Barnes Library materials successfully relocated
by Paul Sharpe, sharpep@umsl.edu

An infamous rite of passage for students each fall is to write a paper about what they did during their summer break. Charged with the same task, we can report that we closed and moved a library. The Ward E. Barnes closed for the last time on May 16, 2014. The closure started a project that the UMSL Libraries staff won’t soon forget.

In addition to renting a 14’ truck for the move, the UMSL Libraries rented 45 large wooden book carts, each capable of transporting 8 full shelves of books at a time. Staff and students loaded these carts non-stop for a period of nearly 6 weeks, moving some materials to the Thomas Jefferson Library on the North Campus, and others to offsite storage within an annex in the Information Technology Enterprise (ITE) building located a couple of miles west of North Campus. In total, over 830 loaded carts were transported between library buildings during the entirety of the move.

The Barnes Library primarily served the Colleges of Education, Optometry, and Nursing. Books and reserve items supporting those programs now reside at the Thomas Jefferson Library. To accommodate this influx of materials, print journals from 1999 and older have been relocated to the ITE Annex.

Realizing that we’ve taken away a service point, as well as easy access to some of our print collections, the UMSL Libraries are providing new services to accommodate all faculty members. We are happy to provide electronic delivery of any print articles in our collection. We will scan journal articles, located either at the Thomas Jefferson Library, or held in collections at the ITE Annex, and deliver them to you via e-mail. The book drop located outside the former Barnes Library will remain operational for the next year, allowing South Campus patrons a convenient place to return library materials. The same friendly librarians that provided personalized service at the Barnes Library are still available to assist with your library needs; they’ve simply relocated!

While never an easy decision, the closure of the Barnes Library should be viewed as a strategic restructuring of library resources and staffing to meet the challenges of the current economic and educational environment. No jobs were lost, and access to all library materials has been preserved. As the UMSL Libraries move forward, we will continue to provide our faculty with the tools and resources to make them, and the students in their care, successful.

Why is JNH smiling? See P. 2

Roughing it
Want to see the world? Check out Rough Guides. P. 2

It’s a trip through time..
See 250 years of St. Louis history told through maps, rare books, and images. P. 3

In Thomas Jefferson Library you will find...
A-F call numbers Level 1
G-Z call numbers Level 4
K-12 Curriculum Level 5
Juvenile Literature Level 5

ITE Annex compact shelving
One of the highest priorities of the Board of Direction of the St. Louis Mercantile Library over the past year has been to establish a permanent endowment to support the position of the library’s executive director, the key staff position at the library for over 165 years and the oldest executive position at any cultural institution in St. Louis. The executive director’s leadership is crucial to the library’s continuing growth and vitality and this permanent endowment will help ensure that the library has leadership of the highest caliber for generations to come.

The directorship has been held with great distinction for a number of years by John Neal Hoover who has been an integral part of the library’s curatorial staff for over thirty years. The library has dramatically expanded its collections, research facilities, public outreach, and institutional endowment under John’s dedicated and expert leadership. He played a crucial role in negotiating and executing the Mercantile Library’s affiliation with the University of Missouri-St. Louis in 1998 and its relocation to the university’s campus from its longtime downtown St. Louis location. John is highly respected by the library’s most devoted supporters and his name is synonymous with the Mercantile Library in St. Louis and throughout the community of library and bibliographical scholars across the country.

In honor of John Hoover’s years of singular devotion to the Mercantile Library and its patrons and in recognition of his exemplary leadership and expert guidance of the library’s staff in expanding, conserving, and exhibiting the library’s remarkable collections as well as enhancing their accessibility to researchers all over the world, the permanent endowment of the executive directorship of the Mercantile Library will be designated The John Neal Hoover Endowed Mercantile Library Executive Directorship. Great progress has been made toward funding this $2.2 million endowment and a special dinner celebrating the completion of the fundraising campaign and recognizing John’s three decades of distinguished leadership will be held at the library on the evening of November 14, 2014.

Before heading off to Paris or taking your first trip to Africa it helps to be prepared. Recently a group of guidebooks from the publisher Rough Guides was added to the University Libraries online collection. This collection includes such titles as *The Rough Guide to Ireland*, *The Rough Guide to South America on a Budget*, and *The Rough Guide to China*.

There are basically two ways to access the Library’s e-books: directly from the library catalog record or, from the database where the title is included. For example the Rough Guide books will each have a catalog record with a link to the full text. They may be searched by title, subject heading or, keyword (example: Africa and guidebooks). Another way is to go directly to the Gale Virtual Reference Library from the library home page (www.umsl.edu/library) by clicking on the option Databases Sorted Alphabetically, selecting G or scrolling down to the G’s in the alphabetical list and clicking on Gale Virtual Reference Library. Click on the link to the Title List in the upper right and browse alphabetically or scroll down to the R’s and select one of the Rough Guide titles.

In addition to the Gale Virtual Reference Library other databases containing e-books include: eBook Collection (EBSCO-host), Oxford Reference Online, Credo Reference, and Safari Books Online (computer and technology books).
The St. Louis Mercantile Library Association at UMSL presents

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St. Louis Mercantile Library at UMSL
1 University Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63121

Call 314-516-7248 for more information or to schedule a tour
www.umsl.edu/mercantile

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St. Louis Mercantile Library

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