NJIT Library Annual Report 2002-2003

NJIT NEW JERSEY INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Dear colleagues, students and friends of the NJIT Libraries:

It has been a privilege to serve you during AY 2003, my 8th year as University Librarian and I look forward to doing so again in AY 2004. October 2002 was significant as the tenth year anniversary of the Robert Van Houten Main Library building.

There were many accomplishments in AY 2003 including the hiring of a new Digital Projects Librarian, a new Cataloging Librarian, the first inventory of the collection in over ten years, a reorganization of the current journal collection, the introduction of ARIEL in interlibrary loan, and improvements in our Voyager system added in AY 2003. We faced many challenges during AY 2003, including positions remaining unfilled and some library resources being cancelled due to the state budget reductions to NJIT.

In AY 2004 we are again faced with budget problems caused by a flat budget, increased prices for library materials and new costs coming on stream due to the maintenance for the systems purchased two years ago. Please understand that if we do not own the item that you want, please ask our librarians, since we can often obtain it from another source or point you to another convenient library that does have it.

Feel free to contact me about our library.

Rich Sweeney

Rich Sweeney
University Librarian
Dec 2003

BUSY LIBRARY

In AY 2003, the library was a busy place with the number of user visits continuing to rise. In spite of the fact that users now have online remote access to many library resources, they are using the library in greater numbers than in the past. This phenomenon contradicts the trend at some other academic libraries that have reported that their libraries were deserted (see *The deserted library*, Chronicle of Higher Education, Nov 16, 2001).

[busy Information Commons]

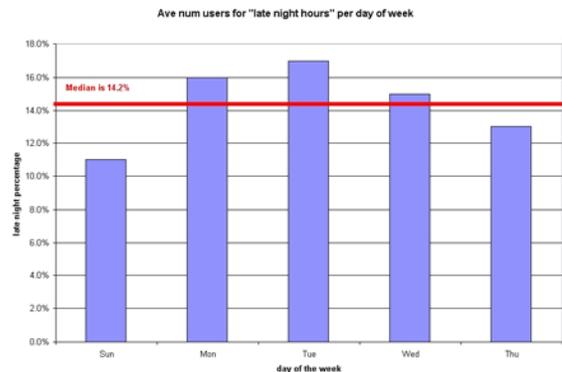[busy Information Commons]

[students in group study rooms]

[students at study tables; all photos taken Sep-3-2003]

EXPANDED LIBRARY HOURS

Library hours were expanded, as a test of usage, during the spring semester of AY 2003 after a number of requests from the undergraduate student government. Van Houten Library hours were: Mon to Thu, 7:30 am to 2am; Fri 7:30am to 8pm, Sat 10am to 6pm, and Sun 1pm to 2am. Provost Van Buskirk gave the library a special grant of funds for the spring 2003 semester to hire staff to cover the extra hours until 2am Mon to Thu and additional weekend hours.

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Some major points:
- usage grew as the semester progressed
- usage during the average late night hour was typically 14.2% of usage during our "regular day" hours
- the highest-used day was Wed, Apr 23, when the average late night hours achieved 33% of the usage of the average "regular day" hours
- usage was proportionally greatest on Tue evenings
- usage was proportionally least on Sun evenings

We also did periodic walk-through-head-counts.

The median number of users in the library at these times during the semester:
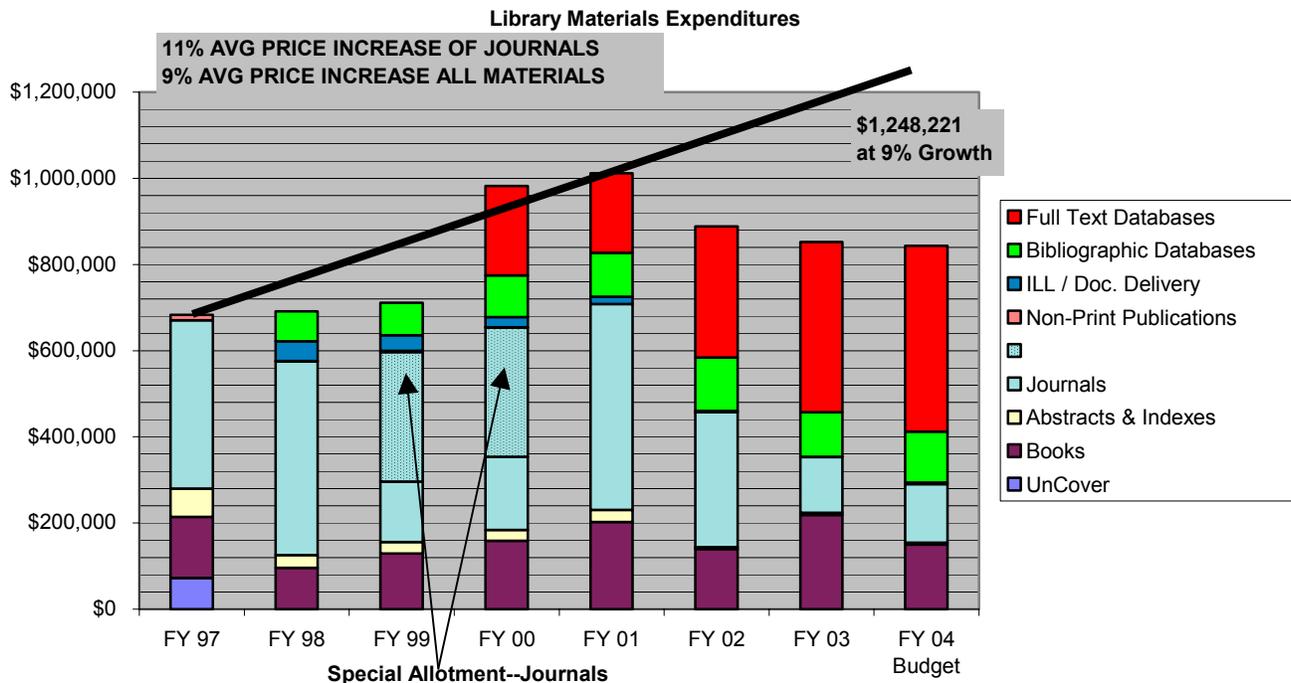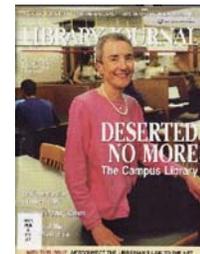
10:30 pm	11:30 pm	12:30 am	1:30 am
103	78.5	51	21

Though the extended hours project was popular with the students during spring 2003 we will return to our traditional hours in the fall 2003 because of the statewide budget shortfalls.

See www.library.njit.edu/apps/hours

LIBRARY RESOURCES & MATERIALS

Below is a graph presenting the seven-year history of the NJIT library materials expenditures (and encumbrances). The average subscription price is up over 9% over the seven-year period. Journal subscription prices are expected to rise 12% in AY 2004 (*Library Journal*, April 15, 2003) while database subscription prices will increase at least 7.5%.)

Library Materials Expenditures

11% AVG PRICE INCREASE OF JOURNALS
9% AVG PRICE INCREASE ALL MATERIALS

$1,248,221 at 9% Growth

Legend:
- Full Text Databases
- Bibliographic Databases
- ILL / Doc. Delivery
- Non-Print Publications
- Journals
- Abstracts & Indexes
- Books
- UnCover

Special Allotment--Journals

Over the last seven years the NJIT library went from about 1,100 hard copy journal subscriptions, article delivery services, and a few hundred online journals to very few hard copy journal subscriptions, very little article delivery, and about 13,000 online journal titles. Note in the graph that in AY 1999 and AY 2000 a special allocation helped fund the journals.

From AY 97 through AY 2001 the hard copy journal budget went from $390,726 to $477,768. In AY 2004 the ranked journal budget is $158,000.

The library has increased the total number of online journals available and accessible through purchasing e-journal database subscription packages (full text). The advantage is that faculty and students get access to many more journal titles; the disadvantage is that some cancelled titles were not part of our packages and are therefore no longer available online.

In the past, faculty could prioritize and select each particular journal title. Now, it is done in bulk or aggregate.

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ELECTRONIC THESES AND DISSERTATIONS (ETD)

The online ETD collection has grown from 210 to over 433 during the last fiscal year. The usage of the collection has been phenomenal, including many companies and users from all over the world.

For the actual collection, freely available online, please see www.library.njit.edu/etd

NJIT's ETD project was also given an ACRL/NJ Technology Innovation Honorable Mention Award in April 2003.

INVENTORY

An inventory of the book collection was conducted during two weeks of the summer of 2002 (May 16 to May 24, 2002) while the library was closed and all library staff participated. The Littman Architecture Library remained open while inventory was taken.

Library staff inventoried 130,000 books, theses, etc. and found 91% of them. The Voyager online catalog records were updated. Missing books and those with incorrect data were removed. Collection statistics were updated. The accuracy of our online catalog was improved. Missing book lists were given to reference librarians for reacquisition consideration.

This was the NJIT library's first book inventory since at least 1992.

JOURNALS

The subscriptions to journals and e-journals (i.e., those ranked by the faculty) continued to decline in AY 2003. This was due to a library materials budget that was almost identical to the previous year and increased subscription prices.

To see what journals were retained or cancelled, please see www.library.njit.edu/journals/cfapps/jranks

Ninety titles were cancelled in AY 2003. 128 titles were cancelled in AY 2002. More titles are expected to be cancelled in AY 2004.

Journals table

	AY 2002	AY 2003
Total journal subscriptions	726	500
Print	606 (7 Packages)	378 (6 Packages)
E-journals	25	59
Print & e-journals	48 (1 Package)	50 (1 Package)

ONLINE DATABASES

Although we do not have usage data on every database and the vendor methodology for measuring usage differs, online databases are heavily used. Even while usage continued to increase, the library was forced to cancel databases because of insufficient available funding.

The following subscriptions were cancelled in AY 2003:

- CINAHL
- PsychINFO
- Biosis
- New York Times (microfilm)
- NY Times Index (print)
- International Abstracts in Operations Research (print)
- Quality Control and applied statistics (print)
- American Business Disc (CD-ROM)

The current databases can be searched at www.library.njit.edu/dbases/allDBU.cfm?DBEJ=DB

Database table

	AY 2002	AY 2003
Print indexes	7	4
Print & online indexes	10	2
Online (only) indexes	10	7
Online fulltext databases	9	8
Journal titles in online databases only	11,638	13,114

Note: Journal titles counted in Database table are in addition to e-journal titles counted in the Journals table.

LIBRARY BOOKS

The Middle States AY 2002 visiting team's accreditation report suggested that the library create a list of books that would have been purchased if the funds were available prior to their visit. In addition, they recommended that the library purchase from 5,000 to 7,000 books per year. As a result, the librarians have been working over the last year to develop a 12,000 book ($1 million) wish list. This list is being created in the hope of finding additional funding sources. Note that the actual book purchases for a particular year may be delayed from the year when the money is encumbered.

	AY 2002	AY 2003
Books added	2,543	2,464
Expenditures	$169,405	$171,706

PROPOSED LIBRARY EXPANSION DELAYED

The planned Van Houten Library renovation and expansion has been delayed. The Admissions Office is vacating the second floor of the CAB (Central Avenue Building) in October 2003 and moving into the new East building. Originally, this vacated space was to be renovated along with space on the first floor of the library in order to expand the number of group study rooms, add seating for reading, expand restroom facilities, and expand an area of the first floor for a "coffee shop-reading area." However, because of budget constraints, the space will be used "as is" both for library storage and for a few library staff until funds are available.

VALE (Virtual Academic Library Environment of NEW JERSEY)

VALE, a consortium of over 50 NJ academic libraries, continued to negotiate better contracts with online vendors resulting in decreased costs in AY 2004 for the ACM Digital Library and providing free access again to Academic Search Premier through funding from the NJ State Library.

Under the new three-year contract with Elsevier, negotiated in part by Rich Sweeney, additional online titles were added including all of the former Academic Press titles, which previously had to be ordered separately, saving NJIT thousands of dollars.

INFORMATION LITERACY

NJIT continues to provide information literacy instruction for students and faculty but is also working to develop self-tutorial materials independently as well as through VALE. The goal will be to eventually have online tours of the NJIT library, online tutorials on how to use the different library databases as well as library services.

LIBRARY STAFF TRANSITIONS

The NJIT Library Staff was reduced to 23 (from 25) full time positions in AY 2003, with one of those vacancies remaining unfunded at the start of the Fall 2003 semester.

- AY 2004 will be the second full year of the vacancy created by the retirement of **Elease Huff**, Library Assistant III. This position was eliminated and the Director of Information Literacy and Reference was created but has not been on hold because of the lack of funding.

- The **Architecture Library Specialist** position remained vacant at the end of AY 2003 although permission to hire a replacement was made in time for the start of the Fall 2003 semester.

- **Madalyn Paganetti** retired in Apr 2003 after over 30 years serving in Cataloging on the staff of the NJIT library.

Maya Gervits was hired as the Director of the Architecture Library in Sep 2002. Maya replaced Haymwantee Singh who returned to her Technical Reference Librarian position after having served as the Acting Director of the Architecture Library for over a year. Maya has Ph.D. in Art and Architectural History form the Institute of Art History, Moscow, and a MLS in Library Science from Rutgers University.

Maya comes to NJIT from Rutgers where she served as the Art Librarian and previously from Princeton University where she served as the Western Art Bibliographer.

[Maya Gervits, Directory of the Architecture Library]

Matthew Brown was hired as the Digital Project Librarian in November, 2002, replacing Dan Noonan whose position had been placed on hold for fiscal reasons after he resigned in November, 2001. Matt is responsible for the ETD collection and the NJIT archives.

Matt came to NJIT from Rutgers where he served as the Digital Technology Coordinator at the Rutgers university Scholarly Communication Center. Matt has an MLS in Library Science from Rutgers and had worked for many years in the film industry.

[Matt Brown, Digital Projects Librarian]

Heidi Frank, was hired as the new Cataloging Librarian replacing Madalyn Paganetti. Heidi came to us from being the Electronic Resources Cataloging Librarian and Reference Librarian at the Michigan State University Libraries. She has an MLS in Library Science from the University of Oklahoma and has a BS in Chemistry from the University of Southern Mississippi.

[Heidi Frank, Cataloging Librarian]

JOURNALS REORGANIZATION

The goal of the journal reorganization project was to reorganize, weed and/or shift the library's current and bound journal collection in order to make access quicker and easier for library users. Many library journals are now ordered electronically. In cases where the library owned both print versions and electronic versions of a title, we weeded the print versions and moved them to storage on campus.

Approximately 90 journal titles were placed in storage, but can be accessed if requested. The library online catalog has been updated to show which journals are in storage. Bound journals have been weeded, some moved to storage, and some discarded to ease overcrowding of journal shelves and to make room for new titles being bound.

INTERLIBRARY LOAN

The library activated the Interlibrary Loan Ariel system. Ariel is a document delivery system that allows us to scan articles and other documents directly, and transmit or receive documents over the Internet to or from other Ariel workstations in libraries nationwide.

Faster and clearer than a fax, Ariel improves our ability to deliver requested interlibrary loan articles to library users.

NEW ENDEAVOR'S VOYAGER AND ENCOMPASS SYSTEMS

On January 17, 2002, the NJIT library launched its new integrated library system—the Library Catalog (using the Voyager software). In summer 2003, we began to add book jackets to the Library catalog record (like Amazon).

We also began work on the NJIT Digital Library (using the Encompass software), a system that manages local and remote digital documents and objects and provides one-click searching to library subscription databases.

AY 2003 STAFF'S PROFESSIONAL AND PERSONAL ACTIVITIES:

Jim Robertson, **Haymwantee Singh**, and **Bruce Slutsky** all received their 10-year NJIT service pins in spring 2003.

Jackie Ballin, Technical Reference Librarian, did research and wrote a successful proposal for obtaining library equipment and software (JAWS) for a visually impaired NJIT student. She also participated in the VALE Shared Information Literacy Committee and gave a presentation to the Rutgers Library Information Science Student Association regarding library careers. Jackie also ran the library focus groups and had a MLS graduate library student "shadow" her at work one day so that the student could get a sense of what it was like to be an academic librarian.

For the entire month of Jan 2003, **Matt Brown** was on loan to participate in a multi-institutional VALE investigation of the concepts required to develop a sharable and customizable information literacy module. Matt presented the NJIT ETD project to METRO Science Librarians Roundtable in Feb 2003.

Matt Brown also presented the NJIT Archives and ETD project to SOURCE in Apr 2003. SOURCE is the Student Organization for Unique and Rare Collections Everywhere, a Library and Information Science Student Group in the Rutgers School of Communication, Information and Library Studies.

Mike Byrnes, Technical Reference Librarian, served as the assistant editor of *Cognotes*, the American Library Association's Conference newspaper.

Maya Gervits, Director of the Littman Architecture Library, published a book in Russian in Jun 2003: *Leo von Klenze and the New Hermitage in context of European art museums*. She conducted a workshop on how to use electronic resources in humanities research at the Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg, Russia, in Dec 2002. Maya also published an article in the Hermitage Museum Conference proceedings of Jan 2003.

Jim Robertson, Assistant University Librarian, presented a talk at the annual Endeavor Users Conference in Apr 2003, on using ColdFusion to mine the Endeavor Voyager system database. *Using ColdFusion to Write Web-Based Applications and Reports Against the Voyager Tables*.

Jim Robertson also wrote a chapter in a book: Robertson, Jim. How to conduct precedent research for a studio design project using the BArTLES acronym (Building, Architect, Type, Location, Era, Style). Chapter (pp. 146-151) in *Library Instruction for Students in Design Disciplines: Scenarios, Exercises, Techniques*. Jeanne Brown (ed.). ARLIS/NA (Occasional Papers series; no. 13). 2002.

Bruce Slutsky, Technical Reference Librarian, attended the American Chemical Society National Meeting in Boston, Aug 2002. Bruce also attended a course at St. John's University: "Planning and Teaching Information Literacy Programs".

Ray Schwartz, ILL/Serials/Database Librarian, was appointed to the Standing Committee on Science & Technology Libraries, IFLA, and attended IFLA 2003 in Berlin this summer.\

Ray Schwartz also ran in the New York Marathon in Nov 2002 (finishing with a time of 4:58:13) and the Fin del Mundo Marathon in Argentina in March 2003.

Rich Sweeney, University Librarian, presented and ran a focus group at the New Mexico Library Association Annual Conference, was a facilitator the Fairleigh Dickinson University library staff strategic planning process in Sep 2002 and was a reviewer in a contest of vision statements; a panelist on Nov 18, 2002 at the Rutgers university metadata conference; participated on the InfoLink Planning Committee; participated on the VALE Executive, Finance and Information Literacy Committees.

Rich Sweeney's vision of "The Library in 2100" was published in Public Library Quarterly in November. And his 1994 article – *Leadership in the post-hierarchical library* – was cited in the July/August 2003 issue of *C&RL News*.

The **annual library staff** retreat was held at the Montclair University Library on Jan 10, 2003, and included a tour of the campus library, and a presentation by Judy Luther, President of Information Strategies on the future of academic libraries.

[**NJIT Library annual staff retreat, Jan 2003**]

[**NJIT Library staff members Sayed Hassan (left) and Mike Byrnes (right) with staff retreat guest speaker Judy Luther (center)**]

The NJIT library special **Weston Collection** was cited in an article: Matsumoto, E.; "Edward Weston Made his mark on the history of instrumentation", *IEEE Instrumentation & Measurement Magazine*, Volume: 6 Issue: 2 , June 2003 pp: 46 -50.

Most NJIT professional librarians attended the **annual VALE User Conference** in Jan 2003 at Rutgers.
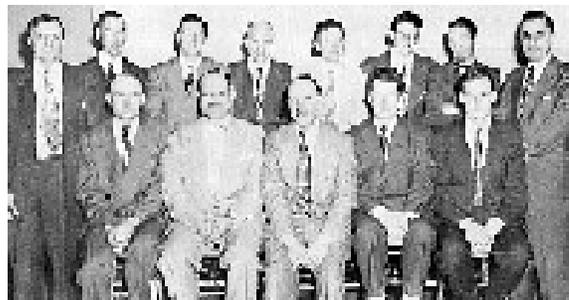
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STATISTICS

	AY 2002	AY 2003
Hours open in a typical week	91	93 (spring semester); 91 (fall semester)
User visits to the library	319,000	349,500
Reference transactions	not available	10,980
Presentations, classes, & orientations	78	101
Attendance all presentations	2,021	2,077
General circulation	45,884	37,992
Reserve circulation	16,288	
Items borrowed from other libraries	2,339	2,301
Items lent to other libraries	890	457

ARCHIVES

In the fall, the NJIT archives digitized the 1952 yearbook and placed it on the web in conjunction with the 50th anniversary of the class of 1952's visit to the campus during reunion week.

See the yearbooks at **www.library.njit.edu/archives**

DATABASE USAGE REPORT

Database	2001 cost per article	2001 cost	2002 cost per article	2002 cost	notes	2001 total articles retrieved	2002 total articles retrieved
ABI/INFORM Global	$ 0.33	$ 6,857.45	$ 0.48	$ 7,988.75	ascii/image	20,649	16,479
Academic Search Premier	$ 0.36	$ 4,830.00	$ -	Paid by state funds	ascii/image	13,308	9,356
Academic Universe	$ -	Paid by state funds	$ 0.37	$ 10,225.60	ascii	17,082	27,983
Applied Science & Technology Abstracts	not available	$ 3,924.00	$ 0.72	$ 4,123.00	only two months available - ascii	-	160
Art Abstracts	not available	$,729.27	$ 1.16	$ 1,917.30	only two months available - ascii	-	46
F&S (aka PROMT)	$ 6.44	$ 3,135.00	$ 15.68	$ 3,323.10	ascii/image	487	212
Academic Press IDEAL	$ 27.41	$ 23,846.00	$ 20.00	$ 25,380.00	image	870	1,269
IEL	$ 2.58	$ 79,995.00	$ 2.50	$ 84,995.00	image	31,043	34,061
JSTOR	$ 1.39	$ 7,000.00	$ 1.65	$ 7,000.00	image	5,020	4,253
OMNIFILE FullText MEGA	not available	$ 17,026.00	$ 0.38	$ 15,324.00	only two months available - ascii	-	1,120
PROLA	$ 0.29	$ 373.32	$ 0.22	$ 408.00	ascii/image	1,268	1,877
ScienceDirect	$ 10.50	$ 145,380.00	$ 7.69	$ 157,756.19	image	13,844	20,510

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