Editor: Frank D’Andraia     Publishing: Linda M. Reeves

Library Update

Message from the Dean

As we celebrate the New Year and the passage of 2008, I extend my gratitude and appreciation to our alums and supporters who made financial donations. We appreciate your generosity and interest in the University Libraries.

The faculty and staff of the Libraries worked diligently during 2008 to assist new and returning students in meeting their information needs. To be sure 2009 will have many challenges, particularly in these uncertain times.

The Libraries’ reputation for being user centered was put to the test during 2008, for more than 18,100 students were on campus and our gate counts, web statistics, and circulation rates underscore the impact this new enrollment milestone has had on our collections, operations and services.

As you peruse this issue of Library Update and learn about our accomplishments and new initiatives, we believe you’ll agree that the Libraries are taking steps to reinforce and enhance UA’s reputation for being one of the nation’s leading research libraries. During the New Year the UA Libraries will continue to be a member in good standing of the Association of Research Libraries. The members of ARL are research libraries distinguished by the breadth and quality of their collections and services. Each ARL member makes distinctive contributions to the aggregation of research resources and services in North America. While UA has been a member of this influential and respected association since 1975, it is an honor we do not take for granted, as we continuously strive to improve our collections, operations, and services. In 2008 our total holdings rose to nearly 2,500,000 and several special collections were acquired. Library personnel were also active in assisting our growing number of students from overseas learn to navigate a US research library. Other members of the libraries’ faculty and staff worked hard to insure global resources were within easy reach of students 24/7.

Our success is a tribute to an impressive staff, distinguished by its enthusiasm and commitment to assist our students, and to you—our loyal alums and supporters—whose generosity and interest in the University Libraries enables us to move forward and to make a difference for those who attend Albany. Again, thank you.

— Frank D’Andraia
Library Webpage Redesign

In January 2009 the University Libraries will launch a major redesign of our home page (http://library.albany.edu). To provide enhanced access to our collections and services, the page will have improved navigation, an updated look, and numerous new secondary pages. Links will continue to provide remote and on-site access to databases, journals and more for members of the University community.

Some new features on the front page:

- Ask a Librarian (ask reference librarians questions using IM, text, e-mail and more)
- Easy connection to many Tutorials, Tours and Tips for Research
- Improved access to Databases, Journals, UA Delivery Service and more.

Please let us know what you think. As with all library services, we are committed to better access for our users and are interested in your comments and feedback (http://library.albany.edu/comments.asp).

Renovations

Several upgrades are being made to the University Library and these changes will enable us to better address the changing needs of the campus community. Some of the planned renovation work concerns infrastructure, such as improvements to elevators, restrooms, and electrical circuitry, to the creation of new social spaces that are more appropriate for twenty-first century users.

The information needs of college students have changed significantly since the University Library was opened in 1964. For example, many students now bring laptop computers with them, placing high demand on available electrical outlets. Many of today’s students work in groups and spaces and furniture that can easily be configured to accommodate team assignments are highly desirable.

Periodic updates on this multi-year, multi-million dollar project will be posted on the Libraries’ web page.
Recent Recruitments

Jessica Ernye ’00, who earned a BA in Psychology from UA, has been appointed a Monographic Copy Cataloger. Before her appointment as a copy cataloger she was employed on campus by Sponsored Funds.

Jeff Goldstein ’07 was named Extended Hours Coordinator in Circulation Services. Jeff, an alumnus of the University at Albany, comes to us from the CVS Management-in-Training Program. While pursuing his BA in Information Studies, Jeff served as a Resident Assistant in Residential Life and as a Senator for the Student Association.

John Pardavila ’07, who formerly worked for Greenburgh Housing Authority as a website developer and manager and as an independent web consultant, was appointed a Web Developer/Designer in Library Systems. John earned both a BA in Information Science and Policy and an MS in Information Systems and Technology from UA.

Angela McMichael was selected Library Serials Coordinator in Acquisition Services. Prior to coming to UA, Angela was employed by Union College’s Schaffer Library where she served as a Periodicals and Serials Assistant. Her previous work history includes duties as a Junior Accountant/Contracts Administrator for Westport Petroleum, Inc. in Pasadena, California. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Family and Consumer Sciences from Master’s College in Santa Clarita, California.

Krishna Rayavaram was appointed Database Developer/Senior Programmer Analyst in Library Systems. Krishna was formerly employed by Cecil College (Maryland) where he served as a Web Applications Developer. His work experience includes service as a programmer/developer for Texas Tech University. He earned an MS in Computer Science from Texas Tech University and a BS in Computer Science and Engineering from Sri Venkateswara University in India.

Mark Wolfe ’00 has joined the UA Libraries as Curator of Digital Collections, in the M. E. Grenander Department of Special Collections and Archives. Mark comes to UA from the Schaffer Library of Health Sciences, Albany Medical College, where he served as an Instructional Technology Librarian. Also, he served as a Project Coordinator for the US InterPARES Research Project at the UAlbany Research Foundation. Mark earned his MLS and an MA in History from the UA and a BA in History from Buffalo State College (SUNY).
Special Recognition

Carol L. Anderson, Reference and Associate Librarian: 2008 Pritchard Award, presented by the Friends of the Libraries, to Philip Poggiali and Carol L. Anderson for Sexuality Week Exhibits and Programming.

Mary Jane Brustman ’73, ’77, Interim Assistant Director for Public Services and Librarian: Recognized for 25 years of employment with the UA Libraries.

Daryl Bullis, Bibliographer/User Education and Senior Assistant Librarian: State University of New York Librarian’s Association, Sylvia Chu Scholarship (2008).

Mary Casserly, Assistant Director for Collections: Promotion to Librarian.

B. J. DeLacey, Secretary I and Library Personnel Assistant: Recognized for 30 years of employment with the University (8 years in the UA Libraries).

Tamara Denisulk, Clerk I: Recognized for 10 years of employment with the UA Libraries.

Lynn Lance, Library Clerk II: Recognized for 20 years of employment with the UA Libraries.

David Matelitz, Clerk I: Recognized for 10 years of employment with the UA Libraries.

Heather Miller, Assistant Director for Systems and Technical Services and Librarian: Recognized for 25 years of employment with the UA Libraries.

Nancy Davis, Library Clerk III and Collections Management Supervisor: Recognized for 15 years of employment with the UA Libraries.

Mary Osielski, Special Collections and Senior Assistant Librarian: Recognized for 40 years of employment with the UA Libraries. Ms. Osielski retired on October 30, 2008.

Linda M. Reeves, Secretary II, Dean and Director's Office: Recognized for 35 years of employment with the University (28 years in the Libraries).

Anne Volmer, Keyboard Specialist II, Circulation Services: Ms. Volmer retired on January 21, 2009 after 18 years of employment with the UA Libraries.

Sharona Wachs, Cataloger/Bibliographer and Associate Librarian: Recognized for 20 years of employment with the UA Libraries.
Minority Fellows to Intern at UA Libraries

UA joins the University of Arizona, Columbia University, University of Kentucky, National Library of Medicine, North Carolina State University, the University of California San Diego, and the University of Washington in hosting Minority Fellows in 2009. The Association of Research Libraries (ARL) was awarded a $728,821 grant by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Laura Bush 21st-Century Librarian Program in 2008 to create an ARL Minority Fellowship Program (MFP). ARL is working with member libraries to host 45 master’s of library science (MLS) students from underrepresented racial and ethnic groups with fellowships over a three year period. The program provides these ARL Minority Fellows with librarian mentors, academic library experience, opportunities for leadership development, and career placement assistance.

Each fellow admitted to the program is given a 12 week residency assignment at participating libraries. UA is committed to hosting a minimum of two and a maximum of six Fellows.

Sweet Opportunity

Seeking a special way to recognize or honor a family member, friend, or fellow alum; make a memorial tribute; or mark special occasions such as retirements, graduations, birthdays, anniversaries or weddings? The University Libraries have in place a program that allows you to mark your special occasion and give back to UA.

The Libraries Honor with Books initiative places a bookplate in someone’s name inside newly purchased books in the arts, business, education, humanities, and social sciences.

A $100 gift provides the placement of one book and bookplate; a $500 gift supports placement of six commemorative bookplates. Under the Honor with Books program, the University Libraries will send a letter of acknowledgment and copy of the bookplate to the honoree, where appropriate, and to the person bestowing the honor.

For more information, please call the Library Administrative Office at 518-442-3568.
Library Honor Roll of Donors 2007-2008

The following donors have contributed all or a portion of their annual gift to the University Libraries from July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008. Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy of the Honor Roll of Donors. If an oversight has occurred, please accept our apologies. Contact the Libraries’ Administrative Office at (518) 442-3568 so that we may adjust our records.

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Library Policy Group: Heather S. Miller, Assistant Director, Systems and Technical Services; Frank D’Andrea, Dean and Director of Libraries; Dr. Mary F. Casserly, Assistant Director for Collections; Mary Jane Brustman, Interim Assistant Director for Public Services.
Wall of Honor: Located on the second floor of the University Library in the Presidential Reading Room, the Wall of Honor pays tribute to the long line of UA alumni, faculty, staff, and students who served the armed forces of the United States of America. The colorful display includes maps, photographs, and a list of alumni, faculty, staff, and students who served in the armed forces of the United States of America. The colorful display includes maps, photographs, and a list of alumni, faculty, staff, and students who served in the armed forces of the United States of America.
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Kenneth B. Fisher '69
Joan A. Fiske
Terry J. Fitzgerald '64
Linda T. Gentile '81
John Gentile
Keri Gross Gershuny '70
Susan Goldman Gersten '75
Jennifer Gestwick '98
Alvin Getson '73
F. Raymond Gibb '53
Evelyn M. Gibbons '94
Janis V. Giga, Ph.D. '74
William D. Gillard '71
The Ginger Man
Robert T. Giuffrida, Ph.D. '72 and
Barbara McTague

Achievements, Awards and Honors

Members of the faculty and staff of the Albany campus of the State University of New York are nominated by colleagues for awards which recognize their distinctive contributions to the University and University-related organizations. A select number of faculty and staff from the University at Albany Libraries have been recognized for special achievements and/or honored for Excellence in Librarianship, Professional Service, Support Service, and Teaching and these distinguished individuals are as follows:

President's Award and Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Librarianship

Karen E.K. Brown 2008
Sharon K. Wachs 2007
Deborah F. Bernhard 2006
Mary Osielski 2005
Suzanne Turner 2005
Carol Ann Germain 2004
Carol Anderson 2003
Mary Jane Brustman 2002
Laura Cohen 2001
Otis Chadley 2001
Catherine M. Dwyer 2000
Geoffrey P. Williams 1999
Gillian M. McCombs 1997

President's Award for Excellence in Librarianship

Bonita Bryant 1988
William Young 1985

Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Librarianship

Dorothy Christiansen 1980
Meredith A. Butler 1980
Mark Verburgh 1978
Tae Moon Lee 1978
Anne Roberts 1977
Sara D. Knapp 1977
Ruth Fraley 1975 (Schenectady County Comm. College)

President's Award and Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Professional Service

Candace A. Merbler 2008
Carol Anne Germain 2005
Meredith A. Butler 1993
Sara D. Knapp 1990

President's Award for Excellence in Support Service

Carrie Gamble 1990
Peters Vonnegut 1986

Outstanding Teaching Award

Maria Zych 1975

Bread and Roses Award for Excellence in Service on behalf of gender equity

Carol Anne Germain 2005
Meredith A. Butler 1993
Judith Hudson 1990

Discharged Student Service Award

Lorre Smith 1992
Sara D. Knapp 1990

NYS/United University Professions Excellence Award

Candace A. Merbler 1991
Judith Hudson 1990
A Snowy Owl was sighted in the Courtyard outside the University Library on November 25, 2008. (Photo: UAlbany Department of Biological Sciences)
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