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Library News
Innovation and Inspiration campaign impact; employees and students recognized for great achievements

BY CAILIN RILEY
Last year, the entire K-State community came together for K-State’s first All In campaign, an effort to raise funds for a single cause within 24 hours. This year, Textbooks 2.0, an initiative supported by K-State Libraries, was chosen as the cause. While this year’s event was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it has been rescheduled for the spring 2021 semester.

By investing in grant awards for instructors, the program, also known as the Open/Alternative Textbook Initiative, yields significant dividends to students. Since 2013, the program has already saved K-State students nearly $5 million dollars.

Textbooks 2.0 provides funding to K-State faculty and instructors to develop or adopt digital alternatives to traditional print textbooks. These digital alternatives improve affordability, take learning to the next level by providing students with high-quality, faculty-authored materials relevant to their class and provide flexibility by bringing course materials to the palms of student’s hands. So instead of purchasing an expensive textbook, students pay only $10 for a digital textbook.

The Textbooks 2.0 program allows students to pay just $10 for a digital textbook, potentially saving them hundreds on class materials.
Andy Bennett, department head of mathematics and co-founder of Textbooks 2.0, said the idea for the program arose from a desire to change perceptions about textbooks and how they can be used in the classroom. Bennett had already started using his own notes in place of a traditional textbook, which saved his students a lot of money. “My ‘textbook’ was $100 cheaper than a traditional textbook,” Bennett said. “Using an open/alternative textbook meant that I spent some time thinking about my teaching and what key ideas I was trying to get across to students.”

Bennett worked with Brian Lindshield, professor in food, nutrition, dietetics and health, and Beth Turtle, digital scholarship librarian who has since retired, to explore a program that would encourage faculty to create their own open/alternative educational resources. The goal they had in mind—to save students money—turned into Textbooks 2.0, which provides faculty with the grant support they need in order to explore alternative resources for students.

Once Textbooks 2.0 got off the ground, Bennett started seeing results in students’ ability to learn the material. “If you get students materials that are better suited for the class they are in, that they learn better from, and that they like better, then students will realize that there is more material out there to learn from,” Bennett said. “Information is not always in dusty volumes of textbooks. If you are going to be a life-long learner and be successful in your career, you need to learn that information is everywhere.”

Mary Hirtreiter, who used Textbooks 2.0 for her college algebra and chemistry classes, agrees that open/alternative resources for students are the future. Instead of paying $240 for each textbook, she only paid $10 to access the materials she needed for class. Hirtreiter said that she thinks the biggest benefit of the program is that it helps make college more affordable for everyone. “I love that I don’t have to keep shoveling out more money I don’t have in order to get the same knowledge that everyone else does.” Hirtreiter said.

The program has found significant success and garnered a substantial return on investment. Additional funds raised by All In next spring will allow the program to expand to save even more K-State students money.
WATCH IT RISE

Hale Library’s transformation into a next-gen institution

By Cailin Riley

TWO YEARS AGO, ON WHAT STARTED AS A NICE SPRING DAY, THINGS AT HALE LIBRARY CHANGED FOREVER.

The fire that broke out on May 22, 2018 and the resulting damage from water and smoke impacted several sections of the library, including Historic Farrell Library and the famous Great Room. The catastrophic damage to the library was a hit to the entire K-State community, as Hale Library is often viewed as the heart of campus and a place where everyone is welcome to share a quiet moment of reflection or study. At the time, it seemed that the incredible task of restoring the 550,000-square-foot building would be the greatest challenge the library and its staff have ever faced.

Now, the challenge lies not only in finishing the restoration of Hale Library, but in preparing to re-open the building.

Despite the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, construction has continued on Hale Library at a rapid pace. Every week, the changes at the library become more and more visible—we would say that the library is starting to look like its old self again, but that wouldn’t be true. Instead, Hale Library is beginning to look like its new best self, a mix of the historic and the future.

For example, Joyce and Joe’s Cornerstone Café on the first floor has a clean design, the latest kitchen equipment and a modern-looking fireplace. But the chevron design ceiling is actually made out of wood salvaged from pieces that were damaged in the fire. This design juxtaposition continues throughout the library—collaboration rooms, soft seating areas and table spaces are all made to work practically for students, but still maintain the traditional sense of community that Hale Library is cherished for.

The Great Room has undergone a vigorous restoration process; care has been taken to keep the space’s historic atmosphere.

Joyce and Joe’s Cornerstone Café features a modernistic design, complete with faux marble counters, a ceiling made from salvaged wood and a color-changing fireplace.

The new second floor of Hale Library features comfortable soft seating areas and 99 computer stations for student and community use.
“We’ve received a lot of questions from students who miss the more traditional sections of the library,” said Dean Lori Goetsch. “We want to assure the community that those sections are coming with the upper floors and the restoration of Historic Farrell Library. We love the historic, beautiful architecture that Hale Library features and we can’t wait until you can explore those renovated spaces.”

Historic Farrell Library, perhaps the most recognizable part of the library and arguably the most beloved, took a significant amount of damage from the fire. The Great Room and the most recognizable part of the library, will undergo a dramatic transformation in particular. Farrell Library have undergone a restoration of Historic Farrell Library. We love the historic, beautiful architecture that Hale Library features and we can’t wait until you can explore those renovated spaces.

The second floor of Historic Farrell Library will feature a cozy reading room. The Dow Center for Multicultural and Community Studies will be located behind the beautiful wooden doors.

The first and second floors of Historic Farrell Library will also experience a major makeover. Previously, the first floor contained tall, cramped bookshelves that restricted natural light from brightening the limited number of study spaces. It will now feature shorter bookshelves and more seating so that the striking, historic space will be filled with natural light. The second floor was previously used for staff cubicles, but will now be turned into an additional reading room for students and others to enjoy. It will also house a new location for the Dow Center for Multicultural and Community Studies. A completely new and experiential section of the library will be the Sunderland Foundation Innovation Lab on the first and second floors. The Innovation Lab will give visitors access to the latest technologies such as digital media production, virtual reality, artificial intelligence, immersive digital environments and other emerging innovations. The space also will include 14 3D printers, a Glowforge laser cutter and a studio that will allow users to record high-quality video with a single touch of a button. This innovative space will help make Hale Library a leader among academic libraries in terms of pursuing and showcasing next-generation technologies to support student learning.

“The Innovation Lab will give students access to new technologies that they might not have the opportunity to use anywhere else,” said Dean Goetsch. “We want the library not only to be a comforting study space, but a place where students can feel challenged and use technology to make their projects more dynamic.”

As for the books and materials that belong to Hale Library, all of the paper materials within the physical collection have been cleaned, and now the process of unpacking and sorting 147,000 boxes begins. The boxes of cleaned materials are being transported to Manhattan and collections staff have started unpacking and sorting items. The Libraries plan to begin reshelving items in Hale Library in August.

Both the first and second floors of the library are expected to be open to students and the community at the start of the fall semester, with the remaining upper floors and Historic Farrell Library on track to open collectively in mid-January of 2021. Interestingly enough, the new second floor was scheduled to open to the public on the exact day that campus shut down because of COVID-19. Despite the unforeseen setback, the Libraries are excited to witness students exploring this new space.

“It’s exciting to think about what it will be like in Hale Library by next year,” said Dean Goetsch. “I think everyone—students, staff and the community—can see the light at the end of the tunnel. We’re getting Hale Library back as our home again, and it’s going to be even better than before.”

The Friends of the K-State Libraries Instruction Room will provide a large space for librarians to teach research and information literacy skills to students from across campus.
The COVID-19 pandemic affected the K-State community in many ways, including access to K-State Libraries locations, services and staff. Within the last few months, Libraries staff and faculty worked hard to find new ways to continue providing important academic services.

While many resources including databases already exist online, it takes a slew of staff working behind the scenes to make those resources work correctly. Staff including Christina Geuther, electronic resources librarian, and Katrina Beaudoin, library associate, continued troubleshooting any issues with these resources from their homes. Their steadfast work has helped make sure that patrons get what they need as quickly as possible.

In addition to making themselves available to students and faculty through online chat while they worked from home, librarians worked with instructors to support their transition to online teaching. They also created a helpful guide to assist instructors with incorporating library resources in their online courses.

The process of adapting to such an unprecedented situation has been a major challenge, one that many Libraries staff have met with creative workarounds.

Sara Kearns, academic services librarian, and Veronica Denison, assistant university archivist, have been working with faculty in English and history to help teach students how to research online using archival materials. For one class, Kearns, Denison, and a few of their colleagues helped create an online game where students learned how to find documents related to the creation of penicillin.

Another challenge the Libraries faced due to COVID-19 was the sudden halt across the world of loaning out physical items through interlibrary loan. Kathy Coleman, interlibrary services coordinator, and the rest of her team worked with the K-State community to help them find resources online through services like HathiTrust’s temporary emergency access program. Coleman said she helped address communication issues by leaning into technology.

“I communicated a lot with team members by phone and email, but I also made some videos to help share changes in our technology and workflow,” Coleman said. “My motivation is to do everything possible to support our users’ research and study, as well as to support the rest of the interlibrary services team.”

Additionally, the Libraries were able to continue document delivery service with materials located in the Annex, an off-site storage facility. Denny Ryan, Annex collection coordinator, and Chris Rodriguez, Annex assistant, worked diligently to scan requested materials from the Annex on a regular basis and email them to K-State patrons. They also have assisted with lending requests from other academic libraries.

Because of the Hale Library fire, Libraries faculty and staff had previous experience adapting to change and didn’t skip a beat when faced with the added challenge of a pandemic.

“I’m incredibly proud of our staff,” said Lori Goetsch, dean of Libraries. “We’ve overcome tremendous hurdles and have identified creative solutions to problems we never imagined we’d have.”

Using Tech to Support Local Healthcare Workers

Jahvelle Rhone, media coordinator for the Media Center, and the K-State Digital Fabrication Club used 3D printers this spring to create face shields for local healthcare workers. With additional help from Jahvelle’s family, the DigiFab Club created more than 175 face shields to help protect healthcare workers while they battle COVID-19.

The Sunderland Foundation Innovation Lab under construction in Hale Library will include 14 3D printers for use by any K-State student.

“We’ve had to get inventive about how we teach students to research,” Kearns said. “Now that we’re all teaching online, we’re even more resourceful.”

Above: Jahvelle and his wife TeAndra, said it was neat to show their children how STEM can be used to help people in everyday, real-life situations. Children (front to back): Layla (6), Logan (2), Victoria (8), Jaelynn (10).
INFLUENZA: K-STATE

1918

As K-Staters endure the COVID-19 pandemic, an experience from our past may serve as a touchstone of courage. Between 1918 and 1920, there were multiple waves of influenza that ravaged people throughout the world. Infection estimates are as high as 500 million—about a quarter of global population at the time. Death estimates vary widely from 17 million to 50 million. People connected to K-State. Over 1,100 soldier-students were affected by influenza, resulting in 11 deaths. Fatalities would have been much higher if the home economics department had not transitioned quickly into a temporary health care unit. With help from community members, these courageous women played an essential role in nursing nearly all the infected back to health.

More than one in three students were affected by influenza. It even resulted in the first campus closure due to disease. The country’s involvement in World War I also brought changes to institutions across the U.S., including K-State. Over 1,100 soldier-students lived in barracks on campus or in fraternity houses that were turned over to the military as part of the war effort. These men participated in an induction ceremony on October 1, and by then influenza had a foothold in the area. In fact, in order to reduce the spread of contagions, it was reported on that same day all students needed approval from K-State to leave school or Manhattan. A week later, the SATC was quarantined to the properties where they lived. The State Board of Health closed all colleges in Kansas on October 12 to stem the spread. K-State remained shuttered for four weeks, reopening on November 10. Yet, it became only a one-month reprieve. Another outbreak of influenza prompted the local board of health to close schools, and K-State ceased normal operations a second time on December 9, which continued until reopening on December 29.

How did influenza affect students? There are no reliable statistics for the infection rate or fatalities, but at one point there were more than 400 cases in Manhattan and many were students. With a total enrollment of nearly 3,000 that term, it is possible that 10% or more of students were infected during the epidemic.

More than one in three members of the SATC had influenza, resulting in 11 deaths. Fatalities would have been much higher if the home economics department had not transitioned quickly into a temporary health care unit. With help from community members, these courageous women played an essential role in nursing nearly all the infected back to health.

Other contributions to the sick included linens, sleepwear and pillows for fraternities, Red Cross and K-State. Such service came at a cost of negligence. Instead, K-Staters and Manhattanites exhibited great diligence as they cooperated to help those afflicted on their path to recovery. As we cope with challenges during our present crisis, may we reflect on how K-Staters faced an earlier plague with strength and courage.

To view historical issues of the Collegian, Kansas Industrialist and Royal Purple online, visit lib.k-state.edu/digital-collections.

Above: Delta Sigma Phi house, former YMCA building used as a hospital during the pandemic.
Left: Almost lost amidst the pandemic was the inauguration of William M. Jardine as K-State’s seventh president. While he had served in the capacity since March 1, 1918, the formal ceremony was postponed until February 4, 1919.

Left: Kansas native Oscar R. Lindstrom did these cartoons in the 1919 Royal Purple as a humorous attempt to cope with the influenza pandemic.

The Richard L. D. and Marjorie J. Morse Department of Special Collections at K-State Libraries preserves and collects the history of Kansas State University. K-State Keepsakes are compiled from photos, diaries, memoirs, and documents in University Archives.
INCREDiBLE IMPACT

After 10 years, the Innovation and Inspiration Campaign to raise $1.4 billion for Kansas State University has come to a close. Thanks to the generosity of so many members of the K-State family, K-State Libraries surpassed its campaign fundraising goal by more than $2 million. Ten years ago, we had plans to update Hale Library so it would provide a state-of-the-art learning experience for students. Then a fire struck the roof of the library in 2018, resulting in water and smoke damage throughout the building. We took this opportunity to update not just a few areas as planned, but to update the whole building. With your support and philanthropic gifts from individuals, foundations, and companies, we are now poised to offer an exceptional learning experience to Wildcats for generations to come. Thank you all for making this possible!

$13.1M RAISED FOR K-STATE LIBRARIES

3,523 donors supported K-State Libraries
34% of funds raised went to the endowment
$7.8M raised or facilities enhancement

DONOR SUPPORT PROVIDED:
Access to online journals
Collaboration study spaces
Quiet study areas
Charging stations throughout the library
Space for university-wide campus resources
Mural conservation

NAMED SPACES THROUGHOUT HALE LIBRARY:
Bruce and Jan Adams Collaboration Room
Shwai Alkhatib Collaboration Room
Norman and Malinda Anderson Consultation Room
Dan and Beth Bld Collaboration Room
Eleanor and Ben Brent Collaboration Room
Butler Digitization Lab
Virginia Carlson Family Reading Room
Kenneth S. Davis Seminar Room
Dave and Ellis Everitt Learning Commons
The Friends of the K-State Libraries Instruction Room
Joyce and Joe’s Cornerstone Café
M. Alain and Katherine Hale Collaboration Room
Joleen Hill Collaboration Room
Mark and Ann Knackendoff Collaboration Room
William R. Love Seminar Room
Monee E. and Volanda R. Oldsweiler Collaboration Room
PGAV Consultation Room
The Sunderland Foundation Innovation Lab
Marilyn and Bill Taylor Collaboration Room
Charles E. Wilson Consultation/Collaboration Rooms

THE 2019 KIRMSER UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AWARD

The Kirmser Awards, which are made possible through a gift from the Philip and Jeune Kirmser estate, recognize outstanding undergraduate scholarship. Applications are evaluated in part on use of library resources. Each grand prize winner receives $1,000, and their work is deposited in the online K-State Research Exchange. Group research category: Social work majors; Rebekah Castle, junior; Hoxie; Taya Josenberger, junior, Kansas City; and Cole Griffin, senior, Olathe, completed their project, “The Effects of Childhood Separation; A Study on Mental Health” for the Social Research Methods & Analysis class taught by Jung Sim Jun, assistant professor of social work. Individual non-freshman category: Clayton Jarrard, senior in anthropology, Olathe, completed “Conviction as Divine Influence or Human Manipulation: LGBTQ+ Christians and a Harmful Habitus,” completed for the class Anthropological Theory taught by Trevor Durbin, assistant professor of sociology, anthropology and social work. Individual freshman category: Kate Brull, freshman in life sciences and mathematics, Salina, competed in the class Introduction to Moral Philosophy taught by Amelia Hicks, assistant professor of philosophy.
Your support helps develop the Libraries into safe, forward-thinking spaces for students to learn and challenge themselves. Your gift will go far in making sure the Libraries continue to have the latest technologies, and that students have access to the support they need to become successful.

GIVE ONLINE AT: give.evertrue.com/ksu/k-state-libraries

Become a Friend of the Libraries!