24% MORE OPEN HOURS
75% HIGHER COLLECTION USE
30% HIGHER BUILDING USE
FROM THE DEAN

As the class of 2015 received their diplomas, we took stock in what we know about the role the Libraries played in teaching and research at LSU: student use of library facilities was strongly ahead of last year, continuing a trend that extends at least five years. This year we have an added advantage, being open 24/5 throughout fall and spring semesters, in addition to 24/7 for exam periods. Library use is up even without all those additional late night hours. Students are simply voting with their feet, and once inside, those feet tend to stay longer than ever before. The Libraries has the most important and most heavily used academic spaces on campus.

Of course a research library is much more than an appealing study space. We also spend about $5 million per year on collections, about 80% of which is in digital format. It turns out that scholarship in digital format gets used much more than it would in print.

Stanley Wilder
Dean, LSU Libraries
During the 2015 academic year, an innovative e-textbook initiative launched with the purchase of online textbooks for 173 classes with an enrollment of 4650, amounting to a potential to savings of $450,000 for students. The innovative e-textbook program is so popular that the LSU Student Government passed a bill to fund further development of it. All e-book use increased dramatically, especially in the STEM disciplines, while the unit cost of e-books declined by 65%.

“The change represents significant savings for students, who typically shell out several hundred dollars each semester on textbooks.”

Baton Rouge Business Report
January 26, 2015
The LSU Libraries’ motto is “Access to Excellence.” With that as its guide, Middleton Library extended its hours to 24 hours a day, opening each Sunday at 11 a.m. and closing on Friday evenings at 8 p.m., in addition to Saturday hours.

“We can already see those GPAs rising!”
LSU Residential Life

“You asked, they listened.”
LSU Dean of Students

LSU Libraries is the only 24 hour study location on the LSU campus. The popular service was introduced in the fall of 2014, and remains in high demand. The Libraries hired security guards to staff the building and keep the students safe.
Amanda MacDonald joined the LSU Libraries and the Office of Research and Economic Development as the new LSU Discover Librarian. In her position, MacDonald has extended the reach of information literacy programming and integration that supports undergraduate research at LSU.

### INSTRUCTION

During the 2015 academic year, librarians led 256 research workshops for 5,599 undergraduate and 555 graduate students.

Last year, 439 students completed 22 sections of LIS 1001: Library Research Methods and Materials. The number of requests for research workshops continues to rise, and the Libraries launched a research consultation service for students, who can receive research and information literacy instruction and coaching by appointment. Librarians also formed partnerships with residential colleges by teaching research workshops and designing co-curricular events.
E-JOURNAL HOSTING

LSU Libraries now offers support for journal publishing. The e-journal platform offers online submissions, online editorial workflow, a search interface, graphic identity, reader notifications, exporting tools, analytics, and more. The platform will support wider dissemination of scholarship at LSU.

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS ADDED TO COLLECTIONS

The Libraries identified and purchased about 180 titles published prior to July 2014, and still in print. For books published after that date, the Libraries established a purchase agreement that will ensure that LSU faculty authored or edited books will be routinely added to the collection.
OUTREACH

The Libraries participated in 76 outreach events, making contact with 9,420 students, prospective students, parents, and LSU faculty and staff during the 2015 academic year.

Students learned about the Libraries at campus events such as Fall Fest, Family Orientation, Freshman Orientation, Kick Off LSU, the Spring Invitational Fair (SPIN), and STRIPES, as well as events directed toward underrepresented groups such as the McNair Scholars, Summer Scholars, and the students participating in the Pre-Doctoral Scholars Institute. More than 600 students participated in the fall 2014 Halloween-themed open house attracted, learning about library resources and services, and winning prizes.

“There are different aspects to the library that could help you with literally anything that you need to do for research.”
Each year, the LSU Libraries Special Collections in Hill Memorial Library hosts Audubon Day, a well-known event that brings visitors of all ages from across campus, around the state, and around the country to see one of the most spectacular sets of books in our collections. John James Audubon’s *Birds of America* consists of 435 hand-colored engraved plates published in London from 1827 to 1838. LSU Libraries’ copy is bound in 4 volumes and belonged to one of the original subscribers, the Duke of Northumberland.

In addition to Audubon Day, the Special Collections division of the LSU Libraries hosted book talks, film screenings, lectures, exhibits, and panel discussions this year.

Afternoons in the Archives, a new initiative this year, presented materials available to view and touch, with curators and other staff on hand to answer questions.
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION AT LSU: COMMEMORATING THE CENTENNIAL OF THE SMITH-LEVER ACT OF 1914

A fall 2014 exhibition was the culmination of a collaboration between the LSU Libraries, the College of Agriculture and the LSU AgCenter to produce programming and material in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Smith-Lever Act, the federal law that established cooperative extension services at land-grant universities like LSU.

The LSU AgCenter funded a graduate assistant position with LSU Libraries T. Harry Williams Center for Oral History, resulting in 16 oral history interviews with 14 individuals, which are available through the Louisiana Digital Library and through the LSU Libraries Special Collections.

The “Cooperative Extension at LSU: Commemorating the Centennial of the Smith-Lever Act of 1914” exhibit featured the new oral histories in addition to material from Special Collections relating to the history of agriculture and Cooperative Extension at LSU and in Louisiana. An opening event included speakers and brought in numerous guests.
The LSU Libraries T. Harry Williams Center for Oral History was awarded a grant of more than $217,000 from the Imperial Calcasieu Museum as part of a larger grant from the Sasol energy and chemicals company.

This project is collecting, archiving, and making available the written and oral history of the people and community of Mossville, Louisiana. Through interviews with community elders of a disappearing town, LSU Libraries is documenting aspects of 20th century African-American life in Southwest Louisiana. Transcriptions, photographs, and video will be available to the public at the Imperial Calcasieu Museum, the McNeese State University Archives, and the LSU Libraries by 2017. Oral history interviews will be accessible online through the Louisiana Digital Library.

“Mossville is one of the oldest communities in Southwest Louisiana, and it is important to us that our history and culture are remembered and celebrated.”

Butch Lemelle, Mossville Resident
FREE PEOPLE OF COLOR

“The most extensive collections of family papers for free people of color held by Louisiana repositories are, in fact, split across institutions. Digitizing these records has allowed us to unite them virtually, making these materials accessible in one place.”

Tara Laver, Curator of Manuscripts

“Free People of Color in Louisiana” is a collaborative online endeavor bringing together more than 30,000 pages of family and personal papers, business records, and public documents from dispersed paper collections in the LSU Libraries’ Special Collections, the Louisiana State Museum Historical Center, the Historic New Orleans Collection, Tulane University’s Louisiana Research Collection, and New Orleans Public Library.

The digitized materials are accessible at no charge through the Louisiana Digital Library.
POLITICAL COLLECTIONS

DONNA BRAZILE DONATES PAPERS TO LSU

“Because LSU gave me so much, I am humbled to give LSU Libraries Special Collections my papers and grateful to share my life’s work to encourage and inspire the next generation of political activists to take their seats at the table.”

Donna Brazile.

In 2014, LSU Libraries acquired the papers of distinguished LSU alumna, veteran political strategist and commentator, author, and Democratic Party official Donna Brazile. The collection includes photographs, correspondence, speeches and other writings, memoranda, reports and analyses, campaign management and research files, and memorabilia. The collection documents Brazile’s involvement in Democratic politics and the Democratic National Committee; her interest in and efforts to mobilize African American voters, elect women to office; her public speaking and teaching; her work with the Louisiana Recovery Authority; and her participation in every presidential campaign between 1976 and 2000, including as manager of the Gore-Lieberman bid for the White House.

This significant collection serves as the foundation for documenting political consultancy and political journalism in the late 20th and into the 21st century.

JOHN MAGINNIS, “DEAN OF LOUISIANA POLITICS”

Longtime political writer John Maginnis authored definitive works on late 20th century Louisiana politics, including The Last Hayride, about Edwin Edwards’s 1983 gubernatorial campaign, and Cross to Bear, a chronicle of the infamous gubernatorial race of 1991 between Edwards and David Duke. He also published Gris Gris magazine, The Baton Rouge Enterprise, and later, Louisiana Political Review, which became LaPolitics Weekly. Jackie Drinkwater Maginnis, his widow, donated his papers to LSU Libraries this past year.
In November 2014, the LSU Libraries acquired an important map for its Special Collections. The 1855 Gill/Persac map of Baton Rouge is extremely rare, with only one other known copy existing. The map shows structures, streets, and labeled homes and businesses.

Michael Gill, a young Irish man who settled in Baton Rouge designed the map, planning to draw business maps of river cities and towns for a living. Gill died during the Yellow Fever epidemic of 1857, and only this map and a partial map of Plaquemine survived.
Aaron Richardson joined LSU Libraries as the University Archivist in January 2015. With important historical collections relating to the history and culture of LSU, the University Archivist works with offices and groups across campus to document and preserve the permanent records of Louisiana State University.

Richardson is also working to address important issues relating to born digital collections: archival material that never existed on paper. The University Archives ensure that historically significant University records are systematically collected, and, whenever possible, available for research and teaching.
Because of their long-standing financial support for the LSU Libraries, the Friends of the LSU Libraries was inducted into LSU Foundation’s Laureate Society this spring. The LSU Foundation introduced the Laureate Society in November 2006 to recognize individual, couple, and organizational lifetime giving to the academic enterprise of LSU exclusively through the LSU Foundation.

The annual Friends of the LSU Libraries Book Bazaar is looked forward to with great anticipation by book lovers from all over the Southeast.

This year, the Libraries once again thanks the Friends of the LSU Libraries for their hard work and generous support, including their annual Book Bazaar. This year’s Book Bazaar was a great success, bringing the LSU Libraries $67,000.

Proceeds from the bazaar go into an endowment that, over the years, has provided more than $1 million in support of library acquisitions and services. The endowment is currently valued at $2.2 million.
GENERAL SYED ALI ZAMIN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The General Syed Ali Zamin Memorial Scholarship was established in the fall of 2014 through a gift from the Zamin family. The scholarship recognizes a student worker in the Middleton Library Circulation Services Department who demonstrates the same professional work ethic and love of the library as did General Zamin. The $500 scholarship will be awarded twice yearly.

Zamin was a career officer in the Pakistan army beginning in World War II. He had a distinguished military career, rising to the rank of lieutenant general. Upon retiring, he moved to Baton Rouge, beginning yet another career at Middleton Library, where he worked for 14 years.

Rachel Shirley is the first recipient of the scholarship. Shirley is a sophomore majoring in Theatre with a concentration in film. She has been a student worker in the library since she started LSU in 2013. “I’m really honored to have won,” said Shirley, “It means a lot to me that my supervisors felt me worthy of this award and I hope to continue to show the qualities associated with this scholarship.”
“Back in my study spot for the last time #finalsweek #clubmid #3rdfloor #graduating”
LSU Student

“Club Mid is gonna be poppin tonight #finals”
LSU Student

“MacBooks and CC’s. The online way to study at #ClubMid #SOCICastle”
LSU Student

“And @lsulibraries comes through in the clutch... Have access to an article for research that was $40 online. Thank you.”
LSU Student