2015


Eastern Kentucky University Libraries

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DEAR COLONELS
AND FRIENDS:

The past two years have been a busy and productive time for EKU Libraries with a sharp focus on our community of users. Why focus on community? Libraries by their very nature are bastions of their community’s interests and goals. At EKU, our Libraries provide an opportunity for fellowship—in place and in experience—to encourage and support student success.

In design literature, there is a theory that services should be created with “empathy for the user” in mind. This notion drives the creation and enhancement of our services, as well as our endeavors to strengthen and serve our community by being excellent stewards of the resources we are given. By empathizing with our users, we are able to meet their diverse and changing needs. At EKU Libraries, our strategic goals coalesce around student success. From developing cutting-edge learning spaces to ensuring our collections are relevant and discoverable, we strive to provide the right kind of help at the right time.

As you read this report, remember the spirit that guides our Libraries is one grounded in helping our students succeed. We do this by supporting a vibrant community of learning and inquiry that is the hallmark of the academy. Without the help of a core group of private supporters, our Friends of EKU Libraries, we would not be positioned to sustain our level of service excellence. We count them in our community, too. Whether the support comes from our Friends, or from faculty, administrators, or students, their faith in the mission of our Libraries inspires us to be our very best.

Sincerely,

Betina Gardner
Dean, EKU Libraries

VISION

EKU Libraries aspire to be a creative, stimulating learning environment with forward-leaning resources, services, and practices that meet the evolving needs of our diverse community of users.

MISSION

EKU Libraries exist to strengthen and engage our community by advancing knowledge and inspiring lifelong learning.
**EXPERIENCES**
Average of Fiscal Years 2013 and 2014

- **$2,373,806** Salaries and Wages
- **$1,361,061** Materials Expenditures
- **$201,829** Operating Expenditures
- **$200,668** Collections Support

**TOTAL ITEMS AVAILABLE IN COLLECTIONS**
Snapshot as of June 30, 2014

- **617,674** Physical books & media
- **229,490** Electronic books & media
- **61,858** Journals
- **39,548** EKU digitized content (Encompass and Special Collections & Archives)
- **166** Databases

**USAGE OF LIBRARY SERVICES AND COLLECTIONS**
Fiscal Years 2013 and 2014

- **1,112,988** Visitors to the library
- **329,112** Downloads of electronic books & media
- **1,268,193** Downloads of journal articles
- **437,645** Downloads of EKU digital content
- **42,595** Library Express requests fulfilled*
- **1,887,048** Library website views
- **108,495** Special Collections & Archives website views
- **227,101** Views of librarian-created research guides
- **158,385** Physical books & media checked out
- **22,637** Students served through library instruction**
- **4,304** Room reservations

**APRIL 2014: SNAPSHOT OF A BUSY MONTH**

- **17,343** Average weekly visitors (16,111 - EKU student population)
- **72,020** Full text journal downloads from EBSCOhost
- **47,062** Encompass Digital Archive downloads
- **2,310** Library Express requests fulfilled
- **1,200** Students served through instruction in an average week
- **450** Room reservations

*Library Express includes Interlibrary Loan and Document Delivery
**Some students may have attended multiple instruction sessions
THE NOEL STUDIO FOR ACADEMIC CREATIVITY

Strengthening Communication:

The Noel Studio for Academic Creativity serves as a centralizing space and service to support students as they hone oral, written, and multimodal communication skills in all academic disciplines at EKU. The Noel Studio’s core service is the consultation, in which highly-trained student consultants provide individualized feedback to students at all levels, from first-year writers to graduate students. Over the past two years, the Noel Studio developed new services, resources, and relationships to support student success:

- a Writing Fellows program, which embeds consultants into first-year writing courses to work closely with instructors and students and support academic success throughout the first-year experience;
- robust academic programming, in the form of interactive workshops and collaborative peer-review sessions, to support students in the development of highly successful communication practices;
- collaborative relationships with the Teaching and Learning Center and the Office of Undergraduate Research, that support effective teaching and learning practices on campus while also celebrating and highlighting undergraduate research activities and opportunities;
- the innovative Minor in Applied Creative Thinking, which develops students’ abilities to apply creative thinking concepts to any major field of study offered at EKU;
- and the Noel Trust, established thanks to the generosity of Ron and Sherrie Lou Noel, the funds from which have made possible the purchase of a variety of technologies to support student-focused initiatives in the Noel Studio.

7,430
One-hour student consultations

4,643
Students served through 461 workshops and 121 faculty collaborations

7,430
One-hour student consultations

601
Writing Fellow consultations during the spring 2014 pilot

In the past, EKU librarians made collection choices by attempting to predict the current and future scholarly needs of faculty and students. This “just in case” approach to collection development had mixed results—approximately 58% of EKU Libraries’ pre-selected print titles have not circulated in the past fifteen years. Alternatively, usage studies of books purchased after first being requested by patrons show they are used at a much higher rate. Given this data, budgetary and space challenges, and a desire to be flexible and responsive, the Libraries transitioned to a “just in time” approach in 2012, using a model commonly referred to as Patron Driven Acquisitions (PDA).

To accomplish PDA, EKU Libraries purchase what is requested, regardless of subject, rather than pre-allocating monographs funds at the discipline level. During fiscal years 2013 and 2014, over 350 books were purchased at the point of request via the Library Express service. Additionally, as part of the eBook PDA program, thousands of bibliographic records for eBooks were added to the Libraries’ catalog; however, none were purchased until triggered by patron interest. Over the past two years, patrons clicked on links to 807 eBooks. Of those, 37 were clicked at least four times, triggering purchase of the titles. These 37 were then downloaded by patrons a total of 2,836 times. To complement PDA approaches, library liaisons continue to work closely with faculty to identify titles to support student success in the classroom.

EKU Libraries value *intellectual vitality*, characterized by information literacy, critical thinking, curiosity, lifelong learning, and social responsibility.

**ACQUIRING MATERIAL “JUST IN TIME”**

**LIBRARY EXPRESS**
Fiscal Years 2013 and 2014

$119,000 Expenditures
42,660 Requests filled

**INTERLIBRARY LOAN**
Materials borrowed from other libraries
21,351 Articles
5,548 Books

**DOCUMENT DELIVERY**
EKU-owned materials delivered to patrons
6,733 Articles
3,890 Books

**PATRON-DRIVEN ACQUISITIONS**
Library materials purchased at the point of need
4,732 Articles
406 Books

Enhancing Our Collections: EKU Libraries value *intellectual vitality*, characterized by information literacy, critical thinking, curiosity, lifelong learning, and social responsibility.

**2012-14 HIGHLIGHTS**

4,643
Students served through 461 workshops and 121 faculty collaborations

7,430
One-hour student consultations

601
Writing Fellow consultations during the spring 2014 pilot

4
Major Academic Events
1. Pedagogicon: Practicing Scholarly and Creative Thinking
2. Southeastern Writing Center Association - Kentucky Statewide Collaborative
3. International Writing Center Association Summer Institute
4. Scholarship Week: Celebrating EKU’s Scholarship, Research, and Creative Endeavors

**I have used Library Express a few times this semester. I think it is the most helpful thing offered at EKU!**

EKU student, 2013

library.eku.edu/library-express

**Enabling Our Collections:**

In the past, EKU librarians made collection choices by attempting to predict the current and future scholarly needs of faculty and students. This “just in case” approach to collection development had mixed results—approximately 58% of EKU Libraries’ pre-selected print titles have not circulated in the past fifteen years. Alternatively, usage studies of books purchased after first being requested by patrons show they are used at a much higher rate. Given this data, budgetary and space challenges, and a desire to be flexible and responsive, the Libraries transitioned to a “just in time” approach in 2012, using a model commonly referred to as Patron Driven Acquisitions (PDA).

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**I have used [Library Express] a few times this semester. I think it is the most helpful thing offered at EKU!**

EKU student, 2013
I am so gratified that so many people have found the thesis of my student, Ayarza Manwaring. She really worked hard on it and all the accolades belong to her. I knew she had a hot topic, and she capitalized on it.

Dr. Matthew Winslow, Professor of Psychology
Thanks to nearly $5,000 in gifts from Friends of Eastern Kentucky University Libraries, EKU alumni around the world can now re-visit their student days through the digitization of all 1922-2005 issues of EKU’s celebrated student newspaper, The Eastern Progress.

EKU Special Collections and Archives (SCA) strives to preserve the history of the University, and the content made accessible through this project represents a significant part of the Eastern story. The Progress has successfully chronicled student life at EKU, capturing the breadth of campus community issues, opinions, special programs, and sporting events for more than 80 years. “You learn things in The Eastern Progress that you won’t necessarily see anywhere else,” said Jackie Couture, EKU SCA Team Leader, “You get a day-to-day history from a student perspective.”

As one-time editor of this award-winning student newspaper, I’m thrilled to see this news from my alma mater.

Adam Baker, ’06

Whether the inheritance is a set of books, a home, or a family’s treasured stories, everyone wants to leave a legacy. However, few people realize physical legacies include hidden costs: under high temperatures and humidity, papers may mold; if the environment is too dry, they may crumble; and if exposed to sunlight, they may fade. Emma Watts’ own legacy, the Elmwood Estate, lay dormant for 40 years after her passing. After EKU acquired Elmwood, it was discovered that moisture, dust, and dirt had seeped into bookcases and closets, creating an ideal habitat for mold and insects and exposing everything within to varying degrees of degradation.

EKU Special Collections & Archives (SCA) endeavors to preserve and make publicly available significant local items like those of the Watts family. In 2014, under the care and direction of SCA, EKU Libraries and volunteers safely moved Emma’s books from Elmwood. Shortly thereafter, correspondence, photographs, recipes, and more made their way to the SCA processing areas, where team members began identifying and sorting the material. Though the project is ongoing, SCA has processed and preserved roughly 50 boxes of the Watts Family Papers.

ELMWOOD FINDS:
1. Mary Watts’ greater United Kingdom travel journal
2. Dresses and related documentation (such as an invitation to the Royal Garden Party)
3. Emma Watts’ Vassar scrapbooks
4. Records from local organizations, such as Madison Female Institute and Richmond Cemetery
5. The Kentucky Tragedy manuscript play
In 2013, EKU Libraries hosted the first-ever Future Colonel class on EKU’s campus. The Future Colonels project, made possible by the vision and financial support of Robert and Gayle McCroskey, seeks to give elementary students from public schools in EKU’s service region an early glimpse of campus life.

The goal of this unique project is to inspire Kentucky’s children to choose college as part of their future plans. “While the hope is these students will choose to attend EKU, the ultimate goal is college, whether EKU or elsewhere,” explained Ashley Cole, EKU Librarian. Future Colonels were immersed in Eastern’s student culture through a series of carefully selected campus stops. The students visited the Main Library, including the Noel Studio for Academic Creativity, and the Hummel Planetarium, a residence hall, and the Powell Building’s Fresh Food Company. EKU Admissions’ student tour guides conducted portions of their campus tour, giving the children an authentic future student experience.

“The experience seemed to have opened the students’ eyes,” said Amy Taylor, EKU Library Associate. “They asked questions about how to get here, how to get scholarships, etc.”

FRIENDS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Bob and Gayle McCroskey

Robert and Gayle Mason McCroskey, ’75, are first-generation college graduates whose generous support has funded the Future Colonels project. About their visionary Future Colonels idea, Gayle said, “We wanted to make a difference in children’s lives...those who would not otherwise be exposed to the possibilities available to them. While we would love to think that they will choose Eastern if they attend college, we just want them to know they have the option to go to any college they set their minds to!”
STUDENT EMPLOYEE EXCELLENCE

EKU Libraries awarded the Dick Mayo Allen scholarship to Jacob Davis (2013) and Tyler Rousey (2014). Davis, a Geography senior, and Rousey, a History Education junior, were nominated by their supervisors for the honor. The $250 Friends-funded award is presented annually to a library student employee who demonstrates an excellent work ethic and dedication.

STUDENT ART AWARD

In 2014, EKU Libraries launched the first juried Student Art Exhibit in the Main Library, featuring 14 pieces of art by 8 students. The Library Artwork Committee awarded first place to Cynthia Niklas for Country Drive; second place to Katie Brooks for Glass Study 1; and third place to Sean Williams for Portrait Art Nouveau. Each received a professional art portfolio, courtesy of the Friends of EKU Libraries.

I FOUND IT IN THE ARCHIVES

Emily Terry, Master’s of Arts in Teaching student, was named EKU Special Collections and Archives (SCA) 2014 I Found it in the Archives winner. Terry’s submission was based on a letter written by a former slave to his grandchildren. “My favorite thing about SCA is the amount of primary sources available, and the great condition they are in. It is amazing to me to get to hold original letters and learn about people’s lives from so long ago,” Terry said. The contest allows the EKU community to share tales of discovery and the personal value they have found in SCA’s materials.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AWARD

EKU Libraries presented the first Library Undergraduate Research Award (UGRA) at the 2014 University Scholars Assembly. The Award, made possible by the Friends of EKU Libraries, recognizes students whose research makes expert and creative use of library services, resources, and collections to produce a scholarly or creative work. Dr. Kevin Jones, UGRA Committee Chair, said: “The Award is a wonderful opportunity to showcase the excellence of undergraduate research here at Eastern, as well as EKU Libraries’ contribution to that research.”

Kathline Hartch won first place and $1,000 prize for her project, “The Dodd-Frank Act.” Phillip Kyles and Samuel Shearer each received $350 for “The Effects of Hyperhomocysteinemia on Vascular Disease” and “Truman Smith’s Reports on Nazi Militarism: A Study of Domestic Political Priorities and U.S. Foreign Policy-Making in Franklin Roosevelt’s First and Second Terms,” respectively.

All of the projects submitted for the UGRA are available to browse and download from the “Student Scholarship” collections in Encompass at encompass.eku.edu/ss/
In partnership with University Programs, EKU Libraries recently renovated an outdated lecture-style classroom on the first floor of the John Grant Crabbe Main Library, making the room adaptable to multiple styles of teaching and learning. The partnership between the Libraries and University Programs not only enabled the renovation financially, but also provided an important space for the First Year Programs’ GSD101 Learning Communities, which foster student success and assist with the transition to college life. Prior to this collaboration, these critical first year classes were scattered throughout the University and were not given optimal spaces. In the renovated Room 128, the Learning Communities can arrange furniture to accommodate large group lectures, small breakout discussions, or any other imaginable learning activity. The technology is no longer fixed, allowing for multiple options to enhance teaching with technology. Fresh paint, new carpet, and colorful furniture create an ambiance that is energetic and fun.

Although space at the Main Library is at a premium, re-imagining this room served as an opportunity to help sustain a community dedicated to student success and stands as an excellent example of EKU Libraries’ commitment to supporting learning communities.

Studying, writing, and researching require deep concentration, yet students’ lives are frequently filled with distraction. Finding a quiet place to work is often difficult, and students frequently express how essential quiet library study spaces are to their success. In an effort to meet this need, EKU Libraries recently debuted the Silent Study Zone. Located on the fourth floor of the University Building and accessible only from the Main Library, this is an area of complete silence. Students are asked to refrain from talking or even whispering in the space. The Silent Study Zone features large windows that let in natural light and showcase picturesque views of campus, and—thanks to a Friends-sponsored facelift in summer 2014—it now includes individual study carrels and comfortable seating designed to match its architectural surroundings.

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I am not as productive studying at my apartment because there are too many distractions. Traveling to a different location puts me in a state of mind, and in a place, where I can focus on my work until my task is complete.

Mark Beaver, ‘14,
on why the Main Library is his preferred study spot
Dr. Bill Ellis speaks to guests during a *Live @ Your Library* presentation in April 2014.

More than 130 guests attended the *Friends of EKU Libraries Annual Program 2013: An Evening with an Appalachian Son*, to hear from noted author Silas House and learn more about EKU Libraries.

*Appalachian Toys and Games from A to Z* author Linda Hager Pack presented a *Live @ Your Library* talk in April 2013.

Dr. Stuart Tobin presented his book *Rash Decisions and Growth Experiences from the Best Little Warhouse in Kentucky* in February 2014 during *Live @ Your Library*: *An Evening of Laughter with Kentucky’s Funniest Dermatologist*.

Jon Carloftis, known as the “Garden Designer to the Stars,” was the guest speaker at the 2014 *Friends of EKU Libraries Annual Program*. More than 200 guests attended to learn about EKU Libraries.

The EKU Bluegrass Band performed as part of the 2013 *Live @ Your Library* series.

**EKU Libraries value inclusivity,** characterized by respect and diversity of ideas and peoples.
The Friends of EKU Libraries organization is made up of individuals who believe in the significant difference libraries make in the lives of students, and who choose to support EKU Libraries with annual support, endowments, and legacy gifts.

Here are some of the donors listed for July 1, 2012-June 30, 2014:

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If you have a garden and a library, you have everything you need.

- Marcus Tullius Cicero