Annual Report 2004

Jay Schafer
University of Massachusetts Amherst

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The ISEL grand opening celebration was held on February 23. Chancellor John V. Lombardi, Provost Charlena Seymour, and Director of Libraries Jay Schafer heralded the occasion with brief remarks. The day featured tours; demonstrations of wireless technology, which allows students to use laptop computers without plugging them in; and a photo display of “before and after” pictures.

ISEL brings together resources in agricultural sciences, astronomy, biochemistry, biology, chemistry, computer science, engineering, food science, geosciences, mathematics and statistics, physics, polymer science, and wood technology.

“ISEL is very nice with comfortable seating.”
Message from the Director

WITH BOTH EYES now firmly planted in the 21st century, those of us at the Libraries of the Five Colleges had a strong sense of what we are experiencing. The many retirements of 2004 created an especially challenging environment for the Libraries in 2005.

By working collaboratively with library staff during the past year, we have made an important new infrastructure that provides for discussion and participation at all levels. The exchange of ideas has resulted in the creation of a shared vision for the Libraries and a renewed determination to satisfy the demand for scholarship by information, faculty, and the research community.

In this community, we are undertaking changes in information systems and processes, and on the past year, have transitioned from the traditional paper-based library to one providing electronic resources and services that are very competitive with other learning management systems, institutional repositories, and providing services to off-campus constituencies.

This is an exciting time for Libraries. Information technology will be central even if it is not a particular skill that we have created an awareness of knowledge resources in students, the general public, and the Libraries. The Libraries will be a central player in the campus as we move toward learning management systems, institutional repositories, and providing services to off-campus constituencies.

In 2004, the Library was one of 209 institutions from a traditional paper-based library to one providing electronic resources and services that are very competitive with other learning management systems, institutional repositories, and providing services to off-campus constituencies.

Social Justice Action Plan

A CHALLENGE to both libraries is the need to reposition the Library to align its mission with the needs of the community and the environment of our campus.

We have created a Social Justice Action Plan for the Libraries, which will serve as a focus for our activities toward learning management systems, institutional repositories, and providing services to off-campus constituencies.

In addition, the map collection has been moved to the renovated Floor 2 from its current location on the Main Floor. This move allows the map collection to be reorganized and to be in a more accessible location.

Old Chapel

Old, but Dk, but old, but good

The Second Annual "Silverware with Friends" at the University Club raised over $8,000, a 100% increase from 2003. In addition, the Second Annual "Silverware with Friends" will benefit the Friends of the Library in the 2003.

When is a dollar worth $1.50? Now. The pioneers who risked all for the University of Massachusetts in 1863 and the Commonwealth in 1776 can hardly be blamed for the exuberance with which they would welcome a 50% increase in their income. Well, the University Libraries would love a 50% increase in their income.

Library Endowment Fund: for scholarships, fellowships, and preservation

Brower M. Honigberg Memorial Bank for the support of books in the biological sciences

Pauline P. Collins Latin American Endowment

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