

# DonorNews

## Greening of Gumberg

One might think that one of the least environmentally friendly places on a university campus is the library—after all, it is floor after floor of paper. That's not the case at Gumberg Library, however, as the Library joins the nationwide trend of becoming greener.

"There are environmentally conscious measures being taken throughout the Library, everywhere from the building itself to the amount that we recycle," said Dr. Laverna Saunders, University librarian.

The Library as a structure is itself, recycled. Built as a three-story warehouse and parking garage in the 1920's, the top two floors were added in the 1970's, and the entire building was converted into a library in an effort to be more responsible stewards of land and resources. According to the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette on January 17, 1979, Gumberg's architects, Gerard Associates, received an architecture award for best re-use of a facility.

Inside the recycled structure sit hundreds of thousands of books. What happens to those books when withdrawn from circulation due to wear and tear or age? They are recycled,



as is roughly 11,000 tons of paper per year. Gumberg Library was one of the first campus buildings to actively recycle, according to Saunders, and today that tradition of environmental stewardship continues with recent motion sensors for lighting in the all restroom facilities along with water conservation features in the fifth floor restrooms and recycling bins located in heavy-traffic areas of the building.

Additionally, in the past few years, Gumberg Library has undergone a facelift, and in that process more efficient lighting and HVAC controls have been installed throughout the building. New carpets also meet campus green standards, and recently the Library saved nearly 500 chairs from a landfill by reupholstering instead of getting rid of good furniture.

Looking forward, Gumberg Library continues its commitment to the environment this summer. Beginning in May 2010, the Library will begin replacing its automatic main entrance doors with more energy efficient ones, taking Gumberg Library one step further away from being a refurbished garage to being a state-of-the-art, energy efficient library facility.

## Annual Silverman Symposium a Success

The Simon Silverman Phenomenology Center successfully hosted its twenty-eighth annual symposium on Feb. 18 and 19. The topic was "Phenomenology, Cognition, and Neuroscience," and investigated the relationship between the mind and the brain, the experiencing human person and his or her neural foundation. Dan Zahavi of the University of Copenhagen, Catherine Malabou of the University of Paris, Evan Thompson of the University of Toronto, and Shaun Gallagher of the University of Central Florida gave lectures, and each lecture drew over 100 attendees. Scholars came from the local region as well as from as far away as California and Alberta, Canada.



*Desmond Egan, renowned Irish poet, visited the Gumberg Library while on the Duquesne University campus for a St. Patrick's Day poetry reading. The library has a significant collection of Egan's works, which were displayed during the month of March.*

## Have a question? Text Us!

Gumberg Library now offers "mobile" reference service. Text your question and a librarian will respond to your question within two hours. Questions received after hours will be answered when coverage resumes the next day. Text reference service is available whenever the reference desk is staffed. There is no library charge for the service but standard text messaging rates apply from the user's wireless service provider.

Keep it simple:

- Text a Librarian should be used for brief questions—there is a 160 character limit.
- To use the service, send a text to 66746 and start the body of the text with keyword askduq, then a space, followed by the question.

More details can be found on the library Web site at [www.duq.edu/library/services/textalibrarian.shtml](http://www.duq.edu/library/services/textalibrarian.shtml).



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