



## NEWSLETTER Fall 2008

### Message from the Library Director

Although we have been very busy with some projects over the summer, we want to emphasize in this *Newsletter* our faculty whom we honored at the fall reception and the special event we held September 18, 2008, for Max



Cleland '64. We celebrated Max's gift of personal memorabilia from his life and political career, including student days and Army and government service. You will read a description of this gift later in the *Newsletter*, so I will describe the

celebration.

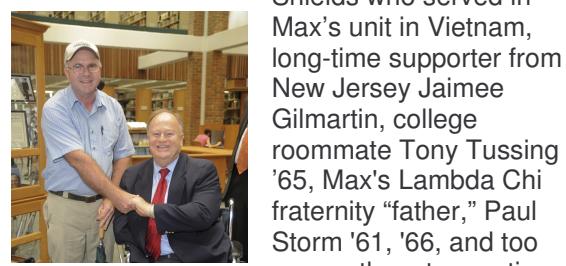
With a standing room only crowd of more than 200 students, faculty, staff, trustees, and members of the public, I briefly welcomed everyone, and President Doug Lee spoke on the importance of the collection. The president also



pointed out that this event was an appropriate ending for Stetson's celebration of Constitution Day.

Max spoke extemporaneously about how much Stetson had meant to him and credited Stetson for helping him develop from a "pine knot" into a person who could lead a great life. As he spoke with emotion and humor, the crowd reacted with laughter and applause.

Max had the chance to meet personally with everyone and is shown here with Stetson employee and Vietnam veteran Dave Lowery. Some of Max's special guests included Jim



Shields who served in Max's unit in Vietnam, long-time supporter from New Jersey Jaimee Gilmartin, college roommate Tony Tussing '65, Max's Lambda Chi fraternity "father," Paul Storm '61, '66, and too many others to mention.

Max has an uncanny gift of making life-long friends, and he never forgets a name or a story (sometimes a bit embarrassing) about the person.

Susan Ryan had created two displays from Max's collection on the main floor, which remained for several weeks, and a special display in the Politicos Room for the celebration.

The collection is so extensive, that much of it will remain in archival boxes, to be brought out periodically for displays or research. It even includes a replica of his Senate chair which Max donated for display in the Politicos Room. We also have photos of many items on the library's special collections website: [http://www.stetson.edu/library/specialcollections\\_cleland.php](http://www.stetson.edu/library/specialcollections_cleland.php). There you will also find video clips of Max reminiscing about items from the collection and people associated with them, audio clips from tapes he made in Vietnam as a young soldier, and a transcript of the diary he kept while there.



Betty Drees Johnson, Library Director

## Get to Know Some Special Faculty Members

In August Library Associates joined us at our traditional reception honoring the university faculty who were promoted and/or granted tenure. Each honoree was asked to select an author who had been most influential in his/her life. We put special bookplates in the books selected, and the books were on display during the reception.

**Shawnrece Campbell – English – Awarded tenure:** *The Mis-education of the Negro*, by Carter G. Woodson.

**Susan Peppers-Bates – Philosophy – Promoted to Associate Professor:** *Eating Fire, Tasting Blood: An Anthology of the American-Indian Holocaust*.

**Kathy Piechura-Couture – Teacher Education – Promoted to Professor:** *Why Gender Matters*, by Leonard Sax.

**Matt Roberts – Digital Arts – Awarded tenure and promoted to Associate Professor**  
“*The Medium is the Message*, by Marshall McLuhan: A true work of art, I am inspired by the experience of this book every time I open it.”

**Michael Denner – Russian Studies – Awarded tenure and promoted to Associate Professor**  
“Rosalie Colie’s book *Parodoxia Epidemica* has exerted a grand influence over my thinking about interpreting literature. Everything I’ve written has in some way or another come out from between the covers of that book. Written



at the end of the 1960s, it’s the apogee of great American literary analysis before the introduction of the French Disease (literary theory). Colie writes about paradoxical structures in Rabelais, Sidney, Erasmus, Shakespeare, Donne, and other works of the Renaissance; so her focus is quite far removed from my own research interests in Russian nineteenth-century novels. However, it’s the way she writes about literature that excited me when I came across the book years ago, rummaging about the library shelves while trying to avoid writing my dissertation. Even when discussing highly complex and dense works of literature, and bringing to bear her immense erudition, Colie’s very human touch and wry tone prevail.

While *most* works of literary analysis diminish the work they purport to explain, Colie doesn’t try to *explain* a work; she shows how great works of literature are structured in ways that incessantly and intentionally evade any attempt to reduce their potential for significance. She interprets a work’s resistance to interpretation. Reading for her is therefore always a kind of play or sparring, a way of engaging endlessly with the puzzles of perception and understanding. She committed suicide not long after writing *Parodoxia*; paradoxically, that book takes as one of its primary paradoxes the paradox of suicide, of self-destruction. No one, except me, reads her any longer.”

**Hala ElAarag – Mathematics and Computer Science - Awarded tenure and promoted to Associate Professor**

“The book that influenced my career is *Logic and Computer Design Fundamentals* by Morris Mano. As a college freshman, this book drew my interest to the computer design field in particular. Although the technologies of computer design have continued to evolve over the last two decades, the trends identified in the first edition of this book are still valid today and promise to continue for some time to come. The mainstays of the 70s and 80s have disappeared from the current edition of the book. However, the fundamentals have not changed. This book definitely serves as a cornerstone for learning logic and computer design.”



**Monique Forte – Management and International Business – Promoted to Professor**  
(pictured below with Trustee Emeritus Tom Wands at the reception)



“I’ve chosen *Gifts Differing* by Isabel Briggs Myers. I was introduced to the field of psychological type by my mentors at Stetson. The body of literature based on the MBTI has shaped not only my research and teaching over the years, but it has also had a profound effect on my own personal development. I quote from Isabel,

*‘Whatever the circumstances of your life, the understanding of type can make your*

*perception clearer, your judgments sounder, and your life closer to your heart's desire."*

#### **Carolyn Mueller – Business – Management – Promoted to Professor**

"The author I choose is Malcolm Gladwell and the book is *Blink: The Power of Thinking Without Thinking*. Gladwell's gift of anecdotal story telling caught my interest and attention, particularly as one of his main talents is to 'look at seemingly mundane things ... and find valuable lessons about what makes human beings human.' (Mark Athitakis, *Chicago Sun Times*) I concur. And, as managers from a wide variety of organizations must often make decisions quickly based on their experience and intuition, Gladwell's position is that most anyone can become a better decision maker by focusing on fewer but important details rather than on large amounts of information. Amen."



#### **Stephen Ng – Music – Awarded tenure and promoted to Associate Professor**

"*The Four Agreements* by Don Miguel Ruiz. This book is a great discovery. The author reveals the source of self-limiting beliefs that make one suffer needlessly. The four



agreements are based on ancient Toltec wisdom. They offer another way to look at oneself by the following principles: be impeccable with your word; don't take anything personally; don't make

assumptions; always do your best. These new thoughts can transform one's life to experience freedom, happiness and love. As a performing musician, it is very important to believe in myself. This helps me in dealing with stresses and frustrations, as well as appreciating my success and joy in music making."

#### **Alicia Schultheis – Biology - Awarded tenure and promoted to Associate Professor**

"The first edition of John Avise's *Molecular Markers, Natural History, and Evolution* was published while I was working towards my Ph.D. It was the original tome about the newly emerging field of molecular ecology. The first section of the book describes molecular



techniques but it was the second part of the book, which describes seminal studies in phylogeography, parentage and kinship, and speciation and hybridization that fueled my burgeoning passion for mixing ecology and genetics. I continue to use the second edition as a reference when I teach Molecular Ecology."

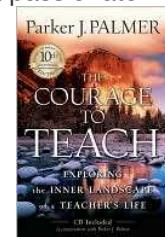
#### **Robert Sitler – Modern Languages – Promoted to Professor**

"*The Biology of Transcendence* by Joseph Chilton Pearce. Pearce's prior work brilliantly synthesized insightful perspectives into child development, evolutionary biology and experiential spirituality, producing a radical and intuitively convincing criticism of our 'broken' society. In particular he showed how medical interventions into the birth process are merely the first major misstep in a fundamentally flawed societal course that has led to collective dissatisfaction and gross insensitivity to both the environment and our fellow humans. This text extends Pearce's earlier work by placing our societal degeneration in the context of the recent neurological dimensions of the heart. The book not only helps explain the inherent madness of our current lifestyle but offers hope for a sustainable future based on respect for nature's unfolding plan."



#### **Mercedes Tichenor – Teacher Education – Promoted to Professor**

"One of my favorite books is *The Courage to Teach* by Parker Palmer. This is a passionate and thought-provoking book that challenges teachers to think about the complexities of teaching. It inspires teachers to look inside themselves to reconnect with their profession. In *The Courage To Teach*, Parker Palmer states:



*'This book is for teachers who have good days and bad, and whose bad days bring the suffering that comes only from something one loves. It is for teachers who refuse to harden their hearts because they love learners, learning, and the teaching life.'*

This book helps me recognize that I must continually examine myself as an educator."

## MAX CLELAND COLLECTION DEDICATED

On September 18<sup>th</sup>, the Stetson University Library held a dedication of the Cleland Collection. In 2007 and 2008, Joseph Maxwell "Max" Cleland donated to Stetson his personal and political memorabilia from more than 30 years of government service. Many items in the collection are housed in the library's "Politicos Room," a special collections area featuring material from alumni who have served in politics.

Max Cleland graduated from Stetson in 1964 and received a Master's degree from Emory University in 1968. While serving in the U.S. Army, Max was seriously wounded in Vietnam and, after a long recovery and rehabilitation, he began his career in politics.

Max served as a member of the Georgia Senate (1971-1975) and was appointed Administrator of the Veterans Administration by President Jimmy Carter in 1977. Max served as Georgia Secretary of State from 1982 to 1996 and was subsequently



elected as a Democrat to the United States Senate in 1996, serving from 1997 to 2003. After leaving the Senate, Max was appointed to the Board of Directors for the Export-Import Bank of the United States; he also served on the 9-11 Commission that explored the terrorist attacks on the U.S.

The library is pleased to hold many items from each stage in Max's political career, including campaign material, plaques, awards, DVDs, press clippings, Senate speeches, many letters from Presidents and other prominent politicians, and more than 6,000 photos and slides, many of them autographed. Of his two books, the best known is *Strong at the Broken Places*, and he

gave the library his handwritten drafts of the book, painstakingly written with his left hand.

The collection also includes some highly personal mementos from his service in Vietnam such as the watch he was wearing when he was wounded by a grenade (the only personal item to survive the blast), the diary he kept, his holster, more than eight hours of audiotapes that Max sent home from Vietnam, and all of the medals he earned for his service.



Items from Max's Stetson days are in the collection as well, including his freshman "rat cap," his class ring, ROTC photos, a Lambda Chi Alpha pledge paddle and pledge pin, and a home movie clip from his Stetson graduation.

Max talks fondly of his experience as part of the Washington Semester during his senior year, and the influence it had on his life and desire to



serve in politics. During his time in the Senate, Max made sure to encourage students

who were there as part of this special Stetson experience.

Max Cleland's official Senatorial papers are held by the University of Georgia's Richard B. Russell Library for Political Research and Studies. His Veterans Administration papers are held by the Carter Center.

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Susan M. Ryan, Associate Library Director

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