

LIBRARY BUDGET. The library is very grateful for the support from both schools evident in a 4% materials budget increase when cuts are occurring throughout the university. The library's plans to cut materials expenditures in some areas will be presented at the April 8 Library Committee meeting since the 4% will not meet inflation estimated at 7% nor will it improve research support.

In non-materials areas of the budget, the library is contributing savings in FY09 and 10 in the following areas: 2 frozen positions in IT and Access, staff events and travel, reduction in projects funded. The library is working hard to maintain its service momentum during the economic crises.

LIBRARY SPACE. The plan and budget to add 13,000 linear feet of compact shelving to complete the shelving of bound serial volumes on level G was approved by the Trustees at the February meeting. The construction has been scheduled for summer 2010 when it is expected that all shelves will be totally full.

STRATEGIC PLAN. The library's strategic plan was completed last year. This spring, 50 faculty in AS&E are being interviewed by Laura Walters with other partners (AT, ITS and DCA) on research and teaching needs. The data from the interviews will inform the Learning Commons and Virtual Research Commons plans.

LEARNING COMMONS. Meetings are being held to plan fundraising within the Capital Campaign for the Learning Commons. The Learning Commons plan includes renovating the library's entrance floor to support an interactive learning environment that integrates faculty and students with expert staff supporting library and technology. Advancement is optimistic that fundraising will be completed in FY10 with construction in FY11.

LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM PROJECT to replace AS&E's Blackboard Basic has been expanded to include a university wide needs analysis with a tentative report date June 30,2009. Chris Strauber is the library representative to the project.

BLC VIRTUAL CATALOG REPLACEMENT. Migration to WorldCat Local replacement is underway. Participation of all 19 BLC libraries beginning summer 2009 is planned. Both book and article level holdings (new) are planned.

DIGITIZATION. Tisch Library will complete its 2 year \$70,000 commitment this year to support the Boston Library Consortium's Open Content Alliance by digitizing 2 Tisch Library journals. A recent meeting with the university libraries the Provost indicated support for Open Access initiatives so more specifics will be developed by our Scholarly Communications Team.

ROOFTOP GARDEN. The dedication of the rooftop garden, called Alex's Place, will be April 26.