The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library represents a unique collaboration between San José State University and the City of San José. Since 2003, the library has combined academic and public services in the nation’s largest joint library. Serving as both the university library for San José State and the main branch of the San José Public Library System, the King Library provides resources and services for a lifetime of learning.

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Snapshot Day chronicles a day in the library

On October 6, 2010, the King Library participated in the California Library Association’s Snapshot Day, designed to celebrate the vital role libraries play in the lives of Californians. Hundreds of public, academic, school, and special libraries around the state took part in the event. The goal of the King Library’s participation was to chronicle a typical day in the library by taking photographs, gathering comments, and collecting data.

From the opening of the library until the closing at midnight on Snapshot Day, King Library staff and volunteers photographed library users, videotaped events, and interviewed students, staff, prominent city officials, and members of the San José community. The resulting information highlighted not only the impact the library has on San José State, but also the benefits that the library’s unique collaboration between the City of San José and the university provides the greater community. Photos from the event are located at http://www.flickr.com/photos/sanjoselibrary/ under the link “SJSU King Library CLA Snapshot Day: Fall 2010.” Video clips will be featured in the “Spotlight” section of the university library’s website at http://library.sjsu.edu/.

King Library staff and volunteers are commended for contributing to the success of CLA Snapshot Day. A very special thank you goes out to all King Library patrons for sharing in the experience.

DID YOU KNOW?

On October 6, 2010:
The King Library website was accessed 23,947 times.
The university library’s database collection was accessed 9,288 times.
11,018 people visited the King Library.
MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

As the new year begins, the library is presented with a number of new opportunities to build support for the collections and services we offer the university and the community. With decreasing state funds to support the university and the library, it is crucial that all avenues of support be explored, including private foundations, federal grants, and the generosity of individual donors.

We are now in the third year of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) challenge grant, and are actively raising funds to support the local match required to receive the full NEH award. I want to express my gratitude to all who have contributed to this initiative, and if you have not yet made your gift, I encourage you to designate that your contribution be directed to the NEH challenge grant. To date, the library has raised more than $243,000 from individual donors, family foundations, and the Friends of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library, which together have enabled an NEH contribution of $81,000. With 18 months left in the grant period, we look forward to additional dollars being raised for this initiative. Read more about the NEH grant and the new digital information database licensed with the first distribution from the endowment on page 7.

In October 2010, SJSU President Don W. Kassing announced the university’s first-ever comprehensive fundraising campaign, “Acceleration: The Campaign for San José State University,” with a goal of raising $200 million by the year 2014. The campaign includes the university’s seven colleges, student affairs, athletics, and the library. As a cornerstone of the university, the King Library is a major player in the campaign. We have appointed seven prominent members of the community to the University Library Acceleration Campaign Committee and established fundraising priorities for the next three years. Read more about “Acceleration” and the library’s fundraising priorities on page 6.

In addition, library faculty and staff often initiate submissions to federal grant-funding agencies and private foundations. Most recently, Danelle Moon, director of the SJSU Special Collections and Archives, submitted a successful grant proposal to the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) to prepare two of the library’s major photographic collections for digitization, the John C. Gordon and Ted Sahl collections. Over the summer, we were notified of a grant award of close to $100,000 for the initiative. This is our second such grant from the NHPRC, with the first grant awarded to SJSU Special Collections and Archives in 2008 for $151,000.

Although we have experienced budget cuts and staff reductions, many initiatives are under way to build resources for the library’s programs. For all of you who have been a part of these activities, I send a huge thank you. If you are interested in learning more, don’t hesitate to contact me.

—Ruth Kifer, SJSU Library Dean
(408) 808-2419
ruth.kifer@sjsu.edu

Library appoints new associate dean

Mary Nino was recently appointed as the SJSU library’s associate dean for user services, research, and scholarly resources. Nino served as interim associate dean for 2 years, and brings a total of 22 years of library experience to the position.

As the King Library is jointly managed and operated by San José State University and the City of San José, the associate dean’s role requires a clear understanding of the missions, goals, and challenges of the two organizations. Having worked in university, community college, public, and school libraries, Nino has a broad understanding of academic libraries and collaboration with the community. In addition, her longstanding roots in the Santa Clara Valley allow her to easily identify and utilize appropriate local resources when needed.

At SJSU since 2002, Nino previously served as the library’s coordinator of strategic planning, head of special projects, and community outreach librarian. She received both a master’s degree in library and information science and a teacher-librarian credential from the SJSU School of Library and Information Science. Her undergraduate degree is from Santa Clara University, where she also earned a single subject teaching credential in English. Nino strongly believes in the transformative power of libraries and universities, and in particular, the promise of the joint King Library.

DID YOU KNOW?

Special Collections houses historical local photos that we are seeking to identify. Go to http://digitalcollections.sjlibrary.org to view these mystery images and submit identifying information.

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Coming events and exhibits

For more information about these and other public events, visit the King Library website at http://library.sjsu.edu/events/.

Tours of the King Library
Every Thursday, 11:30 a.m.–12:45 p.m.
Welcome Desk, first floor
Drop-in tours covering the King Library building’s design, collections, and art are offered every Thursday at 11:30 a.m. on a first-come, first-served basis. Where else can you see a revolving secret door, a low-rider table complete with hydraulic lifts, or a set of tables shaped like the seven continents? These pieces and more comprise 34 public art installations designed to provoke curiosity and encourage exploration throughout the King Library. Sign up for a tour at the Welcome Desk on the library’s ground floor. For more information, call (408) 808-2181.

Friends of the King Library book sale
January 29 and 30, 2011
February 26 and 27, 2011
Library bookstore patio
One weekend each month, the Friends of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library host a book sale in the bookstore patio at the university entrance to the King Library. Saturday sales run from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Sunday sales run from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Revenues from the sales are donated to the library for a variety of programs that benefit the community. For more information, call (408) 808-2681.

“Earth Work: Mining Burkina Faso”
Through January 31, 2011
Second floor exhibit area
Now on exhibit are 40 color photographs taken by David Pace over the past four years in Burkina Faso. These images focus on work in two different brick quarries and a gold mine.

“Clavichord to Fortepiano: A Mini-Concert”
January 19 and 26, 2:00–2:30 p.m.
February 2, 16, and 23, 2:00–2:30 p.m.
March: 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30, 2:00–2:30 p.m.
Beethoven Center, fifth floor
Pianist Richard Sogg will use the Beethoven Center’s historic keyboard collection to demonstrate the fundamental differences between the three most common keyboard instruments of the Baroque and Classical periods—the clavichord, the harpsichord, and the fortepiano—in comparison to the modern piano. For more information, contact the Beethoven Center at (408) 808-2058. To learn about future Beethoven Center events, visit http://www.sjsu.edu/beethoven/events/

Opera San José’s The Barber of Seville preview and lecture
February 1, 2011, noon–1:00 p.m.
Rooms 225–229, second floor
Opera San José presents a preview of Gioachino Rossini’s comic masterpiece, The Barber of Seville. The one-hour program will include a performance of selected arias and duets by members of the cast, followed by background on the opera and composer presented by Opera San José’s general manager, Larry Hancock. The Barber of Seville opens February 12 at the California Theatre in downtown San José. For more information about Opera San José, call (408) 437-2229 or visit http://www.operasj.org/. Photo: Chris Ayers.

“Dream Rocket Project”
Through February 28, 2011
Fourth floor exhibit area
This exhibit includes a collection of quilted, painted, stitched, sewn, knitted, or collaged panels submitted by students, teachers, and individuals from around the world. These two-by-two-foot panels will be assembled to completely wrap a replica of the 37-story Saturn V rocket at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama, in conjunction with the fiftieth anniversary of President John F. Kennedy’s 1961 speech about landing a man on the moon and “daring to dream.” To learn more about the project, visit http://www.thedreamrocket.com/.

“Miracles in Ink and Color”
March 2–30, 2011
Second floor exhibit area
This exhibit features a series of Chinese brush paintings by Arthur Kao, including landscapes, figures, birds, and flowers. The paintings are done in different styles—traditional, realistic, abstract, surrealist, and postmodern. Kao uses the mixed media of black ink, Chinese watercolor, Western watercolor, and acrylic on Chinese rice paper.

“From Our Land”
April 4–29, 2011
Second floor exhibit area
This exhibit addresses the Nikkei, people of Japanese ancestry, and their agricultural success in California that led to anti-Japanese sentiment.

Opera San José’s La Bohème preview and lecture
April 12, 2011, noon–1:00 p.m.
Rooms 225–229, second floor
Opera San José presents a preview of Giacomo Puccini’s poignant love story La Bohème, a tale of young bohemians living in nineteenth-century Paris. The one-hour program will include a performance of selected arias and duets by members of the cast, followed by background on the opera and composer presented by Opera San José’s general manager, Larry Hancock. La Bohème opens April 23 at the California Theatre in downtown San José. For more information about Opera San José, visit http://www.operasj.org/ or call (408) 437-2229. Photo: Pat Kirk.

For more information about these and other public events, visit the King Library website at http://library.sjsu.edu/events/.
New databases, new research opportunities

Databases aggregate content on a subject and make it available electronically. The SJSU library subscribes to hundreds of databases on a variety of topics, including the arts and humanities, companies and industries, and science, engineering, and technology. Most of the databases provide the full text of articles, while others provide abstracts and citations that point users toward the original sources. Still others house image, sound, or video files.

NEW LIBRARY DATABASES

The following new databases can be found both in the library’s online catalog and on the library’s Articles & Databases web page at http://libguides.sjsu.edu/a-z. Community users may access these resources when visiting the King Library.

**Hispanic American Newspapers, 1808–1980** is the largest available compilation of Spanish-language newspapers printed in the United States during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Based on the “Recovering the U.S. Hispanic Literary Heritage Project,” the collection features hundreds of Hispanic American newspapers.

**Hospitality and Tourism Complete** covers domestic and international scholarly research and industry news dating back to 1965. There is full text for more than 490 industry publications, including periodicals, company and country reports, and books.

**Irish Women Poets of the Romantic Period** includes more than 80 volumes of poetry by about 50 Irish women writing between 1768 and 1842. The database also offers biographical and critical essays prepared by leading scholars.

**Latin American Women Writers** is an extensive collection of prose, poetry, and drama composed by women writing in Mexico, Central America, and South America from 1500 to the present. The database includes literary works, memoirs, feminist essays, and other material.

**Orlando: Women’s Writing in the British Isles** serves researchers with an interest in literature, women’s writing, and cultural history. Included are documents on the lives and writing careers of about 1,000 writers, together with contextual material on subjects such as law, economics, science, education, medicine, politics, and writing by men.

**OxResearch** includes more than 30,000 articles on significant world and regional economic and political developments. The multidisciplinary articles were compiled by an international network of more than 1,000 faculty members at Oxford and other leading universities.

**Political Science Complete** contains the full text of more than 480 journals, 330 reference books and monographs, and 36,000 conference papers. The scope is worldwide, reflecting the globalization of contemporary political discourse.

**Scottish Women Poets of the Romantic Period** includes 60 volumes of poetry by 47 authors, bio-critical essays, and selected criticism from an authoritative bibliography.

**Theatre in Video** contains streaming video of more than 250 performances of the world’s leading plays and more than 100 film documentaries. With live television broadcasts of New York productions from the 1950s, revivals of classical works and experimental performances from the ’60s and ’70s, and contemporary performances, Theatre in Video covers a wide range of twentieth-century theater history.

Many digital textbooks are free through the California Learning Resource Network (CLRN). CLRN provides educators with a repository of learning resources that are aligned with the State Board of Education’s academic content standards.

**Emerald ebook collections** focus on business, management, economics, and the social sciences. Titles are available in PDF and HTML formats.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about these and other online resources, or to make an appointment to come to the library for a demonstration, contact Sue Kendall, the university library’s head of collection development, at (408) 808-2039 or susan.kendall@sjsu.edu.
New app makes library services available on mobile devices

SJSU library surveys indicate that students and faculty prefer the convenience of accessing library research materials through the web rather than having to locate printed copies, particularly when searching for journal articles. Increasingly, SJSU users are accessing the library’s resources from mobile devices such as smart phones, iPads, netbooks, and iPods, which provide speed, portability, and convenience.

The move to mobile was highlighted in a Pew Internet and American Life report, *Future of the Internet III, December 2008*, which stated, “The mobile device will be the primary connection tool for most people in the world by 2020.” SJSU has recognized the importance of a mobile presence and recently developed an application, or “app,” for the iPhone. Available from Apple’s iTunes, the free app was designed by SJSU employees and students and provides maps, news, course schedules, sports information, and more in a format that is convenient and easy to use 24/7.

The King Library website is also accessible through this app, which was specifically designed to be read on smartphones or smaller wireless devices. For websites to be easily viewed on smaller screens, it is often necessary for providers to reconfigure page layouts. Several of the companies that provide the library’s scholarly databases have developed apps that improve display results and search capabilities on mobile devices. For a full list of the university library’s mobile resources, visit http://libguides.sjsu.edu/mobile.

University library launches new website

The recent launch of the new SJSU library website (http://library.sjsu.edu) is the first major revision of the site since the King Library opened in 2003. Streamlined to provide an open gateway to the library’s academic resources, the new site highlights electronic collections available through SJSU library subscriptions, along with specialized services such as online tutorials and subject guides.

The site’s new “Quick Search” box allows library visitors to get started with their research directly from the home page, using books, articles, and e-journals. The “Quick Links” section provides immediate access to frequently used resources such as subject guides, online databases, and “Ask a Librarian.” The home page also lists library events and exhibits, and a “Spotlight” section highlights news, events, exhibits, staff members, and resources in the collection.

Previously, the King Library had a joint website for the university library and the main branch of the San José Public Library (SJPL). “The library did extensive usability testing to make sure that the new university library site would be intuitive and easy to use for an academic audience,” said John Wenzler, the university library’s associate dean for digital futures, information technology, and technical services. “We determined that two separate websites would better serve the needs of all users in the building.”

SJPL also released a new website recently (http://www.sjpl.org). A shared portal (http://www.sjlibrary.org) provides information about the King Library’s university-city partnership, and links to both the SJSU and SJPL websites. With distinct public and university websites, library users should benefit from easier access to the content most relevant to their needs.
Library donors gather for Dinner with the Dean

On June 4, 2010, Dean Ruth Kifer hosted the third annual Dinner with the Dean in the King Library. Guests included members of the Library Dean’s List (donors who have given $1,000 or more to the SJSU library) and others who have made substantial contributions to the university library.

The evening began with a cocktail reception on the library’s second floor. Library collection development coordinator Sue Kendall charmed the guests with an Opera in Video database demonstration featuring Placido Domingo performing Otello. Guests then dined in the eighth floor grand reading room overlooking downtown San José. Dean Kifer spoke briefly, expressing her gratitude for the loyal support that donors have given to the library.

After dessert and coffee, members of Opera San José entertained the audience with a preview of the company’s 2010–2011 season. The performance featured tenor Alexander Boyer, bass-baritone Isaiah Musik-Ayala, mezzo-soprano Betany Coffland, baritone Daniel Cilli, soprano Rebecca Schuessler, and pianist Veronika Agranov-Dafoe. Honored guests included Irene Dalis, SJSU emeritus faculty member and world-renowned mezzo-soprano.

If you would like to become a member of the Dean’s List and participate in future library events, contact Ruth Kifer at (408) 808-2419 or email ruth.kifer@sjsu.edu. 

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Library Campaign Committee

In October 2010, SJSU President Don Kassing announced the university’s first-ever comprehensive fundraising campaign, with a goal of raising $200 million by 2014. The campaign includes all units of the university, including the university library. Priorities for the university library include funding:
1) the library deanship, 2) librarian positions, 3) a digital resources fund, 4) state-of-the-art learning and research spaces, and 5) library print collections.

To help the library dean spearhead this effort, seven prominent community members have been named to the University Library Acceleration Campaign Committee. They are Diane Brandenburg (alumna), Janifer M. Burns (alumna), Jennifer diNapoli (community leader), Bernadine M. Goularte (alumna), Lionel Goularte (alumnus), W. Richard Roth (CEO, San José Water Company), and Nancy R. Wiener (alumna).

“Acceleration,” the theme of the campaign, involves creating a learning environment that will accelerate student success at SJSU. Most of all, the campaign focuses on reengaging our alumni and all who love San José State to partner with the university in its investment for the future. Every dollar raised for the library through the Acceleration campaign benefits all SJSU students regardless of their discipline. Private funds enable the library to purchase books, license digital databases, acquire electronic books and journals, digitize primary resources in special collections, upgrade equipment, move aggressively to facilitate the use of emerging technology, and recruit the highest-quality talent to engage with students, faculty, and the community.

If you would like to partner with us in the Acceleration campaign, contact SJSU Library Dean Ruth Kifer at (408) 808-2419 or email ruth.kifer@sjsu.edu. 

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Top row, left to right: Dennis and Marianne Wilcox; Lucia Soares and Miguel Avila; John and Kim Tang. Bottom row, left to right: Diane Werp, Mabel Miyasaki, and Peter Werp; Joan and Vic Corsiglia; Betany Coffland, Alexander Boyer, Daniel Cilli, and Isaiah Musik-Ayala of Opera San José.
In memory of James E. Noah

James E. Noah (July 28, 1931–October 30, 2010), emeritus faculty member and dedicated library benefactor, died at home in Los Gatos in October after struggling with lung cancer for 18 months. Born in Iowa and raised in Illinois, Noah majored in English and physical education at Illinois State University (ISU), but left the university to join the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He spent 28 months in Germany as a soldier, then returned to ISU on the GI bill, married his college sweetheart, Janet Weldon, and completed a master’s degree in English in 1957.

Noah accepted the position of assistant director of public relations at SJSU in 1962, then served as public relations director from 1965 to 1978. In this capacity, he worked closely with University President Bob Clark and Interim President Bert Burns. In 2006, Noah participated in the SJSU Oral History Project. During his interview, he shared his admiration for President Clark, stating that Clark was a strong supporter of free speech for students and faculty, considering it a “fundamental right on a college campus—a place for the testing of ideas.” Noah seconded this belief, stating, “It’s so that you learn and develop your own sense of values.” In 1978, Noah returned to the classroom to teach journalism and public relations. He also directed the department’s internship program, which placed nearly 300 interns yearly. Noah retired from the university in 1995.

Noah’s wife, Janet, taught kindergarten through second grade, and was named outstanding teacher in the Union School District in 1990. She loved the outdoors, particularly hiking and picnicking with Jim and their family. She passed away in 2005. In memory of his wife, Jim Noah established the Janet W. Noah Endowment in 2007. This endowment is intended to enrich the university library’s collection of children’s literature, award-winning books, and the history and criticism of children’s literature.

The Noahs are survived by their three daughters, nine grandchildren, and numerous relatives and friends.

Library enters third year of NEH challenge grant

Thanks to generous contributions from our library community, the SJSU library has raised more than $243,000 toward the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) challenge grant. In response to our fundraising efforts, the university library was awarded a match of $81,000 from the NEH, bringing the total digital humanities endowment to $324,000.

We are proud to announce the purchase of our first database subscription with funds from the endowment. Entitled Orlando: Women’s Writing in the British Isles, this research database includes documents on the lives and careers of thousands of writers and contextual historical information on related subjects such as the law, economics, science, education, medicine, and politics. Because the King Library is a partnership between the San José Public Library and San José State University, all library resources, including Orlando and other resources acquired with NEH funds, are available to all visitors in the King Library.

The acquisition of Orlando is the result of a request from Paul Douglass, professor of English and American Literature at SJSU, who directs the Martha Heasley Cox Center for Steinbeck Studies and the Steinbeck Fellows Program. Douglass’s research interests include British romanticism (Byron studies), modern American literature (Eliot and Steinbeck studies), literary theory, and interdisciplinary approaches to literature through music, philosophy, and painterly aesthetics.

Now in the third year of the grant, it is critical that we reach our goal of raising $300,000 by July 31, 2011, to receive a $100,000 match from the NEH. Up to this point, local contributions to the grant match have been steady, but at a lower level than needed to meet our required level by the annual deadline. Your contribution will impact the library community for years to come, as the humanities play a pivotal role in inspiring stimulating discourse and shaping the ideas of our citizens.

For more information about the NEH challenge grant, contact SJSU Library Dean Ruth Kifer at (408) 808-2419 or ruth.kifer@sjsu.edu.
Make a difference
Support a vital field of study with a library endowment

Endowments help fund library programs and collections that are vital to the university’s educational mission. By providing supplemental funding for the library in perpetuity, endowments provide an annual income to enhance library services and resources in ways that go far beyond base budgets.

SJSU has the largest accredited library and information science program in the world, and the Library Science Collection Endowment will support a more comprehensive academic collection for this rapidly evolving field. If you would like to contribute to the Library Science Collection Endowment or establish an endowment of your own to honor a particular area of interest or special person, visit http://library.sjsu.edu/giving-library/, or contact Ruth Kifer at (408) 808-2419 or ruth.kifer@sjsu.edu. Your support can help ongoing efforts to enrich the library’s collections and offer enhanced services that will foster student success for years to come.