Dean’s Message

My First Year at MTSU

My first MTSU year has acquainted me with the campus culture and the overarching campus focus of retention and student and faculty success. I have learned that Walker Library has a long-standing reputation for excellent service to our students due to the many dedicated and compassionate staff members. With such a staff, Walker Library can achieve great things.

Long-term Vision

My long-term vision is to move the library to the leading edge of innovation in service and the use of technology to advance scholarship.

Goal 1: Improve access to information while aligning the breadth and depth of our collections with the curriculum and the addition of new graduate programs.

Goal 2: The Walker Library will evaluate our services and determine where we can advance or evolve our current programs to benefit students and faculty in all areas of academic support.

Goal 3: Create a roadmap for the accomplishment and creation of new strategies through an active strategic planning process. We have taken critical first steps toward achieving the longer-term vision. I want to share some of the details of these changes that I believe will improve the user experience with Walker Library.

Improved Access to information

The single search box you now see on our homepage incorporates the hundreds of electronic resources and our online catalog in seeking out the answer to search questions. This will provide greater use of our collection and save time for our users. Research instruction and one-to-one interaction with librarians will provide additional support in getting to information. Online research guides have also been created for our users and are available anytime. Our online catalog also received a face-lift this summer as we moved to the latest version of the software.

The Music Library and Media Library were once separate entities on campus. These collections are now being integrated into the Walker Library for greater ease of access and development. This newsletter lists some of the recently acquired databases and electronic resources that have been on the “wish list” for some time. Overall, our collections are increasingly electronic.

Evaluation of Services Offered

Walker Library created a research commons and increased the collaborative learning spaces in the library. We are reviewing the services and spaces now to provide even better support for our students.

We introduced a new graduate student orientation last fall and are continuing this service. We are working to expand the liaison program to better serve the campus. A tutoring service, which we piloted in the library beginning last April, is currently under consideration for continuance. We also have a number of outreach events that we are very excited about, all designed to increase our students’ awareness of cultures, history and the diversity of ideas.

Creation of a Digital Production Lab through Collaboration

I launched an effort last year that has made great strides in the creation of a collaborative digital collection lab in Walker Library. MTSU has rich archives scattered around the campus which include the Gore Research Center, which contains the university archives among its collections, and the Center of Historic Preservation under the auspices of the College of Liberal Arts and the Center for Popular Music in the College of Mass Communication. The collaborative approach, which will capitalize on all our strengths, will bring these unique archival collections into a web location, improving access and increasing visibility of these collections. This lab will eventually be a learning lab for the creation of scholarship in digital form.

People Make it Happen

Please see the listing of new faculty hires in Walker Library. These hires will be the way in which we truly advance the library’s effectiveness in building its collections and providing service through innovation.

As you read the staff biographies, I hope you will notice that Walker has also taken an international flavor through the work of its librarians. I serve on a global governance board for libraries; David Nelson recently served two years at the American University of Cairo, and Eneral Damiymaam has recently been given a fellowship to work with the National Library of Mongolia to catalog Tibetan manuscripts.

The Walker Library is a vibrant and creative space, dedicated to the success of MTSU students and faculty. Please join us in achieving that success.

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Easier and Faster Library SEARCH

Faculty and Staff may notice a different look to the search box when locating resources on the Library’s website. Not only is there a new look; you will notice the results from your search will save you time and give you access to better resources!

Our new Search box allows you to find books, articles, images, videos, scores, audio recordings, encyclopedia entries and more from a single search entry. Results include thousands of online resources in each category, as well as items physically held by all the libraries on campus.

Previously, users had to search multiple boxes or databases to find these different types of resources. If you need something specific, you can use the filters on the left of the search results screen to narrow by item type, publication date, subject, and more.

At this time, items from nearly 150 databases or collections available through Search, and new ones will be added frequently.

Some favorites include:
- MTSU Libraries Catalog
- Academic Search Premier
- CINAHL Plus with Full Text
- Credo Reference Collection
- ERIC

Journal Locator will tell you whether the library subscribes to a periodical and will guide you to its online and/or physical location.

- Databases A-Z is a list of all of the online databases and other resources to which the library subscribes.
- Research Guides, created and maintained by librarians, compile the most useful resources for an individual topic or course.
- If you need help using Search or if you can’t find what you’re looking for, use the MTSU Librarian chat box on the right side of the search results screen, or stop by the Reference Desk on the first floor and a librarian will lead you through your search to help you find what you need!

New Resources and Services

Sierra—Users may not notice many changes, but this new system allows for the better selection, acquisition and processing of new electronic and print materials.

Online Reservation of Library Spaces—Visit http://mtsu.libcal.com for students to reserve one of 20 small group study spaces, one of our 3 presentation practice rooms (fully equipped with cameras and large screen monitors) or for students, faculty and staff to reserve one of our two large meeting spaces.

Media and Music Library—The Media Library and Music Library have been fully integrated into the Walker Library. Take a look at this helpful Media Library Guide at http://libraryguides.mtsu.edu/mediaresources?hs=a to access online resources and to see how to checkout and view media here in the Library. As always if you need help locating a source (video, book, website or journal), just contact a Librarian at 615-898-2817 or stop by the Reference Desk. The Music Library collections are available for checkout at the Circulation and Reserves desk on the first floor of the Library. If you need assistance with these collections please contact Grover Baker, Visual and Performing Arts Librarian at 7784.

3D Printer—This spring the Library added a 3D Printer at the Technology Services Desk on the first floor. This service accompanies the color printing and poster printing that is available from this area as well.

New Databases/Resources—Visit library.mtsu.edu, click on Databases A-Z

JOVE—Journal of Visualized Experiments (Applied Physics; Bioengineering; Chemistry; General; Neuroscience) is a peer reviewed, PubMed indexed journal devoted to the publication of biological, medical, chemical and physical research in a video format.

Sage Research Methods Online—SAGE Research Methods links over 100,000 pages of SAGE’s book, journal and reference content with advanced search and discovery tools. Researchers can explore methods concepts to help them design research projects, understand particular method, identify a new method, conduct their research, and write up their findings.

Kiss, Bow, or Shake Hands—The digital reference for business without borders Kiss, Bow, or Shake Hands delivers vital information and downloadable content for on-the-go access— to professionals who are working abroad, traveling for business, or managing global teams from a domestic location.

Alexander Street Press is a great streaming video collection. Features include the ability to watch videos on the go with mobile access, with searchable transcripts running alongside each video, permanent URLs let users cite and share video. An embeddable video player lets libraries and instructors deliver video content to other users on secure Web site pages or via course management systems (D2L). Some resources are:
- American Film Scripts
- Education in Video
- Ethnographic Video Online
- Nursing Education in Video
- Sports Medicine and Exercise Science in Video
Dr. James McGill Buchanan (1991-2013) was a Rutherford County native, 1940 graduate from Middle Tennessee State Teachers College, World War II veteran and 1986 recipient of the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences. Buchanan died Jan. 9 in Blacksburg, Va., at the age of 93.

During the May 9, 2013 Celebration of Life, in the lobby of the Walker Library, Jeff Whorley, Buchanan’s nephew, presented the Nobel Prize Medal and his uncle’s Bronze Star to President McPhee and the university. Both will be on loan from the family. Other memorabilia related to both Nobel Laureate James M. Buchanan and his grandfather, Rutherford County’s only governor, John Price Buchanan, are also on display in the Buchanan Reading Room at James E. Walker Library. Located on the fourth floor of the Library. This room has become a favorite among MTSU students because of the deep arm chairs and ottomans, the quietness of the room and the great views of campus.

“Jim Buchanan did have very close relationships with several institutions of higher learning,” said Whorley, a retired businessman, adding that the list included UCLA, Florida State, University of Tennessee, University of Chicago, Virginia Tech, University of Virginia and George Mason University. “But in the end, MTSU had a truly special place in Jim Buchanan’s heart and mind.” The Buchanan family looks forward to the Nobel award being housed at MTSU. “I believe ‘Buck’ thought it was appropriate to leave the actual Nobel medal to a family member rather than an institution,” said alumna Elizabeth “Liz” Bradley, of Pearland, Texas, youngest sister of Buchanan, mother of Whorley, and former principal at Homer Pittard Campus School. Bradley earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees from MTSU.

“I was happily stunned to learn that Uncle Buck had left the Nobel Prize to me,” Whorley said. “My first thought was a clear memory of watching him have the Nobel medal put in his hands in Stockholm in 1986. It was the greatest moment for him and unforgettable for everyone who knew him well. “But my second, very practical thought was, where should the Nobel Prize reside at MTSU? Within a few minutes, I called Dr. McPhee and asked him to start thinking about that question.”

“Our university is honored to be entrusted by Mr. Whorley and the Buchanan family with the safekeeping and display of this historic and prestigious symbol of Dr. Buchanan’s legacy and career. The medal will inspire generations of students at MTSU. In tandem with our Buchanan Fellowships, it will be a tangible reminder of the service and generosity demonstrated by this remarkable scholar, alumnus and visionary,” MTSU President Sidney A. McPhee said.

A stridently independent thinker, Buchanan earned the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences for his development of Public Choice theory, which brings the tools of economic analysis to the study of public decision-making. Buchanan is the only MTSU alumnus to receive a Nobel Prize.

Meet the New Staff in Walker Library

Dr. David Nelson was hired as the department head of Collection Development and Management in January 2013 from American University in Cairo, Egypt. He leads the department that handles the selection, acquisition and cataloging of collections.

Neal McClain joined the Library in April of this year as head of Library Technology after serving many years in MTSU’s Computer Science department.

Larry Hansard came to us in June from Georgia Tech Library to fill a new position as Integrated Systems Librarian.

Our most recent additions are Grover Baker whom many know from his time at the Center for Popular Music and Karen Reed as Education Librarian. Prof Baker will fill the newly created position of Visual and Performing Arts library and will work closely with the music, art, drama and dance departments to build our collections and enhance our services to those departments.

Prof Reed will also fill a redesigned position as Education Librarian and will supervise the Curriculum Collection in Walker Library as well as build the research collection for Education.

Nobel Prize in the Library

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My favorite thing about the James E. Walker Library is....the overall variety and home-feel the library provides. It has everything! It has food, computers, laptops, wide variety of books and also a great study environment.” —Shaban Haji, Senior, Business

Last year in the Library…

• Over 1.1 million people visited the Library’s website, almost 500,000 were from off campus.
• Over 70,000 books were checked out
• Over 24,000 people were assisted at the Reference Desk
• 354 Library research classes were taught
• Over 9.4 million pages were printed on Library printers
• Over ONE MILLION people visited the Library last year… that’s about 20,000 per week!
• Almost 35,000 laptops and other types of equipment were checked out
• Over 17,500 users were helped with projects in the Digital Media
• Group study rooms, presentation practice rooms and large student meeting spaces were reserved over 10,000 times!

Fall Library Events

• 25th Anniversary of MT Lambda Display—October, Library Atrium
• Keel Hunt Book Signing & Lecture—TBD
• Academic Success Series Student Help Workshops—Every Tues. & Wed at 4:30 pm—Meeting Place 4
• Muslim Journeys Lecture, Dr. Mustafa Bayoumi—Nov. 14
• Muslim Journeys Film Viewing, Dr. Ron Messier—TBD

Advancement Corner

By donating to the Walker Library you support every student on campus. The Library is dedicated to student success. Supporting it funds technology upgrades, collections (books, journals, e-books, databases), space upgrades, and expert help. The Library accepts monetary donations and gifts of books. To donate online visit: http://library.mtsu.edu/administration/support.php

Donate by mail:
Walker Library, MTSU Box 13
Murfreesboro, TN 37132
(make checks payable to the MTSU Foundation – Walker Library)

Need more info? Visit library.mtsu.edu or Contact: Kristen, at 615-898-5376, by email kristen.keene@mtsu.edu.