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## ILRC Connections, Volume 1, Issue 4

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# The ILRC Connection

Integrated Learning Resource Center Newsletter, New Series: Volume 1, Issue 1

## Dave's Departure



Recently the staff of the ILRC was informed of the departure of our dean, Dr. David Barnett. Dr. Barnett had been at Liberty for 24 years. During that time he held numerous positions of responsibility. Beginning as a cataloger, he worked his way to greater positions of authority in the library. Under his leadership the library evolved from an old style facility with a wooden card catalog to a facility that is in tune with current developments in the information field. Under his guidance the ILRC began providing an ever expanding collection of electronic resources for the students and faculty of Liberty University. Some of the things he accomplished while at Liberty include the following:

1991 – Researched and implemented the first computer catalog at Liberty

1994 – Chaired the committee which brought internet access to LU

1995-2001 – Played a major role in shaping academic computing and instructional technology at LU while moving the library from print-based research indexes to CD-Rom to the Internet Databases we use today.

2001-2004 – Served as Assistant CIO as

Liberty's academic computing labs and the library merged into the ILRC.

Helped bring Blackboard to LU

Obtained a Masters in the Management of Information Technology from UA

Created the Center for Computer and Information Technology which he directed until it became the School of Engineering and Computer Science.

2004-2006 – Served as Director of Distance Learning and Learning Technologies heading what is now LU Online and led the program from a print/VCR based program to a fully Internet-delivered program.

2006 – Returned to the ILRC as Director and has prepared the way for a new "discovery" Google-like library research service.

Dave has been heavily involved in the strategic development of the university since the late 1990's and has participated in several accreditation visits to other schools. He was a student of theology and biblical languages who moved into the information field and developed into a true leader in library and campus technology. Liberty benefited greatly from his service here.

## Russ File's Reception

After serving Liberty University for 30 years, Mr. Russ File joined the ranks of the retired. To honor him, a reception was held on the third floor of the ILRC. Attendance was open to ILRC faculty, staff, and student workers, as well as university faculty and staff. Those who had worked with Mr. File for many of those 30 years came to bid him farewell. After refreshments, Mr. and Mrs. File, along with Mrs. File's parents, entertained the group with song.

During his tenure at Liberty, Russ File filled many roles, including the Head of Public Services and Distance Student Librarian. His passion however, was helping students at the reference desk with database searches and giving personal one-on-one instruction. Mr. File's last assignment as a part of the ILRC team was with the Collection Management Team. He will always be remembered for his sense of humor and his servant's heart.



## Writer's Conference

September 24-25 marked the dates of the 7th biennial Writers Conference co-sponsored by the ILRC and the Communications Department. Bruce Wilkinson, the Friday evening speaker, challenged attendees to write in order to change people's lives. Other speakers on Saturday approached the practical aspects of writing for publication including editing your manuscript and writing a query letter that will catch the attention of an editor. Workshops were also offered by Liberty graduates Dawn Stephens, Jamaica Conner and Ruth Erquiaga to give classroom teachers fresh ideas of how to encourage their students to write. One unique aspect of the conference was the opportunity for attendees to meet with the speakers one-on-one for advice on how to improve their writing and how to better market their manuscripts. Approximately 100 people attended this event.

## David's Place Wall

The third floor of the ILRC has seen the addition of a new area dedicated to the son of one of Liberty's long-time donors. David A. DeMoss was a gentle and loving young man who died tragically in an automobile accident in January 1988. To keep his memory alive, his family repurposed a campus building for students to use as an

activity center and named it David's Place. Today that building has become the home for the Center for Worship. When development of the 3rd floor was being considered the DeMoss family again came forward to support the school and in honor of them a new memorial for David was created.



Photo by Courtney Hampton

## Improvements in the ILRC

### Quiet Study

In response to requests from students for quieter areas for computer use, one Mac lab and one PC lab were designated as quiet areas when they are not being used for classes. Monitors now ensure these rooms maintain a quiet atmosphere. In addition, 24 computers were installed in the Quiet Study Zone on the first floor. These spaces have proved to be very popular with students.

### TV Monitors

A number of new television monitors were mounted on the walls of the first and second floors of the ILRC this fall. In addition to news coverage, the lab is now using one screen on each floor to alert students where they can find an open computer. The numbers are updated every few seconds to keep the information accurate.

### Stack Maintenance

A new crew has been created among the ILRC student workers. As part of the Circulation Desk staff, they are charged with maintaining the book collection in good order. These students consistently straighten the books on the shelves and make sure that the titles remain in correct call number order. In addition to making the book stacks more attractive this vitally important service enables ILRC customers to find the resources they need in their proper location. In the future, responsibilities for taking an ongoing inventory of materials will be added to their list of responsibilities.

### Summer Activities

This last summer was a busy time in the ILRC. No longer a quiet season of slower activity, Liberty's expanded list of summer class sessions kept the ILRC facility almost as busy as they were throughout the fall and winter semesters. Several lengthy projects were also taken on by our dedicated staff.

Graduate classes from the Education department filled the Curriculum Library facilities for 7 weeks familiarizing themselves with the educational assessment instruments housed there. Class sizes ran from 35 to 60 students per week.

The Circulation workers tackled a huge assignment to shelf-read the entire collection of the Main Stacks. Their job was to be sure that all items were shelved in proper order and to shift the collection so that materials were spaced evenly on the shelves. Credit goes to Mr. Merat for doing the math to figure out how much space should be left on each shelf for future expansion.

# Let's Welcome Our New Faces



Photo by Courtney Hampton

**Name:** Cynthia Schmidt

**Position:** Curriculum Librarian

**Hometown:** Keysville, VA

**Recently Read:** *In Search of Mockingbird* by Loretta Ellsworth  
I'm also currently listening to *Home to Holly Springs* by Jan Karon on CD and really enjoying it.

**Interesting Fact:** I am working on my Ph.D. in Information & Library Science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. I was a school librarian for twelve years and a professor of school library media for four years before coming to Liberty in July 2010.

**Name:** Faith Staton

**Position:** Office Manager of the A.P. Guillermin ILRC

**Hometown:** Lynchburg, VA

**Recently Read:** I haven't had much time for reading lately since I have been moving to a new house and beginning a new job. It probably would be something by Karen Kingsbury

**Interesting Fact:** My older son is a grad assistant for LU, and my younger son works part-time in the Lynchburg General Emergency Department – I hope you never have to meet him!



Photo by Courtney Hampton



Photo by Courtney Hampton

**Name:** Philip Leineweber

**Position:** Computer Lab Supervisor

**Hometown:** Baltimore, MD

**Recently Read:** *Five Views of Sanctification*

**Interesting Fact:** Was on scholarship to run track for LU for four years

**Name:** Dave Culp

**Position:** Computer Lab Technician

**Hometown:** Akron, OH

**Recently Read:** *Game Informer*

**Interesting Fact:** My apartment is infested with stink bugs



Photo by Courtney Hampton



Photo by Courtney Hampton

**Name:** Nick Pavlovic

**Position:** Computer Lab Supervisor

**Hometown:** Scranton, PA

**Recently Read:** *Do Hard Things* by Alex and Brett Harris

**Interesting Fact:** My two front teeth are fake

**Name:** Kevin Jones

**Position:** Computer Lab Supervisor

**Hometown:** Richmond, VA

**Recently Read:** *Forgotten God* by Francis Chan

**Interesting Fact:** I have 42 of the exact same sock



Photo by Courtney Hampton