Appalachian State University is committed to equality of educational opportunity and does not discriminate against applicants, students or employees on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, gender, age, disability or sexual orientation. Appalachian also actively promotes diversity among students and employees.

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DEDICATED SEPTEMBER 15, 2005

Heartfelt thanks to the many authors and contributors who made this book possible, to Judy Ahrenberg who designed this beautiful publication, and to the members of the Library’s Public Relations Committee comprised of Katherine Alford, John Boyd, Georgie Donovan, Sue Hisle, Megan Johnson, Pam Mitchem, Lynn Patterson, Allan Scherlen, Patty Wheeler, and Betsy Williams who dedicated much time and energy to bringing together the story of this great Library.

Appalachian State University’s Library for the 21st Century

CAROL GROTNES BELK LIBRARY AND INFORMATION COMMONS
Boone, North Carolina
While walking across Harvard Yard in the early years of the twentieth century, George Land Kittredge, a prominent member of the college faculty, nodded his head toward the recently opened Harry Elkins Widener Library, and expressed his belief that if every building on campus but that one burned to the ground, “we would still have a university.” As we consider the role of the library in the twenty-first century, the ready availability of books and other indispensable media remain the heart and the soul of the modern institution of higher learning. At Appalachian State University, the new Belk Library reaffirms the conviction of the nineteenth-century historian, Thomas Carlyle, that “the true university” is “a collection of books” – only now there is so much more to offer. My congratulations on this splendid addition to what is already an outstanding program.

NICHOLAS BASBANES,
2003 Carol Grotnes Belk Distinguished Lecturer

Nicholas Basbanes, author of A Splendor of Letters: The Permanence of Books in an Impermanent World has been called “our leading authority of books about books” by Pulitzer Prize winner David McCullough. His first book, A Gentle Madness: Bibliophiles, Bibliomaniacs, and the Eternal Passion for Books, was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award.
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“Our Library will enrich the lives of anyone who has the desire to venture beyond that which is expected.”

Miriam Mackyoun, former SGA president
The Dedication of the Carol Grotnes Belk Library and Information Commons represents the culmination of many dreams and a great deal of hard work on the part of hundreds of individuals. The dedication book, *Building on the Past: Appalachian State University’s Library for the 21st Century*, is intended to mark the significant milestone of the new building. The book includes a history of the building and the Library, floor plans, descriptions of collections, and quotations from the most important people: those who love and use the Library. We compiled this book to thank the people of North Carolina and beyond who have made this building possible.

I would also like to extend my deep gratitude and admiration to my library and university colleagues, the architects, builders, donors, supporters, and students. Thank you all for making this wonderful building a Library and Information Commons which the University, community members, and researchers can use with pride. This practical and glorious space houses collections which provide everyone the means to read, understand, and learn from the knowledge and wisdom of the generations. The superb views of the campus and mountains make this truly a Library and Information Commons to enjoy.

The occasion of the Dedication of the Carol Grotnes Belk Library and Information Commons marks the beginning of the important research and learning that will occur every hour and every day in this wonderful building.
This year I was on off-campus scholarly assignment teaching pre-kindergarten in the public schools. I could not have worked so successfully with the children had it not been for the wonderful resources in the Instructional Materials Center and the dedicated librarians who work there. Many times I would call the IMC saying I needed easy books on building construction or ants. When I arrived at the library the next day there would be a stack of 40 books waiting for me! Since I was traveling a long distance to work it was an enormous help to have the books ready and waiting. The IMC librarians have assisted me with my classes and research for the 18 years I have taught at Appalachian, and I always tell my children’s literature classes that they are their greatest resource for the semester. I simply could not do my job without the wonderful support from the IMC.

Connie Green, Language, Reading, and Exceptionalities

Connie Green is the co-author of Developing Partnerships with Families Through Children’s Literature and author of many articles on emergent literacy and family involvement in early reading.
The new Carol Grotnes Belk Library and Information Commons offers the latest in technology and preserves the culture and intellectual heritage of the Appalachian region in a state-of-the-art facility that will serve the University and surrounding community for decades to come.

The magnificent facility embodies years of planning and dreaming, and — as a result of the 2000 higher education bond referendum — a very sizable investment in the Appalachian campus by the people of North Carolina.
The Carol Grotnes Belk Library and Information Commons is an exciting visual representation of a university on the move as Appalachian State University reaches for a New Day and Greater Heights. It is a library worthy of this great University that stands on the brink of exciting ventures into new areas of learning and service to the community, the region, and the nation. This state-of-the-art facility, with its prominence on the campus landscape, is truly a beacon of knowledge and progress. I extend my deepest gratitude to the citizens of North Carolina who supported the higher education bond referendum, to The University of North Carolina President Molly Corbett Broad, to Irwin and Carol Belk, and to the numerous other supporters who have made this dream become a reality.

KENNETH E. PEACOCK
CHANCELLOR,
APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY
I speak not only as Provost but for everyone at Appalachian State University when I say it has been a pleasure to see our campus graced with such a beautiful and much needed structure as the Carol Grotnes Belk Library and Information Commons. The success of this building project was the result of the contribution of many members of our community. I have no doubt that we will look back upon the Belk Library project for years to come as a model for successful cooperative campus development. The success of the planning and execution of the building of the Library is not surprising when one considers the centrality of the Library in the academic life of all of us at Appalachian. The Library plays a vital role in educating students, supporting faculty and student research, and fulfilling the University’s service mission.

The new Belk Library and Information Commons arrives at a crucial time in our University’s history. As the University grows and develops, it is vital that our students and faculty have ready access to a full range of electronic and traditional resources to stimulate and fuel their scholarship. With this new state-of-the-art Carol Grotnes Belk Library and Information Commons and its obviously dedicated and capable faculty and staff, we can be confident that the University will have the library services and collections necessary for excellence in all of our endeavors.
As early as the mid 1980s, it was clear that Appalachian State University needed additional space for the Library. Expanded in 1980, the not quite 100,000 usable square feet Belk Library lacked adequate study, research, and collection space for an expanding university population; its infrastructure was not up to the needs of the 21st century, and renovation or expansion of the existing facility seemed impractical. By the mid 1990s, the situation had become desperate, and in 1996 the administration of the University decided that a new building should be constructed.

In 2000, when the sixteen institutions of the UNC system put forward their building requirements as part of a $3.4 billion bond referendum, a new library led Appalachian’s list. Overwhelmingly supported by the North Carolina electorate, this referendum provided $47.6 million for a new Central Library Complex, including the Library and Information Commons as well as a parking deck.

Why a Library and Information Commons? The Library as the intellectual center of the campus must adapt to the technology changes which are occurring ever more rapidly in our world. Libraries are now much more than a place to house the printed word. They truly function as information centers, gathering and offering information which goes beyond the library walls of the past. Along with access to the multitude of electronic resources, however, come new challenges for librarians: namely, organizing online materials for students and teaching them skills to determine the validity of the information they read on the Internet and other online resources.

While the academic community develops an entirely new approach to information resources, in-depth reading and study remain a fundamental part of the education process. The Library and Information and Commons is the place where all of this comes together.

Of course, there must also be room to expand the Library’s books and bound periodicals which number more than 850,000 volumes in 2005. Also, since microfilm and microfiche are the only recognized sources of...
archival storage, the Library will continue to add to the more than 1.5 million pieces currently in the collection. After a national search, Pease Associates, Inc. of Charlotte, partnering with the Boston firm of Shepley, Bulfinch, Richardson, and Abbott, a leader in designing American libraries for more than 100 years, were chosen in April 2001 as the architects for Appalachian’s new library facility. At that same time, Mary Reichel, the University Librarian, named an Internal Building Group (IBG) of faculty and staff from all areas of the Library.

From the beginning of the design process and throughout the building of the Library, the Internal Building Group met together regularly to plan the space and respond to inquiries from the architectural team and later the building team. Members of the IBG also traveled around the country visiting newer academic libraries, asking their host what worked well and what did not and gathering information on services, furniture, and technology which might be included.

Working together and responding to the expressed needs of the University and community users, the architects and IBG planned, designed and built a Library to meet the information needs of the 21st century:

- There are many reading rooms throughout the facility, including one with an operable gas fireplace and another with a two story view of Rich Mountain. Some reading areas encourage quiet study while others are more relaxed and informal.
- For collaborative study and research there are twenty-nine group study rooms scattered throughout four of the five public floors. The smaller rooms seat four while the larger ones can accommodate as many as sixteen. Many have wonderful views of the surrounding mountains or the Appalachian campus. Seven of the rooms are fully wired with computer work stations and electronic white boards which can be used to create group presentations or view DVDs or other media.
- Nearly 300 computer work stations provide a full range of software and access to the riches of the Library’s subscription databases, electronic journals and newspapers, online catalog, and the Internet. Librarians and other staff are available to help users access and evaluate these resources.
- The entire Library offers a wireless environment to support the more than fifty laptops provided for circulation within the Library as well as the notebooks and other portable electronic devices students and faculty own.
- A staffed Multimedia Authoring Lab offers

“No matter what component or service of the Library I required—reference, periodicals, the Appalachian Collection, reserve reading, films and microfilms, or the enhancement of holdings in my department’s subject areas—I always found a courteous and knowledgeable faculty and staff eager to assist.”

DAVID SUTTON, Political Science and Criminal Justice
a place for students and faculty to learn how to incorporate video and audio data in their research and presentations.

- In addition to an electronic seminar room and a lecture hall seating 125, students and faculty will find three classrooms for teaching information literacy and information retrieval.
- The Library’s more than 26 miles of shelving provides space to house the still growing print collections.
- The state of the art, environmentally controlled special collections reading room, with compact shelving to house the Appalachian Collection, University Archives, the Stock Car Racing Collection, and other rare book materials, including a cold storage room for photos and film is located on the fourth floor. Also on the fourth floor is the Bill and Maureen Rhinehart Room, which houses more than six hundred rare books on British history and culture donated by the Rhineharts.
- At the main entrance, there is a 24-hour cyber café and coffee shop which can be entered using a campus ID after library hours.
- Perhaps most importantly, a variety of seating, including study tables, carrels, locked carrels, and more than three hundred comfortable lounge chairs will accommodate nearly eighteen hundred readers.

Employing a new concept of construction management at risk, the University selected the international firm of Bovis Lend Lease to lead the construction process. This proved to be a very fortunate choice. Work began on July 8, 2003, and although building such a large (215,000 square feet), complex and beautiful facility is extremely difficult, progress proved swift and efficient under their expert guidance and that of the University’s own Office of Design and Construction. The last piece of steel was placed on April 4, 2004, and the building was enclosed by the end of that summer. Construction was completed and the University received a Certificate of Occupancy on May 24, 2005, two months ahead of schedule and less than seven hundred days after it began. The Carol Grotnes Belk Library and Information Commons opened to the entire Appalachian family and community on June 20, 2005.

Thanks to the generous support of friends and donors, led by Ike and Carol Belk, much of the Library has been handsomely furnished, creating a warm and inviting environment. The new Belk Library and Information Commons will provide a safe, comfortable, and stimulating place for Appalachian students, faculty, and staff for generations to come.

There are 139,077 linear feet of shelving in the new building, which equals 26.34 miles or a distance slightly more than the length of a marathon.
The Design Team

Architects

Pease Associates, Inc.
John Duncan, Project Principal
Howard Newman, Project Architect

Shepley Bulfinch Richardson and Abbott
Carole Wedge, Program Architect
Sandy Howe, Design Architect
Jon Ross, Project Principal
Jeanne Carey, Project Architect
Joe Bille, Designer

Site Solutions
Phillip Hobbs, Landscape Architect

Construction Management

Bovis Lend Lease
Mike Chandler, Project Executive
Kenneth Brown, Project Manager
Andy Dellavou, Superintendent

Library Internal Building Group

University Building Committee

Jane Helm, Chair
John Abbott, Belk Library
Bill Baker, Accounting Department
Larry Bordeaux, Physical Plant
Norman Clark, Communication Department
Sid Clements, Physics and Astronomy Department
Susan Cole, Theatre and Dance Department
Allan Duncan, Belk Library
H.G. Jones, Library Advisory Board
Mick Kreszock, Instructional Technology Center
Lynne Lysiak, Belk Library
Emory Maiden, English Department
Clinton Parker, Academic Affairs
Mary Reichel, Belk Library
Clyde Robbins, Design and Construction
Lyle Schoenfeldt, Management Department
Darlene Scott, Belk Library
Sabrina Shauls, Student
Mary Ruth Sizer, Language, Reading, and Exceptionalities
Roger Stilling, English Department
Mary Valante, History Department
Ann Viles, Belk Library
Joan Woodworth, English Department
Sara Zimmerman, Curriculum and Instruction

Office of Design and Construction
Clyde Robbins
Patrick Beville
Julie Brittain
Our Donors

The Belk Library and Information Commons is fortunate to have the support of many friends who have come together to create this extraordinary facility. To our friends, those who made this building possible, we express our tremendous gratitude.

Recognizing the Belks

Irwin and Carol Belk have shared their time and financial resources with numerous organizations and institutions in North Carolina and far beyond, and Appalachian State University is honored to be among the recipients of their generosity. The Library is thrilled that the new facility bears the name of Carol Grotnes Belk as did the previous library building. The three sculptures and two paintings that will grace the new Library, given by the Belks, greatly enhance the building’s beauty. The Belks also established the Carol Grotnes Belk Distinguished Professorship in Library and Information Studies, which is held by Dr. Mary Reichel, University Librarian, and donated the popular Yosef statue that stands at the corner of Rivers Street and Stadium Drive.
Rare Books and Special Collections Room
*Given by*
Bill and Maureen Rhinehart

Reading Lounge
*Given by*
Friends of Frank and Kay Borkowski

Cyber Cafe/24-Hour Study Area
*Given by*
Don and Pat Phillips

Children’s Corner
*Given by*
Mary Helen Ridenhour

Reading Room
*Given by*
Robert and Louise Fox

Reading Lounge
*Given by*
Randy and Sara Charles Stevens

Reading Lounge
*Given by*
Houston G. Jones

Reading Lounge
*Given by*
ASU Parents Association

Staff Lounge
*Given by*
W. Gary Ogburn

Reading Lounge
*Given by*
Tom and Margaret Hayden Carpenter

Visiting Scholar Room
*In honor of*
William and Virginia Powell

Reading Lounge
*Given by*
Dorothy B. Barker
Brian Barker
Sharon Trivette

Group Study Room
*Given by*
Darlene Romine

Faculty Lounge
*Given by*
Appalachian Retired Faculty

Group Study Room
*Given by*
Julian W. Carr

Group Study Room
*Given by*
Barbara F. Freiman

Group Study Room
*Given by*
Mary Ann Barrett
Ruth Hester

Group Study Room
*Given by*
John L., Jr., and Marjorie Idol
Kenneth and Maxine Idol
John V. And Etta Lee Idol
Joseph and Zola Idol
James and Margaret Idol
Robert and Evelina Idol
Steven and Kathy Idol

Group Study Room
*Given by*
Catawba County Alumni

Group Study Room
*Given by*
Ed and Eleanor Vosburgh

Group Study Room
*Given by*
Class of 1969
THE GREENING OF THE
Belk Library

PATRICK BEVILLE, Project Manager, Design and Construction, Appalachian State University

The Carol Grotnes Belk Library and Information Commons was the first building on campus to be constructed in an environmentally sustainable manner incorporating many of the goals recommended by the U.S. Green Building Council’s Leadership in Energy and Environment Design (LEED) program. The site for the new Library was limited by the available space on campus, but by converting an existing parking lot and older building, areas of mostly impermeable material, the plans for a new building and parking garage allowed room for two new courtyards. This design offered the campus both more green space and a plaza as well as much greater natural storm water permeability. The design team utilized an underground storm water detention system which slowly releases any storm water into the local creek, thereby preventing the flooding caused by the earlier impermeable parking lot.

The building’s exterior lighting utilizes special reflectors in order to prevent light from traveling upward and polluting the night sky. This feature was particularly helpful given the adjacency to the University’s new astronomy laboratories. Lastly, the site was ideal given its proximity to one of our bus system’s main connection points, encouraging public transportation to the Library.

The design team incorporated several measures to achieve water efficiency. The landscaping is mostly native and water efficient and, therefore, required no irrigation system (Mother Nature will provide all of the exterior water needed). In addition, all of the bathroom fixtures have sensors that automatically turn the faucets on and off and flush the water-efficient urinals and toilets.

One of the design team’s main goals was to achieve energy and resource efficiency. The mechanical system is designed to make the most use of the ambient air temperatures outside of the building while using the central steam plant and a central chiller plant for heating and cooling. The central chiller plant utilizes reduced CFC coolant that is environmentally friendly. The controls systems are all electronic and can be monitored from a central station that maximizes energy efficiency. An abundance of exterior glass allows for natural day lighting while electronic shades can be utilized to reduce heat build up from solar gain and glare associated with certain angles of the sun. The high efficiency glass used throughout the building provides shielding from 80 to 90 percent of harmful ultraviolet light rays, protecting both occupants and collections.

The Library is the first state owned building in North Carolina to install and utilize a new type of elevator system. The Otis

“It’s so handy to have access to pretty much all of the main logic journals. It’s like being at a major research university without being expected to treat the students like cattle.”

JEFF HIRST, Mathematical Sciences
Gen 2 system was the best choice for this building because of the overall height and the inability to install an elevator penthouse. The Gen 2 system does not require a rooftop machine room and is 50 percent more energy efficient than typical elevators. The elevators are also quieter, faster, and require less maintenance than the proposed hydraulic elevators.

The building is environmentally sensitive in its use of materials as well. As many people know, carpet is a cause of pollution both in its creation and in its later destruction. The carpet used in the new building is an upgraded material which is partially recycled and is itself completely recyclable. The special flooring on the fourth floor is a cork floor tile. Cork is both less costly than solid wood flooring and is a sustainable resource because cork can be harvested by stripping the bark from cork trees without damaging or killing the tree itself. The steel structural frame is comprised of 75% recycled steel.

Not only are many of the materials in the building recycled or recyclable, but the practices of the construction team also were based on environmentally wise decisions. During construction, a waste management program helped divert construction waste from the landfill. Recycling rooms are integral to the design of the building and are located on every floor to help encourage recycling for the life of the building.

As anyone who has worked in a building with poor air quality knows, indoor environmental quality is an important aspect of a sustainable building. The building is a smoke free facility. The finishes, including the paint and carpeting are all low in volatile organic compounds (VOC), which have been linked to health problems. Eliminating these as much as possible helps improve the indoor environmental quality. The building also contains more carbon dioxide sensors than all other campus buildings combined. These sensors tell the mechanical system when more ventilation is needed. Thermostats and exterior windows have been maximized to improve the comfort of the building occupants in terms of temperature, fresh air and views. In addition, most all staff areas are outfitted with operable windows.

The new Carol Grotnes Belk Library and Information Commons is by far the most sustainable and energy efficient building on campus today. Its energy and resource efficiency as well as its improved indoor environmental quality will benefit the University and its students for years to come and can serve as a model for other buildings designed on this campus and beyond.

“I am so glad Appalachian has built a brand new beautiful home for the books I truly love.”
EMILY FERRELL, student

Over 500,000 people walk in the doors of the Appalachian State University Library in a typical year. That’s an average of 100 people an hour for every hour that the Library is open.
The Appalachian State University Library provides a number of special collections, most of which are housed within the new Carol Grotnes Belk Library and Information Commons. The new facility will provide many years of growth for the collections as well as crucial climate control, lighting, display space, and security.

**THE W.L. EURY APPALACHIAN COLLECTION**
The W.L. Eury Appalachian Collection is Appalachian State’s contribution to the world’s great research libraries. Founded in 1968 and named for librarian William Leonard Eury, the Appalachian Collection brings together materials in all formats, for all age levels, and on all aspects of Appalachia, its geography, ecology, people, history, and culture. In 1971, Cratis Williams, the “Father of Appalachian Studies,” stated: “In the years ahead we hope to build a collection on Appalachia second to none in the nation, for Appalachian State University is uniquely situated for the development of such a collection.” By 2003, Radford librarian Gene Hyde could declare that the W.L. Eury Appalachian Collection is the “most successful and energetic” Appalachian collection and that it “is certainly a comprehensive research collection” of unmatched quality (University of Tennessee Masters thesis). Scholars, students, journalists, and genealogists from around the region and the world value the Collection’s rich holdings and knowledgeable staff.

The quarters of the Appalachian Collection in the Library and Information Commons provides more space and better facilities than were available in the previous location. The larger area housing the collection will provide space for many years of growth. The Collection, for the first time, has a state of the art facility for storage and climate control of materials, as well as one of the few cold storage units in the region for the preservation of photographic, video, and film products. The Collection also has a conservation lab for state of the art preservation of materials. The windows in the Cratis Williams reading room have some of the Library’s best views of the campus and surrounding Appalachian Mountains.

**STOCK CAR RACING COLLECTION**
The Stock Car Racing Collection began as a labor of love by

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**Special Collections of Appalachian State University Library**

“Special Collections of Appalachian State University Library is the jewel in the crown of Belk Library. For students and scholars of the Appalachian region, its depth and breadth are truly impressive.”

**SANDRA L. BALLARD,**
English, and Editor, Appalachian Journal
Appalachian State University librarian Suzanne Wise. The Collection is rapidly expanding and gaining notice from students, enthusiasts, and scholars around the country. Housed in the Special Collections area, the Stock Car Racing Collection is the only collection of its kind open to the public. It documents and preserves the history of the sport through its growing collection of written, recorded, and imaged items, and assists fans and scholars from all over the world with their research. Previously spread throughout various areas of the old Library, the Stock Car Collection is now focused in a discrete collection, which is very exciting for Stock Car Collection users. It will benefit from improved security, climate control and preservation facilities provided in its new home.

UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES
University Archives, also now located in the Special Collections area of the new Library and Information Commons, was created in 1981 to identify and retain institutional records having permanent administrative, legal, and historical value. The Archives preserve the University’s past by protecting departmental files, minutes, administrative papers, publications, and photographs of Appalachian. University Archives’ function is to receive, preserve, and make available to University personnel, students, researchers, and the general public, primary source material relating to Appalachian.

Moving the University Archives to the new Library and Information Commons has many benefits for the collection. Besides providing preservation lab facilities, environmental control, and better security, the collection will, for the first time, provide a reading room for researchers to work with archived materials.

JUSTICE – QUERY INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS CENTER
The Instructional Materials Center is now located on the ground floor of the Carol Grotnes Belk Library and Information Commons. The collection provides resources and services to support teacher preparation and school media specialist programs at Appalachian. The IMC librarians and staff provide reference and readers advisory services for the Appalachian State community as well as conduct library instruction sessions for university classes and area educator workshops in their new IMC classroom. The IMC’s venue for university students to interact with children for story hours, puppet shows, and other learning experiences has been enhanced by the decorative color schemes of the new IMC as well as the décor of the new Ridenhour Children’s Reading Room.

NICHOLAS ERNESTON MUSIC LIBRARY
The Erneston Music Library is the only special collection not housed in the Carol Grotnes Belk Library and Information Commons. It is located in the Broyhill Music Building and serves the needs of students in the Mariam Cannon Hayes School of Music, as well as of the University and local community. It contains one of the largest music collections in the region, including over 10,000 books, 14,000 scores, and 13,000 recordings in various formats. The Music Library also subscribes to major electronic resources, including Grove Music Online, the

“The rich and varied resources in the IMC and the enthusiastic support from the IMC librarians make my job as a social studies methods instructor much easier.”

SANDRA B. OLDENDORF, Curriculum & Instruction

22
Music Index, the International Index to Music Periodicals, and streaming audio sources such as Classical Music Online and the Naxos Music Library.

THE BILL AND MAUREEN RHINEHART RARE BOOKS AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS ROOM

The fourth floor of the new Library and Information Commons houses the Bill and Maureen Rhinehart Rare Books and Special Collections Room, home of the Bill and Maureen Rhinehart Collection on British History, a rare book collection made possible through the generous gift of the Rhineharts’ personal library. The books date from the 16th through the 19th centuries and provide a rich resource on British history as well as examples of printing and binding during those periods. Books in this collection are available for research by appointment. Mr. and Mrs. Rhinehart have already donated selected titles for the collection and will be adding more over the years to come. The Room will also feature a rotating exhibit of several hundred late 19th century beaded bags that Maureen Rhinehart has collected over the years. Bill Rhinehart received both his Bachelor of Science and Master of Arts degrees from Appalachian State University and has enjoyed a rewarding career as an educator, administrator, and consultant.

More than 40,000 reference questions are answered in a typical year by the librarians and library staff in the Main Library, Music Library, Appalachian Collection, Distance Learning department, and Instructional Materials Center. This includes questions asked in person, by phone, via email, and through the online chat system.

“I depend upon library faculty to assist my students, and I have especially benefited from the resources and staff of the W. L. Eury Appalachian Collection... internationally recognized as best in the field.”

Susan E. Keeffe, Anthropology
It was like a city. Books spilling from every crevice, every newspaper and periodical known to mankind, an archive that dated back to Genesis. Where aged books transmigrated when they died, and came to matter even more as ghosts, where new books were born. Floor after floor of paper, room after room furnished with Persian carpets, easy chairs, reading lamps. Like being marooned in a Merchant Ivory film, a battalion of librarians at your beck and call, white gleaming tiny-octagonal-white-tile Victorian bathrooms more spacious than most people’s homes. Where I would meet my girlfriend and we would hide whispering in the blessed approval of the open stacks, on the tallest floors against the rafters, the dehumidifiers wheezing their approval. It had not occurred to me, at that time, that I would not live long enough to read each book that resided in that building.


Bathanti is the author of several books including *East Liberty* and *This Metal* which was nominated for the National Book Award.
THOMAS MCGOWAN, English

I sit at a table in the Appalachian Collection, white gloves on my hands, and handle blue-lined sheets, still trimmed with the red glue edging of office pad. The writing on the sheets is Cratis Williams’s script, telling of his first days at our university. One early evening some years back I had encountered him in the parking lot behind Founders Hall, and he remarked that he had written five pages of his memoirs that night. I may be reading those very five pages in my research in the Eury Appalachian Collection. The primary research and memories contribute to an article in the *North Carolina Folklore Journal*.

My students log on the online version of *The Oxford English Dictionary* to get updated research on the history of English words, but occasionally I also send them to the reference stacks to hold the large multi-columned volumes of its print version in their hands—heavy lifting both physically and intellectually. Sometimes the intellectual lifting needs some help from the reference room staff.

Other students from my freshmen writing classes turn the handles on microfilm readers, scanning newspapers for firsthand evidence of U.S. popular culture in the birthyear of their parents. Occasionally they lift a bound volume of a magazine from that year. The trip to Belk Library provokes questions for interviews at home or on the phone.

My medieval literature students stop by the reserve desk to look at extra reading. They also visit the film collection to view a video on Old and Middle English from *The Story of English* series. Viewing the reserved video together in the Library’s audiostream room supplements course lectures, but also promotes a learning community for the class.

A graduate student writing a thesis on Chaucer’s *The Knight’s Tale* discovers plenty of critical materials are already available in our stacks, but also gets other articles quickly through interlibrary loan.

I bump into students from a class in a public area of the Library. I’m there to find a book on oral narrative and performance theory, but they’re using the Library that night as a study place, reviewing together for an exam in another class. We talk a bit about their work and program of study.
I wander through the two-week new book checkout, looking for some entertaining summer reading and a taped book for a car trip to the coast.

Margaret Agle, Leonard Eury’s sister, tells me a story of his taking afternoon naps in the Library in Appalachian’s first administration building that burned down before my hiring. At those times, Mr. Eury put up a hand-lettered sign: “Library Closed.”

At the ceremonial book relay, I bump into H.G. Jones, a member of the Library’s advisory board, notable state historian, and skilled teller of oral historical narratives of his days as a G.I. Bill student at Appalachian following the Second World War. H.G. populates multiple “greatest generations” for me and always has good stories to tell.

After some late office work, I drive home, noticing the light in the Library atrium, a new special campus landmark. The sight recalls for me a hooked-rug rendering of the Watauga Academy main building’s steeple but also presents the promise of a new place for reading, research, course preparation, checking details, supplementary course resources, encountering students, and working with helpful library faculty and staff.

Thomas McGowan has taught English and folklore at Appalachian State University for thirty-three years.

“The staff, particularly the reference librarians, have been a wonderful resource and they have thoroughly and efficiently met the needs of our students.”

Barbara Bonham, Leadership & Educational Studies

The new Library has 280 computers and 54 laptops available for public use.
The Library’s wonderful array of books, journals, microfilm, and online research tools have been absolutely indispensable to my work in teaching American and environmental history. The library staff also helped guide me safely through the writing of my own two books. Their interest, patience, and instinctive efforts to help a struggling researcher and writer made my work in their collections a sheer delight. Any success that I’ve enjoyed as a teacher and as a scholar has been due, in no small part, to the extraordinary material and human resources that abound in the Carol Grotnes Belk Library.

Timothy Silver, History, and 2004 Carol Grotnes Belk Distinguished Lecturer

history to 1970
THE HISTORY OF THE APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

KEITH HILL, Associate Professor Emeritus, Appalachian State University Library

Since the inception of Appalachian at the turn of the 20th century, the development of the Library has been closely tied to the growth and changing focus of the school. Starting out as a public school in 1899, Watauga Academy also offered courses of instruction for school teachers. The school became state supported in 1903, and by 1929 had evolved into a four year, degree granting institution with the name of Appalachian State Teachers College, reflecting its sole mission to provide personnel for the public schools of North Carolina.

The role and focus of the college began to change after World War II. In 1948, the college began to offer a Master’s degree in education and the emerging Graduate School became increasingly significant. In 1957, the North Carolina state legislature empowered the institution to offer non-teaching degrees in the liberal arts and sciences, but in 1967, an even more monumental change occurred. In that year, the state legislature further broadened the role of Appalachian State Teachers College, along with other similar teaching institutions in North Carolina, by naming it a regional university empowered to undertake research and service projects for the region. Although the role of the University in meeting the needs of public schools was still emphasized, graduate and undergraduate work in the liberal arts and sciences became the primary focus of the school. Then, in 1971, Appalachian State University became one of the sixteen members of the consolidated University of North Carolina system. The halcyon days of being a single purpose teachers’ college were gone forever. The University’s expanded responsibilities for teaching, research, and service meant a more complex environment and mission. The University met the challenge and by 2005 had transformed itself into a premier, multi-purpose, regional, public university.

As the campus changed, so the Library endeavored to respond to and anticipate the shifting focus of the school. Between 1899 and 1960 the library grew from what was essentially a public school library to a fully functioning teachers’ college library. The remarkable changes in the Library reflected the developments of the entire institution. In sixty years, student enrollment and faculty hiring tripled which meant increasing pressure on the Library. Even more important than the increase in numbers of library patrons was the change from a single mission college to a university with a broad program mission.

BUDGET AND FACILITIES

The Library’s growth has always depended on and benefited from support from the institution’s administration. After becoming a four year degree granting institution in 1929, the

“...My 51-year history with Belk Library includes wonderful memories of Leonard Eury and Richard Barker...we are so fortunate now to have Mary Reichel and her competent and caring staff!”

GLENDA HUBBARD, Hubbard Center
college administration was usually generous in the funding it set aside for the Library from the modest institutional allocations provided annually by the North Carolina state legislature, offering more than similar teachers’ college libraries. The decade of the 60s brought unparalleled progress to the Library, with state appropriations for the institution as a whole growing astoundingly as compared to past decades. In 1960, annual appropriations for the Library were at $96,000, certainly a jump from the $3,000 budget of 1929. However, the increase over the next ten years was even more significant, bringing the Library’s budget to $583,760 by 1970. This primary factor of financial support enabled the Library to make more statistical progress in a single decade than it had in the first sixty years of its existence, bringing about increases in staffing, collection size, and resources.

Meanwhile, in addition to budget growth, the Library’s facilities too improved over time, from a single room in the Watauga Academy building in 1904 to more spacious quarters in the New Administration Building by 1925. In 1935, the library moved into a building of its own, a new, two story 60,000 square foot library named for one of the founders of the college, Dauphin Disco Dougherty. An expansion was added to the building in 1955 which continued to serve as the campus’s main library until 1968. Then, in 1968, the Carol Grotnes Belk Library opened – a new, three story building with 84,000 gross square feet. This building served the campus until the turn of the millennium when it was clear that a new facility was necessary.

SERVICES AND STAFFING
As budgets and facilities for the Library improved, the services offered by the Library began to expand as the school moved toward educating young teachers. Basic public services such as circulation and reference gradually emerged in the 1920s along with the technical services required to acquire and catalog books and periodicals. The Library’s professional reference service became more formalized with the addition of Allie Austin Hodgin to the staff. Between 1938 and 1965 she was the sole librarian responsible for providing reference service. Hodgin answered reference questions, compiled library handbooks, and developed a freshmen orientation program in cooperation with the English Department. Later, the Library’s services were expanded to include such things as offering library orientation and instruction, compiling bibliographies, and selecting reference materials. Graduate students and faculty received special attention with the compilation of a library handbook targeted to their research needs. Interlibrary loan also became more significant as the research endeavors of the campus became more extensive and far-reaching.

Looking at the larger group of reference librarians needed to support the Library today, it is surprising to imagine only one reference librarian serving the whole campus, but the number of personnel in the Library grew slowly for many years. By 1960, there were only seven professional librarians and one full time staff member. However, one of the most notable features of the library was the long service of its staff who provided continuity, experience, and expertise during their long years of service. Beginning with the first full time librarian, Emma Moore, hired in 1920 and administrator until 1946, the university’s librarians often spent their full careers at Appalachian. As another example, Leonard Eury became Head Librarian upon Moore’s retirement in 1946. He had

“The Library allowed me as a teacher to provide resources to my students that just a few years ago would have been impossible.”

ROBERTO MUFFOLETTO, Curriculum & Instruction
joined the staff in 1928 as the assistant librarian responsible for providing cataloging and assisting Moore in the selection of books and periodicals. The careers of Moore and Eury are examples of the group of notable librarians who offered long careers of service to the campus. The names of librarians such as Allie Austin Hodgin, Mary Huff, Vera Tunnell, Zeb Shook, and Richard Barker still hold meaning for the campus as those who built the foundation of the Library we enjoy today.

Librarians had pleasant working conditions during these years. Each librarian was an administrator or headed up a department. The library was administered in an informal fashion with few formal meetings or written policies. Librarians worked a forty hour week, had tenure, with infrequent evening and weekend duties. The library was closed between sessions, so there were frequent vacations. Although salaries were modest, they were in line with other librarians at teachers’ colleges.

COLLECTIONS
Several special collections developed after 1929 to meet the curriculum needs of certain programs including the Curriculum Laboratory for educational materials, the Library Science Department with its Juvenile Collection and Library Sciences Professional Collection, and a Music Library created in 1953.

As the campus grew, the collections themselves became stronger. At first, donations were the only source of materials for the collection until the first purchase of books in 1910. Even at this point, though, most of the books were for a public school student audience and not for research or college level training. Leonard Eury was responsible for removing several thousand public school oriented books from the library’s collection shortly after he arrived, and by 1945, the library had assembled a collection which compared favorably with other teachers’ college libraries. By the conclusion of the 1959-60 academic year, there were 86,888 bound volumes and 436 periodicals and newspapers received.

The role of special collections also became more important in serving the needs of library patrons. Special collections which existed at the beginning of the decade expanded in material resources and personnel. Two new collections were created in the Sixties. The first was the establishment of a partial depository for federal government documents in 1963. In 1968, the Appalachian Collection was created to provide resources on Southern Appalachian history and culture. The sheer volume of acquisitions across the disciplines meant that the historically informal process of materials selections by librarians and interested faculty members had to change. By the mid-Sixties, academic departments were allocated funds annually to expend on library books in their subject areas.

THE END OF AN ERA
1970 marked the end of an era. Leonard Eury, the head of the library since 1946, retired. He had been a librarian at the University since 1928. Eury and the other long serving librarians had seen the library through many changes, especially in the tumultuous Sixties. They had established a solid foundation to prepare the library for even more extraordinary developments in the future. As Appalachian moved toward becoming a premier, multi-purpose, regional university by the end of the century, the library was also transforming itself to meet the information and research needs of a university community priming itself for the 21st century.

“Appalachian State University Library is the tool that keeps distance learners like me well-informed.”

Anne Patrick, student
1970 to present
The history of Appalachian’s Library since 1970 is a story of growth and growing pains. As enrollment in the University more than doubled from 1970 to the present, the Library expanded its staff, resources, services, and finally its facility to accommodate this growth.

COLLECTIONS
As funding for collection development increased in the 1970s, the Library was able to make several significant purchases. In 1993-1994, ten years after reaching a one million dollar allocation, the Library’s collection development budget topped two million with the addition of one-time funds. Today, the Library’s collections number over 800,000 bound volumes, 1.5 million microforms, and thousands of maps, videos, and other materials.

Cancellation of serials is an ongoing theme in most academic libraries, and Appalachian is no exception. In the 1980s and 1990s, hundreds of serials were either cancelled or received only in microforms. Thanks to the wide availability of electronic journals, the Library now provides access to tens of thousands of titles, far more than it was ever possible to provide in hard copy.

In 1971-1972, the Appalachian Regional Collection was named in honor of retired University Librarian William Leonard Eury, a much beloved figure on campus. The close relationship between the Appalachian Collection and the Appalachian Journal began in the 1970s when Appalachian Collection Librarian Charlotte Ross was appointed to the editorial board of the Journal. Many special gifts came to the Appalachian Collection during the 1980s, including the long-term loan of the Blue Ridge Parkway’s files of their Appalachian Resources Project.

In 1998-1999 the Appalachian Collection was particularly pleased to receive the personal library and family papers of the late Cratis D. Williams who served the University from 1942 to 1976. The Cratis Williams Reading Room in the new Belk Library is a fitting testament to a man who helped make Appalachian a great university. In 2000, personnel finished processing the archival collection of Senator James T. Broyhill. In 1998, the Library started the Stock Car Racing Collection, and an advisory committee for the collection was formed in 2002.

ADMINISTRATION
Richard Barker announced his retirement as University Librarian in 1991, and a search was started. Tragically, he died as a result of an automobile accident in December of that year. In the first eight months of 1992, associate librarians Myrna

“Appalachian’s Library has become a second home for many students like myself.”
Matt Green, student
McCallister and Bede Mitchell served as co-acting University Librarians. Following a national search, Mary Reichel was chosen as University Librarian in August 1992.

In 1984-1985 the Appalachian Collection was moved physically to University Hall, where it remained for eleven years, and administratively to the Center for Appalachian Studies. Following the recommendations of an engineering study which found that the University Hall space did not meet the weight-bearing requirements for a library, the Appalachian Collection returned to renovated space in Belk Library in early October 1996. In early 1997, it was decided to have the Appalachian Collection report to the University Librarian with a close liaison relationship with the Center for Appalachian Studies. In 2001, University Archives and Records Management came under the administration of the University Library.

In 1993, library personnel decided to undergo an organizational review of the internal structure of the Library before undertaking other issues such as space concerns. A committee composed of library faculty and staff made the decision in 1994 to change the organization to cluster functions in larger units and move to a team based organization.

FACILITIES
The need for more space is a continuing theme with Appalachian’s Library, and in the early 1970s, just a few short years after moving into a new facility, plans were being made for an addition to the new building. In 1975-1976, the Library appointed a building committee to work on plans. In March of 1977, a bond referendum for new buildings was approved by the North Carolina voters, and Appalachian’s first priority was an addition to the Library. Construction started in 1978, and the addition was finished and occupied in 1980.

The Music Library moved into new space in the Broyhill Music Building in 1983. Its collections have now grown to more than 10,000 books, recordings and pieces of music.

By the middle of the 1980s, the need for additional space in the Belk Library had once again become a primary issue. In 1995-1996, a Library Addition Advisory Task Force studied the issue and submitted its report “For the Next Century: Appalachian’s Library of the Future.” It was this report which first mentioned the possibility of a new building to gain adequate space and the infrastructure which would support modern library service. In December 1996, the University administration determined that a new building should be constructed. In mid-1999, the Library learned that a new building was part of the capital construction projects forwarded to the General Assembly as a proposed bond issue for the UNC System. It was a thrilling day in November 2000 when the voters of North Carolina approved a $3.1 billion bond referendum, including $47.6 million for a Central Library Complex at Appalachian. Pease Associates, Inc. in affiliation with Shepley, Bulfinch, Richardson, and Abbott were chosen as architects.

“Our University Library is where librarians ‘get personal’ with doctoral students and follow their research interests through the dissertation. Who could ask for more?”

Alice Phoebie Naylor, Language, Reading & Exceptionalities
Throughout 2001-2002, library personnel worked with the architects and the Office of Design and Construction to plan the new space; a major part of the planning involved focus groups with students, faculty, and staff. On April 9, 2003, a ceremonial groundbreaking was held for the new Library and Information Commons, with actual construction starting in June 2003. A major highlight of 2002-2003 was the $1 million pledge by Irwin Belk to name the new building in honor of his wife, Carol Grotnes Belk. The old Library had also been named for Mrs. Belk, and the University was delighted to retain the name. The construction management at risk company for the building was Bovis Lend Lease. Between July 2003 and May 2005, they built a 215,000 square foot building on a clean and safe construction site. During May and June 2005, the Library moved from the old building to the new Belk Library and Information Commons, opening the doors for service as scheduled on June 20, 2005.

PERSONNEL
In 1972-1973, librarians were granted faculty status including nine month contracts. In 1986-1987 librarians were moved to 12 month contracts. A continuing theme through this decade and the 1980s was the problems caused, especially in the technical services area, by the low number of support staff. The Library was hit by a number of position freezes and losses during the 1980s with the result that the Library often created, funded, and then lost the same positions repeatedly. By 1994-1995, the Library had a shortfall of 22 SPA staff positions, 40% fewer than recommended when compared to national standards, and a similar situation remains today.

Library faculty were active professionally throughout the 1970s and 1980s and into the present. They served as officers of the American Library Association, and the North Carolina Library Association, and on committees, as well as a number of specialty meetings. In 2001-2002, University Librarian Mary Reichel served as president of the Association of College and Research Libraries, and in 2002-2003, library faculty member Eleanor Cook served as president of the North American Serials Group. Library faculty were also active on campus serving on a number of committees. In 1993-1994, Catherine Wilkinson was elected chair of the Faculty Senate. Two library faculty have been honored with a Board of Governor’s Excellence in Teaching Award: Pat Farthing in 2002-2003 and Glenn Ellen Starr Stilling in 2004-2005. Three members of the staff have been awarded Appalachian Staff Awards: Darlene Scott in 1992, Jack Love in 1996, and Mary Ruble in 2003. In 1998-1999, Barbara Cox served as the University’s Staff Council President.

SERVICE AND OUTREACH
To provide tours of the Library, the reference department in the middle of the 1970s received a Ford Venture Grant which allowed them to purchase 15 audio cassette recorder/players. In
1976-1977 over 120 instruction sessions were given to classes with an estimated 80% of the freshmen receiving library orientation and instruction. In 1996-1997, librarians gave more than 375 presentations reaching a large number of the students on campus.

In 1995-1996 the library instruction program for freshmen was transferred to English 1000. Library personnel continued to adapt new opportunities to the goal of instructing freshmen, and a Library Research Tutorial, based on one developed at the University of North Carolina—Chapel Hill, was used with Freshman Seminar classes for the first time in 2002-2003. This successful tutorial allows students to practice and refine their library skills in a web based environment.

In 1995, the Library opened the Electronic Library Lab with 20 microcomputers for hands on teaching about electronic library resources. In the first year of operation over 160 sessions were given in the lab. Nearly 400 bibliographic and library instruction classes are taught in the Library’s classrooms each year, and library faculty teach at least five credit courses each year.

Online searching of computerized indexes and abstracts began in the 1970s. In 1976-1977, librarians conducted over 500 searches with a turnaround time of 3-9 days. DIALOG searches expanded the Library’s capabilities to serve faculty in a number of disciplines, and the searches were completed in the Library, not sent to a center to have the search done. The ERIC database on CD-ROM was made available to patrons in 1987-1988. In the following two years, additional CD-ROMs were added, such as PsychLit, GPO Monthly Catalog, Compact Disclosure, Medline, and Sport Discus. The Library, along with all academic and public libraries in North Carolina, took a major step forward in 1997-1998 when NC Live (North Carolina Libraries for Virtual Education), made possible by state funding, came online. Forty-four general, undergraduate oriented databases were part of NC Live’s initial package, which allowed the Library to focus on more specialized databases. Today NC Live provides access to nearly 10,000 full text journals and other publications.

Technology and service also came together in 1999-2000 when the Library provided laptops for checkout to students, faculty, and staff. This project was named Project COOL (Check Out Our Laptops.) In the same year, an interactive classroom system was installed in the Electronic Library Lab. By 2000-2001, electronic reserves was a very popular service. Students could now access reserve materials online from any computer on campus or connected to the network.

In 1996-1997, the Library was pleased to participate in the University’s pilot extension program which offered bachelor degree completion programs at Cleveland, Isothermal, and
Western Piedmont Community Colleges. By 2000-2001, the Distance Learning Library Services Team had finalized library service agreements with all the Appalachian Learning Alliance community colleges where the University was offering degree completion programs.

AUTOMATION
In the decade of the 1970s, Appalachian’s Library, like other academic libraries, turned to automation to improve services and to utilize staff more efficiently. A major accomplishment in the early 1970s was the Library’s becoming a founding member of the Southeastern Library Network (SOLINET), which resulted in shared cataloging and allowed the Library to automate cataloging functions.

In 1981-1982, a committee formed to determine how library functions could benefit from automation and to study available automation systems. After the UNC General Administration requested funding for all campuses to migrate to an automated system in the 1985-1987 biennium budget, the creation of a network with the University of North Carolina – Asheville and Western Carolina University was initiated, and the Western North Carolina Library Network (WNCLN) formed. The network has seen the three institutions through the implementation of two online automation systems and the development of an incredibly strong array of Web based resources.

The bid for an online circulation system and catalog was awarded to the OCLC owned LS 2000, and the network librarian position was created and filled in 1986-1987. Following two years of intensive work, the first online catalog was implemented in June of 1988, and the circulation system went live in August of the same year. A major harbinger of the coming automation was the cessation of card production for the card catalog on May 1, 1988, and in May 1992 the card catalog was removed from the Library. Email, now so pervasive, was first initiated in 1987.

Five years after implementation, however, it was clear that the system needed to be replaced. It was increasingly unreliable and lacked an integrated serials check-in and acquisitions function. Funding from the state became available in 1993-1994, and Appalachian’s personnel, working closely with their partners in the WNCLN and six other UNC libraries, selected a new integrated online system. In that same year, the Library was totally rewired to provide the infrastructure for the additional telecommunication and computer resources needed for the new online system and other electronic applications. In September of 1994, the Library celebrated with the campus the implementation of the new online system.

WNCLN personnel also implemented a document delivery service, ABC Express, in October 1988. ABC Express has run continuously for the last seventeen years and has provided faculty, staff, and students at the three universities access to a greatly expanded range of materials.
DEVELOPMENT
In 1991, the Friends of the Library was created, and Professor John Higby was elected the first chair of the group. The first meeting was held October 1, 1991 and 100% of the library staff contributed to the new organization. In 1992, the Friends officially became the Richard T. Barker Friends of the Library. In 1992, as a result of greater outreach, the Library was named the recipient of the senior class gift. The 1993 and the 1994 senior classes also dedicated their gifts to the Library.

In 1995, the University Library Advisory Board was established with alumnus Bill Rhinehart as the first chair and over $54,000 was raised in cash or donation of library materials that first year. In 1995 the Library Advisory Board sponsored a reception for New York area alumni at the Pierpont Morgan Library, and in 1996 a reception at the Grolier Club which was attended by over 60 people. In 1997 the Library Advisory Board hosted the first “A Novel Experience” event. Table hosts invited guests and decorated their tables around the theme of a novel or other book. This event ran with few changes until 2004, raising about $175,000 for the Library’s endowments. In 1995-1996 the Library developed a list of projects totaling more than $2,260,000 for the University's five year Campaign for the Second Century. At the end of the Campaign in December 2001, the Library had exceeded its goal and raised a total of $2.3 million in planned and current gifts.

The Library continues to be very grateful to Irwin and Carol Grotnes Belk, who in 1998-99 provided a $358,000 gift to be matched with $167,000 from the General Administration to form the Carol Grotnes Belk Distinguished Professorship in Library and Information Studies. The professorship, tied to the University Librarian’s position, created the first endowed director position among the 16 UNC institutions. That year also saw the first nineteen books from the rare book collection of Maureen and Bill Rhinehart come to the Library. The Rhineharts have pledged their collection of over 600 rare books related to British History as well as the secondary sources which support the collection. The collection will be housed in the beautiful Bill and Maureen Rhinehart Rare Books and Special Collections Room on the fourth floor of the new Library. Other donations of $100,000 or more during the Campaign for the Second Century included planned gifts from Randy and Sara Charles Stevens and Pauline Thompson.

In December 2000 the W.L. Eury Appalachian Collection, the Center for Appalachian Studies, and the Appalachian Cultural Museum were awarded a $400,000 challenge grant to be matched by $1.2 million in private funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the first such grant to the University. Gifts valued at more than $100,000 include those from Senator and Mrs. James T. Broyhill (papers and endowment); Broyhill Furniture Industries; and William and Virginia Powell (book collection and endowment). In addition, a $100,000 grant from the Gordon and Mary Cain Foundation was awarded in support of the overall Cratis D. Williams Humanities Endowment for Appalachian Studies.

Using funding from the Carol Grotnes Belk Distinguished Professor funds, the Library hosted the first Carol Grotnes Belk Distinguished Lecture on July 20, 2000 as part of An Appalachian Summer. Dr. Hal Keiner, then archivist/historian at the Biltmore, spoke on “George Vanderbilt: His Life and Library.” Each summer since 2000, the Library has hosted the Belk Distinguished Lecture with a notable list of lecturers including Loyal Jones in 2001, Sharyn McCrumb in 2002, Nicholas Basbanes in 2003, Timothy Silver in 2004, and Romulus Linney in 2005.

CONCLUSION
Appalachian State University Library has a heritage of over 100 years of service and collection building. Through the years, the Library has provided strong and innovative services, high quality access to the collections, and technological advances to improve services and outreach to students, faculty, and staff, as well as the mountain region. The collections have been developed with care to reflect Appalachian’s areas of study, research, and strength. Although we celebrate the beautiful new Carol Grotnes Belk Library and Information Commons, it has always been and will continue to be the Library’s personnel who make this Library a great one.
1899
Watauga Academy is founded by D.D. and B.B. Dougherty with the goal of training teachers for western North Carolina mountain schools.

1903
Watauga Academy, recognized by the North Carolina Legislature, is renamed Appalachian Training School. The Library is established in a room in the two-story Watauga Academy building and remains there until 1925.

1906
The Library with a reading room for newspapers and magazines opens for one hour each school day, and students can borrow books under certain rules.

1910
The first book is purchased from funds received from overdue fines.

1911
Bettie Stephenson becomes the librarian, and the Library is open for two hours during the afternoons. Attendance in the Library is required through 1924.

1911
Minnie W. Leatherman, Secretary of the State Library Commission, spends ten days at the institution and provides professional guidance to the librarian about organizing the collection.

1913
Three hundred books are purchased during the year, bringing the total collection to 5,000 volumes.

1914
The school catalog reads, “the Librarian will furnish any information she can for debates, compositions, historical research, etc. Postage must be paid on literature sent out.”

1915
New River Light & Power brings electricity to campus and town.

1916
A new female dorm is built on campus, and a branch library is established there.

1919
Emma H. Moore becomes the first full-time librarian of the school. She remains head librarian until 1946 and stays on as assistant librarian until 1954.

1921
The North Carolina General Assembly authorizes Appalachian Training School to become a normal school and junior college.

1925
The school’s name is changed to Appalachian State Normal School with the main purpose of training public school teachers.
1925
50% of the books in the collection are catalogued under an ongoing Dewey classification project.

1925
The Library moves to the third floor of the new Administrative Building, with two rooms and an area for the collection stacks.

1928
Leonard Eury becomes the assistant librarian and establishes the first card catalog.

1929
The school is authorized to become a four-year degree granting institution and is renamed Appalachian State Teachers College.

1929
The Faculty Library Committee begins serving as an advisory board to the Library.

1935
Students on campus conduct strikes against social restrictions.

1935
The D. D. Dougherty Library opens, offering shelves to house 60,000 volumes and reading room space for 400 patrons. The two story red tapestry brick building, trimmed with stone and tile, is described in the Hickory Daily Record as “spacious and modern in every respect.”

1942
A Juvenile Collection is established.

1943
Cratis Dearl Williams, noticing that there are few materials having to do with Appalachia in the Library, begins to identify and purchase books on the area and on folk songs, building what will become the Appalachian Collection.

1945
Leonard Eury is promoted to head librarian and remains so until his retirement in 1970.

1948
College enrollment reaches 1,100 students, with 65 faculty members. A Graduate School is formed with 23 students.

1953
The Music Library is established.

1955
President B. B. Dougherty retires and Dr. William H. Plemmons becomes the third president of the school.

1955
A new addition to the Library is completed, doubling stack capacity to 150,000 volumes and increasing seating capacity to 500.

1965
The institution adds non-teaching degrees for the first time.

1965
The Library purchases its first copy machine.
1966
Fire destroys the Administration Building, the second administration building for the campus.

1967
Appalachian gains regional state university status and becomes Appalachian State University. The Library is awarded depository status for U.S. Government publications.

1968
The Carol Grotnes Belk Library opens with 84,000 square feet.

1968
The Appalachian Room is established to house and preserve the Library’s special collections on the Appalachian region.

1969
Dr. Plemmons retires as University President and is replaced by Dr. Herbert W. Wey.

1971
The William Leonard Eury Appalachian Collection is dedicated.

1971
Richard T. Barker becomes University Librarian at Appalachian and serves until his untimely death in 1991.

1972
Appalachian State University becomes part of the University of North Carolina (UNC) system, and Dr. Wey’s title changes from President to Chancellor.

1972
In October, the Library’s acquisition system is first computerized.

1973
Allie Hodgin, head of the reference department, retires from the Library after forty years employment, beginning as a student assistant in 1933 at a wage of 15 cents per hour.

1973
Appalachian State University becomes a charter member of the Southeastern Library Network (SOLINET), a network organized to assist computerized cataloging which began at Appalachian in January, 1975.

1975
The Tattle-Tape Book Detection System is installed by 3M.

1975
Starting in May, all new acquisitions are catalogued and placed both in the card catalog and into machine readable form.

1976
A Learning Resources Coordinator for off-campus programs is hired to catalog and place reserve materials at remote sites for use by off-campus students and faculty.

1976
Searches of Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC), the Library’s first online computer search service, are offered.
1978
An addition to the Belk Library is completed.

1979
Dr. John E. Thomas becomes Chancellor.

1980
The Instructional Materials Center is organized.

1980s
Frederick the Bear comes to live permanently in the Instructional Materials Center after being a part of an educational exhibit program at Appalachian and spending summers at the Library.

1981
The University Records Center and Archives is established with Dr. Bettie Bond acting as coordinator.

1983
The Music Library opens in the new Broyhill Music Center.

1984
Ten computer terminals are installed in Belk Library, connected via AppalNet to the University's Univac 1100 computer.

1984
Appalachian State University, the University of North Carolina Asheville, and Western Carolina University initiate the Western North Carolina Library Network (WNCLN) and agree to develop an online public access catalog (OPAC).

1987
The first CD-ROMs are purchased.

1987
A fax system for interlibrary loan is introduced.

1988
The LS2000 online system, with twelve public terminals, is installed. The ABC Express program begins, allowing Appalachian State, UNCA, and WCU users to borrow materials from all three libraries efficiently and without traveling to the other schools.

1990
Appalachian enrolls approximately 11,000 students and employs over 700 faculty.

1991
The Friends of the Library organization is formed.

1992
Dr. Mary Reichel is appointed University Librarian.

1993
Dr. Francis T. Borkowski becomes Chancellor.

1994
Innovative Interfaces wins the contract to migrate the LS2000 online catalog of WNCLN holdings to a new online public access catalog.

1995
Librarians develop an Electronic Library Lab to offer hands-on training in the use of electronic information resources.
1996
The Library launches a homepage on the Appalachian Website.

1998
The Appalachian State University Library begins participation in NC Live, a statewide consortium of 186 libraries throughout North Carolina formed to share electronic resources such as databases and online reference materials.

1999
The Library launches a Research Advisory Program (RAP) to provide students the opportunity to meet individually with librarians for in-depth research assistance.

2000
Ask a Librarian e-mail reference assistance service is added to the Library's website.

2000
A Distance Learning Library Services Team is established to support the steadily increasing number of off-campus students.

2001
The Appalachian Office of University Archives and Records Management becomes part of the Library.

2002
The Stock Car Racing Collection is formally recognized as a special collection of the Library and an Advisory Committee to the collection is formed.

2002
An interactive Library Research Tutorial is added to the Library's website.

2002
Ground breaking for the new Library and Information Commons occurs on April 9, 2002.

2003
Online chat-based reference information assistance becomes available from the Library's website.

2003
The Appalachian Library becomes the official repository for the published works of McFarland and Company Publishers, Inc.

2004
Dr. Kenneth Peacock becomes Chancellor.

2005
The new Carol Grotnes Belk Library and Information Commons opens on June 20, 2005.
BELK LIBRARY AND INFORMATION COMMONS
Faculty and Staff

July 2005

John P. Abbott
Lisa T. Abbott
Linda Andrews
Katherine Alford
Beth Ball
Greg Beavers
Thomas Bennett
Jennifer Bonnet
John Boyd
Gary Boye
Larry Boyer
Virginia Brittain
Mark Brittain
Tom Byland
Jackie Byrd
Eleanor Cook
Norma Cook
Barbara Cox
Beth Cramer
Martha Cutler
Lori Davis
David DeHart
John Doherty
Georgie Donovan
Allan Duncan
Jessica Efron
Anita Elliott
Bryan Estel
Pat Farthing
Susan Golden
Jason Grice
Fred Hay
Susan Hisle
Sandy Hoyle
Dianna Johnson
Ken Johnson
Megan Johnson
Adam Jordan
Hal Keiner
Martha Kreszock

Jack Love
Lynne Lysiak
Thomas Main
Peggy Matheson
Leah McManus
Joan Meixell
Pam Mitchem
Lottie Oliver
Paul Orkiszewski
Mary Ann Painter
Lynn Patterson
Connie Pendley
Sherrye Perry
Geri Purpur
Mary Reichel
Kelly Rhodes
Mary Ruble
Allan Scherlen

Darlene Scott
James Smith
Kathy Staley
Glenn Ellen Starr Stilling
Patrick Sweet
Belinda Talbert
Doug Tester
Greta Tester
Pam Trivette
Ann Viles
Leroy Watson
Patty Wheeler
Catherine Wilkinson
Betsy Williams
Dean Williams
Suzanne Wise
Jason Wolfe
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Kay Borkowski
Rebecca Burgess
Paul Byrd, Jr.
Margaret H. Carpenter
Thomas Carpenter
Julian Carr
Mabel Davis
William Dodge
Robert Franklin
Barbara Freiman
Betty Gardner
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John Idol, Jr.
H.G. Jones
Kim Kincaid
Barbara Moran
Pat Phillips
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Pat Gibson
Ruth Hester
Robert Inman
Laura Lewin
Katy Martin
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James Sawyer
Margie Smith
Jim Tippin

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Diane Graham
Shannon Russing

Don Saunders
Harwood Smith
Eileen Swaney
Suzanne Wise

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Eli Bentor
Barbara Bonham
Bradley Nash
Susan Roggenkamp
Laurie Semmes
Roger Stilling
Glenda Treadaway
Ray Williams
James Hayes
Jenny Ware
Julie Hutchens
Justin Pittman
Thomas Shook

Stock Car Racing Collection Advisory Committee
(2005-2006)
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Johnny Bruce
Vaughn Christian
Chris Economaki
Rick Gambill
Ted Hagaman
Garry Hill
Ben Trout
Deb Williams

NEH Advisory Board
William C. Friday
Bettie Bond
Eleanor Carroll
Roy Carroll
Ruby Daniel
Allison Idol
John Idol, Jr.
H.G. Jones
Rachel Malcolm Smith
Robert Snead
David Williams

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Kenneth E. Peacock, Chancellor

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THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA SYSTEM

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Mike Easley
Governor

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Lieutenant Governor
OPPORTUNITIES FOR INVOLVEMENT

PATTY WHEELER, Director of Development, Library

The Library’s development program began in 1994 when the first meeting of the Library Advisory Board was held in November with eight charter members. The first project was to raise funds to enhance the library collection including the Music Library and the William Leonard Eury Appalachian Collection. The University-wide Campaign for the Second Century was launched in 1997 with a goal of $50 million. For the first time, the University Library was included in the campaign, with a $2 million goal. At the time of the Victory Celebration in May 2002, the Library had raised approximately $2.3 million.

Since that time, the Library’s fundraising efforts have been focused on meeting a $450,000 goal as part of the National Endowment for the Humanities Challenge Grant in Appalachian Studies and offering naming opportunities in the new Belk Library and Information Commons.

There are various ways in which persons or groups interested in supporting the Library can become involved.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY
An annual membership drive raises funds to purchase special materials for the collection. Memberships start at $25.00. A nine-member board of directors seeks advice from library faculty on which materials to purchase and plans a number of special events throughout the year including a reception for faculty who have published books, two book sales and a spring tea featuring a noted speaker. Board meetings are held twice each semester.

LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD
Members of the 25-member Library Advisory Board serve as advocates for the Library in the community and beyond, hold a major fundraising event each year, such as the popular “Novel Experience,” and offer individual financial support for a number of library projects. About half of the board have named rooms in the new building and others have contributed to group rooms. The board meets twice a year; board committees meet as needed.

ENDOWMENTS
Since 1994, about 30 new endowments have been established to support the Library. A large majority of these endowments support collections and are crucial to the ability of the Library to obtain resources for students, faculty and staff that otherwise could not be purchased. Endowments for technological enhancements and other projects are also encouraged. The minimum amount of funds required to establish an endowment is $10,000 which can be pledged over five years.

NAMING OPPORTUNITIES
A variety of rooms are available for naming in the new building, from group study rooms to technology-related areas to the atrium. The amounts of gifts needed to name rooms range from $10,000 to $250,000 and may be pledged over five years. The names of all building donors will be listed on the donor recognition wall in the atrium.