

# ANNUAL REPORT

# 2008



# 2009

# Vice President of Information Services and University Librarian's Report



I am happy to provide a brief overview of the fiscal year 08/09 accomplishments of the Rutgers University Libraries.

We continue to enhance the information systems we use or build internally to give our faculty and students easier access to materials and better enable them to engage in research, to teach, and to learn. Several important grant-funded activities are helping us accomplish these goals. The Libraries are partners with the Rutgers Graduate School of Education and the School of Educational Psychology, University of Wisconsin, on a \$3 million grant from the National Science Foundation to develop a collaborative research and learning digital portal for mathematics education. The Libraries are also part of a group that received an Andrew W. Mellon Foundation grant to design a new library system that integrates with higher education enterprise applications, course management systems, and information systems outside the library. When completed, the new system will transform our operations.

Based on the success of last year's nursing information literacy tutorial the Libraries embarked on two new tutorials to assist students doing work 24/7. An interactive tutorial entitled "Wikipedia: A Guide for Students," was introduced at the beginning of the year, and a general undergraduate tutorial on how to find, use, and evaluate information is almost completed.

A major ethnographic study of students' research behavior was undertaken with an outside consultant to inform a broad redesign of the Libraries' website. The research has already provided considerable information on ways to make our web presence more useful.

The Libraries are continuously evaluating the kinds of spaces we provide based on input from students and faculty. To accommodate the increased use of laptops and MP3 players brought into the Libraries we added a significant number of electrical outlets. New group study rooms were created in Alexander, Dana, and Kilmer Libraries, and we have designated quiet zones in many of the libraries. The Paul Robeson Library in Camden embarked on a long-awaited \$1 million renovation of the 1955-era building. The electronic classroom and lobby areas were upgraded, and more renovations will continue into 2010.

The collections librarians spent considerable time reviewing database and journal subscriptions this year to deal with escalating costs, the general decrease in state support, and the severe cuts to the New Jersey State Library's program, the *New Jersey Knowledge Initiative*, which provided eleven databases. Throughout this review they have eliminated duplicate copies of print subscriptions, switched from print to electronic versions when available, compared content coverage, canceled titles and maintained nearly the same level of content coverage. Monograph purchases were made primarily with gift and endowment funds. We continue to receive wonderful gift collections for our Institute of Jazz Studies in the Dana Library, and for our Special Collections and University Archives. Our preservation funds have grown significantly this year through generous private support and a major grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for the preservation of the Benny Carter and Benny Goodman collections.

These are both exciting and challenging times. I am happy to report that our librarians and staff are up to the task of creating an information environment that matches the aspirations of the university, and each of us appreciates the support of our many friends and donors in this endeavor. ■

## Broad Study of the Libraries' Website

In the spring the Libraries conducted a comprehensive, multi-method study to assess undergraduate and graduate student attitudes towards and uses of the Libraries' website, [www.libraries.rutgers.edu](http://www.libraries.rutgers.edu). The study included large-scale web-based surveys of undergraduate and graduate students, follow-up interviews with select students, and other forms of data collection.

The Libraries' Ethnographic Research Project to study the website was led by C. Todd White, a visiting professor of anthropology at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia. Dr. White has conducted similar studies of faculty and student online research practices at the University of Rochester and at Colorado State University. The project was highly collaborative and involved two research/design teams comprised of eighteen librarians and IT personnel.

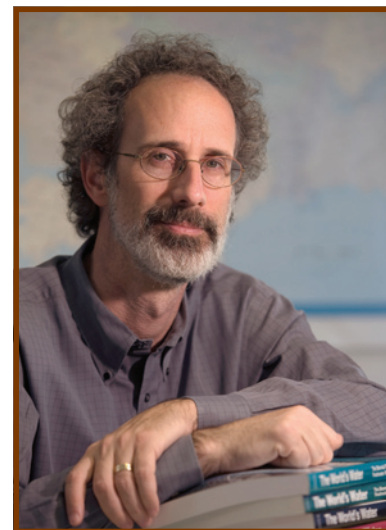
The Libraries intend to use the data collected in this study to conduct a broad redesign of the public interface of the website in 2009/2010. ■



## Major Activities and Accomplishments

- External support allowed the Libraries to add a number of high quality online resources in 2008/2009 including *World Biographical Index Online*, *Current Biography*, *Marquis Who's Who on the Web*, *the Encyclopedia of World Biography*, *Book Review Index Plus*, *PATFT: Issued Patents/AppFT: Patent Applications*, *McClatchy-Tribune Collection* (archive of articles from 290 newspapers across the US), and *OneSource* (a business database).
- The Libraries are continuously upgrading facilities to support the variety of ways the libraries are used:
  - The Paul Robeson Library created a new 175-seat student computer lab on the main floor of the library to accommodate growing needs on campus.
  - Six dozen new outlet ports, for laptop computers and other devices, were added to the Alexander Library, the Kilmer Library, and the SERC Reading Room.
  - The Alexander Library renovated space on the third floor to create four new group study rooms.
  - The Kilmer Library renovated space on the second floor to create four new group study rooms.
- To help students locate the highest quality resources in different disciplines, the Libraries create online subject research guides that link to authoritative websites and also list critical Libraries resources in print. In 2008/2009 the Libraries developed research guides for the following areas: *Stem Cell Research Guide*, *African-American Women*, *American Political Theory*, *Critical Issues in Contemporary Journalism*, *Early Roman Empire*, *Ethics and Political Leadership*, *Postwar U.S. Environmental History*, *Presidential Campaign 2008*, *Race and Ethnicity*, and *Technology and Public Administration*.
- The Libraries are creating online tutorials to help students find and use information from many diverse resources. They have just completed the Nursing Information Literacy Tutorial, and are working with the Office of Undergraduate Education to create a general tutorial for course management systems, as well as a few subject specific tutorials for other disciplines.
- In a project funded by Merck, John Cotton Dana Library staff worked on an educational outreach program on bioethics with faculty in the Philosophy and Psychology departments for the past three years. This one-week, summer program for high school students from the Newark metropolitan area allows them to study bioethics while getting a taste of the college atmosphere.
- With a \$1 million grant from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the Libraries are creating a statewide system for Internet access to a shared collection of educational videos for higher education, public libraries, museums, and K-12 schools in New Jersey. The NJVid project is a collaboration between the Rutgers University Libraries, Rutgers Office of Information Technology, William Paterson University, and NJEDge.net.
- The Rutgers University Libraries are part of a select group of international libraries working together, with funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, to design the next generation of software needed to run large and complex library systems in the digital era. The consortium, called the OLE project, will finalize a draft design document by fall 2009.

## International Water Expert Speaks at Libraries



The Libraries bring distinguished scholars to campus in a number of programs tied to exhibition openings, the book arts, or timely topics. This year's speakers included Dr. Peter Gleick, who addressed a standing room only crowd on the topic: "How access to water affects gender, security, environment, and human rights."

Dr. Gleick is the president and co-founder of the Pacific Institute in Oakland, CA. The institute monitors the quality of the world's water supply and its effect on health, climate change, industrialization, and international relations. The work of the Pacific Institute has been favorably cited by government officials and community activists in South Africa, India, the United Nations Global Compact, and the State of California.

Dr. Gleick's talk was supported by a grant from the International Programs office of the School of Arts and Sciences, New Brunswick, and is part of the office's year-long series of events to mark the 60th anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights. ■





Officers of the Class of 1949 stand with the new plaque in Alexander Library.

## Awards and Achievements

- University Librarian Marianne Gaunt was promoted to the position of vice president for information services and university librarian.



Grace Agnew, shown above, receiving the NJLA ACRL award

- Grace Agnew, Associate University Librarian for Digital Library Systems, received the Distinguished Service Award from the College and University section of the New Jersey Library Association in April 2009.

- University Archivist Tom Frusciano published *Rutgers University Football Vault: The History of the Scarlet Knights*. From the team's first game in 1869, against Princeton, he traces Rutgers' greatest moments through the 2007 season.

- Science Librarian Connie Wu was the recipient of the Patent and Trademark Depository Library Association's recognition award for her leadership and commitment to making patent and trademark information available to the public. She received the award in March 2009.

- Institute of Jazz Studies Librarian Vince Pelote was elected president elect of the national Association for Recorded Sound Collections, at the association's annual conference in May 2009 in Washington, DC.

## Development Report

- The Libraries are a partner with the Rutgers Graduate School of Education on a \$3 million grant from the National Science Foundation to develop a virtual annotated mathematics video library to advance teaching and learning of math in K-12 schools.

- The Institute of Jazz Studies, the world's largest archive devoted to jazz, was awarded a \$296,000 grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to preserve the significant collections of jazz greats Benny Carter and Benny Goodman.

- The Rutgers College Class of 1949 made a class gift of \$50,000 to the Alexander Library, on the occasion of their 60th reunion in May 2009. The gift was used, in part, to create a plaque listing all Class of 1949 Rutgers College students who served in World War II. The plaque has been placed in the lower level study lounge of Alexander Library.

### Development Statistics

Total number of donors in FY09:	5,044
Corporate/Foundation Gifts:	\$200,500
Gifts in Kind:	\$1,500
Private Giving:	\$731,845.55
Total grants, federal and state:	\$618,329



An online exhibit about the life and work of Benny Carter, prepared by the Institute of Jazz Studies. To access this exhibit, please see: <http://newarkwvu.rutgers.edu/ijs/bc/index.html>

# Libraries Statistics

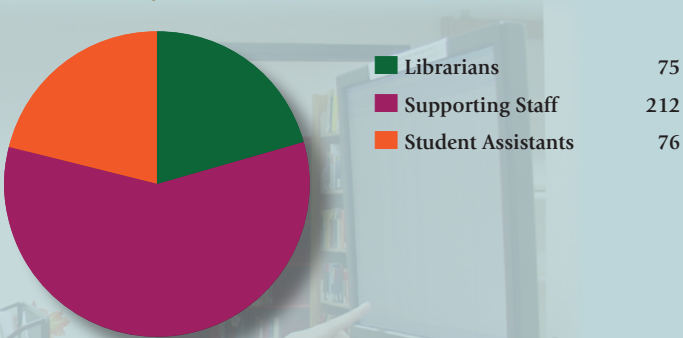
## Library Collections

Total Volumes. . . . .	3,662,082
Total Microforms . . . . .	4,561,315
Total Documents . . . . .	2,541,964
Volumes Added, Gross. . . . .	50,837
Titles Cataloged . . . . .	52,495
Current Print Subscriptions. . . . .	9,640
Current Electronic Subscriptions . .	78,437

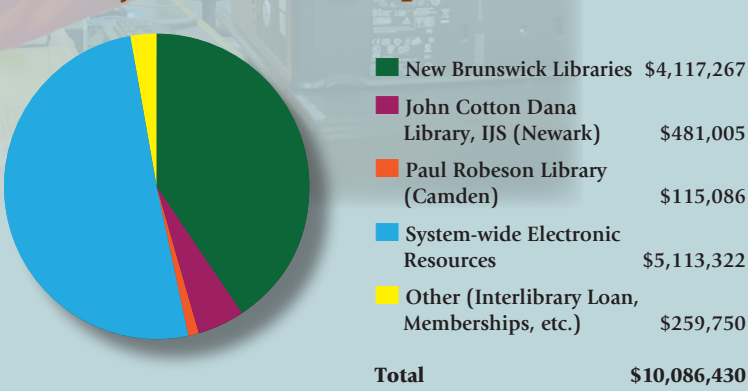
## Library Services

Circulation . . . . .	552,506
Reference Questions. . . . .	60,584
Ask A Librarian & Meebo Reference Service . . . . .	14,527
Interlibrary Loan, Borrowed . . . . .	35,036
Interlibrary Loan, Loaned . . . . .	44,924
Rutgers Delivery Service. . . . .	56,981
Library Classes Taught . . . . .	993
Number Students Taught. . . . .	21,140
Building Use. . . . .	2,442,718

## Library Staff



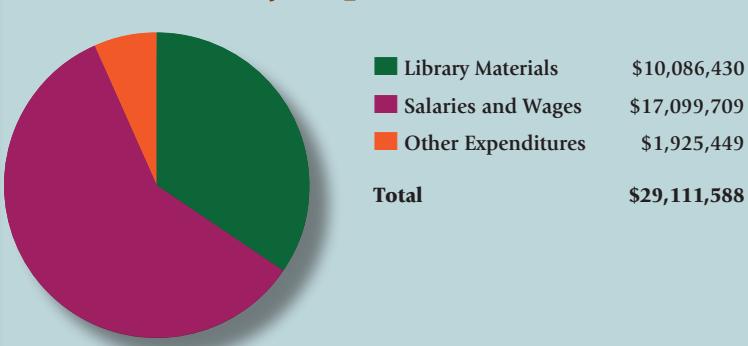
## Library Collection Expenditures





*In March students in the advanced placement world history class of West Orange Public High School, accompanied by their instructor Michael Figueiredo, received guidance from Rutgers' World History Librarian James Niessen on how to conduct college-level research using primary and secondary sources. The class was held at Alexander Library.*

## Overall Library Expenditures



**Archibald S. Alexander Library**

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

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New Brunswick, NJ 08901-1163

[www.libraries.rutgers.edu](http://www.libraries.rutgers.edu)

