President’s Circle 2007 Allocation to the University Libraries

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The library was invited again this year to send in a proposal for funds from the President’s Circle. Last week I received a letter from Father Jenkins on the award this year to the library. In the letter he said:

“Through the excellent work of the Development Office and generosity of our benefactors, funds contributed to the University’s President’s Circle provide support for Notre Dame’s central mission and aspirations. Along with Provost Dr. Thomas G. Burish, I annually direct allocations to key programs and initiatives. It is my distinct pleasure to inform you that the following allocations have been made to support FY 2008.

Provost initiatives:

• $193,000 for a collaborative computer learning center for students in the library;
• $809,000 for strategic library purchases.”

The collaborative computer learning center is the newly relocated computer cluster on the first floor. This was a joint proposal from the Office of Information Technologies (OIT) and the library, and we are glad for the support from the President’s Circle.

The remaining $809,000 will be directed to the following five priorities:

1) Seminal, interdisciplinary science, engineering, psychology, and social science resources to expand immediate desktop access to core literature, including BIOSIS and several journal digital backfiles -- $170,000.
2) Significant enhancement of Notre Dame’s national and global standing in Irish studies: the purchase of a fine collection of 16th and 17th Century imprints-- $350,000.
3) Facilitation of the upward trajectory of the Mendoza College of Business by providing desktop access to a wider panoply of business journals, including an upgrade to “Business Source Complete”-- $56,000.
4) Strengthening of the growing internationalization of UND curricula, to strengthen the expansion of graduate programs and diversity of faculty research in the humanities: the Alexander Street press: World Literature Series -- $80,000.
5) More support for an interdisciplinary Notre Dame program with global implications: Peace Studies -- $151,000.

I want especially to thank the subject librarians – Steve Hayes, Aedin Clements, Parker Ladwig, Carol Brach, Thurston Miller, Cheri Smith, Doug Archer, Scott Van Jacob, and Laura Fuderer who provided the information on the priorities and Kathy Blackstead, who created the final proposal. These funds are a welcome addition to current library resources and will certainly assist our efforts to create outstanding library services and collections for students and faculty at Notre Dame.