HE LIBRARIES received many generous gifts from our donors in 2005. Thanks to you, we added some wonderful materials to the collections, such as:

Labor History

The historian John W. Bennett ’52, donated a vast labor history collection that offers a stunning visual history of the iconography of the labor movement from the 1870s to the present, along with the funds to support the processing, care, and scholarly use of the collection. In addition, Bennett provided funding for a new annual colloquium in labor history. The Massachusetts AFL-CIO donated a major accession of its recent records and funding to support its processing.

Social Change

There were many additions to our history of social change collection, including the records of the Liberation News Service and the extensive Massachusetts branch of the American Friends Service Committee, the papers of former students for labor history, former Du Bois Library director Charlena Seymour, and the extensive collection of Beth Hapgood, which documents life in communes in the 1960s and 1970s and her spiritual endeavors.

Faculty

Literature and the Arts


Alumni

The Class of 1955 Garden, the 50th reunion gift of the Class of 1955 is nearing completion on the north side of the Du Bois Library. The Class of 1957 is already gearing up for its big reunion in 2007. They have decided to donate their 50th Reunion Gift to the Du Bois Library Promenade. The Class of 2006 selected the Library for its Senior Class Gift. Their gift will help renovate the topmost floor of the Du Bois Library—Floor 26.

From left, Richard Rogers, Rep. Ellen Story (D-Amherst), President Jack Wilson, Provost Charlena Seymour, Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer, Chancellor John V. Lombardi and UMass Amherst students celebrate the Learning Commons Dedication.

www.library.umass.edu

Director of Libraries
W.E.B. Du Bois Library
University of Massachusetts
134 Hicks Way
Amherst, MA 01003-6275

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The Learning Commons (LC) is a welcoming place, right in the heart of campus. It removes obstacles to learning, allowing students to make steady progress by finding what they need in one centralized location. The LC has abundant computer access, a wireless computing environment, and expert staff to guide students to find exactly what they need, whether it is help with research, technology support, choosing a major, finding a tutor, or writing a paper. It is a peaceful, flexible, and inviting study space that encourages and facilitates group collaboration. The LC connects students with the information, resources, and support they need to succeed on campus and adapt to college life.

The Learning Commons is a collaborative effort of many campus organizations including the Office of the Provost, Pre-Major Advising, Career Services, the Center for Teaching, the Information Technology Program, the Learning Resource Center, the Office of Information Technologies, the Writing Center, and the Library.

**Academic Barries have changed dramati- cally. They’re becoming more friendly, more commonly understood. The new learning environment that you have is a portal to access. And it is an appropriate place for attracting diversity of people because it’s a place to belong.**

Steve Balwin, Chief Information Officer

**The energy, the forward-thinking approach to create the kind of center is really something... I see a lot of great things are afoot here.**

Richard Rogers, Faculty Undergraduate Advisor to Provost

**The LC is a welcoming place, right in the heart of campus.**

Barry H. Frank, Chief Information Officer

**Here in the Learning Commons we’ve brought all the spaces together. The faculty, the IT experts, and the students who use the Learning Commons have done just that.**

Richard Rogers, Faculty Undergraduate Advisor to Provost

**The Learning Commons is a true center of excellence, and I’m looking forward to seeing it become even more vibrant over the next few years.**

Lanell James ’01 is a summa cum laude graduate of the University of Massachusetts Amherst who attended was very high. Tracie Hall, director of the American Library Association’s Office of Diversity, was the keynote speaker.

**In Appreciation of Our Donors**

The UMass Amherst Libraries in cooperation with the Libraries of Minnesota, Hampden, Mount Holyoke, Smith, Wesleyan, and Wisconsin have jointly shared since 1994 the Collective Library Online Electronic Resources (CLOER) database of their technical bibliographic databases; together, they hold 7,000 titles; 9,000 electronic journals; and 6,000 electronic books. The libraries have jointly shared since 1994 an array of collaborative digital/distance learning and information resources.

**Fourth Annual ALANA Library Career Dinner**

When UMass Amherst Libraries and the University of Rhode Island, the library held the fourth annual ALANA Library Career Dinner to introduce minority students about careers in libraries.

Lanell James ’01 is a summa cum laude graduate of the University of Massachusetts Amherst, served the library’s Visual Arts program, and then attended graduate school in information science at the University of St. Thomas, St. Paul. James recently chosen by the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) to receive a stipend of up to $15,000 from the W. EUGENE MASSEY MEMORIAL FELLOWSHIP (Diverse Workforce). The level of interest in joining a career in librarianship by this student was very high. Tracie Hall, director of the American Library Association’s Office of Diversity, was the keynote speaker.

**New Library Information System**

The UMass Amherst Libraries in cooperation with the Libraries of Minnesota, Hampden, Mount Holyoke, Smith, Wesleyan, and Wisconsin have jointly shared since 1994 the Collective Library Online Electronic Resources (CLOER) database of their technical bibliographic databases. The libraries have jointly shared since 1994 an array of collaborative digital/distance learning and information resources.

**Looking Back at 2005**

**Endowments**

$1,374,144

$910,277

Collaborative Library Online Electronic Resources (CLOER) database of bibliographic databases; together, they hold 7,000 titles; 9,000 electronic journals; and 6,000 electronic books. The libraries have jointly shared since 1994 an array of collaborative digital/distance learning and information resources.