

# Among Friends

A Mabee Library bi-annual publication

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## Dean of University Libraries Dr. Alan Bearman, Ph.D.



Dear Friends:

We delayed sending the Spring 2011 semester newsletter because we wanted to wait until we were ready to share some big news with you. Mabee Library is now home to a coffee kiosk that is serving PT's coffee to the Washburn University community.

This is, for many reasons, exciting news for our campus. Most importantly, the addition of a coffee kiosk to Mabee Library means we can better serve the students and scholars who use our facility to pursue their intellectual activities. No longer will they have to stop and pack up their belongings to depart the building in pursuit of a drink. Instead they can remain in Mabee Library to drink and eat while pursuing their learning. Of particular note, and not something that I certainly had originally considered, is the impact this service will have upon the lives of commuter students. Just today it was a commuter student who told me how glad she was to have access to high quality food and drink in Mabee because previously when she packed up and left to go searching for nourishment she rarely returned. In an age when student success and retention is so important in the national discourse, I believe our new coffee kiosk will positively impact these issues at Washburn because we know that students who study in libraries perform better in their academic endeavors.



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### Inside this issue

Dean of University Libraries	1-3
WU Alma Mater & Crest	3
Highlights	4-6
Upcoming Events	7
Membership Form	8



Not acquainted with Mabee Library?

## Become a Friend!

Membership at every level is very important to the library.

Donors.....	\$1-\$24
Sponsors.....	\$25-\$99
Bookworms.....	\$100-\$499
Book Lovers.....	\$500-\$999
Bibliophiles.....	\$1,000-\$2,499
Book Collectors.....	\$2,500-\$4,999
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**Mabee Library**  
Washburn University  
1700 SW College Avenue  
Topeka, KS 66621

Non Profit  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 689  
Topeka, KS

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Donation amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Donation options:

Check payable to: Washburn University Foundation  
Friends of Mabee Library  
1700 SW College Avenue  
Topeka, KS 66621

Credit Card: # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

X \_\_\_\_\_

Signature

## The Washburn University Libraries are busy!

What we do not yet have is a name for our coffee kiosk. We are working with the Washburn Student Government Association to run a competition in which students from across campus are offering suggestions regarding a potential name. It is our goal to unveil the name on April 4, when we host the second annual Thomas Fox Averill Kansas Studies Lecture. If your schedule permits please plan to join us for what will be a great afternoon in Mabee Library. Poetry and coffee will make for a great spring afternoon.

Support from the Friends of Mabee Library has done much to help transform the main level of the facility by providing a variety of seating options for students. No longer stocked full of reference books because the vast majority of reference work is now done digitally, the main level offers students a large assortment of seating options in a zonal approach that allows them to work as individuals and groups as they see fit. If you have not yet seen the changes that have occurred, I encourage you to stop by soon. We have painted the entire interior of the building, the drab gray is gone, and we have begun a process of adding touches to connect students to our shared heritage as Ichabods. So, one can use the most modern of technologies while examining the desk of President MacVicar or learn the words to the alma mater when passing through the main stairwell. The pictures in this newsletter attempt to demonstrate the many changes, but to truly appreciate how vibrant Mabee Library now is, you should come and visit to see the impact of your friendship.

Students who connect to the history of their university simply do better in their studies and the modern library is designed to provide them with high quality information resources, assistance and a sense of identity as Ichabods.

Although you do not need a special reason to come and visit, I do quickly want to mention two important upcoming events that we are hosting in partnership with our colleagues in the Department of English. The first, which I already briefly mentioned, is the second annual Kansas Studies lecture. On Monday, April 4, at 4:00pm, the poet Gary Jackson will be sharing some of his work with us on the main level of Mabee Library. Then the following Monday, April 11, again at 4:00pm, the filmmaker Haydn Reiss will show and talk about his film "Every War Has Two Losers." This film is based upon the journals of the famous Kansas World War II conscientious objector William Stafford. If your schedule permits, these are two events that I think will be outstanding. They will, I hope, provide you sufficient reason to come and visit us in Mabee Library so that you can see how your support

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**\*\*Albert Goldbarth, Poetry Reading, Monday, March 28, 2011, at 4:00 p.m., iRead Area.**

**\*\*2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Tom Averill Reception, Monday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011, at 3:00 p.m., iRead Area.**

**\*\*Averill Lecture Series: Gary Jackson will present "What Kansas Means to Me" Monday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011, at 4:00 pm., iRead Area.**

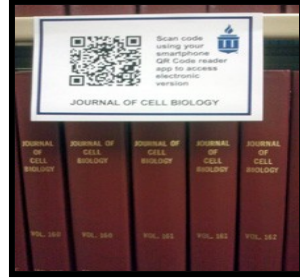
**\*\*United Way Kickoff, Tuesday, April 5, 2011, at 10:00 am., iRead Area.**

**\*\*Author Signing, Dr. Kipp VanCamp, Tuesday, April 5, 2011, at 5:30 pm., iRead Area.**

**\*\*Averill Lecture Series: Haydn Reiss will preview his film "Every War Has Two Losers," Monday, April 11, 2011. at 4:00 pm., iRead Area.**

**\*\*Apeiron, Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2011, at 3:00 pm., Main Level.**

## What is This?



This is a QR (Quick Response) code. Popular in Japan for several years, QR codes are only recently popping up in the United States in large part due to the proliferation of smartphones. A QR code is a barcode, similar to the UPC codes on most consumer goods. However, QR codes can hold much more information than a typical barcode and can be created using any widely-available QR code generator website. Smartphone owners download a code reader app (application) and by scanning the QR code are able to receive a variety of information or carry out any number of actions.

The simplest QR code contains a hyperlink which takes the user to a website. In Mabee Library we have placed QR codes leading to electronic versions next to selected journals. QR codes near the microform readers lead users to a video on how to use the machines. QR codes can hold more detailed information such as a librarian's contact information, office hours or subject specialties. QR codes can also be used to provide maps, stacks guides, book reviews, or to perform an action such as calling or texting the Library Welcome Center.

Now that you know what a QR code is you will notice them everywhere from print ads and pastries to taxi cabs and Times Square. And at The Mabee. The possibilities are limited only by our imaginations.

*Lori Fenton*

## Libraries Add Synergy

If you visit the University Libraries' homepage ([www.washburn.edu/mabee](http://www.washburn.edu/mabee)), you will notice the words, "powered by encore," next to the single search box. Encore, from our library catalog vendor Innovative Interfaces, is what is known as a "discovery platform." Encore functions much like a search engine (think Google) providing a simple search box for the user while behind the scene it uses proprietary algorithms to find what you are looking for. It was added to the Libraries' catalog approximately two years ago and has been well-received by students and faculty.

The Spring 2011 semester brings an exciting new enhancement to Encore called Encore Synergy. True to its name, Synergy functions cooperatively with other electronic resources to provide results from article databases in addition to the library catalog. Searchers not only see what books or videos are available on their topic, but also relevant articles from the Academic OneFile database. Plans are to expand the article resources to as many as 30 different databases in the coming months. The Libraries are proud to add Synergy to our growing list of electronic resources as our digital branch evolves into the "go-to" place for Washburn.

*Lori Fenton*

## LibQUAL+ Survey 2010

In the Fall of 2010 we conducted a LibQual+ survey to assess and improve services at Mabee Library. The LibQual+ survey measures library users' minimum, perceived, and desired levels of service quality across three dimensions: Affect of service, Information control, and Library as place. Overall, our undergraduate students are very satisfied with our services across all three dimensions, especially with the level of service they receive from staff and the library as place. However, they and the faculty would like to see easier-to-use access tools that would allow them to find things on their own. Faculty is particularly happy with the electronic resources we make available from their home or office.

We will continue to analyze the results of this survey, particularly the comments people took the time to write. The results of this survey will direct our efforts throughout the next few years.

*Kelley Weber*

## COFFEE KIOSK

### BEFORE



### AFTER



makes a difference in the intellectual life of the Washburn community. If you want to see the scholarly output of our Washburn students, mark your calendar for April 22. On this day, the annual Apeiron event takes place with student posters filling the main level of Mabee in the afternoon, including the annual Last Lecture by recently retired English Professor Howard Faulkner, at approximately 3:00pm.

Three years ago we set out to return Mabee Library to its historic place as the crossroads of the Washburn intellectual community. Our goal was to change the culture of the Library by making it again relevant to the scholarly lives of our community and, due to your support, we are succeeding. In 2010, we again set a record for the in-person usage of Mabee with 173,733 users, while our digital branch recorded over 5 million hits. The Libraries of Washburn University are again central to the culture of scholarly success at the institution and in the months to come will play an increasing role in the lives of our students through our shared student success and retention initiatives. As I look around the building and watch our students pursuing their studies and dreams in a variety of settings while using a variety of materials all I can think is how fortunate they are to have Friends who care. So, on their behalf let me say thank you for your ongoing support.

I'll see you in the stacks.

Best Wishes

*Alan Bearman, Ph.D.*

## Washburn Alma Mater & Crest

