

James E. Walker



LIBRARY UPDATE

Number 37

Winter 2009

Celebrating Ten Years

Special Anniversary Newsletter

James E. Walker Library opened its doors in 1999, changing the face of campus. The library made a visible statement about the University's ongoing commitment to quality education. In 2009, after 10 years in the building, we continue to meet the growing need for information and research materials and support the technological investment necessary to access information.



History of MTSU Libraries

In 1912, the first library at Middle Tennessee State Normal School, boasting a collection of 75 donated volumes, was established by newly



hired librarian Betty Avent Murfree. **Housed on the third floor of Kirksey Old Main**; its collection eventually grew to 2,000 volumes.



Murfree Hall, the original campus library building, was located near present-day Peck Hall. It was designed by C. K. Colley and **built in 1927**. Later, it housed the English Department for ten years until it was demolished in 1967. The building was named for Betty Avent Murfree, who was librarian from 1911 to 1945.

In 1958, **Andrew L. Todd Library** was built between the Science Building and Jones Hall and was designed to hold 150,000 volumes. In **1970, an addition was built**, expanding the facility's capacity to 225,000 volumes. Eventually, the library's collection grew to more than 600,000 volumes.



James E. Walker Library, named for the University's eighth president, **opened in 1999**. The 250,000 sq. ft. building combines space and services in an environment that inspires learning and interaction and brings together intellectual and social aspects of campus life. The library has 350 computers and laptops and over 900,000 volumes. It offers 1,500 general reader seats and 1,000 individual study carrel seats. There are 43 group study rooms and 60 faculty research studies. The library has an active program of instruction, teaching the use of databases and other resources in two lab rooms.



MIDDLE TENNESSEE

STATE UNIVERSITY

James E. Walker Library

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My favorite thing about Walker Library: the staff is always helpful. Even if I have some bizarre research problem, everyone still smiles and helps me.

—Stephanie, Grad Student, Fall 2009

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

The library is named for the University's eighth president, Dr. James E. Walker.



Walker graduated from Alabama State University with a bachelor's degree in biology, earned a master's in special education from Atlanta University, and graduated from Pennsylvania State University's doctoral program in education.

He was a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Alabama in higher education administration and was also a graduate of the Harvard University Institute for Educational Management.

Dr. Walker was provost and vice president for academic affairs at the University of Northern Colorado until he became president of MTSU in 1991. He left MTSU in 2000 to become president of Southern Illinois University, where his teaching career started decades before. He died at his home on February 6, 2006, after a decade long battle with cancer.

Dr. Walker's strong support for the library is continued today by President Sidney A. McPhee.

TOP TEN MOST CIRCULATED BOOKS

1. *Heritage of Western Civilization*
2. *Readings in Social Psychology: Contemporary Perspectives*
3. *Kiss, Bow, or Shake Hands: How to Do Business in Sixty Countries*
4. *Kiss, Bow, or Shake Hands: How to Do Business in Sixty Countries*
5. *Face Is a Canvas: The Design and Technique of Theatrical Makeup*
6. *Makers of the Western Tradition: Portraits from History*
7. *Do's and Taboos of Hosting International Visitors*
8. *Going International: How to Make Friends and Deal Effectively in the Global Marketplace*
9. *Audio Design: Sound Recording Techniques for Film and Video*
10. *World-class Executive: How to Do Business Like a Pro Around the World*

THEN AND NOW: BY THE NUMBERS

1999

Students: 18,993
Faculty: 745
Computers: 24
Books: 644,748
Library Classes Taught: 131
Journals: 3447
Library Budget: \$269 per student

2009

Students: 25,188
Faculty: 936
Computers/Laptops: 350
Books/E-books: 936,000
Library Classes Taught: 334
Databases/Journals: 19,691
Library Budget: \$332 per student

ADVANCEMENT CORNER

Top 10 Library Needs

1. Books
2. Computers
3. Laptops
4. Projector and Screen
5. Color Printer
6. Electronic Resources/
Databases
7. Faculty Development Funds
8. DVD Players
9. Fax Machine
10. Large-screen Monitor for
Atrium

More info? Call (615) 898-5376,
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