

**CHEMISTRY LIBRARY  
ANNUAL REPORT  
July 1, 2016– June 30, 2017**

*Prepared by: Mary C. Schlembach*

**1. Major Activities and Accomplishments:**

The Chemistry Library provides services to departments, research labs, programs and schools affiliated with the School of Chemical Sciences (Chemistry and Biomolecular and Chemical Engineering). The School of Integrated Life Sciences and Molecular and Cell Biology also utilize the Chemistry Library due to their proximity from Burrill Hall, Morrow Hall, and the UI campus of the College of Medicine due to the closure of the Biology Library.

The Chemistry and Physical Sciences librarian provides collection services for the following departments based on number of faculty, graduate and undergraduate students, and ICR generated income to campus:

<b>Department</b>	<b>Tenure System Faculty</b>	<b>Graduate</b>	<b>Undergrads</b>	<b>ICR Income</b>
Astronomy	11	25	111	\$654,000
Atmospheric Sciences	13	47	59	\$1,239,000
Chemistry	32	302	564	\$7,008,000
Biomolecular & Chemical Engineering	17	94	675	\$1,469,000
Geology	13	32	66	\$554,000
Physics	57	223	283	\$4,997,000
<b>Total (FY17)</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>723</b>	<b>1758</b>	<b>\$15,921,000</b>

The University of Illinois continues to be the new venue for the **International Symposium on Molecular Spectroscopy (ISMS)** after 69 years at Ohio State University. ISMS attracts a diverse group of over 500 international researchers in physics, chemistry, electrical engineering and astronomy. The fourth UI-based symposium took place in mid-June 2017. **This year the Chemistry Library hosted the Registration and Vendor space.** Participants utilized the study rooms to practice talks, public terminals to finalize presentations, and having a place to meet, collaborate and interact was acknowledged by the conference planning staff. **The**

## **Chemistry Library has been requested again for next year's ISMS Registration and Vendor Exhibits.**

Also as part of the ISMS, the Chemistry Library continues to coordinate all ISMS presentations into IDEALS. Around 500 presentation abstracts are loaded into IDEALS with the appropriate metadata and an IDEALS handle is assigned. They are then to **CrossRef and DOIs are established and re-ingested into the proper IDEALS record**. Colleagues in other science fields, research data services have noted that these types of **research and faculty interactions are important to the future of library services**.

The Chemistry and Physical Sciences librarian continues to coordinate all **materials selected** for the **Grainger Engineering Library**. This has enabled joint purchases that help interdisciplinary research such as materials science, chemistry, physics, and chemical and mechanical engineering. This is especially important as the Chemistry and Engineering Librarians are involved with the **International Institute for Carbon Neutral Energy Research (I2CNER)** based at **Kyushu University in Fukuoka, Japan**.

The chemistry library has become the new space for departmental events. This past year the library has hosted **retirement receptions, Lecture receptions, Chemistry and ChemE staff and/or graduate students events**. These events have been well attended and appreciated by School of Chemical Sciences faculty, students and staff. This next year, with the campus 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we planning even more events for alumni and noted scientists coming to campus.

The **Physical Sciences and Engineering Division** now **coordinates graduate assistants** and other operational necessities in a cooperative, collegial, efficient approach for training and project development. PSED graduate students now spend time doing specific projects in the **Mathematics and Chemistry Libraries** in addition to Grainger. This benefits graduate students in job searches as they have learned about more disciplines and have a wider variety of library management experience.

The Chemistry Library again showed even more increasing numbers of patrons for the year. User comments from this past Ithaka survey indicated that faculty and students from **School of Life Sciences** considered Chemistry their primary library. Since the closure of the Geology and Biology Libraries, the Chemistry Library is the one remaining science Library on the Main Quad.

It is anticipated that usage of the Chemistry Library will increase since the Natural History Building renovation has been completed and various departments have moved into the building during the 2017 summer. Already we are seeing an increase in books being requested and circulated from Chemistry.

## **2. Review of Major Challenges:**

The most significant challenge is that the Chemistry Library is now managed by the **subject specialist for astronomy, atmospheric studies, chemistry, geology, and physics**. Since four of these collections are housed in the Grainger Engineering Library, it is often difficult to staff the Chemistry Library with **one staff member**. Fortunately the Chemistry Library's one staff member is reliable, refers questions accordingly, supervises students well and is rarely absent or takes vacation time. Previously the Chemistry Library operations had a librarian whose responsibility focused on singularly on Chemistry and Chemical Engineering. That operational function has changed as geology, physics and astronomy subjects were merged into the Chemistry and Physical Sciences Librarian position. The Chemistry Library has very **limited staff** even during **regular Monday through Friday** business hours.

Not having a dedicated Chemistry Library graduate assistant impedes this process as PSED graduate assistants are typically assigned a variety of projects. Additionally the printing usage in chemistry is the one of the highest printing locations on campus coming in behind the undergraduate and engineering libraries as a result a new color printer was acquired.

### **3. Significant Changes to unit operations, personnel, service profile, or service programs:**

Out of a concern that if **the one staff employee** was out sick, children are ill, or on vacation, Grainger Engineering Library staff members are trained at the Chemistry Library to cover **any staff shortages**. However, in this event it would be burdensome to Grainger's operations.

The modular collaboration room continues to have new usages. Noyes Laboratory facilities staff have regular meetings in addition to **Career Services** student interviews, and TA office hours.

There is some new discussions about converting some of the study space into collaboration tables allowing students to plug in laptops for viewing on large monitors, additional movable white boards, and spaces for student led research presentations such as poster sessions. **Overall, the Chemistry Library is doing more and more services with a lot less than other campus departmental libraries.**

### **4. Service to Library-wide programs:**

- Information services:
  - More interdisciplinary purchases between chemical and physical science
  - Chemistry & Physical Sciences librarian is referred the majority of difficult engineering reference questions, requests for purchase, industrial standards questions.

- LibGuides Chemistry and Biomolecular and Chemical Engineering as part of all the LibGuides created by the Physical Sciences and Engineering reference hub.
- Instructional services:

The Chemistry & Physical Sciences Librarian coordinates instruction for library graduate assistants in chemistry, geology, astronomy, physics, and atmospheric sciences since most of the collections are housed in the Grainger Engineering Library and is responsible for collection development, faculty liaison and training in these subject areas.

The **Chemistry Learning Center** is utilizing space in both the Chemistry Library conference room and group study room for teaching assistant and instructor review sessions.

**Parkland College** organic chemistry class utilize the Chemistry Library to work on an assignment that teaches SciFinder Scholar, Web of Science, and other relevant chemistry resource tools. This is arranged directly with the American Chemical Society for SciFinder access.

- Scholarly communications:

International Symposium on Molecular Spectroscopy abstract load into IDEALS and CrossRef DOIs (discussed above).

The Chemistry Library is working with the new Director of Research Data Services to help management research data in chemistry, biochemistry, molecular and chemical engineering. Meetings were arranged with department heads, research lab directors, and various graduate student seminar program coordinators.

Campus contact point for **open access vouchers** for articles published in Royal Society of Chemistry journals. Faculty from Civil Engineering, Chemistry, and Materials Science have utilized RSC vouchers to make their articles open access.

The Chemistry Library is working with chemistry-related research groups to provide spaces and equipment for graduate research poster sessions. Recommended by Chemistry Library faculty advisors and department heads.

- Assessment:

The Chemistry & Physical Sciences librarian is working closely with the Chemistry Library Faculty advisory committee for implementing new facilities and services.

○ Digital content creation:

Working with department heads, departmental web developers and others, the Chemistry Library is digitizing many historical documents such as annual reports, photographs of notable chemists, alumni and academic family trees for ingestion into IDEALS.

○ Staff training and development:

Physical science and engineering division graduate assistants receive training in all PSED subject areas coordinated with various subject specialists and their supervisor.

○ Diversity/public engagement:

The Chemistry Library installed an exhibit promoting the contributions of Muslim and Islamic scientists throughout history.

**5. Review Progress on FY17 goals:**

- Staffing constraints. Increase student wage budget has been mentioned but not formally announced.
- Chemistry Library newsletter for faculty and graduate assistants. **Canceled.**
- Bioinformatics Services group of life and physical science library faculty. **Completed.**
- Continue to integrate engineering and physical science collection development and decisions. **Ongoing.**
- Chemistry Library web page revamped. **Completed.**
- For the next ISMS, the chemistry library will be hosting vendors and registration for symposium attendees. **Completed and ongoing.**
- New services will be implemented to accommodate the new engineering based College of Medicine due to campus proximity. **Ongoing.**

**6. FY18 Goals:**

- Bioinformatics Services group of life and physical science library faculty.
- Continue to integrate engineering and physical science collection development and decisions.

- Several important SCS lectures and receptions hosted by the Chemistry Library for Sesquicentennial and Homecoming events.
- Hosting registration, exhibits, and online publishing of 74<sup>th</sup> ISMS symposium.
- New services will be implemented to accommodate the new engineering based College of Medicine due to campus proximity.
- New collaboration tables and services in study space. **Discussions begun.**

**7. Number of GAs: 0**

**8. GA funding: Chemistry library endowment contributes to a PSED graduate assistant.**

**9. Major responsibilities of GA: Physical Science & Engineering Division responsibilities.**

### Statistical Profile

**1. User Seating**

- a. at tables: 54
- b. at carrels: 10
- c. at public workstations: 14
- d. at index tables: n/a
- e. in group study rooms: 16
- f. informal: 16
- g. conference room: 35

**2. Number of hours open to the public:**

- Summer II 2015: **40 hours per week**
- Fall 2015: **72.5 hours per week**
- Spring 2016: **72.5 hours per week**
- Summer I 2016: **40 hours per week**

**2. Personnel**

- Mary C. Schlembach, Faculty, **1.0**
- Anna Gerard, Civil Service, **1.0**
- Claire Gianacacos , Graduate Hourly, **.50 Endowment funds**
- FY17 Student Asst wage budget: \$11,633.00 and Student Assistant FTE **2.5**

**3. User Services**

- Gate Count:
  - Fall 2016: 2512
  - Spring 2017: 2013
  - **Extrapolated Annual: 72,400**
- Circulation (from Voyager circulation reports)
  - Initial and renewal: **5,188**
  - Discharges: **3354**

- Reference interactions:
  - Desk Tracker (staff terminal): **440 (extrapolated from Sweeps Week only. Does not include librarian's statistics).**
- Presentations (from the Instructional Statistics database)
  - Number of presentations to groups: **5**
  - Number of participants in group presentations: **185**