Welcome to Check it Out, Indiana University Kokomo Library’s newly revamped newsletter, back after a four-year hiatus. I recently completed my first year as Dean of the IU Kokomo Library and I am pleased to have the opportunity to share some of the library’s news and accomplishments with you.

In the past 12 months we...

- Welcomed two new staff members who came onboard to fill open positions
  - Cynthia Lipken, Electronic Resources Assistant & Department Secretary
  - Christina Fivecoate, Access Services Supervisor
- Celebrated Janine Stanley’s 30 years with the IU Kokomo Library
  - Janine is our Technical Services Assistant, she ensures that library materials are ordered, processed and catalogued so that we can find them in IUCAT
- Hosted the Howard County Reads author program and VIP reception
  - Associate Librarian Ria Lukes represented our library in the partnership with Kokomo-Howard County Public Library and Greentown Public Library to plan the Howard County Reads program
- Presented thematic displays on a variety of topics
  - Librarian Diane J. Bever creates a new display every month for the case just inside the library’s entrance; this month the library’s archives are highlighted (for an interesting story about our archives and our archivist, Diane J. Bever, see the September/October issue of Heartland magazine, pp. 38-41: [http://www.joomag.com/magazine/heartland-sept-oct-2014/0290685001409167228?short](http://www.joomag.com/magazine/heartland-sept-oct-2014/0290685001409167228?short))
- Partnered with 8 area school groups (~200 students) to introduce college-level research
  - Assistant Librarian Yan He has developed relationships with several schools in the Kokomo area; she recently started working with students in the Kokomo High School International Baccalaureate program on a year-long project
- Conducted research related to the role of the library in students’ academic success
  - Assistant Librarian Angie Thorpe initiated this IRB-approved project and is the primary investigator; she is currently leading the data analysis and reporting phases of the project
- Threw a party to celebrate National Library Week!

While there is quite a bit of discussion about the role of the academic library in higher education, generally, our library (and many others) find that our users still see the campus library as the primary place to find resources for their teaching, learning and research. In our library, specifically, the library’s “gate count” (that’s the number of people who pass through the library entrance gates) surged by almost 20,000 during the 2013-14 academic year after holding fairly steady over the previous four years! I hope this upward trend continues, but whether or not it does, I am confident that the use of our resources will continue to grow. (continued on page 3)

“We welcome your input on what you would like to see on the first floor of the library.”
More and more of our users visit us remotely and I expect this trend will continue – especially if enrollments in online courses increase. It is very interesting to note that in addition to increased traffic in the library’s building, we have also seen increases in remote access to our resources this past year. At the end of the 2014 academic year, our statistics showed a significant increase in Website sessions, EZproxy logins, and e-resources access. Here are a few of those statistics:

- EZproxy logins: 24,501 (up 27.5% from Spring 2013)
- LibGuides pageviews: 47,275 (up 53.7% from Spring 2013)
  - Top 3 LibGuides viewed in 2014:
    - Databases A-Z – 21,134 total views
    - Databases by Subject – 4,825 total views
    - Nurse Theorists & Nursing Theories – 2,604 total views
- More than 206,000 full-text downloads in 2014
- Nearly 34,000 successful book section requests in 2014

An increase in full-text downloads is not surprising when you consider that we pay for only 13 current periodical subscriptions in paper format (5 newspapers, 5 magazines, 3 journals); by contrast we have access to more than 89,000 electronic periodicals and over 500,000 e-books through our databases and direct e-subscriptions! In fact 75% or the library’s budget now goes toward acquiring electronic resources – databases, e-journals, e-books, and streaming videos. Now we are ramping up our individual e-book selection for the benefit of students enrolled in online courses and to slow the growth of the library’s physical collection in order to limit the floor space required for our collections. However, we must be mindful to balance the acquisition of e-books and physical (paper) books because our users’ adoption of e-books is growing rather slowly. Many of our students express a preference for the tangible format.

We are currently planning enhancements to the first floor of the library to make our space even more welcoming and comfortable for our users. Our goal is to offer more soft seating for lounging and comfortable study, furniture configurations conducive to group work, and study rooms for a variety of uses. We welcome your input on what you would like to see on the first floor of the library.

A big “thank you!” goes to everyone in the library who contributed articles and background information for Check It Out and especially to Cynthia Lipken who got the ball rolling and engaged two of the library’s student assistants, Jason Benzinger and Martha Young, to create the layout and final product. Thanks also to the IU Kokomo Media and Marketing staff who worked with Cynthia to design the new Check It Out masthead.

Watch the library’s homepage (www.iuk.edu/library) to find helpful tips for doing research and announcements of upcoming events, displays and festivities.

Enjoy Check It Out!

Polly Boruff-Jones
Want to raise your GPA?

IU Kokomo Library study links library usage with higher GPAs

The library faculty conducted an IRB (Institutional Review Board) approved pilot research study during the 2013-2014 academic year. We recorded the usernames of students who used library services, including the Ask A Librarian service desk, library instruction sessions, and Request Delivery service from other IU campuses. We also encouraged students to submit an informed consent form to authorize the use of demographic data. During Summer 2014, we aggregated and validated the username data, obtained demographic data from the campus Office of Information Management, and tallied transaction counts for all evaluated library services. Using just the data from those students who submitted the informed consent form, the initial results suggest a correlation between student use of the library and higher GPAs, as well as higher retention rates. We are currently writing up our findings, and we look forward to sharing our results with the campus community during the 2014-2015 academic year. We also hope to conduct a more robust extension study in academic year 2015-2016.

— Angie Thorpe, on behalf of co-investigators
   Diane J. Bever, Yan He, and Ria Lukes

Alert!

Cite tools may not always be accurate.

It is wonderful that many of the library database resources include a citation tool that allows you to choose a style (MLA, APA, etc.), and the database will format your citation in the style you choose. The only problem is that sometimes this doesn’t work correctly. Sometimes it is because the database has not incorporated the newest edition of the applicable style manual. The solution is to always double check the citation, and make sure that it is the correct style. The Library has copies of current style manuals, and Writing Center tutors can assist students with questions they might have related to citations.

— Diane J. Bever

Referencing the New Generation

A group of nineteen IB (International Baccalaureate) students and teachers from Kokomo High School visited the library in the afternoon of October 10. They had a library tour and met library faculty, staff, and student assistants. They also had an interactive information literacy session in one of the library classrooms, learning how to search IUCAT and databases. IB students enjoyed their first visit here, and they felt well-oriented with library services and resources. They will keep coming back (individually or as a class) to access library resources and get reference help on research theses during this academic year.

— Yan He

Where am I located?
If you find me, come to the Circulation Desk to claim your prize!
(Offer ends 11-30-14)
Meet your Librarians

Diane J. Bever, Reference and Information Services Librarian
Diane can often be found at the Ask A Librarian Service Desk assisting students with their information needs. She was honored last spring for 35 years of service to the IU Kokomo Library.

Fun Fact: A recent article in the September-October 2014 Heartland (North Central Indiana lifestyle magazine) highlights the Indiana University Kokomo campus archives, which she manages.

Yan He, Information Literacy Librarian
Yan coordinates and teaches information literacy sessions for IU Kokomo students and visiting high school groups. She also staffs the Ask A Librarian desk in the library and offers research consultations for students and library users.

Fun Fact: The hometown where she grew up is in the middle of China and was the capital of the Song Dynasty more than one thousand years ago. If you visit the city today, you can still see historical resorts, such as the Emperor’s Palace, the royal temple, and the Iron Tower.

Ria Lukes, Technical Services Librarian
Ria evaluates, selects, acquires, and maintains the information resources provided by the library. Currently she is working on an extensive project that will enhance access to e-books.

Fun Fact: She is a trained weather spotter and has, in conjunction with her husband, who is a ham radio operator, identified and reported severe weather such as the tornado that damaged Taylor High School and a cold funnel that did damage in Tipton County.

Angie Thorpe, Digital User Experience Librarian
Angie manages the library’s electronic resources from pre- to post-acquisition, as well as the library’s website. She is currently researching user behavior in the discovery service (EDS) and how use of library services impacts student GPAs and retention rates.

Fun Fact: She is a big football fan, originally from Wisconsin, so she cheers for the Badgers and the Packers.

Gail MacKay, Associate Librarian Emeritus (Information Literacy)
While officially retired, Gail fills in on Mondays and Tuesdays at the Ask A Librarian service desk and from time-to-time works with classes on information literacy instruction.

Fun Fact: In keeping with her library instruction background, Gail is also currently preparing or updating a few LibGuides, the Library’s web-based online guides/handouts.

Carole Petro, Part-Time Reference Librarian
Carole usually work two evenings a week at the Ask a Librarian Service desk and is available to assist users with questions related to how to use the library resources.

Fun Fact: She loves gardening and outside yard work, and in 2013 became a Howard County Master Gardener after completing a course through the Purdue Extension. She loves to travel and in 2012 was able to go to Tanzania. She worked with children in an orphanage outside Arusha and went on a safari to the Serengeti National Park.
Meet the support staff

**Christina Fivecoate, Access Services Supervisor**
Christina is responsible for the Access Services Department, which encompasses circulation, reserves, request delivery, and interlibrary loan. She is the direct supervisor of the Library Student Assistants, who staff the Circulation/Reserves Service Desk.

Fun Fact: Occasionally she subs at the Kokomo-Howard County Public Library, at either the reference desk or computer lab, and spends time with her family. She is currently reading *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury, in honor of Banned Books Week.

**Janine Stanley, Technical Services Assistant**
Janine’s main responsibility is the purchasing of books for the library and upon receipt, cataloging them. Currently she is working on an extensive project of withdrawing print books based on certain criteria as the library continues moving to a virtual library.

Fun Fact: She enjoys creating greeting cards, Christmas cards, and other holiday cards through various techniques including, but not limited to, stamping, die cutting, and embossing.

**Cynthia Lipken, E-Resources Assistant/Departmental Secretary**
Cynthia assists the Digital User Experience Librarian in maintaining user access to e-resources and also serves as departmental secretary.

Fun Fact: She served on the jury that convicted the first person in Texas, and possibly the world, ever charged with planting a computer virus that eliminated 168,000 sales commission records.

**Think you know your scientists?**
Try this fun interactive game from *Scientific Reports* Eye Sci to try and figure out the names of 50 scientists. Click the picture below to start testing your knowledge!

Check out these science subject Library Guides

⇒Chemistry
⇒Environmental Science
⇒Health Sciences
⇒Nursing

For additional subject Library Guides visit: [iuk.libguides](https://iuk.libguides.com)
In the News!

Changes to New IUCAT

Coming this December are some changes to the new IUCAT, including an updated look and feel, the ability to limit by item location (for example, Stacks or Reference), the function to review “new titles”, and “My Account” interface improvements. As of October 19th, a preview site with new features is available! Access the preview site using the banner in IUCAT. Please share with us your thoughts, and let us know if you have any questions.

— Yan He, Ria Lukes, and Angie Thorpe

IU Kokomo Library Participates in the Howard County Reads (HCR) Program

And the 2014 HCR Book Is...

Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline has been named the 2014 Howard County Reads book.

Howard County Reads (HCR) exists to cultivate a love of reading and to promote a sense of community by encouraging students to senior citizens to read the same book. The IU Kokomo Library participates in this program by hosting an author event in Kresge Auditorium on December 4, 2014 at 7pm. Following the one hour presentation, the author will autograph personal copies of the book Orphan Train. The author event is free, but you must have a ticket for entrance.

Other events of interest include:

STOCKING STUFFER CAMPAIGN: HCR is giving back to the community by heading a stocking stuffer campaign to help provide supplies to older children currently in the foster system. A drop box is located at the Circulation/Reserves service desk in the library. Goodwill donations are appreciated at all HCR events. All HCR libraries will have a drop box in their libraries from September 8-December 11.

Book discussions and other author visit dates and times may be found at: www.howardcountyreads.org

— Ria Lukes

BrowZine is now available

The IU Kokomo Library is providing a subscription to BrowZine – the new mobile application for libraries that lets you browse, read, and monitor scholarly journals right on your Apple, Android, or Kindle Fire HD-powered device! To get started, just search for “BrowZine” in the app store on your device, download the app for free, and then select Indiana University Kokomo as your library. Log in with your IU username and password to access our journal holdings. You can save up to 64 journals on your bookshelves and download up to 500 articles to read offline.

— Cynthia Lipken and Angie Thorpe
Ashley is a Senior. She has been with the library for 3 years and is enrolled in the Nursing program.

Whitley is a Senior. She has been with the library for 3 years and is studying Medical Imaging Technology—Ultrasound.

Jason is a Junior and co-editor of the IU Kokomo Library Newsletter. He has been employed by the library for 2 years and is studying English with minors in editing and writing.

Nelleigh is a Junior. She has been with the library for 1 year and is enrolled in the Nursing program.

Jesse is a Sophomore. She has been employed by the library for 1 year and is studying Elementary Education.

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Martha is a Sophomore and co-editor of the IU Kokomo Library Newsletter. She has been with the library for 2 months. She is studying Journalism with a minor in English.

Scott is a Junior, graduating in December 2015. He has been employed by the library for 2 months, and is studying Health Science.

Nicole is a Junior. She has been with the library for 2 months. She is studying Elementary Education.

Brad is a Senior. He has been with the library for 2 months. He is studying General Studies.

Molly is a Junior. She is our newest employee. She is studying Psychology with a minor in philosophy.
Library Hours for the remainder of the Fall Semester

**Fall Semester** August 25– December 19, 2014

- **Monday** 8 a.m. – 9 p.m.
- **Tuesday** 8 a.m. – 9 p.m.
- **Wednesday** 8 a.m. – 9 p.m.  Nov. 26 (Wed.) 8 a.m. — 5 p.m.
- **Thursday** 8 a.m. – 9 p.m.  Nov. 27-30 (Thur.-Sun.) CLOSED
- **Friday** 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- **Saturday** noon – 5 p.m.
- **Sunday** 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.

**Extended and Alternative Hours**

- December 8—11 (Mon.-Thurs.) close at 11:00 p.m.
- December 14 (Sun.) - close at 9:00 p.m.
- December 15-16 (Mon.-Tues.) close at 11:00 p.m.
- December 20-21 (Sat.-Sun.) CLOSED
- December 22-24 (Mon.-Wed.) 8 a.m.— 5 p.m.
- December 25, 2014— December 31 (Thur.-Wed.) CLOSED

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**Plan Ahead**

I just did a search and got 1,256,440 results. What should I do?

**Ask A Librarian Service Desk**

Located on the first floor of the Library

- **Hours:** Monday-Thursday 9:30 a.m. - 9 p.m.
- **Friday by appointment**
- **Saturday Closed**
- **Sunday Closed**

765-455-9521 during service desk hours.

E-mail us your question

For more details about these services, please see the [Reference and Research Services](#) web page.