its stature as a prominent science fiction research center.

The collection was assembled by Martin M. (Mike) Horvat of Stayton, Oregon, a longtime science fiction fan and collector of fanzines, or zines. Rob Latham, a UI professor of English and American Studies who researches science fiction literature and its fan base, said the collection is one of the most impressive he's ever seen, with titles from the U.S., Canada, Britain and Australia.

“It includes substantial runs of all major and many minor fanzines from the 1960s to the 1990s,” said Latham, who is also an editor of the journal Science Fiction Studies. “It even has legendary and relatively rare zines from the 1940s and 1950s, such as Bob Tucker’s Le Zombie and Robert Silverberg’s Starship, which are significant names in science fiction history. We also found such British, Canadian and Australian zines as Pete Weston’s Zenith/Speculation and John Bangsund’s SF Commentary.”

Zines are small-circulation publications that are made by nonprofessional publishers for a small audience of devoted science fiction fans. Zines occasionally feature fan fiction but mostly contain commentary and analysis written by fans and letters written by the science fiction authors themselves. While the increased use of desktop publishing technology gives many recent zines a professional look, many of the earlier zines in Horvat’s collection are typed, mimeographed, and bound with staples.

Latham said the archive rivals the Bruce Pelz and Terry Carr collections, both housed in the J. Lloyd Eaton Collection of the University of California at Riverside, and makes the University of Iowa a major player in science fiction research.

“It’s an extraordinary collection and a significant contribution to the resources available in our library,” said Sid Huttner, head of Special Collections. “We’ve long collected the scholarly literature related to science fiction. As a result of this acquisition, however, we now have the largest collection of science fiction fanzines in the Midwest and one of the largest that exists anywhere.” Huttner and Latham worked with Brooks Landon, professor of English, to bring the collection to the University.

It would never have happened though, if a former student of Latham’s, Greg Beatty, a UI alumnus who graduated in 2000, had not stumbled across a listing showing the collection for sale while looking at online auction houses one night. Knowing how valuable the collection would be, he immediately emailed Latham.

“Mr. Horvat put his collection up for sale on eBay because the rented building he stored it in had been sold and the new owner was going to demolish the building,” Latham said. “The local fire department was going to burn it down to practice fighting fires, so if he couldn’t give or sell his collection to someone, it would probably have been burned with the building.”

No one had upped Horvat’s initial asking bid of only $5,000 when Latham first saw it, but the way that online auctions work, prices tend to skyrocket during the final minutes of bidding, he said.

“As thorough and as valuable as this collection was, we knew there would be a high demand and the final sale price could easily shoot well out of our price range,” Latham said.

So Latham persuaded Horvat to remove the collection from eBay and instead let the university take possession of it as a scholarly resource.

“It wasn’t too difficult to persuade him because he preferred to keep the collection intact,” Latham said. “The fact it would be available to the public and provide an important resource for academic research also appealed to him.”

“One portion of the collection—issues of about 3,000 titles—came very well organized in file cases,” said Huttner. “We have prepared a list of those titles that is already available on the Web.” The link is on the Libraries’ Special Collections home page at www.lib.uiowa.edu/spec-coll.

Latham said Horvat founded the American Private Press Association and, during the 1970s and 1980s, published South of the Moon, a catalog of publications of amateur press associations. As
a result, the Horvat Collection houses a vast archive of zines such as NAPA, the long-running zine of the National Fantasy Fan Federation. The correspondence of fan editors Gertrude Carr and Richard Geis are also part of the collection.

“When it is fully available to scholars, the Horvat Collection will provide an invaluable resource for research into the history of modern science fiction and the formation of fan communities,” said Latham. “We are deeply indebted to Mr. Horvat for providing us with this superb archive.”

Mr. Levey Comes From Washington

When former Washington Post columnist Bob Levey stepped to the podium at the 41st annual Spring Friends of the University Libraries event in March, he pronounced, “She’s running. It doesn’t matter that she denies it. She’s definitely running.” So began our look into the political scene in the nation’s capital.

Nearly 150 new and old Friends of the Libraries came to hear Levey describe the inner workings of Washington, D.C., a city he has reported on for more than 20 years. The lecture was followed by a dessert reception where guests were able to question Mr. Levey about his experiences.

Changing Book Conference

Nearly 200 librarians, book artists, conservators, printers and bibliophiles from across the country descended on Iowa City at the end of July to discuss the role of the book in the age of new media. Friday afternoon conference-goers mingled with Iowa City residents at the outdoor Tent Show on the Oakdale campus. With hands-on book demonstrations, papermaking facility tours and live music, the Changing Book conference got off to a great start. That evening Mary Lynn Ritzenthaler, Chief of the Documents Conservation Laboratory at the National Archives and Records Administration gave the keynote address, which was followed by a reception and showing of the exhibit, Bookbinding Across Time and Culture. Attendees were also treated to an incredible exhibit of former UI Conservator Bill Anthony’s fine binding at the UI Museum of Art. A beautiful catalog of the UIMA exhibit is available for purchase. The conference concluded on Sunday with an Iowa-style picnic. For more information, contact Nancy E. Kraft, head of preservation at 319-335-5286.
In February 1847, just 59 days after Iowa was proclaimed a state, the First General Assembly passed legislation establishing The University of Iowa. In November of 1855, two boxes containing approximately 50 books were sent from New York by Amos Dean, the newly appointed but in absentia president of the University. These volumes, purchased for $106, were destined to be the first installment for a university library. Their general appearance failed to stimulate sufficient interest to fully unpack and shelve them. The boxes were labeled the “Dean Library” and stored in a four-foot square room.

By 1870 the collection held 2,560 volumes including a backlog of approximately 500 uncataloged congressional and other public documents. The appointment of Amos Currier, professor of Latin, as librarian in 1868 significantly enhanced the future development of the library. Currier implemented collection development policies that supported the purchase of contemporary works rather than “nothing but text learning.” During his tenure, the library was moved to more spacious quarters, the collection grew to 12,000 volumes, and service hours increased from one to six hours per day. His continuing requests for the appointment of a full-time librarian went unanswered until 1879, when Ada North, a professional librarian, was given complete and sole charge of the library.

During her eleven-year term of office, North introduced the first card catalog (1881), instituted use of the Dewey Decimal classification system, and completely reclassified the entire collection.

Fire
In 1882, the growing library was moved to the second floor of North Hall despite repeated warning that the building was unsafe. In the early morning hours of June 19, 1897, lightning struck North Hall, and the ensuing flames traveled throughout the building. Barely an hour after the fire started, the second assistant librarian, Mary Barrett, and three volunteer firemen entered the inferno to save as much as possible. The loss to the library and its contents, estimated at $100,000, was devastating—25,000 volumes, 15,000 pamphlets and the 40,000 cards in the catalog were lost.

The New Century
By the turn of the century and soon after the library moved back to North Hall, the campaign for a separate library building resumed. It soon became necessary to move the library to larger quarters, first to the new Hall of Liberal Arts (Schaeffer Hall) and later to the Hall of Natural Science (Macbride Hall). Because space to house the growing collection remained a significant issue, departmental libraries proliferated, at one time totaling 21 separate collections. In 1941 Ralph Ellsworth accepted appointment as director of the library with the assurance that a new building would be actualized.

Known for his imaginative ideas and talents, especially in library construction, Ellsworth envisioned a structure that would integrate library facilities with educational programs. Modeled after the scientific laboratories, the library would bring together student, faculty and resources into a partnership.

From the beginning, obstacles impeded Ellsworth’s designs. When the building opened in 1951, lack of space hampered Ellsworth’s blueprint to integrate academic departments into the new building, and his concept of professor-librarian partnerships working in the library-laboratory was not supported by the liberal arts faculty.

As a “library statesman,” not a technician, Ellsworth needed someone to manage day-to-day activities. In June 1953, he recruited Dale M. Bentz as associate director. On Ellsworth’s resignation, Bentz was a finalist for the directorship. However, Leslie W. Dunlap was appointed to the position in 1958.

As with other research libraries across the nation, the UI Libraries experienced an upsurge of growth during the 1960s and 1970s. During this period the book collections grew to more than 2,350,000 volumes. By the end of the 1970s, funding became less plentiful. Inflation rendered materials budgets inadequate, the pace of acquisitions slowed and successive serial cancellation projects began. The already understaffed library lost 17 full-time positions.

In December 1981, Dunlap retired after 23 years with the University, and Dale
Bentz became the University Librarian. Bentz retired in August 1986, having given 33 years of service to the University. After a national search, Sheila D. Creth was appointed University Librarian in January 1987.

Inadequate allocations for both material and human resources continued to plague the Libraries, but with innovation and foresight Creth was able to move the Libraries into the electronic age without abandoning traditional services and goals and was able to increase its visibility both on the campus and nationally.

One such project was the development of the Information Arcade in January 1992. Established with a grant of $752,432 from the Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust of Muscatine, this award-winning resource includes a fully networked classroom with state-of-the-art projection and sound equipment and additional workstations supporting a wide range of information applications of multimedia materials.

In December 1999 Sheila Creth resigned. After a national search, Nancy L. Baker arrived from Washington State University in August 2000. In a break with longstanding tradition, an amenity was added when a coffee shop serving cold food, the Food for Thought Café, opened in 2001. It quickly became extremely popular.

In Iowa as in many states, declining revenues in and after 2001 forced sharp and repeated budget cuts through 2004-05. Fortunately, the University held firm to a policy of not cutting acquisitions funds. The Libraries celebrated acquisition of its four millionth volume in 2002.

**Rare Book, Manuscript, and Archival Collections**

In 1964, the Friends of the University of Iowa Libraries was organized to aid in the development of rare book and manuscript collections. Today, rare book collections exceed 200,000 volumes including selected modern first editions.

Two prominent Des Moines women conceived the idea of a repository that would document Iowa women’s history and serve as a resource for researchers. In 1992 the eponymous Louise Noun-Mary Louise Smith Iowa Women’s Archives was born.

**The New Millennium**

The start of a new century found the University of Iowa Libraries on the brink of a new era as the University’s five-year, $1 billion dollar, comprehensive campaign, “Good. Better. Best. Iowa!” included a $12 million goal for the Libraries. This funding will allow the Libraries to continue its tradition of excellence for the next 150 years.

*(right) An old running track encircles the reading room in the Old Armory Reserve where students gather to read newspapers, meet with friends and check out materials in the late 1930s.*
2004

Honor Roll
University of Iowa Libraries

This honor roll gratefully recognizes alumni, faculty, and friends who contributed $100 or more to the University of Iowa Libraries through the UI Foundation from January 1, 2004, through December 31, 2004.

The UI Libraries appreciates all its contributors, whose generosity helps ensure that Libraries resources distinguish The University of Iowa and the educational opportunities it provides.

“...the health of our civilization, the depth of our awareness about the underpinnings of our culture and our concern for the future can all be tested by how well we support our libraries.”

– Carl Sagan

Library Excellence Club
($5,000 or more)
Albers, Henry H., Cedar Rapids, Iowa
Albers, Marjorie G., Cedar Rapids, Iowa
Burkhalter, Edward L., Cherokee, Iowa
Burkhalter, JoAnne J., Cherokee, Iowa
Burnett, LuVella C., Primghar, Iowa
de Saint Victor, Carol, Iowa City, Iowa
Gerber, John C., Estate, Iowa City, Iowa
Gorshe, Betty Koop, Estate, Davenport, Iowa
Horvat, Martin M., Stayton, Ore.
Horvat, Susan R., Stayton, Ore.
Martin, Alfred S., Estate, Bonita Springs, Fla.
Mason, Rehta Jane, Iowa City, Iowa
Olson, Robert A., Estate, Kansas City, Mo.
Rackstraw, Loree W., Cedar Falls, Iowa
Spencer, Kappie, Sarasota, Fla.
Spriestersbach, D. C., Iowa City, Iowa
Turner, Charles, Stayton, Ore.
Turner, Jennifer, Stayton, Ore.
Voxman, Himie, Iowa City, Iowa
Wampler, Carol, Waldport, Ore.
Wampler, James E., Waldport, Ore.

University Librarian’s Club
($1,000 through $4,999)
Baker, James M., Iowa City, Iowa
Baker, Nancy L., Iowa City, Iowa
Becker, Samuel M., Iowa City, Iowa
Bentz, Dale M., Iowa City, Iowa
Bentz, Mary Gail, Iowa City, Iowa
Bliesener, Dorothy M., Burlington, Iowa

Fellow ($500 through $999)
Aldrich, Lois G., Concord, Mass.
Antrim, M. Sunday, Solon, Iowa
Barcelo, Nancy “Rusty”, Seattle, Wash.
Born, Douglas E., Indianapolis, Ind.
Born, Meg V., Indianapolis, Ind.
Briggs, Lois E., Seal Beach, Calif.
Briggs, Roderick E., Seal Beach, Calif.
Canter, Arthur, Iowa City, Iowa
Canter, Miriam R., Iowa City, Iowa
Clark, David G., Bellvue, Colo.
Claussen, Margaret M., Iowa City, Iowa
Clifton, James A., Iowa City, Iowa
Clifton, Katherine Rathe, Iowa City, Iowa

Peterson, Gary M., Washington, D.C.
Peterson, Trudy Huskamp, Washington, D.C.
Pinkerton, Don M., Burbank, Calif.
Pinkerton, Jane Mackey, Burbank, Calif.
Rolling, Daniel A., Summit, N.J.
Rolling, Sharon Voshell, Summit, N.J.
Strauss, John S., Iowa City, Iowa
Strauss, Susan T., Iowa City, Iowa
Swenson, Charles A., North Liberty, Iowa
Swenson, Joanne M., North Liberty, Iowa
Thompson, Harold Lincoln, Estate, Los Angeles, Calif.
Thompson, Sara L., Estate, Los Angeles, Calif.
Tinker, Sharon K., Houston, Texas
Libraries Staff Engaged

Last fall, President Skorton designated this academic year as the Year of Public Engagement. He believes that if we are to progress as a public institution, The University of Iowa must also enhance its contributions and service to the state, the nation and the world. In other words, we must become an “engaged” university. We must think of service as a covenant with the state that created us and the citizens who support us. But engagement goes beyond mindful awareness. We must also consult and collaborate with our public to assess and address their needs.

Libraries’ staff are no strangers to volunteerism. Whether they are leading the board of the Shelter House, organizing a radiothon to raise money for cancer research, coaching a youth soccer team or simply serving food for the free lunch program, library staff are making the significant contribution of their time to the community.

Brenda Conry, a library assistant in Complex Cataloging, volunteers on a building project in Brazil.
Pat Collins, Mary and Max Allen Collins welcome Dick Tracy Herky to Muscatine.

Herky’s New Home

UI Libraries’ Dick Tracy Herky has found his new home with Max Allan Collins in Muscatine. Collins, a graduate of the Writers’ Workshop, took over the Dick Tracy comic strip from creator Charles Gould in 1977 and wrote it until 1993. In 1996, Collins donated his papers that document his career as an author, filmmaker and comic strip writer to the UI Libraries. An avid Hawkeye fan, Collins was pleased that Dick Tracy Herky would come to roost under his roof.

Boyd, Susan K., Iowa City, Iowa
Boyd, Willard L., Iowa City, Iowa
Bozeman, Hannelore L., Iowa City, Iowa
Bozeman, Theodore Dwight, Iowa City, Iowa
Brandt, Lowell D., Iowa City, Iowa
Brandt, Paula O., Iowa City, Iowa
Brayton, Gretchen Hauth, Sumner, Iowa
Breuer, Richard E., Columbus, Neb.
Brody, Jill M., Macomb, Ill.
Brower, Stacy K., Shawnee, Kan.
Brown, Joseph E., Sr., Austin, Minn.
Brown, Robin K., Austin, Minn.
Brown, Shirley A., Sergeant Bluff, Iowa
Brown, Terry M., Sergeant Bluff, Iowa
Bucher, David K., Golden Valley, Minn.
Buckley, Barbara Kent, Iowa City, Iowa
Buckley, Charles A., Iowa City, Iowa
Buckman, Paula K. Carr, Morning Sun, Iowa
Buresh, Andy M., Marietta, Ga.
Burke, John C., Cedar Rapids, Iowa
Burns, Elizabeth A., Grand Forks, N.D.
Bywater, Janet McNeill, Iowa City, Iowa
Calhoun, J. Bryant, Hillsborough, Calif.
Candee, Sherry D., Waterloo, Iowa
Cantor, Marjorie M., Iowa City, Iowa
Carillo, Ann Slifer, Long Beach, Calif.
Carillo, James F., Long Beach, Calif.
Carrier, Roberta S., Madison, Wis.
Cech, Annette M., Des Moines, Iowa
Cech, Robert F., Des Moines, Iowa
Chambers, Kenneth L., Durham, N.C.
Chang, Lung H., Alhambra, Calif.
Chapin, Michael W., St. Paul, Minn.
Chen, Huaxiong, The Woodlands, Texas
Chen, Qijun, The Woodlands, Texas
Christenson, Ann Fellows, St. Peter, Minn.
Christenson, John D., St. Peter, Minn.
Clark, Lewis W., Rustin, Fla.
Clark, Sarah J., San Francisco, Calif.
Clarke, Sylvia J., Riverside, Calif.
Clarke, Wil, Riverside, Calif.
Clausius, Paul, Fontana, Wis.
Clouse, Rebecca L., Iowa City, Iowa
Cobb, Lynne S., St. George, Utah
Cobb, William B., St. George, Utah
Coe, Jodie H. Harper, Carmel, Ind.
Cole, Nancy, Tampa, Fla.
Collins, Chris, Coralville, Iowa
Collins, Tracy L., Coralville, Iowa
Comstock, Laurie E., Iowa City, Iowa
Conger, James F., Iowa City, Iowa
Conger, Sydny M., Iowa City, Iowa
Conner, Harry F., Iowa City, Iowa
Cook, Kyran J., Iowa City, Iowa
Cooney, Brian J., Des Moines, Iowa
Cooper, Bill J., Golden Valley, Minn.
Coquillette, Calvin W., Coralville, Iowa
Coren, Martha L., State College, Pa.
Corry, Linda S., Denver, Colo.
Corry, Linda S., Denver, Colo.
Curtis, Richard M., Saint Louis, Mo.
Curry, David S., Iowa City, Iowa
Cutright, James R., Carmichael, Calif.
Cutright, Shirley Ann, Carmichael, Calif.
Cutter, Charles D., Iowa City, Iowa
Daniels, Anita J., Storm Lake, Iowa
Daniels, Timothy K., Storm Lake, Iowa
Darland, George W., Jr., Hager City, Wis.
Darland, Mary E., Hager City, Wis.
Davis, Joel S., Sun City West, Ariz.
Davis, Sandra P., Broomfield, Colo.
Davis, William H., Broomfield, Colo.
Davis, Wilson L., Jr., Ely, Iowa
Day, Kenneth L., Wausau, Wis.
Deadman, Diana Siegel, Bronx, N.Y.
Deadman, Robert M., Bronx, N.Y.
Dean, Joan W., Bourbonnais, Ill.
Dean, William W., Bourbonnais, Ill.
Deans, Jaye J., Suwanee, Ga.
Deans, Michael, Suwanee, Ga.
Deftos, L. J., La Jolla, Calif.
DeKock, Nita L., Muscatine, Iowa
DeKock, Robert H., Muscatine, Iowa
Determan, David G., Fort Scott, Kan.
Devine, Arthur William, Jr., Cedar Rapids, Iowa
Devine, Patricia L., Cedar Rapids, Iowa
Dickinson, David W., Morton, Ill.
Dickinson, Marvin A., Morton, Ill.
Dieckmann, Betty Jane, Macon, N.C.
Dieckmann, Merwin R., Macon, N.C.
Dierks, David R. S., Iowa City, Iowa
Dierks, Sally B., Iowa City, Iowa
Discher, Barbara A., West Des Moines, Iowa
Doherty, Kevin G., Iowa City, Iowa
Domer, Floyd R., Boone, N.C.
Domer, Judith E., Boone, N.C.
Dooley, Jean H., Charlotteville, Va.
Dooley, Michael P., Charlotteville, Va.
Doorenbos, Judith G., Iowa City, Iowa
Doyle, John R., Iowa City, Iowa
Drayton, Derek S., Cedar Rapids, Iowa
Drown, Stu, Iowa City, Iowa
Duane, Julia M., Bedminster, Pa.
Du Mond, Barbara J. H., San Mateo, Calif.
Du Mond, Charles E., San Mateo, Calif.
Dyer, Carolyn Stewart, Iowa City, Iowa
Earles, Gerry L., Allentown, Pa.
Ebel, Sara C., Springfield, Va.
Edwards, Bonnie A., Rochester, Minn.
Efrer, Daniel E., River Forest, Ill.
Ehredt, Charles A., Chicago, Ill.
Ehrenhaft, J. L., Iowa City, Iowa
Combining Resources, Increasing Access

At the end of the spring semester, the Government Publications Department merged with Reference and Library Instruction. While the bulk of the government publications collection will remain on the third floor, government documents librarians have relocated to the first floor reference area.

“The consolidation of reference and information services will improve access to government information,” said Nan Seamans, Director of Research and Instructional Services, “and make available more professionally trained librarians in a single location to strengthen services for both general reference and government information.”
The Arcade, a learning resources center, will undergo changes that will provide a flexible teaching environment. The $1.36-million project is expected to begin in 2006. The changes will allow the Arcade to expand the existing room. The Arcade classroom alone has hosted more than 1,200 class sessions and taught 630,000 students and faculty since it opened in 1992.

The new classroom will explore the use of wireless technology and provide a more flexible teaching environment. The project will also divide much of the existing space into workstations that allow for more collaborative learning and interaction between students and faculty members. The changes will allow the Arcade to provide learning resources across the curriculum, including science, the arts, and humanities and the social sciences.

Arcade Receives Carver Grant

A $236,000 grant from the Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust of Muscatine will help expand and renovate the Main Library’s innovative Information Arcade. Construction on the two-year, $1.36-million project is expected to begin in 2006.

The project will expand the Arcade by adding a second electronic classroom and faculty room to alleviate pressure on the existing room. The Arcade classroom has hosted more than 1,200 class sessions and taught 630,000 students and faculty since it opened in 1992.

The new classroom will explore the use of wireless technology and provide a more flexible teaching environment. The project will also divide much of the existing space into workstations that allow for more collaborative learning and interaction between students and faculty members. The changes will allow the Arcade to provide learning resources across the curriculum, including science, the arts, and humanities and the social sciences.
Lewis, Molly, Pacific Grove, Calif.
Liaboe, Mark, Dubuque, Iowa
Licht, David R., Cokato, Minn.
Licht, Ruth Ann, Cokato, Minn.
Lichty, Jacqueline Allen, Wauwatosa, Wis.
Lichty, James E., Wauwatosa, Wis.
Lind, Deborah A. Weaver, Pasadena, Texas
Lind, Walt, Houston, Texas
Lindholm, Claire V., Spirit Lake, Iowa
Lindholm, Joan G., Spirit Lake, Iowa
Lingo, Ann W. H., Hiawatha, Iowa
Lingo, Charles C., Sr., Hiawatha, Iowa
Little, Kathryn F., Lakewood, Colo.
Liu, Hsin-Han, Simi Valley, Calif.
Loes, Daniel J., Minneapolis, Minn.
Logan, LaVerne K., Blue Grass, Iowa
Logan, Mary, Blue Grass, Iowa
Lombard, Julie E., Freeport, Maine
Lombard, Kenneth A., Freeport, Maine
Lones, Gregory S., Dallas, Texas
Lookingbill, Colleen J., San Francisco, Calif.
Lopes, Lola, Iowa City, Iowa
Lovelace, Richard D., Bradenton, Fla.
Ludescher, Richard D., Somerset, N.J.
Ludvigson, Greg A., Iowa City, Iowa
Lukan, Sara A., West Des Moines, Iowa
Lundegren, Herberta M., State College, Pa.
Lyon, Rita H., Avon Lake, Ohio
Malicki, Greg H., Byron, Ill.
Mana, Keo, Honolulu, Hawaii
Mangler, David C., Lewes, Del.
Mann, Susan Peterson, Scottsdale, Ariz.
Marino, Lucia A., Iowa City, Iowa
Markov, Lisa L., Somerset, N.J.
Marks, Kenneth, Los Angeles, Calif.
Marriott, Kathryn E., Goleta, Calif.
Martin, Diane L., Iowa City, Iowa
Martin, Emily J., Iowa City, Iowa
Martin, J. David, Iowa City, Iowa
Martin, Rebecca E., Ossining, N.Y.
Mason, Karen M., Iowa City, Iowa
Mather, Donald R., Overland Park, Kan.
Matheson, Carol L., Iowa City, Iowa
Matheson, Lloyd E., Jr., Iowa City, Iowa
Mathiassen, Donald “Si”, Harlan, Iowa
Mathiassen, Jane O., Harlan, Iowa
Matsch, Margaret L., Burlington, Iowa
Matsch, Robert C., Burlington, Iowa
Mayer, Barbara S., Burnsville, Minn.
McCarthy, Karen V., Dubuque, Iowa
McCARTHY, David F., Iowa City, Iowa
McClenahan, Carol Ann, Dubuque, Iowa
McClenahan, Mervin Lee, Dubuque, Iowa
McCintock, Eugene L., Dawson, Iowa
McCloskey, Deirdre N., Chicago, Ill.
McCullough, Delores A. O’Dell, Rock Island, Ill.
McCullough, Margaret Kampmeier, West Des Moines, Iowa
McCullough, Ray Douglas, Rock Island, Ill.
McCown, Robert A., Iowa City, Iowa
McDonald, James L., Iowa City, Iowa
McDonald, Margaret E., Iowa City, Iowa
McGee, Eugenia Twitty, Coralville, Iowa
McGhan, Michael J., Spring, Texas
McInroy, Mary R., Iowa City, Iowa
Mckay, Donna J., Davenport, Iowa
Mckay, Richard A., Davenport, Iowa
Mcinney, Marilyn, Henderson, Nev.
McLeran, Hermine E., Coralville, Iowa
Meis, Gerald P., Iowa City, Iowa
Meis, Patricia S., Iowa City, Iowa
Mentzer, Elizabeth J., Iowa City, Iowa
Mentzer, Raymond A., Iowa City, Iowa
Messerger, LeRoy K., Elk Grove Village, Ill.
Meyer, Judith P., Fairfield, Conn.
Meyer, Lee, Santa Fe, N.M.
Meyer, Paul R., Fairfield, Conn.
Meyer, Robert J., Santa Fe, N.M.
Miller, Dwight M., Iowa City, Iowa
Miller, Edward C., Janesville, Wis.
Miller, Jon R., Brooklyn, N.Y.
Miller, Pauline Leaverton, Iowa City, Iowa
Miller-Liebbe, Vicki, Davenport, Iowa
Minear, Nicholas R., Chicago, Ill.
Mitchell, Jeanne A., Bryan, Texas
Mitchell, John L., Bryan, Texas
Mitchell, Lucy A., Bethel, Conn.
Mond, Ernest, Chicago, Ill.
Monroe, Betty Iverson, Iowa City, Iowa
Monson, Russell W., Iowa City, Iowa
Montgomery, Rex, Iowa City, Iowa
Moodie, Shirley A., Costa Mesa, Calif.
Morrison, Donald J., Morgantown, W. Va.
Morrison, James N., Munster, Ind.
Moritbey, Clara B., Davenport, Iowa
Mullen, Margaret E., Waterloo, Iowa
Myers, Judy L., Cedar Falls, Iowa
Narayanan, Venicat, Barrington, Ill.
Neil, William L., Bloomington, Ill.
Nelson, Mary C., Altoona, Iowa
Nelson, Paula M., Platteville, Wis.
Nevis, John B., Glen Ellyn, Ill.
New, Mary B., Iowa City, Iowa
New, Michael J., Iowa City, Iowa
Newman, Edwin, Charlotte, N.C.
Newman, Jill L., Charlotte, N.C.
Nicholson, Jane A., Chicago, Ill.
Nickselsburg, George W. E., Iowa City, Iowa
Nickselsburg, Marilyn M., Iowa City, Iowa
Niehaus, Russell I., Chula Vista, Calif.
Noble, Mary E., Iowa City, Iowa
Notestine, Jeanne E., Randolph, N.J.
Notestine, Jon C., Randolph, N.J.
Oberly, Kathleen, Iowa City, Iowa
Oberly, Larry, Iowa City, Iowa
Oden, Greg, Iowa City, Iowa
Ogle, Martin L., Laguna Beach, Calif.
Olson, Jacob J., New Berlin, Wis.
Olson, Leslie A., New Berlin, Wis.
Oppliger, Robert A., Iowa City, Iowa
O’Reardon, Francis T., Longwood, Fla.
Orielup, Anna Harris, Albia, Iowa
Orielup, Don N., Albia, Iowa
Osborn, Sandra L., Verona, Wis.
Osterberg, David Earl, Mount Vernon, Iowa
Osterfelt, Carol Susan, Charlotte, N.C.
Ostler, Kim K., Iowa City, Iowa
Ow, Sally J., Grand Forks, N.D.
Pagels, Carole A., Olympia, Wash.
Pagin, John A., Howe, Ind.
Paluka, Francis J., Iowa City, Iowa
Pannkuk, Everett B., Jr., Raleigh, N.C.
Pannkuk, Marlene A., Raleigh, N.C.
Parker, Mary Jo, St. Paul, Minn.
Parrott, Charlene E., Northville, Mich.
Patrick, Susan K., Clarksville, Md.
Paul, Barbara L., Coralville, Iowa
Paul, Dorothy M., Iowa City, Iowa
Pawley, Ethel L., Jefferson City, Mo.
Pawley, Thomas D., III, Jefferson City, Mo.
Pearsall, Duane D., Golden, Colo.
Pearsall, Marjorie Jewell, Dillon, Colo.
Pechacek, Alan, Jackson, Tenn.
Pedersen, John E., Bettendorf, Iowa
Pennigroth, Kathy, Oxford, Iowa
Perry, Denise A., Leawood, Kan.
Perry, Stacey D., Leawood, Kan.
Persson, Al J., Iowa City, Iowa
Persson, Dorothy M., Iowa City, Iowa
Petersen, Donna S., Provo, Utah
Petersen, James A., Iowa City, Iowa
Petersen, Morris S., Provo, Utah
Peterson, Emily C., Tucson, Ariz.
Peterson, Jay T., Shawnee Mission, Kan.
Pettite, Christopher M., Bethesda, Md.
Phelan, Helen E., Iowa City, Iowa
Phelan, William V., Iowa City, Iowa
Phillips, Janet L., Oak Park, Ill.
Phillips, Patrick J., Oak Park, Ill.
Platt, Mark W., Ogden, Iowa
Pohn, Justin, Louisville, Ky.
Pomerantz, Marvin A., Des Moines, Iowa
Pomerantz, Rose Lee, Des Moines, Iowa
de Ponseti, Helena Percas, Iowa City, Iowa
Ponseti, Ignacio V., Iowa City, Iowa
Preece, John P., Jamestown, R.I.
Pyper, Kathleen Doak, Council Bluffs, Iowa
Pyper, Walter W., Council Bluffs, Iowa
Ramirez, Dianne, Elk Grove, Calif.
Ramirez, Martin, Elk Grove, Calif.
Ramsey, James C., Jr., Iowa City, Iowa
Ramsey, Mary Frances, Iowa City, Iowa
Ramsey, Charles G., Iowa City, Iowa
Ramsey, Dorothy J., Iowa City, Iowa
Raterman, Leonids, Riverside, Calif.
Reed, Janet, Mount Vernon, Iowa
Reed, Jonathan M., Mount Vernon, Iowa
Rees, Marjan J., Studio City, Calif.
Reifenrath, Bruce H., Fairway, Kan.
Reifenrath, Susan K., Fairway, Kan.
Retzinger, Jean P., Berkeley, Calif.
Reuben, Sandra F., Los Angeles, Calif.
Goodbye to an Old Friend

Last winter the UI Libraries retired the card catalog. Since the conversion to the online catalog in the early 1980s which has transformed into the InfoHawk catalog, the physical card catalog has not been used on a regular basis.

Assistant Conservator Kristin Baum took this opportunity to create an art project with the remnants. With a team of volunteers, Baum began pulling cards from the catalog. These cards will be sent to book artists, librarians and schoolchildren all over Iowa and as far away as New Jersey.

For more information about the cARTalog project, check online at www.lib.uiowa.edu/pr/cartalog. You can also contact, Kristin Baum at 319-335-5503 or kristin-baum@uiowa.edu.
Lisa Bluder Joins the Libraries Team

One of the most respected and admired coaches in collegiate basketball, Lisa Bluder heads into her sixth season as the head women’s basketball coach at The University of Iowa. We are pleased to announce the University of Iowa Libraries partnership with Hawkeye Athletics and the women’s basketball team, and we are honored by Bluder’s support of the Libraries.

“I think the Libraries are so important to this University,” says Bluder. “I want to help my players succeed as athletes, but especially as students and as people. And the Libraries make that part of my job easier.”

These are not just words to Lisa Bluder; she is committed to her team’s academic success. In 2004, a team record eight student-athletes were named to the academic All-Big Ten team. Student-athletes who have played under Coach Bluder have a 100 percent job placement following their careers at Iowa, and all of her recruited athletes have earned their degrees.

On the court, Bluder’s success has earned her numerous accolades. She became Iowa’s third coach to be named Big Ten Coach of the Year. She was also honored as the College Coach of the Year by the Women’s Basketball News Service and was named the Women’s Basketball Coaches Association District 6 Coach of the Year.

“The Libraries couldn’t have a better advocate than Lisa Bluder,” says Nancy Baker, University Librarian. “She values education and understands the role the library can play in a student’s career.”

An Iowa native, Bluder graduated from Linn-Mar High School in Marion before going on to play basketball and to earn her bachelor’s degree from the University of Northern Iowa. Bluder and her husband David have two daughters, Hannah and Emma, and one son, David.