Increase discovery

Growing Our Collections

Today’s students and instructors want to be able to access scholarly resources, whether it is from their homes, apartments, offices or local cafés. That’s why this year we concentrated on providing more films online. We added Kanopy, a video media streaming service that provides 7,000 films from leading producers. Films are all genres – from documentaries to movies and training videos – and touch on every topic imaginable. In less than a year, films from this service have been viewed 513 times.

- 15% more e-books
- 28% more e-journals
- Expanded access to health science titles
- More historical newspapers

Expanding Our Reach

The University and Special Collections’ web presence has been significantly strengthened. In partnership with the St. Joseph County Public Library and IU South Bend Civil Rights Heritage Center, Archivist Alison Stankrauff received a $10,000 2014 Indiana Memory Digitization Grant to digitize materials that document the history and civil rights activities of the African American community in St. Joseph County. Researchers at all levels and ages can now find photographs, newspapers, pamphlets and other items through the website, Michiana Memory. A 2015 grant of $8,940 was just awarded to continue work on this wonderful project, which will include oral histories from the Latino and LGBTQ communities.

In addition to this project, 190 official university documents are now searchable (thanks to our great Catalogers) through IU’s Archives of Institutional Memory (AIM).
Teaching Students to Become Better Researchers

Helping retain and graduate more students is priority #1 at IU South Bend. The IU South Bend Libraries take this goal very seriously. In fact, we are the only IU campus that requires an information literacy and research skills course, Q110, as part of the general education curriculum. Library faculty taught 1,224 students enrolled in Q110. We teach a similar course at the graduate level in partnership with the Master of Liberal Studies program. Our teaching mission goes beyond these two courses. 1,140 students also received course-related library instruction. Along with group instruction and tours, librarians provided 144 one-on-one research consultations, which increased by 5% over last year.

While the number of overall reference questions remained stable, queries answered by the Archivist escalated by 94% and those coming through the chat service rose by 9%. Librarians also created and maintained subject guides on a wide range of disciplines, from Business to Religion. Most popular? Nursing! Course guides were developed as well. Julie Elliott’s course-specific guide created for English W131 received 1,154 views!

Providing Real-World Experiences

Whether interacting with patrons at the Circulation Desk, creating graphics for our publications or helping student teachers create bulletin boards, IU South Bend Libraries offer students many opportunities to gain valuable professional skills. It is a win-win for us, too. Without their assistance we would not be able to provide the same quality and breadth of library services. Pictured is Jane Wise, one of our exceptional library student workers and winner of the 2015 Michele C. Russo Library Student Worker scholarship. We also sponsored 4 internships and 4 volunteers in Archives & Special Collections.
Accommodating Different Study Needs

Library spaces continue to support a variety of learning, teaching and research needs.

At the Schurz Library, the Hammes Information Commons, Dorene Dwyer Hammes Media Commons and Café, quiet study on the 2nd floor, and the lounge seating on the 5th floor are just some of the different environments available to library users.

31% rise in online booking of study rooms!

Spaces for group work remain in high demand, with 3,682 advanced reservations of Schurz Library’s group study and conference rooms, Media Production Room and Wiekamp Educational Resource Commons (WERC) A/V viewing room. The Schurz Library is also the busiest computer lab on campus.

Over in the Education & Arts Building, students, faculty and community members enjoy the Wiekamp Educational Resource Commons’ modern facilities, with comfy lounge furniture, spacious computer area, and fabulous production area.

Meeting Researchers Where They Are

Over 5,000 people walked through the doors of Schurz Library or Wiekamp Educational Resource Commons every week, whether to obtain research help, find materials, create posters, or meet in study groups. There were 2,959 weekly visits to the Schurz Library and WERC websites, an upsurge of more than 20% from last year.

Even more people are using our collections online. The number of full-text downloads of online articles and e-books increased 23%!
Advance Scholarship

Promoting and Rewarding Student Research

Jason Rose won the 2015 $500 Library Prize for Undergraduate Research for his paper, “The Politics of Persuasion: The 'NO HYMN of hate' of the CPI and the Four Minute Men during the First World War” written for his 20th Century European History class. We are proud to report that Jason is pursuing his graduate degree in history at Ball State University.

Supporting New Publishing Models

Craig Finlay, Scholarly Communications Librarian, made great progress in capturing student and faculty scholarship, presentations, and master’s theses into the IU’s open depository, ScholarWorks. In the past year, 92 new items were added. What is more amazing is that the 138 total items have been downloaded 16,753 times! Compared to last year’s rate of 2,684, usage has skyrocketed!

In addition, all undergraduate and graduate student journals now have an online presence in ScholarWorks, with recent issues and individual articles easily accessible. So is the open access academic journal, Olifant, published by the American-Canadian Branch of the Société Rencesvals dedicated to the Romance epic.

Delivering Research Materials

When our researchers need it, they get it! Our fantastic Interlibrary Loan department requests materials as far away as Australia. Not only did borrowing of materials from other libraries go up 4%, but document delivery of articles and books from our shelves went up 8.2%. Our program to purchase requests that cannot be filled has proven quite successful. These titles checked out an average of three times.
Demonstrate Value

Staying Connected

8 Newsletters | Twitter | Instagram

2 Facebook pages | Library Blog

These are just some of the ways we let the campus and the community know about new services, events, donations, grants, and collections.

Creating READ posters of student groups, library staff, faculty, and students was one of our most popular outreach campaigns. Here are a few of our favorites:

This year we also formed a Library Student Advisory Council. These enthusiastic students provided useful feedback and suggestions for improvements.

“I'm excited to be a part of this team!” (Stephen, Student Government Association)

“I believe that this group can bring great benefits for the library and improve the experience for the students at IU South Bend.” (Justin, President Student Government Association 2014-2015)
Highlighting Collections and Services

“Location, Location, Location”

Perhaps you have heard the real estate agents’ mantra. That sure proved true when we created a Popular Reading collection of fiction, non-fiction, cookbooks and graphic novels on the Schurz Library’s 1st floor. In less than one year, 42% of titles circulated. What was the most circulated title on our Popular Reading shelves? Shuushh. It was *Fifty Shades of Grey*. The previous year we had created a popular film collection, which resulted in a 50% increase in borrowing.


**Engaging Our Students**

The auditorium was not the only place to hear concerts on campus last year. The Schurz Library hosted a series of seven Tiny Shelves concerts, five-song sets by different student bands on the 5th floor atrium. The student newspaper, *The Preface*, listed these concerts as one of the “Top 10 Best of IUSB in 2014!” These performances were made available on YouTube and have been viewed over 1,400 times!
Engaging Our Community

For the second year in a row, the Wiekamp Educational Resource Commons partnered with the School of Education and the South Bend Community School Corporation to offer a 3-day Math Camp for 3rd to 6th graders. These students improved their mathematical skills while having fun! In addition, they received tours of campus, stopping to see the large telescope on the roof of Northside Hall, the 360 full degree X-ray machine in the Dental Clinic, and other cool locations. This year’s camp was supported with a generous grant from the Harvey & Doris Klockow Foundation. This enabled the price of registration to be cut in half and scholarships created for those with need. Community members also donated math materials for the camp.

Giving Back

Our Food for Fines program, which is offered during the last two weeks of the semester, allows $1.00 off a library fine for every non-perishable food item donated. At the end of 2014, a record 411 pounds of food, the equivalent of 321 meals to those in need, was donated to the Northern Indiana Food Bank!

This year we also collected school supplies in lieu of fines for WNDU’s Pack a Backpack drive that helps hundreds of children throughout Michiana.
Forging a Roadmap for the Future

Fundamental this year was the completion of our strategic plan. We not only have clear goals and objectives, but specific action plans, time lines, and qualitative and quantitative success metrics.

Staying Current

With rapid changes in technology and information delivery, librarians and staff continued to attend workshops, in-house staff training sessions, conferences, and webinars on a wide variety of topics. Formal processes for sharing information library-wide and observing the teaching of librarian faculty were instituted.

We also collaborated with St. Mary’s College to hold the first Michiana Scholarly Communication Librarianship Conference. Twenty-seven librarians from 12 universities attended to hear the prestigious speakers.

It Takes a Village

The wonderful librarians and staff of the Franklin D. Schurz Library & Wiekamp Educational Resource Commons do not just “do the job,” but work every day to advance student success, faculty teaching and research, academic engagement, and lifelong learning.

Barbara Allen          Julie Elliott          Josephine Johnson
Brandon Bauschke       Adrian Esselstrom       Maureen Kennedy
Elizabeth Bell          Craig Finlay          Vincci Kwong
Kirby Cheng             Linda Fisher           Scott Opasik
Nancy Colborn           Shabaun Flanagan       Kim Parker
Karen Eggermont         Angela Huff           Kathy Pladowski
Feng Shan               Steve Sigety           Alison Stankrauff

Susan Thomas

Kudos to our Associate faculty, terrific student workers, interns and volunteers!
Ensure fiscal health

Tightening Budgets

IU South Bend Libraries take great care in making the most of the budget by hiring work study students, buying supplies in bulk, and reducing printing and postage costs. We also steward our collection budget carefully, a challenging task given 4-8% annual increases of scholarly journals and continuations, along with the bundled packaging of e-books, e-journals and streaming media. Since our collection budget of $728,206.19 has not increased in some time, the Library “loses” about $30,000 every year to inflation costs.

Finding Cost Savings

The subject librarians conducted an extensive serials review, with the input of faculty, in order to cancel titles and free funds for the purchase of books and DVDs. The result: 157 titles were cancelled for a total savings of $94,499. Other cost savings measures included acquiring expensive or low use materials when triggered by requests and stepping up gift book/DVD solicitations. We also revised how community users obtain library cards. By requiring two recent pieces of mail showing residency, the number of lost book write offs plummeted by 91%!

Thank You Donors

We are grateful to the continued generosity and loyalty of our donors. Their support allows us to fund scholarships, awards, and special programs as well as purchase needed materials for the collection. Many, many thanks!

Information about the Franklin D. Schurz Library & Wiekamp Educational Resource Commons, how to make a gift donation, and subscribe to our newsletters can be found at https://www.iusb.edu/library/ and at https://www.iusb.edu/erc/, or by contacting Vicki Bloom, Dean of Library Services at 574-520-4448, vdbloom@iusb.edu.