

A-State Biology Department sees new library dedicated

BY ALDEMARO ROMERO
SPECIAL TO THE SUN

A tradition among all great universities is to have departmental libraries created with donations of books, journals and other publications by their faculty members. On Sept. 18, Arkansas State University further developed that track record with the dedication of the Rick McDaniel Biology Library.

Dr. McDaniel was a faculty member and chairman of the department for many years and later became a university administrator. The library was named after him by unanimous vote by the Department of Biologi-

cal Sciences.

This biology library opened with a collection of nearly 700 books, 200 journal titles comprising 4,300 issues, and hundreds of monographs and reprints, all of them donated by several faculty members, current and retired. The basis of the library was a large donation of publications made by McDaniel, but it also counts contributions from other faculty members both current and retired. They are Drs. J. Kenneth Beadles, George Harp, Jim Hutchinson, David Gilmore, Richard Grippo, Ron Johnson, Joy Trauth and the author of this article.

PLEASE SEE **LIBRARY, A9**

LIBRARY: List of library holdings computerized, accessible on Internet

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The aim of this library is to provide in-house sources of references to faculty members and students in the Department of Biological Sciences. Books have been ordered using the Library of Congress classification, and journals have been ordered alphabetically by title. The list of the holdings of the library has been computerized and can be accessed through the Department of Biological Sciences' Web site at biology.astate.edu/deptlibrary.htm. Reprints can be located using a card catalog system in the library.

By posting the holdings on the Internet, researchers do not have to physically visit the library to get an idea of the what the library has to offer.

The library cataloging was conducted by Kristen Irwin, an undergraduate student in the Biology Department. The holdings are so numer-



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Dr. Rick McDaniel (center) stands with current and retired faculty members during the dedication of the ASU Department of Biological Sciences library that carries his name on Sept. 18 at Jonesboro.

ous and diverse that it took several months to put them in order and to have them computerized.

The library covers diverse areas of science but mostly biology. Many of the publications are monographs and

reprints of scientific papers hard to find today. Some journal collections include titles covering more than three decades of publication. This makes all these materials readily available to faculty and students without having

to leave the building where they teach, research and study.

In addition to this the Biology Department also maintains a collection of all of the theses and dissertations written by that department's students.

This initiative sets an instance of what departmental libraries are all about: recognition of the contributions of the university faculty and an example of how individuals can help to make of the university a better place to work and study.

The Department welcomes donations and will issue a receipt for them that can be used by the donors for tax purposes.

For more information, contact the ASU Department of Biological Sciences at biology@astate.edu.

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