



NEWSLETTER Fall 2011

Message from the Acting Director

As many of you know, Library Director Betty Johnson retired on September 1st after 50 years of Stetson service. Betty ('59, '62) started her Stetson career in 1961 and soon became Head Catalog Librarian and then Head of Technical Services. In 1988 she was named Associate Director for Technical Services and became Library Director in 2002. Betty excelled in every position and is largely responsible for shaping our very good print and electronic collections and also for making the library the inviting facility it is today. The University recognized Betty's deep commitment to Stetson by electing her to the Board of Trustees where she will no doubt continue to make a positive contribution.

While no one will be able to fill Betty's shoes, the library will move forward and continue to improve collections, services, technology, and facilities. The University is currently searching for a new Dean of Library and Learning Technologies to lead the library through an exciting time of transition in both higher education in general and in academic libraries in particular. Until that person arrives, the current staff is working hard to maintain the high quality library that our students, faculty, and staff have come to expect. We will continue to rely especially on the support, both moral and financial, that our alumni and friends have so generously offered in the past.



Members of the Stetson community, along with many friends, honored Betty (center with President Wendy Libby and Richard Libby) at a retirement reception in the library in August.

Susan Ryan, Acting Library Director

New Technology Initiatives

The library has long embraced the best of the new technologies that help our faculty and students with their research needs. Online journals, e-books, and databases have been fully integrated into our information collections. The perennial need for updated computers is a challenge, but the availability of faster, less expensive hardware has allowed us to buy twenty-nine 26" screen Vostro workstations this semester that have been a big hit with the students.

The library should be the place where information can be received in a variety of formats and be retrieved from a variety of delivery mechanisms. We



are beginning to explore the possibility of using iPads in the library and have purchased our first Kindle to provide on-demand e-books to our faculty. Soon to be installed on the main floor are two 60" flat screen televisions that will stream close-captioned news. Technology is just a means to an end – but all of these devices make it possible to fulfill our role as the campus' central source of information.

Janice Jenkins Music Collection

Over the summer, the Jenkins Music Collection was moved from Presser Hall to the north Fine Arts Wing in the duPont-Ball Library. The collection now has room to grow and the School of Music faculty and students have many more hours of access to the material.



Three Faculty Members Honored

The library has the tradition of honoring faculty members who have been recently tenured and/or promoted at our annual August reception. The honorees are asked to select an author or book that has been meaningful to them in their personal or professional lives and write a brief note to explain their selections. Their chosen books are added to our collection with a special bookplate.

This fall we honored three colleagues who have each been promoted to Professor, the University's highest academic rank.

Dr. Jamil Khader, Professor of English, chose *Contingency, Hegemony, Universality: Contemporary Dialogues on the Left* by Slavoj Zizek. Jamil had this to say about his choice:



"As my intellectual journey progresses and as I continue to explore new provocative theories in literary and cultural studies today, I can say that the work of the Slovenian philosopher and cultural critic, Slavoj Zizek, has been a major source of inspiration to me in the last decade. His idiosyncratic mixture of German idealism, Marxism, and Lacanian psychoanalysis has challenged the way I have been trained to think through the prism of postcolonial theory about difference/Otherness, art, politics, and society at this juncture in human history. If I were to choose a book by Zizek that has truly influenced me in the last decade and helped me understand the significance of his work in relation to other contemporary thinkers, it would be the collection *Contingency, Hegemony, Universality: Contemporary Dialogues on the Left*, which comprises his critical engagement with other important theorists, namely Judith Butler and Ernesto Laclau. I'm fortunate to have met him and to be currently co-editing a critical collection on the various ways in which his work has influenced various disciplines. The book was commissioned by Polity Press and is expected to come out in 2012."

Dr. Lloyd Linney, a soprano and Professor of Voice in the School of Music, selected *My Lord, What a Morning*. She writes:

"In about 1966, when I was in high school, my mother suggested I read *My Lord, What a Morning*, the autobiography of the great African-American contralto, Marian Anderson.



Ms. Anderson was one of the greatest singers of the twentieth century, performing in concert halls throughout Europe even when she was not allowed to sing in Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C. She also played an important part in the Civil Rights movement, singing at the March on Washington in 1963. When I read this book I never imagined that I would pursue a career in music, but I was moved by Ms. Anderson's courage and dignity as she encountered so much prejudice and so many obstacles before becoming the first African-American to sing at the Metropolitan Opera in New York City. Many years later the African-American spiritual, 'My Lord, What a Morning' became one of my favorite recital pieces."

Dr. Carolyn Nicholson, Professor of Marketing, chose Walker Percy's *The Message in the Bottle*. She says of the work:



"A single book? I'll choose *The Message in the Bottle* by Walker Percy.

This discussion of the role of words and symbols and the power of language to shape our existence motivated me to go to graduate school. My copy is dog-eared, marked up and full of sticky

notes from the times I have read it."

You can check out these book selections in the library. Congratulations, Jamil, Lloyd, and Carolyn!

John B. Stetson Family Gifts

Bill Widdowson, great-grandson of University benefactor John B. Stetson, and his wife Diane recently sent us a number of wonderful Stetson family items for our Archives. Pictured is a



sterling silver baby fork that belonged to John B. Stetson, Jr. Engraved on the back is "John Jr. from Papa 1888." The family also sent two maps of the large amount of property that housed the Stetson family estate in DeLand (now a privately-owned home called the Stetson

Mansion – <http://stetsonmansion.com>), as well as many personal papers of John B. Stetson, Jr., a well-known businessman, historian, and Stetson Trustee. The Widdowsons also donated a beautifully framed picture of Ben Stetson, a son of John B. Stetson who died of diphtheria at the age of 6, and in whose honor the Elizabeth Hall Chapel was erected. Thanks to Bill and Diane for their continued generosity and for making our Archives the permanent home for some of their family treasures.

Ross Allen Memorabilia

Alumnus Jay Mechling ('67) has long had an interest in Ross Allen's work with reptiles and his interest in promoting science education. Allen, well-known for his Reptile Institute housed for many years at Silver Springs, attended Stetson as a freshman in 1926.



Over the past year, Jay has donated his extensive collection of Ross Allen memorabilia (postcards, photos, booklets, brochures, and catalogs) to the library's Archives. Each piece has been scanned or photographed and added to our Digital Archives at <http://archives.stetson.edu> (search "Ross Allen" in the upper right search box).

Jay gave a well-attended lecture on campus in September on Ross Allen's work in conjunction with a display in the Gillespie Museum that incorporated many of the Archives items.

Two Estate Gifts

The library was fortunate to receive two estate gifts this semester – one a cash gift from the family of John and Betty Haire that went to the Betty Drees Johnson General Library Endowment Fund. (Son John Haire is a member of the class of 1968.) The income from this unrestricted endowment allows us the flexibility to provide whatever resources are most needed in the library – whether that is books, databases, computers, or furniture.

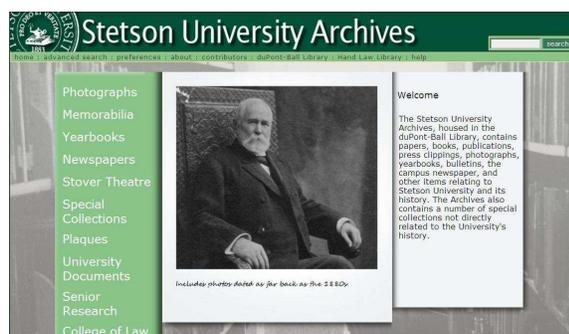


The second gift, rare Audubon books, came from the estate of Lydia Theuer Pfund ('40, '42). The two sets include seven volumes of *Audubon's Birds of America* and three volumes of *Quadrupeds of North America*. The editions, with beautifully drawn plates, came housed in a custom-built wood box and the sets have been added to our "Treasure Collection" of rare and/or valuable books. Lydia is seen in the Alpha Xi Delta sorority photo above – front row, third from right.

New Archives Collection

Our searchable Digital Archives (<http://archives.stetson.edu>) continues to grow. We now have more than 11,000 photos in the collection dating from the 1880s to the present. We welcome your help with identifying people in the photographs – if you have names or information to share just click on the “Send Feedback” link at the top of each photo and we’ll update the description.

More than 1,800 memorabilia items can be viewed online, as well as the yearbooks, student newspapers, Bulletins, College of Law material, and much more.



New to the Digital Archives is our “Senior Research Collection.” We have more than 100 senior research papers on the site, but we plan to add many more current papers and projects. This collection highlights the exciting work our students are doing in various disciplines – take a look at the collection. You will be impressed with the level of research conducted by our undergraduates.

Although many copyright issues are left to be resolved, it is becoming more common to also store published faculty research in Institutional Repositories (or digital archives). We expect to begin highlighting faculty work in our Archives in the future.

Welcome James Riley



This semester the library hired James Riley as our new Library Systems and Technology Administrator. James maintains all of the library hardware and software as well as working on a number of technology initiatives in the library.

James received his BA in Geography (with a GIS concentration) from the University of Florida and his MS in Library and Information Science (with a Technology and Networking specialization) from Florida State University. We’ve already got James hard at work – welcome to Stetson!

The Library on Facebook

Consider “liking” the Stetson University Library on Facebook (<http://facebook.com/StetsonLibrary>). We post a variety of photos and notices on our page to keep you up-to-date with the library. A recent photo of a group of Sig Eps “canoeing” through a flooded field outside their fraternity house on a rainy day in 1978 generated quite a bit of interest – as have our posts about “Going Green” by using less paper and toner cartridge in the library.

duPont-Ball Library
Stetson University
421 N. Woodland Blvd., Unit 8418
DeLand, FL 32723

386-822-7175 or 386-822-7183
Twitter: <http://twitter.com/StetsonLibrary>

Home Page: <http://www.stetson.edu/library/>
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/StetsonLibrary>