



Ex Libris

Newsletter of the West Virginia University Libraries

Spring 2010

www.libraries.wvu.edu

Students Appreciate Evansdale Library Makeover

Nick Long, a mining engineering senior, has found his new favorite place on campus. Attractive decor, large computer screens, and a serene lounge with coffee make the newly renovated Evansdale Library an ideal spot when one needs to spend a few hours preparing for a test or concentrating on a project.

"When you're studying, the most comfortable place to be is where you want to study, and if you have to go off campus, you waste a lot of time," Long said. "This is so much nicer than having to go home."

Brandon Brice, an economics senior, also likes the atmosphere. He especially likes the gold and blue color scheme and the light wood used for the study carrels, tables, and bookshelves.



The renovated Evansdale Library offers students an attractive and comfortable space with more computers and more room to study.

"It definitely helps as far as concentrating and being in a good mood to get work done," Brice said. "I don't have Internet at home, so I have to come to the Library to get work done, so it's pleasant to have that."

Such accolades please Evansdale Director Mary Strife, who consulted with students about what they wanted in their library before planning for the renovation of the stark 1980s building had begun. Strife then met with interior designers to translate students' comments and ideas into a blueprint for a better library.

"We listened to our students and created a space that is appealing and best served their needs," Strife

said. "Watching them use the Library is rewarding."

Most of the work occurred over the summer of 2009, with details being finished in the fall. The project transformed the Library's dated main floor into an aesthetically pleasing space more conducive to studying, doing research, and collaborating on group projects.

The new computer stations, with carrel walls for privacy, replace the old arrangement of machines. Across the room, clusters of study and computer carrels reside where a large block of shelves once stood.

Near the rear windows, a flexible study area allows students to easily move tables, chairs, and whiteboards to accommodate group projects. Two new study rooms are also available.

A leisure reading area with lounge seating offers a quiet corner to study or to read for class or pleasure, and the former microfilm room houses a relaxing lounge with upscale vending machines and café seating. Both spaces have video screens that can stream CNN or

"I like the look and the feel to it now. It makes it a lot easier to study here."

*William Kistler,
Chemical engineering junior*

WVU's Information Station.

Another new addition is designated space for students to display projects they completed for class. So far, students in the Department of Fashion Merchandising have created exhibits. The College of Engineering and Mineral Resources has also expressed interest in exhibiting work.

Finding help is now quicker and easier for users because a new desk centralizes circulation, reference, and basic technology services in one location.

Tying everything together are new carpeting, gold and blue floor tile, wallpaper, a fresh coat of paint, and a Flying WV carpet inlay near the entrance, all of which were selected based on student input.

"I love the changes," said Christine Dyer, a human nutrition junior. "It looks so much nicer, and the new



A Flying WV carpet inlay welcomes visitors to the Evansdale Library.

computers are great."

William Kistler, a chemical engineering junior, finds the library furniture more relaxing and likes that he has room to spread out his materials to work. His group opted to study at Evansdale rather than gathering at someone's house.

"I like the look and the feel to it now," Kistler said. "It makes it a lot easier to study here."

In late February, the Libraries commemorated the renovation by inviting Jo Ann Calzonetti, former Evansdale Library director, to speak at a ceremony. Calzonetti managed the library's first renovation in 1999.

"It's visually beautiful, but also really functional," Calzonetti said. "I'm impressed to hear so much work was done to interview students and find out what your students are interested in having in their library."

She told the audience that the recent renovation shows how far technology has advanced over the past decade. In the late 1990s, aside from trading up from dot matrix printers and adding compact shelving on the lower level, the changes were mostly aesthetic.

Over the past decade, though, libraries everywhere have seen their paper collections shrink with the shift to online resources. The change has made room for more computers and study space.

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WVU Libraries Receive Statewide Preservation Grant

Many people have personal experience with deteriorating family photographs or old letters. Libraries and museums have these problems on a larger scale.

A \$40,000 grant from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) will enable the West Virginia University Libraries, in collaboration with the Huntington Museum of Art, to help the state's libraries, art and historical museums, and cultural heritage institutions identify their constraints and needs in caring for their collections.

"We need to be sure that future generations are able to

see and use collections that are important to our history," said Frances O'Brien, Dean of the WVU Libraries. "This planning grant will be the first step in identifying the preservation needs in West Virginia, and working toward the right kinds of care."

The WVU Libraries and the Huntington Museum of Art will work closely with consultants from LYRASIS and the Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts (CCAHA). LYRASIS is the nation's largest regional membership organization for libraries and information professionals. CCAHA is the largest non-profit conservation and preservation facility in the nation.

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The first stage of the project involves conducting a statewide survey of libraries, art and historical museums, and cultural heritage institutions to determine the state of collections care and preservation planning. Assisting in the process will be Tom Claeson, Senior Consultant for New

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Ex Libris

Fashion Students Display Work at Evansdale Library

Typically, students visit the Libraries to work on a paper or project that they will then take to class, but a fashion design and merchandising (FDM) senior is setting a new trend. Amanda Gill is the first among her classmates to create an exhibit for the newly renovated Evansdale Library.

"I took a visual merchandising class and did projects within that class, but this is taking what I've learned and making it a real world experience," Gill said. "I wanted to make everything look perfect and professional."

The venue is now available because of an extensive renovation project on the Evansdale Library's first floor last summer. During the planning stage, students expressed a need for space to display their work. The revamped Library includes display cabinets and floor space to accommodate requests.

"Evansdale Library is a great location to spotlight students' work," said Noel Kopriva, librarian for the Davis College of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Design. "Students like to see what others are doing in class, and exhibitors can get feedback from their peers."

Lynn Barnes, a fashion merchandising professor in the Davis College, appreciates her students having such a platform because it pushes them beyond what they



Fashion design and merchandising senior Amanda Gill poses beside her exhibit in the Evansdale Library.

would do for the usual window display.

"This is three-dimensional exhibit so they have to be aware of every nuance," Barnes said. "Every detail has to be perfect."

Gill made sure she got the details right in her 1970s-themed display. In selecting the clothing from the division's historic costume collection, she chose male and female ensembles that matched each other in color and style. The accompanying cabinet contained jewelry and shoes from the period, along with a timeline of the decade, magazines, and a record.

Later in the semester, she built a collection inspired by 1930s fashion that contained two gowns from the costume collection and Gill's sketches.

Her effort was part of her experience as a work study for Barnes. Gill, who is president of the school's Fashion Business Association, sees it as a way to promote her degree program.

Plans are to work with all colleges on the Evansdale Campus to provide a place to display student work.

Libraries Select Information Literacy Participants

The WVU Libraries have selected six faculty members to participate in the second year of an information literacy initiative designed to help faculty to enhance their courses.

The Information Literacy Course Enhancement Program, a collaborative effort between the Libraries and the Provost's Office, is focused on fulfilling the University's 2010 Plan for information literacy to become a curriculum component across all disciplines.

"We have learned a great deal this year about designing discipline-specific lessons that address critical research components through active learning," said Carroll Wilkinson, WVU Libraries' Director of Instruction and Information Literacy. "I look forward to sharing our learning with the next group of participants in this program."

This year's participants are Dr. Brian Ballentine, assistant professor of English, Eberly College of Arts and Sciences; Dr. Louis McDonald, associate professor of plant and soil sciences, Davis College of Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Design; Beth Nardella, instructor of exercise physiology, the Human Performance and Applied Exercise Science Department, School of Medicine; Dr. Melissa Olfert, assistant professor of human nutrition, Davis College; Dr. Kate Staples, assistant professor of history, Eberly College of Arts & Sciences; and Dr. Barbara Douglas, senior lecturer, nursing, WVU Institute of Technology.

They were chosen from among a field of applicants who submitted detailed plans for integrating information literacy into their classrooms.

Participants will work with Wilkinson and their librarian liaison to create discipline-specific active learning assignments that incorporate information literacy concepts. They will each earn a \$3,000 stipend or, if a 12-month faculty member, other relevant professional remuneration.

Libraries Studying How Students Work in the Digital Age

Can students Google their way to an A when writing a paper? Do students trust Wikipedia to provide them with sufficient and reliable information? The WVU Libraries want to know.

This spring, the WVU Libraries participated in a national study, conducted by Project Information Literacy (PIL), to learn how college students conduct research in the digital age.

In conjunction with the Libraries, PIL sent an invitation to participate in a Web-based survey to 10,000 randomly selected WVU sophomores, juniors, and seniors. The survey consisted of 22 questions that focused on how students find, evaluate, and integrate research sources used for course-related and everyday life research.

Molly Wilson, an Honors College junior with a triple major in Philosophy, Economics, and Women's Studies, worked with the Libraries to encourage her peers to set aside a few minutes to respond to the survey. She lent her name for the survey invitation.

"I think the survey is really important, especially for a student who has a research-intensive major," Wilson said. "It's going to help the librarians tailor their services to students."

A portion of the survey concentrated on the use of Google and Wikipedia, which many students heavily rely on when completing assignments. Wilson credits an information literacy course she took for introducing her to a wider array of resources available through the Libraries.

Rather than struggling unsuccessfully to find material for a paper or project, she suggests students seek direction from a librarian to learn where they should go to gather information.

"In the end, it makes it so much easier if you're using all the resources available," Wilson said.

PIL received a sample of respondents from more than 30 colleges and universities across the nation. For an overview of the national project, visit <http://projectinfolit.org/>. PIL, funded by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, is based at the University of Washington and is in its third and final year.

For questions or more information about WVU's involvement in this study, contact Carroll Wilkinson, Director of Information Literacy for the Libraries: carroll.wilkinson@mail.wvu.edu.

This year's librarian liaisons are Susan Arnold, Kevin Fredette, Grace Gmeindl, Noel Kopriva, Jessica Tapia, and, from WVU IT, Jewel Rucker.

Expectations are for the faculty to begin teaching the revised courses during the fall 2010 or spring 2011 semester and to take part in a Showcase of Information Literacy Learning Progress Forum during the 2011 academic year.

Last year, five faculty members and five librarians participated in the program. Course enhancement grants will be offered again in the spring of 2011.

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Libraries Offering Programming Through New Campus Residential College

It might be fun and relaxing to read a paperback copy of *Tom Sawyer* that you picked up at Barnes & Noble, but studying a first edition of Mark Twain's famous tome is another story.

Manov Kohli, a political science freshman, sat in a chair in the WVU Libraries' Rare Book Room and gingerly turned the pages of the 150-year-old book.

"Wow," Kohli said. "This is one of the most fantastic collections of books I've seen. I'm grateful I came on the tour."

Kohli visited the Rare Book Room as part of the programming the Libraries are providing through the newly established Stalnaker Hall Residential College.

In fall 2009, Stalnaker became a residential college for the University. The first, Lincoln Hall, opened in 2006 on the Evansdale Campus. The main goals of a residential college are to bring the educational environment into the residence halls and to promote interaction between students and professors.

The residential college model was developed by former WVU President David Hardesty, who, as a Rhodes Scholar, lived in a residential college at the University of Oxford.

"When Hardesty became president, one of his priorities was to change the culture of residence halls and campus life," said David Pariser, a Resident Faculty Leader for Dadisman and Stalnaker residence halls.

Sharing Hardesty's passion for impacting the lives of students, Pariser and his wife, Debbi, became RFLs in 2001.

Last year, they decided to take the next step and transform Stalnaker into a residential college. They quickly recruited seven Faculty Fellows to help enrich academic life for their students.

Faculty Fellows are professors and other University faculty who visit the residence hall throughout the semester to give lectures or presentations in their subject area and meet with students to help to establish stronger connections between students and their instructors.

"The idea is to keep learning," Debbi Pariser said.



Librarian Anna Schein talks with students Andrew Dolby and Curtis Chan following a session in the Downtown Campus Library's classroom.

"Eighty percent of a student's time is spent outside of the classroom. We provide lots of wonderful opportunities for students to spend time with faculty and for faculty to get to know their students."

The Parisers invited Anna Schein, Associate Curator of the Libraries' West Virginia and Regional History Collection, to serve as a Faculty Fellow.

A WVU alumna herself, Schein understands how hard it is for freshmen to acclimate themselves to such a large campus. She worked with a group of colleagues to design lectures, presentations, and tours to expose Stalnaker/Dadisman students to the full array of the Libraries' services.

"I deeply believe it is important for students to become acquainted with the library as soon as possible after their arrival on campus," Schein said. "If we do that during their first semester, they will know where to go when they have to do research or write a paper."

During the fall semester, Schein taught six library instruction sessions at the Downtown Campus Library. She

"Everyone should have that knowledge of how to do research."

*Andrew Dolby,
Engineering senior*

walked students through the Libraries' Web site and showed them how they can Instant Message a librarian, find an electronic journal, and text call numbers to their cell phones.

She also told them that they can use iMacs on the lower level to create multimedia class projects. If they need help in a class, there's free tutoring five nights a week. And when it comes time to write a paper, they can get guidance through the Libraries' Term Paper clinics.

Schein believes this face-to-face contact is irreplaceable because it allows students to connect with people whom they will feel comfortable approaching when they need help.

"We're here for the students," she said. "I tell them they can contact me if they have questions or need assistance. If I'm not the right person, I'll get you to the right person."

Curtis Chan, a Resident Assistant at Stalnaker and a political science graduate student from Hong Kong, took advantage of that offer. Although he's fluent in English, he wanted to find some materials in Chinese but was stuck on where to look. Schein directed him to some digital resources.

"Now I don't have to go back home or call my friends. I can access the materials online from my house," Chan said.

He encourages the underclassmen he's responsible for to take the time to learn what resources are available at the Libraries and how to use them.



Students Bridgid Cain, Gina Lasure, and Teresa Ng examine a book in the Rare Book Room.

Andrew Dolby, an RA and an engineering senior from Berkeley Springs, learned about the Libraries' wealth of digital resources through a class he took early in his academic career. He puts his knowledge into practice daily as he is currently conducting research with a professor, and graduate students often ask him to search for articles.

"Everyone should have that knowledge of how to do research," Dolby said.

Another highlight for many students was touring the West Virginia and Regional History Collection. Curator John Cuthbert guided them through some of the Collection's treasures along with a private tour of his exhibit on abolitionist John Brown.

It was an enlightening experience for Kevin Ayoola, an exercise physiology junior, who was surprised to learn that his hero, Muhammad Ali, visited campus in 1970. A framed photograph in the Collection shows the Champ, surrounded by students, walking through campus.

"That really struck me the most," Ayoola said. "Muhammad Ali is one of the greatest American heroes. He changed a lot of people's lives."

The Collection's Rare Book Room provided similar moments of awe. Harold M. Forbes, Rare Books Collection Curator, held three sessions for students, giving them a brief overview of the history of printing and talking about a few of the unique holdings.

Forbes then allowed students to slip on white gloves and explore the collection themselves. The result was a mix of enthusiasm and trepidation.

"I was kind of scared to touch them," said Mark Snyder, a geography sophomore from Grafton. "I had no idea the Library had books like those."

The mention of William Shakespeare caught the ear of Gina Lasure, an industrial engineering sophomore and Wheeling native. She was surprised that the Libraries have an original of the Bard's *First Folio*, which contains 36 works credited to him.

Jonathan Storage, a political science senior and resident assistant, and Tristan Cain, a multi-disciplinary studies junior, inspected several of the tomes that Forbes placed on display.

"I thought it was absolutely fascinating," Storage said. "He talked about so many aspects of book marketing and book history and binding. You get caught up in the way things are done today, and you don't realize things might have been done differently 100 years ago."

Another aspect of the Faculty Fellow program is dinner at the Parisers' home. Twice a week, the Parisers welcome a group of about 20 students and two guests from campus.

Cuthbert, Forbes, and Schein joined them for faculty dinners, and librarians Allison Read and Mary Strife, Director of the Evansdale Library, were also invited to attend two student majors dinners along with members of the teaching faculty.

Strife found the dinners to be a casual way to meet with students. She especially enjoyed chatting with engineering students because she's the engineering librarian.

"Any positive contact we can make with students reflects well on the Libraries," Strife said. "It's a chance to remind them of the databases, services like Chat-with-a-Librarian, and other resources."

WVU Libraries Receive Statewide Preservation Grant – Continued from page 1

Initiatives at LYRASIS and Project Manager for the grant, and Ingrid E. Bogel, Executive Director of CCAHA.

Next, a statewide focus group composed of representatives from archives, academic and public libraries, art and history museums, and historic sites will work together to gain further information about the needs of the collecting community.

In the final stage, Clareson and Bogel will use the findings to produce a comprehensive preservation plan.

"The partnership between WVU Libraries and the Huntington Museum of Art puts this effort on stable ground, and the consortium of institutions across the state that has been created will ensure good solid information for the survey," said Margaret Mary Layne, HMA Executive Director. "By working together on this project, we can create an environment where the treasures that are held dear by West Virginia will be cared for and available for generations to come."

Preservation is a concern nationwide. Layne cited an IMLS study that estimates that more than 190 million cultural objects throughout the United States are at risk. In addition, the Heritage Health Index survey found that 80 percent of museums, archives, and libraries lack an emergency plan for their collections.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 123,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. The Institute's mission is to create strong libraries and museums that connect people to information and ideas. The Institute works at the national level and in coordination with state and local organizations to sustain heritage, culture, and knowledge; enhance learning and innovation; and support professional development. To learn more about the Institute, please visit www.imls.gov.

For more information about the project, please visit www.imls.gov/collections/about/video.htm



Rare Book Room is a Natural Fit for Morgantown Printer

Andy Walls will always remember a recent trip to the West Virginia University Libraries' Rare Book Room. He pulled on a pair of white gloves and gingerly inspected an original *First Folio*, which is the first comprehensive collection of William Shakespeare's plays. There are less than 250 known copies.

"The fact the University has something here that not many other universities have is pretty unbelievable," said Walls, owner of Morgantown Printing & Binding. "It's fabulous to see the works that you hear people talk about, and it's not every day that you get to hold a 400-year-old book."

Having built a business on the printed word, Walls appreciates old books and the craftsmanship that went into creating them.

The ornate fonts and decorative sketches that adorn the *Folio's* pages captivated him. He was also enthralled by the *Encyclopedie*, a 35-volume 18th century French encyclopedia that championed the Age of Enlightenment and served as fodder for the French Revolution. Walls was especially interested in a section that focused on printing and contained intricate drawings of the process of that day.

The piece de resistance, though, was a 15th century choir book. The lines were hand-drawn on vellum, and the pages were bound between wood covers, stitched together with rope, and wrapped in leather.

"I'm looking at it as a printer, and it's really neat to see the detail and the manner in which the books were put together back then," Walls said.

He wants future generations to be able to experience the same awe that he enjoyed so he established the Morgantown Printing & Binding Rare Book Room Endowment to provide funds to preserve and build the collection.

"I'm contributing to a place where everyone can benefit, and I'm actually doing something that is in my field," Walls said.

Walls, a Morgantown native, got his start at his father's printing company and worked for Fairmont Printing for eight years. In 1995, he bought Morgantown Printing & Binding and expanded it into a statewide business.

He and his wife, Terri, have two daughters, who are both Mountaineers. Meghan Buck graduated from WVU in 2009 with a degree in business management. Brittney Walls graduated this year with a degree in speech pathology.

The Rare Book Room's foundation was laid by a gift from alumnus Arthur S. Dayton, a booklover who amassed an impressive collection of rare volumes dating from the 15th century to the early 20th century.

Among the gems are the *Nuremberg Chronicle*, a 15th century illustrated history of the world, and Puritan clergyman Cotton Mather's *Magnalia Christi Americana*. The collection also includes first editions of many legendary authors, including John Milton's *Paradise Lost* and *Paradise Regain'd*, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*, and Mark Twain's *Tom Sawyer*.



John Cuthbert, Curator of the West Virginia and Regional History Collection, and Andy Walls examine an original *First Folio*, which is the first comprehensive collection of William Shakespeare's plays.

State Association Honors Librarian for Outstanding Service



Pugh

The West Virginia Library Association presented Penny Pugh, Head of Reference at the Downtown Campus Library, with the Dora Ruth Parks Award for long and outstanding service to libraries and librarianship in West Virginia.

Presenting the honor during the organization's fall conference, the Awards Committee praised Pugh for her accomplishments as a reference librarian and as a leader in WVLA.

"Her strong work ethic, her depth of knowledge, outstanding leadership and willingness to find solutions through collaborative work are well-known attributes," the nomination letter reads. "Penny has made remarkable contributions to libraries through her work."

Pugh came to the WVU Libraries Reference Department as a staff librarian in 1986 and worked her way up to head of reference. She credits her career choice to a love of reading that ignited when a bookmobile stopped at her elementary school. The decision solidified while she was an undergraduate at WVU.

"I became enamored with the idea of libraries as a place where knowledge is stored so every new generation doesn't have to start fresh," Pugh said. "We can build on and advance our civilization. We don't have to invent penicillin again."

Pugh has strived to help keep the WVU Libraries as a valuable resource in the constantly changing technological world. When she started her career, index cards and the thick green volumes of the *Reader's Guide to Periodical Literature* were staples

for any good researcher. Today, users can read electronic journals from home and chat online with librarians.

Staying on the forefront, Pugh provided leadership to develop the WVU Libraries' first Web site and helped to create the Reference Online page, a listing of electronic resources. She has served as chair of the Electronic Resources Committee for the past 15 years. She remains a consistent innovator, adding resources such as an instant message service, Ask-a-Librarian, and an application that allows users to text themselves book call numbers.

Over the years, Pugh has also gained a reputation as an outstanding teacher. She has taught numerous sections of a library course, ULIB 101: Introduction to Library Research; has given lectures for credit courses in several disciplines; and has offered many faculty workshops.

Most recently, she worked with the WVU Writing Center and Academic Resource Centers to bring free tutoring sessions to the Downtown Campus Library five evenings every week.

During her term as WVLA president from 2004-2005, Pugh worked to increase membership and produce outstanding fall and spring conferences. She also served as the spokesperson for the organization when dealing with the media and elected officials in Charleston. She previously served as chair of WVLA's Academic Division and as a member of the Executive Board.

"I'm passionate about libraries, and I'm proud to advocate for them through my work in the association. Libraries are institutions that embody the best of our society, and librarians from all types of libraries share common values – literacy, education, and learning," Pugh said. "I would hate to live in a society where there were no libraries."

Libraries Employee Receives Leadership Award

John Hagen, coordinator for WVU's electronic thesis and dissertation (ETD) program, has received the 2010 ETD Leadership Award presented by the Ohio ETD Association.

OETDA President Angie McCutcheon praised Hagen for sharing his expertise in the field and for providing guidance in establishing the statewide organization.

"John's in-depth knowledge of ETDs has been highly valuable to the Ohio ETD Association," said McCutcheon. "John has been instrumental in assisting the Ohio ETD Association in getting started and in supporting the selection of topics that have been appropriate for our conferences for four years."

Hagen began working with McCutcheon about five years ago. He offered his experience with ETDs at WVU and as a board member of the Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations (NDLTD), an international consortium which promotes ETD program implementation and adoption of standards worldwide.

Hagen brought resources and direction that helped to smooth the process as the Ohio group implemented their program. He assisted them with the technical concerns of establishing an ETD program and provided insight in dealing with political and personality issues that often arise. Hagen has also delivered presentations at OETDA annual conferences.

"It's a wonderful recognition and honor for my efforts in the past and will certainly make me much more enthusiastic to continue my involvement with ETDs on all levels," Hagen said.



Hagen

Library Faculty Assembly Names Blake Outstanding Librarian for 2010

The WVU Library Faculty Assembly has selected Linda Blake, Science Librarian and Electronic Journal Coordinator for the WVU Libraries, as the Outstanding Librarian for 2010.

The triennial award recognizes a faculty librarian who has made exceptional contributions toward the delivery, development, or expansion of library services or special programs for the constituencies of WVU.

"Linda exemplifies the very best in traditional librarianship while remaining alert to new technologies and trends," said Penny Pugh, Head of the Downtown Campus Library Reference Department. "Linda possesses a breadth of vision, coupled with a keen analytical mind, and she is extraordinarily productive."

The Faculty Assembly recognized Blake for her tireless work managing the Libraries' electronic journals collection, her work as a bibliographer for numerous science departments, her commitment to teaching, and her dedication to the profession. Blake's leadership has significantly improved access to the Libraries' ever-expanding electronic journal collection.

Blake was instrumental in the Libraries' purchase of a management system that allows usage tracking and better content linking. Her sustained collaboration with faculty in Geology and Geography, Biology, and Chemistry has become a model for instruction of information literacy and research skills.

In 2009, she collaborated with Associate Professor Tim Warner of Geology and Geography when he was awarded a grant to improve his course Introduction to Remote Sensing by developing a module on information literacy. Dr. Warner credits Blake's work on the course

for improving students' research habits and the overall quality of their research papers.

Associate Professor of Chemistry George O'Doherty credits Blake's collection development work for expanding access to the chemical literature and enhancing the academic experience.

"There is no doubt in my mind that these efforts by Linda have made us a better chemistry teaching and research university," O'Doherty said.

Blake has also been active off campus, promoting libraries through her work with the West Virginia Library Association and the American Library Association. She has served in various capacities with WVLA since 1984 and recently completed a multi-year term as the West Virginia Councilor to ALA.

Blake came to the WVU Libraries in 1997. Previous to her current position, she managed the library at the NASA facility in Fairmont. She received her bachelor's of arts in English and library science from Glenville State College and her master's of library science from the University of Kentucky.



Blake

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Calzonetti declined guessing what would be the next "big idea" to change the landscape of academic libraries, but she did affirm that libraries will continue to be an important component of universities.

"We are social animals. I don't think we'll ever get to the point where people just want to sit at home, work on their Blackberry, and not interact," Calzonetti said. "People like face-to-face, human contact."

Former Dean's Work Available Online

The Internet is breathing new life into a handful of books published decades ago by a former dean of library services.

From 1960 to 1977, Dr. Robert F.

Munn compiled five bibliographies focusing on the coal industry, Appalachia, and West Virginia publications. His work is now available on the Internet Archive: www.archive.org.

"These bibliographies were the Google of their day," said Jo. Brown, the Libraries' Appalachian bibliographer. "Dr. Munn pulled together all of the literature just as Google locates Internet sources today."

Munn received wide acclaim in 1965 with the publication of *The Coal Industry in America: A Bibliography and Guide to Studies* and in 1977 for the updated edition. Munn and his staff compiled 3,000 entries for the original book and added 1,000 for the second edition.

In a 1977 review, Juanita College President Frederick Moore Binder praised Munn for creating a much-needed resource. Interest in the coal industry among scholars and the public was growing, but quality information about the topic was not easily accessible.

"Mr. Munn has brought together much of the scattered materials written about the coal industry during the first two centuries of our existence as a nation... he is to be commended," Binder wrote.

More than 30 years later, Brown believes many could still benefit from perusing the digital tomes because today's debate over mountaintop removal is similar to the fight against strip mining during the 1950s, 60s, and 70s. Many of the same concerns remain current: environmental degradation, water pollution, landscape scarring, and jobs lost due to mechanization versus hand mining.

Researchers could also gain from Munn's *The Southern Appalachians*, which came out as President

John F. Kennedy's administration was re-enlivening interest in Appalachia. In it, Munn explains that little was written about Appalachia until it was "discovered" at the start of the 20th century. The amount written about the region, though, declined throughout the 1940s and into the early 1950s.

Containing more than 1,000 titles, the bibliography was helpful to government agencies, foundations, and scholars who were focusing on the social and economic problems of the region. President Lyndon Johnson's Administration created the Appalachian Regional Commission in 1965.

The bibliography grew into the *Appalachian Outlook*, which was published quarterly. It cumulated in a hardbound version in 1975 and 1980, at which time it had more than 8,200 entries. It is now published online in the *Journal of Appalachian Studies*.

Munn's passion for Appalachia ran deep. Going beyond compiling a list of resources, he established the Libraries' Appalachian Collection, which is housed in Wise Library's Milano Reading Room.

Similarly, his bibliography on coal gave root to the Libraries' Coal Collection. *Index to West Virginiana*, a Munn bibliography on West Virginia-based publications, laid the foundation for the West Virginia and Regional History Collection.

"Dr. Munn's early 'gardening' grew huge, fruitful collections," Brown said.

Posting Munn's books online is part of an initiative by the Libraries to digitize 1,000 books from their collections and make them available through the Internet Archive. Last year, the Libraries digitized the *Monticola*, the University's yearbook.

To get to the WVU Libraries' page, visit www.archive.org, click "Texts," then "American Libraries," and then "West Virginia University." Click on "All items" to see a list of all available WVU materials.



Make a Difference in the Lives That Follow

It is impossible to enter a large library... without feeling an inward sensation of reverence, and without catching some sparks of noble emulation, from the mass of mind which is scattered around you.

James Crossley (English author, bibliophile and literary scholar; 1800-1883)

Libraries are special places, as Crossley observed. Making sure that the WVU Libraries are always top-quality places for learning is truly important. Many already support this goal, year in and year out, through personal giving. Another beneficial option anyone may consider is a gift provision in your will or revocable trust to benefit the Libraries.

The first step is to decide what you'd like such a helpful gift to do. Funds for academic journals, technological resources, preservation services, the genealogy archives, the West Virginia and Regional History Collection, facility upgrades, and discretionary funds are definitely needed.

Then provide your attorney with the special wording of "to the West Virginia University Foundation, Inc. for the benefit of the WVU Libraries," along with the gift choice you have made, to assure the best results.

Knowing that your future gift will help the WVU Libraries and those who will use them is a truly impressive legacy.

For more information about creating a bequest, please contact Monte Maxwell, Libraries Development Representative, at 304-293-0306.



Fry-Jefferson "Map of the Inhabited Parts of Virginia," 1775 edition.

Mark Your Calendar for West Virginia Day Celebration

The WVU Libraries and the West Virginia and Regional History Collection will celebrate the state's founding with an event on June 18.

This year will mark the 147th anniversary of West Virginia's statehood. The celebration will focus on pioneer surveys, maps and patents in what was then the wild frontier. The preliminary schedule includes exhibits in the WVRHC's Davis Family Galleries, guest speakers, and a reception.

The event is open to the public. All who attend will receive a commemorative West Virginia Day poster.

Ex Libris the Newsletter of the WVU Libraries
Spring 2010 * West Virginia University

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Ex Libris is published by WVU Libraries
P.O. Box 6069
Morgantown, WV 26506-6069
(304) 293-5040

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