A NEWSLETTER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE LIBRARIES

Notes from the Stacks

TRIBUTE READING ROOM

UoL UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES
Dean’s Welcome

I hope you enjoy our first printed edition of Notes from the Stacks. As you know, we began publishing an e-newsletter last year as a way to stay in touch and keep you informed of happenings in the Libraries. We welcome you to get engaged in some of our programs and offerings. Inside, you will find articles about a number of our libraries, including one about Research Assistance and Instruction faculty in Ekstrom Library’s Learning Commons, and how they helped a sophomore learn to love research. We also launch our Adopt-A-Book program, and highlight some of the upcoming exhibits this summer and fall.

In addition to working on our programming, we continue to strive to be as efficient and effective as possible in the use of our financial resources. As part of our ongoing assessment program, we recently completed the third biannual survey of students and faculty and are already using survey results to help our planning. We also recently introduced a comprehensive Communications and Marketing Plan – this newsletter is one of the results! Other actions from the plan include an increased social media presence and efforts to increase the visibility of library resources and services.

Finally, I want to mention our partnerships with other campus units. One example is our relationship with the Student Government Association (SGA), which has expanded significantly over the last few years. Our close working relationship with SGA leadership has resulted in financial support that allowed us to purchase furniture to upgrade two seating areas in the 24-hour zone of Ekstrom Library.

As always, I thank you for your continued interest in and support of the Libraries. If not for you, we couldn’t provide our students and faculty the resources they need to be successful.

Robert E. Fox, Jr.
Dean, University Libraries
My Kingdom for a Source
How one Student Stopped Worrying and Learned to Love Research

How can students study and learn in a world saturated with information? A quick fumble of fingers on a handheld device can dump tons of data into an overstuffed brain.

How does one manage, sort or understand this data, when much of it is irrelevant, hyped, promoted by large corporations, or untrustworthy?

To cut through the noise, students can turn to library faculty in Ekstrom Library’s Research Assistance and Instruction (RAI), located in the Learning Commons in 1E. A phone call or online link can nab them a face-to-face meeting with someone who can help them find relevant sources and learn methods of research.

“When you first enter college, you have an impression that only seniors working on their senior papers can get help,” said UofL sophomore Christian Bush, a recent convert to the benefits of research assistance.

“Students at all levels and at all times need this help,” said the History and Asian Studies major.

His RAI conversion began when Bush was tasked with creating an archeological site profile for an Introduction to Egypt course. His first step was to “do what most students do, I googled. But I couldn’t find any information on Google at all.”

In particular, he needed a specific site profile from 1911 that he knew existed but wasn’t able to find. His savvy professor suggested Bush reach out to RAI for help, and after setting up an appointment with RAI online, the response was “lightning quick.”

At the research appointment, RAI Librarian Sue Finley showed Bush not only the original excavation report he needed, but subsequent documents pertinent to his research, including profiles of archeological digs using modern-era excavation techniques like ground-penetrating radar for exploring underground tombs.

“I got a wealth of information,” Bush said. “More than enough to write my paper and then some.”

Beyond helping him with his immediate needs, Finley “took me through her methodology for locating the sources. She spent a good amount of time showing me how to use databases and work with sources, the nitty-gritty of the research.

“If I hadn’t been able to meet with her I wouldn’t have had such a strong research base and it would have made the profile much less substantial.”

“The fact that she taught me how to research and how to go through sources and then use the sources within sources; that’s benefited me outside that project.”

“A paper is only as strong as your writing skills and your research; if you don’t have solid research, there’s only so much you can do.”

The short-term results were important to Bush, too: “I got an A on the paper,” he said, smiling.

AROUND THE LIBRARIES

Clinical Librarians Help Seniors

With the goal of reaching out and empowering some of their important constituents — seniors, doctors, nurses, and other healthcare providers — Kornhauser librarians attended the Optimal Aging Conference on June 12th–14th at the historic Brown Hotel in downtown Louisville. Kornhauser personnel Michel Atlas (Head of Reference), Tiffney Gipson (Library Assistant), and Jessica Petrey (Clinical Librarian) attended the conference as exhibitors.

Music that Heals Hearts and Bodies

Largest Music Therapy Collection in Nation at UofL

The Dwight Anderson Memorial Music Library holds one of the largest collections of music therapy monographs and journals in the nation. Numbering well over 2,000 volumes, the library collects comprehensively in the increasingly-popular field of music therapy and makes every attempt to acquire all publications related to music therapy, regardless of language or format.

UofL’s music therapy department has a mission to be Kentucky’s preeminent setting for music therapy education, research, and clinical services for individuals with disabilities and health challenges. The Music Library supports the music department’s important mission.
The University of Louisville Libraries’ Adopt-A-Book Program allows donors to help conserve library books, recordings, materials, and other items in need of repair. With your donation, librarians will be able to preserve these items for current and future faculty, scholars and students.

Available for Adoption

World War I Posters
To prepare for an Archives and Special Collections (ASC) exhibit on The Great War to open in August of 2017, ASC would like to preserve a selection of World War I posters of various nationalities from The James Chandler War Poster Collection, which contains 1,100 posters representing both World Wars I and II.

Need
Posters must be de-acidified and mounted on linen or professionally encapsulated in polyester film for framing and exhibition. ASC would like to conserve 10–12 posters for the 2017 exhibition. Total $300-500 each

Wunderbarliche…der Wilden in Virginia (Theodor de Bry’s voyages)
Donated by Frances Heyburn, this extremely rare book contains the first detailed engravings of indigenous people of the American southeast, images which introduced America to Europe in the 16th century. The book is a German translation of Thomas Hariot’s first eyewitness record of the colonial American southeast, with engravings drawn from watercolor paintings of John White. Various sections of Wunderbarliche, doch warhaftige Erklarung, von der Gelegenheit und Sitten der Wilden in Virginia (Theodor de Bry’s voyages) were published in 1593, 1601, and 1620.

Need
The book is in pieces, with the boards detached, the spine missing, and the sewing badly compromised, but all the plates and highly detailed maps are present in this remarkable copy. Total $6,000 ($3,500 for cleaning, mending and stabilizing the leaves of the text block; $2,500 for restoring binding.)

Two photographs of African-American troops from Camp Zachary Taylor in 1918
Extremely rare panoramic images providing significant documentation of the roles of African-American soldiers and Louisville’s own Camp Taylor in World War I.

Need
The photographs are housed in deteriorated frames and stuck to the glass, so unusable in their current condition. The approach of the centennial of America’s entry into World War I makes access to these important images even more urgent. Total $4,500 (approximately $2,250 each for removing the photographs from the deteriorated frames, freeing them from the glass, and addressing any losses of image with repainting.)

WAVE Radio Transcriptions
Before the introduction of tape, radio broadcasters used transcription discs to capture content that they would use (and re-use) on the air. The University Archives received a gift from Louisville historian George Yater of approximately 350 transcription discs originally created by WAVE-radio. The format is obsolete and the discs themselves are in need of repair before they can be digitized. Digitizing them will allow current and future generations to hear the voices of Louisvillians past.

Need
There is a group of recordings titled, “What do you think?” as well as other “man on the street” interviews. A contribution of $1,000 will enable us to clean and digitize this set of 12 discs. Total $1,000

Recordings
Another group of recordings documents the election and inauguration of Mayor Charles Farnsley, a visionary leader who, among other things, developed the Louisville Orchestra’s commissioning project, which enabled the Orchestra to premier new classical works.

Need
This set of four recordings can be reconditioned and digitized for $350. Total $350

A smaller set of recordings relates to the 100th anniversary of the Abbey of Gethsemani in Bardstown.

Need
These two 1949 recordings can be cleaned and digitized for $200. Total $200

ADOPTION PROCESS

Books, manuscripts, moving images, photographs and University Archives materials are available for adoption. Please contact: Denise Nuehring
(502) 640-8663 or denise.nuehring@louisville.edu
Delight in EndCaps

Bridwell Art Library has discovered an inventive way to display its books: a colorful, edgy new bookshelf design showing patrons what they’ll find in the stacks – art and more art.

The shelving graphics, called endcaps, highlight call numbers for books from Bridwell’s collection, displayed over multilayered, fragmented images from within the library’s art books. Not only is the design of high quality, rivalling that of any professional graphic firm’s work, it was surprisingly local, the product of talented UofL graphic design sophomore Jenna White.

Bridwell Director Sarah Carter was first introduced to White in Fall 2015, when UofL Graphic Design faculty member and Power Creative designer-in-residence Leslie Friesen approached Carter with the idea of allowing Friesen’s graphic design class to use the library as a blank canvas of sorts, for environmental graphics within the space. Carter would be under no obligation to implement a design, but if one emerged, the library had the option to see the project to completion. The class gave students real-world experience, but also allowed them to explore the limits of their creativity without feeling too constrained by the client-artist relationship.

Eager to upgrade the library’s interior, and loathe to turn down an opportunity to work with student designers, Carter agreed.

“I was happy to offer our space as their laboratory,” said Carter. “I knew we really needed something to display the call numbers at the end of the stacks shelves, something functional but with aesthetic parameters. So I agreed.”

The students first met with Carter to hash out details and present ideas. Carter introduced them to the library’s collection, color palette, furniture, lighting and environment. They then immersed themselves in the library’s interior space for several weeks, poring over stacks of art books, taking notes and pictures and “learning about us,” said Carter. After a design charrette where Carter offered a critique of students’ work, they refined their designs.

“It was really gratifying to see, as a client, how they listened and met my needs,” Carter said. “The trickiest part of the design was that the call numbers were variable, ranging from short to long, depending on how the books are catalogued, so the design had to be flexible for future updates and additions to the collection. Many of the students had innovative ideas, but they were not flexible or modifiable.”

Two designs emerged quickly as possibilities, though “one was a clear winner after the modification,” said Carter. “It was a very active design that accomplished the functional goals we had, enhanced wayfinding, but was aesthetically pleasing and visually exciting, and most of all, it was flexible.

“I felt so honored to have my design selected,” said White, a UPS-sponsored sophomore and graphic design intern with the Alumni Association. “It was just a class project; we had no idea it would be implemented, but when it was, it was such a great opportunity.”

“I feel so lucky, even though it was a lot of work,” she continued. “The class project took a semester, and then I worked with Sarah for the entire summer, pulling images from the books on the shelves. I spent a lot of time in the library and really got to know the place very well. The creative process was a bit faster than that. I knew how important it was to get it right for the librarians, because they have to look at these things all day. They had to like it.”

“This is the first time something of my own has been put out into the world. And I just thought, this is going to work,” White said.

Finding the balance between aesthetically appealing graphic design and practicality was the main challenge, she said. “I was good at coming up with the creative side of things, but I had to work with Sarah quite a bit to make sure it fulfilled all the needs she had, like wayfinding. That was all new to me and more of a challenge.”

Carter says the process of working with a designer as a client helped her understand the patrons she serves much better. “It was really important to me, because I need to learn what they need so I can help them do their research.

“My favorite part about this whole process was working with Jenna and learning about the design process from a client perspective,” Carter continued. “As an art librarian, I am always trying to understand the way designers think so that I can help them in their research. It was extremely illuminating to hear her questions and watch her work to achieve the library’s goals. This process has helped me do my job better.”

“I really wanted to invigorate the space and the endcaps really have done that. They help visitors conceptualize what we have on the shelves, and who we are.

“Our books are so much about visual information, but you can’t tell without opening them sometimes. They are like ge-
EXHIBITS
Current and upcoming

Archives and Special Collections

Ghosts of Motion
July 7 — September 30, 2016
PHOTO ARCHIVES GALLERY: Lower Level, Ekstrom
Ghosts of Motion contains examples of unintentional blur in photography from some of the Photographic Archives’ collections such as Caufield and Shook and Royal Photo Company as well as several from smaller and lesser known collections. We may view them as mistakes or, as artists might, as a launching point from which to consider bending the rules of formal photography, creating a photograph with deeper meaning, more interest, or emotion. Photographs from our Fine Print collection demonstrate this calculated use of blur by artists.

Tom Fougerousse: 25 Years of UofL Photography
PHOTO ARCHIVES GALLERY: Lower Level, Ekstrom
Come see the University of Louisville through the lens of University Photographer Tom Fougerousse. As he celebrates his 25th anniversary at UofL, Tom will share some of his favorite images from the past quarter-century in this retrospective. Tom started at UofL as a photographer on the Health Sciences Center Campus, then later transferred to the Office of Communications and Marketing and became the chief photographer for the Office of the President and Belknap Campus. He is a familiar face at events both large and small – including taking photos of every graduate at commencement. Tom has taken thousands of portraits of administrators, faculty and students, not to mention university buildings and scenery. If it’s a part of UofL, Tom has captured a unique image of it for any number of publications, websites and media campaigns.

Visuals by Jason Noble
July 1 — 31, 2016
EKSTROM LOWER LEVEL HALL
WALL DISPLAY CASE
Artwork of Jason Noble from the collections of the Louisville Underground Music Archive

Paul Owen: Decades of Theatre Design
KAIN GALLERY AND EKSTROM LOWER LEVEL HALL
WALL DISPLAY CASE
August 11 — October 15, 2016

Lee Pennington: Documentarian
PENNINGTON GALLERY
November 1, 2016 — January 15, 2017

Shakespeare’s Contemporaries
KAIN GALLERY AND EKSTROM LOWER LEVEL HALL
WALL DISPLAY CASE
November 1, 2016 — December 23, 2016

Bridwell Art Library
Portraits of Shakespeare’s Actors from the Eaton Portfolio
July 22 — October 15

Kornhauser Health Sciences Library
“And there’s the Humor of it:” Shakespeare and the Four Humors
June — October

Notes from the Stacks  Summer 2016