

Bookmarks

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY



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From the Interim Dean

Dear Alumni, Donors and Friends:

What a year this has been—a year in ways not unlike a relay race, with the baton handed temporarily to me, following Olivia Madison's seventeen years of leadership, in transition to the tenure of Beth McNeil, who will serve as the 17th dean of the library, beginning on July 15th. Your library has, over the past 12 months, grown in so many positive and powerful ways, and I will miss this exciting year of daily work with such a special staff in such an outstanding space!

In all our work we have concentrated upon how to evolve toward better service and support of our users—faculty, staff, students, community and the world. Advances include adopting a state-of-the-art library management system, Alma® from Ex-Libris. Alma® will enhance our ability to support our customers while improving library workflow efficiencies and opening doors to collaborate with our sister Regents university libraries. Simultaneously moving to the Drupal® content authoring system will also bring greater autonomy to our staff in building our website, and in making it easier to navigate and more relevant to all users.

We developed a new strategic plan for the next five years, initiated through the dedicated and thoughtful work of staff across the entire library and endorsed by the administrative cabinet and the provost. The aim to be holistic, to include the voice of all staff, was only one manifestation of an increasingly inclusive work environment that has strengthened our sense of family, which will improve service as it builds upon our desire to work together for our users.

The Ithaka survey of faculty needs, undertaken in April, yielded considerable data that will shape our service to, interaction with, and support of faculty in their research and teaching moving forward. Our goal is to retain and reinforce the leading edge in offering research and teaching-enhancing resources and initiatives at Iowa State University.

We have repurposed several library spaces also this year: an entire section of books on the fourth floor has been moved to open new collaborative learning spaces for our students, and room 198 is currently undergoing renovation to become a state-of-the-art classroom that will allow active and flipped learning possibilities for students at the university. Our decision to dedicate a principal first-floor room to classroom space is an important way in which the library is partnering



with the university to provide the best education possible for current and future students.

As alumni, donors and friends, you will be pleased to know that, in collaboration

with the ISU Alumni Association, we have opened up increased access to online research materials for all of you who have been so much a part of our library in the past. Check out our website and explore the online research tools that are now available to you through this important partnership! In a similar vein, our Digital Repository continues to grow with new research and increasing worldwide downloads of its content. Scholarly communication and open access to world-class research is a priority mission for our library.

In closing, as I prepare to return to Canada following this year as Interim Dean, I leave having worked with so many colleagues whom I admire and respect, and with whom I have forged new friendships. I have long been a proud *Québécoise*, but this transformative year has also made me a loyal Cyclone. It has truly been an incredible adventure, and I invite you all to continue your adventure through the library at Iowa State University.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. Garnett". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end.

Joyce C. Garnett
Interim Dean of the Library



Engage us and send us your thoughts for this publication.

*We'd love to hear from you. Send your comments to...
bookmarks@iastate.edu.*

An Iowa State adventure begins

Beth McNeil will arrive on campus soon to lead the University Library. McNeil brings a wealth of experience and comes to Iowa State from Purdue University in Lafayette, IN, where her responsibilities included 12 campus libraries, archives/special collections, technical services, digitization and the collections management units. In her first 90 days as the new library dean, McNeil hopes to meet as many people as she can in the library, on campus, and you, our Iowa State University friends and donors. Beth is eager to meet donors and “learn about their interests and why they support the Library.”

McNeil looks forward to the opportunity to lead a dedicated staff and faculty committed to excellent service and to shape the future of the library. She aims for the library to be known on campus as “the place to go” where information needs will be met for coursework, for research and for scholarship.

McNeil is a proponent of Open Access (including the Digital Repository @ Iowa State University), and along with Interim Dean Joyce Garnett, offered welcoming remarks at the ACRL (Association of College & Research Libraries) Scholarly Communication Roadshow, held this spring on the Iowa State Campus. One of McNeil’s proudest moments came at Purdue when she asked for the Purdue University Faculty Senate to support Open Access, which they overwhelmingly did.

McNeil was born in Missouri and earned her bachelor’s and master’s degrees from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She has held leadership positions at Bradley University, Peoria, IL; and the University of Nebraska, Lincoln. She completed her doctoral candidacy for her Ph.D. in human sciences with a leadership studies focus from UNL.

McNeil has been a member of the American Library Association and the ACRL since 1989 and was elected director-at-large in the May 2015 ACRL elections.

Her husband’s name is Wes Welch, and along with their sons, Nick and Eli, all are excited to become part of the Cyclone family.



Without student staff the library couldn’t open

Meet **Ben Spick** from St. Charles, IA, about an hour south from the Iowa State campus. Like many students, Ben decided on ISU because of his majors, anthropology and religious studies. Ben chose the University Library as a place to work after connecting with his hometown library. “I volunteered at my local library during the summers of my high school years, and I thought this would be an engaging and interesting workplace,” Spick said.

He works in the Digital Repository area and collaborates with staff to upload the variety of scholarship of the University community. Ben is on the lookout for ways to streamline processes. “In the time that I have worked with Ben Spick, I have been blown away by his leadership and initiative,” according to his supervisor, Hope Mitchell. “Just recently, Ben brought some issues with our scanning workflow to my attention. We then worked together to create a better system that will ultimately improve the efficiency of our entire staff.”

Ben is having an impact in other areas of the library, too, with work on a monograph withdrawal project and another for the dean’s office. Ben references the library as “an intellectual hub for the whole university.”

After graduation, Ben hopes to work in the area of diversity education and outreach, and eventually, he would like to pursue a Ph.D.

Ben’s other university interests include grading for the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies. He is a cabinet member in the Anthropology Club (treasurer) and the LGBTQA Alliance (Education and Outreach Chair). His other spare time is spent drawing, sewing, outdoors and with friends or family.



Digital Repository @ Iowa State University makes scholarship accessible

The [Digital Repository @ Iowa State University](#) continues to exceed expectations. Over 44,000 objects have been deposited and downloaded almost 4,000,000 times.

As the name implies, DR@ISU offers a digital format where the scholarship and research of faculty, students and staff can be deposited and housed permanently. It provides an open access channel to that research free of charge. Types of materials included are papers, presentations, art, book chapters, conference proceedings, extension research, and audio recordings, among others. Users from around the world have access, which translates to widespread reach and unlimited potential.

DR@ISU employs automated processes for article submission, peer review and publication, which are built into the system. The first journal to utilize these features is [Journal of Critical Thought and Praxis](#), which is peer-reviewed and published by graduate students in the School of Education. At last check, the download total from the JCTP site was 7,062 items.

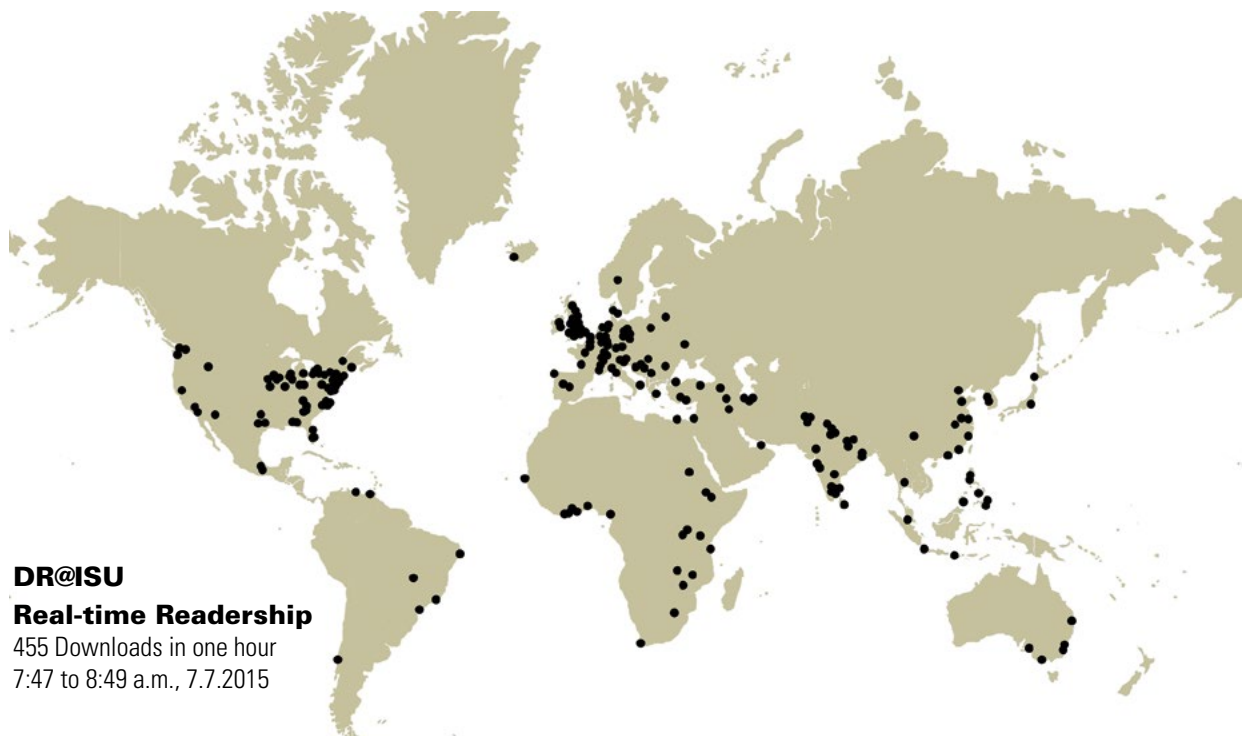
Hosted by Digital Commons repository software and readily discoverable on popular search engines, DR@ISU has an interactive map, where visitors can watch as researchers from all over the world download the scholarship of Iowa State researchers. A recent observation

of the map showed 1,000 items downloaded in a three-hour period. “The scholarship of our faculty, students, staff and alumni can now be freely read by people worldwide—from 10 readers in the past month from Afghanistan, to 25 readers from Zimbabwe,” according to Harrison Inefuku, Digital Repository Coordinator.

Research located in the Digital Repository is at increased chance for discovery and enhanced visibility. When an item is sought from the DR, the visitor expects quick access and answers to questions, and usually the desired response time is split second. The DR is set up so that items are accessible in real time.

DR@ISU has exceeded expectations in the first few years and is on a trajectory to have an even bigger impact due to the requirement that research funded with federal dollars be Open Access, easily discovered and available to the public. An important step in the research process, the repository will increase in value and visibility. It facilitates the service goal of Iowa State as a land-grant institution making education accessible to all.

“In a little over three years, we’ve become one of the largest Digital Commons-based repositories in the world,” Inefuku said.



DR@ISU

Real-time Readership

455 Downloads in one hour

7:47 to 8:49 a.m., 7.7.2015

Iowa State University Library is the “third place” on campus.

Donors help us achieve our goal, as a 21st century library, to be a place where members of the university community come and stay to study, socialize and fulfill research pursuits. They feel a sense of community in the physical and digital realms.

Benefactors have been integral to our ability to offer resources, services and spaces. Donor generosity is evident in this library experience that is, for many, the “third place” (after home and work) (“Third place,” n.d.).

We have:

- art
- renovated spaces and furniture
- materials and resources
- rare books and artifacts in Special Collections
- internship and student assistantships

all with the help of donors.

Library by the numbers:

- 2,000,000 visitors per year (10 times the population of Des Moines)
- Almost 27 miles of books (roughly the distance from Ames to Saylorville Lake)
- 1,000,000 photographs & slides
- Over 115 staff and over 100 student employees (the doors could not open without student assistants)
- Over 100 pieces of art (home to portraits of the ISU presidents and Grant Wood's largest murals)
- Materials from 1475 to the present in 118 languages

Third place. (n.d.). In Wikipedia. Retrieved July 1, 2015, from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Third_place

A person spends a good deal of time at home (“first place”) and at work (“second place”). From a “third place,” a person reaps some of the benefits the first two, and there is no cost of admission, it is close by, there are friendly faces and sustenance, and many people frequent the “third place” on a regular basis.

This sounds like Parks Library.



ISU Library website

	2014	2015*
Visits	1,130,036	568,336
Pages Visited	10,364,394	4,282,499
Hits	31,510,348	14,203,662









Most visits (60.5%) are 30 seconds long.

Links to pages on ISU Library from Internet search engines

(top two)

	2014	2015*
	241028	135129
	9423	5662

Top 10 countries: pages on our website

	2014	2015*
 US	9,081,596	3,391,306
Unknown	945,366	746,170
 Germany	50,965	27,684
 China	41,682	21,416
 Ukraine	31,692	8,056
 France	27,385	11,579
 Canada	17,717	4,216
 Netherlands	14,222	--
 India	13,087	4,632
 Great Britain	12,517	--
 Russian Federation	--	8,439



Busiest traffic time

2014
2 o'clock hour

Busiest traffic days

2014
Mondays



* To Date - as of July 1, 2015

Library leadership: a sustained and strong tradition

In July, Beth McNeil will become the 17th leader of the Iowa State University Library, and with the transition comes a lot of energy and excitement.

J.C. Arthur was the first library director 136 years ago. The main facility has been located in four places including Old Main, Morrill Hall, Beardshear Hall and the current site of the William Robert Parks and Ellen Sorge Parks Library. The current building has had three additions, the most recent in 1983, when Warren Kuhn was the dean.

Olivia M.A. Madison was the dean of the library until September 2014, when she joined the provost's office as a special assistant to work on the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) 2015-16 accreditation process for Iowa State. During Madison's 17 years as dean, the library experienced consistent growth in volumes of books, numbers of employees, visitors through the door each year, and many places in the library enjoyed some type of renovation. This would not have been possible without the generosity of donors.

The ground floor has new carpet and a new classroom with technology for presentations. The first floor Learning Connections Center has flexible computer spaces for students to work in groups. Classroom 134 has additional computers, and artwork by Sticks, Inc., styles the doors. On second floor, re-carpeting will be complete soon, and there are renovated study spaces and much enhanced lighting. The Periodical Room and Upper Rotunda have new carpet. Third floor, like second, had asbestos abatement prior to the installation of new carpet, study spaces and improved lighting.

On fourth floor, researchers from the world over enjoy the comfort of the Special Collections Reading Room. Thanks to a grant from the Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust, Classroom 405 was created with flexible furniture and state-of-the-art technology. These tools heighten the impact of presentations given by the Special Collections & University Archives and Preservation Departments. New carpet, additional tables and seating for students is available, too. Additional electric outlets are included

in all renovations, because most students come to the library with at least one portable device and usually two or three.

Joyce Garnett arrived in September to serve as the interim dean of the library. Part of her focus has been on improved service in all areas. One of the first projects to get underway was the brainstorming, researching and writing of a new strategic plan. An important element to the plan is the need to offer our users, faculty, staff and the community the best service possible. To this end, Garnett directed the consolidation of the circulation and reference/information desks. The result is increased usage of the reference expertise of library staff. Garnett recognizes that our benefactors are integral to our ability to offer resources, services and spaces. Donor generosity is evident in this library experience that is, for many, the "third place" (after home and work). In a third place, there is no cost to visit. There are friendly faces, and you can get sustenance and great coffee! Sounds like Parks Library.

Under Garnett's leadership, staff has participated in some new activities including a SpeedShare event in the spring. An idea borrowed from the University of Michigan Library, it offered pairs of (volunteer) staff members the chance to describe the duties they accomplish each day in a rapid-fire Q&A format. It was speed networking (like speed dating). Other staff members walked around and listened in as the pairs exchanged information, which offered them the chance to learn the details of other positions around the library and how everything works together. Another popular and regular feature has been Joyce's *Ask Me Anything* sessions, where staff have the opportunity to ask Joyce anything, literally. The answers to the questions provide the latest and best information about the goings on in various parts of the library. The new opportunities and events have been exhilarating for library staff.

As McNeil's adventure begins, the tradition of strong leadership of the University Library will continue in the future.

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What does 1,000 books look like?

(On the cover)

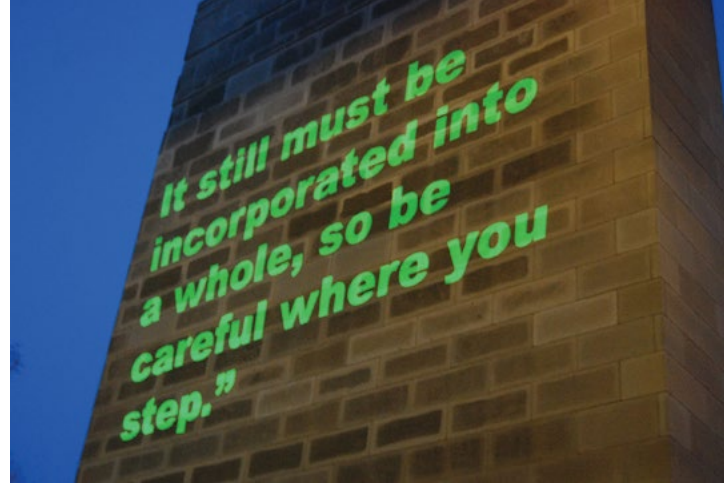
There are over 2.5 million books in the ISU Library. If you wanted to divide them up, that is enough books for 25,000 students to have 100 books each. Imagine, though, if each of those same students had to share a book with four other people. At best, not very efficient, and at worst, little hope actually for students to learn from what they read. Moses Bomett, (back left), founded Hope4Africa in 2008 now [Hopeful Africa](#) and has raised thousands of dollars to help schools and students in Africa. The cover image depicts Bomett, a 2013 Iowa State graduate, with members of his team. They made a time-lapse video with materials from our collection of what it would look like to gather 1,000 books for their successful \$5 for 5 Campaign to get books to children in schools in Africa.



Whiteboards work to work it out

(Above)

Whiteboards are a familiar sight in classrooms, study rooms and boardrooms. The presence of whiteboards is yet another draw to the vast study space on third floor. Students can be spotted every day alone and in groups making good use of the boards and markers. We started out with two and quickly realized that was not enough, so additional boards were purchased. They are popular and in constant demand.



Projected thoughts

(Above)

The University Library is a large facility, is heavily used, and for more than checking out books. Staff members field requests from students for a range of creative purposes including still photography. Mary Louise Ryan, a graduate student in community and regional planning, conducted a projection project on the wing wall outside the Parks Library. She chose a number of literary passages and displayed them at dusk in order to observe the reaction of passersby. It was something unfamiliar and sparked curiosity.

View from third floor

(Below)

Students from the college of design arrive on third floor each semester with the goal of drawing the confluence of the 1923 and 1983 additions. This is a personal challenge for the students as there are numerous complicated angles and details to draw, but the view from third floor captures and keeps their attention.



Editor

M.Monica Gillen

Designer

Jody A. Kalvik

About the Art in this issue

Doug Shelton (American, b. 1941) Participating artists: Robert Atwell, Dean Biechler, Nikki Grote, Gwen Kaye, Quimin Liu, Justin Lorenzen, Kandice Rappe, Sandra Spilker, Jim Wilcox; Faculty Studio Directors: Donna Friedman and Brenda Jones

Unlimited Possibilities

1997, Oil on canvas, 22 x 21 feet

Commissioned by University Museums and the Office of Vice President for External Affairs. U96.184abc

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IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

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302 Parks Library
Ames, Iowa 50011-2140



Merian, Maria Sibylla.
*Caterpillars, Their
Wondrous Transformation
and Peculiar Nourishment
from Flowers.* 1679, 1683.



Bateman, John.
*Orchidaceae of Mexico and
Guatemala.* 1837-1843.
Monardes, Nicolás.



*Joyfull Newes out
of the New-Found
Worlde. Wherein are
Declared, the Rare and
Singular Vertues of
Divers Herbs, Trees,
Plantes, Oyles & Stones, with their
Applications, as well to the use of
Phisicke as of Chirurgery.* 1577,
1580, 1596.

Opportunities for Donors



For over thirty years, Gladys Hertzberg has given generously to the University Library. Gladys' relationship with the library began when Warren Kuhn was dean. When the need arose, her family's printing company repaired

and maintained books. Much of that conservancy work is now completed in the Preservation Department on the fourth floor of Parks Library. Gladys is very interested in preservation work, and she has gifted all of her rare books to the library.

Thanks to Gladys' generosity, the Preservation Department purchased a Nikon DS-Fi2 camera for the stereo microscope. The equipment makes it possible to display a live image of the sample under magnification. This is helpful for discussion among staff and during demonstrations with students. With its varied functions, this equipment is important to the conservation work of the library.

Gladys is an avid fan of the Cyclones and her dachshunds, Gretchen and Max.



Willing to assist in acquiring one of the titles listed at the left?

Contact libraryfriends@iastate.edu



QR Code - ISU Library

www.lib.iastate.edu/info/6000
Email: bookmarks@iastate.edu
General Phone: 515-294-3642

