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Keywords

WINTER 2013



Ainsworth Commons, a newly remodeled group study space, was added to the library at the request of undergraduate students as part of last spring's library user survey.

Comfortable, new study spaces provided in Ainsworth Commons

By Elaine Pugh

Patrons expressed a need, administrators listened, funds were provided and staff members pitched in to further enhance the J.D. Williams Library.

The result is an overhauled and enlarged study commons on the library's first floor. The more user-friendly, updated facility includes six new group work spaces, 18 additional computer workstations and 30 new chairs, plus more electrical and cell phone charging outlets and a new printer.

The remodeled area has been named the Ainsworth Commons to honor donors Oscar Richard and Edith Wetzel Ainsworth. The couple's estate provided close to \$1 million for long-term library funding, with a small portion going toward the commons project and the remainder being placed in an endowment.

The expanded area opened this fall

after the project began in spring 2012. The upgrade was based on a survey conducted among library patrons that generated more than 1,300 responses and served as a planning guide.

"We definitely listened to our undergraduate students, who made up 56 percent of the survey respondents," said Julia Rholes, dean of university libraries. "It seems that, more than ever, our students – especially undergraduates – are

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Decades of UM yearbooks now digitized

By Edwin Smith

Volumes of University of Mississippi yearbooks printed between 1897 and 2013 can be viewed online, thanks to a recent project that digitized the books for archival purposes.

The project originated with Kathryn Michaelis, former UM special collections digital initiatives librarian. She worked directly with the Lyasis Digitization Collaborative, a Sloan Foundation grant-subsidized program that has made the process easy and affordable for libraries and cultural institutions across the country. Funding was also made possible by the Gerald Walton Endowment.

"We saw so many people coming through to look at the physical yearbooks, we thought this was a great idea," said Jennifer Ford, head of archives and special collections and associate professor. "Through the collaborative partnership with the Internet Archive, all items were scanned from cover to cover and in full color."

Viewers can choose from a variety of formats, page through a book choosing the "read online"

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Message from the Dean

Dear Friends,

This issue of *Keywords* highlights some new ventures for the University Libraries, which were made possible by the generosity of library donors. The new Ainsworth Room, which is an extension of our existing Information Commons, offers more study spaces and technology in different configurations for our users. We are thrilled to have this beautiful new space, which honors Oscar Richard and Edith Wetzel Ainsworth, who left a generous estate gift for the libraries.

We are also thrilled with the *Ole Miss* yearbook digitization project, which was made possible by the Gerald Walton Endowment. Walton, provost emeritus, has been a long-time supporter of the libraries and served in leadership positions for the Friends of the Library for a number of years. Dr. Walton, who has written extensively about the university, saw the need and enormous potential for generations of Ole Miss Rebels to have online access to the yearbooks.

These two projects also benefited greatly from the library staff who worked hard to make them possible. We have terrific staff members in the library, and I am quite honored to serve as their dean.

Sincerely,

Julia Rholes

Dean of University Libraries

W. Ralph Eubanks donates his papers to UM library

By Michael Newsom

Ralph Eubanks (BA '78), a publisher, editor and author, among other titles, recently donated his papers to Archives and Special Collections at the J.D. Williams Library.

The UM graduate has authored two books, *Ever Is a Long Time: A Journey into Mississippi's Dark Past*, *A Memoir* and *The House at the End of the Road: The Story of Three Generations of an Interracial Family in the American South*. He gave the university copies of his proposals for the two books, manuscripts, correspondence with editors and other documents.

Eubanks, who lives in Washington, D.C., with his wife, Colleen, and their three children, had used the archives while working on his books and said the collection was a great help.

"When the library approached me about giving them my papers, it was a very easy answer," Eubanks said. "I just know how much care they put into featuring the special collections there. I've worked in the special collections as a patron and know how they serve the collection too."

Jennifer Ford, UM head of archives and special collections and associate professor, said Eubanks' papers will be useful to many.

"We are so excited about this donation by such a talented author to Special Collections," Ford said. "I know the collection will be heavily used by our patrons interested in Mississippi's history, culture and literary heritage."

Eubanks, a graduate of Mount Olive High School, earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Mississippi and also holds a master's degree from the University of Michigan.

Presently, Eubanks is editor of the *Virginia Quarterly Review*, a literary magazine based at the University of Virginia. During his long and distinguished career, he was director of publishing at the U.S. Library of Congress.



W. Ralph Eubanks


He was also director of book publishing for the American Psychological Association. He has written articles for the *Washington Post* Outlook and Style sections, the *Chicago Tribune*, *Preservation* magazine and National Public Radio. Eubanks received the 2007 Guggenheim Fellowship from the

John Simon Guggenheim Foundation and has been a fellow at the New American Foundation.

Papers housed at UM's Archives and Special Collections have been helpful to Eubanks during his career. While researching his 2003 book *Ever Is a Long Time*, he read the papers of James Meredith, who integrated UM in 1962, which led to a deadly riot on campus by those who opposed a black student attending the university.

"When I went through those papers and I looked at the hate mail he got, I don't think I knew the depth of the hatred he had endured there," he said. "I had some very superficial sense of what that was. It was very difficult for me to imagine how strong it was. Those papers made it very real to me."

In the years since Eubanks graduated, he's seen a lot of positive change at UM. He now serves on advisory boards for UM's Center for the Study of Southern Culture and the William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation. He has also participated in the Oxford Conference for the Book as a speaker and panelist.

"It's a really nice thing for me to come full circle," Eubanks said. "If you would have asked me 35 years ago when I graduated if I would have ever given my papers to Ole Miss, I would have said no. For a number of years, I wouldn't give any money to Ole Miss. For me, it's about the change that I have seen there that has prompted this move on my part to do this. Rather than staying outside that change, I'm willing to help be a part of helping facilitate it. That's another reason why I did it." 

The new face of library public services

By Misty Cowherd

New to the state and University of Mississippi, Jocelyn Tipton brings her 20 years of library experience to the position of assistant dean of public services in library administration.

The position was recently created to help coordinate the efforts of the public service departments within the library, which include Instruction and Outreach, Information Services, Access Services, Interlibrary Loan, Web Services and the Science Library.

Tipton, who began June 1, seeks to improve interaction with library patrons and make public services, or the “face” of the library, a priority.

One of her goals is to find innovative ways to integrate the library into courses and students’ lives.

“The UM libraries are continuously adding resources, collections, and offering new services, and it may be difficult for students and faculty to keep up,” Tipton said.

Tipton would like to increase marketing and outreach efforts so that people take advantage of the library’s offerings.

“I want people to have a good experience when using the library, whether using the services provided in the build-

ing or online,” she said.

Prior to accepting this position, Tipton was head of reference services at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, Ill. Her other employment included a number of public service positions at Ivy League research institutions such as Yale and Johns Hopkins.

Growing up in Westminster, Md., Tipton worked at the local public library as a teen. She obtained a bachelor’s degree in political science with a minor in secondary education from Western Maryland College (now McDaniel College), a master’s degree in library science from the University of Maryland at College Park and a master’s of political science at Eastern Illinois University.

She said she saw in Ole Miss an opportunity to bring all of her experiences to a leadership role and guide the direction of a library.

“Jocelyn brings to this position a wealth of public service experience at several universities,” said Julia Rholes, dean of libraries. “With this background and knowledge, she can really help us grow and improve our library services and collections.”

While working with political re-

sources and students in the Government Documents Library at Johns Hopkins University, Tipton said she learned that she loved not only working with students but also impacting their overall learning experience.

“I enjoy the research process, which is a daunting task for many students,” she said. “With the right skills and tools that transfer across a number of classes, anyone can be successful and enjoy learning.”

Tipton also said she believes that her experience as a faculty member (she taught Intro to International Relations and a few graduate courses in library science) made her a better librarian and manager.

“Usually, librarians only interact with students for one assignment or for a short period of time. By experiencing the classroom setting, I got a better sense of what the students bring to the table,” said Tipton. “I was also able to understand the needs of faculty and what tools the library could provide to make them better instructors.”

In addition to her activities within the library, Tipton said she would like to get involved with some of the broader university committees.

She lives in Oxford with her husband, Philip Tracey, and both enjoy spending time outdoors with their two dogs. 🐕



Jocelyn Tipton

Yearbooks

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option, download the PDF or search the full-text version.

Walton, UM provost emeritus and professor emeritus of English, said he supported the yearbook digitization project for several reasons.

“While I was working on a pictorial history of the university, I found our yearbooks to be by far my best resource and perused every one that had been published,” Walton said. “If I had been able to access them online, my work would have been much easier.

“The yearbooks are treasures for anyone doing serious research or for

anyone just interested in seeing photos in the marvelous memory books. I cannot think of a more appropriate way to use endowment funds.”

Julia Rholes, professor and dean of university libraries, urges alumni, students and faculty to use the online versions.

“We’ve always had a lot of use of the print copies in Archives and Special Collections by these groups,” Rholes said. “The online version will be accessible for remote searching and will allow faster

searching.”

To access these yearbooks from the catalog, visit bit.ly/olemissyearbooks. 🐕



To increase accessibility to UM’s yearbooks, librarians digitized 116 years of the publications.

Former congressman's letters provide insight into 1800's Mississippi

By Michael Newsom

More than 800 letters donated to the University of Mississippi's Archives and Special Collections shed light on the state's history from 1858 to 1901, covering everything from the Civil War to the trial of a man charged with the murder of William Faulkner's grandfather.

The letters belonged to Thomas Spight, who was a UM law student, Confederate soldier, Mississippi legislator during Reconstruction, a district attorney and U.S. representative. Recently, they were donated by his great-grandchildren, Thomas Spight Hines, of Los Angeles, Calif., and Mattie Spight McDowell, of Sumrall, Miss.

Hines, who is from Oxford, graduated from UM, and is now a professor of history, architecture and urban design at the University of California, Los Angeles, said the writings are mostly correspondence between Spight and his wife, Mary Virginia.

"They are love letters in the beginning," Hines said. "They are very romantic, and there's a lot of family minutiae, but they frequently discuss interesting issues."

The Spights had seven children, two of whom attended UM. Hines said UM Archives and Special Collections is the natural place for the letters, given the

family's deep connection to Ole Miss and the quality of the archives there.

The letters tell the story of a successful man during an interesting time in Mississippi's history.

Spight was born in 1841. He was a UM law student but joined the Confederate Army after the Civil War started. He fought at the battles of Shiloh and Atlanta, and about 30 of his letters are from the front lines. While he was a loyal Confederate officer, he nonetheless refers to the war as "insane" in his writings. Following the war, he passed the bar exam and became an attorney. He also became one of the first former Confederates to serve in the Mississippi Legislature during Reconstruction.

Spight founded and became the first editor of the *Southern Sentinel* newspaper in Ripley.

"He was a very literate man and a good writer," Hines said.

Spight persuaded Col. William Clark Falkner, whose wife was Spight's cousin, to write articles for him. Falkner was an author of several books, railroad builder and statesman. He was also the great grandfather of Nobel Prize-winning author William Faulkner, who was named after him and was inspired to become a writer like the elder Falkner. Some accounts say Col. Falkner dropped the "u"

from his last name, and William Faulkner added it to his.

Later, Spight would become district attorney for the area. He prosecuted a man for William Clark Falkner's murder in Ripley. Falkner's business partner in their railroad enterprise, R.J. "Dick" Thurmond, was tried for his killing in 1891. The two had fought bitterly about the railroad's operations, according to historical accounts, but Thurmond was acquitted.

During the trial, Spight's letters show he was concerned about the makeup of the jury.

"The jury was apparently rather pro-Thurmond," Hines said. "In those small towns in the South during that time, everyone was kin to everyone."

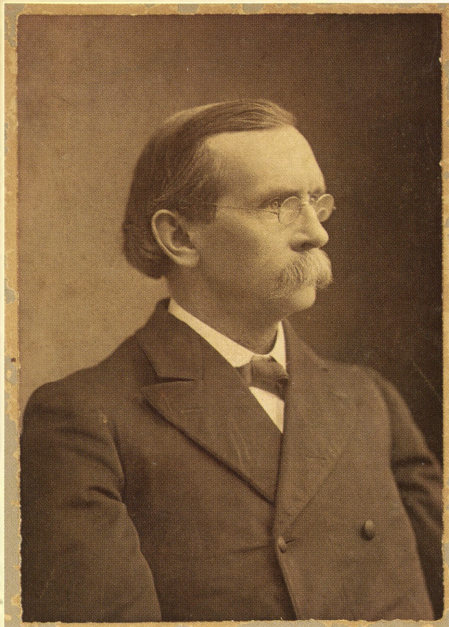
Spight was also a congressman representing Mississippi's 2nd District after taking office in 1897, but the collection of letters stops in 1901 following the death of his wife. He served several terms but lost his re-election bid and left office in 1911.

"He was considered too far to the left of center by the James K. Vardaman faction," Hines said.

Thomas Spight worked in his Ripley law firm after leaving Washington. He died in January 1924 at age 82.

The family's donation has much value to historians and the general public, which will be able to view the letters, said Jennifer Ford, UM head of archives and special collections and associate professor.

"This is a marvelous gift to the university," Ford said. "It's going to add a dimension to our holdings on Northern Mississippi history and U.S. history during some seminal time periods in this country's life. We're very grateful to Dr. Hines and Ms. McDowell."



Thomas Spight

Musical performance honors poet laureate

By Edwin Smith

Aclaimed classical composer, violinist and violist Maria Newman performed a free concert in the library on Sept. 20.

Sponsored by the university's Department of Archives and Special Collections, the event drew a crowd of about 60 to hear the performance, which took place in the Faulkner Room.

"Having Maria Newman include the University of Mississippi in her concert tour across Southern states was truly an honor," said Jennifer Ford, associate professor and head of archives and special collections. "Her family ties to the state of Mississippi deeply influenced her music and resonated with the local audience."



Maria Newman

Newman's performance was themed "Unlocking the Secrets of Louise Moss Montgomery," a musical tribute to her maternal grandmother who was the poet laureate of Mississippi from 1973 to 1978. UM Archives and Special Collections houses Montgomery's papers. For the performance, library specialist Lauren Rogers put together a display case of the materials.


"It felt appropriate that the performance should be here, where her grandmother's collection is housed," said Greg Johnson, blues curator and associate professor. "The musicians brought Louise Moss Montgomery's poems to life."

Newman toured the South in Sep-

tember with esteemed members of the Malibu Coast Chamber Orchestra on a grant from the Malibu Friends of Music.

Tom Sawyer, a silent, short film released in 1917, was screened as a part of the ensemble's repertoire. The music, an original score by Newman, was performed live to the film.

Daughter of nine-time Academy Award-winning composer and conductor Alfred Newman, Maria Newman grew up amid the sounds of Hollywood. Her Southern-born-and-raised grandmother became her muse.

Inspired by Montgomery's colorful verse, Newman's concert works include "A Breath of Mississippi," "Southern Town Duos," "Songs on Motherhood," "A Little Book of Southern Carols," "Sing We of Music," "Trail of Years" and "Appalachian Duets." 

Workshop shows teachers how to use the blues in the classroom

By Dennis Irwin

Mississippi teachers and educators took a multifaceted look at the new Mississippi Blues Trail Curriculum in a workshop hosted by the J.D. Williams Library Blues Archive Sept. 21.

The curriculum was created to bring the blues tradition into fourth-grade history classrooms and acquaint students with the experiences of the men and women behind the music.

Greg Johnson, blues curator and associate professor at Ole Miss, helped set up the event in coordination with the Mis-

issippi Arts Commission.

"The workshop showed teachers how to incorporate the blues curriculum into the classroom through an arts-integrated approach," said Johnson.

Participants examined blues culture through musical, sociological, anthropological, historical and literary lenses.

"It made the blues come alive," said Rebecca Jernigan, local actor and playwright who seeks to educate children through her performances around the state. "It was a great way to recognize and understand the blues heritage in Mississippi."

The Blues Trail curriculum was generated from the more than 172 trail markers around the state, which tell the unique story of Mississippi blues culture.

The workshop helped teachers acknowledge important cultural questions, said Johnson. "What conditions existed for blues to develop into a musical genre/style? What subjects are addressed in blues lyrics? What impact has blues had on popular culture?"




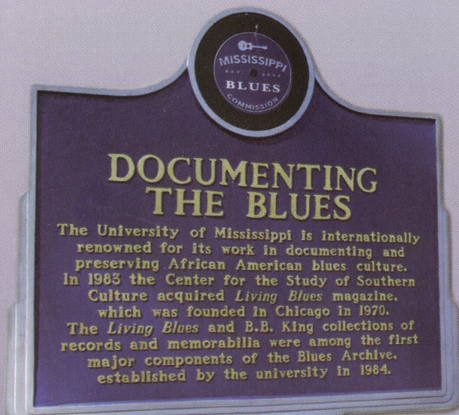
Mark Malone, co-author of the Blues Trail curriculum and professor of music at William Carey University, also spoke at the event.

To demonstrate a practical use of art integration, Malone introduced participants to boomwhackers, which are tubes cut to different sizes that can make a 12-bar blues progression.

Blues musician Terry "Big T" Williams treated workshop attendees to a musical performance during lunch and answered questions from the audience.

Johnson also performed on his one-string, cigar-box banjo to accompany Rebecca Jernigan's spoken-word performance of "The Legend of Robert Johnson."

To learn more about the Mississippi Blues Trail Curriculum, visit <http://www.arts.ms.gov/programs/BluesTrailCurriculum.php>. 



New Acquisitions

University Libraries would like to thank donors for the many new collections it has received recently. The gifts allow the libraries to provide the best experience possible for its patrons. While selected gifts are highlighted here, all donations are essential to the development of the libraries, and the value of all generous gifts cannot be overemphasized. Prospective donors should contact Jennifer Ford at 662-915-7639 or jwford@olemiss.edu for more information.

Patsey Embry Bowers Collection.

From his late wife's papers, Cecil Bowers of Oxford donated a 1963 UPI teletype release received by WNLA radio station in Indiana regarding President John F. Kennedy's assassination.

W. Ralph Eubanks Collection.

A collection containing notes, correspondence and manuscripts related to the author of such works as *Ever Is a Long Time* and *The House at the End of the Road*. Gift of W. Ralph Eubanks.

Tom Franklin and Beth Ann Fennelly Collection.

A collection of manuscripts of Tom Franklin, the author of such works as *Crooked Letter, Crooked Letter*, and the papers of acclaimed poet Beth Ann Fennelly. Franklin and Fennelly recently collaborated on *The Tilted World*, a novel about the 1927 Mississippi River flood. This collection contains annotated manuscripts, notes and galleys of their works. Gift of Tom Franklin and Beth Ann Fennelly.

Raymond L. Harshman Collection.

Raymond L. Harshman of Edmond, Okla., presented the archives with two letters he received from President John F. Kennedy and U.S. Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy regarding injuries received during his service as a deputy U.S. marshal in the 1962 integration riot at the University of Mississippi. Harshman is a 1958 alumnus of UM.

James Thomas Hughes II Collection.

A collection containing the portraits of John Alexander Klein, George Marion Klein, Dr. William T. Balfour and Thomas Harrison of Vicksburg. It also includes the antique color portrait of the Klein family home, Cedar Grove. Gift of James Thomas Hughes II.

Thomas Spight Collection.

A collection consisting of the papers of Thomas Spight, Mississippi legislator and later U.S. congressman from North Mississippi. Spight also served as district attorney for the Northern District during the infamous trial of the murder of William Clark Falkner, great-grandfather of Nobel Prize-winning author William Faulkner. Gift of Thomas Spight Hines Jr. and Mattie Spight McDowell.

Wm. Clyde Stewart Collection.

William C. (Bill) Stewart of Okolona donated his father's collection of Mississippi gubernatorial political memorabilia. Among the contents are campaign sheet music, posters and decals as well as certificates and medals associated with Wm. Clyde Stewart's honorary appointments as "Colonel and Aide-de-Camp" to the staff of governors of Ross Barnett, Paul B. Johnson Jr., John Bell Williams, Bill Waller and Cliff Finch.

Dwight Van de Vate Jr. Collection.

A collection of newspaper clippings, correspondence and magazines covering the 1962 integration of the University of Mississippi by James H. Meredith. Gift of the family of Dwight Van de Vate Jr.

Exhibits and Events

"William Faulkner's Books:

A Bibliographic Exhibit"

**Faulkner Room, J.D. Williams Library
Exhibit through January 2015**

Library patrons will have the opportunity to learn about William Faulkner's extensive literary career when "William Faulkner's Books: A Bibliographic Exhibit" goes on display in January. The exhibit features 20 cases dedicated to books and artifacts that go

along with them.

Featured books include *Soldiers' Pay*, *As I Lay Dying* and *The Sound and the Fury*. The display will also include a case featuring *The Marionettes*, a play Faulkner penned in 1921, hand-bound and illustrated. The library's copy of *The Marionettes* is one of six known to be in existence.





Photo by Robert Jordan

Ainsworth Commons adds six new group work spaces, 18 additional computer workstations and 30 new chairs.

being assigned projects where they work in groups, and we wanted to meet that need. They wanted more technology, more collaborative work spaces, group work arrangements and more comfortable seating.”

Two seniors in the business school have a set schedule with several of their peers to meet in the commons area for group study, which they have been doing all year. They agree that the upgraded Ainsworth Commons serves them well and are especially pleased with the new group work spaces.

“The way the area is arranged with separate cubicles makes a [calmer] atmosphere and gives us more privacy for studying as a group without disturbing others,” said Joslyn Matthews of Madison.

Edward Watkins of Madison agreed, saying, “I like it because of the privacy, but if we want to take a break individually and, say, read a book, we can go to the area close by where there are plush, comfortable chairs and relax.”

One of the most challenging aspects of the project was finding the space to expand.

“We have the same amount of space (in the building) we’ve always had, and we’re always looking for its best use,” Rhoads said.

The area identified for conversion near the existing commons primarily housed metal cabinets full of microforms, DVDs, VHS materials and documents. While the design team, headed by Courtney Jones of UM Facilities Planning, completed its initial work, Stan Whitehorn, operations manager, organized the library’s teams, including the access services group that emptied the area and prepared it for paint.

“This was a large, comprehensive project that involved almost everyone employed in the library,” Whitehorn said. “Everyone pitched in because they knew what the end goal was: more and better study space for our patrons.”

Around 125 microforms cabinets were moved to an area previously occupied by state documents and government documents archives. At this point, the technical services and government documents teams pitched in to view each of the archival items and make a decision as to its eventual location, with most going to the Library Annex.

“One thing we deliberately do is keep looking at low-use materials that can be housed at remote storage locations and categorized so that we can easily get an item within a day at the request of any library patron,” Rhoads said.

Besides expressing their needs, survey respondents also commented positively on the library’s current provisions, said Melissa Dennis, outreach and instruction librarian, who administered the survey.

“The overall satisfaction was very positive across the board,” Dennis said. “A lot of people commented on the changes we’ve made in recent years, especially in regard to facilities, and they just want more and more.”

The dean said that library patrons, especially graduate students who are doing independent research or simply want to study alone, enjoy the 100 study carrels and the graduate student study rooms that have been available for almost a decade.

“To know they’re in the building using our resources and they want more ways to use them is great,” Dennis added. 📖

Message from Angela Barlow

I would like to express gratitude for such a warm welcome to the University of Mississippi Libraries. When I began serving as development officer just five months ago, I had minimal knowledge of our libraries’ history. I have now had the opportunity to meet a number of individuals who shared stories about the library. I am eager to meet each of you in hopes that you, too, will share your love of and interest in our libraries.

As I have learned, our libraries have a vivid history. Now is our opportunity to assure an even brighter future for them. With the support of private funding and individual gifts, the University Libraries will continue to provide services at the highest levels for our students, researchers, faculty, staff and community. With your help, many more individuals will have stories to share about our libraries for years to come.

If you have any thoughts or questions about supporting the University Libraries, please feel free to contact me at 662-915-3181 or ambarlow@olemiss.edu.

Sincerely,
Angela Barlow,
Director for Special Projects



Angela Barlow



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The University of Mississippi does not discriminate against any student protected by law based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, veteran status, sexual orientation, or genetic information.
34301-11/13 University Communications.

Libraries' Wish List

Book presses

Large and medium book presses are needed in the library preservation room to hold books in place while glue or adhesive sets. The J.D. Williams Library has a large collection of damaged books that could be repaired with the help of these presses.

Book press, large: \$295

Book press, medium: \$225

Exercise bikes

Academic libraries have begun to offer stationary exercise bikes for students to use during study breaks, and students have responded enthusiastically to the idea. The University Libraries would like to add three bicycles for our users.

Bike: \$400 each

JSTOR

Arts & Sciences VII

This collection has a strong focus on the professions of business, education and law, and also includes titles in psychology and public policy and administration. Among the titles are highly influential and diverse publications from leading professional organizations in the fields of business and social sciences. Notable titles: *Academy of Management Journal*, *Milbank Quarterly*, *Academy of Management Review*, *Public Administration Review*, *University of Pennsylvania Law Review*.

Cost: \$15,000 (one-time purchase fee);
\$5,000 (annual fee)