



University of Illinois Library Timeline



2000

1900

1867

2010 12 millionth volume acquired.

2009 11 millionth volume acquired.

2003 Oak Street facility opened.

2002 Voyager system implemented.

2001 Agriculture, Consumer & Environmental Sciences Library dedicated.

1999 Paula Kaufman appointed University Librarian.

1998 9 millionth volume acquired.

1998 DRA online catalog system implemented providing Telenet then web-based interface to catalog.

1994 Grainger Engineering Library Information Center dedicated.

1993 Library School moved to 501 E. Daniel.

1992 8 millionth volume acquired.

1992 Robert Wedgeworth named Interim University Librarian (1992/93) then University Librarian (1993-99).

1987 David Bishop appointed University Librarian (1987-1992).

1986 Mortenson Distinguished Professorship for International Library Programs established and annual Mortenson Distinguished Lecture instituted.

1986 Michael Gorman named Acting University Librarian (10/1986-8/1987).

1984 6th stack addition (compact stacks completed).

1984 FBR online catalog introduced.

1982 6 millionth volume acquired.

1979 Card Catalog closed.

1979 Library School moved from the Main Library to David Kinley Hall.

1976 Hugh C. Atkinson named University Librarian (1976-1986). Atkinson brought automation to the library catalog.

1975 Robert Oram served as Acting University Librarian (1975-1976).

1972 Library Friends group founded to increase financial support for and visibility of the Library.

1971 Lucien W. White named University Librarian (1971-1975). Library and Library School separated. White became University Librarian and Herbert Goldhor became director of the School.

1969 Undergraduate Library Building opened.

1966 4 millionth volume acquired.

1966 Mortenson Distinguished Professorship for International Library Programs established and annual Mortenson Distinguished Lecture instituted.

1956 3 millionth volume acquired.

1943 Robert B. Downs named Director of the Library and Library School (1943-1958); Dean of Library Administration (1958-1971).

1940 Carl M. White named Librarian (1940-1943).

1935 1 millionth volume acquired.

1927 University Librarian Windsor reported that only 5 U.S. libraries surpassed UI: Harvard, Yale, Columbia, Cornell and Chicago.

1909 Phineas Windsor named Librarian and Director of the Library School (1909-1940). Windsor built the Library's holdings from 127,000 to 1,500,000 volumes during his tenure.

1897 Katherine Sharp named Librarian and Director of the Library School (1897-1907). Sharp "modernized" the Library by developing reference services, contributing library functions and professionalized cataloging practice.

1894 Percy Bicknell appointed 1st full-time librarian with library experience (1894-1897) and begins to catalog library collection.

1893 Library School established at Armour Institute in Chicago.

1889 Cleaves Bennett, a graduate student at the University, serves as Assistant Librarian (1889-1894).

1883 Listing of Library's periodical holdings consisted of 1 page.

1873 Faculty serve as librarians in the absence of an appointed position (1873-1889).

1869 Henry Marshall Douglass served as the 1st librarian (1869-1871).

1868 Library Founded.

2003 10 millionth volume acquired.

1998 9 millionth volume acquired.

1986 7 millionth volume acquired.

1982 6 millionth volume acquired.

1975 5 millionth volume acquired.

1958 4th stack addition completed.

1946 2 millionth volume acquired.

1940 Third Stack addition completed.

1929 Second Stack addition completed with federal relief funds.

1926 Main Library dedicated.

1907 FKW Drury named Acting Librarian (1907-1909).

1897 Library School moved to University of Illinois in the Library.

1889 Cleaves Bennett, a graduate student at the University, serves as Assistant Librarian (1889-1894).

1874 Library transferred to newly-constructed University Hall, located on present site of the Illini Union. Books were transported by wheelbarrow during the summer vacation.

1867 Illinois Industrial University Founded. Board of Trustees appropriate \$1,000 for purchase of 644 volumes to be housed in the office of Regent Gregory who served as Librarian. Books later moved to Library Hall in the first University Building ('The Elephant').

1991 Mortenson Center established.

1988 Library received NEH Challenge Grant providing a \$1 million match for \$3 million raised by the Library.

1978 Library Computer System (LCS) for shelf-list and circulation introduced.

1972 Library Friends group founded to increase financial support for and visibility of the Library.

1943 Faculty status for librarians was obtained.

1929 Second Stack addition completed with federal relief funds.

1897 Library moved to newly-constructed building (later named Altgeld Hall). Melvil Dewey delivered dedication address.

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