January 23, 2009. Welcome to InfoShock News Express. InfoShock News Express is a weekly news bulletin of activities happening in the University Libraries brought to you by the members of the Libraries Operations Council. And now for the announcements—

Welcome to the First Week of the Spring 09 Semester

University Libraries Receives Grant
Shortly before the holiday, Nan Myers and Lorraine Madway received word that that their grant application was one of 30 applications nationwide and the only one in Kansas, approved to receive a “Soul of a People: Voices from the Writer’s Project” grant from the American Library Association and the National endowment for the Humanities. This grant is designed to reacquaint audiences with the Federal Writers’ Project (FWP) of the Works Progress Administration. Each grant application was required to develop a community-wide celebration day, a program focusing on a Federal Writers’ Project work about the library’s region, a program in which attendees examine at least four oral histories from the Writers’ Project “Slave Narratives” and “American Life Histories”, a program about the prominent authors who contributed to the Writers’ Project and later became important figures in American literary history, and a screening of excerpts from the documentary Soul of a People, followed by discussion led by the project scholar. Madway and Myers have planned a large celebration in collaboration with the Sedgwick county Historical Museum, a panel discussion of the Federal Writers’ Project featuring WSU history faculty and Madway, a scholar-led discussion of the oral histories in the Writers’ Project, a program on John Cheever held at the Wichita Public Library, and a screening of excerpts from the documentary Soul of a People. Most programming for the grant will be held in late spring. Nan Myers is the grant project director and Lorraine Madway is serving as the grant project scholar.

Carpeting Project Advances
After several postponements due to shipping delays, the carpeting project finally got underway. During the past two weeks all of the Circulation and Reserve staff areas have received carpeting, and by the end of this Friday, all of Technical Services should be completed. The carpeting crew will be returning next week to finish this phase of the job by re-carpeting the lower level study area. A large thank you goes out to all of our library colleagues who packaged up their offices, helped others move, and generally made the project go smoothly.

University Libraries Participates in Satellite SHOCKS
The University Libraries will be joining representatives from Student Health, the Co-Op Office, Career Services, Counseling Services, Student Government Association and the Police Department at a WSU information fair to be held next week (January 26 – January 30) on both the west and south campuses. Angie Paul will represent the Libraries at the West Campus on Tuesday night from 5:30-7 p.m. and at the South Campus on Wednesday night from 5:30 – 7p.m. Angie will share
library guides, promote LIS 170, and generally answer questions about library services for WSU students.

Check Out the New Display
A display featuring a selection of graphic narratives (also known as graphic novels) from the library’s collection has been placed in the first floor display case. The display reflects the genres of graphic novels that dominate Ablah’s collection: memoirs, journalism, autobiography, and other non-fiction. The display also contains a select bibliography on graphic novels by women written by Liorah Golomb and published in the current issue of the EMIE Bulletin, an addendum to the Multicultural Review. The exhibit, developed by Golomb, will remain up through the first week of February. A list of books in the display case is available at: http://library.wichita.edu/circulation/exhibit_books.htm on the exhibit webpage maintained by Amy Williams.

Newspapers Available for Students
You may have noticed the new newspaper rack in the vestibule by the 24 hour study room. This offering is part of an SGA pilot program designed to bring national newspapers to campus. Ablah Library was chosen to be one of five sites on campus to receive the newspapers. The program offers free copies of the Wichita Eagle, USA Today, and the New York Times to students. This pilot program will run from January 21st to February 16th. Please let Kathy Downes know if you receive any feedback about this newspaper service.

Toner Scam
Be aware that the toner scam folks are at it again. In this ploy, someone will call asking what copier models are being used. Usually they try to pick times when full-time staff is not available such as the lunch hour, evening, or weekend hours. Shortly afterwards, the organization will receive a large shipment of toner never ordered with an invoice. If you receive such a call, direct it to the Deans’ Office. Please make sure that your students know not to give out this information over the phone.

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Giving Back to the Community
Each year the Rotary Club of Wichita provides enough books to give each child in the Reading is Fundamental program three books a year. This year Lyndsay Smanz and Angela Paul are volunteering their time to read to children registered for the program at the Martin Luther King Center, a Headstart/Child Start program center close to campus. There are about 60 students who enjoy being read a couple of stories and receiving a book to take home. The picture below shows Angie Paul reading to her class.
Staff Association Meeting
On Thursday, January 29th, the Staff Association held its annual meeting. The meeting was presided over by Cindy Craig, incoming chairperson. Committee reports were presented by the social, staff room, courtesy, and student appreciation committees. Kathi Adams presented the treasurer’s report. A hearty round of applause was given to all committee members and officers for their hard work over the past year. Minutes of the meeting will be forthcoming. Sign-up sheets for this year’s committees are now available. If you are interested please contact any of the officers. This year’s officers are: Cindy Craig, Chairperson; Chris Feeney, Chairperson-Elect; Kathi Adams, Treasurer; and members at large Jack Robertson and Ginger Williams.

Library Associates Lecture Scheduled for February 22
The Library Associates will be sponsoring a lecture on Sunday, February 22, from 2-4PM entitled: "The Face Value of U.S. Slavery: Reflecting Its Economic Impact in Paper Currency." The speaker will be Gerald Norwood who will demonstrate the importance of slavery to southern economy through discussion of slave images on southern currency. The lecture will take place outside of Special Collections. Refreshments will be served and all are invited.

ERMS Ejournal Terms of Use Feature
As many of you know, the ERMS Team has been working on implementing the electronic resources management system. One feature that is currently available is the “Terms of use”. This feature allows you to view the different licensing agreements for our various electronic journals such as number of concurrent users, ILL rights, remote access rights, etc. The feature is located right after the journal’s title on the electronic journals list. (http://dn3kg6nn2s.search.serialssolutions.com/)
Members of the ERMS team are: Mary Walker (Lead), Gemma Blackburn, Nancy Deyoe, Judy Lewis, Cathy Moore-Jansen, Ginger Williams.

Carpeting update
The carpeting projects in Technical Services and Access Services have been completed. The lower level is still incomplete because the shipper did not send enough carpet. This shipper has indicated that he will send a rush shipment with the needed carpet, and the Carpet Guys hope to have the lower level finished by next week.

Just for Fun: Newseum - An Interesting Website
The Newseum Front Pages website (http://www.newseum.org/todaysfrontpages/default.asp) displays the current front pages of over 700 newspapers from around the world with links to the newspapers’ website. It is a great site to see quickly what stories are making major headlines. The nifty map feature also lets you see what newspapers in your area are represented. The website was created by the Newseum, a museum located in Washington D.C. that was created to preserve historical events and movements as they were represented in the news media. Thanks go to Nancy Deyoe for pointing out this site.