

# Bookmarks

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY  
University Library

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## From the Dean

Autumn has always been my favorite time of year, and now especially so because I have the pleasure to work in such a vibrant university library like Iowa State. When I arrived in July to assume my new position as Dean of Library Services, I was so excited to be on campus. My enthusiasm has only grown during my first semester here.

On an average day, over 12,000 students and faculty visit Parks Library. We have seen an increase in numbers this year and are working to find creative ways to meet the research and scholarship needs of ISU students, faculty, and researchers. As part of this effort, we have embarked on an extensive study of the current spaces in Parks. Please watch for future updates on changes to spaces in Parks.

During this past year, our staff in Special Collections and University Archives have been hard at work making unique collections available. These are a few highlights for 2015:

- The Stanley Johnson Papers, which document Johnson's work as Director of ISU's Center for Agricultural and Rural Development (CARD), including his work with Russia and the Ukraine following the dissolution of the Soviet Union.
- The Center for Rural Affairs Records, which document the non-profit organization's work to improve the lives of rural Americans. One of their early projects was looking into how a change in climate would affect farmers.
- The papers of mathematician and computer scientist Clair Maple, who served as the Director of Iowa State's Computation Center from 1963-1985. In addition to documenting Maple's work at Iowa State, his papers include records related to what were called "IBM computer dances." For these dances, the Iowa State Computation Center processed punch cards created from student questionnaires matching students up for the dances.



And speaking of students, in this issue of Bookmarks we focus on our current students, highlighting some of our most recent services and initiatives directly in support of student academic success. Please let me know if you have any questions.

On behalf of Library faculty and staff I thank you for your continued investment of the Library. Your support has a real impact on the lives of our students and the university as we continue to grow and move forward. I look forward to meeting you.

Sincerely,

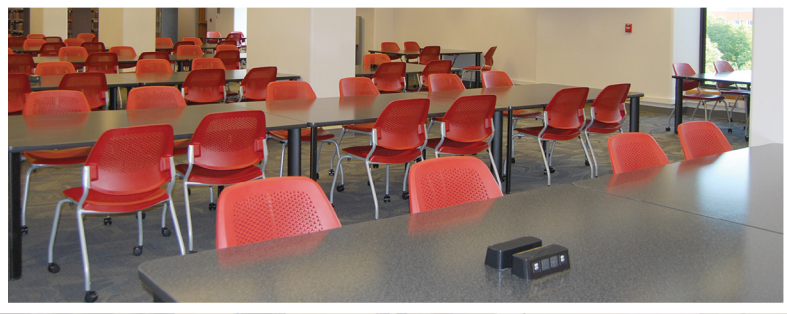
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Beth McNeil". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Beth McNeil  
Dean of Library Services



*Engage us and send us your thoughts for this publication.*

*We'd love to hear from you. Send your comments to...  
[bookmarks@iastate.edu](mailto:bookmarks@iastate.edu).*



## Significant spaces with integrated technology

The William Robert Parks and Ellen Sorge Parks Library is a hub of campus activity, and over 12,000 people pass through the doors each day. Updates, maintenance and renovations are continuously underway, with some more visible than others.

Preservation and stacks management staff recently dealt with a mold issue that required careful cleaning of the space and materials. The affected books were ultimately moved to other locations. In this space, 19 tables were installed, most equipped with power and USB ports. This project resulted in 76 additional seats. With the ever-expanding student population (on the lookout for places to study), the space is a welcome addition.

The need to accommodate an increased student population extends to all corners of campus and classroom space is needed, too. Starting spring 2016, Room 198 in Parks Library will be a shared classroom space for part of the day and for use by Library

patrons in the afternoon until closing time. The area is currently closed for renovation, which includes asbestos abatement and new carpet.

Once complete, the technology enhancements in Room 198 will enable students and the instructor to collaborate on coursework with state-of-the-art tools. An important goal of library staff is to provide access to technology where it's needed. This includes WiFi access, USB ports and electric outlets for device charging. Sometimes students bring two or three devices with them, and they like the convenience of having no worries about power.

The University Library is dedicated to keep pace with the ever-changing needs of students. This includes provisions in all renovation plans for flexible study spaces, USB ports, electric outlets, enhanced lighting and state-of-the-art technology. Recent improvements in conference and meeting rooms include improved technical equipment with monitors and cameras for teleconferences and meetings.

Students and faculty tell us that it is important that our improvements stay up to speed with advancements in technology including regular upgrades to the public computers. The feedback is appreciated and is accommodated wherever and whenever possible.



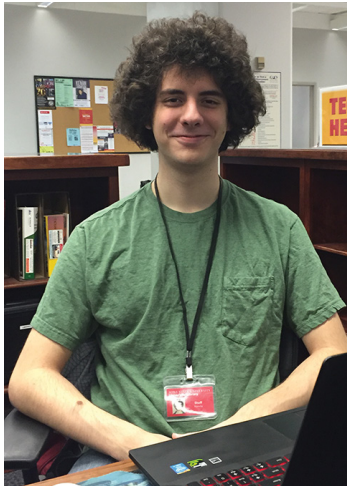
## Student employees are essential

Students are vital to the University Library and they work in most all departments, including at the circulation desk, the preservation department, digital initiatives, conservation, stacks management, inter-library loan, electronic resources, research and instruction, DR@ISU and at the Veterinary Medical Library and the Design Reading Room.

Students are relied on to fulfill a range of patron needs and must be savvy with customer service. At the circulation desk, for example, students are likely the first person a patron works with in their information quest. Student assistants are expected to maintain their composure and remain friendly even when faced with difficult situations involving patrons.

The students who work in Stacks Management provide books, journals and other materials in a timely manner, and without them many tasks couldn't or wouldn't get done. Students involved with shelving books must be exact in their work. If a book isn't in the right place, it can't be located for patron use.

*Kenny Slagell (right) received the Thomas Flack Assistantship for the 2015-16 year. Slagell, a psychology major has worked in the library since the summer. Kenny enjoys the family-like work environment of the library. He works in the Learning Connections Center.*



Students might even be called upon to repair book trucks to ensure they are in working order. In fall 2014, observant student assistants were responsible for the discovery of mold growing on a significant portion of the collection on 4th floor. Hundreds of books were involved and the timely reporting of the problem limited the damage.

Students cite numerous reasons for their desire to work at the library. Many times it's their love of libraries, and others mention positive experiences at their hometown facility. We've even had students who want to follow a similar path of a family member or sibling who is a past library employee.

Bottom line is, 99 student staff members work at the Iowa State University Library and it couldn't function without their hard work and dedication.

*Katelyn Piotter (below with Beth McNeil), was awarded the Timothy and Debra Baum Student Assistantship this year. Katie, an employee since 2013, is a proctor and works at the Library Storage Building. She chose Iowa State because of the beautiful campus.*

*In October, library funds helped send student staff members Holly Meysenburg, Bevin Griffen, and Hailee Weiss (bottom left to right), to the Iowa Women Lead Change Conference in Des Moines.*



## Survey says...

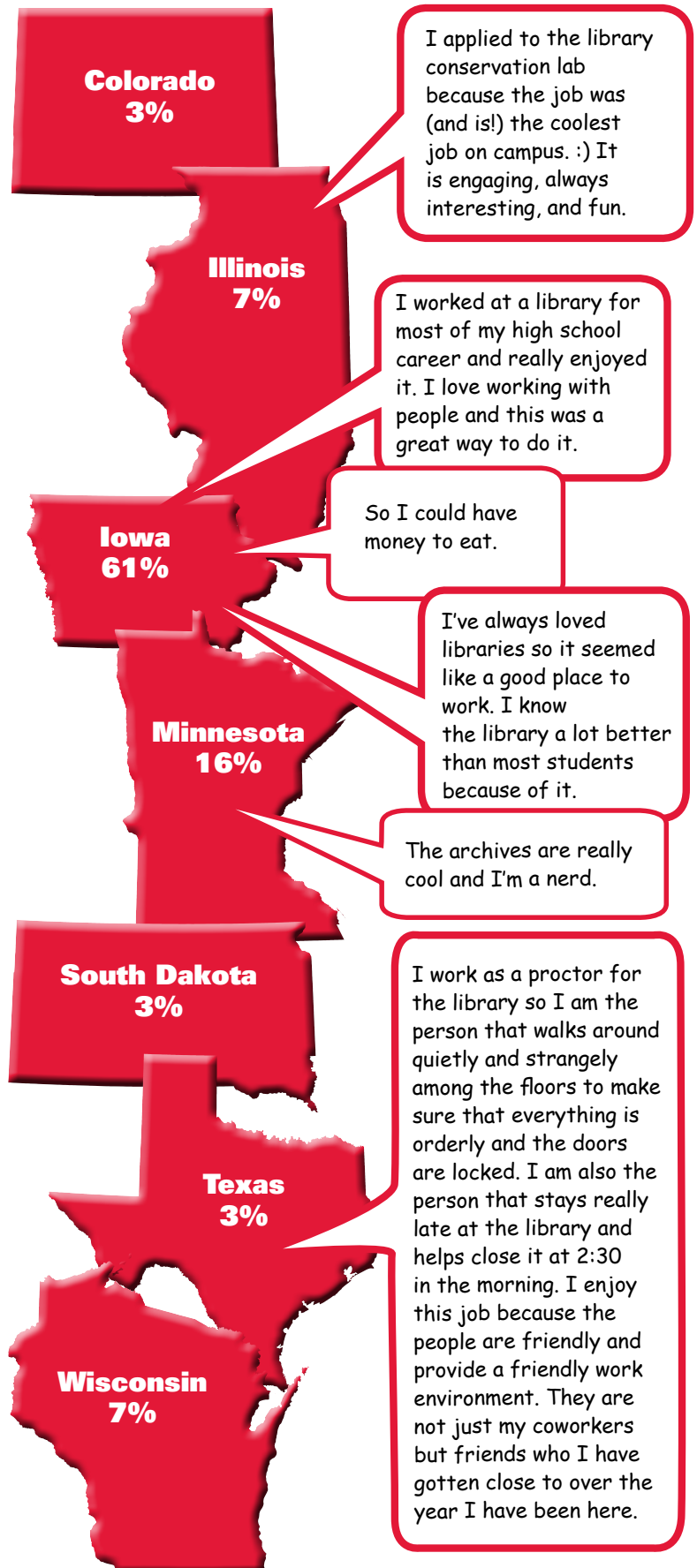
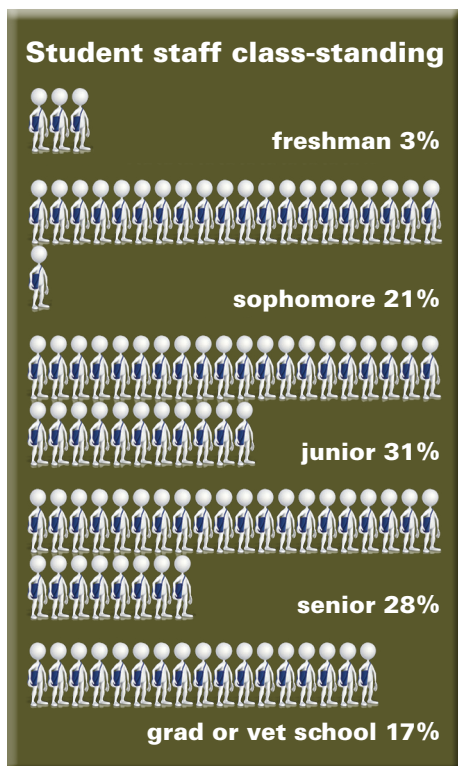
A recent poll of our student employees revealed some interesting information and fun facts. Students come to us from everywhere, including around the Midwest, and they are at various stages in their degree quest.

Student assistants who responded cite many reasons for wanting a job at the library, and aside from the obvious need for extra money, they are excited about the opportunities that their jobs afford them. While learning and performing important functions in the library, they are making lifelong friends, too.

Student staff represent all seven Iowa State colleges, which means we have working among us, future veterinarians, lawyers, engineers, artists, animal scientists, accountants, geneticists, psychologists and teachers, to name only a few.

It is safe to say that the doors of the Iowa State University Library could not open without student employees.

Their smiling faces can be spotted in all parts of the library and at all hours of the day and night.



## A scholarly communication/open access primer

Scholarly communication (SC) is the creation, evaluation, dissemination and preservation of research both formal and informal. Open access (OA) is research free of (many) restrictions on use.

Like everything, SC/OA has a history. Let's go back 350 years, or so, to the founding of the Royal Society, *the independent scientific academy of the UK*, and perhaps the oldest of its kind in existence. *Philosophical Transactions*, launched by the Royal Society circa 1665, is recorded as the foremost peer-reviewed, scientific journal, having published ground-breaking work of Michael Faraday, Isaac Newton and Stephen Hawking. Like many journals, scientific or otherwise, much of the research published in this record is accessed for a fee, whether in print or on line.

SC and OA test old ways, and with repositories like [Digital Repository@Iowa State University](#) the publishing landscape is changing. The repository is a free OA path to deposited research preserved in digital format, and there are thousands of them around the world.

Researchers in all areas of study have options, as traditional models are challenged in favor of those that are flexible and expand the reach of completed projects. Professional societies and commercial publishers compete with online repositories and other electronic channels as alternatives for distribution of scholarly pursuits. Journals once existed solely in print, now their content is largely accessed online and at a cost.

The SC facet of academic librarianship is important, and ISU librarians with expertise cite a need for a focus on campus-wide education and outreach.

There is a lot to learn. In the library and classroom, for librarians, graduate students and faculty researchers, though the OA concept has existed for decades, there are many things to consider: terms of deposit to a repository, copyright, authors rights, and discussions about which journal(s) or venues to consider for publication. There are many ways to share research, paths to accomplishing it, and technologies to learn.

### Where can we go to learn?

In this new publishing universe, there are noteworthy conferences that with the requisite resources, participants from the university community would attend and learn and, in turn, share that knowledge on campus. **OpenCon**, an international conference, presents issues and develops a knowledge base for participants to promote an open system of information sharing.

The **Open Data Science Conference** looks at open source software in data science. Five affiliated events are planned in 2016 in the United States and abroad. **Mozilla Festival** anticipates a World Wide Web burgeoning in new users and facilitates teaching and learning to build a system for them. **Open Education Conference** sees a new Open Education Resources model with reduced costs and improved learning.

### What tools are available?

An [Open Access Library Guide](#) is available to learn the *what* and *why*. The library can aid researchers in the Iowa State community to publish at a reduced cost in OA journals as one advantage of paid institutional memberships with entities like [PLOS](#) (Public Library of Science), [BioMed Central](#) and [SpringerOpen](#). [SPARC](#) (Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition) helps members achieve their academic missions with support and advocacy for meaningful OA policies and resources.

### What if we had a speaker series?

Iowa State scholarly communication librarians have expertise in many areas. The team seeks to expand their reach and bring in speakers who possess specialized knowledge in related current topics such as: Open Science, policy adoption, D3 (data driven documents), Open Education Resources and from internationally recognized organizations such as the [Center for Open Science](#) and [SPARC](#).

Librarians cultivate relationships and create opportunities for graduate students, faculty and library staff. This is in an effort to address all aspects of scholarly communication and open access to support constituents on campus and in the research community.



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### Barks@Parks. Best study break ever?

(On the cover & top right)

Barks@Parks is planned by the Library Public Relations Committee. Certified therapy dogs, and their owners, come to the library each day during Dead Week. Literally, thousands of students stop by to enjoy this event and look forward to it each semester. Thanks to the reach of social media platforms like Twitter and Facebook, people from around the world have viewed pictures and videos of the Barks@Parks fun.

### Greek house partnership

(Far right)

Students from Greek houses completed a *can-struction* contest/philanthropy project during Homecoming Week 2015 and the library had fun housing the displays. Fraternity and sorority house pairs, combined efforts and creativity. All canned goods were donated to area food banks.

### White board calculus

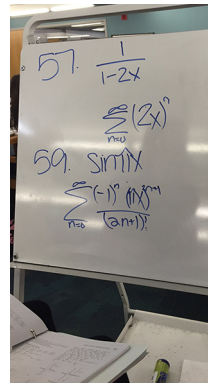
(Right)

These days, white boards are everywhere. In study rooms and study spaces, students can always use more. Chemistry equations. Calculus problems. They map assignments and group duties for projects. Sometimes they even leave greetings for staff and passers-by.

### FUNdraising & GAMES

(Below)

The University Library has two chess sets, including a giant board with a 25-inch king. Both are available for student and staff check out. For the United Way of Story County 2015 Campaign, the Library partnered with the College of Engineering for Chess to Impress. Dr. David Jiles, Dept. of Electrical and Computer Engineering, challenged competitors and played 11 games simultaneously. Monies raised benefited UWSC.



#### 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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## Opportunities for donors

*Iowa's REA Electrification Advisor's First Training School, AE-547, Ames, IA: Agricultural Extension Service, Iowa State College, December 15, 1947.*



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



Gould, John.  
*The Birds of Europe.*  
5 vols.  
London, Printed by R. and J.E. Taylor, 1837.



State Library because of a diligent ISU Development Officer who guided them toward an endowment honoring his parents. Marks wanted to contribute to the growth and success of the library, and the endowment set up by Ken and Karen directly benefits students.

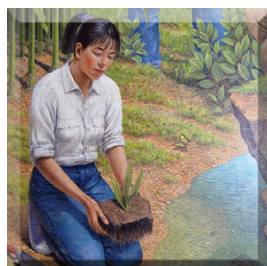
When the Marks talk about the ISU Library, they recognize that the staff is as committed as ever to the continued evolution of services to support the university community.

They have moved quite a lot, 22 homes in nine states, but relocations slowed once he received his library science degree from the University of California, Berkeley in 1971. In retirement, Ken and Karen's priorities are family, children, grandchildren and church, and they continue to volunteer in their communities, Karen with Ronald McDonald House and Ken with Red Cross Disaster Services.

**A**mes Public Library was the first of six libraries (yes, Iowa State is on the list) in which Ken Marks worked. According to him, the library at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, stands out because he was involved in construction and seeing it open, but each was special because of remarkable staff. Marks, a twice graduate of Iowa State, 1960 and 1978, and his wife, Karen, a 1959 graduate of AIB in Des Moines, first gave to the Iowa



QR Code - ISU Library



### ***We are grateful for your generosity.***

*Please consider establishing a Scholarly Communication/Open Access speaker series in your name. Are you able to assist in acquiring one of the titles listed?*

*Contact [libraryfriends@iastate.edu](mailto:libraryfriends@iastate.edu).*

[www.lib.iastate.edu/info/6000](http://www.lib.iastate.edu/info/6000)  
email: [bookmarks@iastate.edu](mailto:bookmarks@iastate.edu)  
General Phone: 515-294-3642

