



LIBRARY UPDATE

Number 39

Summer 2010

Longtime Library Dean Is Retiring



After 38 years of serving the campus community, Library Dean Don Craig is retiring June 30,

2010. Dean Craig is participating in the University's Voluntary Buyout Program, started in an effort to reduce the budget in light of decreased support from the state in these tough economic times.

When he came to the University in 1972, it was with the intention of staying a few years and then moving on to a larger institution. "The experience of working on this campus and living in this community changed my plans. This is a great place to contribute and a good community in which to live."

Dean Craig has seen many changes in his nearly four decades at MTSU. The library had just over 200,000 books when he arrived, and MTSU had 8,500 students. MTSU now has over 25,000 students, and James E. Walker Library now has well over 800,000 printed books and 300,000 electronic books. But the library is so

much more than books. Students come to the library to seek information, study for tests, meet classmates, get coffee, check out a laptop, and get help with research. The library is a central learning place for students.

The Walker Library building is one of the many highlights of the dean's career. Opened in 1999, it brought a new energy to the University and has served as a reflection of MTSU's dedication to academic excellence and student success. "The completion of this building after so many years of waiting, discussing, designing, and constructing, gave the University community a much needed boost toward what the institution should and could be in the future," said Dean Craig. The building's beauty, spaciousness, and functionality have been welcoming over 800,000 campus users each year for the past decade. At the dedication ceremony for the building, Dean Craig said, "I've dreamed of this day for almost twenty years."

Dean Craig came to MTSU as assistant librarian in 1972 after having served as assistant to the director of the Joint

University Libraries in Nashville. He became University librarian in 1976 followed by his appointment as dean. He earned his bachelor's degree from David Lipscomb University in business management. He then went on to George Peabody College (now part of Vanderbilt University), where he earned his master's in library science. He continued his education by attending Vanderbilt's Graduate School of Management. He has a long history of professional involvement, from cofounding the Mid-State Library Association to serving as president of the Tennessee Library Association to dedicating much time to the Phi Kappa Phi honor society.

Dean Craig and his wife, Connie, have been married for 42 years. They have two sons, Jeff and Jimmy, and are proud grandparents to Hailee, Hayden, and Carter. Craig has been an active member of North Boulevard Church of Christ for 37 years. Don and Connie look forward to having more time to spend with their grandchildren, experiencing the country in their camper, enjoying the antique car they rebuilt (a 1969 Chevy Camaro), and attending University programs and athletic events.

Bye-Bye Voyager, InfoSearch is Coming!

James E. Walker Library is in the process of converting to a new integrated library system to replace Voyager this summer. This new system is called InfoSearch and will affect ordering, locating, and checking out library materials. New benefits of the system will include

- a Google-like search feature,
- spell check and "did you mean?" help,
- RSS feeds on searches of interest, and
- simple advanced search options.

Faculty are encouraged to take advantage of demonstrations, Q&A sessions, and training this summer and fall. It is also more important than ever to sign up for library instruction classes for your students. Watch your mailboxes for information.

You can follow our progress on Twitter to get valuable information on events, services, and changes in the library that affect faculty. If you are not ready for Twitter, you can keep current on our library blog or Facebook page or on our Web site at library.mtsu.edu.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE

STATE UNIVERSITY

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My favorite thing about James E. Walker Library is that it's a quiet and resourceful place to study almost whenever I want or need it.

—Michael, sophomore, business

WRITING CENTER AND LT&ITC RELOCATING TO THE LIBRARY

To better serve students, the University Writing Center will move into James E. Walker Library over the summer.

The Writing Center helps students with citing sources, formatting papers, organizing essays, and getting started on papers. The center will expand its hours once relocated to the library. Until the move is complete, the Writing Center will continue to operate in Peck Hall 325 and Ezell Hall 119. See www.mtsu.edu/uwc for more info.

The Learning, Teaching, and Innovative Technologies Center (LT&ITC) is also

relocating to the library. It connects professors with technology that can make the classroom experience more enlightening and provides expertise to use that technology most effectively. The newly relocated center will provide plenty of room for conducting workshops, learning sessions, and other professional development activities designed to improve the quality of instruction. See www.mtsu.edu/lolandite for more information.

Both centers will be located on the third floor of the library.

LIBRARY EMPLOYEES WIN AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE



Gwen Williams, User Services, won the Tennessee Library Association (TLA) Support Staff award. Gwen communicates with hundreds of faculty and students to schedule library instruction classes and research coach appointments. Gwen is the gateway to the library's instructional services, and her friendliness and organizational skills are highly valued.



Kristen West, instruction librarian, won the TLA James E. Ward Library Instruction Award. She manages the library's instruction program, developing Web pages, tutorials, and guides and building strategic partnerships with teaching faculty to advance information literacy. Kristen teaches library instruction sessions and leads the library's efforts to develop specialized training for classes in several departments.

ADVANCEMENT CORNER

Help support student education and faculty research by donating to the library.

Donate online or contact Kristen Keene at (615) 898-5376 or kkeene@mtsu.edu.

LIBRARY GETS SOCIAL

To make it as convenient as possible to get news about new resources and services, Walker Library has a Facebook page, a Twitter feed, and a blog. Become a fan, follow us, or subscribe today to stay informed! Contact our emerging technologies librarian, Heather Lambert, at hlambert@mtsu.edu. She can help you get hip!

