

The Bibliophile

Coe
College

Winter 2002

A newsletter for members of the Coe College Library Association

Airy and inviting

More books mean more shelves

In a show of continuing expansion, the last of the library's extra steel shelves have been pulled out of storage, allowing for growth of the reference, media, curriculum and children's literature collections for at least a decade.

Study spaces were not lost in the expansion, said Rich Doyle, library director. Some of the expansion of space was made possible by clearing shelves of reference collections that are now online, like indexes to subject literature and abstracts.

While the library has made a commitment to acquire journals in digital format, the library's general book collection continues to grow. That's great news for readers, but means that even more sections of shelving will have to be purchased soon. This will accommodate five more years of growth, Doyle said.

"Space has been cleared to add 28 double sided sections of shelving. It is our hope that we will be able to purchase and install the shelving before the coming summer," Doyle said.

When Stewart Memorial Library was remodeled in 1988, the new building featured plenty of study rooms. But they're small and not conducive for multiple purposes — not to mention that they're not particularly inviting. So, in the end, quality conquered quantity. This fall the Bodey and Eaton study rooms were opened, along with the Paul Engle seminar room.

The Bodey and Eaton rooms are six-person group study rooms, available on a first come, first serve basis. They were cleverly built into underutilized space — around second floor stairwells where coats racks used to stand. Services were relocated to open space for the Engle room, which has a 10-person table and will soon be completed with the installation of a combination display case and bookshelf, housing books and materials of Paul Engle.

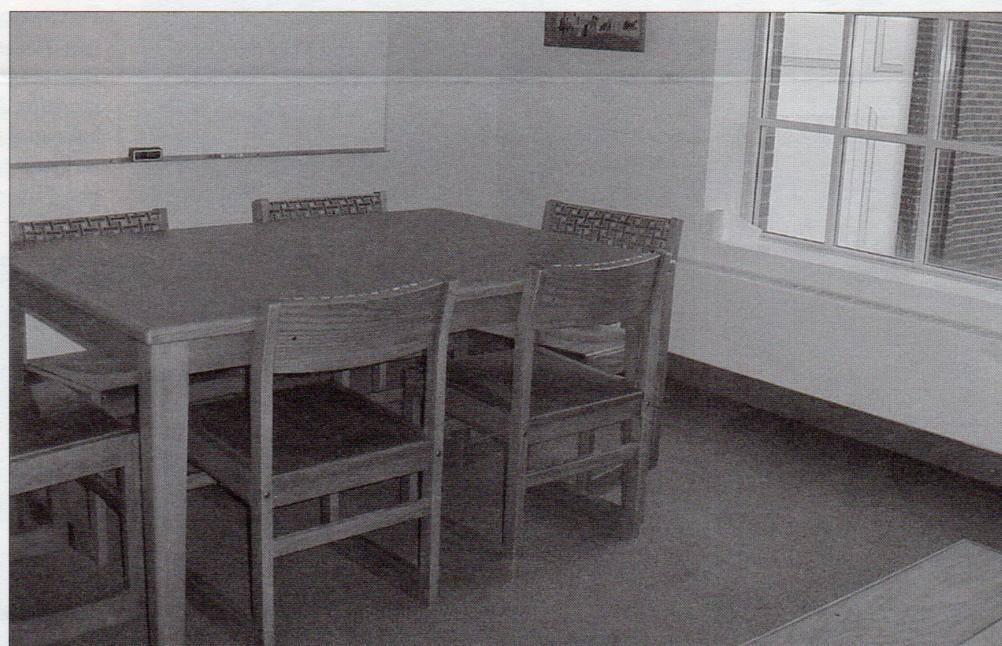
The result is three light and airy rooms that are increasingly popular with both students and faculty.

"The library study rooms have loads of sunlight, are quiet, surrounded by books (including the philosophy collection which is right outside the room) and are central to campus," said Jeff Hoover, associate professor of philosophy.

Hoover frequently uses the Engle room as his classroom setting. It fills a void, he said. There are no longer seminar-size rooms in Hickok Hall, and the new classroom in the basement of Morris House lacks the atmosphere he prefers for the "abstract and ethereal contemplations of philosophy."

The Eaton and Bodey rooms were made possible through the generosity of **Vivian Eaton Buchan '33**, honoring the memory of Vivian's sister, **Midred Eaton Bodey '36**, and her parents, **A. LeRoy and Frances Eaton**.

The Engle Room, named to honor **Paul Engle '31**, poet, educator and Rhodes Scholar, was funded by numerous donors.



The Eaton room is one of three new study rooms in the library.

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Bookends

More Metcalfs



XVII Century Frame is a gift of Mr. and Mrs. William Whipple. The second painting, which is untitled and shows three faces, is a gift of George P. Fanning. Both are exhibited in the Pashgian Gallery on the second floor.

Writer's Block

Another new art acquisition is actually not an acquisition. A frame and a blank piece of canvas hang just inside the front doors of the library, just across from the circulation desk. The title: "Whatever." The non-piece of art is something humorous thought up by the library staff as a Halloween prank.



Parking among the Metcalfs

Students love lounge seating in the library, and often seek out the cozy nooks throughout the building. Now they have four new



places to park and read. Through the generous support of Marguerite Gurekian and other friends of

Conger Metcalf, four classic leather chairs have been added to the Conger Metcalf and The Pashgian Galleries. Tables will be next. Already students have discovered just how lovely the chairs are. The homecoming court had its photo taken in the galleries, which then appeared on the cover of an issue of *The Cosmos*. "Obviously the students found them," said Rich Doyle, director of library services.

Library is No. 1

Who says librarians aren't hip enough to do The Hustle?

In Coe's homecoming parade on Oct. 13, Stewart Memorial Library's 11-person staff and four work-study students hustled, and earned their way to a first-place finish in the annual, and quite competitive, college event.

Fancy footwork and ingenuity were their secret weapons. The act included drill team disco, some synchronized spins with books as props, and a tall man who was the center of a Rockettes-style pinwheel.

This was the library's first year in the contest. A public relations motive was behind the decision to be in the parade. "We wanted people to know that librarians can be fun and approachable people," said Cedra Williamson, head of the audio visual department.

If, in fact, the stereotype of stern librarians wearing their hair in tight buns lingers in your minds, the Oct. 13 performance should dissolve that notion.

The drill time performed in pouring rain, stopping "at every eighth person" to perform their 20-second act. A banner carried by two drill team leaders (one had a broken foot) survived the downpour because it was, true to librarian spirit, laminated.

Williamson came up with the drill team idea, and joined forces for ideas with Cheri Pettibone, library acquisitions

assistant. They recruited Coe senior Alvon Reed, an accomplished dancer, who choreographed the moves. The entire staff practiced – in secret – for several weeks leading up to the event.

On the big day, each drill team member carried a fake copy of "The Jungle Book," in keeping with the homecoming theme of Welcome to the Jungle. Steps included three taps of their feet, followed by the slamming of books and a synchronized "ssh" with fingers to lips.

Randy Roeder, Coe's six foot, six inch tall head of the library's technical services, stood at the center of a pinwheel for a second crowd pleasing move. As library staff circled in formation around him, he lifted the Jungle Book high, pages open to the words, "Go Kohawks." (with apologies to Rudyard Kipling)

Believe it or not, the majority of library staffers are novice dancers. Williamson's dance background is "rock in the 50's and poodle skirts." Pettibone's steps came from "disco in the '70s and once watching American Bandstand." But Roeder, with his librarian wife, Nancy, step out weekly for ballroom dancing.

Their talent was the ability to have a good time. "It was a hoot. It was just really fun," said Williamson.



The Stewart Memorial Library staff does a pinwheel around its tallest co-worker.

An Educator's Legacy

In her short life, Vickie Ross '79 was known for her gift of enriching the lives of countless elementary students. Knowing that her life was nearing its end, Vickie made sure that her gift kept on giving.

Vickie, who died in June, left a bequest of \$1,000 to Coe. She also asked that friends and family members send their memorials to the Stewart Memorial Library and that the money be used for the purchase of literary materials for teacher education. In the end, the outpouring was "stunning," said Richard Meisterling, vice president for advancement.

Gifts came from 50 separate donors and was enough to buy 139 titles, all in Vickie's memory.

"It's not often that we receive such a large number of donations to be used for one subject area, and honoring the memory of one person," said Rich Doyle, director of library services.

Vickie received her bachelor's degree in education from Coe in 1979 and taught in Fort Dodge, the Quad Cities and Cedar Rapids for several years. She spent the last 13 years with the Houston Independent School District.

Family and friends remember Vicki for her quick wit, sense of humor, and

never-faltering positive attitude. She was a teacher known for enriching the lives of many students — and adults — in her life, and her strong commitment to educating children.

Now her strong commitment to educating children will have a direct impact on future generations of teachers and their students.

"At a time when many people are thinking and writing about issues related to educational reform, it is especially crucial that our students have access to current literature in the field," said Terry McNabb, associate professor of teacher education and director of Coe's MAT program. "We are very grateful to Vickie and her friends for recognizing the important role that teachers play in our lives and those of our children."

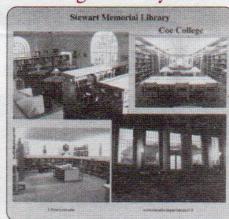
And ...

The library now has 60 new conference chairs to be used in the Perrine Gallery. The library also has a new portable lectern with audio capabilities, which is available for campus checkout as an item in the AV inventory.

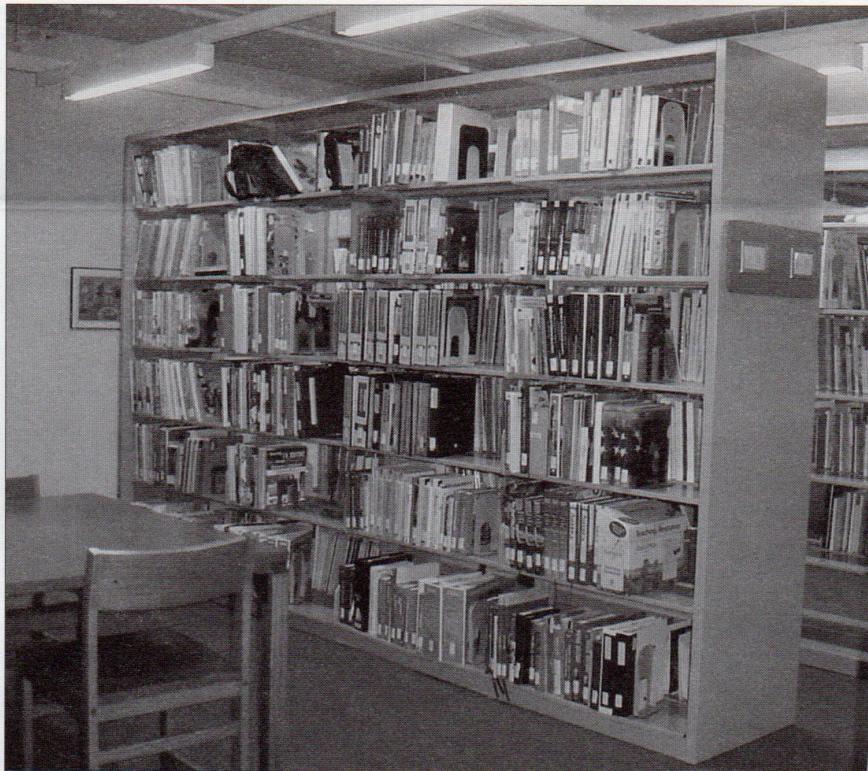
For library mice only

The library created its own mouse pads this year, showcasing the building's beauty.

These photos are by Tony Bata, director of academic computing and Coe's Webmaster.



The teacher education book collection is now 139 titles richer, thanks to a bequest from educator Vickie Ross.



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Electronic Reserves Gain Popularity

Coe professors who place material on reserve for their students to fish out of Stewart Memorial Library, and the students who have to go to the library, make copies, then lug the material home, now have a means of simplifying this process.

Reserve material can now be put on electronic reserve, a system that digitizes the material that professors want their students to read. Students can then access the material via the web, both on or off campus.

Response has been overwhelming. "It's been used quite heavily this term," said Sandy Blanchard, head of the circulation department. "It's so convenient for them. It's right there on their computers."

And since every residence hall room at Coe has at least one computer nowadays, the accessibility and popularity

make sense. "I think it does show that we have a very digitally savvy student population," said Rich Doyle, director of library services.

Each semester professors designate certain material as "reserve," which students have to locate in the library, then read or photocopy. With the newer system, Blanchard scans material for professors, using special software. Students can then download it.

The system was introduced a year ago as a test. By spring, popularity was picking up. By this fall some impressive numbers were tallied.

As of Oct. 15, students checked out 624 paper reserves. On the electronic reserve side, 10,355 accesses were made to electronic reserve material.

For students, especially those in text-heavy classes, the electronic reserve has been a welcome option.

"You don't have to trek all the way over the library to get an article. You can access them from anywhere on campus and there is never a chance that they will be checked out or you will have to wait around for them to be brought back," said Stephanie Goese, a nursing student. "Also, you don't have to pay to get the articles copied because you can either just read them off the web or you can print them. Overall, it does save time and money and it's extremely convenient."

Faculty, like Terry Heller, Howard Hall Professor of English, find similar benefits to electronic reserve. "What I like best about it is that texts that are not easily available or that are small portions of expensive books can be made available to students in my classes easily and economically," Heller said.

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