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WSULS 2009 Annual Report

Wayne State University Library System

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The Wayne State University Libraries are...

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Reviewing 2009

A letter from the dean of
the University Library System

Greetings.

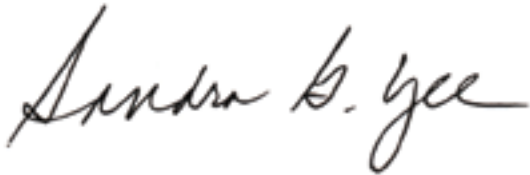


As we look back at 2009, I would like to highlight some of the positive directions we are taking as a system despite financial hardships that the university, as well as the state of Michigan are facing. Despite the budget difficulties that we face, our staff and faculty share a common desire to provide excellent service to our users. We continue to reinvent new ways to support our mission. In this report, we'll look at topics in retrospect but each one of the highlights that we cover here will act as a springboard for new ideas to create more successes and further solidify the important role that we play at Wayne State and beyond.

The Wayne State University Library System's programs and services continue to connect people with information in the way that is most meaningful, useful and efficient. By listening to our users' suggestions and feedback, as well as studying how our patrons use the library, we're using that data to make decisions that will positively enhance our users' experience. In 2009, we launched a comprehensive review to evaluate current journal subscriptions by involving users and staff of the library. With the help of faculty, under the guidance of our library liaisons, we are assigning priorities to our serials. This will help us determine the most appropriate titles to retain in order to ensure that our collection meets the needs of students, researchers and faculty. Our goal is to better align our journal subscriptions with our teaching and research goals at the university. Furthermore, the cancellation of lower priority titles may provide opportunities to purchase more essential resources for the Wayne State community. In 2010, we will use the data that we collect to make decisions for future journal subscriptions.

As the newly established School of Library and Information Science (SLIS), the faculty and staff undertook a rigorous process to prepare for re-accreditation by the American Library Association in 2009, including the site visit by the accreditation team last October. Early this year, SLIS received notification that the school received a full seven year reaccreditation. The LIS program became an autonomous school in 2009 due in part to the large enrollment growth, new concentrations and degrees, and its national recognition as a top-rated program. SLIS has grown from 125 students in 1987 to over 600 graduate students now enrolled. As one of only two accredited library schools in Michigan to offer a master's program, the Wayne State SLIS plays a very important role in training new librarians. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of the SLIS staff and faculty, the program is now one of the largest master's programs in library and information science and school library media preparation in the nation with a fully online masters degree option.

Visit our Web site for more exciting programs, events and developments in the coming year. Thank you again for your support!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sandra B. Yee". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sandra Yee,
Dean of the Wayne State University Library System



Reconstructing

new spaces for work and study

Late in 2009, renovations were completed on the third floor of the Kresge Library, creating new office space for the School of Library and Information Science. The space now has 24 new offices, two conference rooms, a server room and a kitchenette.

Open.
Collaborative.
Inspiring.





In May, after over 35 years in its previous location, the Shiffman Medical Library opened inside the Richard J. Mazurek, M.D. Medical Education Commons. The new library is 34,300 square feet and optimized for wireless mobile technologies. The building has an instruction lab and 13 group study rooms as well as 20 desktop stations for student use. Motion-activated compact shelving allows for easy retrieval of books while leaving more open space for study areas, as well as conserving energy.



Recognizing

accomplishments in the field

The Wayne State University School of Library and Information Science was reaccredited in 2010 after being evaluated by the American Library Association's (ALA) Committee on Accreditation (COA) in the fall of 2009. Each MLIS degree program accredited by the ALA goes through an extensive review process every seven years. The vast majority of public and academic professional librarian positions in the United States and Canada require a master's degree from an accredited program as a pre-condition of employment.



Reimagining

new ways to approach information



Throughout 2009, New Media and Information Technology and Wayne State's Office for Teaching and Learning worked to develop a new Digital Learning and Development Environment (DLDE). Built with support of a Wayne State Educational Development grant and a Digital Humanities Start-Up grant from the National Endowment for Humanities, the DLDE is a Web-based workspace where faculty and students can construct digital learning objects (DLOs) using the Library System's Digital Library collections.



The new software allows selecting images and metadata from the collections, importing them in a single portfolio into the DLDE workspace, then creating DLOs that can also include other text, audio and video for teaching and learning presentations. Currently, the software allows accessibility to the *Virtual Motor City* and *Digital Dress* collections. The recently debuted DLDE is now available for use at: <http://dlxs.lib.wayne.edu/dlde>.



Rethinking

strategies to promote positivity



In October and November, the Wayne State University Libraries offered an amnesty period for overdue books and library materials, the first of its kind at the Libraries since 2003. All library materials with a “billed” status were eligible for the program. By the end of the amnesty period nearly 700 items were recovered, which was almost 11 percent of those that were billed.



From November 23 to December 20, patrons had a chance to have their outstanding fines reduced or expunged while contributing to the Wayne State community through the Food for Fines program. For every one non-perishable food item donated to the Library System, \$1 was waived from outstanding fines. Nearly 1,500 food items were collected during the program period.

All items that were collected went to support the Adopt-a-Family Program. Coordinated by Library System employee volunteers, the Adopt-a-Family Program sponsors community families by providing meals and gifts during the holiday season.





Reinventing

new ways to provide library services

Instead of waiting for patrons to come to the library, Library Liaisons are taking instruction and consultation services out of the library and into academic departments and local business communities, like Wayne State's TechTown Technology Park. Library Liaisons help students tackle research assignments, show community business professionals how to use Michigan eLibrary databases and assist faculty in locating just the right article to support their research. In 2009, the Liaison team held five information fairs for faculty and graduate student assistants to introduce them to the services that librarians offer to assist them in their teaching and research.



Engaging faculty, students and community partners in their own environments not only provides convenience but also presents an opportunity to build relationships. Many faculty now directly consult the library liaison for their department to gain information about resources.

Renewing

our perspectives with new faces in 2009



THE RICHTHARTS
SIMON AND SCHUSTER
American
Colonial Times to the



“My favorite thing about Wayne State is its strong ties to the Detroit community. I love teaming up with real-world people to do real-world work.”

Virginia Thomas,
Law Library Director

“As a librarian, I get to help people find information, and I learn a lot myself in the process. I believe that knowledge grows by helping one another.”

Yolanda Jones,
Law Library Assistant Director





“I make the libraries a better place by finding new ways to use technology to share information with patrons.”

Paul Gallagher,
Developer Librarian


“ I love being a librarian because it’s great to be asked to find something ‘crazy’ for someone and then actually find it for them!”


Rebeca Befus,
Public Services Librarian





Reviewing

the numbers

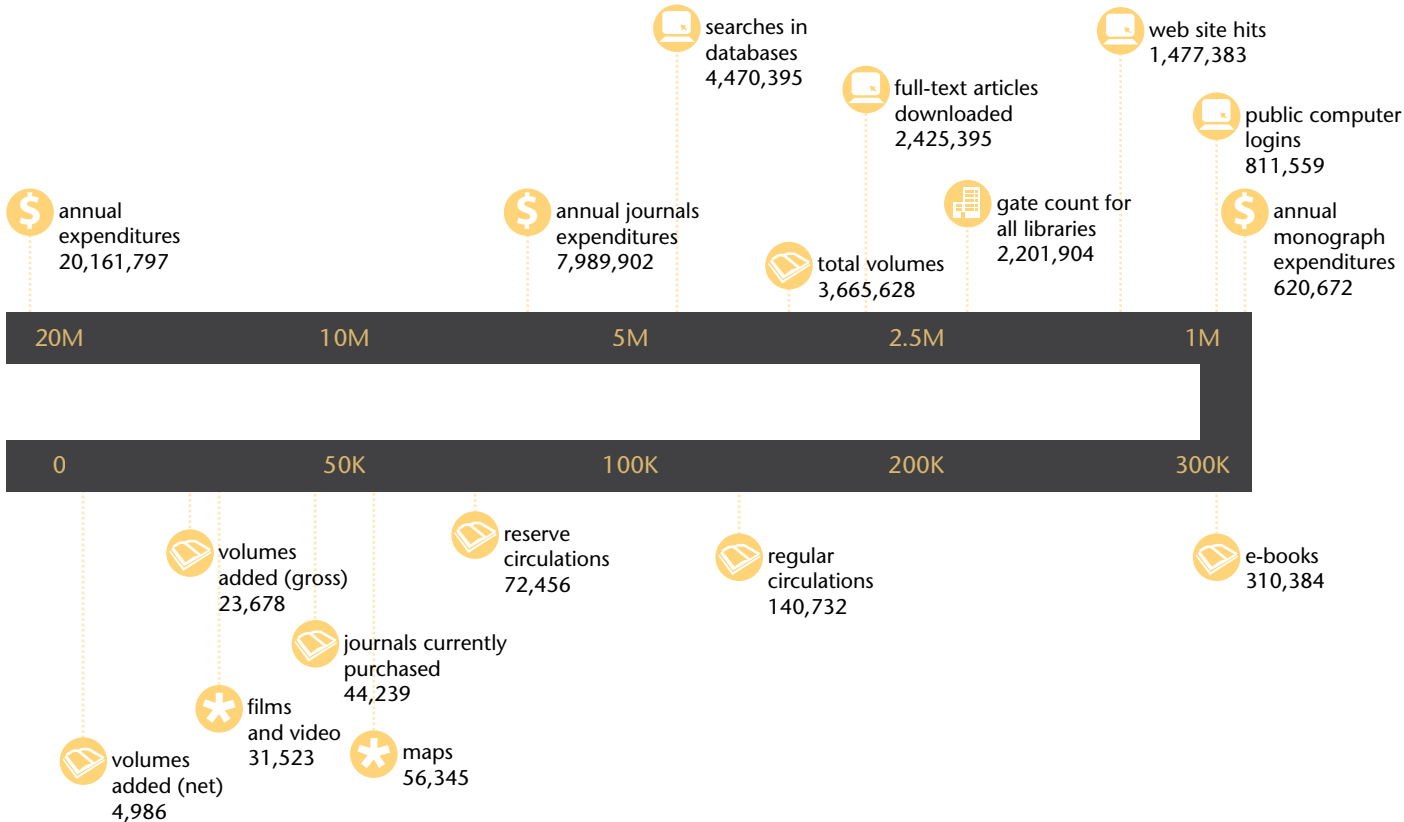
 books and journals

 expenditures

 facilities

 computing
and web site

 other



Revitalizing

our commitment through our donors

Research in the area of business received a major boost with the creation of the Frederick J. and Rose Sievert Business Information Endowed Fund. This fund was established to support the purchase of information resources to the students and faculty in the School of Business Administration and related disciplines. Last year, as part of Wayne State's "Aim Higher" campaign, the Sieverts added generously to the fund.

As a new member of the WSU Foundation Board of Directors, Sievert is a fully engaged alumnus that spends time on campus participating in student programs and supporting university initiatives.





At the heart of campus, our libraries are changing and growing to become flexible and technology-rich learning spaces. With a record of achievement that has grown steadily for more than 140 years, Wayne State University is one of Michigan's most valuable resources, both as a center of education and research, and as a contributor to the quality of life in our state.

For more information about giving to the libraries, contact Marguerite Carlton, director of development, at (313) 577-2822 or margueritec@wayne.edu



Remembering

those we have lost



Lothar Spang, Librarian IV



Su Bardeleben, Library Assistant

recreate renew remake
revamp reconstruct red
rekindle revitalize rei
resurge relate recog
design resource redi
retribute reinvent re
regain remember recip
reflect restore reinforc

e reimagine represent
leem revivify renovat
mage refresh reaffirm
nize realize respond
tribute react remode
build review rethink
procate reinvigorate
e reaccredit reconne

Credits

Historical and costume images:

Virtual Motor City and Digital Dress Collections, Wayne State University Library System
(pgs. 17,18,19,22,23)

From the photo collections of the Walter P. Reuther Library, Wayne State University
(pgs. 38,39)

Other images

Richard Bielaczyc and M.J. Murawka (pgs. 12,13,33,37,41)

Diane Paldan (pg. 41)

The Picture People (pg. 31)

Wayne State University "Aim Higher" photo library (pg. 39)

Jill Wurm (pgs. 2,5,8,11,15,20,24,26,29,30,32)

Designed and edited: Jill Wurm