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Fort Hays State University Centennial Celebration Forsyth Library Commemoration

Fort Hays State University

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Fort Hays State University
Centennial Celebration

Forsyth Library Commemoration
Friday, December 13, 2002
Welcome
John Ross
Director of Forsyth Library

Centennial celebration
Dr. Edward H. Hammond
President

A century of academic excellence
Standlee Dalton
Former Registrar

Dr. Nancy Vogel
Professor Emeritus of English

Dedication of Mac Reed
Government Documents area

Closing
John Ross
Forsyth Library

During the establishment of the Western Normal School, the sister institution from Emporia sent 720 books for placement in the Hays library. At the close of the W.S. Picken era, the collection had grown to 4,000 books. With the Normal School beginning its transition into a college and then into a university, the library moved from the original campus buildings that had served as officers’ quarters to Martin Allen Hall, Sheridan Hall and then to Picken Hall.

July 10, 1928, saw the dedication of the first Forsyth Library with approximately 1,500 people attending the ceremony. Affectionately called the Old Library Building, the facility housed the library for 40 years. The building was renamed McCartney Hall during the 1960s.

In 1967, work crews moved books and other materials from the original Forsyth Library to a newly built facility. With two floors and a basement, the present location offers 105,398 square feet. Currently, there are approximately 300,000 volumes in the main part of the library and more than 500,000 government documents.

Mac Reed

Mac Reed began his affiliation with Fort Hays State University as a student, graduating with a degree in business in 1964. During his undergraduate years, he participated in many campus activities and worked as a student assistant in the old Forsyth Library.

In 1965, he received a graduate degree in librarianship from the University of Denver. M.C. Cunningham, then president of Fort Hays State, hired Mac to return to his alma mater as a reference librarian. He served in that role from 1965 to 1975 and then volunteered to take over the government documents department in 1975. He has been in this capacity for the past 27 years. Mac also is the assistant director for technical services, a position he has held for the last five years.

In 2001, Mac received the annual Friends of Forsyth Library award for his dedicated support. He has served on numerous committees, both on and off campus. Mac is the past chair of the College and University Librarians of Kansas organization and the chair-elect of the Kansas Government Documents Roundtable. In addition, he often presents workshops on government information for librarians of central, northwest and southwest Kansas.