

## ALA Midwinter

February 20, 2012



Ginger Williams, Kathy Downes, Nancy Deyoe and Dean Gilstrap attended the Midwinter meeting of the American Libraries Association in Dallas, January 20–23. Ginger and Kathy spent many productive hours talking with library vendors in the exhibits area and attending meetings: they also went bull riding. Most of the vendor conversations centered around emerging e-book possibilities and new options for technology. Dean Gilstrap appeared to enjoy

teasing the ladies about the number of free books they picked up. The books were shared with library employees and used for the Libraries Open House event. Informational sessions attended at the conference included sessions on assessment tools for libraries, new options for public programming, and pay for view for serials.

Kathy Downes and Ginger Williams



## Open House and Other Outreach Activities

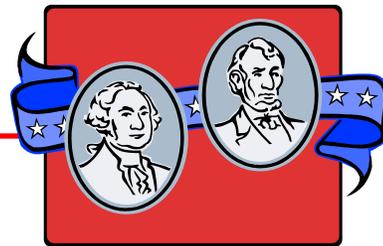
Students, faculty, and staff had a great time at University Libraries' Open House at Ablah Library on January 24. Thanks to the combined efforts of Ginger, Nancy, and Kathy advance reader copies and other vendor-supplied goodies were provided as door prizes for the open house. Out of the 18 total prizes we gave away at the main campus, seven were books. It was noted that students appreciated the books and took their time making a selection. Attendees also spent time at the various tables to learn how to use library databases and about our new services, such as the study room reservation calendar. Many, many thanks to all volunteers!

In early February, 32 international students in the class Intensive English: Introduction to Academic Studies needed to do research for an assignment. Their normal classroom was not available, and our own classroom was too busy that week to rotate through a split class. The Media Resource Center came to the rescue! Angela was able to use the Flexible Learning Space to hold class. MRC also provided a few laptops so students who had not brought his or her own computer could take class time to conduct research during and after direct instruction.

On Wednesday, February 15, 2012, a science class from Sunrise Christian Academy came to find more information about animals. Each student had already done some basic research on his or her animal using encyclopedias and books, and needed more scientific details such as environmental issues and migration studies. Students found resources listed on the General Science library guide quite helpful.



# News from Access Services



## Library Staff Association

On February 9, the annual WSU Library Staff Association meeting was held in room 217. As Nan Myers, Director of Public Services concluded her tenure as chair, each of the four committees presented their annual reports and elections for the 2012 officers were held.

### The 2012 Library Staff Association Officers

Robyn Tiemeyer, *Chair*  
Ginger Williams, *Vice-Chair/Secretary*  
Kathi Adams, *Treasurer*  
Bev Henline, *Member-at-Large (Classified Staff)*  
Mary Walker, *Member-at-Large (Faculty)*

A great way to get involved with the Library Staff Association that does not require a large time commitment is to help on one of the planning committees! There is still an opportunity for those that were not present at the meeting to join one of the four standing committees listed below:

- Courtesy Committee
- Staff Room Committee (only 1 more needed)
- Social Committee
- Student Appreciation Committee

If you are interested in joining a committee, please contact Robyn Tiemeyer by email at [robyn.tiemeyer@wichita.edu](mailto:robyn.tiemeyer@wichita.edu) or at ext. 5115.

## Tools for Staff Development: Webinars

Members of Access Services along with members of library faculty attended two webinars this month to learn about new trends in library services. Carrye McGrath, Robyn Tiemeyer, Mary Walker, and Nan Myers attended *Developing and Maintaining E-Reader Policies and Procedures for Libraries* to see how libraries across the country are implementing E-readers into circulation. Though attended mostly by public libraries, it was very insightful to see what is working for patrons and library staff alike.

There are many new developments in interlibrary loan procedures, with that in mind, Betty Sherwood, Mary Wirths, Mary Walker, Robyn Tiemeyer, and Nan Myers attended *Article Exchange for Resource Sharing and ILLiad Services*, a training opportunity provided by OCLC. WSU Libraries is anticipating a major upgrade to ILLiad in the next few months, and the Article Exchange service recently expanded from test environment to the general ILL community, is promised to be an efficient feature for secure electronic delivery.

The webinars provided an opportunity for library staff members to discuss how these services would fit into our organization, and brought to light how new services impact across all areas of the library.

## Coming up: Severe Weather Training for All Student Employees

As Kansans, we are accustomed to our volatile weather patterns, and can even become complacent when warning and sirens are sounding to take precautions. Have you ever wondered how storm watches and warnings are perceived by international students? What happens at Ablah Library when a storm is approaching but the staff has gone home for the day?

*"I've heard about [storms], but I have never experienced yet..."*, Hitesh, Reserve GA, who has lived in Kansas about eight months.

Since WSU Libraries depends on our diverse roster of student and graduate assistants for the safety and security of our patrons, educating these employees on severe weather procedure is a priority for Access Services.

On Thursday, February 23, 2012, Circulation Evening Supervisor Ruth Harries will hold Severe Weather Training in seminar room 225 at 2pm. A repeat presentation will be scheduled for those that cannot attend on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Access Services invites ALL student employees and any interested staff to attend one of the trainings. Included in Ruth's presentation is the difference between watches and warnings, when to move patrons to safety, and how to proceed if the building is damaged by a serious weather event. Please contact Robyn Tiemeyer if you have students that would like to attend the training but cannot make the 23<sup>rd</sup> so that a new date can be added.



## In the Lost and Found

One of our multi-tasking students left their two pound hand weights here. We are hopeful that this doesn't affect their New Year's resolution.

## From the Archives



President Henry E. Thayer, circa 1908

Henry E. Thayer, the university's second president, was no stranger to Fairmount College or to Wichita. He became a trustee of the college in 1896 and served as the minister of the city's Plymouth Congregational Church from 1896 to 1902. His two children grew up in Wichita and attended Fairmount College. In 1907, shortly after the deaths of President

Nathan Morrison and Dean W. H. Isely, the college trustees and the Congregational Education Society tapped the well-known Thayer to lead Fairmount. He assumed his presidential responsibilities by September 11, the opening day for the fall 1907 term.

President Thayer holds a unique place in the history of libraries at Wichita State University. During his inauguration on March 10, 1908, he helped lay down the cornerstone for the campus' Carnegie library. On this special day, classes were dismissed and speeches, sermons and music marked the festivities held both on campus and at Fairmount and Plymouth churches.

President Thayer inherited a college deeply in debt.

Under his leadership, the college mounted several capital campaigns without much success and considered merging with the College of Emporia to stay afloat. Like President Morrison, he spent much of his time away from campus on fund-raising trips in the East.

Despite the harsh economic times, the modern world made its way onto campus during Thayer's seven years in office. Natural gas for heating and lighting was installed in 1907. In 1908, the first college bookstore was established and a connection to the city water supply was made. By 1909, Fairmount College had its own soda fountain. While class offerings began to swing away from classics and religion toward practical coursework, the ideals and principles of a Christian college were firmly in place on the campus, evidenced by the requirement of a year's study of the Bible, mandatory chapel attendance and, according to the college catalogs, an expectation for students to attend church services "at least once" every Sunday during the school year.

In 1914, President Thayer's health began to fail, and he left the presidency to go into ranching near Mulvane with his son. A few years later with improved health, he returned to the ministry at Congregational churches in McPherson and Athol. On November 20, 1921, following services in Athol, he died of a heart attack as he began to drive home. His widow Louise later reflected that the fund-raising tasks undertaken by President Morrison and her husband were "heart-breaking and man-killing."

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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: Nancy Deyoe,  
Angie Paul

## Congratulations!



Jordan Poland (center), has been awarded the 2012 Charlotte and Ken Lunt Distinguished Graduate Assistantship. Pictured with Dean Don Gilstrap, left and Dr. Lorraine Madway, right

Ramesh Devineni (center), has been awarded the 2012 Lee and Carolyn Riley Distinguished Graduate Assistantship. Pictured with Dean Don Gilstrap, left and Cathy Moore-Jansen, right

