Kansas State University
LIBRARIES

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A Clear Vision

THE PAUL WEIGEL LIBRARY OF ARCHITECTURE, PLANNING & DESIGN HAS A NEW HOME IN THE HEART OF REGNIER HALL

BY SARAH HOYT

On October 13, 2017, a crowd gathered in front of K-State’s newly constructed Regnier Hall as donors and honored guests stood on the building’s rooftop terrace. When the honorees cut the ceremonial ribbons, purple and white streamers fluttered to the ground in front of Weigel Library’s new home.

Regnier Hall, a sleek, modern, steel and glass building, is a striking contrast to Seaton Hall, where the university’s first architecture library was established in 1921. The library moved to increasingly larger spaces in Seaton four times in the following decades.

Ultimately, the collection and staff served K-State students in Seaton Hall for 96 years, thanks to the library’s champions, professors and leaders like Cecil F. Baker, Paul F. Weigel and Emil Fischer, who paved the way for its growth. The university recognized Prof. Weigel’s support and leadership by naming the library in his honor in 1986.

Like his predecessors, Tim de Noble, the current dean of the College of Architecture, Planning & Design, has been an advocate for improved library space and resources.

The 1925 architectural library and lounge in Seaton Hall drawn by Emil Fischer.

In its new Regnier Hall home, Weigel Library occupies 6,500 square feet on the ground floor.

The furniture selected for Weigel Library isn’t just aesthetically pleasing, it is an embodiment of the design lessons the college’s students learn in their time at K-State. Red upholstered Knoll Womb chairs and ottomans—mid-century classics by Eero Saarinen—are perfect examples of design that is both comfortable and has the potential to inspire creativity.
Now, in its new 6,500-square-foot Regnier Hall home, Weigel Library is part of a modern glass nexus between two historic limestone structures. A movable glass wall bisects the library space so that students can still access the Pierce Information Commons—a spacious reading and meeting area with comfortable furniture—after Weigel’s regular hours.

K-State Libraries’ Maxine Ganske has worked in Weigel Library since April 2007. She’s excited that the library’s new location means that students will more readily see what it has to offer.

“When we were on Seaton’s third floor, we were maybe a bit ‘out of sight, out of mind,’ but this move brings us to the center of the college,” Ganske said. “The exterior glass walls both in front and in back provide abundant sunlight and transparency. Our space is a great visual connection highlighting Weigel’s integration into the college and the rest of campus.”

Jason Jirele, graduate student in architecture from Blooming Prairie, Minn., thinks that the visibility is already paying off.

“Weigel Library finally has a space that lives up to its quality as a resource for students,” Jirele said. “Even in this short amount of time, people seem to be taking advantage of it much more than before. The new commons has been a great place for groups and organizations to meet, but just like in old Weigel, there are still a few places throughout where students can find a quiet corner to relax between classes.”

There are also improvements that make Weigel’s holdings more...
accessible. The library’s new William A. Stoskopf Special Collections room will include approximately 1,175 rare and fragile books, prints, maps and other items. The materials will be shelved in a pleasant, secure environment where faculty and students can safely examine them. Even the oldest item in the collection, a 1581 edition of “I quattro libri dell’architettura di Andrea Palladio,” will be available.

“The new special collections room features a glass wall, so our resources will be much more visible,” Ganske said. “Increased awareness and accessibility means that faculty members can more easily incorporate unique items into teaching and research, and students will have more exposure to this collection of valuable—and even irreplaceable—materials.”

It’s yet another way that the theme of visibility plays out in the new space.

“Weigel Library now occupies a visually prominent and accessible place within the heart of the public realm of Regnier Hall,” de Noble said. “This reflects the long-established and continuing importance of library resources in the academic advancement of our students and faculty.”

De Noble said that Regnier Hall’s modern glass design is part of the school’s vision for transparency. Other classrooms, studios and labs also feature glass walls that reveal the learning, reflection and creation taking place.

“We are honored that Dean de Noble saw fit to place Weigel Library in such a beautiful location,” Lori Goetsch, Dean of K-State Libraries, said. “We are very proud to support the College of Architecture, Planning & Design in all aspects of their work.”

“Weigel Library now occupies a visually prominent and accessible place within the heart of the public realm of Regnier Hall.” — Tim de Noble, Dean of the College of Architecture, Planning & Design

Weigel Library offers a variety of workspaces in which students can study in groups or in quiet solitude.
Direct access onto the first floor from Hale Library’s southeast ground entrance will make the building more welcoming and user-friendly.
PHASE I

For 20 years, Hale Library has provided ample space for the K-State community. But that’s never stopped Dean Lori Goetsch from asking, “What if …?”

“When you hear students say, ‘Wouldn’t it be great if you could enter straight onto the first floor?’ every semester for a decade, you know the need is there,” Goetsch said. “And then you start to see how improving one part of the building might dovetail with other changes, and a plan starts to take shape.”

Even as her wish list grew over the years, Goetsch knew that the Libraries didn’t need a new building. Instead, this would be the new, improved Hale Library.

“Hale is a 550,000-square-foot building, so there’s plenty of space,” she said. “We just wanted to rethink how we use the amazing structure we already have.”

When Hale Library was built in the late ’90s, students used libraries in a more solitary way. They accessed physical copies of books and journals to complete research projects in isolation. The internet was still relatively new—organizations like Amazon, Google and eBay were in their infancy—and e-resources weren’t central to coursework. Today, online research, collaboration and group assignments are integral parts of college courses, and the ways students engage with Hale Library reflect that shift.

“Collectively, K-Staters make about 30,000 visits to Hale Library every week during the academic year,” Goetsch said. “During peak hours when groups are gathered around white boards and have their laptops and books spread out, the space literally hums with activity. There is no better time to experience what Hale means to students and contemporary university life.”

In 2014, K-State Libraries’ administrative team selected Hale Library’s first floor as the location for a learning commons to enable and promote the kinds of collaborative, technology-based work so many K-State degrees require.
PHASE II

When alumni sign on to help turn “What if?” into reality, you know you’re headed in the right direction. Dave and Ellie Everitt of Marco Island, Florida, have given a $3 million lead gift that paves the way for the renovation project.

Their gift plus several other commitments total $3.3 million, just above 50 percent of the $6.5 million goal for the project. The Everitts hope others will be inspired to invest in Hale Library, a resource that is vital for all K-State students.

“I remember the library of the old stacks,” Dave said. “Coming through the library to see what it is today, and then looking at the plans and seeing what this will be when it’s done—it’s a totally different environment. We hope others are inspired to help us make this a place of study, collaboration and technology for the university of the 21st century.”

In order to arrive at the construction phase, the Libraries’ team is working to connect with others who are excited about the new first floor, which will be named the Dave and Ellie Everitt Learning Commons.

“We are profoundly grateful for the Everitts’ support,” Goetsch said. “Once all funds are raised, this will be the only capital improvement effort in K-State Libraries’ history funded entirely through philanthropic support.”

“UNIVERSITYWIDE PROGRAMS ARE IMPORTANT TO SUPPORT BECAUSE THEY TOUCH EVERY STUDENT AT K-STATE. THE LIBRARY IMPACTS NOT ONLY STUDENTS, BUT ALSO FACULTY AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS WHO VISIT.” — ELLIE EVERITT

Ellie Everitt graduated from K-State in 1973 with a degree in clothing and textiles from the College of Human Ecology. Dave Everitt received his degree in industrial engineering from the College of Engineering in 1975. They are both KSU Foundation Trustees and serve on the Innovation and Inspiration Campaign steering committee. Dave is also on the KSU Foundation Board of Directors.

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— ELLIE EVERITT
PHASE III

The Dave and Ellie Everitt Learning Commons will feature environments and technology that enable and promote collaboration, as well as that long-wished-for first floor entrance.

"Hale Library is one of the most utilized spaces on campus, so a more accessible entrance is very high on the list," Goetsch said. "And we're the only library system in the Big 12 without dedicated study rooms students can reserve, so those are a huge priority."

The study rooms will be equipped with technology so students can practice presentations, hold meetings and communicate with researchers around the globe.

The learning commons will make room for partner organizations, too, thanks to satellite spaces for campus services. The Writing Center, academic tutors and others will be able to hold hours in Hale Library, right at the heart of campus where students already gather.

Additionally, a partnership with the K-State Information Technology Assistance Center (iTAC), which is already housed in Hale Library, will provide software and tech support in a dedicated space for digital scholarship. K-State researchers will be able to access cutting-edge resources that amplify the quality and visibility of their work. Affiliated digital scholarship librarians will also facilitate K-State’s Open/Alternative Textbook Initiative, a program that creates free alternatives to the traditional textbooks that drive up the cost of a college education.

"HALE LIBRARY IS THE COMMUNAL GROUND WHERE STUDENTS OF EVERY MAJOR, NATIONALITY AND WALK OF LIFE COME TOGETHER TO STUDY, TAKE A BREAK OR HOLD MEETINGS. IMPROVEMENTS TO HALE LIBRARY CAN ONLY LEAD TO MORE SUCCESS AT KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY."

— SHAUN FINN,
SENIOR IN CHEMICAL ENGINEERING AND PRESIDENT OF THE K-STATE LIBRARIES STUDENT AMBASSADORS
Librarians will teach in classrooms right next to the resources and technology students need.

Researchers will amplify their work's visibility and impact with cutting-edge technology and expert assistance.

The Libraries will host more lectures, performances and events in a flexible multi-purpose space.

Students will reserve tech-equipped rooms for studying in groups or practicing presentations.

Partners like the Writing Center will offer student services from convenient first floor satellite spaces.

A café just inside the entrance will offer food, drinks and a pleasant spot to meet or study.
“While the plans may shift slightly, these are critical elements that we really want to provide,” Goetsch said. “This is an occasion to look around campus and see how we can help meet multiple needs.”

These unique partnerships and alliances are among the key features that attracted the Everitts to the modernization project.

“We’re very excited about the idea of large-group collaboration centers and study centers and the ability to leverage technology,” Dave said. “There aren’t a lot of places on campus where multidisciplinary groups can get together. This space is aimed at supporting the kinds of collaborative work students will have to navigate in their careers after graduation.”

Shaun Finn, senior in chemical engineering and president of the K-State Libraries Student Ambassadors, says that he has no doubt that Hale Library’s reimagined first floor will be used and appreciated by his peers.

“Some of the most enriching moments throughout my college career have taken place here,” Finn said. “I can go back to my sophomore year when two friends and I were studying for our Chemical Process Analysis final. We got one of the really popular booths, and we studied for hours and hours, not giving up our spot for two days.”

Finn says his experience is not unique: “Hale Library is the communal ground where students of every major, nationality and walk of life come together to study, take a break or hold meetings. Improvements to Hale Library can only lead to more success at Kansas State University.”

A journey begins with a single step. Thanks to the Everitts, our first step is one of gargantuan proportions. Dave and Ellie’s generosity gives us momentum as we embark on the next stage of this venture.

If we reach our $6.5 million goal by May 2018, we will launch the renovation immediately after the last day of the spring semester. It will be completed before students return in the fall.

Help us create a modern library space for our students and K-State’s future. With your support, we will transform Hale Library’s first floor into the Dave and Ellie Everitt Learning Commons.

GIVE ONLINE
www.ksufoundation.org/give/K-StateLibraries

OR CONTACT THE KSU FOUNDATION TO:
- Learn more about the plans for Hale Library’s reimagined first floor.
- Discover naming opportunities.
- Become an integral part of K-State’s library of the future.

TRACY ROBINSON
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SUPPORT THE RENOVATION

Direct access onto the first floor will make the building more welcoming and user-friendly.
HARVESTING KANSAS HISTORY
K-State Libraries digitize rural life publications through Project Ceres

Have you ever cleaned out a shed, attic or basement and come across a stack of old magazines? Mildewed and decayed, they’re usually headed straight for the garbage bin. So why did a team of K-State librarians work to make Kansas agricultural publications—the kind you might find in your grandfather’s barn—available online?

In one word: Preservation. By preserving our past, we can remember where we’ve been and how we have progressed—or not!

For example, a scan through an 1869 issue of “Kansas Farmer” reminds us that drought, crop prices and contentious politics are perennial topics of concern. On the other hand, a comparison of a 1929 issue of “Kansas Future Farmer” with an issue from 1982 reveals shifting gender expectations, advances in farm technology and radical changes to the state’s economy.

“These articles and ads are cultural artifacts representing lived Kansas experiences from the 19th and 20th centuries,” Livia Olsen, academic services librarian, said. “They are valuable primary sources and snapshots of rural life for researchers of agriculture, advertising, geography, history, cookery and many more fields.”

“The work our librarians have done will ensure that students, historians and agricultural researchers will have access to generations of farming knowledge and culture. The online collection is available for anyone to search.”

— MICHELLE TURVEY-WELCH, HEAD OF METADATA, PRESERVATION AND DIGITAL INITIATIVES

KANSAS AGRICULTURE AND RURAL LIFE PUBLICATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Publication</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grass and Grain</td>
<td>1967-72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kansas 4-H Journal</td>
<td>1957-88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kansas Agricultural Student</td>
<td>1921-68</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kansas Farmer</td>
<td>1869-1954</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kansas Future Farmer</td>
<td>1929-82</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kansas Union Farmer</td>
<td>1922-45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Practical Cookery and the Etiquette and Service of the Table</td>
<td>1916 and 1947</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spirit of Kansas</td>
<td>1872-92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who’s Whoot</td>
<td>1927-57</td>
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</tbody>
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Thanks to 21st-century technology, K-State librarians have digitized thousands of pages of rural life publications. The preservation effort was made possible through financial support from three Project Ceres grants. Additionally, the publication “Grass and Grain” was still under copyright, but the original publisher generously granted the Libraries permission to digitize the materials.

Project Ceres was created by the United States Agricultural Information Network (USAIN), the Agriculture Network Information Collaborative (AgNIC) and the Center for Research Libraries. Their grants support preservation initiatives for materials essential to the study of the history of agriculture.

All told, nearly 7,000 issues of “Kansas Farmer,” “Kansas Agricultural Student” and seven other titles published 1869-1988 are available online. Collectively called “Kansas Agriculture and Rural Life Publications,” these online documents include livestock reports, 4-H club programs, recipes, land conservation methods and home remedies for everything from lumbago to liver complaints.

“The work our librarians have done will ensure that students, historians and agricultural researchers will have access to generations of farming knowledge and culture,” said Michelle Turvey-Welch, head of metadata, preservation and digital initiatives.

“The online collection is available for anyone to search.”

The librarians who completed the project include Olsen and Turvey-Welch, along with Amanda Harlan, metadata librarian, and Linda Marston, digital collections coordinator. Several former faculty members also contributed, including Diana Farmer, Beth Turtle and Allison Ringness.

Books are available online at lib.k-state.edu/digital-collections.
KING at K-STATE

Remembering Martin Luther King Jr.
50 years after his historic campus visit

On the brisk morning of January 19, 1968—50 years ago this month—civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. gave an All-University Convocation speech titled “The Future of Integration” at Ahearn Field House at Kansas State University. In his last university address before his assassination on April 4, 1968, King reflected on the nation’s struggle for racial justice and the challenges that remained.

KING’S VISIT

King flew into Kansas City, where Convocations Committee chair William W. Boyer met him. In a recent email, Boyer noted he “was surprised [King] was alone without anyone with him. Nor was there any indication of his fame—just an ordinary unpretentious person.” After a charter flight to Manhattan, Boyer drove King to campus.

James McCain, K-State’s president from 1950 to 1975, walked with King past protesters as they entered the field house. Significant issues on campus at the time included the Vietnam War and the campus’s recent prohibition of discriminatory housing practices in Manhattan, matters that percolated in the minds of the 7,200 attendees. President McCain limited his introduction to ensure King had the requisite time to speak, concluding by calling King a “distinguished American and great citizen of the world.” The audience then gave a 20 second ovation before King began his remarks.

After reviewing some of the progress of African Americans over the centuries, King summarized, “It seems to me that the realistic position is that we have made
significant strides in the struggle for racial justice, but that we have a long, long way to go before the problem is solved.” He then addressed poor housing conditions, unemployment and underemployment of people of color: “The fact is that most of the poverty stricken people in our country work every day, but they make wages so low that they cannot begin to function in the mainstream of economic life of our nation.” In focusing on these societal challenges, King suggested legal, ethical and moral responses.

He began with morality and ethics: “I would be the first to say that we will never have a truly integrated and brotherly society until men and women rise to the majestic heights of being obedient to the unenforceable.” He then connected them with the legal realm, suggesting, “It may be true that morality cannot be legislated, but behavior can be regulated.

It may be true that the law cannot change the heart, but it can restrain the heartless. It may be true that the law cannot make a man love me, but it can restrain him from lynching me, and I think that is pretty important also.” King concluded his remarks by stating his belief that the day would come when African Americans would experience equality and freedom.

What impression did King leave on those who heard his words? Boyer had admired King for years, yet he remembered he was “unprepared for the eloquence and power of his lecture when [he] sat on the Ahearn stage completely mesmerized by [King’s] greatness.” It was evident King was a powerful speaker who effectively used eloquence and a touch of humor to address the serious societal ills he sought to correct.

Even today, 50 years later, many of his remarks remain relevant. In addressing today’s problems, may we remember King’s closing words: “With this faith [in justice and truth] we will be able to hew out of the mountain of despair the stone of hope. With this faith we will be able to transform the jangling discords of our nation into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood.”

A recording of the speech King gave to the crowd of 7,200 is available in the Morse Department of Special Collections reading room.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!
Our celebration of K-State Libraries lived up to its name! Now we’re looking forward to a bright future as we raise funds for Hale Library’s reimagined first floor. Learn more at lib.k-state.edu/renovation.

Visit lib.k-state.edu/hale-time to see photos from the event!