The leaves are turning in the Oak Grove and Homecoming has come and gone. The semester is well underway and IUP faculty and staff are busier than ever with full academic, work, and social schedules. Want to make the most of your time? Let IUP Libraries help!

From faculty librarians serving at our central reference desk to information technology support personnel offering computer-related technical assistance at our expanded Information Commons Support Desk, library personnel can help get you started on your projects and help you finish in record time. IUP Libraries provides access to rich collections of scholarly and popular sources often not available freely on the Internet, print materials and media equipment, laptops and netbooks to support your academic work, and comfortable group and individual study space. From the first question you ask at our reference desk to the time you print out your finished paper, IUP Libraries is with you every step of the way!

Technology Assistance More Available Than Ever

Need help using Microsoft Word or printing a document? Need assistance in putting the finishing touches on that video project you have for your class assignment? If so, you can get help with these and other projects at our updated Information Commons Support Desk.

Fondly called the “tech room” by its occupants, the new Information Commons Support Desk is staffed with full-time information technology specialists and student employees to assist students and faculty with computer-related issues any time that Stapleton Library is open.

The Information Commons Support Desk can provide assistance with software support, wireless configurations, printing issues, basic virus questions and multimedia applications. Drop by our newest help desk, located across from the Reference Desk on the first floor of Stapleton Library and get your assignments done in record time. For more information, visit the Library web page at http://www.iup.edu/page.aspx?id=105390
Borrow Media Equipment Now Including Netbooks

Have you been assigned a project which requires a digital video camera, a digital audio recorder, a tripod, photo flood light kits or a USB recording microphone and don’t want to purchase those things? You’re in luck! The Library’s Media Equipment Desk (across from the Reference Desk on the first floor of Stapleton Library) has all these things available for loan on a first-come, first-served basis with an I-Card and one additional photo ID.

The Media Equipment Desk also loans laptops that can be borrowed and used in the building. This fall they have added Dell Latitude 2120 Netbooks for faculty, staff, and student use on- or off-campus. They have a 1.66 GHZ processor, a ten-inch LCD screen with integrated webcam, and wireless and Bluetooth networking capabilities and are preloaded with Windows 7, Microsoft Office 2010, and Skype software. Netbooks can be signed out by students, faculty, and staff for a four-day period.

IUP Libraries Web Page Redesign Improves Accessibility and Usability

By Chris Clouser

If you’re returning to IUP for the fall, you may have noticed some significant changes to the IUP Libraries website. During the summer, Web Librarian Chris Clouser redesigned the site to make it easier to navigate, less cluttered, and easier on the eyes. The website redesign is part of IUP Libraries’ ongoing effort to improve the accessibility and usability of the library, and to help you be successful, whether you visit us in person or over the Internet. We hope you enjoy the new site as much as we do!

You can see the changes right away when you visit the page. It has been cleaned up with our most important services and resources placed front and center. Under “Find Information,” links to our catalog, an alphabetical listing of article databases, and other collections can be found. Under “Get Help” you can contact the reference department, check LibAnswers or LibGuides, or contact a librarian for individual help on assignments. Under “Library Services” you will find links to information on technology, borrowing books from other libraries and other services.

Visitors looking for journal articles can use the new article database page to search for the database and an A-Z page listing provides links to our services and resources. Check out our new page at http://www.iup.edu/library

Texting in the Library

When you see your friend texting someone, they might be fooling around, or they might be sending a reference question to IUP Libraries’ professional reference staff. In addition to asking questions in person and via telephone, you can now text your questions through our LibAnswers Knowledge Base and receive an answer from reference staff! Questions as simple as Stapleton Library’s hours or more complex, such as how to access databases off campus, can be answered by pressing “send.” Tired of writing down lengthy call numbers only to lose the paper or find you’ve copied something incorrectly? You can also text yourself the call number of a book right from IUP Libraries’ Online Catalog, PILOT, by clicking on “Text me this call number.”
IUP Libraries can be a confusing place to get around in. With hundreds of thousands of books and bound periodical volumes and many different collections it can be easy to get lost.

Now detailed floorplans of Stapleton and Stabley Libraries can be found on our website under “Map of the Library” or at http://www.iup.edu/page.aspx?id=115566

IUP faculty and students who enjoy using Netflix-like streaming video services now have access to three different academic video collections through IUP Libraries. Films on Demand, a web-based digital video delivery service that allows users to view streaming videos from the Films Media Group, has been available for more than a year. This year, two new Alexander Street Press collections relating to Education and Counseling and Therapy have been added. Education in Video is the first online collection of streaming video developed specifically for training and developing teachers. Counseling and Therapy in Video provides the largest and richest online collection of video available for the study of social work, psychotherapy, psychology, and psychiatric counseling.

What are eBooks? They are books that are written or converted into an electronic format that can be read on a computer screen or hand-held device. Audio eBooks are recorded books that are available in electronic format. In the last few years both academic and public libraries have been subscribing to services that make books available in these formats for their users.

IUP Libraries adopted this new technology for book access several years ago through NetLibrary. This made thousands of eBooks available to its users. Unfortunately, the technology used by NetLibrary was cumbersome and discouraged users from making full use of the collections.

Last year, NetLibrary was purchased by EBSCOhost, provider of some of our most popular databases and now both eBooks and eAudio books are in our Online catalog and are easier than ever to access. To gain access to this digital content, choose Online Catalog from the library web page (www.iup.edu/library), limit your results to Location > Electronic Books and do a search. Online catalog records retrieved will include a URL to access the books under “Linked Resources.” You can also choose eBooks from the A-Z listing and search books through the EBSCOHost platform.
Busy faculty and students often keep up with podcasts they have downloaded to their handheld devices. IUP Libraries now offers a number of databases that allow IUP users to listen to scholarly and popular journal articles on their computers or download mp3 versions to their hand-held devices. Databases offering downloads of scholarly journal article content include some of more comprehensive and popular databases such as Academic Search Complete and Infotrac OneFile.

PALCI, Revitalized

PALCI, the Pennsylvania Academic Library Consortium, Inc., consortium of libraries with reciprocal lending and borrowing agreements, is a self-serve version of interlibrary loan that enables users to search the library holdings of more than sixty colleges and then request that a book be sent to a library on his or her campus.

PALCI is a popular resource with member libraries completing about 5,000 transactions in an average week. Last year, the West Virginia University Libraries delivered the one-millionth book requested through the system since 2004.

A new PALCI website became operational in March. One search now scans the catalogs of all participating PALCI libraries. Users can expect better results because of an advanced search option that enables them to narrow their inquiries, and if a book is not available, users will automatically be given the option to request the title through ILLiad, providing an uninterrupted requesting option.

Look for PALCI on the IUP library’s homepage. You can log in using your 16-digit library ID number and start searching today! For more information contact Beth Farabaugh, at farabaug@iup.edu with any questions.

Check Out the Changes in Circulation

This fall, people borrowing books will notice improvements in Access Services that should result in fewer users being charged late fees. Now, a week before library materials are due, borrowers will get an email notifying them that they should renew or return their materials. If they miss that notification or forget to act upon it, they will get another reminder on the day they are due, when they can still renew materials. You can also renew anytime by logging into the online catalog with your banner or library ID (even if materials are already overdue). A fine will not be added to the account until the material is overdue seven days. Also, the lost book charge (which increased to $100.00 from $75.00) won't be imposed until the book is overdue 90 days. (This is an increase from the previous thirty-days overdue). Some renewal privileges have also been extended: faculty members are now permitted a ninety-day check out period and are given three renewals per year. Remember that borrowers can still see what they have checked out and renew materials through PILOT, the online catalog, at any time. Just click on “Account Info” to log in.
By Harrison Wick

Special Collections and University Archives recently received several notable donations:

Dr. Maher Y. Shawer, Professor Emeritus, donated a rare copy of a map of the Earth, a facsimile of which is now hanging on the first floor of the Stapleton Library between the Circulation and Reference desks. This map is a copy of the original drawn by Muhammad al-Idrisi in 1154 for King Roger II of Sicily.

Larry Kubala donated one of the original Indiana Normal School stock certificates dated December 12, 1874, signed by Judge Silas M. Clark and Normal School Principal John Sutton. This document was issued to the Honorable I.S. Nesbitt for twenty shares of stock at $25 each. It pre-dates the opening of Indiana Normal School in 1875, when 225 students were enrolled, and tuition for the fall semester was $120.

Robert Patterson donated his father’s collection of coal mining hand tools. The Special Collections and University Archives has manuscript collections and coal mining artifacts, but has never had such an extensive collection of personal hand tools used in the coal mines of western Pennsylvania.

By Dan Shively

Until several years ago, IUP Libraries was one of the few academic libraries still using the Dewey Decimal classification system. To make it easier for our users to find books, a large-scale conversion project was undertaken to convert our catalog records from the Dewey Decimal classification to the Library of Congress classification. This massive project (which required a rearrangement of the book collection) was successful, but left a large number of records untouched because they were unsuitable for the automated conversion process. This meant that while most books were found under a Library of Congress call number, thousands of books were kept in a separate area of the library, still arranged by Dewey numbers. This was sometimes confusing for our users, so the cataloging staff undertook another large project, in which the books left over were converted manually. We are happy to announce that this project has come to a successful conclusion and that this September it was completed.

There are still some Dewey-classified books in Special Collections and the project to convert them has already been started. Dewey classification will be retained for the Children’s Collection and for microforms.

Events Help Make the Library the Heart of the Campus

From people’s reading of the Constitution on the Library’s front entrance to commemorate Constitution Day to displays of decorated brassieres for the Bras for a Cause to raise money for breast cancer research, the Library is the location of many student-centered events and is living up to its reputation of being the heart of the IUP campus!

If your student organization would like to use the library for an activity, contact Patti Cornman at 724-357-2331 or by email at pcornman@iup.edu.
Music in the Library

By Carl Rahkonen

At lunchtime on Wednesday, October 5, 2011, IUP Libraries users were treated to a short concert by award-winning Celtic fiddler Eileen Ivers. A large crowd gathered to listen to her performance of several traditional Celtic pieces. She was joined by Music Librarian Carl Rahkonen who shared information about the music, its history, and its relationship to Irish culture. If you missed the event it was recorded and can be viewed at mms://libs0800.acadlib.iup.edu/public/library/ivers.wmv

Dr Rahkonen, Music Librarian and Professor at IUP, has been sharing his extensive knowledge of music to audiences across the country this year. He will complete his year as the Finlandia Foundation Lecturer this November. The Lecturer of the Year (LOY) is a national program whose aim is to help US audiences better understand Finland and the Finnish-American connection. The LOY presents lectures to foundation Chapters and other local Finnish American organizations around the country.

Rahkonen’s lecture is entitled, “The Finnish American Musical Journey: From Rune Singing to the Rockland Opera.” He has presented this lecture in more than fifteen locations.

Finlandia Foundation National is the country’s oldest privately funded foundation administering grants and scholarships for the express purpose of celebrating, supporting, and strengthening Finnish heritage and Finnish-American culture and traditions. There are thirty-six Finlandia Foundation chapters in nineteen states and the District of Columbia.

Library People

This fall there are new people working in our Libraries and some employees have taken on new roles. This summer, long time employees Judy Bouton and Ron Hamilton retired. Their positions were filled by faculty and staff already familiar to our users. Blaine Knupp has moved from Reference Coordinator to head Access Services as the new Public Services Librarian. Doug Pittman has joined the staff as the night time circulation library assistant. Doug is known to IUP users from his work at the Information Commons Support Desk.

New faces can also be seen at the Information Commons Help Desk. Mark Allen and Kevin Painter, who have worked on the IUP campus as Information Technology Technicians for many years, also joined the library staff this summer and are available to help library users at our Information Commons Desk.

Other IUP librarians and staff have taken on new and expanded roles. With the retirement of Judy Lenhardt, Terry Rittenberger has begun working in Serials as well as Cataloging and Jin Pang is the Acquisitions/Serials Librarian. With the retirement of Jim Hooks, Portia Diaz is serving as the librarian at Northpointe and Punxsutawney as well as providing support for Distance Education and First Year Experience. Chris Clouser is the Web/Science Librarian, Joann Janosko is the Collection Development/Electronic Resources Librarian and Karen Brown is the Cataloging/Systems Librarian. This semester we have also had Robin Zirkle working as an intern. She has contributed to many projects including this newsletter.