

Kansas Library Association Conference

April 26, 2012



Wichita State University Libraries

InfoShock

April 11-13, the Kansas Library Association held their annual conference at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in downtown Wichita. Several WSU librarians and staff members participated in the conference.

Susan Matveyeva shared her experiences of developing the SOAR services in the presentation: “Digital Repository Services for Students, Faculty and Research Administration” (<http://soar.wichita.edu/dspace/handle/10057/5074>) at the Kansas Library Association Annual Conference on Thursday, April 12. She also attended a half-day workshop on MarcEdit by Terry Reese along with **Connie Basquez, Sai Deng, Nancy Deyoe and Mary Walker.**

Mary Walker attended KLA and the MARCEdit workshop with Terry Reece. In her opinion the MARCEdit workshop and the opening keynote with R. David Lankes were the highlight of the conference. During the RIAT (Roundtable on Information and Access) meeting Mary learned that the Topeka Shawnee County Public Library has a Fun Committee that is responsible for developing fun activities throughout the year to promote the library and its services. Maribeth Turner gave a presentation on Building Tech Confident Staff. The one thing that stood out was that she said, “You must have the right attitude when learning and using technology.” She has compiled several tech related resources into one blog: <http://hypertechie.blogspot.com>

Ruth Harries, second shift supervisor in Circulation, was selected to present a poster session at last week’s Kansas Library Association Conference held in Wichita. She was one of six SLIM students from Emporia State University who drew from their experiences and research to demonstrate improvements to library



Ruth Harries with her poster presented at KLA.

administration. Ruth’s poster title was “Using Library Student Employee Promotions and Recognition to Increase Engagement,” which was based on initiatives in Access Services in 2011. As a bonus for participation, Ruth’s registration fee to the conference was paid by the SLIM Program. Ruth also won a complementary membership to the Mountain Plain Library Association.

WALA celebrated its 30th anniversary at the Kansas Library Association Conference. Cake was served during the conference on Thursday, April 12 and that night, WALA hosted an event to celebrate their 30th anniversary. Guests enjoyed a reception at Wichita’s original Carnegie Library, which was preserved by Fidelity Bank and is now their current Commercial Banking headquarters. Guests also toured the Allen-Lambe house, designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, before taking a trolley to the Keeper of the Plains for the 9:00 p.m. fire display.

Robyn Tiemeyer, WSU Libraries Staff Association President, poses with the “gardening basket” donated by our Staff Association for the Kansas Library Association Education Fund (KLAEF) fundraiser. About 40 baskets were offered for attendees to buy chances on. The delighted winner of the gardening basket was Denise Smith, Director of the library in Johnson, Kansas and a past president of KLA. Robyn won a free optical mouse from Salina Blueprint.



Angela Paul, as WALA President, created a table display for the KLA Conference.



Robyn Tiemeyer with the gardening basket donated by the Staff Association.

News from Access Services

University Libraries Staff Association

Thank you to all of the staff members that contributed to the KLAEF fundraiser basket. There was a great response to the call for donations and WSU Libraries was well represented by our beautiful and overflowing basket of gardening items. Look for more service opportunities from the Library Staff Association to come after Spring semester.

Extended Hours to Start April 30th

Members of the Access Services Staff are preparing for Spring Finals and Extended Hours. During the last two weeks of the semester, Ablah Library's public hours will be from 7:30am to 1:00am on Monday through Thursday. Friday, Saturday, and Sunday hours will remain the same. Those energy drinks and Frappuccinos now available in the 24 Hour Study Room will sure to come in handy!

Check out www.libraries.wichita.edu for the complete schedule.

For students in a hurry: Library Print Stations

There are public PCs and printers available throughout the library, but what's a student to do when they need to print and run? There are two express print stations

on the first floor of the library just for those patrons that need their documents NOW. One is located at the Help Desk, the other just inside the Reserve Department. Authentication is not required, so patrons can plug in a flash drive, send the document to the print queue, and pick up the job in a matter of minutes. To ensure the stations remain readily available, there is a time limit of 15 minutes.

Feeling Stressed?

Did you know that popping Bubble Wrap for one minute relieves the same amount of stress as a 33 minute massage? It sure does, according to a survey conducted by Kelton Research in honor of Bubble Wrap Appreciation Day. Check out other interesting facts about Americans and stress at www.bubblewrapfun.com

Don't Miss This

Did you happen to catch the April 4th edition of *The Sunflower*? You can still read it online, including the article highlighting our own local celebrity, **John Stewart**. Learn all about John and his music at <http://tinyurl.com/75zpr7y>. Don't be afraid to leave a comment!

ERIC Has Left the Building

For the last several months, **Nancy Deyoe** has been coordinating the weeding/recycling project with Kari Ossman of the Physical Plant. As part of a Regent's-wide shared storage agreement, the ERIC microfiche was scheduled for removal over Spring Break. Kari had offered to gather a few volunteers from Physical Plant to help remove the fiche from the drawers. Unable to work outside due to the rainy weather, the number of volunteers from Physical Plant grew to over a dozen. Twenty-eight microfiche cabinets were amazingly cleared out in less than one hour. Way to go, Physical Plant!



Tech Corner

Back to Basics: Using HTML with Content Management Systems Workshop

Gemma Blackburn will be offering a workshop covering basic HTML skills for people who use any of the Libraries' content management systems (Joomla, SubjectsPlus, LibCal, CONTENTdm, Blackboard). Whether you are new to HTML, or just need a refresher, this workshop will explain how HTML can be used to fine-tune your web projects beyond the regular scope of a content management system. The workshop will be held: **Friday, May 4, 10-11am and 3-4pm**. Please RSVP to Gemma Blackburn with the time you plan to attend.

Compact Shelving Update

Progress is moving right along in Ablah Library's Compact Shelving area. Thanks to an extraordinary effort from student employees during Spring Break, the area slated for new construction was ready to go a full two days before new shelving started to arrive. Everything had to be removed to prepare for construction to begin: first the books, then the shelves, and finally even the carpet had to go!

While construction continues to move forward ahead of schedule, items stored in Compact Shelving will remain temporarily unavailable until the project is complete. Patrons that need access to an unavailable resource should be referred to Interlibrary Loan. The construction phase of the project should be completed by the first week in May.



Manuela Geck, Stacks Lead Student

From the Archives

John Duncan Finlayson took over as president of Fairmount College in September 1922. Once again, the trustees hired a minister to lead the school, but, unlike his Congregational predecessors, the new president was a Presbyterian. He also was a native of Canada and a seasoned educator with a doctorate from Harvard who taught abroad with the U.S. military and at the University of Michigan. At 36, he was considered by the trustees "young enough to have prime health and energy and old enough to have mature judgment."

The Finlaysons arrived at Fairmount College on a hot August day in 1922 after what must have been a grueling eight-day car trip from their home in Ann Arbor, Michigan. The Wichita Beacon reported they encountered terrible roads in Missouri and ended up in a ditch with a broken front wheel. The president and his family surely were relieved to reach their new home in Wichita.

In his inaugural address, Dr. Finlayson set the stage for our present urban-serving university. He stated that a college situated in a city should look to serve the particular needs of that city and its surrounding area. He urged Fairmount to contribute to the "life and up-building" of Wichita and become an educational and economic catalyst for the region.

During his presidency, financial problems continued to plague Fairmount. The school's leadership considered merging with other colleges, moving to cities like Topeka or Dodge City, or completely closing down. In the early 1920s, the idea of city-supported universities was gathering momentum. Dr. Finlayson embraced

the concept as a well-timed solution to

Fairmount's financial woes and consulted with the leaders of successful municipal universities at Cincinnati, Louisville and Akron among others. He helped persuade the Kansas legislature to grant permission for the state's larger cities to create city universities.

The first attempt to municipalize Fairmount was voted down in 1925. A year later, after a vigorous campaign by Dr. Finlayson, business leaders, educators, newspapers and Fairmount alumni, Wichitans approved the gift of the college to the city and agreed to a tax increase of one-tenth of one cent to help fund the new university. The University of Wichita, also known as WU, was the first municipal university west of the Mississippi River.

Dr. Finlayson was retained as president of the new university. He stayed through the 1926-1927 school year, then left for a similar post at the University of Tulsa, another newly minted municipal university. After seven years at Tulsa, he left academia, returned to Michigan and became a life insurance executive. He died in Ann Arbor in 1950.

Although Dr. Finlayson's time as our president was short, several firsts occurred during those five years: African Americans began taking classes, modern conveniences like electricity, telephones and parking lots were installed, and, in 1925, little Jeanne Finlayson arrived, making Mrs. Finlayson the first and only first lady to have a baby while first lady.



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Explore...Enlighten...Empower

InfoShock

A newsletter for the WSU Libraries Employees by the Employees
This edition: Stephanie Sauls, Kathy Downes, Mary Nelson, Robyn Tiemeyer

Special articles: Gemma Blackburn, Nancy Deyoe, Nan Myers, Angie Paul, Susan Matveyeva, Stephanie Versch (photos)

Government Documents Weeding Project

Nan Myers, Jo Plumb, Satomi Harada, and Mariah Warren have been working hard to weed the government documents collection. Ablah Library became a depository library in 1901.

One of the many things housed in compact shelving was the United States Congressional Serial Set as most of the Serial Set is now available online. These volumes range from 1840 to the present. One hundred seventy three (173) boxes are packaged and ready to be picked up by the Supreme Court Law Library in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The Santa Fe library experienced some severe water damage to their collection. These 2,976 volumes will go a long way in restoring their damaged section of materials. We are excited to find a new home for the historic Serial Set volumes even if it is 568 miles away! Several other small sections of the Serial Set have been claimed by other libraries outside of Kansas.



Satomi Harada and Mariah Warren with 173 boxes of donated materials.