August 31, 2009, Welcome to InfoShock News Express. InfoShock News Express is a 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—

Laura M. and Pal V. Rao Staff Association Fund Established
Last Thursday, Dr. Rao announced that he was establishing a fund of $5,200 to help support activities of the Library Staff Association. Rao recently stepped down after completing six years as library dean to return to the faculty. In his announcement, Professor Rao said that the establishment of the fund was his way of thanking the library faculty and staff for all of their support while he served as Dean. The announcement was made at the back to school luncheon hosted by Rao. Thank you Dr. Rao for your generosity!

UL hosts its First Open House
The University Libraries held its first open house on August 25th. The day included numerous workshops in the new Learning Center, building tours, and creating READ posters featuring WSU students, faculty, and staff holding a favorite book. Over 120 persons participated in the READ poster event. Special guests included President Beggs, Provost Miller, and WU. One popular feature of the open house was the opportunity for folks to meet WU and have their pictures taken with him. Chris Feeney is now busily adding the pictures to the poster backgrounds and plans to start sending out the finished images over the next several days. Special thanks goes out to all who participated in the open house especially to the Open House Committee members: Nan Myers, Angie Paul, Chris Feeney, Jo Gregg, Jane Hodge, and Joan Wilson.

Learning Center Debuts
Some of you might be wondering what happened to the Government Documents office, where is Jo Gregg, and what is this Learning Center? The creation of the Learning Center in the old government documents/ Patents & Trademarks space is part of the Libraries’ efforts to assist student learning at the point of need. It has been designed to provide a space for immediate short instructional sessions without disturbing other students working in the Learning Commons (e.g. a study group arrives and needs to know how to use Medline). It also will be used to highlight the Libraries’ workshop series. The Learning Center will share the space with the Patents & Trademark client center. The administrative function of government documents has moved back into the RSG suite. Jo Gregg will be dividing her time between that area and her new circulation responsibilities. The Learning Center made its debut during the Libraries’ Open House. Plans call to add additional equipment and furnishings.

Textbook Collection Open to Students
On the first day of classes, WSU students had library access to 92 textbooks in the new Textbook Collection. The establishment of this collection is a great example of cooperation among all areas of the libraries with special assistance from the WSU Bookstore. Here is a little background on the project. Early this summer, Mrs. Marge Page, a long time donor to the libraries, wished to make a one-time donation to the libraries in addition to her ongoing endowment. After reviewing a list of funding proposals, she selected the creation of a textbook collection. Her choice was based on the hardship she and her husband faced in purchasing all of their textbooks while attending college. A textbook task force was formed. The first step taken was to contact the WSU Bookstore to determine which textbooks were being used and to address any concerns they might have about the project. The meeting was very successful. The Bookstore provided the Libraries with a printout of textbooks scheduled to be used during the fall semester along with information about book price
Rachel Mapel, Dean’s Office student assistant, used the printout to create a list of high enrollment classes with high priced textbooks. The textbook committee met and selected textbooks for the fall from the lists and printout. The Bookstore printout was also checked against the OPAC to identify textbooks that were already in the circulating collection. Purchased textbooks were rush processed through Technical Services with donor notes added to each new bib record, course numbers added to the note field, and a new location along with new dynamic map established in the OPAC. Existing books were also added to the collection. Meanwhile, Access services was creating a space for the collection, coordinating labeling options with Technical Services, and designing a webpage with Gemma Blackburn providing the canned link. All in all, the project was put together in a record breaking two months time. During the first four days of classes over 56 circulations were recorded for the collection. Thanks go out to all who reordered their priorities to make this project successful. A special thank you to the textbook task force members: Rachel Crane, Nancy Deyoe, Jane Hodge, Cathy Moore-Jansen, Ginger Williams, Kathy Downes (Consultant), and Rachel Mapel (Assistant).

Orientation Given to Supplemental Instruction Leaders
Supporting the supplemental instruction program is an important way that the Libraries can help with the University’s efforts to improve retention of students. Each semester Jane Hodge meets with the new supplemental instruction leaders during their training sessions to inform them about library services and to answer questions about the library. One library service designed especially for the supplemental instruction leaders is the express group study room reservation process. Supplemental instruction leaders use the Libraries’ group study rooms for their weekly review sessions. This year Jane spoke to the six new SI leaders. For more information about the Supplemental Instruction program check out their website at: http://webs.wichita.edu/?u=shockersuccess&p=/Spring2009/SIindex

New SAC & SGA Popular Movie in Process
Another new collection will soon be unveiled. Over the summer, the Libraries collaborated with the SAC (Student Activities Council) to create a popular DVD collection named the SAC & SGA Movie Collection. The SAC donated 123 DVDs to the Libraries that are now in Technical Services being processed. The next Infoshock Express will have more details about this collection.