Evidence of the Ball State University Libraries as a learning destination is seen daily when walking through the doors of Bracken Library or either of the two branch libraries, and experiencing the bustling atmosphere of students, faculty, alumni, and others taking advantage of the wide range of emerging technologies, the comfortable and welcoming environment, and outstanding customer services.

The significant increases in the number of students and others passing through the libraries’ turnstiles each day attest to the success as a destination. The daily turnstile count is now about 6,600 during the academic semesters, and the annual count grew from about 807,600 in 2003-2004 to more than 1,600,000 in 2011-2012, an increase of 98% since 2002. Elements of the University Libraries’ growth agenda include:

• Open hours until 3 a.m. five days each week, and library resources available online 24/7. For convenience, the libraries are always open online.
• Friendly and knowledgeable librarians available to help students with research projects and class assignments in person, by instant messenger, via phone, or through email.
• Access to a wide variety of digital content and print resources for learning, instruction, and research. Resources include more than 1,000,000 print volumes, millions of scholarly full-text articles online, and over 500,000 digital assets, as well as electronic and print document delivery services for easy and quick access.
• A comfortable, friendly environment for students and faculty with spaces for collaborative and individual study sessions, presentation practice, interaction with colleagues and friends, and much more.
• The best in desktop computing technology conveniently located for use by students, faculty, and staff, including PCs, Macs, scanners, high-quality laser printing, and access to all the common software used on campus.
• Easy one-stop online access for students and faculty to the University Libraries’ vast collections and millions of global resources through a single, simple-to-use search tool on the libraries’ website.

All these factors make the University Libraries a central learning and research destination for students, faculty, alumni, and friends.

The information presented here, correct at the time of publication, is subject to change. Ball State University practices equal opportunity in education and employment and is strongly and actively committed to diversity within its community.

FROM THE DEAN OF UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

By Dr. Arthur W. Hafner

www.bsu.edu/library

Board of Governors Recognized for Commitment and Service

The Board of Governors for the Friends of the Alexander M. Bracken Library are a group of dedicated supporters of the University Libraries who give of their time and talents to help establish goals and coordinate functions of the Friends.

At the annual dinner on April 9, 2013, six new members were welcomed to the board as they began their three-year terms: John Bower, J. Andrew Dale, Christopher Flook, John McCreevy, Brenda Williamson, and student member Nichole Pena.

Completing their three years of service on the board were Stephen Bell, Robert Hall, Michel Mournay, William Morgan, and Marjorie Ziegler. Tricia Johnson completed two one-year terms as the student member on the board.

Continuing board members are Lindsey Arthur, Mary Carter, Patrick Collier, Eileen Joschko, Todd Murray, and Linda Needham.

David Bahrannet retired in January 2013 after serving as president and chief executive officer of the Ball State University Foundation since 1990. A true Friend of the Libraries during his tenure, he served as an ex-officio member of the board. His wit and many contributions to the board will be greatly missed. We are pleased to welcome Cheri O’Neill, the foundation’s new president and chief executive officer, as an ex-officio member of the Friends’ board of governors.

Programs Focus on Early Indiana Politics, Turkish Synagogues, Historical Preservation, and Student Artwork

In 2012-13, the Friends sponsored three entertaining and informative programs, along with a student exhibit opening and reception.

Our first program for the academic year featured Andrew Olson speaking on “The Politics of Third Party and Fringe Figures in Pioneer and Civil War Indiana: The Political Career of David Kigelle” on September 25, 2012.

On February 18, 2013, Bill Morgan, historic preservation officer for the City of Muncie, presented a program on “From Magic City to Shrinking City: Synagogues in Turkey: Ancient and Ottoman” on November 7, 2012.

The Friends hosted a reception in Archives and Special Collections on September 25, 2012.

On April 1, 2013, for the opening of a student art exhibit in Bracken Library entitled “There is Art in Here,” which featured artwork by students in ART 332 taught by Jacinda Russell. The works were inspired by and based on students’ impressions of the University Libraries’ collections.

Many of the people who contact me have been long-time Friends and donors to the libraries. They appreciate the libraries’ efforts to preserve and make accessible history they lived through and even participated in as evidenced by the films. These digitized moving images have moved them. As we view these digitized films, I am reminded of the bonds between the University Libraries and our Friends and donors that have grown stronger over the years. Seeing the faces of the early supporters, many who continue to support us still today, brings that history and connection into focus. Our Friends and donors have been here as the libraries and the university have grown and changed. You can see it in the moving images. Their continuing support and interest is evident when they contact us as we achieve success in new endeavors such as the film digitization project. They tell us how much they appreciate all we do. That is very moving.

Thank you for all you do for the University Libraries through your support and donations. I hope you enjoy reading in this newsletter about the activities and contributions of our Friends, and the success of the libraries in serving Ball State students, faculty, alumni, and Friends. As always, Dean Arthur W. Hafner and I welcome your comments, suggestions, and ideas.

Sincerely,

John B. Straw
Executive Secretary

Dear Friends of Bracken Library,

Moving images move us. The written word certainly informs, educates, communicates, and inspires, but moving images (films, videos, DVDs, all past and future formats) can have strong effects on us, igniting memories and feelings in different ways than reading words on a page or screen.

During the past couple of years, I witnessed this phenomenon on several occasions as the University Libraries progressed on a project to digitize and provide online access to 16mm films documenting community and university events primarily from the 1960s and 1970s. I hear from people who see their friends and relatives, and even their own younger selves, in these films that have been sitting in the archives for years but now have new life through digitization.

Many of the people who contact me have been long-time Friends and donors to the libraries. They appreciate the libraries’ efforts to preserve and make accessible history they lived through and even participated in as evidenced by the films. These digitized moving images have moved them.

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Sincerely,

John B. Straw
Executive Secretary

FROM THE DEAN OF UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

By Dr. Arthur W. Hafner

www.bsu.edu/library

FRIENDS OF THE ALEXANDER M. BRACKEN LIBRARY

NEWSLETTER 2012–13

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Join us for the 2014 Friends of the Alexander M. Bracken Library Annual Dinner on the evening of April 2 at the Ball State Alumni Center.

KEEP UP TO DATE with the Friends of Bracken Library news on the web!

http://tinyurl.com/BrackenLibraryFriends

FRIENDS OF THE ALEXANDER M. BRACKEN LIBRARY BOARD OF GOVERNORS

BOARD MEMBERS

Lindsey Arthur
John Bower
Mary Carter
Patrick Collier
J. Andrew Dale
Christopher Flook
Eileen Joschko
John McCreevy
Todd Murray
Linda Needham
Brenda Williamson
Nicolle Pena
EX-OFFICIO

Arthur W. Hafner
Cheri O’Neill
John B. Straw

STUDENT MEMBER

Nichole Pena
Annual Dinner Features Presentation on Storm Chasing

At the 2000 annual meeting of the Friends, then-Provost and President of the Board of Governors Warren Vander Hall announced that “future presentations to the Friends Annual Dinner shall be known as the Kirkham Lecture to recognize E. Bruce Kirkham’s 25 years of service as the founding executive secretary of the Friends of Bracken Library.”

David Call, assistant professor of geography at Ball State, delivered the Kirkham Lecture at the Friends’ annual dinner on April 9, 2013. In a presentation entitled “Storm Chasing at Ball State: Reflections After Five Years and 45,000 Miles,” Call described his students’ experiences as storm chasers, learning to forecast, observing storms, and experiencing the Great Plains. He and the students drive hundreds of miles each day to “target locations” to see what develops. Sometimes nothing happens at all, but sometimes they do see tornades.

Call said that while most of the time the tornades are not impressive, since they are often short-lived and it is difficult to get into the perfect viewing position, students always see some amazing storm structure, rotating clouds, and various other weather phenomena. He concluded that “the massive supercells of the Great Plains are awesome displays of nature’s power and beauty, and that makes the hassles of driving and being on the road for weeks at a time worth it.”

Call is in his sixth year at Ball State. He earned his meteorology degree from Penn State and his advanced degrees in geography from Syracuse University. He teaches classes in physical geography, broadcast meteorology, severe local storms, forecasting, and storm chasing. His research examines how society copes with blizzards and ice storms. Since 2011, Call has also been the severe weather expert for WTHR TV 13. In his spare time he enjoys fixing up his house, restoring antique traffic lights, and trying to catch up on sleep as he and his wife, Nichole, have 5-month old baby.

The 51 attendees at the annual dinner also heard brief remarks from Cheri O’Neill, president and chief executive officer of the Ball State University Foundation. O’Neill, a 1989 Ball State graduate and a 23-year higher education veteran, began her new position on January 1, 2013. Prior to joining Ball State, she served as executive director of the Alpha Chi Omega national women’s fraternity, the Alpha Chi Omega Foundation, and the Alpha Chi Omega National Housing Corporation. She began her career as an admissions officer at St. Mary-of-the-Woods College and then served in several positions at Indiana University, including major gifts director for IU’s largest school, the College of Arts and Sciences.