Dear Friends of Bracken Library:

In the academic year 2005–06, the Alexander M. Bracken Library will celebrate 30 years of serving the learning, teaching, and research needs of Ball State students, faculty, alumni, and the larger academic community. Bracken Library opened September 9, 1975, and had its official dedication March 26, 1976.

The first Friends newsletter stated, “Named for the president of the Ball State University Board of Trustees, the five-story, $14.9 million building occupies 321,000 gross feet and holds nearly a million volumes.”

Today University Libraries contain more than 1.5 million volumes, offer diverse electronic resources and digital collections, and see more than 3,300 students, faculty, alumni, and community members daily. Last academic year, more than 1.1 million people visited University Libraries—more than 1 million of them to Bracken alone. We have much to celebrate in our 30th year!

Throughout our 30 years, the Friends’ support through donations of books and related materials has helped build University Libraries. The idea of the group was formed during the dedication luncheon in 1976. A little more than a year later, on May 14, 1977, the Friends of the Alexander M. Bracken Library officially began with a small group meeting. By the end of the first year, membership was more than 350. This year membership exceeded 2,700, with members in nearly every state and 40 countries.

The Friends’ financial support has been equally generous. In their first year, the group donated $330. This year, the Friends donated more than $29,000, in addition to a gift of more than $70,000 from the estate of former librarian Judith Cobb and two grants totaling $20,000 from Martin and Helen Schwartz. (Read more about the generosity of Cobb, the Schwartzes, and others inside). We celebrate and appreciate the continuing support and generosity of our Friends.

The Friends has many exciting programs and other activities planned for the coming anniversary year, and I look forward to working with the Friends’ Board of Governors to explore new opportunities. You can view a calendar and other activity updates on the Friends’ Web site at www.bsu.edu/library/collections/fambl.

We hope you will join us throughout this 30th year to support the efforts of the Friends to strengthen the collections and services of University Libraries.

Sincerely,

John B. Straw
Executive Secretary
Donors Help University Libraries Grow

The following supporters made contributions of $100 or more:

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Abrell
Alexander M. Bracken Library Trust
Mr. and Mrs. Irving Arouh
Mr. and Mrs. Francis Arthur
Dr. and Mrs. W. Philip Ball
Mrs. Betty Barker
Dr. and Mrs. John Beekman
Miss Karen Blinn
Dr. and Mrs. William Bock
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bracken
Mrs. Margaret Bumb
Dr. and Mrs. Richard Burkhardt
Ms. Linda Caldwell McCleary
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Carter
Mr. and Mrs. William Catalfo
Mr. Brent Davis
Mr. and Mrs. C. Richard Douglass
Dr. E. Ruth Dunning
Dr. Daniel Edwards
Mr. and Mrs. John Fisher
Mr. and Mrs. Alan Flowers
Mr. Mark Fowler
Ms. Victoria Fox
Mr. and Mrs. William Frazier
Mrs. Donna Gentry
Mr. Richard Glass
Mr. Edward Guindon
Dr. and Mrs. Arthur Hafner
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Dr. Charles Hampel
Mrs. Wilma Hartzell
Ms. Diane Hill
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Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kersey
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Koor
Dr. John Koumoulides
Mr. Philip Lahr
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Dr. and Mrs. John Lewellen
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Dr. Joyce Meikamp
Mrs. Linda Meister-Crowder
Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Mertens
Mr. and Mrs. Jon Moll
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Dr. Lloyd Nelson
Mr. Harold Norman
Ms. Kiyoe Ohtsuka
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Dr. Charlotte Parraga
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Mr. William and Dr. Beverley Pitts
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Povalac
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Ms. Sharon Roberts
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Dr. Thomas Sargent
Dr. Emerita Schulte
Mrs. Phyllis Shelley
Dr. and Mrs. Ray Suput
Mr. Stephen Tackett
Mr. Bert Thompson
Mr. Clyde Watkins
Mrs. Marjorie Zeigler
Mrs. Carol Zuck

Retired Librarian’s Estate Funds
Genealogy, Local History Research

The estate of Judith Cobb, a retired University Libraries librarian, generously donated $71,763 to support local history and genealogy research in the Archives and Special Collections Research Center.

Cobb began her career with University Libraries as a librarian in 1971 and became a reference services librarian in 1983. She worked in this area until she retired in 2000. Cobb’s brother, Walter Cobb, informed the university of her gift and relayed her wishes about how the donation should be used.

The University Libraries staff remembers Cobb fondly and is grateful for her kind gift.

C. William Barnett Memorial Fund Established

Friends and colleagues of the late C. William (Bill) Barnett established a memorial fund in his name this year. Barnett, who passed away in 2002, was director of business services for University Libraries and was employed at Ball State for 28 years.

Hurley Goodall proposed establishing the fund to honor Barnett at a Friends’ Board of Governors meeting. Barnett had assisted Goodall with research on slave narratives and African-American history. Goodall wished to honor Barnett for his invaluable assistance and for his long and dedicated service to University Libraries and Ball State.

Barnett had a strong interest in local history and was devoted to Ball State. As a legacy to his interests, this fund will provide for the acquisition, processing, preservation, storage, and use of local and university history materials in the Archives and Special Collections Research Center.

Barnett’s wife, Pat, and his daughter, Kathy Jones, were recognized with a round of applause when the establishment of the fund was announced at the annual meeting and dinner.

The founding donors for the C. William Barnett Fund include Hurley and Fredine Goodall, Larry and Nancy Campbell, James and Judith McCoy, Robert and Suzanne Rice, Walter and Julia Sumner, John and Connie Straw, Nancy Turner, and Michael and Mary Elizabeth Wood.

Donations to the C. William Barnett fund can be made through the Ball State University Foundation.
Martin and Helen Schwartz Honored

Martin and Helen Schwartz were recognized at the Friends’ annual dinner with a certificate of appreciation for their long-time generous support of University Libraries.

Several years ago, the Schwartzes donated funds to help the Archives and Special Collections Research Center make prints of more than 2,000 photographic negatives taken by newspaper columnist and local historian Dick Greene.

As a result of their generosity, those photographs have been a resource for local history enthusiasts as well as local and national journalists, scholars, faculty, and students. Recently the library digitized the photographs to make them available online through the University Libraries’ Digital Library Initiative.

The Schwartzes also made a major donation establishing the Nancy Turner Fund to recognize Turner’s service to University Libraries, the local community, and Ball State. Turner retired as head of Archives and Special Collections in 1998.

And the Schwartzes’ generosity and support continues. In 2004, they donated the Martin Schwartz Papers and Schwartz Paper Company records to Archives and Special Collections. In an interview for the Muncie Star Press about his donation, Martin Schwartz joked that he didn’t realize that he didn’t throw anything away.

“We are certainly glad he didn’t [throw anything away] because the collection provides a wealth of research material and opportunities to support the learning, teaching, and research of students, faculty, and others,” said Archivist John Straw.

Recently the Schwartzes gave two $10,000 grants to University Libraries through the Muncie Community Foundation. One grant supports the purchase of rare books and manuscript material for the Archives and Special Collections Research Center, and the other provides for the translation, transcription, and digitization of the Felsenstein Family Papers that document the lives of a German-Jewish family during World War II and the Holocaust.

“We are indebted to Martin and Helen Schwartz for their outstanding support of the University Libraries,” said University Libraries Dean Arthur Hafner.

Friends’ Donations Benefit University Libraries

In addition to a generous donation from the late Judith Cobb, Friends donated more than $29,000 last year—a 45 percent increase from 2003—making the total gifts during 2004 to University Libraries $101,338.

Donors also made several gifts-in-kind. The following are a few examples of that generosity:

- Douglas Triplett gave his collection of more than 6,000 books, primarily about military history.
- Werner and Helga Stein contributed a collection of 48 Leo Baeck Institute yearbooks, 17 Leo Baeck bulletins and lectures, and 14 other books about German-Jewish history.
- John Vann gave 292 issues of marketing and consumer research journals.
- Sigrid Koehler donated 200 books about architecture and foreign languages.
- Peter McAllister gave 402 musical scores for guitar.
- Jocelyn Mackey donated 125 books, primarily about music history.
- Henry Womak gave 74 classical music CDs and DVDs.
- Paul Laseau gave 94 books about architecture, psychology, and other topics.
- Joseph Freadlin donated an 18-volume set of The Novels, Tales, and Plays of John Galsworthy.
- Tetsumaro Hayashi gave the Lotte Graeffe Collection of Japanese Literature and Prints accumulated by his late friend.
- Patti Gillespie and Kenneth Cameron donated their collection of photographs documenting the history of theater.
- Sharon Ware donated the glass negative collection, including the Emma Pittenger negatives, of her late husband Richard L. Ware.
- Frank and Carole Felsenstein gave a collection of Thomas Mann books in honor of Vera Felsenstein.
- Bill Willson of British Columbia donated Sir Norman Angell materials.
- Jocelyn Mackey donated 125 books, primarily about music history.
- Sharon Ware donated the glass negative collection, including the Emma Pittenger negatives, of her late husband Richard L. Ware.
- Frank and Carole Felsenstein gave a collection of Thomas Mann books in honor of Vera Felsenstein.
- Bill Willson of British Columbia donated Sir Norman Angell materials.
- Dawn Lee Patrick donated 42 local history books and archival materials.
- The Wapahani Council of the Girl Scouts deposited their archives.
- E. Bruce Geelhoed gave his papers from his time as director of the Center for Middletown Studies.
- Marie Fraser donated her papers related to Ball State University and local history.
- E. Bruce and Kathleen Kirkham gave additions to his papers and Harriet Beecher Stowe books.
- Former Ball State President John Pruix and his wife, Angie, donated papers from his tenure as president as well as 77 books about history and other topics.

Read the Library Insider each month to keep up-to-date about University Libraries’ activities and accomplishments at www.bsu.edu/library/virtualpress/libinsider.
Members of the Friends’ Board of Governors give their time, guidance, and commitment to support and strengthen Ball State University Libraries.

Four Board of Governors members completed their terms in 2004–05. Miriam Bales, John Beckman, Hurley Goodall, and Betty Harris-Hillery received certificates of appreciation at the annual dinner.

The Board welcomed new members Bea Moten-Foster, Tom Schnuck, Steven Turpin, and Earl Williams. Returning members are Jayne Bielke, Libby Campbell, Nancy Carlson, Jack Carmichael, Gretchen Cheesman, Dorothy Danner, and Frank Felsenstein. For profiles of the Board members, visit www.bsu.edu/library/virtualpress/libinsider.

In 2004–05, the Board of Governors authorized $9,000 toward the purchase of a digital content management system to enable University Libraries to develop the Digital Library Initiative.

The Digital Library Initiative provides a centralized, coordinated, and user-focused resource to serve the teaching, learning, and research needs of students, faculty, and researchers at Ball State and beyond. It serves as a means to bring together the digital collections and activities of University Libraries in a single, cohesive, and accessible Web-based environment that also provides access to external digital resources. To access the Digital Library Initiative, go to libx.bsu.edu.

The Friends sponsored five entertaining and informative programs last year, beginning in October with Kathy Lee and Norma Lasley of the Delaware County Historical Society presenting “Gas Lamps, Steinway, and Three Generations: The Moore-Youse Family and Home.”

In November, Pamela Harwood, associate professor of architecture, and Nils Jaeger, architecture graduate student, presented “Cultural Landscapes of Indiana: The Gas Boom,” including the premier of their DVD about Muncie and Delaware County during the gas boom that started in 1886.

In February, Michael Smith, director of the National Museum of Model Aviation, gave an entertaining program on “The History of Model Aviation.” He brought from the museum, located in Muncie, several examples of model airplanes, some of which are now on display in Bracken Library.

In March, more than 80 people attended “‘It Can’t Happen Here?’ Nazi Propaganda, the Holocaust, and the Ku Klux Klan” by Frank Felsenstein, Reed D. Voran Honors Distinguished Professor in the Humanities, and several of his students. The program included a student-created exhibit in the Archives and Special Collections Research Center and other student projects from Felsenstein’s honors class about the Holocaust.

The Friends ended the academic year in April by co-sponsoring a talk with the Center for Middletown Studies by Christine Pawley, a professor at University of Iowa’s School of Library and Information Science. Pawley’s topic was “Reading Records: Prospects and Possibilities in the History of Print Culture.”

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Five outstanding students received $100 and certificates at the Friends’ annual dinner:

- Chaz Estell, a Muncie native, has worked in Library Information Technology Services since February 2004. He is a sophomore computer science major with a 4.0 grade point average.
- Jeff Ketter, from Greenfield, Indiana, has worked in Library Information Technology Services since fall 2003. He is a senior general studies major with a 3.8 grade point average.
- Alex Lindeman, from Troy, Ohio, has worked in Circulation since April 2003. He is a senior history major with a 3.7 grade point average.
- Erin Rietz, from Tipton, Indiana, has worked in Periodical Reserves and Microforms since January 2004. She is a senior journalism major with a 3.7 grade point average.
- Lisa Swander, a Muncie native, has worked in Interlibrary Loan Services since January 2004. She is a senior education major and has a 3.96 grade point average.

Scharnhorst Speaks at Annual Dinner

More than 70 Friends attended the annual meeting and dinner April 6. After the business meeting, alumnus Gary Scharnhorst, who earned his master of arts degree in English in 1973, delivered the Kirkham Lecture.

Scharnhorst is a professor of English at the University of New Mexico. The Ball State Department of English and the Virginia B. Ball Center for Creative Inquritry co-sponsored his visit.

Scharnhorst’s topic “In Defense of Literary Biography” was based on his essay “The Resurrection of the Author: Why Biography Still Matters” that appeared in Lives Out of Letters: Essays on American Literary Biography and Documentation in Honor of Robert N. Hudspeth.

A copy of the talk accompanies this newsletter, and a copy and how to order the full essay will be available on the Friends’ Web site at www.bsu.edu/library/collections/fambl.