

## James E. Walker



# LIBRARY UPDATE

Number 30

Fall 2007

## 18TH-CENTURY PRINTING PRESS REPLICA WILL PRINT AGAIN

In fall 2003, three faculty members from Walker Library and the Art Department joined two staff members from Facilities Services to construct a working replica of an 18th-century printing press. A partnership was soon developed with eight teachers from Rutherford County to bring the traditional craft and social history of printing to middle and high school students. Articles about this unique venture have appeared in the *Daily News Journal*, the *Murfreesboro Post*, and the February 2007 issue of *Southern Living*.

### The Press Room

Due to the growth of MTSU's Book Arts program, the press moved out of Todd Hall in fall 2006. After being on display in Walker Library's atrium, the press now has a new home on the fourth floor of the library in room 462, where it will resume its life as a working press. Rutherford County teachers can now continue to offer their students the innovative educational opportunities made possible by the

press. In addition, more sessions can be scheduled to meet the demand for teacher instruction in press technology and history.



### Beyond Campus

In the near future, the printing experience will be brought into classrooms across the state with streaming video technology. Teachers will be given curriculum guides for classroom activities to complement what is happening in the press room. In this way, aspects of

literacy, print culture, and history can be brought to a broad audience.

Other plans of the printing press project include hosting visiting writers and artists and offering open printing nights for the community, teaching a continuing studies course, and leading summer institutes for teachers and the community.

The project will continue to partner with Rutherford County Schools, Ingram Publishing, and others to strengthen education for secondary school students and development opportunities for the library.

If you are interested in the printing press project or want to know how to become a friend of the press, contact Kristen Keene at [kkeene@mtsu.edu](mailto:kkeene@mtsu.edu) or (615) 898-5376.

Project support is provided by an MTSU Special Projects Grant, Dr. Tracy Pack, the Jennings and Rebecca Jones Foundation, and the Friends of the Press.

## A WORD FROM THE DEAN

This is our first issue of Update in several years. Please let us know what you think. The library is proud to offer services, information, and research materials to the broad University community in such a fine facility, and we look forward to strengthening services and resources to meet the needs of our students and faculty. Stop by and see us!

— J. Donald Craig



Bakoyema



West

## FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Walker Library is proud to announce the addition of two new faculty members.

**Fagdeba Bakoyema** is a user services librarian specializing in Web services. Bako earned two degrees from Indiana University, one in library science and one in information science.

**Kristen West** is a user services librarian specializing in instruction and reference. Kristen earned her library science degree from the University of North Texas.



# MIDDLE TENNESSEE

STATE UNIVERSITY

## James E. Walker Library

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*"Nobody graduated from a library.  
Nobody graduated without one."  
—Anonymous*

## MTSU MEMORY PROJECT

Walker Library has taken the first steps to create a digital projects lab that will, when fully implemented, allow both MTSU users and members of the larger community to digitize documents and other materials. The lab is an outgrowth of the statewide Volunteer Voices Project ([www.volunteervoices.org](http://www.volunteervoices.org)), an ongoing consortium project supported by a \$1.8 million grant from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services. The grant is managed by UT-Knoxville and codirected by Aaron Purcell of Hodges Library at UT and Ken Middleton of Walker Library.

The next step for digital projects at Walker Library will be implementation of the MTSU Memory Project, an effort to collect and preserve photographs, correspondence, memorabilia, and other materials that document the critical role played by MTSU within the broader community during its first century. With funding from the MTSU Foundation and under the direction of grant recipients Ken Middleton, Mayo Taylor, and Jo Williams, the project will seek out items that specifically illustrate how MTSU responded to significant national events such as World War II, the Great Depression, the civil rights movement, and the war in Vietnam. An important aspect of the project will be outreach to campus

departments; current and retired faculty and staff members; and staff, alumni, and community members who may hold items of interest. Materials will be brought to the Library to be scanned, archived and cataloged before being returned to their owners. A graduate student or other part-time employee will be employed to help with the project.



*This picture of the square in Murfreesboro was taken around 1935 by Ben Shahn.*

The MTSU Memory Project will produce an informative Web site in conjunction with the University's centennial celebration in 2011 and a fully searchable database of digital objects that will continue to grow over time. Looking further into the future, the Library intends to increase its capacity to undertake digital projects in support of the University and possibly to develop a regional public scanning center.

For more information about the MTSU Memory Project or the digital projects lab, please contact Ken Middleton at 898-8524 or [kmiddlet@mtsu.edu](mailto:kmiddlet@mtsu.edu). If you do not have items to digitize but want to support the project, please contact Kristen Keene at 898-5376 or [kkeene@mtsu.edu](mailto:kkeene@mtsu.edu).

## FALL SEMESTER HOURS

Monday–Thursday	7:30 a.m.–Midnight
Friday	7:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Saturday	8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Sunday	1:00 p.m.–Midnight

## ADVANCEMENT CORNER

The Buchanan Family Legacy Room has just been completed thanks to the generous support of that family.

The printing press project is moving forward and an exciting MTSU memory project is ready to launch.

If you would like to be a part of these and other initiatives to strengthen education at MTSU, please visit our Web site at <http://library.mtsu.edu> or contact Kristen Keene, external relations specialist, at [kkeene@mtsu.edu](mailto:kkeene@mtsu.edu) or (615) 898-5376.