Buley Digitizes Southern Yearbooks

This summer library staff began digitizing Southern’s collection of Laurel Yearbooks. The Laurel was first published in 1926 when the institution was a two-year women’s teacher college called The New Haven Normal School. Later Southern became a four-year college and then a university and, of course, along the way its student population became co-ed. As the internet became more a part of our lives and a way to share social information, Southern stopped publishing an annual yearbook. The last time The Laurel was published was 2002. When the yearbook digitization project is complete, students, alumni, and members of the community will be able to see Southern’s rich history online from the point of view of its former students. Patrons will be able to see historical pictures of the owl mascot through the years as well as the different clubs and sports groups.

One interesting photo found while processing the yearbooks was a photo of Buley Library from 1970. The photo shows the bare steel of the library during its original construction. This was very timely because if one looked out the window, it looked the same this summer as the current contractors had taken the building back down to the steel for the renovation.

The Laurel yearbooks can be found in the new digital collection “Student Publications.” The library hopes to expand this collection to include more publications in the future. There are currently 19 yearbooks scanned and several issues of the Laurel Leaf, a newsletter published from 1932 to 1959. To view Buley’s Digital Collections go to http://libcdm.southernct.edu:2011/cdm.

Jacqueline Toce
Cataloging Librarian
**Director’s Column**

Great news! Since our last newsletter in the spring of 2014, the Buley Library Building Project finally got underway in June! The Groundbreaking took place on July 17th at 9:30. It was a very happy day for everyone at Southern. As a momento, all attendees received a beautiful bookmark with a picture of the new library and inscribed with the words “The expanded Buley Library is the academic heart of the university—a rich resource for learning, research, and scholarship.”

Since June, almost the entire building has been enclosed with cement blocks and one side of the new building (facing Adanti Student Center) has all the windows installed.

During the week of Thanksgiving, all five levels of the current addition will be built out for the construction associated with the connection between the current library and Old Buley. The existing library areas that are in the construction zone will be relocated and temporary walls to isolate the construction are will be installed. These temporary walls will remain in place until fall 2014, when the project is scheduled for completion.

Also during Thanksgiving week, the passenger elevators in the Buley addition will be shut down for several weeks. All library users needing to use an elevator will have to use the service elevator. In addition, the reference desk and the reference computers will move to the middle and far side of the first floor, directly across from the current reference desk.

Work is already underway in preparation for Thanksgiving week. Power poles have been installed where they will be needed. The microfilm cabinets and viewers have been moved on the ground floor of the addition. The Media area on the third floor has been moved to a different area on the third floor.

As we move forward with the construction project, PLEASE PARDON OUR DUST AND NOISE! The library faculty, staff, and I are committed to continuing our excellent service to our patrons. Our new library will be well worth the wait and disruption!

Christina D. Baum, Ed.D.
Director of Library Services
Hilton C. Buley Library
An Unanticipated Gift:  
A Bookmaking Collaboration Leads to an Unexpected Honor

This semester, INQ_Instructor Emily Capobianco and her FYE Seminar students visited the library to view the Artists' Books Collection and to create their own artists' books. The unique book was designed by Tina Re especially for the First Year class in order to highlight students' 6-word memoirs as part of a semester-long focus on memoir writing.

As part of the bookmaking project, students crafted six-word memoirs, titled the book, and wrote the colophon—acknowledging the inspiration of Justice Sotomayor's book, *My Beloved World*. As work progressed, it was determined that a special copy of the book would be presented as a gift to Justice Sotomayor during her visit to campus on October 21. This was a very exciting moment — and an unanticipated honor for everyone involved in the project.

Under the direction of Tina, Emily, and student worker Jen Hebert, students assembled 26 copies of their own artists' book. As they added the finishing touches to their books, students Clarence Burnett, Mariah Patton, and Arianna Rivera offered these comments: It was “a special experience,” “a fun experience” and “a memorable experience!”

Tina Re  
Arts and Special Collections

Title IX at SCSU

The all-day Title IX conference hosted by SCSU on October 11, TITLE IX: EQUALITY IN ACTION: THE ENDURING LEGACY OF TITLE IX was the inspiration for the current first floor reading room display case exhibit. It features Southern's 2007 NCAA National Championship trophy for Division II women's basketball and includes scans of photos of women's sports at the institution from the time it was a State Teacher's College to today. Although Title IX wasn't initially a sports-centric piece of legislation, sports rose to the surface as the law went through various stages of hearings and amendments. By the time colleges and universities were required to adhere to the law, sports was the most visible element to it, but not necessarily the most important.

Title IX is the section of the 1972 Education Amendments that prohibits any manner of sex discrimination at educational institutions receiving federal funds—virtually all colleges and universities in the country. The law states:

*No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.*

The law protects students from sexual discrimination in all campus programs and activities including subtle and pervasive implicit bias that can be present in or out of the classroom or sports arena and applies to all forms of sexual assault, harassment, and misconduct. Clippings from the Southern News create a snapshot of how awareness
about sexual harassment on campus grew with the passage of Title IX. At the same time, an opinion piece is a testament to the fact that Southern provided an exceptionally high level of intercollegiate sports competition opportunities for women and did not have to work hard in that area to achieve compliance with the law. A poster with the names of campus personnel who have responsibilities related to Title IX issues today is also on display. Conference attendees, students in the Title IX Women’s Studies class and anyone interested in SCSU history may enjoy a look at the exhibit. A webpage also hosts scans of the Southern News articles, digital images of the photographs on display and links to other resources: http://libguides.southernct.edu/titleix.

Cindy Schofield
Head of Technical Services

A New Era in Serials

Spring semester, 2014, will bring an exciting change to the way many journal articles are accessed and an increase in the number of journals from which content will be available. From the beginning of university libraries, the model for providing access to current research has been to subscribe to the journals that best meet the research needs of an academic community. A visit to the ground floor of Buley Library reveals the hallowed stacks and cabinets where bound journals and microform issues dating back two centuries wait to be opened to the specific article that an index has revealed to be the best source on a topic. But while the colorful bindings wait to be cracked open, students and faculty are learning that the same article is much more easily accessed in digital format via desktop, tablet or smartphone. And so, the print and microform volumes of journal issues received, processed and paid for by the library remain on the shelf or in the drawers, in pristine condition.

As publishers have made their subscribed content available electronically, there have also been advances in libraries’ abilities to track both the usage of subscribed content and requests for content from journals not subscribed to (turn-aways). This data, combined with new models that allow libraries to purchase content outside of subscribed journals through databases and pay-per-article agreements has turned the management of serials on its head and made virtually every published journal a viable source for every academic community.

Buley has consistently subscribed to journals issued by such publishers as Springer, Elsevier, Wiley, Lippincott, and many university presses. A summer study of 2011-2013 usage and turn-away stats with a comparison to pay-per-view costs revealed that in many cases, for these publishers and others, Buley library users would get more value from article level acquisition for content from ALL of their titles than the current full subscription content to SOME of their titles. As a result of the study some pay-per-view content was made available this fall, and beginning in the spring semester targeted journal subscription cancellations will take effect and more per-article options will be available. As the library staff continues to monitor usage and make recommendations about expenditures, various factors will be weighed including the high value of subscriptions for journals with high use, the fact that not all publishers participate in article level access, and that article purchase patterns may reveal new subscriptions to be added. The ongoing usage study goal is to get the highest value out of every dollar allocated to the serials budget while providing the most comprehensive access to content possible.

Cindy Schofield
Head of Technical Services
Our Journey of Learning and Cultural Discovery

Last year Buley Library was awarded an ALA/NEH Bridging Cultures Muslim Journeys grant. As a recipient of this grant, we received a collection of books and DVDs, a one-year subscription to the Oxford Islamic Studies Online database, and other materials to promote awareness of the contributions of Muslims throughout the world. Our library, like most academic libraries, concentrates on meeting the information needs of our own community. Receiving this grant gave us the opportunity to venture outside our local environment and engage with other external organizations.

Our journey began when we left the campus and connected with the New Haven Free Public Library in downtown New Haven. New Haven is a diverse city with a population of more than 100,000 citizens and was the ideal population to foster a dialogue on the contributions of Muslim cultures. The New Haven Library sponsors numerous programs for all ages, races and religions so they were eager to participate with us in a joint program.

After working with our colleagues to develop a program, our libraries selected the documentary “Prince among Slaves” to view, followed by a discussion led by Imam Hassaan. We advertised in the local press, on our library Web page, social media and even had the chance to market the program on Channel 8’s Connecticut Style. The April program had more than 50 New Haven residents attending the film showing and the discussion after the program was lively and engaging. The community response was overwhelmingly positive and they asked us to plan similar programs.

Our success with this program encouraged us to look for new opportunities. We decided to move back to our Southern campus and connect with our own students and faculty. The President of the Muslim Students Association, Ms. Harley Gaafar, was contacted and she and her organization welcomed the chance to promote multicultural understanding. Professor Krystyna Gorniak, a faculty member in the Philosophy Department and Coordinator of Religious Studies, willingly agreed to join us for this event. She also happened to be teaching a course on the History of Islamic Thought this semester, so her students would also have the opportunity to participate in a program outside of the classroom setting.

On November 4, Buley Library and the Muslim Students Association will show the film “Koran by Heart” in the Adanti Student Center Theater. Our film program has expanded to include an introduction to Islam by Imam Kashief, a recitation of the Koran with reciter Salah Musaed, followed by Professor’s Gorniak’s discussion on the film. Of course, an array of appetizers and desserts will be offered after the film showing. The sharing of food is another way to connect people with different cultures.

Our library has benefited from this grant in so many unexpected ways. We’ve reached out to the New Haven Library and their patrons. We’ve connected with Southern’s faculty and students and involved community members in a University program. The library’s role has been expanded to include the community and our learning circle continues to grow.

Shirley Cavanagh
Head of Access Services
The Hartman Poetry Collection

May 4 saw the dedication of the Geoffrey and Renee Hartman Modern Poetry Collection. This collection is to be found not in Buley Library, but in the English Common Room in Engleman Hall, a regular venue for lectures, discussions and readings. Over the years the Hartmans have been very generous to Buley Library and most recently they donated a group of over six hundred volumes of modern poetry. Geoffrey Hartman is, of course, the famous literary theorist, sometimes identified with the Yale deconstruction movement. His wife Renee is a graduate of Southern's own library science program (1953).

The dedication was done at the thesis reading of the candidates in the Masters of Fine Arts program. It is hoped that by placing this valuable collection where it is most likely to be appreciated -- the English Common Room -- we have kept poetry alive. If you need a life, stop by and consult with the muses: there are three of them, Calliope, Erato, and Polyhymnia. The girls are waiting for you.

Paul Holmer
Special Collections Librarian

Staff News

Technical Services is happy to have Technician Song Zhou return to work from her maternity leave. Her daughter Madeline is seven months old and is a healthy and happy baby. While Song and her family have been enjoying the company of this latest addition to the household those of us at Buley are anxious to make our own acquaintance.

A number of Buley staff members attended the annual conference of the American Library Association in Chicago at the end of June. They included Director Chris Baum, Jacqueline Toce, David Feinmark, Cindy Schofield, and Wendy Hardenberg.

The best time, however, was had by our own space enthusiast Tom Celentano who managed to snag an autograph of astronaut Alan Bean, the fourth man to walk on the moon. Also at ALA was Lisa Bier who added the preconference workshop, “International Statistics: Helping Library Users Understand the Global Community” at the University of Illinois (Chicago).

Other conferences have been on our schedule. In April Cindy Schofield made a presentation at the Annual Connecticut Library Association in Cromwell, “Information
Library Liaison Meeting

Buley Library hosted the Annual Faculty Departmental Liaison Meeting on October 24, 2013 in Engleman B, Room 121A. This meeting is an annual event which brings together each teaching department’s faculty liaison with their library faculty counterpart for information sharing and discussion.

This year’s event was attended by approximately 35 teaching and library faculty. The attendees were welcomed by Christina Baum, the Director of Library Services, who then introduced Bob Sheeley, Associate Vice President for Capital Budgeting and Facilities Operations. Bob presented a progress report on the construction and renovation project of Buley Library. He detailed several of the challenges that this project has encountered but emphasized that these have been overcome and that, at this point, the project is still on schedule to be completed in early 2015.

David Feinmark, Acquisitions/Collection Development Librarian, provided a short introduction and overview of the remaining items on the agenda and proceeded to introduce Wendy Hardenberg, Instruction Coordinator/Reference Librarian. Wendy spoke on the topic of how the library is working to assist teaching faculty in embedding information literacy into the curriculum as well as reminding the teaching faculty of the availability of librarians to provide subject-specific instruction sessions for their classes.

This was followed by a presentation by Cindy Schofield, Technical Services Division Head, on the library’s movement toward pay-per-view for online journal access. She described the decision-making process that showed that in many cases it would be more cost effective for the library to purchase journal articles one at a time rather than to license a journal for an entire year. These cost savings can be reinvested in providing access to a much broader spectrum of journal titles. Several faculty expressed their great satisfaction with the library’s provision of interlibrary loan services and wondered if the change to pay-per-view would alter the service. Cindy responded by assuring them that this change should be seamless to our users and that this should not affect our current interlibrary loan program.

Sue Clerc, Electronic Resources Coordinator, then made a brief presentation regarding the change in vendors for many of our online databases. These databases are provided by iCONN (funded through the state) and the statewide vendor has been changed from Gale Cengage to Ebsco Information Services. Sue explained that while the interface may have changed we are now getting more academically oriented titles than before.

David Feinmark closed the meeting by reminding the faculty members present that even though budgets are tight their requests for books and media still form a major portion of what is acquired each year. Faculty requests and involvement are actively solicited and valued highly by all library faculty.

David Feinmark
Collection Development Librarian
Literacy from HS to College – Seamless Transition or Classic Disconnect?

This semester Winnie Shyam talked about faculty mentoring at the November Institutional Representative meeting of the Ace Women’s Network at St Joseph’s College.

Wendy Hardenberg, our Instruction Librarian, has a linguistic side that not everybody knows about. She has just seen three reviews published for Reference Reviews Europe and has presented a bilingual reading at the American Literary Translators Association annual conference. When does she rest?

Finally, Systems Librarian, Jeff Dickens, has developed a website for the preservation organization, New London Landmarks called “Trails and Tales: Historic New London, Connecticut, 1646—2013.” It’s an online tour of landmarks and includes a clickable map and garnered kudos from the New London Patch. The URL is http://newlondonlandmarks.org/NLLguidebook/GBhome.html. Jeff has been on the organization’s board since 2010.

Paul Holmer
Special Collections and Archives

Call for Book Donations!

Did you know you can donate novels, popular titles, and best-sellers for our Leisure Reading Collection? Help us give our students a well deserved break with a great book. Duplicate titles or other books not accepted for the collection will be sold at the Annual Friends of the Library Book Sale. Books can be dropped off at the Circulation Desk on the first floor.

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