Murphy Library Endowment Fund Update

We're Past the Half Way Mark

By the end of 1993, the Murphy Library Endowment Fund had reached $26,000, exceeding half of the fund's goal of $50,000.

The fund, administered by the UW-L Foundation, was established in 1989 to support and enhance the needs of the library beyond what traditional funding can provide. Monies from the fund will not be expended until the fund reaches $50,000. When that goal is reached, earnings from the fund can be used to address special needs in the following areas: 1. books, serials, electronic information sources; 2. equipment; 3. staff development; 4. building and environmental needs. Now, more than ever, this fund will be critical in meeting the ever increasing costs of materials and technology and allow the purchase of photographs or unique titles to enrich the collection. The fund will provide opportunities for continuing education for staff in a rapidly changing information society, as well as helping to meet those needs accompanying the expansion of our library facility.

On the horizon...

Murphy Library Addition. In October 1993, the building project got underway and a groundbreaking ceremony marked the beginning of the project which will add 40,000 square feet to the existing building which opened in 1969. The new facility will house an extended study room, computer lab, special student services and space for an instructional media center. The Special Collections/Area Research Center also will gain much needed space, and seminar rooms, classrooms, and carrels will be added. The building and remodeling project is scheduled for completion in Spring of 1995. In the future, the Endowment Fund will provide funds for special furnishings or artwork to enhance the new building.

New Online Catalog: NOTIS. The Library will be "migrating" from its LS/2000 online catalog over the summer to a new system, NOTIS. The new catalog will offer a number of improved features which will help users identify materials for their research. Endowment fund monies will assist in funding other new technologies.

Library Friends. On April 13, the inaugural meeting of the Library Friends group will be held. The program at 7:00 p.m in the Ward Room of Cartwright Center will feature a presentation on the new building by Dale Montgomery and Tim Larson, Schute & Larson. The Friends group will be an important link between the library and its community of users.

Thanks to our supporters

The growth in the Endowment Fund has been possible because of the generous support of donors from the La Crosse area and beyond. Their giving signifies a belief that the library is a central part of the teaching and research mission of the university and an important educational and business resource in the community. These donations will make a major difference in providing the library with the means to keep up with our users' information needs as we move toward the 21st Century. The endowment fund is a pledge of excellence, shared by donors. If you have questions about the fund or wish to make a contribution, please contact Karin Sandvik, Department Chair (8397).