

**CHEMISTRY LIBRARY
ANNUAL REPORT
July 1, 2014– June 30, 2015**

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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 since the Biology Library was closed.

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:

Department	Tenure System Faculty	Graduate	Undergrads	ICR Income
Astronomy	10	22	63	\$442,000
Atmospheric Studies	12	46	75	\$1,423,000
Chemistry	33	316	555	\$6,965,000
Biomolecular & Chemical Engineering	14	84	706	\$1,526,000
Geology	10	37	77	\$983,000
Physics	57	259	231	\$5,525,000
Total (FY15)	136	764	1707	\$16,864,000
Total (FY14)	125	772	1539	\$16,784,000

The growth between during the past two years is significant, particularly in number of undergraduate students and ICR funding – and increase of \$120,000.

A year ago, the University of Illinois was selected as the new venue for the **International Symposium on Molecular Spectroscopy** after 69 years at Ohio State University. The second UI-based symposium took place in mid-June 2015. The Chemistry Library was an integral part by working closely with the conference

planners, providing space and meeting facilities as well as computer equipment for symposium attendees. Again this year, the Chemistry Library coordinated with IDEALS staff to upload all ISMS presentations into an ISMS community. The Chemistry Librarian using chemistry library endowment monies, **uploaded the ISMS IDEALS handles as a publisher through CrossRef and DOIs were established.** Over 500 scientists in chemistry, astronomy, physics, and earth sciences attended the symposium. 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 **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 helps 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.

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.

The Chemistry Library web pages continue to be hosted on Library IT's Cooper server. This is a problem as Library IT wants to retire the server altogether as soon as possible. The former Chemistry Librarian had the pages created in Dream Weaver, not CMS. I was told not to bother switching the pages over to CMS as the Library was going to implement a system soon. That was two years ago. Now we've been told that the pages should be converted over to CMS, just to be converted again to Word Press in a few months' time. Not having a dedicated Chemistry Library graduate assistant impedes this process as PSED graduate assistants are typically assigned a variety of projects.

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

Based on DeskTracker statistics, the Chemistry Library was expelling up to 25 patrons on Friday evenings when it closed at 5 pm. At the start of the Spring 2014 semester, we opted to close at 7 pm and track patron counts from 5 to 7 pm on Friday evenings. During FY15, the Desk Tracker statistics have shown that Fridays were busy (on average 25-35 people) at 5 pm, but dropped to less than 8 on average by 6:15 pm. Therefore, for FY16 we are staying open on Friday evenings until 6 pm but now looking at weekend hours as Sundays are often busy and there are requests for longer hours on Sunday evenings.

Out of a concern that if **the one staff employee** was out sick, children are ill, or on vacation, Grainger Engineering Library staff members were 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.

We expect the Chemistry Library Conference room usage to also grow as the large oak library table was replaced with modular movable tables like those in the Mortensen center. New tables and more comfortable seating was purchased with Chemistry Library endowment funds. The conference room is being utilized for more Ph.D. defenses, faculty meetings and faculty interviews, and professional public relations photo sessions.

4. Service to Library-wide programs:

a. Information services:

- More interdisciplinary purchases between chemical and physical science

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

b. 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. As a librarian and main contact of the Physical Sciences and Engineering Division with many years of experience in all departments in the College of Engineering, the Chemistry Library is often forwarded reference and access questions for all these subject areas. This is now being reflected in DeskTracker statistics.
- 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 students to the Chemistry Library to work on an assignment that involved SciFinder Scholar, Web of Science, and other relevant chemistry resource tools.

c. 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. (Chemists are not enthusiastic about data management because of intellectual property concerns.)
- 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.

d. Assessment:

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

e. Collection management:

Chemistry librarian, with Grainger librarians and staff, supervised the selection 72,000 volumes for transfer to Oak Street storage facility for start of the Grainger Library Design Center. The Grainger design center is a new informatics service and facility for new generation library modeling.

f. Digital content creation:

Oversaw the digitization of Master's theses and Ph.D. dissertations for the Coordinated Science Lab and ingested into IDEALS.

This is the 2nd College of Engineering department (after Physics) that has had their Master's theses digitized for IDEALS.

5. Review Progress on FY15 goals:

- Staffing constraints. Increase student wage budget or library specialist position that would work evenings. **Temporary funds allocated for FY16.**
- Chemistry Library newsletter for faculty and graduate assistants. Open access issues, data management, library database tips, and new acquisitions. **Completed but ongoing.**
- Bioinformatics Services group of life and physical science library faculty. **Ongoing with new engineering-based medical school.** Chemistry & Physical Sciences Librarian working with group to implement more medical sciences collections and services.
- Continue to integrate engineering and physical science collection development and decisions. **Ongoing.**
- Chemistry Library web page development. New resources highlighted. **Ongoing due to migration to new web platform.**
- Review Chemistry Library reserves and reference collection. **Completed**
- Video conferencing equipment replaced in conference room. **Completed**
- Library door Key card reader upgrade. **Completed.**

6. FY16 Goals:

- Staffing constraints. Increase student wage budget or library specialist position that would work evenings.
- Chemistry Library newsletter for faculty and graduate assistants.
- Bioinformatics Services group of life and physical science library faculty.
- Continue to integrate engineering and physical science collection development and decisions.
- Chemistry Library web page revamped.

- One empty range of shelving removed and endowment monies for a high counter with multiple outlets to be used by students for additional study space, and provides space for reception and poster session services.

7. Number of GAs: 0

8. GA funding:

9. Major responsibilities of GA

Statistical Profile

1. User Seating

- a. at tables: 44
- 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 2014: **40 hours per week**
- Fall 2014: **72.5 hours per week**
- Spring 2015: **72.5 hours per week**
- Summer I 2015: **40 hours per week**

2. Personnel

- Mary C. Schlembach, Faculty, **1.0**
- Anna Gerard, Civil Service, **1.0**
- Hoa Luong, Graduate Hourly, **.50 Endowment funds**
- FY14 Student Asst wage budget: \$11,633.00 and Student Assistant FTE **3.0**

3. User Services

- Gate Count:
 - Fall 2014: 2405
 - Spring 2015: 2189
 - **Extrapolated Annual: 73,504**
- Circulation (from Voyager circulation reports)
 - Initial and renewal: **5979**
 - Discharges: **5743**
- Reference interactions:
 - Desk Tracker (staff terminal): **3760**
- Presentations (from the Instructional Statistics database)
 - Number of presentations to groups: **6**
 - Number of participants in group presentations: **129**