Augsburg College opens new library and technology center

Augsburg College in Minneapolis has opened the James G. Lindell Family Library. The library enhances traditional library functions by acting as a gathering place for the campus and community. Here, library collections, information technology, archives, special collections, an art gallery, and state-of-the-art learning labs come together in a high-tech academic center.

The $12.5 million facility, designed by BWBR Architects, has 73,000 square feet—triple the amount of space previously available to the library. The library houses a collection of 165,000 books and periodicals, 1,000 videos, 5,000 audio recordings, special collections, and CD-ROM databases. The four-story building also houses the computer, telecommunications, and multimedia departments, and includes some 400 data access ports.

“Lindell’s architectural blending of masonry, wood, and glass in graceful curves and straight lines speaks to the intellectual blending of information and ideas that will take place here,” said Stuart Anderson, interim director of the Library and Information Technology at Augsburg. “The intertwining of library and information technology resources under one roof, for example, brings these folks together to work with faculty on creating new and exciting learning opportunities for our students.”

The Lindell Library also includes a multimedia computer development lab, a classroom equipped with satellite linking capabilities and network access, an instructional classroom that doubles as a computer lab (with 13 PCs and 29 more dataports), and a multimedia curriculum library for teacher education.

Participate in CLS “Dynamic Staff” swap-n-shop

The ACRL College Libraries Section’s Continuing Education Committee seeks participants for its “swap-n-shop” session at the 1998 ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C.

Entitled “Creating a Dynamic Staff: Developing and Organizing the College Library,” the event will take place from 10:00-11:00 a.m. on Monday, June 29, 1998. The session will feature discussion among participants about how college libraries are meeting increased demands for service and expertise in an environment of reduced (or stable) budgets, rising costs, and rapidly changing technologies.

Individuals and institutions that have successfully implemented innovative ideas in this area (e.g., created new organizational struc-
Here are bookplates that are favorites of the staff at Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Virginia. To have your bookplates considered for publication, send samples to Bookplates, C&RL News, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611.

more information, contact: Sheri Stormes at the Irwin Library, Butler University in Indianapolis; voice: (317) 940-9218; e-mail: stormales@thomas.butler.edu.

New Web journal seeks submissions

Initiatives, a new peer-reviewed electronic journal dedicated to providing current, pertinent information on new developments in information policy, information technology, management of information and information environments, and the information profession, seeks submissions. Initiatives, the brainchild of Maurie Caitlin Kelly, Penn State University, and Mary E. Beall, University of Illinois at Chicago, plans to highlight special projects, serve as a communication forum, and offer practical tools and recommendations for developing information initiatives. The journal will be free via Web access, and the first issue is due in June 1998. Check out the Web page (http://initiatives.libraries.psu.edu/) for specific submission information and details about the publication.

Academic Libraries: 1994 now available from NCES

Academic Libraries: 1994 (NCES 98-275) is now available from the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). It includes 27 tables of statistics describing service, collections, staff, and expenditures of 3,303 libraries in institutions of higher education at all levels.

There are two tables for each of 11 basic topics plus five tables of ratios. The first table displays data by state and the second displays the same data for all 3,303 libraries by: control (public or private), level (four levels of highest degree awarded), size (three levels of FTE enrollment), and Carnegie Classification. The last two groupings (size, Carnegie) were not in previous reports from NCES on academic libraries. Also new this year is the sequence of tables. Instead of beginning with tables on expenditures, thus calling attention to what libraries cost, the report begins with tables on services—thus calling attention to what libraries contribute. An analytical report, that compares 1994 figures on several key variables to data from earlier years, is in preparation at NCES.

Academic Libraries: 1994 (stock number: 065-000-01120-4) is available for $4.75 from New Orders, Superintendent of Documents, P.O. Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954; credit card orders may be faxed: (202) 512-2250 or phoned: (888) 293-6498. A few copies of this report are available from mlynch@ala.org.

JSTOR usage rises 363 percent and establishes a UK site

The use of the JSTOR database of academic journals has increased significantly since the beginning of the fall semester at more than 250 participating campuses. February usage topped the previous monthly high by 29 percent and represented a 363 percent increase.
over usage from the beginning of the fall semester: 26,729 articles were downloaded for printing during February and 89,174 searches were performed. In addition, 120,097 pages from 59,013 articles were viewed. JSTOR also expanded its collection by 10 percent and 250,000 pages with the February release of the back-runs of five journals.

JSTOR is establishing a mirror site of its database in the United Kingdom. Through a cooperative relationship with the Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC), the JSTOR database will now be available to universities in England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland.

The database will be housed at the University of Manchester. The UK was chosen for the first international JSTOR mirror site because of the JISC's unique role serving the UK higher education community and because of its advanced network infrastructure linking higher education institutions.

JSTOR, accessible via standard browsers on the Web (http://www.jstor.org/), allows users to retrieve high-resolution, scanned images of each journal page as it was originally designed, printed, and illustrated.

LC sponsors NSF’s Digital Libraries Initiative—Phase 2

The Library of Congress (LC) is one of the sponsors of the National Science Foundation’s Digital Libraries Initiative—Phase 2, which supports innovative digital-library research and applications. The objective of the multiyear program is to provide leadership in research, fundamental to the next generation of digital libraries.

During Phase I, six research projects were funded that promoted a discussion of “the importance of improving the utility, effectiveness, performance, scalability, and sustainability of current and future digital services and collections.” Phase 2 plans to conduct research with real collections and real users in mind. LC is offering many of its American Memory collections (http://www.loc.gov), which contain a substantial body of multimedia content.

LC hopes the research and collaborative efforts that emerge during Phase 2 (lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/dli2/) will lead to new technologies, practices, and communities of collection producers, content shapers, and end-users.

ACRL report on academic librarians’ scholarship available

ACRL has published Academic Librarianship and Redefining Scholarship Project, the results of a year-long study carried out by a task force chaired by W. Bede Mitchell, associate university librarian at Appalachian State University.

The report, which describes types of scholarship performed by academic librarians, is intended to extend the range of activities recognized as scholarly for purposes of tenure, promotion, merit, or reward system guidelines. It can serve as a guide for academic offices and faculty from other disciplines, as well as librarians.

After the report was distributed at the American Association of Higher Education’s National Conference in Atlanta, Leo Lambert, Provost at the University of Wisconsin, at La Crosse stated, “This report is exceptional; it will be extremely useful to me on my campus as we continue to address tenure and promotion issues for librarians.”

“Redefining Scholarship” is available in packages of 30 for $25, or $5 for a single report, including postage and handling, from ACRL Publications, 50 East Hur on Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611; Fax: (312) 280-2520. Orders must be prepaid with checks payable to ACRL or with a credit card. For further information, contact Hugh Thompson at (800) 545-2433, ext. 2517.
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