



NEWSLETTER Spring 2010

Message from the Director

I have written in the past about the rapidly changing world of librarianship and the provision of well-chosen information resources for our students and faculty. It is an exciting time to be a librarian because of the challenges and opportunities to make the transition from a print world to a combined print/electronic world. We are now responsible for finding a way to evaluate the overflow of digital information, collect and organize that which we determine will help our users, and help those users learn how best to use it.

A retired Stetson professor recently gave me a copy of her May-June issue of *Harvard Magazine* which has a cover story on "What Future for Libraries?" The major article, "Gutenberg 2.0," quotes Professor of East Asian Languages Peter Boll on librarians in this new age: "Who has the most scientific knowledge of large-scale organization, collection, and access to information? Librarians." Boll realizes that librarians cannot operate as in the past, and so do we at the Stetson University Library. We recognized the need to re-evaluate the responsibilities and expertise of our librarians and staff. Changes have occurred in the Technical Services area over the past two years to bring about more efficiency in handling the combined print/digital collections. This summer, after long study, the old model of "reference librarians" is being changed as those librarians become true research librarians, no longer wedded to a static reference desk and reference collection. Read more about these changes inside.

You will also see some changes in the library's appearance as we remove the reference desk, reconfigure the front desk, and recarpet the main area – all thanks to our Library Associates.

Betty Drees Johnson, Library Director
(bjohnson@stetson.edu)

duPont-Ball Library's 2010 R. Neil Scott and Evans C. Johnson Research Prize Winners

The library presents two prizes each year, honoring students for research papers written during courses in their first year. The second R. Neil Scott Research Prize was awarded to Kathryn M. Gower for her paper "Stem-Cell Research: Start the Funding." Kathryn is a pre-nursing major from Seffner, Florida, who enjoys singing, the arts, and volunteering. She plans to become an Obstetrician/Gynecologist Physician's Assistant.



The sixth Evans C. Johnson Research Prize was awarded to Tara M. Formisano, for her paper, "Evolving Feminism: Angela Carter and 'Glam Rock' Feminism." Tara chose Stetson after attending high school in Ridgefield, Connecticut. A member of Stetson's softball team, Tara is majoring in Integrative Health Science and minoring in French and Women and Gender Studies.



Library Instruction 21st Century Style

Our research librarians, led by Jane Bradford, were asked by faculty to teach 38 classes in research techniques during the spring term – more than twice as many as the year before, reaching 530 students. Our goal is to teach students how to search information resources more effectively and how to assess the relevance and value of the information they find. This will provide a life-long skill, long after the specific databases have disappeared.

20th Century Reference Librarians Become 21st Century Research Librarians

For more than a century, libraries have placed a reference desk, staffed by a reference librarian, near the reference collection which held many of the answers to questions asked by the library's patrons. Research was not at all intuitive, and the librarians, familiar with their resources,



served as mediators, guiding users to the right information. There were often lines of students waiting for the librarian's

assistance. The early electronic resources of the 1980s and 1990s required even more assistance. Modeled on the print reference sources, they continued to perplex many users.

Things changed with the development of the web, which was more user friendly. We librarians were early adopters of web technology and quickly began to create web pages and instruction sessions to guide our students through the research options of our expensive databases and to help them become good researchers. Librarians worked with database providers to make the public interfaces more intuitive.

Associate Director Susan Ryan and the reference librarians conducted several studies over the last eight years of the kinds of questions asked at the reference desk and the resources used. During that time we withdrew one-half of the print reference collection since the information was available through our subscription databases. We filled that empty space with new study tables. The analysis also demonstrated that many questions could be answered by a non-librarian. The research questions, requiring a librarian's assistance, often required more attention than the librarian could provide while staffing the desk.

Based on these studies, we are removing the big reference desk in the middle of the library's main floor. The front checkout desk will be reconfigured to include a Help/Information Desk with a well-trained student or staff member to assist with simple questions, computer

problems, etc. Those research librarians you see on the left will still be available to help with research needs. Although they will be working in their offices on projects, the Help Desk assistant will phone the on-call librarian to come and help with research questions.

An on-call research librarian is available via that same cell phone (386-747-9028) and in person during most hours the library is open. As always, librarians will also be available for in-depth research assistance by appointment, such as senior research consultations.

By fall semester you will see some major changes to the main floor of the library, including new carpet and more casual seating (both a result of our Associates' generosity) where you now see the reference desk.



The redesigned front desk will serve as a one-stop information and service center.

Watch for more information about how our research librarians will be working closely with faculty and students.

Pats on the Back

We are always pleased when we know we've met a student's research needs. A May 2010 graduate wrote regarding interlibrary loans:

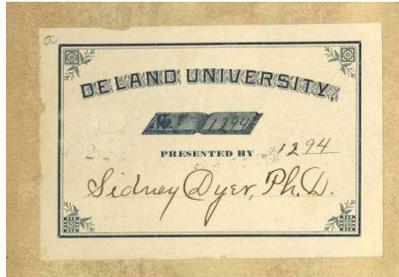
"Thank you so much! I could not have done it without your help! Every time I ordered a book I knew I could count on receiving it within a week because of your efficiency. Greatly appreciated all of your hard work with both of my senior projects..."

A researcher in Australia, working on an encyclopedia, found Stetson's Harry L. Taylor Prize paper from 1973 because we had cataloged it for WorldCat, the international library catalog. At his request, we scanned it and emailed the copy to him. He responded:

"This is a very rare work (an essay prize as you know) and the only work in English on homosexuality and Michelangelo found on Worldcat."

Want a Bookplate Seen Around the World?

We are all familiar with bookplates in the front of library books indicating that this book was given by an individual or was purchased from a special gift fund established by a friend of the library.



With the new world of electronic books and journals, where does the bookplate go? Rather than being

hidden inside the book's cover, the information can be included as a part of the record in the library's online catalog, which is easily searched.

We also now need to buy expensive electronic reference resources and full-text journal packages. When our Library Associates help fund these, credit may be given as part of the resource's name on our list or in the description. We have been creating "opportunity pages" describing the important resources which we would like to add or current resources which you could support. For a list of those we have prepared to date, see

<http://stetson.edu/library/donoropportunities.pdf>.

A new resource we are especially interested in adding soon is ARTstor. ARTstor is a nonprofit digital library of more than one million images in the arts, architecture, humanities, and social sciences. Faculty and students can access these images and download them in various combinations to PowerPoint presentations or to meet the needs of particular courses. In addition to many images from museum collections, ARTstor includes images of contemporary art from gallery shows, iconic photographs, etc. ARTstor would be an invaluable addition to the library's electronic collections in support of Stetson's Art, Digital Arts, History, American Studies, and Humanities programs. According to Dr. Roberta Favis, Professor of Art:

"[ARTstor] is clearly an invaluable tool for use not only for art history classes, but for images of just about anything. There are some complete college slide collections (such as University of California San Diego)

that seem to be completely accessible via the site, which means you essentially get access to a 'slide' collection vastly superior to anything we have ever had."

Why haven't we purchased such a useful collection? As an archival, perpetual resource, ARTstor requires a one-time payment of \$11,500 plus an annual fee of \$5,305. The annual fee pays for additions to the images, software updates, archiving, maintenance, etc., but the one-time cost is our concern at the moment.



For a total of \$16,805, one of our Library Associates could make this great resource possible for our outstanding students in art and the humanities next year, while we build in the annual cost to our next budget. To learn more about ARTstor, see their website, <http://www.artstor.org> or contact Library Director Betty Johnson at bjohnson@stetson.edu or 386-822-7178.

Book Signings

The library sponsored book signings by faculty and alumni as part of the 2010 Homecoming activities, and several alumni and faculty sold books and recordings while meeting guests and talking with friends. If there is continued interest, we may repeat the venture at the next homecoming.



Max Cleland '64 held a book signing event for his new book in the Library's Politicos Room in January, while members of the the Leadership Stetson program were on campus.

Recent Additions to the Archives

We have continued to add photographs, yearbooks, etc. to the library's new web server and site (<http://archives.stetson.edu>), which was made possible by funds from our Library Associates. The pre-1931 yearbooks and student newspapers were added first, since they were digitized as part of a federally funded program at the University of Central Florida in which we collaborated – The Central Florida Memory Project (<http://www.cfmemory.org>).

Stover Theater programs and photographs were given priority when Dr. Ken McCoy made a collection available to us, adding to our own collection, like this photograph from the 1948 production of *George Washington Slept Here*. The playbill, searchable by name, is also included.



You may have noticed a new look at <http://archives.stetson.edu>. In the spring, two students in Dr. Nathan Wolek's Digital Arts class accepted the assignment to redesign the site. ContentDM supervisors Susan Ryan and Kai Armstrong worked with students Katrina Orta and Brielle Dunn, and the students did a fine job on the redesign and presentation of the new design to the librarians and staff. The Digital Arts program has really succeeded, and these "real-life" projects demonstrate what the students have learned.

The Archives provided photographs and video clips to ABC World News Tonight for a December 2009 segment on Max Cleland '64. We also provided most of the photographs used in Max's latest book, *Heart of a Patriot*.

Several months ago we learned of an opportunity to have more yearbooks and

bulletins scanned at a special discount through our consortial relationship with Lyrasis and a grant Lyrasis has from the Sloan Foundation. When I informed alumna and Library Associate Barbara Brundage Colegrove '51 of this opportunity to complete the yearbook digitization, she volunteered to fund the project. A retired journalism professor at the University of North Texas, Barbara was a Stetson reporter for the *DeLand Sun News* in her student days and editor of the 1950 *Hatter*. Her gift is in honor of the 1950 Hatter Staff. This will complete the run of the Stetson yearbooks through 2002, the last year of publication.

We also added two large photograph collections from alumni: Wes Brumback '80 and Carole '60 and John Adams '61. Photographs show campus life, student activities (lots of time was spent at the beach, apparently), and fun views of the clothes and hair styles of the past. As can be seen in this photograph of two fraternity



pledges' ritualistic dunking in Holler Fountain, embarrassing photos were made well before Facebook became an issue.

We have been so successful that we recently had to increase the size of our server storage and will be upgrading the ContentDM software in the fall to an unlimited license. This will also make it possible for the College of Law Archives to be included as part of the University Archives. The College of Law Library will be splitting the cost of the software upgrade with us. We are all excited about this opportunity to increase the holdings in the digital archives and to showcase Stetson's history to the world.

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