By answering questions and offering instruction for the university community and the state of Indiana, librarians help connect people with the information they need.

Research librarians don't know it all, but they almost always know how to find it. And for 100 years, the expertise of IU librarians has helped everyone from undergrads worried about their first big project to faculty who have spent a lifetime digging deep.

A lot has changed in the past century, of course. Mary Dunham, IU's first reference librarian hired in 1908, could not have imagined how Librarian Mary Strow, head of reference, would connect current researchers with the information they need. The Internet provides a means to find specific types of information fast. She and other members of the reference staff respond to requests from e-mail and cell phones, and her department recently highlighted Mnekos, an instant messaging network, that has increased the flow of online questions. Librarians help students and faculty filter the overwhelming amounts of information that Internet search engines can provide and help them tap into the so-called "invisible" or "deep" web, which includes the valuable information in subject-specific databases and directories that librarians purchase and manage.

What hasn't changed since 1908 is a steadfast commitment to service. Whether by searching the Internet or poring through stacks of books, reference librarians share a keen desire to find the answer, or at the very least, to guide the researcher in the right direction. "My philosophy, and the philosophy of everybody here," says Mary "is that the researcher will come away with something. They'll come away with the name of a person to contact or database to search, or a book to find. We always give them something to go on."

"The first interaction," says Strow, "is the start of a dialogue." Lou Malcomb, head of Government Information, Microform and Statistical Services, agrees. "In the reference interview you learn the scope of what the person is researching, so you go beyond the initial question to the multiple things they may be interested in knowing. A good reference librarian will make people aware of other opportunities to expand or enhance their research."

Recent reference questions (To find the answers, ask a librarian.)

- Can you provide a list of the students of Linnaeus?
- How do children perceive poverty?
- What is the origin of the Christmas tree?
- Where can you find the regulations for distribution of Grade A milk?
- I'm looking for an overview of contemporary literature in Peru.

To see more, go to www.indiana.edu/~library/sources.

"We do a lot of sleuthing," says Head of Reference Mary Strow of the quest for answers. "Sometimes the route is very circuitous."

IU Libraries Archives
Celebration Wins Top Honors

As part of a nationwide campaign to recognize the importance of archives to teaching and learning, the Indiana University Libraries celebrated Politics and Presidents, a monthlong series of events for the university and Bloomington communities. Nearly a dozen partners included the IU Press, the Kinsey Institute, the Black Film Center/Arcade, and the Friends of the Lilly Library. In September, the national Society of American Archivists awarded IU's annual campaign top honors for its creative programs and thematic approach.

Keynote speaker for the series was Lee Hamilton, who served the ninth district of Indiana in the United States House of Representatives from 1965 to 1998. Hamilton discussed the relationship between the executive and legislative branches of government. "Academic research libraries, increasingly homogenized by widely available electronic collections, will in the future distinguish themselves largely by their unique holdings," says Ruth Lilly Dean of University Libraries Patricia Steele. "IU has an astonishing array of archives and special collections. Each annual event showcases them in a way that engages our community."

[Find links to some of IU's special collections at: www.indiana.edu/~library/sources]

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**Architectural renderings show the potential of a future reading room and how an inviting entry will expose the room to potential users.**

For information about giving to the Herman B Wells Library Reading Room, contact Susan Yoon, Executive Director of Development, at (812) 855-4182 or susyoon@indiana.edu

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The goal is better searching.

"This is a conceptual model for the library catalogs of the future. The goal is better searching," says metadata librarian Jenn Riley, project director of the grant. "We’re pleased to be one of the first to show benefits in practice."

Responding to a challenge by the Library of Congress to test standards in the way libraries catalog and describe materials with multiple formats, IU’s Digital Library Program will provide the nation’s library community a real-world case for testing and evaluation.

The promise of the new cataloging model—called Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records, or FRBR—lies in its ability to identify relationships in library collections. For example, by tying together different editions and formats of books, this new model will make it easier for library users to find what they need quickly. The model will also more effectively connect different performances and arrangements of musical works.

What sells?: Examining Gender in Print Advertising in the 1950s was a paper Kelber had written for her Liberal Arts and Management Program (LAMP) sophomore seminar. With this paper topic, Kelber was given free rein by Professor Gamber. The prize money from the Sam Burgess Undergraduate Award was put towards new clothes, a new wardrobe. Instead Elana Kelber put the money towards exactly what it was created for: the importance of an undergraduate education. Winning the awards was a welcomed surprise. "I ended up winning all three awards... It made paying for summer school much easier," said Kelber. In the end the prize money from the Sam Burgess Undergraduate Award wasn't put towards new clothes, a year-end party, or even a summer trip. Instead Elana Kelber paid the money towards exactly what it was created for: the importance of an undergraduate education.