



*University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point*

## ***Teaching-Learning Resources Annual Report 2005-2006***



The Teaching Learning Resource Center (TLR) provides information resources and services, technology training, and academic tutoring across the disciplines on campus in support of student and faculty academic success. The departments and units within Teaching-Learning Resources are the University Library, the Tutoring-Learning Center, University Archives, and Assistive Technology. Below are the highlights of TLR activities and services from 2005-2006.

### **Facilities Improvements**

**Central Wisconsin's First Green Roof:** The "Green Roof", installed in June 2005 on the east side of the second floor of the Albertson Center for Learning Resources continues to grow and add to the aesthetic and energy efficiency of the LRC. A second phase of the green roof has been started on the west side of the second floor. This installation is the first green roof in Central Wisconsin.

What does a "green roof" actually do?

- Extend the life of the roof. This system protects the exterior roofing membrane against ultraviolet radiation and extreme temperature fluctuations, and puncture or physical damage from maintenance.
- Retain up to 100% of a 1-inch rainfall.
- Reduce machine, traffic, and airplane sound, minimizing the effects of noise on the building's occupants and increasing the value of the structure.
- Insulate and shade the building, reducing the heat island effect. The evapotranspiration of the plants on the green roof contributes to cooling the atmosphere in their vicinity.
- Reduce heating and cooling, resulting in a net reduction in the amount of energy required for their operation. Less energy means fewer greenhouse gas emissions from the burning of fossil fuels for energy. The plants used for the system, specifically sedums, are known to trap airborne particulates and absorb gaseous pollutants.
- Provide an oasis of green.

### **Improvements to the Library as a "Place"**

One priority for the library this year has been to evaluate the library and the TLC as a "Place". The library lobby was renovated a few years ago but nothing much has been done to improve the appearance of the facilities since it was built. Carpets are worn out, windows are dirty, walls need painting and furniture needs updating on most of the upper floors. To help alleviate some of the furniture needs, the library purchased used furniture from the UC and plans on cleaning, recovering and repurposing these items. The addition of this used furniture should reduce the financial strain of upgrading LRC furnishings. Various sample furniture was evaluated and voted on by students and staff this year. The response to patrons having a "say" in the selection of chairs was overwhelmingly positive. This year we have concentrated on upgrading the administrative offices, designing and equipping the new library café, evaluating the building needs and developing a plan for the coming years. The major points of this plan include:

- \*Work with Facilities to identify and request deferred maintenance projects.
- \*Purchase a set of sample lounge/study area furniture to for testing purposes.

- \*Develop a timeline for creating eight new/updated lounge areas for student study and gathering.
- \*Communicating and advocating for the replacement of carpet on most floors.
- \*Work with Facilities to improve the look of the grounds surrounding the LRC.
- \*Identify, inventory and/or surplus storage items which are no longer of value to the LRC.
- \*Eliminate broken and unsteady study furniture and replace study areas with small group furnishings instead of large tables.
- \*Evaluate service desks on all floor and develop a plan for upgrading or removal.
- \*Begin library and campus discussions involving the development of a teaching/learning commons.

### New Library Café Opens

Summer of 2006 marked the opening of the new “Food for Thought” LRC café. This café has been a subject of discussion for a few years, but with the closing of the UC for renovation, the needs for the café escalated. The Library collaborated with Students Services, Food Services, and various food vendors to provide a pleasant study/gathering environment where patrons can purchase packaged food (sandwiches, cookies, salads, etc.) beverages and other portable food.

A campus-wide competition was held in the spring to determine a name for the new café. Over 250 votes were received and the winning suggestion was rewarded. The winning name is “Food for Thought” Café. Furniture and café equipment was donated by the UC and the food service is managed and staffed by campus catering staff.

### LRC/ Computer Lab Hours Extended Next Year

An evaluation of service hours communicated to Library and IT staff that hours needed to be extended. The Lab hours were extended this year and the Library’s hours will be extended next year from 11:00 pm to midnight for most nights. Sunday night will continue to be open until 1:00 am during the regular terms.

### Student Art Highlighted in Library

Susan Morrison, Art faculty, worked with the library this year to display both student art and her own paintings. Susan Morrison’s painting and ceramics classes created a wall ceramic piece, clay masks, architectural pieces, and a wonderful painted divider for the café. This student art adds tremendously to the look of the library and the comments have been very complementary. Susan will work further with the library in the coming semester to create a wall painting for one of the upper floors of the LRC.

### Tutoring and Learning Center acquires more space

The Tutoring Center has been in dire need of additional space this year. The expansion of the program and the addition of services has created a critical situation that has been somewhat reduced through the relocation of some of IT services. The Library donated the old “dance studio” space in the basement to IT to create a better work area for their technicians. As a result of this move, some of the space across the hall from the Tutoring Center (used by IT) has been given to the Tutoring staff to expand student tutoring space. The new space should be ready by fall semester. In addition, the library provided two office spaces for the new computer guide program.

### Center for Teaching Excellence moves to the LRC

The new Center for Teaching Excellence has moved into office space vacated with the retirement of Maija Strumbris. This move was agreed upon in an effort to increase the collaboration between academic services and the library. It also sets the stage for future collaborations of both programs and facilities.

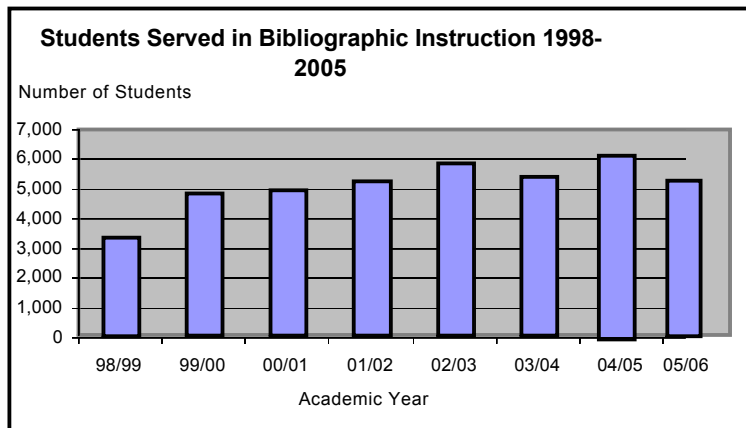
## Budget Adjustments

### The Library tightens its fiscal belt

With the cost of materials and subscriptions increasing as much as 10% and the cost of library supplies and processing materials increasing, it has come the time to evaluate all procedures, with savings in mind. The library experienced several large budget cuts last year and there is an additional \$14,000 budget cut planned for 2006-2007. The buying power of the library budgets will decrease this year and the need to evaluate all procedures and processes is even more crucial. Currently, we have retooled the library accounting procedures to more specifically track spending. Staff will be looking at postage, telephone, supply and other key areas with economy in mind. Periodical staff will be evaluating titles to determine whether there is any duplication between microfilm, paper or electronic subscriptions. It may also be necessary to cut the amount of book funds that are available to academic departments.

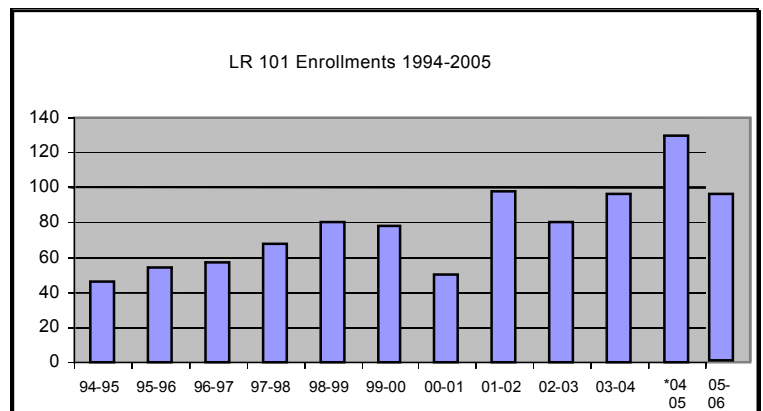
## Student-Centered Excellence

The University Library provides a rich array of print, media, and electronic resources in support of faculty and student research and academic success. The physical collections consist of almost 2 million items. Electronic access is provided to millions of other resources. Library Faculty and Staff provide



users with assistance in finding sources appropriate for their needs through individual and classroom consultation and instruction. Over 50,000 users seek individual reference assistance each year. The Library's classroom offerings consist of credit and non-credit classes offered by Library Faculty (Learning Resources 101 and Computer), and presentations for individual classes. 2005-2006 saw a decrease in the number of students served in classroom presentations over the previous year. This drop in instruction

can be attributed to a turnover in librarians and having one librarian gone on Sabbatical this year. Most of the drop of students served is a result of the Communication Department discontinuing a poetry resource instruction session required for all COM 101 students. The Communication Department determined that their teaching assistance could more efficiently



integrate this information into the regular class meetings.

In 2004-2005, the Learning Resources 101 (LR 101) class was expanded to three sections due to enrollment increases, which have risen steadily since 1994. A “hybrid” section was also added, consisting of a mix of online and classroom learning. Enrollments have declined but students who do take this course report that it is of real value to their success in classes. It is probably time to promote this course to faculty because that has not been done lately. Also this course will be promoted in the new first year seminars that are planned for this fall.

**The Tutoring-Learning Center (TLC):** The TLC is a full-service tutorial center, offering seven main programs: the Integrated Reading and Writing Program (one to one); English '57 (credit-bearing; one to one); Reading in the Disciplines Program (credit-bearing; group); Content-Area (mainly group with one to one for students with special needs); and Academic Literacies (one to one; service available to students referred by staff or faculty); TLS Writing Circles (groups; assist in selected writing-intensive university courses); and the Computers Guide Program (one-on-one program to empower the learner to problem-solve and become comfortable working with computer technology in their daily academic life).

In 2005-2006 the TLC offered tutorials to 21% of the student body. During fall 2005, 1,102 students (12,505 tutorials) participated. During spring 2005, 952 (12,656 tutorials) students participated. Comparing fall 2005 with the previous fall, TLC numbers remained constant with 6 more students served, 1,691 fewer tutorials offered and 17 more tutors participating.

**Student Retention and Success:** The TLC served 381 First-year students during fall 2005 which accounted for 35% of TLC service across all programs. It is positive that first-year students see upperclassmen—particularly the tutors themselves—also participating in tutorial learning. Novice learners do well when they model the academic behaviors of successful older students. Juniors, seniors, and grads combined accounted for 65% of TLC tutorial service in Fall 2005-2006. Limited budgets and tutoring facilities serve as a barrier to meeting all requests for tutorial service.

**Encouraging Diversity Students to Participate in Tutorials:** For Fall 2005, the TLC included one professional staff member with a learning difference serving in two of our main programs. Four peer tutors serving in four of our main programs had either a physical impairment or a learning difference. While the professional staff includes no American minorities, eleven peer tutors (8% of peer staff) serving across all four peer-led programs are members of an American minority. A number of the peer tutors self-identify themselves as either gay or lesbian. The TLC served 86 students self-identified as American minorities. This number represents 8% of the total number of students who use the TLC and 20% of the entire campus American minority population.

### **Community and Professional Outreach**

In addition to hosting and maintaining the online catalog of the Portage County Public Library, the Library's strong community partnerships also include providing wireless Internet access to the Public Library, including the main building and the Plover branch (since 1998) and providing their staff with e-mail via the UWSP Microsoft Exchange system. The wireless connection was the first of its kind (connection between a public and academic library) in the nation, and the shared catalog platform the first of its kind in Wisconsin. The University Library also hosts the Portage County Public Library's Web site, as well as the Web site and research collections of the Portage County Historical Society. The IT department took over maintenance of the wireless network connection during Spring 2006.

**Regional Professional Development Conferences:** UWSP librarians hosted the WAAL (Wisconsin Association Academic Library) conference during fall, 2005. The conference was very successful and the library hosted a well received cocktail party on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor of the LRC.

## Technology-Enhanced Learning and Research

### Library Web Site Gets a Face Lift

Librarians completed a total reworking of the library web site this year. Nerissa Nelson lead a team of librarians and tech staff to evaluated the web needs and implements changes to enhance the readability, address accessibility issues, integrate broadcast searching to the page, and to better meet the web needs of our library's users.

### Chat Reference Discontinued

An evaluation of the Chat Reference revealed to librarians that this service was not being used and did not warrant investing further resources. Chat Reference was discontinued this spring.

**Wireless Laptop Popularity Grows:** In fall 2005, the University Library's Main Checkout Desk, in cooperation with the IT services, implemented laptop checkouts in the LRC for current UWSP students. 36 laptops and accessories were made available to students, through student technology fees, for a three day loan period. This program adds to the existing faculty/student checkout program implemented last year. The laptop program has been tremendously successful this year and plans are to expand the number of laptops available to 48 for next fall.



### Collaborative Activities:

One of my priorities this year has been to look for opportunities to build relationships between the library and other teaching and learning support services. Below are examples of some of these projects/efforts:

\*Podcasting project – A collaborative project with the Center for Teaching Excellence – Involving five faculty - project that integrates digital audio and video podcasting technology into the various disciplines.

\*Grant proposals

1. OPID grant –funded - written in collaboration with the Center for Teaching Excellence to support the offering of a mini-conference on Teaching Commons during fall 2006.
2. Japan Foundation – library resource grant – Written in cooperation with History Dept. unfunded but I will reapply during fall'07.
3. UPDC Grant – Podcasting grant – unfunded.
4. Laptop checkout program – in cooperation with IT
5. Relocation of UC food and information desk services – in cooperation with Student Services.

## Faculty and Staff Changes

### Retirements/Separations:

Arne Arneson, University Library Director since 1987.

Miaja Stumbris - University Business Specialist

Dawn Hurning – TLC Receptionist

Kathy Willkom – Government Documents - LTE

Long Yang – Government Documents

### New Hires:

Dr. Kathy Davis– University Library/LRC Director

Mindy King – Periodical Librarian

Tom Reich – Collection Development Librarian

Heather Tetzlaff – University Business Specialist

Sue Marie Rendall – Government Documents

Tim Krause – TLC – Academic Literacies/Asst. Coord. Reading in Disciplines

Liz Zentner – Government Documents – Part-time staff /Library Administration – LTE

### Graduate Internship

Alyssa Cleland-UW – Milwaukee, School of Information Studies – spring 2006 (110 hours)

### Promotions

Axel Schmetzke – promoted to Full Professor

Patti Becker – promoted to Full Professor

Rob Clint – promoted to Information Processing Consultant