Friends of the Brooks Library Newsletter, October 2011

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MEASURE THE BROOKS LIBRARY

Beverly Heckart, Chair, Friends of the Brooks Library

The Brooks Library is included in every campus tour for prospective students and their families, but few grasp the library’s significance for their education. The library is such a crucial learning site that the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) has devised a set of guidelines by which prospective students can judge the library’s contribution to the quality of any college or university.

First and foremost, the library should be an inviting place to visit with convenient hours and a variety of study spaces. Because the amount of available information will double within the four years a student spends at college, it’s imperative that the library’s collection contain a variety of formats—print and electronic—with up-to-date knowledge. Increasingly necessary is the ability to access electronic information from sites outside the library.

At Central, librarians supplement the work of classroom professors. According to the ACRL, there needs to be enough “friendly, helpful and knowledgeable” staff available to help students with individual questions, either on site or via e-mail, and to teach them how to use the library. And lastly, in this technological age, the library is expected to provide printing services, computer ports, laptops, palm pilots and e-books.

How does the Brooks Library measure up to these guidelines? Users of the library’s services think it does amazingly well. And it does so with increasingly adverse budgets. The Friends of the Brooks Library’s Endowment Fund helps by supplying monies to purchase educational materials of all kinds.

Remember the Brooks Library Endowment Fund in your annual charitable donations to CWU.

SUPPORT FOR THE LIBRARY

- Current CWU Students ($15 suggested)
- Annual Friend ($35-$99)
- Special Friend ($100-$249)

With the following categories, you may work with the dean to purchase vital library materials, and a Friend of the Library bookplate will be affixed to your gift.
- Friend of the Collection ($250-$499)
- Sustainer of the Collection ($500-$999)
- Steward of the Collection ($1,000 or more)

Tribute Gifts

Many find that a gift to the library is a meaningful way to honor a special person or to remember a loved one.

In memory of ______________________________
Send acknowledgement to: ______________________________
______________________________
______________________________
______________________________

You may give to the Friends of the Brooks Library Endowment Fund by naming us as beneficiary in your retirement or life insurance plans, or through your will. For more information, contact the Gift and Estate Planning Office of the CWU Foundation, 509-963-3083 or www.cwugift.org.

Gifts to the Friends of the Brooks Library are deposited in the endowment fund. We use minimal amounts to defray expenses.

Make checks payable to:
Friends of the Brooks Library, CWU Foundation
Mail with this form to:
CWU Foundation
400 East University Way
Ellensburg, WA 98926-7508

EEO/AA/TITLE IX INSTITUTION. For accommodation: CDSecept@cwu.edu
Note that the Friends’ annual book sale this year includes 

late afternoon and evening hours

on the first day of the sale. We are introducing these new hours in response to requests to hold the sale when working people from the university and wider communities can attend and browse the shelves. Free parking is also available on the university campus after 4:30 p.m.

In 2010, the book sale earned $816 for the Friends’ endowment fund. This sum represents the enthusiasm of the customers and the dedication of those who help to stack the shelves and serve as cashiers.

NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS

Corwin King has agreed to serve a three-year term on the Friends of the Brooks Library board. He will replace Dale Comstock, whose contributions to the Friends over the last six years have been manifold. We cannot thank Dale enough for all the work he has done.

Last January’s wine tasting, held cooperatively with the Lion Rock Visiting Writers Series, was a great success. The Friends and the Writers Series each earned $450. As important as the proceeds was the atmosphere of fellowship among the guests. Many thanks to all who attended and contributed.

We welcome donations for the book sale. If you want to contribute, please contact Pat Owens (963-1306). Fiction of the belles lettres variety sells very well, as do books on travel, cooking, and current events. Children’s books are always in demand. If you have books to donate, please do so soon.