WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

University Libraries provides facilities and technology for groups and individuals to engage with extensive online and print collections. The Dwight B. Waldo Library (Main) built in 1958, expanded in 1967 and renovated and expanded in 1991, is named after the University’s first president. Waldo Library houses materials that support learning in the humanities, social sciences, sciences, technology and business. Notable circulating collections include the Ann Kercher Memorial Collection of materials on Africa south of the Sahara; the Randall Frazier Memorial Collection of the history and culture of Black America; materials on the history, religion, philosophy, and culture of the Medieval period; the Leslie H. Wood Memorial Collection of materials in geography and geology; an extensive collection of maps and atlases; and U.S. and Michigan government documents. The Department of Special Collections, located on the third floor of Waldo Library, houses 67 medieval manuscripts and over 40,000 books, including medieval manuscript facsimiles, children’s literature and American women’s poetry.

The Gary and Rita Swain Education Library, was opened in August 2012 in the new Sangren Hall. It has five reservable group study rooms equipped with large screens and whiteboards, and a designated quiet study room. The Harper C. Maybee Music and Dance Library, located in the Dalton Center, houses over 50,000 books, periodicals and music scores. Its collection of more than 17,000 sound and video recordings includes concerts from the WMU School of Music. Listening and viewing facilities are available. The Archives and Regional History Collections, located the Charles C and Lynn L. Zhang Legacy Collections Center, houses unique materials on southwest Michigan, including manuscripts of its early residents. This library also serves as the Regional Depository of the State Archives for public records and collects, preserves, and makes accessible University records.

General Information 2014-15

Total Titles, print and non-print 2,322,204
Electronic Subscriptions 137,688
Electronic Books 607,238
Sound Recordings (includes streaming) 32,579
Videos & DVD’s (includes streaming) 40,041
Maps 48,054

Library Usage for Fiscal Year 2014-15

Total Number of Items Provided to Other Libraries 22,026
Total Number of Items Received from Other Libraries 14,842
Number of items placed on Electronic Reserves 4,521
Print Items Circulated 73,209
Research Help Transactions 7,453
Group Instructional Sessions 506
Total Number of Items Provided Through Document Delivery Services 2,783

Employees of the Libraries

Full Time Equivalent Fiscal Year Employees (excluding students) 82
Full Time Equivalent Fiscal Year Employees (including students) 127