Purdue University has received a $40 million grant from the Lilly Endowment Inc. to fund initiatives designed to foster groundbreaking research, expand high-tech job growth throughout Indiana as well as nationally and globally, and enhance opportunities for students. A portion of the grant will support the Purdue Libraries, including $5 million for the Active Learning Center, a facility that will fuse classrooms, libraries, and study and collaboration areas into one adaptable space—an innovation that no other American university offers. The active-learning approach encourages students to be more active and engaged in their learning activities and the knowledge gained. The facility will consist of 38,000 square feet of study space and 59,000 square feet of classroom space. The Active Learning Center, under construction at the former site of the Engineering Administration Building and the North Power Plant, will blend and integrate centrally scheduled active-learning classrooms, library/information services, formal study spaces, collaborative work areas, and informal learning spaces. During the class day, 40 percent of the center will be library/study spaces. During the evening and throughout the night, the study space will expand to nearly the entire building. Inside the center, six libraries currently located at various points on campus will come together to form the Thomas S. and Harvey D. Wilmeth Library of Engineering and Science. Students will be able to tailor spaces to their own needs, pursuing information on their own or meeting in discussion and study groups. The Active Learning Center is scheduled to be ready for use in 2017.

Acquisitions

Kenneth Karmiole, a University of California-Los Angeles (UCLA) alumnus and seller of rare books, has established an endowment to create the Kenneth Karmiole Endowed Research Fellowship at the UCLA Library. The gift will support students, professors, and researchers working with the rare primary-source materials in UCLA Library Special Collections. The endowment will allow scholars to spend up to three months working with UCLA’s collection of archives, rare books, manuscripts, photographs, and other unique resources. These scholars’ discoveries and the knowledge they create will also help bring UCLA Library Special Collections items to the attention of wider audiences and will support UCLA’s educational and research missions. “I hope that this fellowship will create more awareness of the fabulous resources of the UCLA Library, both archival and printed book collections,” Karmiole said. Karmiole fellows will give presentations at the end of their time in residence and will be encouraged to share their research with other students, faculty and staff. These interactions are intended to inspire fellows and other UCLA scholars to write scholarly papers, articles and books, and to contribute to the academic and intellectual life fostered by the UCLA Library. The endowment will be managed by UCLA Library Special Collections, and is expected to be awarded annually. It will complement several other short-term research fellowships. Karmiole earned his master’s degree in library science from UCLA in 1971 and has owned and operated Kenneth Karmiole, Bookseller, since 1976.

Ed. note: Send your news to: Grants & Acquisitions, C&RL News, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611-2795; email: agalloway@ala.org.