



NEWSLETTER FALL 2013

**Message from the Dean of the Library
and Digital Learning Resources**

I walked into the library on the first Monday of the fall semester and the scene was reminiscent of finals week. Students were everywhere – they were at the computer workstations, printing articles, browsing the book stacks, and reading in chairs. Regular classes didn't start for three more days, but the freshmen seminars had begun the night before and Stetson's largest class of freshmen were already



hard at work. I shouldn't be surprised that the library is full most of the time these days. We have more students than ever and they seem to like the library's inviting atmosphere. We believe that we provide them with an impressive array of resources to enhance their Stetson experience. At Stetson we like to think that our students are academically engaged, but it is gratifying to get to see the learning in action every day.

Susan M. Ryan, Dean of the duPont-Ball Library

The Writing Center Comes to the Library

The University's Writing Center has long offered free tutoring in writing for all of the Stetson community. Director Maggie Herb hires and trains peer tutors to help writers with any type of paper, at any stage of the writing process. This summer, the Writing Center moved into the northeast corner of the library. It's a great partnership that directly benefits the students – students have easy access to help from both the Writing Center staff and the research librarians during many of the hours the library is open.

**The Betty Drees Johnson Dean of the duPont-Ball
Library and Digital Learning Resources Endowment**

Former library director and current University Trustee Betty Johnson (left, with Library Dean Susan Ryan) has often said that Stetson changed her

life when she was awarded a full-tuition scholarship as an undergraduate in 1955. Betty ('59, '62) had a storied 50 year career as a Stetson librarian. Now she has chosen to give back to the library that she developed for so many years. Along with naming the library dean's position, Betty has created an endowed innovation fund – a fund that will allow the librarians to be creative in ways that wouldn't be possible without the gift.

Library Dean Susan Ryan has challenged the librarians and library staff to use this fund to make the duPont-Ball Library a showcase library – a library that is ahead of the curve in learning technologies and innovative ways to disseminate information.

Perhaps the greatest gift is Betty's assurance that "it is ok to fail." While we do not plan on many failures, the freedom to try out new things without restriction is such a liberating prospect. We can't wait to start innovating! Thank you, Betty.

Follow the Library on Facebook

Stay up-to-date on library news – follow us on Facebook at

<http://facebook.com/StetsonLibrary>. The

library also maintains the John B. Stetson Facebook page which posts Stetson-related items of current and historical interest. Follow us at

<http://facebook.com/johnbstetson1886>.



Welcome Jason and Rosie!

The library welcomed two new librarians in the last year. Dr. Jason Martin joined us in the summer of 2012 as Head of Public Services. Jason previously



held librarian positions at Louisiana State University and the University of Central Florida Libraries where he served as the Head of the Curriculum Materials Center.

He brings to us experience in learning technologies and expertise in organizational cultures and has been instrumental in designing a Core Competencies program for library staff.

Rosalie “Rosie” Flowers came to Stetson this summer as our Learning and Information Literacy Librarian. Rosie had been with the University of Central Florida Libraries as the Library Instructor Coordinator for the Information Literacy & Outreach department. She helped develop UCF’s information literacy modules,



piloted a Mobile Librarian program, and experimented with using QR codes for library instructional material. She brings to Stetson experience in working with online courses, video editing, mobile technologies, social media for libraries, and web development.

Twelve 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. This fall we honored twelve colleagues who have been tenured and /or promoted.

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.

Cindy Bennington, Professor of Biology: *Last Child in the Woods* by Richard Louv. “When I thought about choosing a book that was influential to me, I initially imagined that it should be one that is either a



masterful scientific expose’ or a great work of literature. *Last Child in the Woods* is neither. It is, however, one of a handful of books from which I can recall details many years after my first reading, and that I continually find myself referring to in conversations with friends, colleagues, and students. It is also one that impacted me as both a parent and educator; roles that allowed me to see that children today have many fewer opportunities for unstructured outdoor play and exposure to nature than I had as a child....”

David Bjella, Professor of Music: *Casals and the Art of Interpretation* by David Blum. “I read it in college and was so engrossed because this was an in-depth study of my cello professor’s teacher, Pablo Casals.



[Casals] was one of the greatest musicians of all time and here I was studying with one of his students and also reading about his approach. It made quite an impact on me.”

Debbi Dinkins, Library Associate Dean and Professor: Robert Frost’s *The Road Not Taken*. “I chose a poem rather than an entire book. [The poem] symbolizes my decision to become a librarian. Like many librarians, this is my second career. In my previous life, I worked in the aerospace industry as an



engineer. While I was lucky enough to be employed and to be comfortable financially, I never found the work fulfilling or meaningful. After six years of drifting through work, I knew I

needed more out of my life and I decided to make a change even if it meant starting back at square one financially. I decided to get a degree in library service and I believe it was the smartest decision I ever made. My work is never boring. Libraries have changed dramatically in the 20 years I have been in

the profession and I have welcomed the changes as they added excitement and challenges to my work day. Working as an academic librarian is a perfect fit for me, my background, and my personality.”

Glen Epley, Professor of Education: ***Christopher Columbus, Mariner*** by Samuel Eliot Morrison. “I have been looking forward to this reception since returning to Stetson, and I have been thinking about which book to choose for almost as long.... It is a small paperback distilled from Professor Morrison’s longer biography of Columbus, and it was one of the first books I read as an undergraduate somewhere around 1972-73. Why I would choose it is because ... it was written with such majesty and scholarship that is made me want to become that sort of intellectual.”



Eric Kurlander, Professor of History: ***The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Klay*** by Michael Chabon. “I picked [Chabon’s book] first of all because it’s a fantastic book, which tells the story of two Jewish cousins, the European-born Joe Kavalier and Brooklyn-born Sammy Klay, who invent an anti-fascist superhero called the ‘Escapist’ during the early days of the Second World War. I also picked it because it combines a number of my personal interests (American popular culture; golden and silver age comic books; pulp horror films and literature) and scholarly preoccupations (Germany; the Second World War; and the Holocaust)....”



Brigid Noonan, Professor of Counselor Education: ***On Becoming a Person*** by Carl Rogers. “The first time I read *On Becoming a Person* was for a theories class in my master’s degree program. I read it to complete the assignment and for the grade. The next time I read it was for me. This book has helped me understand what I do and how I can think about what I do and who I want to become. Carl Rogers gave me a foundational and critical base as a therapist and has gifted me with those ‘Aha’ moments in both my professional and personal life.”



Joshua Rust, Associate Professor of Philosophy: ***The Construction of Social Reality*** by John Searle. “With this book, Searle more or less invented a new philosophical sub-discipline – the philosophy of society. It came out when I was attending UC Berkeley (where Searle continues to teach) as an undergraduate. This book became the subject of my dissertation and subsequent book, *John Searle and the Construction of Social Reality*. In the book, Searle reminds us that while social reality (language, governmental bodies, money, etc.) is socially constructed, there also remains a sense in which it remains out of our hands. Green pieces of paper with certain markings wouldn’t be money without us, but this should not be taken to imply that social reality is endlessly and effortlessly malleable; we are subject to it as much as it is subject to us.”



Ranjini Thaver, Professor of Economics: “The [book] that has had a tremendous effect on my life is ***Freedom from the Known*** by Jiddu Krishnamurti.”



Rebecca Watts, Associate Professor of Communication and Media Studies: “Every time I read **C. S. Lewis’ writing about his Christian faith**, I feel encouraged in my own. Lewis blended his intellect with his faith in a down-to-earth style, a combination I have long admired in his writing, especially in *Mere Christianity* as well as in *Surprised by Joy* and *The Four Loves* (and today in the writing of Anne Lamott and Frederick Buechner). I admire especially his ability to craft with great humility and humanity such intellectually and spiritually solid arguments for and explanations of his faith. In particular, Lewis had an amazing aptitude for identifying analogies and metaphors that make more concrete and understandable the immaterial elements of his faith....Each time I read *Mere Christianity* I feel my mind and soul are lifted through Lewis’ glimpse into the mind and heart of God.”



John York, Associate Professor of Chemistry: “The book that has influenced me professionally is *Essentials of Computational Chemistry: Theories and Models* by Christopher J. Cramer. Professor Cramer is not only one of the world’s leading experts on computational chemistry, but also an amazing teacher. I was lucky enough to have Professor Cramer as an instructor in graduate school and to work with him on a number of research projects. Unfortunately I never had the opportunity to learn computational chemistry from him directly. Upon my arrival at Stetson, I quickly became deeply involved with using computational chemistry in my own research projects. Having experienced his excellent teaching firsthand, it was an obvious choice to use Professor Cramer’s book to learn the ins-and-outs of the field. This book has literally changed my professional life, setting me down a new research path that will continue for my entire scientific career.”



Also honored were **Leila Roach**, Associate Professor of Counselor Education, and **Chris Tobler**, Associate Professor of Finance. Congratulations to all of our tenured and promoted faculty members!

Library Celebrates 125th Anniversary as a Depository Library

The library celebrated its 125th anniversary as a federal depository library in early April 2013. Stetson is the oldest federal depository library in Florida, opening in 1887. Guest speakers included Mary Alice Baish, Assistant Public Printer and Superintendent of Documents for the Government Printing Office in Washington, D.C. (right, with Trustee Betty Johnson and Documents Librarian



Barbara Costello), and DeLand Mayor Bob Apgar. The library received a proclamation of congratulations from the City of DeLand.

Recent Gifts to the Library

The library received many gifts this year, including a large gift of music scores from Paul and Esther Langston; a large collection of music CDs from the estate of Henry Dewey Anderson, manager of the Daytona Beach summer music festival featuring the London Symphony Orchestra; and a rich collection of historical Florida postcards from alumnus Jay Mechling ('67) featured in an exhibit at the Southeast Museum of Photography in Daytona Beach titled *Edge to Edge: Vintage Panoramic Photography in Florida*.



Max Cleland Collection

The library also received a large number of memorabilia items from Senator Max Cleland ('64)



to add to the large Max Cleland Collection. New items included photographs of Max’s trip to Normandy when he accompanied President Obama to the

commemoration of the 65th anniversary of D-Day and a photo of Max meeting with Prince Harry at the British Embassy. You can see more items in the Max Cleland Collection at <http://archives.stetson.edu> by clicking on *Special Collections*.