

Utah State University

DigitalCommons@USU

---

Marginalia

Libraries

---

Fall 2005

## Marginalia no. 18/19

Merrill-Cazier Library  
*Utah State University*

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/marginalia>



Part of the [Library and Information Science Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Library, Merrill-Cazier, "Marginalia no. 18/19" (2005). *Marginalia*. Paper 20.  
<https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/marginalia/20>

This Journal/Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the Libraries at DigitalCommons@USU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Marginalia by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@USU. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@usu.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@usu.edu).





# MARGINALIA

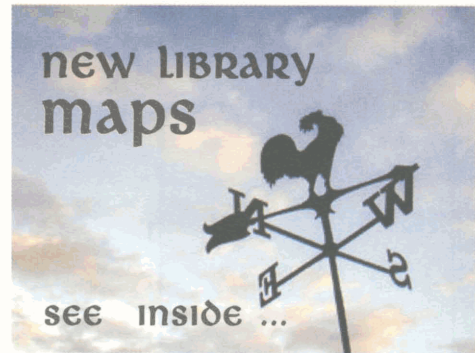
friends of utah state university libraries

## Opening a new chapter

The beginning of the 2005-2006 academic year will mark a new chapter in the history of Utah State University and its library. We will be closing the book on 75 years of service in the Milton R. Merrill Library and opening a new chapter serving the University community in a spacious and modern facility. The 200,000 square feet of new construction that replaces the Merrill Library will adjoin and integrate with the existing Stanford Cazier Science and Technology Library. Merging two libraries into one, the re-named Merrill-Cazier Library will reunite services, collections and staff under one roof.

Patrons will find an exciting, vibrant atmosphere in a building that deftly mixes the old with the new. Familiar landmarks from the Merrill Library will be moved and take on a new life. The webbed orb light fixtures created by Larry Elsner are being refurbished and will hang as inspirational sculptures over the art books area. The Proverb carving, "With all thy getting, get understanding," will again greet patrons upon entering the building. The Hatch Memorial Library Room will be relocated in an area where it will be more visible and accessible for the enjoyment of library users. And amid the new surroundings, patrons will continue to receive quality service from highly trained professionals to assist them in accessing and using information from a wide range of resources.

Respecting the past while looking to the future, the Merrill-Cazier Library turns a page on a new era of library services. Reflective of the themes that guided the Library's design, patron services are designed to facilitate interaction and collaboration, to integrate technology and focus on the users. By partnering with Network and Computing Services in the Information Commons, the Library expands on the traditional computer lab concept and enhances its own information and reference services to provide users with a one-stop research center. Other innovations include the automated book storage/retrieval system and the self-service checkout stations. Complementing the technology, the Library will offer a variety of inviting spaces in which users may work individually or in groups in areas filled with natural light, great views and comfortable seating.

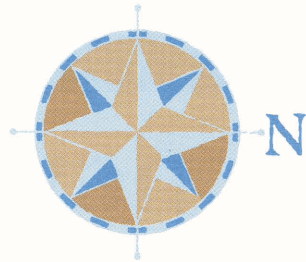


Over the years, the Merrill and Cazier Libraries have served the learning, research, and social needs of thousands of USU students. Many alumni and friends have chosen to acknowledge that vital role by contributing to the support of the Libraries. To mark this significant chapter in the University's history, we offer several unique ways to make a gift to the Library. You can underwrite the purchase of a fine wood chair for the Special Collections and Archives reading rooms or fund one of the custom-designed wood study tables that will be located throughout the study areas. Naming opportunities are also available for rooms and special areas of the Merrill-Cazier Library. Gifts of any amount are always welcome to the Library's endowment for the purchase of scholarly materials. However you choose, your gift along with those of many others will ensure that our new library serves as the intellectual center of campus for the next generation of students.

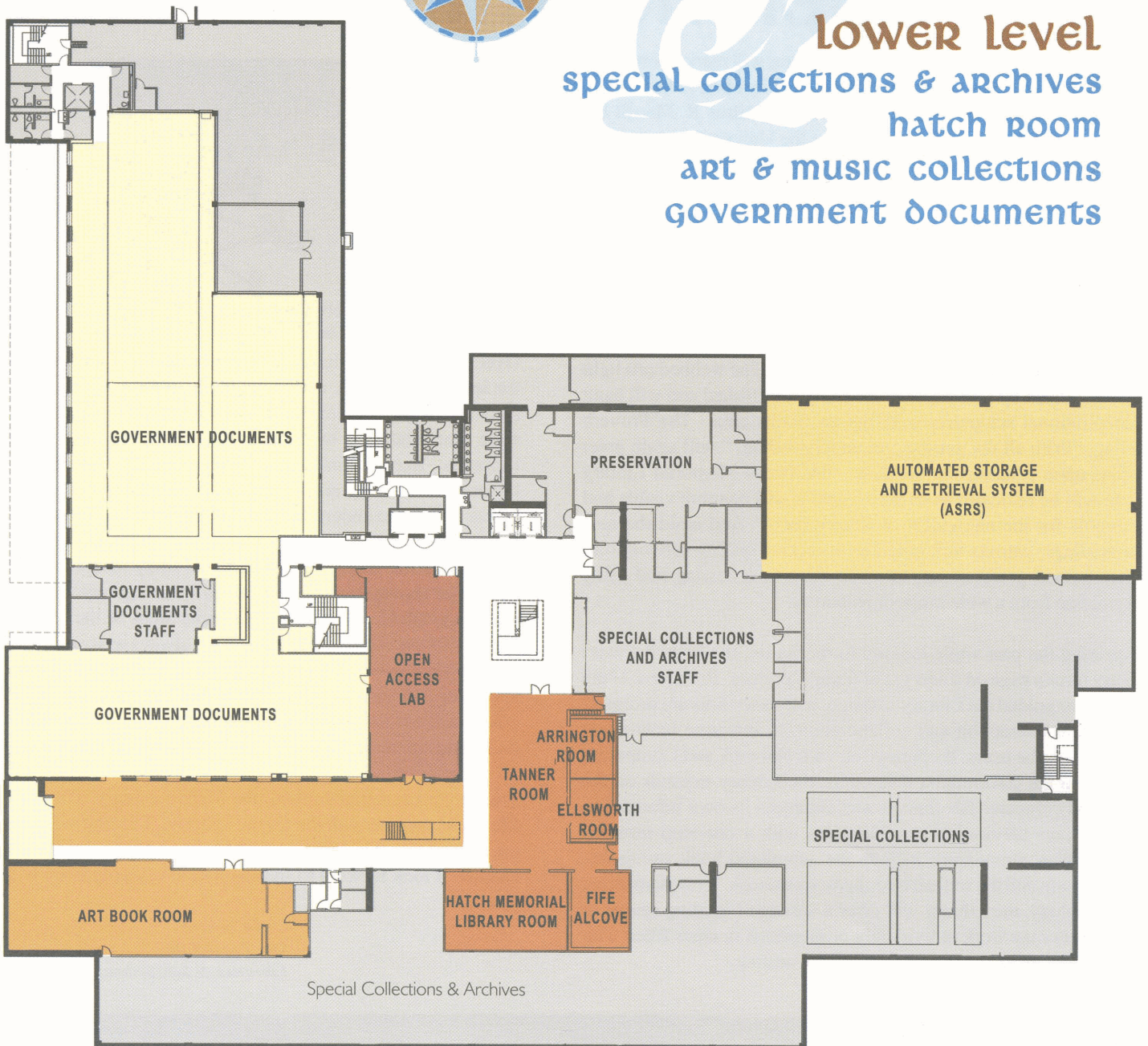
Transported and transformed, the Merrill Library will begin life anew, merged with the Cazier Library. The unified entity opens its doors this fall, and in doing so, we enter into a new chapter. I look forward to sharing that developing story with you!

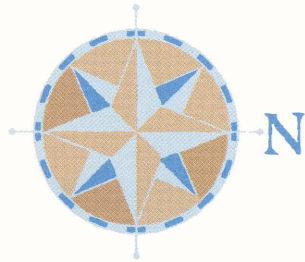
*Linda Wolcott  
Vice Provost for  
Libraries & Instructional Support*





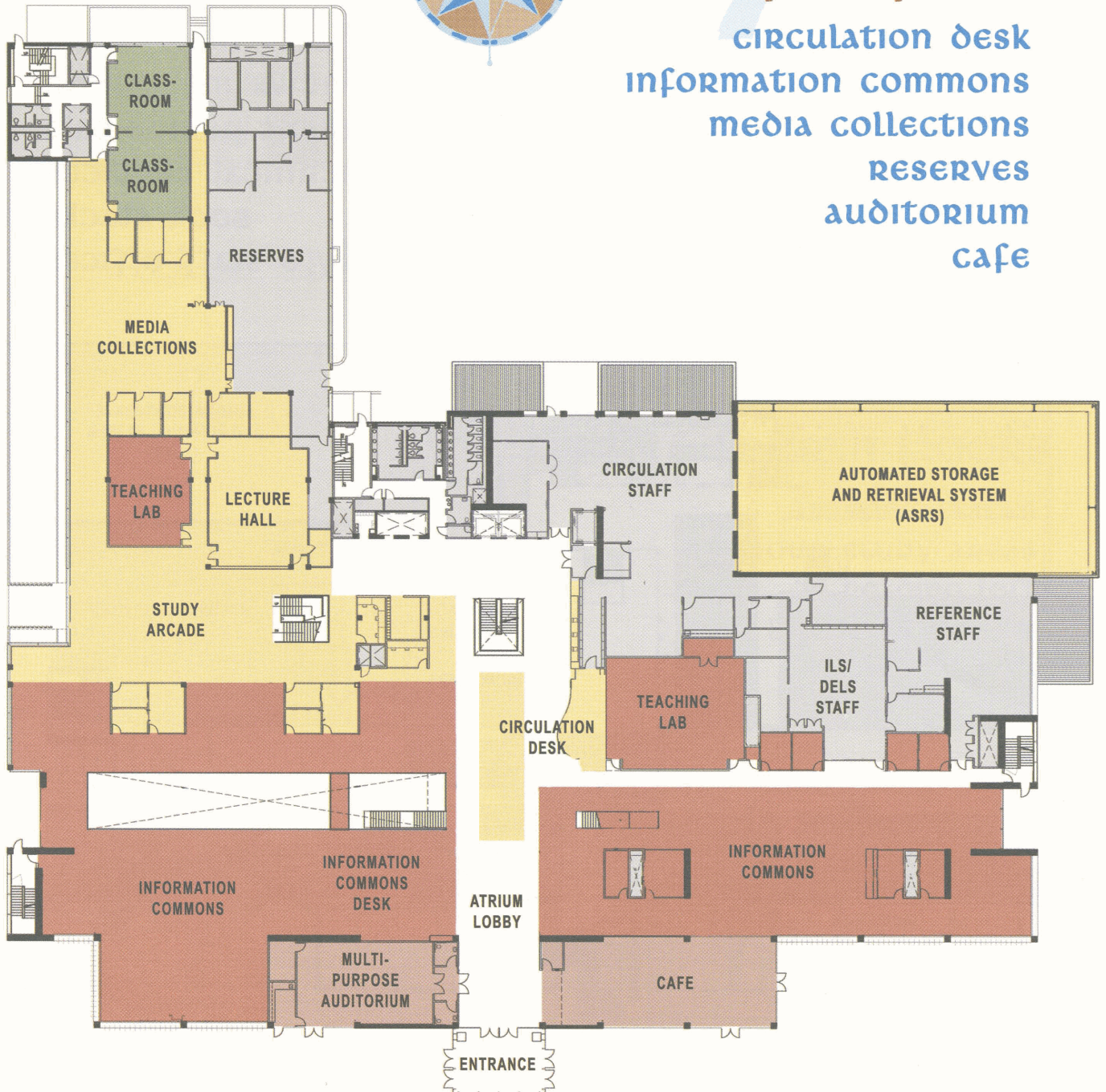
**lower level**  
special collections & archives  
hatch room  
art & music collections  
government documents





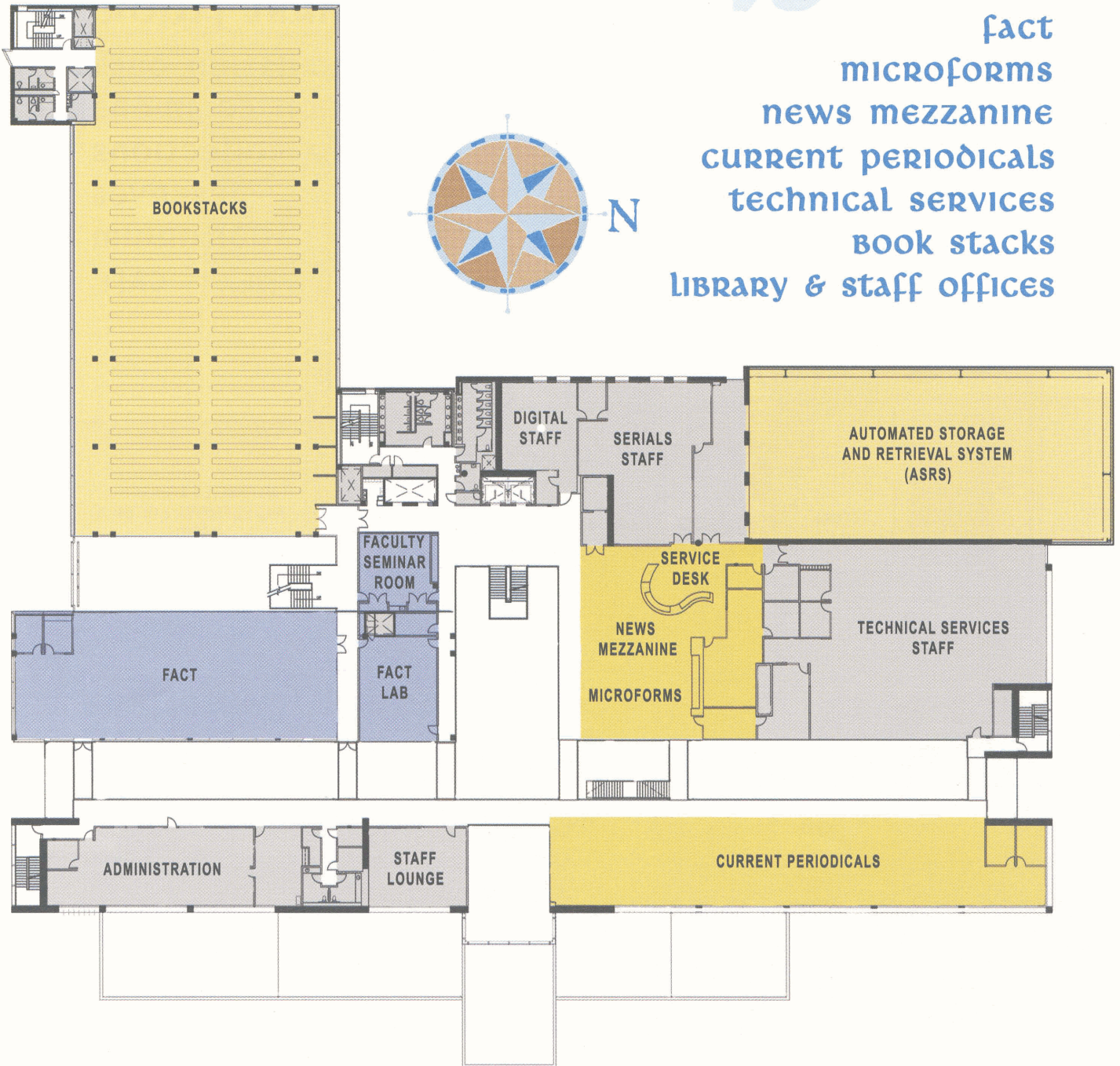
## first floor

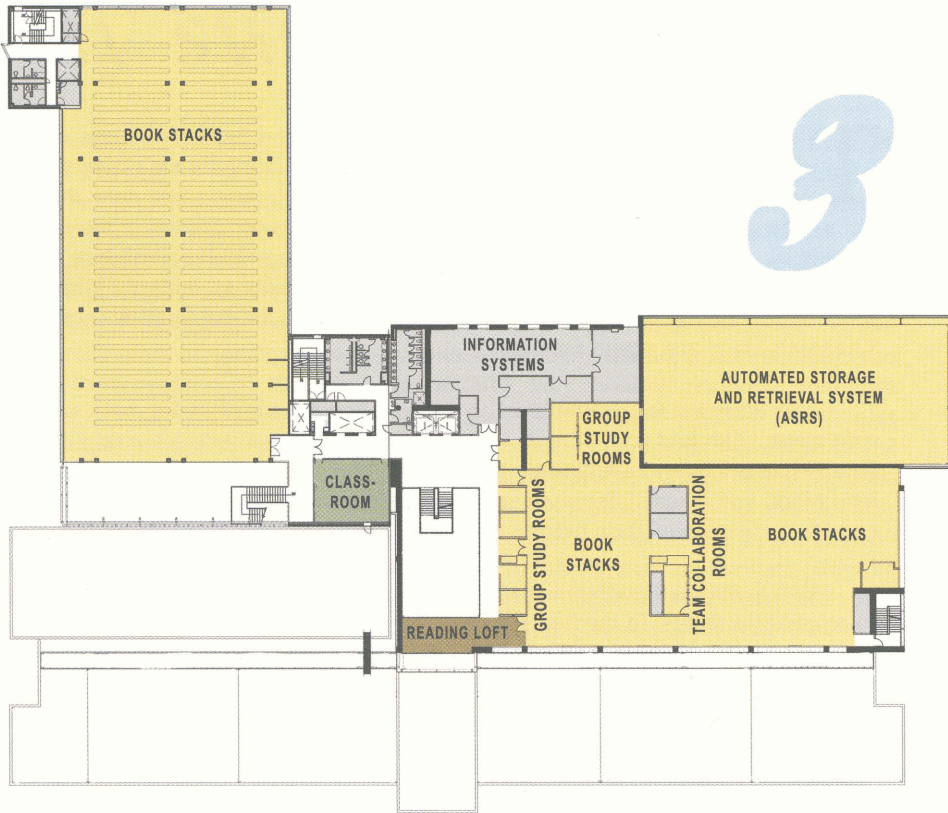
circulation desk  
information commons  
media collections  
reserves  
auditorium  
cafe



## second floor

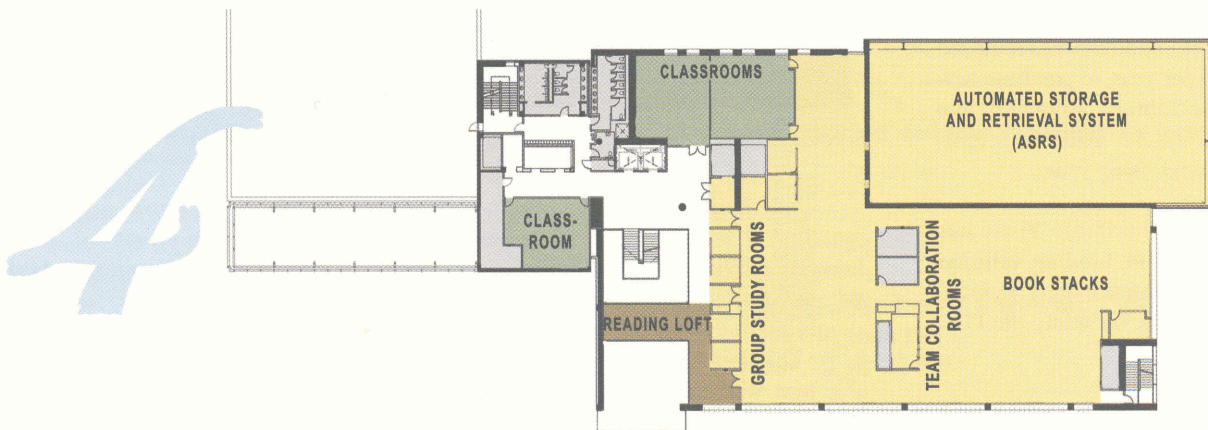
fact  
microforms  
news mezzanine  
current periodicals  
technical services  
book stacks  
library & staff offices





## third & fourth floors

- book stacks
- group study areas
- reading loft
- classrooms





**RELIGIOUS  
STUDIES  
ENDOWMENT  
FROM TANNER  
CHARITABLE  
TRUST**

The religious studies program at Utah State University has received an endowment of \$600,000 from the Tanner Charitable Trust to purchase library resources. USU History Department Head Norm Jones said the endowment came as a welcome surprise. "If you're going to offer a degree, you have to have the library resources to back it up," he said. "The budget is already under intense stress, so we knew we were going to have to come up with a way. We were delighted they met it so completely."

Jones said the new program is still going through the official process for approval, but expects to be able to enroll students by Fall 2006.

The addition of the religious studies program will increase the prestige of the University. USU will be the only university in Utah to offer an objective religious degree and one of the few in the western United States. The new program will include many courses that are already offered at USU, and thanks to the endowment, will have the funds to provide scholars with resources. "The beauty of an endowment is that the money will draw interest and keep on giving into the future," said Gary Kiger, Dean of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences.

Jones said the religious studies program will be able to use the interest gained from the \$600,000 endowment, estimated at about \$35,000 per year, to purchase new resources for the Library. Payments into the endowment will be made in installments over the next three years.

The Tanner Charitable Trust has been very generous in funding religion and humanities-oriented events at USU in the past, Jones said, including the O.C. Tanner Symposium.



By Brooke Nelson. Adapted from a January 2005 report in the *The Utah Statesman*.  
Reprinted by permission.

# SORENSEN BROTHERS to HONOR FATHER'S LOVE FOR USU

The children of A. N. Sorensen have perhaps spent more years and earned more degrees from Utah State University than any other family in the University's history. In fact, Robert N. (Bob) Sorensen, son of A. N. Sorensen, has done the arithmetic and wonders if there's another USU family out there with more degrees or more hours spent on campus. Among A. N.'s six sons and two daughters, they have received 10 degrees, and have spent more than 27,000 hours (or 28 years) on campus as students. With A. N.'s 20 years of service as one of USU's most loved professors in the English Department, the Sorensen's are a true Aggie family.

The Sorensen family continues in the true Aggie spirit of giving back to its beloved alma mater. The four sons of A. N. Sorensen recently gave a very generous gift to the new Merrill-Cazier Library to dedicate a group study room in their father's honor. Robert, Philip, John Mark, and Wendell Sorensen are proud to have a special space on campus to serve as a worthy reflection of their father's service and love for Utah State University.

Bob Sorensen describes his father as a farm boy from Mendon, Utah who went on to do remarkable things. In the late 1850's A. N.'s grandfather moved his family via covered wagon across the plains to the Great Salt Lake Valley, and in 1859 settled his pioneer family and founded the town of Mendon. A. N. was a resident of Mendon until 1920 when he



moved to Logan where he lived for the remainder of his life. After receiving his Bachelor's Degree in English at Brigham Young College in Logan in the early 1920's, A. N. was somehow able to scrape enough money together to attend Harvard University. As Bob puts it, "folks out there in Boston didn't even know where Utah was back then." A. N. received a Master's Degree in English from Harvard and studied under the renowned Shakespeare scholar, Professor George Lyman Kittredge. He later returned to Logan where he joined Utah State Agricultural College as Professor of English and Composition, serving from 1926 to 1947. A devoted Aggie to the end of his life, A. N. died in 1958 at age 79.

A. N. has been described by his students and peers as an inspirational teacher and mentor. His love for literature was eloquently

expressed in a writing titled Literature in a Modern World in which he declared:

*"I shall insist that literature in its higher reaches is not dated, not localized, not practical or merely useful; but rather, timeless and universal in its appeal. It is a clear fountain of fruitfulness; a guide, an interpreter, a comforter, an inspirer, a preserver of the soul, and a chief source of joy."*

The library is delighted to be able to dedicate space in the new building to a remarkable man who made a difference on this campus and in the lives of many students.

— Kim Winger  
Public Relations & Marketing Specialist

# JOYCE KINKEAD'S donation to fund the MAY SWENSON commemorative room

The Library recently received a generous gift and unique request from Joyce Kinkead, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Studies and Research, and Professor of English. For her generous donation, Kinkead has requested the Fourth Floor Study Lounge in the new building be named for, and dedicated to, May Swenson, a world-renown poet and USU graduate. Kinkead told us that Swenson was "one of America's great poets, and as a Logan native, she seemed a fine person to honor." Kinkead only met Swenson once at a commencement address that the poet gave here at USU, but even though the two did not know each other personally, Kinkead said that she "feels a bond, a responsibility, and a privilege to recognize her." Born in Logan in 1913, May Swenson graduated from Utah State University in 1934. Other initiatives honoring Swenson have begun in recent years on campus and around the community and are intended to help put her name in the spotlight in a number of ways. These projects include the University Press' annual Swenson Poetry Award, a summer workshop, and the Swenson Symposium. There is also the May Swenson room, which houses her writing desk and other memorabilia, in the English Department's Ray B. West building. Several USU English students are currently working to place a sign at Logan's entrance to display the words "Home of May Swenson." May Swenson died in 1989 and is buried in Logan. Many of Swenson's personal documents and artifacts are currently housed in USU's Special Collections & Archives and are brought out for occasional public viewings. Kinkead's gift will make it possible for some of these special items to be on permanent public display in the May Swenson study lounge in the new library building.



More details on May Swenson's life and work can be read at [www.usu.edu/swenson/](http://www.usu.edu/swenson/).

## yes! I would like to join friends of utah state UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES!

- Student Member  
included in student fees, upon application
- Associate Member \$25.00
- Book-of-the-Year Club \$50.00
- Semester Book Club \$150.00
- Book-of-the-Month Club \$500.00
- Benefactor \$750.00
- I would like information about naming Utah State University  
in my estate plans.
- I have already included USU in my estate plans.
- Yes, I (or my spouse) work for a matching-gift company.  
If yes, please enclose matching-gift form.  
(Or inquire about alternate USU employee payment plan)

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

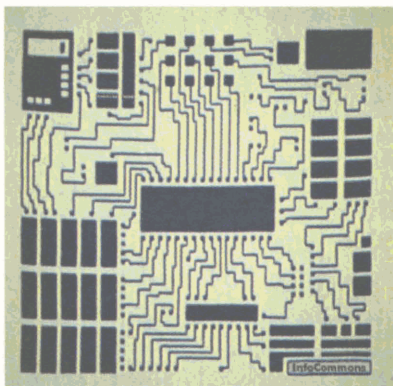
Select a category and send check and this form to:

**Friends of Utah State University Libraries**  
3000 Old Main Hill  
Logan UT 84322-3000

thank you for your support!



# the NEW information commons



## @the learning and information commons:

*The Library will host drop-in workshops to help students take advantage of the research and computing resources available.*

*Students can work collaboratively on a project in one of the 30 group study rooms; some rooms will be equipped with computer and projector for practicing presentations.*

*Students can research and type a paper at one of the 150 computers or enjoy a drink at the Quadside Café.*

*Research consultation rooms are available for librarians to provide individualized research assistance away from traffic at the information desk.*

*For those students requiring it, two workstations with assistive technology will be provided.*

Welcoming students in Utah State University's new library will be a space known as the Learning and Information Commons. Covering much of the first floor of the new library, the area will be equipped with computer workstations and the reference collection. Library and Computing staff envision this facility as a place that will support students' academic development by giving them access to information together with technological tools and expert staff. Computers, like those available in student computing labs, will enable students to use the Library's extensive online and print information sources. In addition, students can use the software on these machines for writing, working with data, and creating presentations and multimedia products. Knowledgeable staff will be on hand with computer consultants, reference librarians, and library peer mentors working cooperatively to troubleshoot software and hardware and offer guidance in information discovery and use. Library instruction sessions integrated into undergraduate and graduate courses will be held in two wired learning labs adjacent to the Information Commons.

The Learning and Information Commons will provide visitors and students a comfortable space where they may work individually, in collaboration with classmates, or with professors. An alternative to

classrooms and dormitories, the Commons will be a third space for study and writing that offers more than either a computer lab or library reference area alone. People affiliated with USU will have access not only to the Web, which is necessary to use many fee-based information sources the Library purchases, but also software such as Microsoft Office and Photoshop Elements. Reference librarians will be available to offer assistance in finding information and selecting relevant materials which students may incorporate into their writing and presentations. In our role as a land grant university, community members will have access to public computers with Internet access. In addition, wireless Internet access will be available throughout the first floor and in much of the rest of the library building.

The Library Media Collections (LMC), with group study rooms equipped with computers and multimedia development tools, will be located near the Learning and Information Commons on the first floor. Students will have the opportunity to reserve rooms to collaborate on class projects or practice presentations. Assistance in video and audio file editing and production will be available by appointment in the LMC.

Establishing the Learning and Information Commons is a joint endeavor of the Library and USU Network and Computing Services.

— Flora Shode, *Head, Reference Services*

— Britt Anna Fagerheim, *Reference Librarian*



## YOUR LIBRARY: moved ... and improved

what's going on behind  
the scenes?

The ASRS, combined with RFID barcode technology, will improve service to students and faculty by offering quick and easy access to library materials. ASRS, the Automated Storage and Retrieval Systems will warehouse lesser used volumes. Library workers have selected ASRS materials, updated & linked catalog records, and seen to a plethora of details regarding the move. Besides the obvious space-saving advantages, the ASRS will also provide quicker retrieval compared to off-site storage and better security for the materials in optimal storage conditions – protecting books from dust, moisture and temperature damage. Radio frequency identification (RFID) is a wireless form of automated identification technology. All library materials have been tagged and linked to their catalog records. The new RFID system will improve the Library's inventory control and shelving activities, as well as streamline borrowing – allowing one-motion check out with no individual scanning of items. In all, Library staff devoted some 31,285 hours to these projects.



*Marginalia* is published by Friends of USU Libraries  
Vicki Read, Editor.  
Trina Shelton, Assistant Editor  
Kathy Schockmel, Editor & Art Director  
Randy Williams, Contributing Editor  
Kim Winger, Public Relations  
Copyright 2005  
Address Correspondence to:  
Friends of USU Libraries  
Logan, Utah 84322-3000

## friends of usu LIBRARIES 2005

Blythe Ahlstrom, President  
William Lye  
Max Peterson  
Kaye Steed  
Karen Green  
Mary Gilbert Palmer  
Kenneth Godfrey  
Vicki Blanch  
Linda Wolcott, Vice Provost  
John Elsweiler  
Trina Shelton



Support  
Your  
Library

Cultivating the Minds of Our Community

## an invitation ...

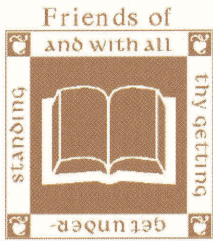
Join us for the  
*Merrill-Cazier Library*  
**RIBBON CUTTING**

**thursday, 13 OCTOBER at 12:30 p.m.**

*Tours, Food & Live Music*

*A Formal Dedication will be held in Spring 2006.*





Friends of the  
USU LIBRARIES  
3000 old main hill  
Logan, ut. 84322-3000

USU Libraries

## off the wall



For nearly 40 years, the foyer of Milton R. Merrill Library has been a place where students, faculty and community members meet in a spirit of discovery and intellectual exchange. One of the most striking features of this communal space is a wall mural by former Art Department faculty members, Everett Thorpe and Gaell Lindstrom. This brightly-colored painting titled *Allegory of Knowledge* interprets the history of the book and highlights its central role in the transmission of knowledge. The mural's composition incorporates symbols that represent the quest for knowledge and how information has been preserved and transmitted through the ages. The mural's symbols are abstract yet recognizable and include the Rosetta Stone, papyrus, movable type, the hand-press, and the evolution of printing technology. After a fundraising campaign to cover conservation costs, the mural will be installed in the new Merrill-Cazier Library.

*Rose Milovich, Curator, Special Collections Art & Art Books*