

AERONAUTICS AND ASTRONAUTICS LIBRARY ANNUAL REPORT 2006-2007

Highlights

This year the Aeronautics and Astronautics Library has emphasized moving materials to digital format, visiting new faculty, and building on relationships that bring invitations to provide instruction in the classroom. The coming year will bring a complete change of staff in the Library, as the Library Assistant has moved to the Science Library at the end of June to become the Physics Liaison and the Librarian announced her retirement after 18 years in the Aero/Astro Library. Her retirement will be effective October 1, 2007.

A study of Library Use Statistics has shown a slight decrease in door count, less than one percent this year, while the number of email questions to Library staff has risen over 50%.

Collections

The Library has acquired digital format for the following titles:

- Journal of Air Transport Management (Elsevier)
- Computers and Structures (Elsevier)
- SAE Aerospace Standards (CD for older, on-demand for 2007 -)
- AIAA Conference Papers 1989-1995 (replacing fiche with digital. Vail and Preservation funds)
- Jane's Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (used funds from canceling SAE standards)

In addition the Library, acting on a request from a grad student that was supported by at least 5 faculty, acquired the Telecommunications satellite database.

Outreach

The Librarian visited four new faculty in their offices, two visiting and two tenure track. A firm relationship was cemented with two of these, with the Librarian receiving many emails from them requesting material or help with items in storage or with ILB.

Instruction

The Librarian participated in two orientations for new Aero/Astro students, taught one general information session for all Aero/Astro grad students, and taught in part or all of a class session for four other classes. Instruction sessions included:

8/31/06	Library Orientation	70 Aero/Astro grad students
9/5/06	Library Orientation	65 Aero/Astro Sophomores
9/13/06	Independent Seminar	15 members of the HAL lab
10/5/06	Course related	15 students in 16.621
10/12/06	Ind. Seminar	12 Aero/Astro grad students
3/08/07	Course related	45 Freshmen in 16.00
3/13/07	Course related	15 students in 16.621
3/21/07	Course related	15 students in 16.S26

Library use statistics

- Door count decreased slightly from FY06 figures (0.004%)
- Total questions at the desk and away from the desk increased in FY07 over FY06 (13%)

Away from desk, in person, questions decreased 16% this year as we counted them differently. More were counted at the desk. Email away from the desk increased 86%.

- *Ask Us! statistics were not collected separately in FY2007. The number 557 represents both Ask Us! and direct email questions. In FY06 this total was 324.

Table 1
Aero/Astro Library
Comparison of use statistics
2004 – 2007

	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007
Door Count	27,463	23,002	19615	19538
Total questions at desk	2,394	2,248	1904	2158
Away from desk – total	1,024	739	948	1102
Away from desk – in person	625	424	406	471
Away from desk – email (Ask Us)	48	9	25	NA
Away from desk – email (Direct to Aero)	212	231	299	557*

2007 staff activities

Staff:

Librarian: Eileen Dorschner (announced retirement, October 2007)

Library Assistant: Mat Willmott (transferred to the Science Library June 30, 2007)

Librarian:

- Member of ISG and its Circulation Policy subgroup
- Member of ESL’s SAE response group
- Member of ESL’s Conferences study group
- Member of ESL’s Standards study group
- Convener of the Branch Managers group
- Member /SLA Engineering Division and Aerospace Section
- Chair SLA/Aerospace Mandell Award Committee
- Member American Institute for Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA)
- Member Publishing Subcommittee of AIAA

Library Assistant

- Member ASG – lead Statistics Group
- Member BAG
- Member Indexing Task Force
- Member of Bibliotechs
- In ESL – read and updated all competencies for Aleph 18, indexed them and created a Word document of the competencies
- Winner of the Libraries’ individual Infinite Mile Award for **RESULTS, OUTCOMES AND PRODUCTIVITY**

2008 goals:

Librarian

The Librarian will be retiring in September but here are some suggested goals for the new librarian:

1. In addition to looking for opportunities to work in the classroom to provide library instruction, be proactive with heads of Labs. Offer library instruction to lab groups. Ask to go to their lab meetings to have a good idea what projects they are doing. This was a suggestion from members of the HAL lab when Tracy and I met with them this spring.
2. On the collections side, look to purchase the following in digital format:
 - AIAA papers – 1981-1988. Half of these are only in fiche now.
 - AIAA journals (6 titles) – From beginning to 1996. We only have 1997 to date on line
 - ICAO statistics: ICAO Air Carrier Statistics (6 sets of stats) has been put into the requested list of serials and journals that ESL has created. Price \$5250. Airport Statistics (2 sets of stats) can be purchased with Aero ZNEW funds. Cost \$1575. Requested by many faculty.
 - Explore getting online access to Aerospace Structural Metals Database from CNDAS. Cost \$5000-825 (savings from canceling paper).

Library Assistant

Will be hired this summer and will spend the year becoming familiar with the operating system and the collection.

More information: <http://libraries.mit.edu/aero>

Eileen Dorschner
Librarian, Aeronautics & Astronautics Library