

Cheng Chat by Mark Sandford



The Cheng Library Book Sale is Back!

The Cheng Library's Book Sale has returned this week to the University Commons Multi-Purpose Room: Tuesday, March 25 to Thursday, March 27 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

An ongoing tradition since the 1990s, the Book Sale has grown from a handful of tables set up in the Atrium to large enough fill the Multi-Purpose room in the Student Center. The Multi-Purpose room is on the main floor of the UCC, across from the food court.

Once held annually, the sale now runs every three semesters. "Holding it every year and a half gives us time to plan for the next one," explained Librarian Deborah Pluss, one of the organizers of the sale. Scheduling the sale this way also leaves plenty of time to solicit donations for the sale. "For the past eighteen months, we've collected donations from students, faculty and staff, and members of the community," said Pluss. In fact, some of the books come from the library itself, having been discarded or withdrawn from our collections.

Not all donations or discards end up in the sale. Library staff carefully go through everything and only include those that might interest the University community. That does not mean there is a poor selection though. Shoppers will find several thousand titles to choose from, mostly priced between fifty cents and two dollars. Most are popular fiction and non-fiction titles, and this year's sale will also boast a large number of CDs and some videos. There are also text books, and a large selection of children's books.

"The Library considers the Book Sale to be a service to the William Paterson community," said Dean of the Library Anne Ciliberti. "Students often find important works in their majors that they might not be able to afford otherwise, and the money the Library takes in is spent to make the Library a more comfortable and inviting space to do research, study, or work on projects with classmates."

In the past few years, proceeds from the Book Sale have been used to purchase:

- A TV and furniture for the Friends Lounge where Library users may relax and eat
- Library Video Information monitors placed throughout the library to promote Library events and services
- High-end scientific and business calculators that students may borrow from Media Services

- Furniture and a wall-mounted monitor for study room 226, which may be reserved for groups at the Lending Services Desk
- Portable white boards that students and groups may use while studying or working on projects

Book Sale income is reinvested in new Library materials and services, and every purchase offers a double benefit: you get a good read, AND you get an improved Library. That's a "win - win" by any measure, so make sure to stop by the Book Sale this week. There is something there for you!

Have ideas for how the Library can use the funds from this year's sale? Drop your suggestions into the box next to the Book Sale display in the Library's lobby or mention it to us when you stop by the sale!