

J. F. DRAKE MEMORIAL LEARNING RESOURCES CENTER (LRC)

Through the generosity of the Carnegie Foundation, the first library building was constructed in 1906. This facility contained approximately 4,092 square feet of floor space and also housed the offices of the College President, the U.S. Post Office at Normal, the Business Manager and Treasurer, Home and Farm Demonstration Agents, and, on the second floor, living quarters for male faculty. In 1947, the original building was enlarged. The College outgrew the 9,000 total square feet so rapidly with the increasing student population and appropriations for library materials that the Reference Annex was added in 1962. In January 1968, a new building was constructed and occupied. The building was named in honor of Dr. Joseph Fanning Drake, the fourth President of the University and the three-story structure contained 60,000 square feet of floor space designed to accommodate 300,000 volumes and seat 1,000 readers.

Comprehensive renovation of the LRC facility was completed August 2002. It is still a 3-story structure which includes a new front entrance, a Faculty Reading Room, a student and a staff lounge, an International Room, a fully interactive Multi-Purpose/Distance Learning Auditorium which will seat 200 people, patron lockers on all three floors, three classrooms, and two conference rooms (first floor Conference Room seats 20 people, second floor Conference Room seats 43 people). In addition, the LRC has a Computer Lab with 60 PCs and a Streaming Lab with 40 PCs. Organizationally, the LRC is structured to provide library/media resources and services to a diverse clientele on campus, in the community, and at distance sites.

The LRC is a multi-media informational center which focuses on the printed word and also incorporates various forms of media as a means of teaching and learning. It maintains a collection of media software (films, audio and video tapes, CDs, DVDs, etc.) as well as the accompanying media equipment, in addition to a comprehensive collection of books, periodicals, newspapers, and electronic databases. It is charged with the responsibility for supporting all academically oriented facets and entities of the University by providing a wide range of information in all disciplines and in a variety of formats. It provides numerous and diverse resources, programs, services, and collections in support of the University's mission of providing quality professional preparation, research, and public service in pursuit of academic excellence.

Holding statistics are as follows:

Total Volume count as of 8/31/03	620,122
Book Collection	252,707
Bound Journals	25,883
Government Publications	194,756
Microform Collection	140,857
AV Materials	5,919

The number of patrons utilizing the LRC from Fall 2003 to August 2004 is as follows:

Circulation Services	25,000
Information Technology	19,000
Reference (including ILL and Government Publications)	15,000
Serials	<u>4,233</u>
Total	73,233