

James E. Walker



LIBRARY UPDATE

Number 36

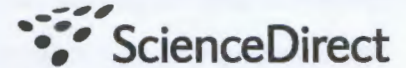
Fall 2009

THE LIBRARY CELEBRATES 10 YEARS THIS FALL

In 1912, the first library at Middle Tennessee State Normal School, boasting a collection of 75 donated volumes, was established by librarian Betty Avent Murfree. Housed on the third floor of Kirksey Old Main, the collection eventually grew to 2,000 volumes. By 1925, a separate library building was needed for the newly named Middle Tennessee State Teachers College. Designed to accommodate 20,000 volumes, the structure was erected where Peck Hall now stands. In 1958, the Andrew L. Todd Library was built between the Science Building and Jones Hall to hold 150,000 volumes. In 1970, an addition was built to meet the needs of a growing university. Todd Library, originally designed to hold 225,000 volumes, held more than 600,000 volumes.



Opened in 1999, and named for the eighth president of MTSU, James E. Walker Library changed the face of campus, making a visible statement about the University's ongoing commitment to quality education. In 2009, Walker Library continues to meet the growing need for information, research materials, and the technology necessary to access information. To celebrate the ten-year milestone of Walker Library's opening, the library staff is planning a number of events for the fall. Check our Web site for details at <http://library.mtsu.edu>.



Walker Library has upgraded its subscription to ScienceDirect to obtain online access to additional titles. The journals are relevant to all the sciences, medicine, social sciences and humanities.

On the library's Web site, under the drop-down Research Gateway, click Databases A-Z and select ScienceDirect. Here, you can browse journals in your discipline on the left.

If you need a little help getting started, you may want to come by the Reference Desk to get some pointers. **Note to instructors: our librarians will be glad to conduct training classes for your students.**

REPLICA 18TH-CENTURY PRINTING PRESS PART OF NASHVILLE EXHIBIT

The exhibit **Telling the Story: Letterpress Printing and Community** runs through **Sept. 27** at the Nashville Public Library (NPL) Courtyard Gallery, 615 Church St. A closing reception will be hosted by NPL **Sept. 27, from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.**

The exhibit tells the story of letterpress printing at MTSU through photographs and works from MTSU faculty and students and



elementary, middle, and high school teachers and students who printed on the library's unique device. Also featured are works from visiting artists Nance Cooley, Tucker Neel, Shona Cowart, and Brad Vetter. The press is a reproduction of the English common press used by Benjamin Franklin in the early 1700s. Items printed by MTSU art students on the Vandercook Press and the Tulip Poplar Press will also be featured. Austin Peay State University exhibits works printed on its Goldsmith Press.

The press project offers students and the community a dramatic and unforgettable experience through activities that integrate history, writing, and letterpress printing. Activities include lectures about historical printing for students of all ages, a visiting

artist each semester, community print nights, and printing demonstrations for community groups. The construction of the press was made possible with grant funds awarded to MTSU faculty members Alan Boehm, William Black, and Janet Higgins. The operations of the press depend solely on support from individuals.



MIDDLE TENNESSEE

STATE UNIVERSITY

James E. Walker Library

MTSU P.O. Box 13

1301 East Main Street

Murfreesboro, TN 37132

(615) 898-2772 • (615) 904-8505 (fax)

kkeene@mtsu.edu • <http://library.mtsu.edu>

*"Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at twenty or eighty.
Anyone who keeps learning stays young. The greatest thing in life
is to keep your mind young"*

—Henry Ford

ALUMNI SUMMER COLLEGE

Alumni Summer College (ASC) welcomed participants back to MTSU June 24–26. The annual event combines innovative classes and entertaining tours tailored for members of the University community. Open to MTSU alumni and friends, the college was a fun-packed three days of learning as participants explored this year's theme: **How Things Work**.

ASC students were treated to a tour of the four-story, 250,000-square-foot James E. Walker Library, learning how a modern library works for faculty and students. Alumni also took part in candlelight printing on the library's replica 18th-century press, experiencing the printing process as practiced in Colonial times.



LIBRARIAN GETS ACCESS AND DIVERSITY GRANT

Fagdéba Bakoyéma, Web services librarian, received a \$16,000 research grant for his project "Minorities and the Digital Divide: A Usability Study of Selected MTSU Websites." He says, "The Internet has become an increasingly relevant portal for students to gather information to learn about universities and their programs. Universities put extensive resources into developing their Web sites. However, there is limited usability testing of these Web sites to ensure they are meeting the needs of the target audience."

"Understanding how minorities interact with the Internet in general and specific Web sites in particular will help MTSU's

ability to ensure it is reaching all potential students, regardless of background, to increase the diversity of the student body."



Using Morae software to conduct this research, Bakoyema will be able to provide MTSU Web designers and policymakers with information to make it easier to use MTSU Web sites. The research is also expected to provide information to help create a standard procedure for incorporating usability testing into the Web development process at MTSU.

NEW ART DATABASE

Walker Library now subscribes to CAMIO—Catalog of Art Museum Images Online. It contains about 95,000 images of fine and decorative art that faculty members can present in the classroom, download for research and study, or use to illustrate papers and other assignments. CAMIO encompass-

es works ranging from 3000 BCE to the present day, including difficult-to-find contemporary art.

To try out this new database, go to the library's Web site. Under the drop-down menu Research Gateway, click Databases A–Z, and select CAMIO.

If you have questions about CAMIO or other electronic resources, please ask us!

ADVANCEMENT CORNER

Help support education and faculty research by donating to Walker Library. Donate online or contact Kristen Keene, (615) 898-5376, kkeene@mtsu.edu