

William C. Gast BUSINESS LIBRARY

at Michigan State University

The Year in Numbers



9,942	Study room check-ins
353	Technology room bookings
16,868	Items checked out
1,651	Research inquiries
1,040	Inter-library loans
>50	Business databases
92	Classes/seminars taught
2,711	Class/seminar attendees
6	Liters of hand sanitizer
57	Course & research guides
>6,000	Online business journals
19,940	Front desk patron interactions

Annual Report 2010-2011: The Year in Review

The past year was a busy one at the Gast Business Library. Some of the highlights included:

- Enhancing the library's teaching by incorporating active learning techniques into course-related instruction sessions as well as BUS 101 freshman seminar sessions.
- Delivering timely and effective reference and research support to students, faculty and staff (19,940 front desk inquiries; 1,651 librarian inquiries).
- Enhancing our collection by increasing our electronic holdings and creating a popular business collection for browsing.
- Completing a number of facilities upgrades to provide an inviting library space for collaborative work as well as individual study.
- Engaging in a strategic planning process to ensure we continue to meet user needs and expectations.

Course & Research Guides

Librarians at the Gast Business Library have created a number of online subject and course guides to help patrons navigate our print and electronic collections. Each guide contains the best resources for a particular topic or course project. Browse a list of guides here: <http://www.lib.msu.edu/busguides>



Collections (Databases & Print Materials)

We strive to provide a collection that is relevant and easily accessible to our patrons. As part of our efforts in this regard, we interfiled our journal and monograph collections and weeded our reference collection this year. The overall organization of our physical materials is more intuitive now and the print reference collection is comprised of core titles that are heavily used. We also developed a new collection of popular business titles and have displayed them in a separate section for easy browsing. We continued to develop our e-book collections and subscribed to several new electronic resources, including: Freedonia Focus, ISI Emerging Markets, Zephyr and Guidestar.



Library's Recycling Efforts Win Special Recognition

The Gast Business Library received special recognition from the MSU Surplus Store & Recycling Center for its participation and support of the Center's zero-waste project. The Library was the first academic unit to participate in the pilot project in which large waste baskets in staff offices were replaced with mini-bins and recycling containers. Not only has the Library reduced the amount of waste going to landfills, but feedback from the library has also impacted the Center's strategies and educational materials as they seek to expand the program across campus.

Sprucing Up the Library

Over the past year, we have made a number of changes to our facilities to enhance the user experience. These have included:

- Installing partitions around our designated quiet study space.
- Creating dedicated “quick print” and scanning stations.
- Obtaining a newer and faster color printer.
- Purchasing new furniture for our hi-tech group study room.
- Reviewing and enhancing library signage.
- Securing more recycling bins for placement throughout the library.

Additional significant improvements to the library’s space are in the planning stages. Target areas include the copy center, group study rooms and the library instruction classroom.

Professional Activities

Librarians and staff are engaged in a number of professional activities and serve on a wide range of library and university committees. In the past year librarians attended and presented at the meetings of ABLD, ALA, SLA and MLA. All of the librarians also hold offices in these organizations. Highlights of their professional service include:

Breezy Silver

- Special Libraries Association (SLA), Business & Finance Division, Mentoring Chairperson.
- SLA, Michigan Chapter, President-Elect.
- MSU Libraries, Ergonomics Committee, Chairperson.

Michelle Allen

- Michigan Libraries Association (MLA), Professional Development Networking Committee, Co-Chairperson.
- MSU Libraries Capital Campaign, Co-Chairperson.
- MSU Libraries, Environmental Committee, Member.

Laura Leavitt

- SLA, Business & Finance Division, Secretary.
- SLA, Social Science Division, 2012 Conference Planner.
- Michigan State University, University Committee on Faculty Affairs, Non-College Faculty Representative.

Nancy Lucas

- Academic Business Library Directors, Member.
- Michigan State University Computing & Technology Committee, Member.
- MSU Libraries, Steering Committee, Member.