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Kansas State University Libraries, issue 5 (Summer 2017)

Kansas State University Libraries

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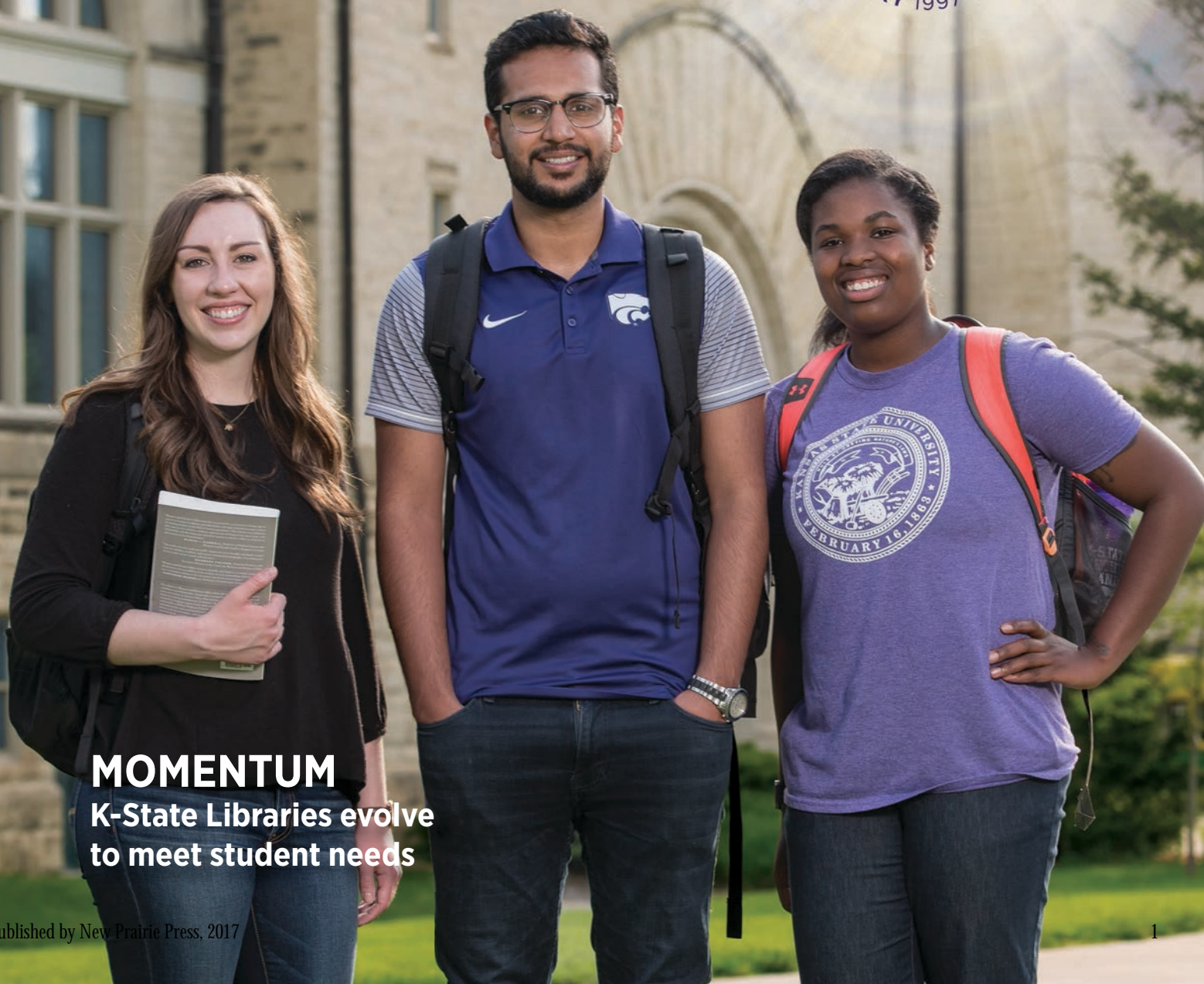
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Kansas State University **LIBRARIES**



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K-State Libraries evolve
to meet student needs

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Celebrating outstanding employees and undergraduate research

Kansas State University LIBRARIES

Lori Goetsch, Dean of Libraries

Editorial Team

Darchelle Martin, managing editor

Sarah Hoyt, writer and editor

Tara Marintzer, senior graphic designer

Photos by K-State Libraries and
Kansas State University Photo Services

On the Cover

K-State Libraries Student Ambassadors

Miranda Moore, Abdullah Choudhry and

Erryn Goods

Photo by Kansas State University Photo
Services

Contact

library@k-state.edu

785-532-3014

lib.k-state.edu



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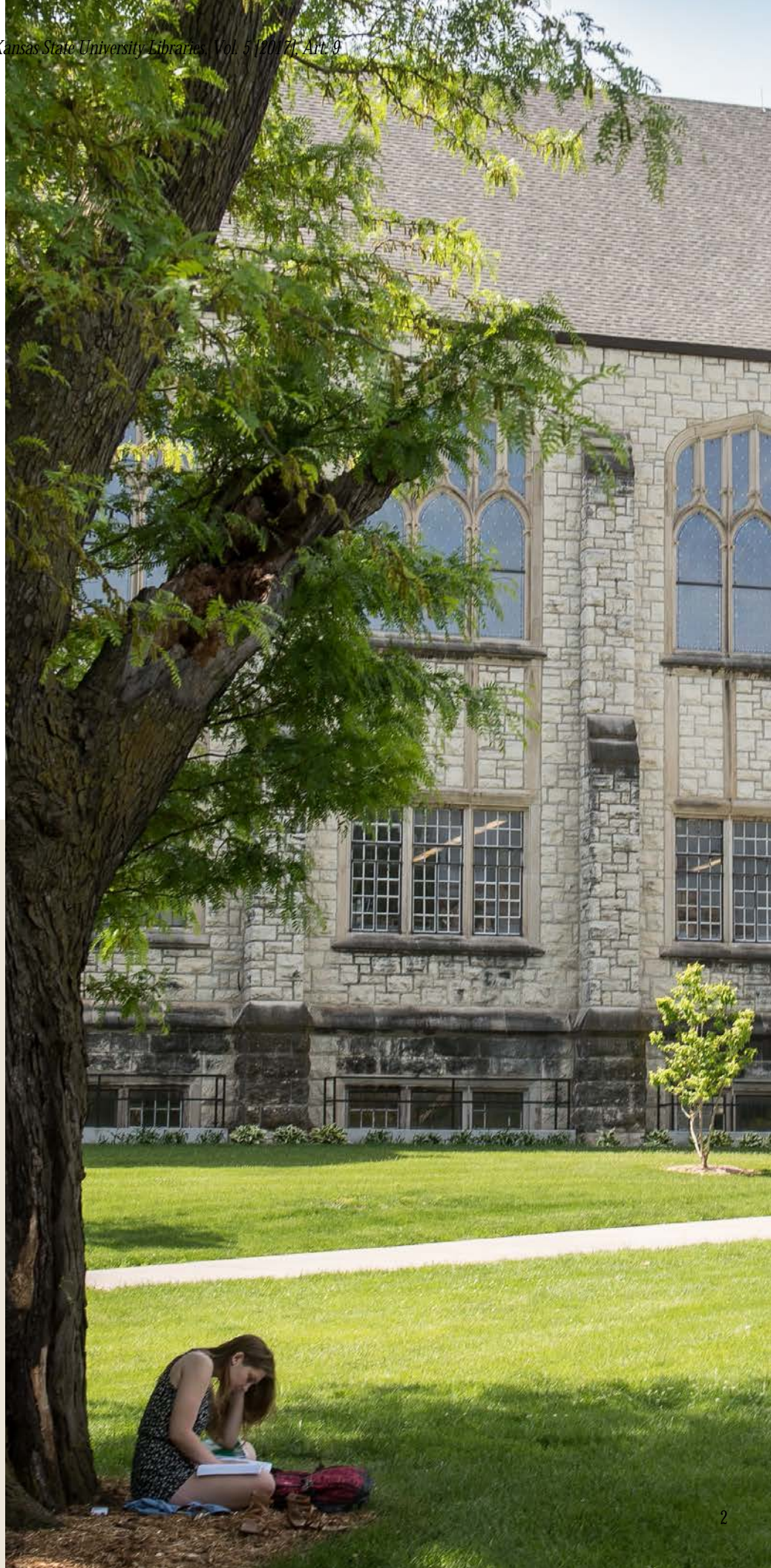


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Then & Now

TWO OF THE MOST ICONIC SPACES ON CAMPUS CELEBRATE MILESTONES

BY SARAH HOYT

Happy birthday!

In 2017, Farrell Library turns 90 and Hale Library turns 20—along with about 3,000 K-State sophomores.

Twenty years might seem young, but a lot has changed since Hale Library and those infant Wildcats were brand new. Back in 1997, many Gen-Xers and Baby Boomers were logging on to the world wide web for the first time. Now, two decades later, we all text and FaceTime and tweet constantly.

Technology has changed university classrooms and assignments, too. It can seem like science fiction to the generations who wrote college papers on a typewriter.

Some things haven't changed, though. When students, faculty and researchers have a need, the K-State Libraries respond. We adapt and improve our spaces and services, just as we have for more than a century.

So in honor of nine decades of Farrell Library and two decades of Hale Library, we present a look at the evolution of K-State Libraries' flagship building, past and present.



Farrell Library was dedicated in 1927.



Hale Library was dedicated in 1997.

Historic Farrell Library has anchored multiple expansions over the past nine decades.

In 1863,

when Kansas State Agricultural College (KSAC) was founded as the first land grant university in the United States, it inherited more than 2,700 volumes from its precursor, Bluemont Central College.

But the fledgling campus didn't have a free-standing library, so the books

were shunted from building to building. By the 1890s, KSAC had amassed more than 80,000 volumes. Finally, the university erected Library and Agricultural Science Hall (now known as Fairchild Hall) to house the growing collection.

Unfortunately, that building's 12 rooms of shelves and 300 study seats were mixed in with lab spaces. By the 1920s, it became clear that the

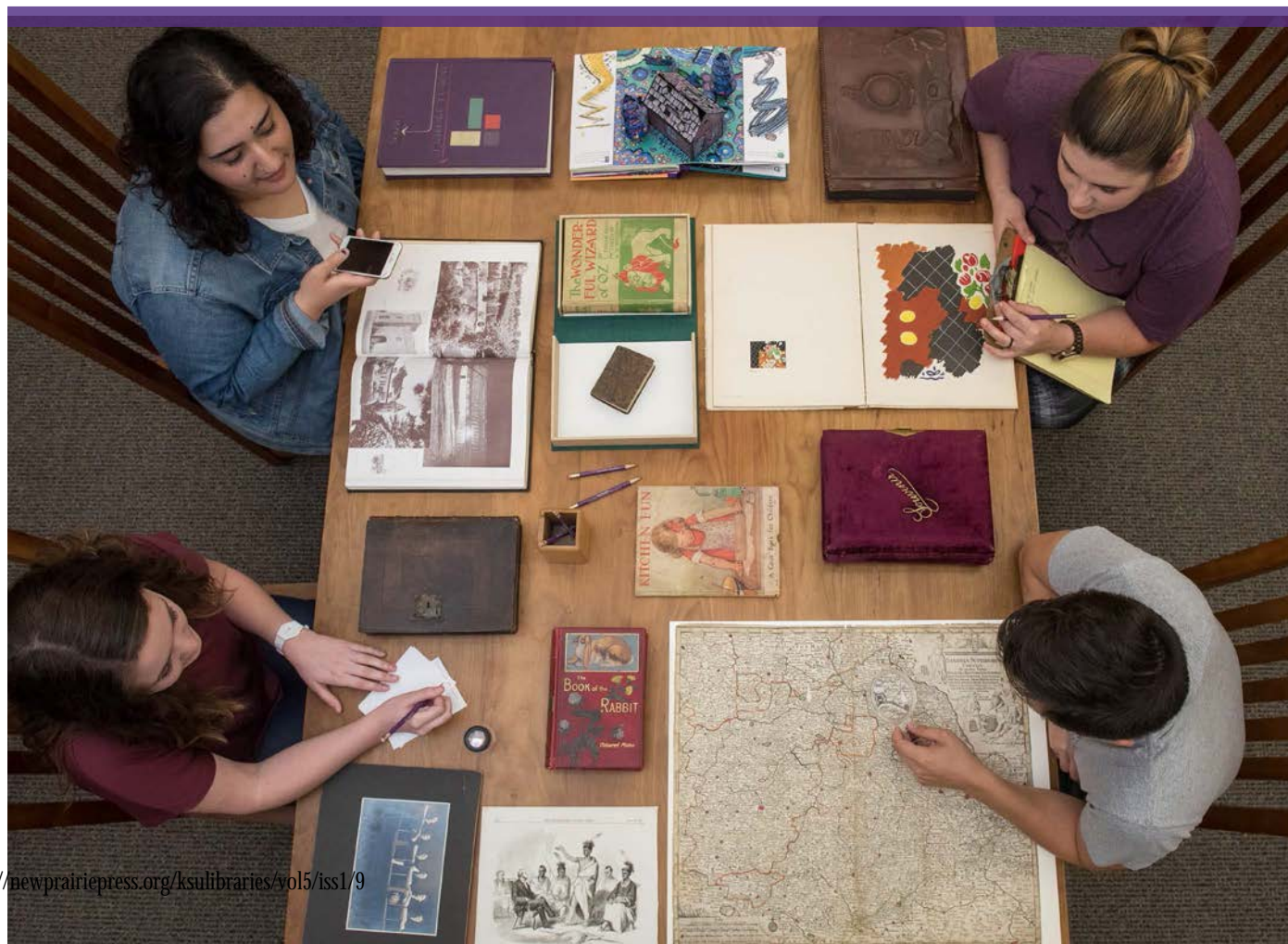
growing student population needed more room and that the lab spaces put library materials in danger of fire and water damage.

These concerns motivated construction of the first free-standing library, which was dedicated in 1927. The iconic building with its collegiate gothic architecture became the anchor to which later additions were connected.



Now...

Our most valuable, scarce and fragile resources are available in the Richard L.D. and Marjorie J. Morse Department of Special Collections. Researchers are drawn to a rich array of materials that include a renowned cookery collection, extensive Kansas agricultural records and the university archives that preserve K-State history. More than one million items—manuscripts, rare and unique books, photographs, maps—are sustained in a climate-controlled environment. The collections serve the diverse needs of scholars, casual visitors and K-State learning communities.



By the early 1950s, the Libraries' collection had mushroomed: Books were sitting in corridors, uncataloged and unshelved for lack of space. A new, utilitarian concrete and steel "library stacks" addition was constructed for storage. Strikingly, several levels featured glass floors, an energy-saving measure that allowed light to shine through to the stack below.

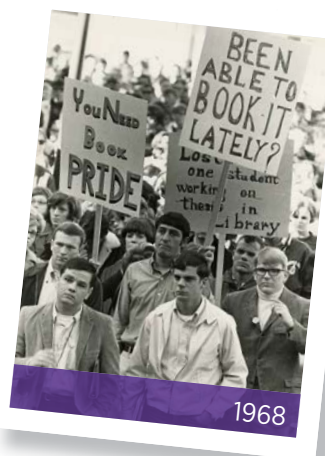
On October 5, 1955, the newly expanded library was dedicated in honor of Francis David Farrell, the eighth president of Kansas State College.



Now... No longer desperate for shelving, the Libraries forge partnerships with other campus organizations. We hold librarian-led classes and host meetings and special events while accommodating tutoring and group study. Additionally, the Academic Learning Center for K-State Athletics is housed on the fourth floor, and the Writing Center holds regular hours at a satellite location on the first floor.

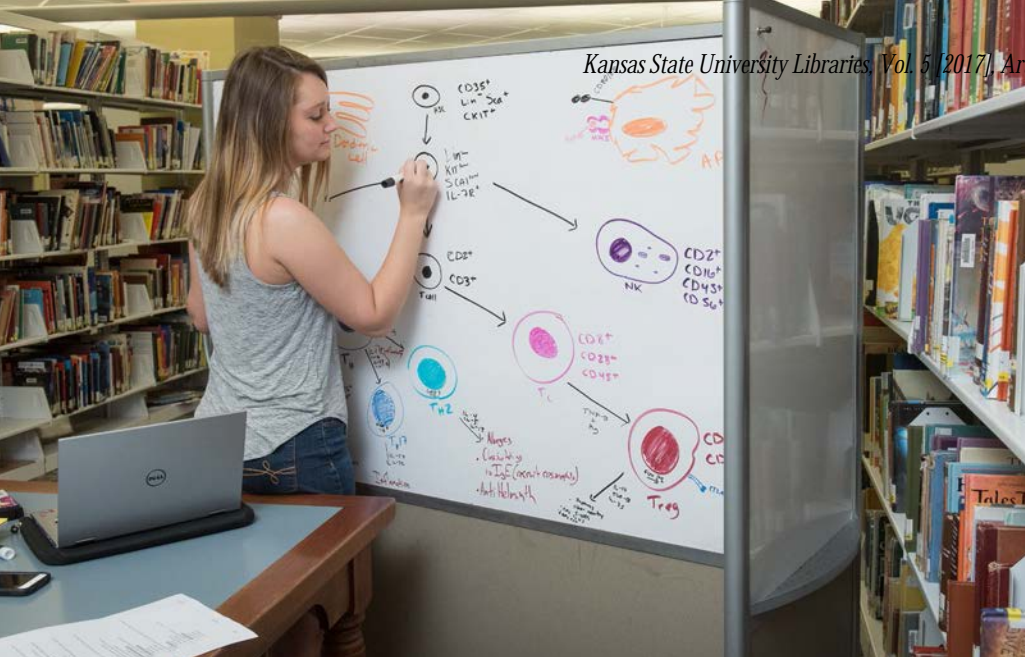


The post-WWII university enrollment boom continued throughout the 1960s, and soon K-State's population demanded a larger building and more materials to fill gaps in the collection. In 1965, a report ranked K-State's library the worst of 10 state universities in the region, so in 1968, students staged a rally "to radically improve the present library situation."



The resulting six-story 1970 addition featured a ground-level 300-person study hall, group study rooms and a seminar room. In a leap

forward, computers were used to check out books for the first time. Not everything was "modern" by today's standards, though: The main corridors of the old library were converted to smoking lounges.



“NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE IN THE LIBRARY, YOU CAN PULL UP A WHITE BOARD. USING THEM TO LAY OUT A LOT OF INFORMATION ALL IN ONE PLACE MAKES STUDYING MORE EFFECTIVE AND INTERACTIVE— BOTH FOR INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS.”

— TIFFANY BOWERS, JUNIOR
Pictured at top left

Now... Collaboration spaces are even more important today. Walk through the building and you'll find students clustered around white boards packed with equations, drawings of cellular structures or languages from around the world.

The smoking lounges? They're long gone.



By the early 1990s, plans were afoot to address issues that stemmed from 70 years of expansion: The building had poor circulation, and the three phases of construction from 1927, 1955 and 1970 didn't mesh cohesively. In fact, the floors didn't match up in many places, and some of the doorways that connected the original

building and the 1955 stacks were only four feet high.

K-State's students pushed for improvements, just as they have throughout the university's history. They even levied a fee on themselves that eventually raised \$5 million of the necessary funds.

Hale Library was dedicated on October 5, 1997.

At the time, a *Collegian* article reported that the project included a provision to install electronic and data lines that could "become necessary due to an increasing dependence on computer technology."

LIBRARIES TIMELINE



1877

The growing collection was moved into Farm Machinery Hall.



1879

The books were relocated again, this time to Anderson Hall.



1894

The collection was moved to the new Library and Agricultural Sciences Hall (now known as Fairchild Hall).



1927

K-State's first free-standing library was dedicated.

Brice Hobrock, who was dean of K-State Libraries from 1982 to 2004, told a reporter in June 1992 that the library expansion was expected to fill the university's needs until about the year 2020.

"Our consultants predict the quantity of information produced in printed form will hold steady until 2020. After that, there will be a decline in printed form substituted by electronic forms," Hobrock said.

Who would have thought that the pace of technology-driven change would be even more intense than Dean Hobrock's experts suggested?

Now... Of course, it would be an understatement to say that the learning environment is more electronically oriented! And the *Collegian* wasn't far off when they reported in 1997 that "the familiar pencil and three-by-five notecards used at the library to record research ... may eventually be replaced by a pocketbook computer."

Our faculty and students access journals via databases; we are constantly digitizing hard-copy collections; and we regularly upgrade our wireless signal because our community's demand for bandwidth is voracious.

On the other hand, the Libraries no longer struggle to find new spaces to house physical volumes.



Yet despite decades of change, one thing remains constant: We're here for our community. K-State Libraries evolve to meet the needs of students, faculty and researchers.

When our population outgrew the building and collection growth outpaced shelf space, we worked to expand. When collections began to move online and students demanded more and better technology, we made upgrades and improved access.

We look forward to seeing what the next 90 years will bring.

Then and now and tomorrow—K-State Libraries will be there.

HISTORICAL PHOTOS COURTESY OF
THE MORSE DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL COLLECTIONS,
KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES



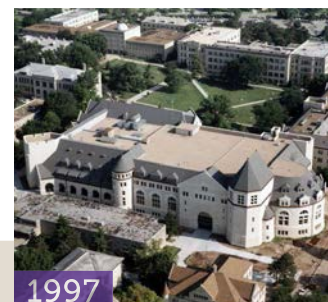
David Hicks Overmyer painted the murals in the Great Room.



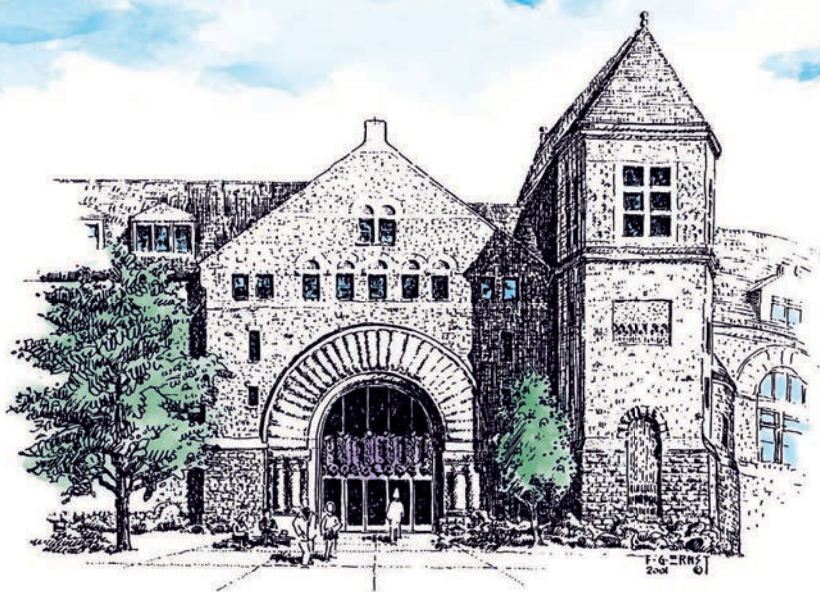
A new "stacks" addition was constructed on the south side of the 1927 building.



An expansion on the east side of Farrell Library added multiple floors of study space, offices and book storage.



Hale Library was dedicated.



Loyal Friends

MEET OUR DEVOTED DONORS.

In honor of Hale's 20th anniversary, we'd like to recognize a few generous friends who have given every year for the last two decades—or more! We are deeply grateful for their unwavering, steadfast support.

BY SARAH HOYT

JOLEEN HILL

In the early 1960s, Joleen (Irvine) Hill (BS '62), a literature major and member of many K-State voice ensembles, relied on her study carrel in Farrell Library. Three decades later, she renewed her devotion to K-State Libraries when, as a Trustee, she served on a fundraising committee charged with raising money for its renovation.

Her fellow committee members, Richard L.D. & Marjorie J. Morse, already had an abiding relationship with special collections, so the group often met there.

That's when she became more deeply committed to supporting K-State Libraries, and she joined the Friends of the K-State Libraries in 1991. Over the years, that organization's many memorable events have sustained and deepened her belief that the library is key to a great education.

Her advice to donors who have yet to log 20 consecutive gifts:



“ REALLY TAKE TIME TO VISIT THE LIBRARY. YOU’LL SEE THE GROUPS THAT STUDY TOGETHER, HOW IT’S IMPORTANT TO THEM, AND HOW THE LIBRARY REMAINS CENTRAL TO THE UNIVERSITY. ”

— JOLEEN HILL

VERLYN RICHARDS & EUGENE LAUGHLIN

Verlyn Richards (BS '56, MBA '60), emeritus professor of finance, and Gene Laughlin (MBA '59), emeritus professor of accounting, have always appreciated the Libraries. Both received degrees from K-State before embarking on long careers with the university's College of Business Administration.

The Libraries have been an abiding presence in their retirement: Richards and Laughlin are long-time sponsors of the Hale Library Concert Series, which launched in 2006. Richards says they also enjoy seeing the exhibits on Hale Library's fifth floor that feature selections from the Morse Department of Special Collections.

When asked why they give to K-State Libraries, Richards said,



“ WE SUPPORT THE LIBRARY BECAUSE IT IS SO IMPORTANT TO THE UNIVERSITY’S TEACHING AND RESEARCH MISSIONS, BUT, UNLIKE THE K-STATE ACADEMIC UNITS, THE LIBRARY DOESN’T HAVE A LARGE BASE OF ALUMNI SUPPORT. ”

— VERLYN RICHARDS

Be a Friend



THE FRIENDS
OF THE K-STATE LIBRARIES

Since 1984, the Friends have advocated for a strong library system. Their support has allowed K-State Libraries to expand our holdings and improve our facilities.

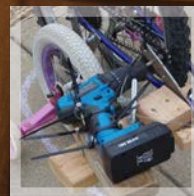
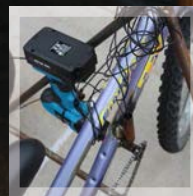
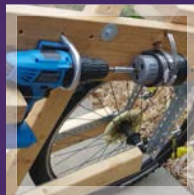
Through projects such as classroom upgrades, conservation of the Great Room murals and acquisition of much-needed technology and furniture, the Friends have contributed to the success of Kansas State University's students, faculty and community patrons. So many of the Libraries' improvements simply would not occur without their support.

Become a Friend of the K-State Libraries today.
Visit www.lib.k-state.edu/friends



DRIVEN BY TEAMWORK

BY SARAH HOYT



You've just started your engineering degree, and you are assigned to a team with three other Intro to Mechanical Engineering students. Your objective? Design and build a working vehicle that one person can drive and ride.

One last thing: **It must be powered solely by a cordless drill.**

Sound intimidating?

Greg Spaulding, assistant professor of mechanical engineering, has given this assignment to nearly 1,800 students over the past six years, and he has been blown away by the results.

But a lot has to happen between the day the students receive their assignment and the end of the semester when they present their final project in an Olympic-style competition. The groups meet over and over again, fueled by a common goal and the power of teamwork.

That's where the Libraries come in.

Introduction to Mechanical Engineering is just one of hundreds of courses on campus that features a group project. In order to meet outside of class, students need an atmosphere where they can focus; they need somewhere that's safe and accessible; and they need access to technology.

Groups of students loudly hashing out a project in the middle of the library? That might not sound like the environment some readers remember.



Group study space is a vital part of today's library.

Spaulding acknowledges that students use libraries differently than when he was working on his bachelor's in mechanical engineering more than three decades ago. "I'm old-fashioned; I miss the days when libraries were about having a quiet space to read a book," he said. "But today's students need a place to work together. It warms my heart to see a group at a big table, all on their laptops editing a Google document. They're talking, sharing, working individually and together at the same time."

It's a process that Spaulding says replicates real-world engineering.

"Nobody in the industry works on their own anymore," he said. "Projects are too big; they have too many moving pieces."

"TODAY'S STUDENTS NEED A PLACE TO WORK TOGETHER. IT WARMS MY HEART TO SEE A GROUP AT A BIG TABLE, ALL ON THEIR LAPTOPS EDITING A GOOGLE DOCUMENT. THEY'RE TALKING, SHARING, WORKING INDIVIDUALLY AND TOGETHER AT THE SAME TIME."

— GREG SPAULDING,
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Spaulding started his career at aerospace company General Dynamics before returning to K-State to earn a master's degree. After nearly a decade as a research engineer at Houston Instruments, he cofounded ScriptPro, where he received a patent for his design of an automation system for pharmacies. Spaulding sold ScriptPro in 1996.

He taught at K-State Polytechnic in the mechanical engineering technology department before moving to Manhattan in 2007.

That earlier life experience led Spaulding to see the value of his creative group assignment. "Students have to coalesce into a group and get to know each other," he said. "Together, they work on planning and creating big project milestones that they have to present on."

For some, Hale Library is an integral part of the team, a place to gather and create a plan of attack.

After weeks of meeting to brainstorm, design and build, on May 2, 2017, all



A student balances on his team's vehicle as their cordless drill powers him through the sled pull challenge.

of the groups gathered outside of Rathbone Hall for The Mechanical & Nuclear Engineering Game Days, a semester-end event showcasing the results of their labor.

Students clustered around the Frankenstein-like vehicles that they had welded, nailed and zip-tied together. Many were repurposed bicycles, others were original constructions, but all were powered by a cordless drill.

As the groups ran their vehicles through a series of challenges, Spaulding and his course assistants logged performance results.

Of course, the measure of their progress as a team was harder to calculate, but if the final products were any indicator, the assignment was a powerful success.

2017



Belle Haines



Isaac Goodnow



Emma Haines' diploma

Services were held in the chapel of the Bluemont Central College building that stood on the northwest corner of College Avenue and Claflin Road. The three-story stone building included instructional rooms, apartments for college officers, and a library on the first and second floors, with the chapel on the third floor. The exercises lasted parts of four days, with sermons and examinations of all students before concluding with a five-hour graduation program on Wednesday, June 26.

Concerning graduation, the *Manhattan Independent* reported, "We have never seen so many persons assembled in our town upon any occasion. We were especially gratified to see so much interest manifested in our noble and rapidly improving College, and to see so many distinguished persons, and friends of education from abroad."

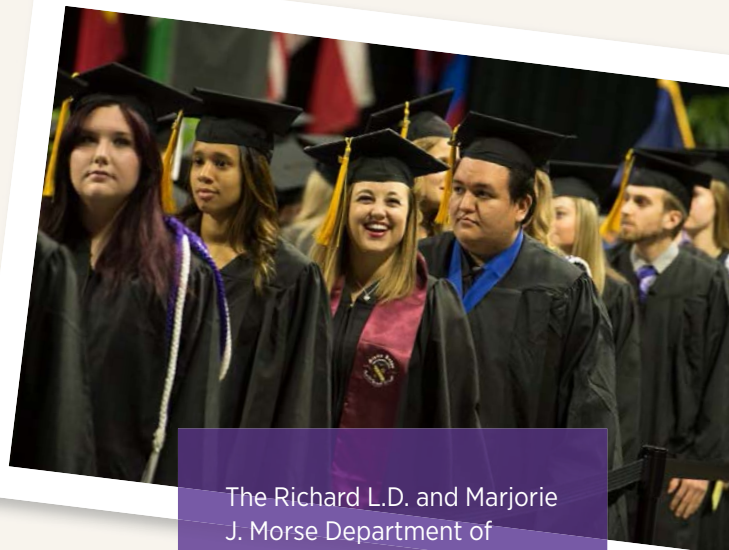
A trending topic was a state suffrage referendum scheduled for November 1867, and Points and White commented on it in their addresses. A newspaper reported that Points, the first graduate to speak, "alluded to the fact that three

of his classmates not one whit below in scholarship or in genius, would go forth into the world disqualified and debarred by legal enactments from exercising fully all the powers with which nature has endowed them and which with patient study they have so sedulously cultivated. ... [Points's] remarks were greeted with prolonged applause." Unfortunately, the referendum failed among the white male electorate, and it was 1912 before a state constitutional amendment granted women voting rights in state elections.

Emma Haines was the final graduate to speak, and in addition to her emotional tribute to her classmates, she concluded with "brave words of hopefulness for the future, of courage and patience" to inspire the audience and her colleagues in their future endeavors. Although the next graduation did not occur for four more years—when four

women and one man earned degrees in 1871—the first alumni stand as examples of the land-grant mission to provide practical education to all.

Spring College of Arts & Sciences graduates make their way into the auditorium. May 2017 marked 150 years since the university's first commencement.



The Richard L.D. and Marjorie J. Morse Department of Special Collections at K-State Libraries preserves and collects the history of Kansas State University. K-State Keepsakes are compiled from the photos, diaries, memorabilia and documents that are available to the public in the university archives.



THE TEXTBOOK AFFORDABILITY PROJECT

BY SARAH HOYT

After students enroll in classes, they buy their books ... right?



Not always. Seven out of ten students say that they have not purchased a required text because of its price tag, according to the U.S. Public Interest Research Group (PIRG).

In fact, The College Board, an organization that works to expand access to higher education, estimates a full-time undergraduate student at a public four-year university will pay **\$1,298** per year for books and supplies.

So in order to fill students' backpacks without emptying their wallets, **K-State Libraries launched the TEXTBOOK AFFORDABILITY PROJECT.**



A \$15,000 Student-Centered Tuition Enhancement grant from the K-State Student Government Association (SGA) allowed the Libraries to buy textbooks for students to use at no cost.

In order to make the largest impact on students with the greatest need, the Libraries acquired at least one copy of each textbook for undergraduate courses that have the highest overall enrollment, highest dropout rates, and largest numbers of first-year students, transfer students and Pell Grant recipients.

Some books were purchased through funds from the SGA grant, while others were donated by students who previously took the class. Professors also donate or loan their copies.

Instead of adding those materials to the permanent collection, the Libraries put them in one of their reserve collections. Students check out reserves materials, which are shelved behind a library help desk, for a short period, usually two hours at a time. Reserves items range from textbooks and children's books to films and boxes of rocks for geology.

"The university library has offered reserves materials for more than a century, but thanks to the SGA seed money and the Textbook Affordability Project, we're able to give more students than ever an alternative to purchasing unaffordable texts," Jason Coleman, head of library user services, said.

In fall 2016, K-State Libraries had course materials on reserve for 366 courses. During the semester, 1,354 students checked out those items 5,629 times.

"The Textbook Affordability Project makes significant additions to our

reserves collection, which is already very popular," Rebel Cummings-Sauls, Textbook Affordability

"THANKS TO ... THE TEXTBOOK AFFORDABILITY PROJECT, WE'RE ABLE TO GIVE MORE STUDENTS THAN EVER AN ALTERNATIVE TO PURCHASING UNAFFORDABLE TEXTS."

— JASON COLEMAN

Project committee chair, said. "We look forward to increasing awareness about reserves and reaching even more students in future semesters."

www.lib.k-state.edu/textbook-affordability



ABOVE & BEYOND

K-State Libraries honored several employees at its annual recognition ceremony on March 14, 2017.



BRICE G. HOBROCK DISTINGUISHED FACULTY AWARD

Tara Coleman, web services librarian, received the Brice G. Hobrock Distinguished Faculty Award, which recognizes outstanding librarianship.

Coleman has been a librarian since 2005. She currently manages the Libraries' web presence and is chair of the K-State Book Network (KSBN). She received her master's in library and information science from the University of Oklahoma.



DEAN'S AWARD

Julie Bell, systems administrator, received the Dean's Award, which recognizes a non-tenure track professional staff member.

Bell has been responsible for the upkeep and configuration of the organization's hundreds of computers since 2013. She recently took on an additional load when she served as interim department supervisor. Bell received her bachelor's in agriculture with a minor in business from K-State.



SUPPORT STAFF OF THE YEAR AWARD

Duncan Robak, Library Assistant III, was chosen as Support Staff employee of the Year.

Robak manages day to day stacks operations; his duties include searching for requested materials and shifting the collections as necessary, among numerous other tasks. He received his master's in library and information science from Syracuse University.

THE KIRMSER UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AWARD

The Kirmser Award recognizes and promotes outstanding undergraduate scholarship. Every year, submissions come from a diverse range of academic fields, from agricultural engineering to children's literature. Applications are evaluated based on use of library resources, and winners receive a \$1,000 prize.

Emma Brase, a freshman in psychology from Manhattan, won the Individual Freshman Category with "Visual Neglect and Mental Representations: Current Status and Issues." She completed the project for honors credit in PSYCH 110: General Psychology, taught by Jessica Williamson, instructor of psychology.

Noelle Doty, a senior in communications studies from Fort Collins, Colo., won the Individual Non-Freshman Category with "Caught in the Middle: Empowerment in Middle Managers," her project for COMM 550: Senior Colloquium, taught by Greg Paul, associate professor of communications studies.

The winners in the Group Category were **Tia' Gamble**, a senior in

economics and business management from De Soto, Tex.; **Connor Knutson**, an entrepreneurship major from Overland Park, Kan. (not pictured); and **Caitlyn Webb**, a senior in accounting and economics from Manhattan. They completed "First Watch Franchise Expansion Proposal," for ENGL 417: Written Communication for the Workplace, taught by Maggie Borders, instructor of English.

THE MORSE SCHOLARSHIP

The \$3,000 Marjorie J. and Richard L.D. Morse Family and Community Public Policy Scholarship is awarded to support an undergraduate project that involves community service and has the potential to impact public policy.

The 2017 winner is **Katelyn Bohnenblust**, Clay Center, a freshman agricultural education major. She will work with Training the Next Generation of Kansas Water Advocates, a conservation initiative for teens.



EMMA BRASE



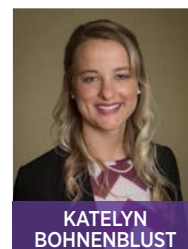
NOELLE DOTY



TIA' GAMBLE



CAITLYN WEBB



KATELYN
BOHNENBLUST

GALLERY HOURS

**Monday – Friday
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

Free and open to the
public through Oct. 13.

HALE LIBRARY • 5TH FLOOR

CHISHOLM TRAIL

HISTORY & LEGACY

K-State Libraries joins organizations
across the region in celebrating the
150th anniversary of the Chisholm Trail.

“Chisholm Trail: History & Legacy”
features artifacts, books, maps and photos that
give visitors a glimpse into Kansas' Wild West era and its
turbulent relationship with the Texas cattle trade.

