

## *Stewart Library*

### *Annual Report*

#### *2016/17 Academic Year*

#### **I. Overview:**

The focus of the Stewart Library during the past year was to provide the best possible service to the university community during a two-phase, approximately \$21 million dollar renovation of the building. Once completed, the renovation will:

- \* Increase the quiet study and collaborative work space for students
- \* Upgrade the windows and skylights to allow more daylight in the building
- \* Add a new elevator going to all floors and is easily accessible off the west entrance
- \* Create a new Testing Center
- \* Add mobile (compact) shelving to accommodate future collection growth
- \* Increase the number of faculty research offices
- \* Update the existing restrooms and add a new unisex restroom
- \* Replace the ceilings and carpeting, and the outdated, inefficient mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems

Early in May, 2016, the south side of the building was closed so that construction on the first phase of the renovation could begin. Staff and services were relocated to the north side, and the collection A - H was removed to a secure, climate controlled warehouse in Salt Lake City.

Despite the very close quarters for staff, construction noise, dust, occasional fumes, and only half as much space for students to study and do research, all essential services continued to be provided. Student complaints were less than anticipated. They endured the constant noise and close quarters with good humor and seemed to understand the need for approximately one-third of the collection to be in off-site storage and temporarily unavailable.

The renovation of the south side was completed on time and the stored collection was returned and quickly re-shelved so that side of the building could be re-opened in early January, 2017, just prior to the beginning of Spring Semester. Once the south side of the building was reopened, the north side was closed and the collection H - Z was removed and placed in off-site storage. Temporary space on the south side was created for the Reference and Circulation desks and staff.

According to Okland Construction, renovation on the north side of the building is going very smoothly. It is on schedule and they will meet their substantial completion date of June 19, 2017. The north side of the building will be once again be open to the public in mid-August, and an event celebrating the completion of the renovation is scheduled for late August, 2017. Comments from students and faculty on the renovation of the south side of the library have been

very positive. They are impressed by how much light the new windows bring into the building, they like the bright colors, more modern furniture, and appreciate the higher ceilings, new lighting, and openness of the space.

## ***II. Mission***

The Stewart Library's mission is to advance the teaching, research, and community service mission of Weber State University through the development of collections, personalized assistance in the use of library services and information resources, and instruction on research strategies and tools.

We are committed to assessing our services and the relevancy and use of our resources, and to utilize assessment outcomes to improve those resources and services.

## ***III. Ongoing Goals***

The library has the following ongoing goals:

- 1. Acquire and make accessible the information resources needed to support teaching, learning, and research at Weber State University.*
- 2. Provide patron-centered services in a welcoming, inviting library environment.*
- 3. Provide an instruction program that promotes information literacy skills in Weber State University students.*
- 4. Seek additional sources of funding to enhance library resources and services.*

## ***IV. Annual Goals - 2016/17***

In support of its ongoing goals, annual goals are established. The following is an update on the progress made in meeting the library's 2016/17 annual goals.

*Goal 1. Continue to expand access to electronic, print, and primary source information resources.*

The library's current holdings include:

Books and bound periodicals:	459,585
Audio/video recordings:	24,153
Maps:	17,065
Microform units:	16,800
e-Books:	320,978
e-Journals:	154,971
Databases:	323

Expenditures for library materials during 2016/17 included:

Electronic subscriptions:	\$967,947
Print subscriptions:	\$48,457
Books (print & electronic):	\$55,817
Audio/video Recordings:	\$6,854
Microfilm/fiche:	\$22,898

The following important databases were added to the e-resources collection this past year:

***AVON - Academic Video Online Premium***

This streaming video platform integrates easily with Canvas and allows instructors and students to make clips and save them. Many of the videos are also segmented for class use. While most of the more than 65,000 AVON videos are documentaries, some independent films are also available.

***WRDS - Wharton Research Data Services***

WRDS, a business research platform that works with data providers to provide financial, statistical, and market data on companies worldwide. The ability to use WRDS effectively is an important skill for business and economic graduate students.

***IEL, the IEEE/IET Electronic Library***

IEL is the premier electrical & electronic engineering and computer science database. It provides access to numerous journals, conference proceedings, and standards.

***Up-to-Date***

Up-to-Date is a point-of-care, evidence-based, diagnostic medical database. Its availability via mobile devices or computers allows students in the simulation labs to use real-life tools in a safe environment, which better prepares them for their work in hospitals and other health care settings.

These additions were made possible by cancelling subscriptions to unused resources, switching to less expensive access for some resources, renegotiating contracts with vendors, and partnering with the Goddard School of Business & Economics on the ***WRDS*** database.

Excellent progress continues to be made in providing access to the library's unique collections and primary source material. Significant additions to the collections in Special Collections and University Archives during the past year included:

***The Ogden Standard Examiner*** photo morgue, which contains approximately 10,000 acetate negatives, 20,000 35 mm negatives, and over 50,000 photographs, as well as clipping files. This is an extremely important collection for Weber State University as it documents the history of Weber County from the 1940s up to the present with images of people, businesses, and events. The collection represent unique images not otherwise available. Once the collection is processed

it will become one of the heaviest used collections available at the Stewart Library Special Collections.

Special Collections also received the Red Cross of Northern Utah collection documenting 120 years of Red Cross activities in the area. These records help to demonstrate the influence the Red Cross had on Northern Utah over the last century.

Important additions to the University Archives included historic geographic and physics equipment from 1930 to 1970, along with John Lind teaching materials, fossils, and slide samples from his time as a professor from 1896 to 1938. The working materials, photographs, correspondence, and art work from Dr. Susan Makov's *Trading Post Guidebook*, published in 1995, were also received during the past year, as was a substantially large collection of videos from Alvey Media portraying events and activities involving Weber State University from 1997 to 2012.

*Goal 2. Implement a web-scale discovery service (OneSearch) to expand access to the library's information resources.*

OneSearch, which was being used in test mode, was fully implemented during the past year. While the feedback on it is positive, there is a learning curve for students to use it effectively. It is especially important for them to learn how to develop focused search statements that narrow the results retrieved to a manageable number. Instructions on how to use OneSearch are available on the library's website, and effective search strategies are taught in all library courses, and in subject specific, English 1010, and 2010 and UNIV 1105 classes.

*Goal 3. Complete the design of the library's new website to make it more intuitive and patron-centered.*

After many delays, the completely revised and redesigned library website was fully implemented in August, 2016. Transition to the new website went more smoothly than had been anticipated with very few issues. The new site is now a more dynamic, user oriented interface and it has been well received by WSU students and faculty.

*Goal 4. Revise the Information Literacy Exam (NTM 1504) to align more closely with LIBS 1704 and the information literacy program outcomes.*

Significant progress was made on meeting this goal. The more than 300 exam questions were revised and are now aligned with both general education outcomes and information literacy instruction program outcomes. The revised exam was partially implemented Fall Semester 2016.

Discussion on whether or not the NTM Department will continue to administer the 1504 exam has been ongoing for the past year. Once the computer literacy component of WSU's Computer & Information Literacy requirement is discontinued, there will still be an information literacy exam option for students. In late May, the library was able to hire an Information Literacy Exam

Coordinator. This position will enable the library to assume responsibility for administering the exam, which it intends to do by Spring Semester, 2018.

*Goal 5. Seek additional sources of funding to enhance resources and expand client-centered services.*

In 2016/17 gifts to the library totaled nearly \$140,000 and an additional \$23,000 was received in grants. In the coming year, we will continue to work closely with the Development Office to identify and cultivate new donors and with the Office of Sponsored Projects to explore additional funding opportunities.

#### **V. Library Goals - 2017/18:**

In support of its ongoing goals, the annual goals for 2017/18 are:

- 1. Work closely with Okland Construction and Bailey's Moving and Storage to relocate library collections, services, and staff to their permanent locations on the north side of the building.*
- 2. Continue to expand access to collections, focusing primarily on e-resources and primary source materials.*
- 3. Continue to revise the LIBS 1504 Information Literacy Exam. Assume responsibility for administering the exam starting Spring Semester, 2018.*
- 4. Due to the continuing decline in the number of patron requests, implement a different model for when, and the amount of time, subject librarians are scheduled at the Reference Desk.*
- 5. Increase private and grant funding by five percent. Work closely with the library's Development Director on naming opportunities resulting from the renovation.*