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ILA/ACRL Newsletter

vol. 24, no. 2, March/April 2014

Regents Universities Library News

The University of Iowa Libraries

The University of Iowa Libraries began the fall 2013 semester by showing off its new Learning Commons (LC), transformed from first floor staff work space to an active and collaborative 37,000 square feet learning space. The Main Library Learning Commons is a tech-infused, comfortable and flexible learning space and one-stop academic and information help center. The LC was designed to support undergraduate student success, both inside and outside of the classroom, through the use of technology, space, services, and resources.

The facility includes space for groups. Students can work collaboratively on group projects in one of the 24 group study spaces within the LC or in the newly expanded Food for Thought Café. The Learning Commons has 18 private group rooms and 6 open group areas, all with writable wall surfaces, with monitors where students can share work and collaborate on projects. These spaces can be reserved online or in person, and the entire facility is available for student use 24 hours 5 days a week during the academic year. Faculty have also made use of these spaces by bringing their classes in for one-shot library instruction or to hold class presentations.

The Learning Commons also has space for individual study replete with modern technology amenities and high quality assistance with information and technology resources. Students have plenty of electrical outlets and a variety of beautiful, modern and comfortable workspaces to choose from where they can work individually at one of 90 dual-monitor computers or on a laptop checked out at the Main Library Service Desk.

The location of this new space within the Main Library gives students easy access to library resources and research support. The building contains a single service desk centrally located and is staffed 24 hours 5 days a week. Students can check out a variety of technologies including laptops and cords needed to use the monitors in the group rooms. Service Desk staff can facilitate referrals for academic support outside of the Libraries, for example, referring students to the Writing Center or Academic Advising. Students can check out library materials, and get expert research help by making an appointment with one of our research librarians or they can just drop by the research consultation spaces near the service desk and talk to someone right then and there. These two stations have dual-monitor computers and plenty of work space so they can actually roll up their sleeves and get some work done with a librarian by their side.

Collaboration was key in designing and building this new learning space. The Learning Commons was a result of a partnership between the University Libraries, Information Technology Services and the Office of the Provost. Collaboration continues to be important to

the success of the Learning Commons. The Main Library Learning Commons offers to a wide variety of programming developed by librarians and other academic partners on campus.

The Main Library Learning Commons holds new space to support the academic success of the students at the University of Iowa. We continue to evaluate the needs of our users, particularly how they are using the space and what space is still needed, particularly quiet study. Overall, the space has been a very popular spot for all University of Iowa users.

For more information and pictures, please visit <http://www.lib.uiowa.edu/commons/>

Authors: Kathy Magarrell, Amy Paulus, & Brittney Thomas

Private Academic Library News

Changing spaces: transforming Dunn Library into Simpson's academic hub

We are in year five of intentional, incremental changes to build academic community. To encourage collaboration & innovation, we provide services to meet the changing learning & teaching needs of students and faculty and shared spaces outside of classrooms & labs with technology tools that encourage discovery.

2008-09: We surveyed the Simpson community using LibQUAL+ to assess and improve library services. From those responses, specific improvements began. In 2009-10 two glass study rooms were built, and electrical outlets were added along with café height tables and chairs plus beverage and snack machines. In 2009-10 two additional group study rooms were added along with reducing the reference collection and painting many public spaces.

2010-11: A library program review resulted in the 'Dunn Library: visioning our future' report with 16 recommendations; eight of these centered around space. The report also applauded the new Simpson Engaged Citizenship [curriculum](#), with its [Embedded Skills](#) including Information Literacy. In 2011-12 we brought in a great space consultant team developed by FEH. After collection of many data elements and focus group responses, we were presented with a vision study which included a building assessment, programming plan and concept design.



2012-13: Teacher Education Labs were developed from two second floor classroom spaces and the adjacent curriculum lab remodeled and textbook collection weeded. It is a hands-on learning space with resources and methods classrooms together-- available for group study outside of class times. On the first floor, students can practice with classroom technologies in the new [TechStudy](#) (with SmartBoard, multimedia projector, document camera, etc.) or practice & film presentations or view videos, DVDs and streaming video in the new Presentation & Media Study. In these spaces, we advertised other equipment for check-out: laptops (for in-library use), student response system, camcorder/tripod, flip cameras, and headphones. Portable whiteboards are available along with more study space with a reduction in our print journals.



2013-14: We are developing three new areas on the first floor: Research Assistance Center (former Media Services office), Writing Center and EMERGE, the college business incubator. Videotapes were withdrawn, journals re-shelved, circulation counter shortened, reference desk unit remodeled and repurposed, shelving shifted and space is awaiting glass walls.

2014-15: We will start reducing our monograph collection (thanks to the CI-CCI collaborative) to develop additional quiet study space. A remodeled college archives will be possible due to a gift towards historical preservation.

Cyd Dyer, College Librarian, Simpson College

St. Ambrose Library: Creation of new offices for the Center for Instructional Design and Technology

The St. Ambrose Library has begun renovations to create new offices for the Center for Instructional Design and Technology, with an aim at moving them into the library by May. This consolidation will bring CIDT into closer collaboration with the Information Technology department, as well as with the library. In addition, the merging of CIDT's media equipment

with the existing Media Services collection enhances the library's ability to provide media production help for faculty and students. We're very excited to take advantage of the possibilities that transforming our existing library space will provide.

We're also pleased to introduce the newest member of our staff, Beth Shoemaker. Beth is assuming the role of Cataloging & Resource Access librarian. She's taught at locations as close as Millikin University in Decatur, as far away as Mahidol University in Thailand, and her favorite cataloging moment has been providing access to a 15th century joke book. We look forward to making use of her broad skill set within and outside the classroom.

By: Conrad Bendixen, Reference and Instruction Librarian

Private Academic Library News: More News

Buena Vista University Library: The University's first Archives

The Buena Vista University Library has opened the University's first Archives. Book collections were shifted on the second floor of the library during the summer of 2012 to make room for the Archives. Construction on the Archives started in March 2013 and was completed this past fall. The Archives project includes an approximately 800 square foot climate-controlled collections area and an adjacent workroom. The BVU Archives is now processing its first archival collections as the 125th anniversary of Buena Vista's founding approaches in 2016. Future plans call for the addition of an Archives Reading Room which will complete the Archives construction project.



Archive Collections Room



Archives Workroom

By: Jodie Morin

Des Moines University: Library renovation and open house

Natalie Hutchinson, Director, reports DMU is just finishing up a library renovation here, and will be having an open house to celebrate in late April. The renovation included new staff workspaces, in particular a new circulation desk, a redesigned circulation area, and new staff offices. In student areas, we will now have additional seating, a large conference room, four new small group study rooms, and a media room.

Finally, they will have new neighbors—DMU’s Center for the Improvement of Teaching and Learning is moving into a new space created in the library especially for them. They’re very excited about our new space, and for the opportunities for collaboration that having the CITL in the library provides!

Drake University: Opening of the Speaking Center in Cowles Library

Marc Davis, Program, Planning & Projects Specialist reports that the new Speaking Center in Cowles Library opened March 3. Students can book appointments online to see a tutor for help in preparing, composing, and delivering speeches and presentations. Students, faculty, and staff members can reserve the Speaking Studio to practice, record and review their speeches or presentations alone or in small groups. The Library provides assistance in setting up equipment and transferring recordings. This new facility resulted from a three-way collaboration among the Library, Drake’s Office of Information Technology and Dr. Joan McAlister, Professor of Rhetoric and Communication Studies. For more information, see <http://library.drake.edu/speaking>

Cowles Library is one of the 200 founding libraries of Knowledge Unlatched which recently announced availability of its Pilot Collection. Knowledge Unlatched is “a collaborative initiative enabling open access books. Knowledge Unlatched is helping stakeholders to work together for a sustainable open future for specialist scholarly books. Our vision is a healthy market that includes free access for end users.” For more information, see <http://www.knowledgeunlatched.org>

Laura Krossner was named Electronic Resources Manager at Cowles Library on March 3 following the retirement of Kay Kelly. Laura earned her MLS at Indiana University in 2012.

University of Dubuque: Creation of the exhibit “Racing Past the Color Line: Sol Butler and Paul Robeson in Collegiate Athletics”

Mary Anne Knepfel reports that Jonathan Helmke, Archivist and Assistant Director for Library Automation, along with Brian Hallstoos, Assistant Professor of History, created the exhibit “Racing Past the Color Line: Sol Butler and Paul Robeson in Collegiate Athletics.” In 1913, both Butler and Robeson entered college in 1913, Butler at UD and Robeson at Rutgers. Both were gifted at several sports and were among the first African Americans to play college athletics. This exhibit was displayed in the Bisignano Art Gallery in the Heritage Center from February 24-April 4. After April 4, the library plans to install it as a semi-permanent exhibit.

2014 ILA/ACRL Spring Conference

Breaking Down Our Silos: Redefining Academic Libraries in the 21st Century

SILo is a word that has been discussed in business for over 30 years now, so, while not a new question, as academic libraries shift away from physical models to more digital ones, we find ourselves frequently confronting the problems created by the silo mentality inherent in subject specialization and highly technical work. How do we become more nimble in responding to changing environments and needs? How do we get involved outside our libraries? Do we need to create more empowered staff and more integrated and collaborative work arrangements? What is the best response of the academic library and academic librarians to this problem?

Join your fellow ILA/ACRL members at the annual Spring Conference Friday, May 2, 2014, at the FFA Enrichment Center, DMACC-Ankeny. The conference theme is Breaking Down Our Silos: Redefining Academic Libraries in the 21st Century. More information about the conference and registration can be found at the [ILA/ACRL website](#).

The conference features keynote speaker [Bobbi Newman](#) - “Escape the Silo: Why and How to Escape Your Professional Silo” and a wide variety of presentations from fellow colleagues. Other activities include an “unconference” and a “Rocks vs. Sucks” session where you can present and converse with fellow librarians on a variety of topics related to libraries and librarianship. The Spring Conference committee has worked hard to put this conference together.

The Spring Conference is being held in conjunction with the annual IPAL conference, which is Thursday, May 1st at Grand View University in Des Moines. IPAL has invited ILA/ACRL members to a Happy Hour at Dos Rios Mexican Restaurant on Court Avenue, Thursday from 4:30 to 6:30. We also continue the annual tradition of the Dine-Around, visiting a variety of restaurants for dinner and conversation with fellow librarians. [Sign up](#) is available on the ILA/ACRL webpage—make sure to sign up by April 23rd!

Questions? Feel free to email me at mary.peterson@simpson.edu.

ILA/ACRL's Research Award

Announcing the ILA/ACRL's Research Award

The ILA/ACRL Awards Committee announces a \$500 grant to be awarded to an ILA/ACRL member for a presented or published scholarly work. Please consider submitting your own work or nominating a colleague for this award! The following rules and qualifications apply:

- A qualifying presented paper must be text-based and have been delivered at a regional, national, or international conference.

- A qualifying published paper is to have appeared in a scholarly journal.
- A qualifying book is to be scholarly in nature.
- The subject matter of the material submitted may be on any scholarly topic.
- The papers should have been delivered or published since October of 2011.
- Power point slides, video, or audio submissions will not be considered.
- Entries may be self-submitted or nominated.
- Entries will be considered by the Awards Committee on the basis of a blind ranking process.
- If the committee finds that none of the entries are meritorious, it may decide not to make an award.
- The deadline for submissions is Friday, April 24th, 2014. The results of this process will be announced at the ILA/ACRL Spring Conference in May 2014.

Please send your submissions by mail to: Amy Paulus, ILA/ACRL Awards Committee Chair, University of Iowa Main Library, 125 W. Washington Street, Iowa City, IA 52242 - or - by email to amy-fuls@uiowa.edu. Include a copy of your work/research along with your name and contact information.

On behalf of the ILA/ACRL Awards Committee, thank you!

Amy Paulus, Chair
Dan Boice ,Chris Jones
Randy Roeder
Cara Stone

Volunteering on an ILA/ACRL Committee

ILA/ACRL Members,

Please consider volunteering to serve on an ILA/ACRL committee. The online form makes it easy: <http://www.iowaacrl.org/content/about/volunteer>.

Serving on an ILA/ACRL committee is a great way to contribute to the association, network with colleagues across the state, and build your resume.

Feel free to contact me or another member of the Nominating Committee with any questions.

Sincerely,

Ericka Raber

Volunteer for ILA/ACRL 2015 - Iowa Chapter of ACRL

ILA/ACRL wants to give all Chapter members the opportunity to serve on one of its committees or on the Executive Board. Please look over this form and check the areas that interest you. More information on the duties of each committee is available in the [Chapter By-Laws](#) and in the [Organizational Manual](#) available online. Feel free to nominate colleagues to serve as ILA/ACRL officers (self-nominations are also welcome). Members-at-large serve two-year terms. All other officers serve one-year terms. Note: Vice-President and Secretary/Treasurer must be members of both ILA and national ACRL.

Committee Details: <http://www.iowaacrl.org/content/about/committees>. I would like to serve on the following committees:

Awards Committee

Nominating Committee

Membership Committee

Fall Program Committee
(ILA conference attendance highly encouraged.)

Electronic Communications Committee
(Conference attendance encouraged, but not required.)

Spring Program Committee (July - June)
(ILA-ACRL Conference attendance highly encouraged.)

Newsletter Committee
(Conference attendance encouraged, but not required.)

NEW! The ILA/ACRL Board is considering implementing a new “campus ambassador” program, through which one volunteer per campus would be charged with spreading the word about the association, sharing information about membership benefits, and encouraging colleagues to become involved members. Please check below if you are interested in exploring this program as a campus ambassador, should the Board move forward with this program.

Yes, I’m interested in learning more about being a campus ambassador.

Executive Board Offices: I would like to nominate the following person(s) for the office(s) of:

Vice-President/President-Elect (3 year commitment)

Name: _____

Institution: _____

Secretary/Treasurer (1 year commitment)

Name: _____

Institution: _____

Member at Large (2 year commitment)

Name: _____

Institution: _____

Your name: _____

Institution: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email address: _____

Submit online at <http://www.iowaacrl.org/content/about/volunteer> or send in paper or email by May 15, 2014 to:

Anne Marie Gruber, Charles C. Myers Library, University of Dubuque, 2000 University Ave.,
Dubuque, IA 52001

Email: AMGruber@dbq.edu