

Butler University Libraries

Library Building or Remodeling Projects – None

Marketing or Outreach Initiatives – The library held its fifth annual Celebration of Scholarship and Creative Activity. The opening night exhibit is accompanied with food and drink and is well attended by faculty and staff. A keynote speaker is selected from the faculty by the Dean of Libraries and Butler faculty consider it a major honor to be chosen. This is the only public recognition faculty receive for a major aspect of their professional work. Students also rate the month long exhibit very highly as it gives them new insights into the quality of their faculty.

Fund Raising Projects – Preliminary planning session took place in January with the University President for a major library initiative to be included in the next capital campaign. Date of next campaign has not been set.

Friends of the Library luncheon was held in October. This luncheon appears to have a pretty direct correlation to fund raising. Attendance and gifts to the library have increased in each of the past three years.

New Library Services – Library has two blogs – one public and one for reference staff. A WikiRef was brought online in fall 2005. IM (Instant Messenger) has been in use since fall 2005 to provide reference service in addition to e-mail reference, phone reference, and desk reference.

The faculty approved the development of a new core curriculum. A few pilot courses are being offered in fall 2006. As these develop, librarians are working with faculty to ensure that information literacy aspects of the core are addressed.

Other – Three librarians with six to ten years tenure at Butler made good career moves this year (to Harvard – Electronic Resources Coordinator; to Case Western – Director, Social Work Library; to University of Dubuque – Assistant Director, Technical Services). You too, can use Butler libraries as a stepping stone! Two of these positions have just been filled with excellent recent library school graduates.

Library has just completed its first full scale digital project. With LSTA funding, the Eliza Blaker collection was digitized. Blaker, a follower of Froebel, was an Indiana pioneer of kindergarten and urban education. This joint project with the public school system included development of lesson plans for use with fourth grade Indiana students.