

Library Development Moves Forward



Sarah Pinkleton Elrod has donated \$10,000 to designate a study room in memory of her late husband and two former professors.

The library's fundraising efforts have gathered momentum since the opening of the new library building in January 1999. Increased demands have made supplemental funds necessary to support the needs of university students, faculty, and researchers. The library development plan includes opportunities for book endowments and general library support through gifts to the fund for library excellence, planned gifts, endowed positions, and building naming opportunities. The library facility continues to receive attention as a focal point on campus. Opportunities for naming important spaces within the new library building allow donors to become part of the exciting growth of support for excellent library resources at MTSU.

Thanks to the generosity of a 1943 graduate, the library has received its first major contribution since moving into the new facility. Sarah Pinkleton Elrod has donated \$10,000 to designate a study room in memory of her late husband, James M. Elrod, Jr., and two former professors, Miss Ollie Green and Dean N.C. Beasley.

After the death of her husband Jim in 1999, Mrs. Elrod contacted the university to set up a memo-

rial to him and to two individuals who made a difference in their lives while they were at MTSU. Mr. Elrod had begun his college education in the early 1940s but had to leave school to join the service during World War II. He returned to MTSU after the war and graduated in 1947. Mrs. Elrod majored in English and Social Studies while at MTSU and taught school locally while Mr. Elrod completed his education.

Mrs. Elrod, a native of Columbia, Tennessee, lives in Palatka, Florida. She has a special interest in libraries as she is a retired school librarian herself, and over the years, she has helped with programs to teach the elderly to read. She currently volunteers almost 40 hours a week for various programs. A reception in her honor is being planned.

The library will soon begin installing plaques in the building to recognize generous donors such as Mrs. Elrod who are making a difference to University Library resources. For more information on strengthening library collections and services on campus, contact Don Craig, dean of the library (phone: 898-2772; e-mail: dcraig@mtsu.edu); view the library's development page at (<http://www.mtsu.edu/~wblack/devhome.html>); or call the MTSU Development Office at 898-2502.

Library Wins Award

The new University Library is the recipient of one of six Excellence in Development Awards presented to middle Tennessee building projects this spring. This important regional award is given by Excellence in Development, an organization made up of architects, planners, engineers, real estate professionals, interior designers, and other similar professionals involved in development and communities. The projects nominated are judged on things such as sensitivity to the people served, the function, immediate environs, the larger community and on responsiveness to environmental and conservation concerns, quality of design and construction, and financial success. The award will be mounted on a wall of the library in the near future.

Electronic Reference Unveiled

"Ask a Librarian" is a new electronic reference service that allows MTSU library faculty to answer questions via e-mail. The librarians will answer short, fact-based research questions sent from the "Ask a Librarian" site. The site can be found on the Library home page (<http://www.mtsu.edu/~library>) under "Services and Information" and from the library's Research Gateway (<http://www.mtsu.edu/~library/gateway>) under "Request Forms."

E-mail reference allows people working from networked terminals on campus or from home to ask a question when it is convenient for them, even when the library is closed. It also allows the librarian a little more time to find the best answer. The questions should be the kind you might ask by telephone and those that can wait for an answer. Major research assistance is not available through this service.

To "Ask a Librarian," simply fill in the form with your name, e-mail address, and the question, and submit your request. You will get a return e-mail within twenty-four hours during the week or on the next workday if it is sent on a weekend or holiday. It is hoped that all those affiliated with MTSU, especially our distance education students and others who live off campus, will find this a useful service.

University Library Update

Editor: William Black

Contributors to this issue:
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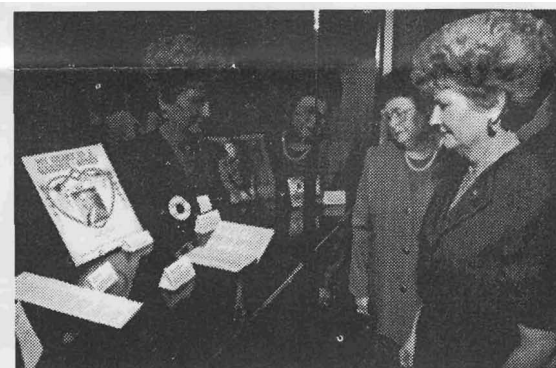
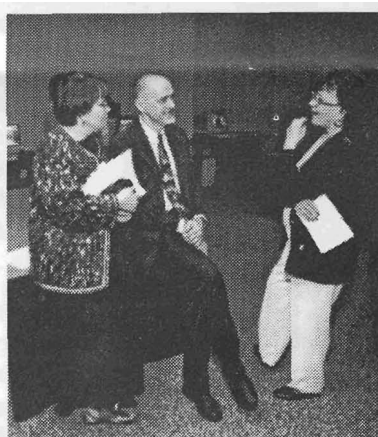
Special Resources Brought to Light

Although the new Special Collections area has only been up and running for less than a year, the area has been the scene of considerable activity. October saw the opening of "Hymn Books to Hit Songs: 150 Years of the Tennessee Music Business," an exhibition of rare and historic music materials held by the MTSU Center for Popular Music. It was co-curated

by Paul F. Wells, director of the Center, and Alan Boehm, librarian for Special Collections. A reception attended by 100 guests marked the opening. The atrium echoed with some powerful performances of music sacred and secular, old and new, representing Tennessee's Vernacular music traditions (and items on display in the exhibition).

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"Hymn Books to Hit Songs" Reception Highlights



At left, Center for Popular Music Director Paul Wells chats with two guests; above, Marie Baine (left) and Carolyn Crocker, granddaughters of song-writer Fisher Boyce, look at the display featuring his 1938 sheet music.



Ryan Bernard and Lew Card are two of the several musicians who entertained the attendees with samples of Tennessee Music during the evening. The exhibit, which featured Center for Popular Music holdings, included examples of folk hymns from the 1800s; secular music dating back to 1848; emerging Back music; and twentieth century greats Elvis Presley, the Everly Brothers, and Kris Kristofferson.

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Renew—Recall—Review

With the new *Voyager* system, circulation records can be accessed from a personal computer, office, or anywhere you can access *Voyager*. This is all possible from the Patron Information window available on the opening screen or anywhere within the *Voyager* display screens.

To renew an item go to *Voyager* and click on the red PATRON INFORMATION box and enter the barcode number from your MTSU ID card and your last name in the appropriate boxes. Click OK and a list of items currently charged to your barcode will appear. Click on the box next to the items you wish to renew and then click on the RENEW ITEMS box. A new screen will appear with the due date for the items renewed. Because you have accessed your personal records, it is necessary to click the LOGOFF button to close the window.

If you find that a needed item is checked out, you can request that it be recalled. View the record display of the item and determine that the item is charged, checked out, and click on the red PLACE REQUESTS box at the top of the screen. On the next screen you will need to enter your MTSU ID barcode and your last name. Click on OK and then on RECALL. An "OPAC Request: RECALL" screen is displayed containing information about the item and a request for your barcode and last name. There is room to forward any

information or directions to the circulation staff and a choice of where you would like to pick up the item. Click on SUBMIT REQUEST and you will be notified when the item has been returned. You may also check availability by reviewing your patron information screen. Items may be obtained at the library.

A variety of information is available on-line through *Voyager*. Your window to information is the red PATRON INFORMATION box, your barcode and your last name. The resulting screen will show name, address, and telephone numbers as they are entered into *Voyager*. If the information is not correct or you wish to change something, please call the Circulation desk at the University Library. The screen will also display items you have charged to your account with due dates and item titles. This screen also lets you renew items by checking the boxes and clicking on RENEW ITEMS. If you have requested items, this screen will show requests pending and items available.

Voyager is configured to provide you with information when you need it. If you have questions, please use the red HELP box available from every display screen of *Voyager* or contact the University Library. If you use the patron information screens, please be sure to Logoff and Exit from your personal display screens.

New Electronic Databases

The University Library has added several new electronic databases to its Research Gateway.

- **AP PhotoArchive**, made available by AccuWeather, Inc., is an electronic library containing the AP's current photos and a selection of pictures from their 50 million image print and negative library. It contains approximately 500,000 photos and is growing daily. Searchable by "what," "when," and "where," this database is an excellent source of photos not easily found elsewhere.
- **Applied Science and Technology Abstracts** (1983 to the present) duplicates the H.W. Wilson print publication of the same title (R 605 Ap58). It indexes and abstracts articles of at least one column in length from 486 publications. Indexing begins in 1983 with abstracts added since March 1993.
- **Biological and Agricultural Index** (1983 to the present) from the H.W. Wilson Co. is the equivalent of the print version of the same title (R 630 Ag81). It indexes about 300 English-language periodicals published in the U.S. and elsewhere. Coverage includes a wide range of scientific topics including food science and nutrition.
- **Philosophers' Index** (1940 to the present) provides indexing and abstracts from books and more than 480 journals of philosophy and related fields. It is published by the Philosopher's Information Center of Bowling Green, Ohio, and accessed using SilverPlatter software.

For easy access to these and all the other databases provided by the University Library, use the menu on the Library Research Gateway <http://www.mtsu.edu/~library_gateway.html>. Many of the databases, including these four new ones, are accessible from faculty offices and computer labs on campus and from off-campus using a login. Your user name is your Social Security number (without any dashes) and your password is your last name (in all capital letters). For assistance in using library resources, ask at the reference desk in the library.

Special Resources *continued from page 2*

Currently, Special Collections is hosting the spring semester Honors College Lecture Series—the oldest such series on campus. Every Monday afternoon, between 50 and 80 students, faculty, and friends of MTSU have been crowding into the Reading Room to hear such speakers as John Siegenthaler of Vanderbilt's First Amendment Studies program and MTSU Political Science Professor John Vile explore the topic "The Abuse of Power in Contemporary

America." The series is being videotaped for possible broadcast on Channel 5's "News Plus" cable outlet, bringing the Honors College lectures to a wider audience.

In May, yet another rare book exhibition is scheduled—this one showcasing, among other acquisitions, several historic books and documents recently presented as gifts to Special Collections.

Professional Activities

Sue Alexander wrote a book review of *Tennessee Government and Politics* edited by MTSU's own John R. Vile and Mark Byrnes. This review will appear in the coming issue of *Tennessee Librarian*.

Alan Boehm gave a talk entitled "Welcome the Wight That Bringeth Such Light: Culture and Poetics in the London Book Trade, ca. 1660-1750." It was held at the Lilly Rare Book Library at Indiana University in March. It was part of a lecture series called "The Production, Distribution, and Reception of Texts" sponsored by the Indiana University Institute for Advanced Study.

Linda Gill, Kathy Field, Bill Black, and **Don Craig** attended an "Assessing User Needs" Workshop in San Antonio in January.

Lynn Flanagan, Rhonda Armstrong, and **Karin Hallett** presented a paper titled "Timesaving Tips for Information Gathering" at the Mid-South Instructional Technology Conference here on campus in April. The paper will be published in the forthcoming Conference Proceedings and indexed in *ERIC*. They are going to present the same paper at the Tennessee Library Association Annual Conference, Kingsport, on May 4.

Diane Baird and **Karin Hallett's** paper "Copyright Issues in Libraries: An Introduction" was accepted for publication in an upcoming issue of *The Tennessee Librarian*.

Karin Hallett's review of "Bowker's Video Directory Plus" is scheduled to appear in Vol. 22(2) of *Library and Information Science Research*.

JoAnne Taeush, collection management staff member, published a collaborative fantasy novel, *The Secret of Spring*, with Piers Anthony, well-known author of the XANTH series. It is published by TOR. The novel is a humorous, romantic romp through space and time, sprinkled with wizards, creatures, and puns.

They Are Service Oriented!

Congratulations to these library staff members who were honored during a special luncheon by the University for their many years of service to MTSU. Pictured (l-r) are Sharon Parente (15 years); JoAnne Taeusch (10 years); Sue Burkheart (25 years); Connie Smith (10 years); and Gale Gaines (10 years).



New Staff



Left to right:
Michael Hooper,
Library Assistant 1,
Circulation;
Liz Troop,
Library Assistant 1,
Circulation;
Neal Pistole,
Library Assistant 1,
Circulation.