

# *Knowledge at Anatolia*



# The Bissell Library

Inaugurated in the fall of 2002, the Bissell Library was planned from the outset to be a maximally-digitized information resource center, serving ACT students enrolled in undergraduate programs in Business, Computer Science, and International Relations, and in the ACT MBA, and to provide scholarly and pedagogic support for faculty in designing, preparing, and enriching their courses on an ongoing basis.

## The Bissell Library currently serves

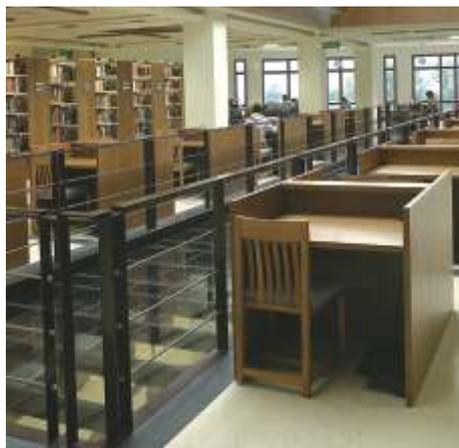
- ACT undergraduate and MBA students
- Anatolia International Baccalaureate (IB) students
- ACT and Anatolia alumni
- ACT, IB, and Anatolia faculty and staff
- Academics from the greater metropolitan area
- English language speakers resident in Thessaloniki

providing a range of reference and bibliography support services, and intensive information literacy training to students and faculty



## Consortium collaborations

The Bissell Library's emphasis on digital resources has enabled it to become actively engaged in long-term collaborations such as that it enjoys with the New York Public Library (sponsored by the Stavros S. Niarchos Foundation), and in AMICAL (a consortium of libraries from institutions belonging the Association of American International Colleges and Universities, supported by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation).



## The Collections:

A highly-digitized information resource facility, the Bissell Library's digital holdings complemented by a focused print and reference collection to support undergraduate and MBA students in their courses and research projects, to ensure that faculty have access to the information required to remain current in their fields; to update and enrich their courses on an ongoing basis, and to provide general-interest materials for recreational and lifelong learning purposes.

## Current holdings include:

- 21,000 monographs
- 600 videos
- 20 DVDs
- 130 CD-ROMs
- 65 periodical print subscriptions
- 15 electronic subscription databases (now including more than 16,000 titles)
- a subscription to ebrary (electronic books) including 3000 business/economics titles and nearly 6000 international industry & market reports
- 400 videos, viewed in the Library's special AV-projection classrooms
- 3,000 slides for use in archaeology and art history courses

And

**The Anatolia Archives**, including materials rescued from Turkey and a rich collection detailing the high school's history over the past eight, and ACT's first two decades.

# A Unique Facility



## The Facility

The Bissell Library contains 4,500 square meters (45,000 square feet) on three levels, of which the upper two function as the library proper, while the lower level hosts the Stavros S. Niarchos Technology Center.

## The Vision

Perhaps the greatest challenge faced by the Bissell Library's planners was to create a structure sufficiently flexible in its conception and design to be able to serve **ACT's fast-evolving information needs far into the future.** This challenge was met by keeping the design simple, and providing ample and frequent access to wiring everywhere in the building.



## Information Technology and Information Services

ACT's location and size make the school a perfect candidate for permanent commitment to electronic information resources, including online academic and general periodicals as well as e-books in fields where new knowledge makes monographs obsolete in five years or less.

The Bissell Library was designed to become Thessaloniki and Southeast Europe's most technologically-oriented information center, providing, e.g. network access to every study table, carrel, personnel workstation, and support function throughout the building.



As challenging as designing a library built to withstand the pace of technology advances was that of taking advantage of the building's size and specifications to **enhance current educational programs through the seamless integration of information resources and services.** This second challenge was met by incorporating into the library several existing college functions, by centralizing ACT IT operations on the lower level, as well as by providing all essential patron services normally associated with a college library at the beginning of the 21st century.



A third challenge faced by the planners concerned the **nature of collections in the future.** ACT has adopted a flexible approach to the issue of electronic access versus traditional print media, by creating a facility able to house up to 120,000 print volumes should it prove expedient to expand the monograph collection significantly in this century.

George Bissell at the Inauguration of the Bissell Library (Fall 2002)

# *An Endowment for the Bissell Library*

## **Endowment will make it possible for the Bissell Library to:**

- Remain at the cutting edge of digital information resource use
- Provide users from the College and beyond current and comprehensive information resources
- Underpin all course offerings with state-of-the-art knowledge
- Allow faculty to carry out their research in situ, to collaborate with colleagues at great remove, and to design and deliver electronically-supported and -enhanced courses throughout the region
- Serve as a model of “best practices” for other Greek libraries aspiring to incorporate digital information resources into their academic mainstream

