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Books, Buildings, and Binary: A History of University of Kentucky Libraries

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Books, Buildings, and Binary

A History of University of Kentucky Libraries

Presented By:
Toni Greider to the Library Faculty
February 21, 2003
In the Beginning...

Gillis Building circa 1880
Carnegie Library 1909

- Built on a gift from Andrew Carnegie
- Cost of building $26,500
- 3700 sq. ft. of space
- Opened with 3000 volumes
- Cost of books $1500
- Dedicated November 1909
Carnegie Library

- Open in the afternoons
- No bibliographic control
- Students paid a deposit to borrow books
- Building included the office of President Patterson
- By 1930, older materials in storage
Carnegie Library

Run by J.K. Patterson’s secretary, Margaret I. King
Margaret I. King 1912-1948

Laying the Foundation

- 1912-1914
  - University Libraries formed
  - Centralized processing
  - Library instruction
  - Interlibrary loan
King Years

- Service to the citizens of Kentucky (1916)
- Division of Archives formed (1946)
King Library 1931

- Cost $430,000
- Reader space for 500
- 200,000 volume capacity
- Closed stacks
Margaret I. King

- Retired in 1948
- Collection grew from 3000 volumes to 500,000
- Library building was named for her
Lawrence S. Thompson
1948-1965
Building the Collection

- Charter member of Center for Research Libraries (1949)
- Library Associates established (1954)
- King Library Press established (1955)
Lawrence S. Thompson 1948-1965

- Microfilm Center established (1955)
- One millionth volume acquired (1963)
- Law and Agriculture Libraries come into the system (1964)
- University Archival responsibility transferred to libraries (1965)
King Library Addition

- Dedicated in April 1963
- Added
  - 200 graduate carrels
  - 50 faculty studies
  - 150 additional seats for Undergraduates
Student Forth 1965-1973

- Librarians granted faculty status (1966)
- Federal Regional Depository status granted (1967)
- Oral History Program established (1973)
Paul Willis 1974-2002
Innovation and Change
Paul Willis 1974-2002

- **Buildings**
  - King Library North
  - Young Library
  - Little Library

- **Books**
  - Growth of the endowment

- **Binary**
  - Automation on all levels
Buildings

• Additional Service Points (1988)
  - Morris Library and Information Center
  - Kentucky Transportation Center
  - IBM Contract Library

• Kentucky Underground Storage (1990)
King Library North

- Dedicated in October of 1974
- Provided
  - Administrative Space
  - Space for Technical Service
  - A new Art Library
- Cost $3.7 million
William T. Young Library

- Library campaign raises 22 million dollars (1990)
- Kallman, McKinnell & Wood awarded the architectural contract (1992)
- Library completed and dedicated (1998)
William T. Young Library

- 275,000 sq. ft.
- Reader space for 4000
- 37 miles of compact shelving
- 3600 network ports
- Cost $58 million
Lucille Little Fine Arts
Library and Learning Center

- Cost $2.6 million
  - 1.25 million raised in the capital campaign
  - Matching funds from UK
- Dedicated in October of 2000
Lucille Little Fine Arts
Library and Learning Center

- 40,000 sq. ft.
- Reader space for 480
- Space for 100,000 volumes and 16,600 sound recordings
- Includes John Jacob Niles Center for American Music
  - 47 seat performance gallery
Books (Collections)

- Reclassification of the book collection to LC (1978)
- Hugh Peal Collection, one of the largest holdings of 19th century manuscripts in the US obtained (1981)
- Two millionth volume added (1986)
- NEH Endowment established (1986)
- ARL Preservation Study (1989)
- Capital campaign adds 3.5 million dollars to endowment (1990)
Books (Collections)

- SOLINET/ASERL Cooperative Microfilming Project (CPMP) (1992)
- Preservation Librarian hired (1992)
- Conservation Librarian hired (1999)
- Major fund raising campaign builds book endowment to over $60 million dollars (2000)
Book Collections (Digital)

- Electronic Information Access and Management Center (EIAMC) (1998)
- Reformatting Librarian (2000)
- Electronic Dissertations and Theses (2000)
- Institute of Museum and Library Services Grant (2002)
Collections (Alliances)

- UK/UT Information Alliance (1994)
- Information Resources Interinstitutional Sharing (IRIS) (1999)
  - UK/UT and Vanderbilt
- KUDZU (16 Southeastern Research Libraries) (2001)
Binary (Automation)

- UK Libraries joins SOLINET (1974)
- Baker and Taylor Automated Buying (BATAB) (1975)
- Mediated literature searching begins (1975)
- Lexis/Nexis offered in the Law Library (1977)
Binary (Automation)

- Email reference services offered in Agriculture Library (1983)
- InfoTRAC and LegalTRAC on CD ROM (1985/86)
- LS2000 automated system implemented (1985)
Binary (Automation)

- **Student Computing Labs begin** (1991)
- **Multiple Database Access System through NOTIS offered to the desktop** (1992)
- **ARIEL delivery system implemented in Interlibrary Loan** (1992)
Binary (Automation)

- Library Website developed (1994)
- ILIAD Interlibrary Loan Software 2002
- Information to the Desktop
  - Databases
  - EJournals
Staff circa 1940

[Image of a group of women sitting at a table with a Christmas tree and decorations.]
Staff 2002
The Future
Carol Pitts Diedrichs
2003-
Library Fun Facts

- 1916 Annual Report listed our major needs as:
  - More book funds
  - Collection space
  - Additional trained staff
Library Fun Facts

• It took 52 years to add our 1 millionth volume
  – Galileo’s Dialogue of 1632 in 1963
• It took 23 years to add our 2 millionth volume
  – An Oration Delivered on the Battle of Gettysburg, November 19, 1863 (1986)
• We will add our 3 millionth volume sometime this year, 17 years later
Library Fun Facts

• Miss King had 2 student assistants to run the Carnegie Library in 1912
• Miss King had 56 full time staff in 1948
• In 2001 the libraries had an FTE staff of 361
Fun Facts

- First technological Advancement 1939
Library Fun Fact

• The State of Kentucky has never funded a central library for the University of Kentucky
  - Andrew Carnegie funded our first library
  - Fund reserves funded King Library
  - Private donations and the City of Lexington Funded our third library
Library Fun Fact

Two Directors account for two thirds of our history

Margaret I. King
36 years

Paul Willis
28 years
Library Fun Fact

Carnegie Library cost $7.16 per square foot to build

Young Library cost $210.90 per square foot to build
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