It is a very sad day here at the Myers Library at Ottawa University. Why is it sad, you might ask? I would reply that it is sad simply because the library is now closed on a Saturday. The Myers Library has had to close because we are unable to find students who are willing to staff it so that it can remain open for a few afternoon hours in the present semester on Saturdays.

Several students have made comments about what a great inconvenience this closure is to them this semester. But the current situation cannot be helped. When it comes down to it, there are few options open for regular staff to salvage their Saturdays. Students staffing the library on Saturdays in the past found that there were not many library visitors when they were on duty on Saturdays. Some students did use the library to work on their homework assignments; but the majority of students were coming into the library for just a few minutes, during the time that it was open, to check their email. There are now two job openings advertised in order to try to keep the library open for the rest of the Saturdays in the semester. But there are no takers. So I guess the problems remains: who will staff the Myers Library on Saturdays if students won’t?

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Ottawa University’s Myers librarians Gloria Creed-Dikeogu and Jan Lee will do a presentation at the College and University Libraries Section of the Kansas Library Association’s CULS Conference this October. They will talk on how the library is presently marketing its services to the university and its sites. Lee will speak on what library services were like to the sites prior to 2002 and Dikeogu will discuss marketing strategies after 2002. Their presentation about the Myers Library and marketing to the sites will take place at the School of Library and Information Management at Emporia State University, where the College and University Libraries Conference will be held this year, Thursday and Friday, October 14-15, 2004.
OTTAWA’S PART IN THE KANSAS CITY AREA ARCHIVES CONFERENCE

On October 2, 2004, the Kansas City Area Archives had a Preservation Conference in Topeka at the Kansas State Historical Society. Gloria Creed-Dikeogu spent the day at the conference, introducing the speakers and preparing the meals for the participants when they were in need of a break.

In June 2003, Gloria was already very interested in archives, since 2002, she started working with students so that the library could start digitizing Ottawa University’s archives documents in order to put them on Past Perfect on the computer. She first got involved in the Midwest Area Archives association and served as a member of the archives scholarships committee, which was providing the Archie Motley Scholarship.

The preservation conference that would take place in October. When the Chair of the Education Committee, Alan Perry resigned in order to take a teaching position at a University in China, Gloria Creed-Dikeogu was asked to step into the position of Interim Chair. This meant seeing the planned conference to the end with the help of the group. About 75 archivists from all over the Kansas and Missouri attended the conference. The main speaker was preservation specialist, Dr David Gracy from the University of Texas at Austin, and other speakers included Matt Veatch and Scott Leonard from the Kansas State Historical Society and Whitney Baker from the KU Paper Preservation Lab at Watson Library. The conference was a great success!

OTTAWA CAN DEFINITELY ANSWER!

We are very pleased to have Jan Lee back in the Myers Library, and KanAnswer has a new librarian too!

Starting back at the Myers Library was a double-take for Jan Lee; she also is back working on KanAnswer which is the new online reference service that the Myer Library at Ottawa University has been helping to staff since 2002. There were times when there was only one person available to staff the service. Sometimes when there were meetings to attend, we had to miss our chance to participate in the service at our allotted time. Now we are able to staff the service doubly. Now, both Ottawa’s librarians can take turns to staff KanAnswer to help answer Kansas’s reference questions.

So remember, if you have a reference question, and you want to ask it online, all you have to do is go to the Kansas State Library’s KanAnswer site and have a librarian work on the question to find you an answer for you online. If the question is too hard or the librarian cannot find it for you, then they will do what they can to refer you to someone who can answer it. Here are the details regarding how you can log into the virtual reference site. Go to http://www.kananswer.info and follow the instructions to fill out the questionnaire on the site until the operator says we are very pleased to have Jan Lee back in the Myers Library; and KanAnswer has a new librarian too!

SATURDAY JOB AVAILABLE.

ATTENTION WORKSTUDY STUDENTS!!

THE MYERS LIBRARY NEEDS YOU IMMEDIATELY!!

THE MYERS LIBRARY NEEDS TWO WORKSTUDY STUDENTS TO KEEP THE LIBRARY OPEN FOR STUDENTS