

University Libraries, University at Albany State University of New York

### From the Dean & Director of Libraries

year brings

additional

opportunities

This new



for Albany's University Libraries to build connections with students, faculty, alumni, and community users through engagement in teaching and learning, through the development

of strong research collections, and through the delivery of innovative electronic services. It also brings many new challenges and a new level of fiscal constraint and economic uncertainty.

Our most difficult challenge this year is to continue the dynamic process of expansion, innovation, renovation, and change in which we have been engaged for the past several years, while faced with budget reductions and limited resources. This new harsher reality means that we must adjust our own responses, and, working collaboratively, continue to develop bold plans and pursue them aggressively.

In January, the Digital Library Steering Committee completed its plan for the development of digital library

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collections and services. The focus of the plan is near-term. Its purpose is to define the investments we will make and the directions we will take to provide excellent research collections and innovative electronic services to Albany's students and faculty whenever they need them and wherever they are. The Library's plan was submitted to the Provost and represents an important addition to the University's information technology strategic planning process now underway.

In difficult times, it is important to know who your friends are. The Libraries are fortunate to have an active and vital group of alumni and friends who care passionately about the future of Albany's Libraries. Members of the Library Development Committee are committed to assisting the Libraries to raise more private funds. They have set new and ambitious goals for their own engagement in securing the Libraries' future. With their encouragement, we are developing a Web site for giving to Albany's Libraries. We are also exploring new ways to bring greater visibility to our programs and services and looking for opportunities to establish new endowments for collections and facilities.

It is largely due to the sustained support of the University, alumni, and friends that we have become one of the top research libraries in the country. In this issue of Library Update, you will learn more about what we and our alumni and friends are doing to build on our strengths and ensure our continued vitality in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Meredith A. Butler

#### Bagatelle Gift Received for University Libraries Collections

The most easily identifiable part of any library is its collections. Their continued enhancement rests upon the generosity of donors.

In 2001, Hedy Bagatelle '60 made a generous gift to the University Libraries and the Department of Judaic Studies for Judaica acquisitions for the University Library. Part of that gift has been used to match a grant Judaic Studies received from the Jewish Media Fund to acquire the Jewish Heritage Video Collection.

The Jewish Heritage Video Collection contains more than 250 videos of Jewish interest, including Hollywood feature films, documentaries, Israeli films, and Yiddish films in addition to a series of complementary curriculum guides. According to Professor Mark Raider, chairperson of the Department of Judaic Studies, "Hedy Bagatelle's gift is a major contribution to Jewish studies and film studies at the University. The collection will be added to over time and will significantly enhance the experience of UAlbany students for years to come."

The gift is in memory of Ms. Bagatelle's mother, Bertha Litroynik Schwartz, with national support from The Righteous Persons Foundation, Alan Fortunoff, and The Charles H. Revson Foundation.

## Going Digital with User Services

Electronic journals and online databases are not the only revolutions taking place in the information and library world. Library software writers are busy changing the world of in-person library services. Taking advantage of the communication capabilities of the Web, the Libraries can now, through the Web and e-mail, offer services that were once only available to users who came into the library. Interlibrary Loan, Circulation, User Education, Reference, and Reserve services are available through Web interfaces on the Library's Web page.

Just as our information resources are being offered to the users through the Web, our ability to expand our universe of service increases and improves. Interlibrary Loan Office in person and work with staff to determine the status of their requests. Now requests can be managed remotely. This spring, we will implement the second part of this program, which will allow us to send requested journal articles to the users' desktop, further enhancing our electronic services.

#### CIRCULATION

Managing circulation transactions is one function of our online catalog. As illustrated, users have the ability to generate lists of their items on loan, renew, and correspond with circulation staff from their desktops.

Additionally, overdue notices, recalls, and holds through the e-mail

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Special software is the key to enhanced services. What follows is a brief description of what we now do in and through Albany's Libraries.

#### **INTERLIBRARY LOAN**

Last fall, University Libraries implemented the ILLiad Interlibrary Loan software. This new service allows users to place requests through a Web form and take control of their transactions through the "Review Request" program.

Previously, all users had to go to the

capabilities of the online catalog allow circulation staff to communicate routine circulation messages with greater efficiency.

#### **USER EDUCATION**

The new Virtual Tours is one of a number of online tutorials our librarians have developed. Supplementing class-room instruction, these tutorials are used extensively by faculty throughout the University. They are available to students 24/7, thus eliminating time barriers for learning.



#### REFERENCE

E-mail Reference has been around for three years. The next extension of this is access to "live chat" reference service, which utilizes AOL Instant Messenger — an e-mail service that allows users to conduct live chat sessions with Reference Librarians.

#### RESERVES

Electronic Reserves gives students the ability to access materials once only available through the Reserves Services Desk in the Library.

By clicking onto a course name, students can get a list of the materials the instructor has made available electronically. One of the most popular features of this system is the reciprocal communication function, which allows instructors to post grades and conduct online discussions with class members.

Clearly, Albany's Libraries have become central to teaching and curricular development. We welcome this leadership role, and we are committed to maintaining service excellence. Welcome to the University Libraries of the 21<sup>st</sup> century!



Mary K. Sellen Assistant Director for User Services

## UL in the News



Karen Brown was named Head of the Preservation Department last fall. Her experience includes working in the Northeast Document

Conservation Center in Andover, MA, and as a Conservator in the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick at the University of New Brunswick. She holds a Master's degree in Library and Information Studies as well as an M.A. in Art Conservation.

The Friends of the Libraries contributed generously to Albany's Libraries in 2001. Among gifts not previously acknowledged in our Fall 2001 *Library Update*: proceeds in excess of \$1,100 from the annual Friends' Book Sale in October, and additional individual gifts from Donald and Catharine Allen, Estelle Freedman, Warren McLane, Peggy Mann, George Martin, Alice Murphy, Jack Smith, Harriet Woods, and Nigel Wright.



Brian Keough was named Head of the M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections and Archives

in November, 2001. His appointment was the result of a national search.

"In addition to his solid work experience, Brian Keough brings a wealth of enthusiasm and energy and considerable technological skill to this position. I look forward to working with him to expand and enhance our Special Collections," says Mary F. Casserly, Ph.D., Assistant Director for Collections and chairperson of the search committee.

Mr. Keough has worked in the Grenander Department since July 1999 as a Curator of Manuscripts. His professional history includes serving as a Records Consultant for the New York State Archives and as an Archivist in the Harold Washington Archives and Collections Division of the Chicago Public Library. He earned a B.A. in History from West Chester University and an M.L.S. from the University at Albany. Keough completed work on an M.A. in History from the University at Albany in December 2001. His research interests include labor and civil rights movements in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Library renovation projects continue... The Dewey Library Lighting Project is drawing to a close. When completed, eleven new lighting fixtures will replace the old, out-ofservice chandeliers. The new fixtures complement the building's architecture as well as provide excellent lighting.



Dewey Head Librarian Barbara Via notes that "...the beauty of the wall

murals is more evident, and the glorious colors of the stained glass windows can be seen clearly from the outside of the building at night."



ally, people with disabilities have improved access to Dewey Library.

Other building projects have been completed since Fall 2001 in the University Library. They include new staff offices for Technical Services; expansion of Interlibrary Loan; renovation of space for Libraries Systems and for Microfilm Services/Record Center staff; and replacement of carpet on the third floor.

The Marion P. Munzer Endowment has been established by a further gift from Marion P. Munzer '45. Ms. Munzer worked for University Libraries for 20 years, retiring in 1985 as head of Special Collections and Archives, which were combined under her leadership.

Science Library Authors' Colloquia began in October, 2001. The speaker at the inaugural event was Dr. Thomas Gold, author of the controversial book, The Deep, Hot Biosphere. The next event featured the winner of the American Institute of Physics' Science Writing Award, Marcia Bartusiak, who discussed her latest book, Einstein's Unfinished Symphony. Appropriately, this talk was given on Einstein's birthday, March 14. Colloquia are free and open to the public. For more information, contact Gregg Sapp, Head of Science Library, gsapp@csc.albany.edu.

**Technical Services announces** several advances: more than one thousand e-journal titles were added to the catalog during November and December, doubling the total. Building on the New Titles list, the Libraries began offering a New Titles e-mail notification service at the beginning of the spring semester, 2002. Students with Unix e-mail accounts can now get "courtesy" notices about books that are due soon, as well as copies of other circulation notices that continue to be sent by regular mail. The Wireless Pilot Project, begun in October 2001 at the New Library, will be expanded to include the University Library and Dewey Library as soon as funding permits.

## New York State Government: Art Unto Itself

Twentieth Century American politics is dominated by great figures, and many of those figures are part of the New York State political landscape. Theodore Roosevelt and Franklin Roosevelt became presidents, and forged indelible marks on their political parties and the course of world events. Others — Al Smith, Thomas Dewey, Nelson Rockefeller among them — were figures whose influence would change forever the nature of American politics, in ways that were both deliberate and unforeseen.

Four noted experts in history and biography will discuss "The Art of Creating New York State Public

Policy" on April 11, at Page Hall at the University's downtown campus. The speakers will focus on these titans of American political history, and they will discuss the impact of their craft as well as their personalities on New York and the nation.

This is the first program of its kind spearheaded by Albany's University Libraries. "We believe that this program and others that will follow position the Libraries as a shaping force for ideas as well as for the cultural life of our extended community," says Dean Meredith A. Butler. The participants,

> "The Libraries are a shaping force for our cultural life."

as well as other scholars and biographers, have used holdings in Albany's University Libraries as well as in New



York State Archives for their research. The event is sponsored by University Libraries in conjunction with the Friends of

the Libraries and Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy.

The panel discussion will focus on the formation of state public policy in the twentieth century, and the discussants are very familiar with the political and social intricacies of the times for governors Theodore Roosevelt, Al Smith, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Thomas Dewey, and Nelson Rockefeller. Each of the three panel members and the moderator have done extensive work on these political figures as well as others central to New York State's public policies of the twentieth century. The dynamics of the times and the legendary figures who were part of those times is what makes politics an art unlike any other, endlessly fascinating and always very lively.



The moderator will be **Betty H. Winfield**, who wrote *FDR and the News Media* 

(Columbia University Press, 1994). Professor Winfield holds joint appointments at the University of Missouri's School of Journalism and the Truman School of Public Affairs. As an expert in the relationships between the mass media and public policy formation, Winfield has written and lectured widely, and notes that "there are many state public policy themes that resonate with the interaction between state and federal policy."

These writers all work from the premise that building public policy is both a science and an art. The conversation, guided by the moderator, will illuminate some of the central themes that forge the character of New York State as well as that of the United States.

Panel members include:

"Cultural and community partnerships will grow out of this discussion."

Paul Grondahl, author of Mayor Corning: Albany Icon, Albany Enigma (Washington Park Press, 1997), and currently at



work on Theodore Roosevelt: The Making of a President (The Free Press, 2003). Mr. Grondahl is a feature writer for the Albany Times Union, where his work has consistently won statewide and national awards. He earned a Master's degree in English literature from University at Albany in 1984. Grondahl looks forward to the discussion: "By bringing to the campus at the University at Albany writers and historians, state officials and academics, the general public and university students, we're creating a real opportunity for crucial cultural and community partnerships to grow out of this discussion."







Robert A. Slayton, author of *Empire Statesman: The Rise and Redemption of Al Smith* (The Free Press, 2001)

as well as other major works on public/ urban policy. Professor Slayton currently teaches at Chapman University, in southern California. A native of New York, Slayton is looking forward to the panel discussion. "I'm particularly pleased that we're aiming this at the general public. I have always felt that the academy should fulfill its mission in the broadest, rather than the narrowest sense, so I can only applaud the way you've set up this forum. It's a pleasure to return to Albany, and especially to your library, where I did much of the work on my book."

"This program will provide a unique opportunity for students to interact with nationally known experts."



Richard Norton Smith, author of *Thomas E. Dewey and His Times* (Simon and Schuster,

1983), a finalist for the 1983 Pulitzer Prize for Biography. Mr. Smith is a prominent American historian, and is frequently seen on "The News Hour with Jim Lehrer," where he appears regularly as part of the program's round table of historians. In December 2001, Mr. Smith assumed the directorship of the new Robert J. Dole Institute of Politics at the University of Kansas in Lawrence. Prior to that position, he was the executive director of the Gerald R. Ford Foundation, and he was the Director of the Gerald R. Ford Museum and Library, where he supervised a \$5 million renovation. Smith is working on a biography of Nelson Rockefeller, scheduled to be published by Random House in 2006. Smith is "delighted" to be a part of the program, "And I look forward to returning to one of America's most historic, and politically fascinating, cities."



Sponsors of the program believe it will draw a large audience. "We've all known for some time about our wonderful collections here at the University Libraries, but many people don't know about them," says Charles Ciaccio, president of Friends of the Libraries at the University at Albany. "A lot of younger people who work here in the Capital Region, which is dominated by state government, are unaware of the great events in the past century that helped form public policy for our state."

Additionally, according to Frank J. Thompson, Dean of the Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy, "The panel we've assembled is of the



highest quality. The program and class discussions will attract members of the community and provide a unique opportunity for our



students to interact with nationally known experts."

"The Art of Creating New York State Public Policy," a panel discussion, will be held on April 11, from 4:30–6 pm, in Page Hall. For more information about the event, please contact Roberta R. Armstrong at (518) 442–3540 or e-mail Armstrng@ albany.edu.

# ARL Recognizes UL's Programs in Information Literacy

University Libraries will participate in the Association of College & Research Libraries' Best Practices in Information Literacy Invitational Conference in Atlanta in June, 2002. Only 10 institutions were selected as having "well developed programs that can help sharpen the Characteristics of Best Practice." The conference seeks to develop a series of composite models for information literacy programs in universities. The successful University



at Albany application was submitted by Lijuan Xu, User Education/Reference Librarian; Trudi Jacobson, Coordinator of User Education Programs; Stephen DeLong, Director of Project Renaissance; and Carol Anne Germain, Networked Resources Education Librarian, pictured above.

# Today's Scholars and Digital Writing

On April 8, University Libraries will host a full-day symposium for faculty and upper-level graduate students throughout the Northeast. "What Scholars Need to Know to Publish Today: Digital Writing and Access for Readers" will be held in the Campus Center Assembly Hall, 9:45 am to 4:00 pm.

According to Lorre Smith, Librarian for Digital Library Initiatives and organizer of the conference, "Knowing the essential features required for publishing electronic documents is important for faculty and advanced students who plan on careers in teaching or research." The symposium's subtitle — "Digital Writing and Access for Readers" suggests the added complexities to scholarly composition. "Scholars and their audiences are engaged in a new world of information as well as in new ways of thinking about that information," adds Smith.

Speakers for this University Libraries program include Dr. Carl Lagoze, a digital library scientist from Cornell University and Executive Committee

## What's New in Grenander Collections and Archives

There are some notable recent acquisitions in the Grenander Special Collections and Archives that promote scholarly research:

Business and Professional Women's Club of New York State (records and proceedings). A member of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc., the New York State organization was founded in 1919.

member of the Open Archives Initiative; Dr. Ed Fox, a professor of computer science at Virginia Tech, and director of the Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations. The symposium will also include Syd Bauman, editor of the Text Encoding Initiative, and Programmer Analyst for the Women Writer's Project at Brown University.

Registration is free for University at Albany faculty, students, and staff and \$50 for others. Lunch is included. Contact Lorre Smith, ls973@albany.edu, for registration information.

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Center for Law and Justice (records). Founded by Dr. Alice Green in 1984, the Center is considered one of the strongest advocacy groups in New York State for people adversely affected by the criminal justice system.

Environmental Advocates of New York State (records). This organization was formed in 1969 as one of the first in the nation to advocate for the future of a state's environment and the health of its citizens.

League of Women Voters, Rensselaer County Chapter (records). "Let the people know, make the people care and help the people act" was the motto adopted by the 38 women who founded the Rensselaer County League of Women Voters in October 1939.

League of Women Voters, Albany County Chapter (records). Many of the records in this collection go back to the 1930s.

New York State Republican Committee (records). Founded in 1855, this collection contains records dating back to the 1890s.

New York Statewide Senior Action Council (NYSSAC). Records document the activities of a grassroots membership organization made up of individual senior citizens and senior citizen clubs from all parts of the state. NYSSAC was organized in 1972.

Norman Studer Papers (Camp Woodland and the Downtown Community School records). These papers document the activities of Camp Woodland (1940–1965), a children's summer camp located in the Catskill Mountains, and the Downtown Community School (1960–1970), an inter-racial cooperative school located in Manhattan.

Periodically, *Library Update* will announce opportunities for collection enhancement through endowments or special purchases. For more information about these collections, visit this Web site: http://library.albany.edu/ speccoll.

This familiar text from Shakespeare's *Hamlet* illustrates ways of encoding text to facilitate digital analysis, retrieval and display.

# People Who Give — Bernard Bourdeau '70



Bernie Bourdeau traces his interest in the University Libraries back to his days as a student. "I

was a commuter student, and there was no place to get peace and quiet. If I went to the student cafeteria, I played cards. When I could tear myself away from cards, I went to the Library," he says.

Okay, he admits it was "a quirky answer." As it happened, the Library became the place where he learned most of what has helped him be successful in his professional life. "I learned research tools, and I learned study skills. These are the fundamentals of my professional life, and they always have been."

Bourdeau has been the president of the New York Insurance Association, Inc., for thirteen years. Prior to his work as head of a major trade association, he worked for 17 years in New York State government, as a senior staff member of the Senate. "Most of my work was in economics and economic development," says Bourdeau, "and I got a first-rate education at the University at Albany."

Bourdeau majored in Economics. A native of the Capital Region, he began his college education at the uptown campus the first year it opened. "When I look back at where I came from, the existence of a state university was the difference between a college education and none at all. There are a lot of people who are just like me: we've got professional careers because of this opportunity."

With that great opportunity comes obligation, he continues. "We received great educations, and that means two things: we should be proud of what we've got, and we should have a sense of obligation to give back so that others have the same opportunity we had." Bernie and his wife, Margaret (Maggie), still live in Cohoes, where they raised their two children, Danielle and Bernard, Jr. Danielle is a University at Albany graduate, class of 1999, with a Masters in Teaching 2001. Bernard Jr. plans to attend the university. The Bourdeaus have established a scholarship for a senior graduating from Cohoes who has been accepted at and is enrolled in the University at Albany.

Bourdeau now prefers fishing and golf to cards, but he's still hanging around the Libraries. Now, his peace and quiet has been exchanged for active work on behalf of fundraising for Albany's Libraries. Bernie Bourdeau is a long-time member of the Library Development Committee, and he is very interested in increasing private giving to the Library Development Fund. He was instrumental in the success of the New Library Campaign, completed in 1999, and he's determined to continue to raise supporters to the next level of giving. "I've focused my energies and my commitment to the Libraries because this allows me to help as many students as possible, across all disciplines. I have a great deal of affinity for the Libraries, dating back to my student days. I also have a great working relationship with the Dean, who has done wonders with limited state budgets," he affirms.

The University will be embarking on a major campaign in the fall, and Bernie Bourdeau is committed to spearheading the Libraries' part of that campaign. "I'm a member of the President's Club, and I hope to increase my giving as years go on. The University at Albany allows each of us to give at a level that's appropriate for us, for now, and to increase that level of giving later. At every level, the University acknowledges and appreciates the gift as well as the giver."

Thanks to Bernard Bourdeau, who continues to inspire as well as challenge other donors to the Library Development Fund.

## New Endowment Honors Christiansen

At a retirement celebration held last fall for Dorothy E. Christiansen, former head of the Libraries' M.E. Grenander Department of



Special Collections and Archives, Dean and Director of University Libraries Meredith A. Butler announced the creation of the Dorothy E. Christiansen Enrichment Fund for Special Collections and University Archives. The fund will be used to enhance collections and services within the Grenander Department.

From Ms. Christiansen's perspective, "It is truly an honor to have my name on a fund which will continue to support the work of the Grenander Department — my 'home' in the University Libraries." Her colleagues and friends throughout the University as well as in the Libraries agree with Christiansen's remarks, and have appreciated her talents and counsel for 28 years.

For further information about this and other endowments, please contact Dean Butler at (518) 442–3568 or MB801@csc.albany.edu. A copy of "Opportunities for Giving" will be sent to any *Update* reader.

LIBRARY UPDATE is a semi-annual newsletter published to inform the University community about University Libraries' collections and services. Responses from readers are very welcome.

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#### University at Albany President's Club...

The University Libraries stand at the center of intellectual and academic experience in the Capital Region. Your personal contribution supports students and scholars, writers and historians, scientists and researchers, and the larger community.

Yes! I want to help make the University Libraries the measure of the University at Albany's vitality in the 21st century!

Annual Fund Gifts			
University at Albany President's Club	Additional Club Levels: Minerva Club Gifts of \$500 to \$999 Carillon Club Gifts of \$250 to \$499 Albany Club Gifts of \$100 to \$249		
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Roberta Armstrong, Division of University Advancement, University at Albany, UAB 209, Albany, NY 12222. For more information, please call (518) 437–3868 or e-mail armstrng@albany.edu.



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#### APRIL 11, 2002

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See story, pp. 4-5. Contact University Libraries for further information.

**SAVE THE DATE!**