Hammes Information Commons Opens

Thanks to a generous lead gift by Jerry and Dorene Hammes, Library and Media Services and Information Technologies opened the Hammes Information Commons on September 17 in the Schurz Library.

Located in the former Reference Room, the commons is a collaborative effort by the Library, Instructional Media Services (IMS), and Information Technologies (IT). The collaborative workspace allows students a one-stop place to work in groups or individually on research and multimedia projects, and to receive assistance from reference librarians, technology assistants, and multimedia specialists.

The Hammes Information Commons combines the Library’s print and electronic reference collection with computer workstations from the computer lab and those on the second floor in the Library into one location where assistance is available. The Commons provides 46 computers with a full range of software and access to a flatbed scanner for student use. Four computers with access to library databases are available to the public. The Commons also features an adaptive technology room with software such as Kurzweil, Open Book, and Dragon Naturally Speaking Professional.

A dedication ceremony will be held for the Hammes Information Commons on October 23 at 4 p.m.

The Hammes Information Commons is open Monday through Thursday 8 a.m. to midnight, Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to midnight.
A student takes advantage of the comfortable seating and print materials in the commons. The Hammes Information Commons has over 10,000 print materials and seating for nearly 100 people.

Director of Library Services Michele Russo speaks with the Information Technologies assistant. Reference librarians and information technology assistants share a desk in the Commons in order to meet students research and technology needs all in one location.

Students enjoy the collaborative computer workspaces, which allow them to work on group technology projects.

All photos by Joe Haase
**Schurz Library Speaker Series: Paul Murray of Herman Miller to discuss “The Power of One: How You Can Embrace and Communicate the Environmental Ethic”**

Please join us as Paul Murray, Environmental Safety and Sustainability Director for Herman Miller, discusses “The Power of One: How You Can Embrace and Communicate the Environmental Ethic” Tuesday, October 9, 7:30 p.m. in the Franklin D. Schurz Library 5th floor atrium. Murray will discuss how the actions of just one person can inspire greater environmental awareness within our university and community.

In his job at Herman Miller, Murray guides the company’s day-to-day “green” initiatives. This gives him a unique perspective on the many and varied environmental activities undertaken on any given day, the dollar value of these actions, and the vital role each individual Herman Miller employee plays.

“I share a number of anecdotes I’ve picked up over my years at Herman Miller that highlight our successes as well as a few missteps and lessons learned,” Murray explains. “The point I really try to make is that many of our environmental achievements come as the result of one person saying, ‘I know we can do better.’ I want to encourage anyone listening to start thinking and asking questions at their own company.”

This idea of the power of one individual making an improvement in one’s local environment is tied very closely with the campus theme of sustainable communities, and the One Book, One Campus title, An Enemy of the People.

“We are very excited about having someone from a regional company with such as strong reputation come to speak on our campus,” said Michele Russo, Director of Library Services.

Murray, who grew up in a small farming community in South Dakota, has an undergraduate degree in chemistry and a master’s in management and is a LEED accredited professional. He joined Herman Miller in 1988 and while seeking an air quality permit for a wood finishing area, realized the need for more coordination of Herman Miller’s green initiatives.

This led to the creation of EQAT (the Environmental Quality Action Team) whose actions have helped cement Herman Miller’s reputation as an environmentally progressive company.

Miller was featured in Vanity Fair’s May 2006 “Green” issue in the article, “The Re-Inventors: Green Architects and Designers” and through his consulting firm the Sustainable Research Group (SRG) helps other companies implement green initiatives.

This event is part of the Schurz Library Speaker Series, which aims to provide speakers of intellectual interest to the campus and community related to the campus theme. All Schurz Library Speaker events are free and open to the public.

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**The Schurz Report: IU South Bend Libraries Staff News**

Congratulations to Maureen Kennedy (left), who completed the Louisville Ironman on August 26. The Ironman consisted of a 2.4 mile swim in the Ohio River, an 112-mile bike race, and a full marathon (26.2 miles). Kennedy completed the event in 14 hours and 18 minutes.

Alison Stankrauff has helped to organize a repository of materials relating to the peace movement, anti-violence movement, and anti-nuclear movement at the Charles Martin Community Center on the west side of South Bend. The material is dated from the 1960s to the present, and includes flyers, pamphlets, broadsides, posters, and ephemera. Alison worked with community member Lois Clark, longtime peace activist, and Monica Tetzlaff, chair of IU South Bend’s history department. The collection is housed in the Martin Center’s Rosa Parks Room, and will be available to the public.

Congratulations to Julie Elliott, whose article, “Academic Libraries and Extracurricular Reading Promotion” was published in Reference and User Services Quarterly.

Congratulations to Vincci Kwong, who published her article, “Reach Out to Your Students Using MySpace and Facebook” in Indiana Libraries.

Congratulations to Susan Thomas, who was elected to ALCTS Collection Management and Development Section Member-at-large position. Thomas also has recently published the essays “Overtraining Syndrome” and “Rotavirus” in Magill’s Medical Guide, as well as reviews of the books This Present Darkness by Frank Peretti in Masterplots II: Christian Literature and Nicole Kidman by David Thomson in Magill’s Literary Annual Books of 2006.
Instructional Media Services News

Instructional Media Services (IMS) is preparing to install a Digital Signage system for the Schurz Library. It will be located in the Main Floor Lobby outside the Hammes Information Commons. The monitor will display information about services and upcoming events related to the Schurz Library, Instructional Media Services, the Education Resource Center and the Hammes Information Commons. The project should be ready for the Oct 23rd dedication of the Hammes Information Commons.

IMS has completed the installation of the Videoconference system and all technology located in the Elkhart Center’s new Distance Learning Suite. The room is equipped with a Polycom VSX 7000 Codec, Large Screen Monitor, Document Camera and a PC. You can find the Distance Learning Suite (Room a219) on the second floor of the new Elkhart Center, 125 Franklin Street, in downtown Elkhart. It is right next to the Elco Theatre and across from the Plaza.

Interlibrary Loan: Facts and Figures

Ever wonder how many items the Schurz Library lends out to other libraries? Or how many items we receive for our patrons? Well….no need to wonder anymore.

In the Fiscal Year 06-07 we supplied 8,401 items to other libraries across and country and the world. This includes articles, books, videos and music. In the same time frame we received from other libraries, for our patron’s 7,975 items. We received 3,632 articles and 4,343 returnable items. Most materials come from within the United States, but some are supplied by libraries overseas.

Music Index now available

The Music Index, which provides citations from over 700 music periodicals from around the world, is now available in the EbscoHost database. To access the Music Index, go to the library’s reference and research page, http://www.iusb.edu/~libg/ref/ and choose “EbscoHost” from the “to look for articles” drop down menu. From the EbscoHost menu, you may select the database from the list of choices.

New Items at the Schurz Library

Recent titles added to the Schurz Library collection include: The Worst Hard Time by Timothy Egan; Comprehending Columbine by Ralph Larkin; Man Without a Country by Kurt Vonnegut; Children of Men (DVD); An Inconvenient Truth (book and DVD) by Al Gore; When the Levees Broke (DVD); and Metaphysics Within Physics by Tim Maudlin.

New books can be searched on the Library’s New Book List: http://www.iusb.edu/~libg/tech/newtitlelist.shtml. The database, created by Vincci Kwong and Scott Opasik, allows users to search for new books in the collection by subject, purchasing department, author, language, format, and more.

OBOC Opening Night Pre-Performance Discussion about Paragon Springs

October 12, 7 p.m.

On opening night of Paragon Springs (an adaptation of the One Book, One Campus title An Enemy of the People), Oct. 12 at 7 p.m. in NS 020, Theatre professor Ernie Nolan will be leading a pre-performance discussion—prepping people for the play and discussing how to transform a play from the written word into performance.

“Paragon is quite a faithful adaptaion of the Ibsen [play], but it moves the action of the play from 1880s Norway to 1920s Midwest America,” said Nolan. “Part of our discussion will touch on the fact that it seems that this play has been reinvented several times for audiences...It’s interesting to ponder if the next adaptation in the future will be set in our present time.”

Paragon Springs, which will be making its Indiana debut with this performance, will be in the Campus Auditorium at 8 p.m.

Interested in leading a One Book, One Campus discussion? Contact Julie Elliott at jmfelli@iusb.edu.

Learning Resource Center now Educational Resource Commons

The Learning Resource Center (LRC) has changed its name to the Educational Resource Commons (ERC). The ERC, located in Greenlawn 111, is the education branch of the IU South Bend Library and Media Services.