One man’s generous legacy is now providing more space in the library for students to study, engage, and learn. As part of the Stiern Library’s “Library of the Future” project, the reference book collection was compacted and moved and a new study area was opened in January.

The new space, which is still awaiting some final improvements, is the result of the generosity of Peter S. Harbach, who left the library $1 million dollars, a portion of which is being used to help re-envision and build spaces in the library that meet the needs of 21st century students.

“In part, Mr. Harbach’s legacy will be in the accomplishments of the students who succeed in college and leave here to make the world a better place.”

Reference Compaction Project Makes Collection More Agile

To create a more useful reference collection and make room for the new study area on the north side of level 1 in the Stiern Library, the library’s reference and index collection, which housed over 7,800 volumes was reduced to approximately 3,500 volumes.

The majority of books moved from the reference collection are being relocated to the circulating collection found on levels 3 and 4. The reference materials that are moved upstairs will then be available for checkout.

Some other reference titles were removed and provided to charities because they were either outdated or had newer or better print or digital coverage. Print indexes, not available through one of the library’s databases, were relocated to the periodicals area on level 2.

The project required personnel from Circulation, Technical Services,
Brian Evenson chosen writer in residence

Author and professor Brian Evenson was selected as the 2016 Walter Stiern Library PG&E Writer in Residence and will be offering a one-day creative writing workshop to the community in the summer and reading from his work in the spring. Evenson is the fifth author to be named to the PG&E-funded writing mentorship. Previous authors were Angie Chau, Richard Collins, Marissa Silver, and John Hampsey. PG&E has been a longtime corporate friend of the Stiern Library and provided it with a substantial grant in 2012 to start the program, which is free to local writers who have a fiction or memoir project they are working on.

“Brian Evenson is a writer of major stature and an incredible talent. We are very pleased he will be here with us for a couple of days. It’s great that our students and local writers have an opportunity to be mentored by someone like Brian,” said Library Dean Curt Asher.

Evenson is the author of a dozen books of fiction. He has also translated novels and poetry from French and Spanish. He has been a finalist for the Shirley Jackson Award and an Edgar Award, and earned the American Library Association award for Best Horror Novel. He has earned three O. Henry Prizes, which are regarded as the most prestigious awards for short fiction. Formerly a professor at Brown University, he recently took a teaching position at the California Institute of the Arts.

“By bringing a talented writer to CSUB, the library is offering a great opportunity to everyone in the community who writes fiction or memoir, especially our aspiring campus writers,” said Library Dean Curt Asher, who established the program.

The reading is scheduled for May 10 at 7 p.m. and the workshop is scheduled for June 30 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Panel brings experts together to discuss drought, climate change

Environmental journalist Jane Braxton Little was one of three panelists who discussed the effects of climate change on California’s environment at a Walter Presents event on January 26. She was joined by geologist Rob Negrini and hydrologist Brian Pitts.

Despite living rustically on a remote forested tract of 35 acres in rural Plumas County, Braxton Little is an international journalist, and correspondent and columnist for the Sacramento Bee. She recently completed a project in the Galapagos Islands documenting the work of biologists for National Geographic.

Her talk focused on the effects of climate change on forest fires and how increased fire activity will shape the evolution of flora and fauna in the Sierras. She also discussed some of the ways government scientists are working to mitigate some of the more devastating environmental impacts of climate change in the forest.

Negrini, a professor at CSUB, discussed changes in streamflow patterns over the millennia in the Central Valley, which has been the subject of his research, while Pitts, a CSUB lecturer and former Environmental Safety Officer, discussed the history of water rights law and policy.

The goal of the panel was to explore the interrelation of drought, water and climate change in California from differing perspectives – biological, geological and legal.

Audience members totaled about 80 and engaged in a lively question and answer with the panelists.

“This is clearly an issue that people care about and want to learn more about,” said Library Dean Curt Asher, who added that he hopes to have another discussion on water next year.

Reference (Cont’d from page 1)

and Reference. CSUB’s subject librarians reviewed the reference and print index collection in 2015, retaining the most used and/or up-to-date items. Circulation and Technical Services personnel updated records, moved and shifted the collection – which is now housed in a smaller area on the east wall and south counter height shelving.

“The librarians are updating this more compact but “agile” reference collection with newer editions and digital resources to improve reference access for CSUB users,” said Johanna Alexander, Library Reference Services Coordinator.

Highlighted reference sources and databases will be on display adjacent to the new study area. Additionally, you’ll find a collection of best sellers and DVDs, all of which can be checked out by students, faculty, and staff.
Tales from the Vault #6
By Chris Livingston, Archivist

What does the movie The China Syndrome have in common with CSUB? The movie, starring Jane Fonda and released in 1979, was about an accident at a nuclear power plant that was investigated by a reporter. On May 22 of the same year Jane Fonda spoke at the Dore Theater. Her talk “Economic Democracy,” was the kick off event for “Of Heart and Mind…a Celebration of Women.” Nearly 500 people attended the event. Her talk touched on socio-economic disparities in the United States, the dependence on foreign oil, and the dangers of nuclear energy. The Runner newspaper covered the event. In an article that ran on May 24, 1979, the Runner quoted Fonda’s thoughts about nuclear energy. In that article Fonda notes “Nuclear energy is the unleashing of a substance that is uncomprehendable, the stuff's (plutonium) around forever and will condemn us as a human race.” These words highlight how many Americans felt at that time.

The Women’s Day events continued on May 22 with a series of events that ran all day. There were a variety of notable local women who spoke at the events, including local activist Wendy Wayne. The events culminated with a performance of “A Doll’s House” with Jane Fonda playing the lead role of Nora. The events were organized by the Women’s Day Committee and included Jeanne Harrie, Kris Anderson, Nancy Bailey, Mary Joan Curran, Sherrie Deutchman, Mary Laird, Bobbie Linnenbrink, Janine Strange, Laury True, and Sandy Varner.

Do you want to learn more about Women’s Day or the History of Women in Kern County? Their story and others are available in the Historical Research Center. Come visit us! You never know what you’ll discover!

Events (Cont’d)

Barbara, is the author of The Chicano Generation: Testimonios from the Movement.

Walter Presents – 2016 Walter W. Stiern Library PG&E Writer in Residence, Brian Evenson, author and professor
Tuesday, May 10, 2016
7:00 p.m., Author Reading

Thursday, June 30, 2016
9:00 a.m. to 4 p.m., One-day creative writing workshop to the community

Mr. Evenson is the author of a dozen books of fiction and has translated novels and poetry from French and Spanish. He earned the American Library Association award for Best Horror Novel in addition to earning three O. Henry Prizes, regarded as the most prestigious award for short fiction. Formerly a professor at Brown University, he recently took a teaching position at the California Institute of the Arts.

Walter Presents – Stafford Betty, Ph.D, Professor of Religious Studies, CSUB Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies
Thursday, May 19, 2016
3:30 p.m., Scholar Lecture

Dr. Betty’s new novel, The Severed Breast, has just been released. Dr. Betty earned his Ph.D. at Fordham University, is a Vietnam veteran, and CSUB religious studies professor. Dr. Betty is a nationally prominent expert on afterlife research.

Upcoming Events at Walter W. Stiern Library
www.csub.edu/library/Events

Walter Presents - Local Poets
Tuesday, April 19, 2016, 7 p.m. Poetry Readings
The region’s rising and established poets present their work at this annual event. Book signings.

History Forum – Mario T. Garcia
Friday, May 6, 2016, 3:30 p.m.
Mario T. Garcia, Professor of History and Chicano Studies at UC Santa
**The Brief**

**Simpson’s interview with library helps preserve his memory**

Iconic country-western song writer and musician Red Simpson – one of the last of a generation of musicians who played the honkytonks and bars that once made Bakersfield the center of West Coast country music and helped launch what would later be known as the Bakersfield Sound—died January 8 at the age of 81.

Fortunately, as part of its oral history project, the library conducted an interview with Simpson in November 2014 at his home, and has made the 19-page memoir public. The memoir can be viewed in the Oral Histories link under Special Collections on the Library Homepage.

Simpson chose the life of a musician because he’d rather “pick a guitar than pick cotton,” he said in the interview.

**Carpeting project will close library to public over break**

The library will be undergoing some improvements on the first floor during spring break – Saturday March 19 through Sunday March 27 -- and will be closed to the public. This is the first time that the library has been closed for spring break since it opened in 1994.

“We’re sorry to close it but dust from the project requires sealing the first floor,” said Library Dean Curt Asher.

Despite the closure, a team of librarians and staff will be on duty in the library, working outside of the construction area and will be available to help students and faculty by phone, email, or the Ask a Librarian online chat service, if needed. Computer Lab A on the lower level will also be open to students during the closure. Those with questions or concerns about this closure, please contact the Library Administration office to work out a solution.

**Social work book by CSUB professor launches school discipline discussion**

Author and editor Dr. Bruce Friedman and coauthors Camila Chavez and Kevin McNeill discussed their research recently at a “Walter Presents” event in the library’s Dezember Reading Room. A chapter in their book addresses school suspensions and expulsions in the Kern County school system, which was the focus of the talk.

Friedman, CSUB social work professor, is editor of the book, Public Health, Social Work and Health Inequalities. Published by Nova Scientific, the book was a project of SWHIN (Social Work and Health Inequalities Network) and provides an international perspective about the role of social work in addressing health inequalities.

The event drew a small but very engaged and interested audience.

**Kanopy Database brings more film options to campus**

The library’s newest subscription addition brings CSUB students access to thousands of films. Kanopy has more than 26,000 films from leading publishers in its collection.

All types of films are available in the database. A catalog search can uncover films on nearly any topic.

“Kanopy is a great new resource that gives students and faculty another learning option,” said Amanda Grombly, collections coordinator for the library.

The database’s viewing platform makes it easy to watch and share films for discussion and study.

**Work with farm group continues**

The first phase of the library’s outreach project in Shafter to document the important contribution of the Shafter Agricultural Research Station is nearing completion. Much of the materials organization was done by student intern Amelia Slover.

“Amelia has done a great job for us,” said Library Archivist Chris Livingstone. “I think everyone is happy with the progress. We have nearly everything documented or scanned and have added tens of thousands of pages of research material. Now the community and the university both have access to a new research resource and the ag station records are organized and preserved. It’s been a win-win.”

The project involves records that date back to the 1920s. The library, in phase two, will be working to help the California Farms Foundation develop a visitors center exhibit and will conduct oral histories to add to its collection on Shafter agricultural history.
Study Area (Cont’d from page 1)

Improvements in this library building touch every student because this is the place students come to engage with the ideas they learn about in the classroom,” said Curt Asher, Dean of the Walter Stiern Library.

Students have been clamoring for study space for years and, as the student population has grown, the desire for a comfortable place to do academic work has increased exponentially. Interviews with students that the dean and a volunteer researcher conducted in early 2012 found that students identified their priority needs as longer hours and more study space. Student groups have reiterated the importance of these priorities on many occasions in numerous forums since then. The Harbach gift and other private funds donated to the library have made it possible to move forward with some of these priority concerns.

One of the challenges of library construction is timing. The library rarely closes for breaks and is open most nights and weekends. The new study area—which contains 49 carrels—are all wired with electrical outlets for laptops and, like all spaces in the library, accessible to wireless internet. It was built when students and staff were away for winter break between Christmas Eve and New Year’s Day.

Thanks to a new agreement with the Facilities Management Department, the eastern half of the first floor re-carpeted at the same time the carrels were being installed. Another large portion of the first floor will be re-carpeted over spring break, when the library will be closed to the public. Phase Two of the Five Phase remodeling project will be completed during the summer, when another new study area will be added on the first floor. The final three phases will take place over the next three years and will involve a renovation of the second floor.

Students have praised the study area and immediately began to use it heavily.

“They love the new space. Many of our students now don’t necessarily need a desktop computer to do their work. What they need is desk space for their laptops or books. Given the enthusiastic use of the carrels and positive comments, we can see we are filling an important need,” Asher said.

The completion and grand opening of the space will take place in early spring, once the specially made tables and soft chairs are added.

Library Reaching out to Serve NSME Patrons

In Fall 2015, librarian Ying Zhong was formally named the NSME Librarian. Her responsibilities include delivering innovative reference, instructional and liaison services to all disciplines in the School of Natural Science, Mathematics, and Engineering, as well as planning, developing and managing NSME electronic and print collections.

Ying has worked at CSUB since 2005 as Web Services Librarian and has had a close relationship with many NSME teaching faculty. She will continue to work closely with NSME faculty and students in order to meet their teaching, research, and study needs.

The change in job title refocuses Ying’s primary duties to providing support and access to quality resources for the cutting edge science and technology programs at CSUB. It also encompasses outreach to the community.

“I am working closely with NSME faculty and students to meet their teaching, research, and study needs,” she said.

The library provides CSUB users with many science and technology resources, including access to eBooks through platforms such as Safari, Elsevier, Ebrary, National Academies Press, and R2 Digital Library and peer-reviewed articles for science and engineering in research databases like ScienceDirect, Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, SpringerLink, American Chemical Society, Association of Computing Machinery’s Digital Library, Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature, and others.

Ying also works closely with the NSME FabLab, which uses the latest technology to construct physical items using digital processes. During the fall, the library provided tours to 446 Bakersfield high school students, introducing them to both the library and the FabLab.

On February 16, Dr. Mustafah Dhada told the Walter Presents audience the story of a historian’s struggle to disinter a massacre narrative, which proved fatal in bringing to an end a 50-year old empire in Africa, in the writing of his book, “The Portuguese Massacre of Wiriyamu in Colonial Mozambique, 1964-2013.”
Late library hours meet need, draw praise from students

The library’s experiment with later hours so clearly met a student need that President Horace Mitchell agreed to pay to keep the doors open until 1 a.m. five nights per week through June 2017.

Dr. Mitchell announced that he would forward funding to the Academic Affairs division to cover the late night costs for the upcoming year. The library will continue to keep an accounting of late night traffic to ensure that the students are using the library until 1 a.m.

For years, librarians and staff have wanted to accommodate the student desire for longer hours. Surveys of students have shown that demand for the longer hours was high and ASI and other student groups have been particularly vocal about the need for late night study space on campus and have lobbied for longer library hours.

“The library is the place that provides students with a safe and welcoming alternative to some of the other places where students try to study,” said Jovanni Garcia, who staffs the circulation desk in the evening.

“The library offers resources that aren’t available elsewhere and gives students opportunities to engage intellectually with the ideas they are here to learn. It also offers them a place to meet with other students,” she added.

The staff has been overwhelmed by praise from late night studiers for being open to accommodate them. For example, one woman, a mother, with a full time job, told one of our staffers that if it wasn’t for these hours, she wouldn’t be able to get her school work done. There have been many, many other similar comments from students from all demographics who have told library staff that they really needed the late night hours to be successful.

Security patrols have been deployed in the library during the late hours in a cooperative arrangement with campus police. They also provide escorts to parking lots and student housing.

During the last four weeks of fall quarter, total counts during the late night hours ranged from 173 to 541 students. Winter quarter numbers are higher.

In cooperation with campus dining, the library provides free coffee to late night studiers after Walter’s Café in the library has closed.

Check out these databases at our website
www.csub.edu/library

ARTSTOR Digital Library
More than 1.9 million high-quality images for education and research.

America: History and Life
Covering the history, culture, area studies, and current affairs literature of the United States and Canada, from prehistory to the present.

ProQuest
First Research Industry Profiles

Public Opinion Data Found @
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