The Buley Bulletin

Book Arts News

Letterpress in the Library

On February 7th, the library received a generous gift of the contents of a letterpress printshop, including some wood and metal type, small hand presses, and a circa 1940’s Vandercook 4 printing press.

We are grateful to Mr. William Stempel for his very generous donation on the behalf of his wife, Ann Lindbeck, in support of the book arts at our institution. Ann was a gifted book artist, printmaker, and bookbinder, who taught and worked in New Haven and Hamden. She was a strong advocate and supporter of the book arts, as well as the Artists’ Book Collection in Buley Library, where she found inspiration for her own artists’ books. This gift to the library will complement and enhance our existing book arts collections and programming activities, and will give us the opportunity to sponsor additional interdisciplinary and collaborative projects. This is truly an opportunity for us, and is one that will be valued by our students, faculty, staff, and the surrounding community for many years to come.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Mr. William Stempel for this generous donation on behalf of his wife, Ann Lindbeck.

Three Artists’ Book Collaborations

Adjunct Digital Photography Instructor Meredith Miller and Arts and Special Collections Librarian Tina Re collaborated on bookmaking projects this semester. Tina worked with Meredith to teach book structures suitable for presentation of digital photography projects. About fifteen students in the Advanced Digital Photography class then met for a research instruction session, a viewing of the Artists’ Books Collection, and finally, for hands-on instruction in bookmaking resulting in each student creating a small edition of panoramic photo-books.

Additional visitors to the Artists’ Book Collection and collaborators on book projects include Sally Hill’s Graphic Design 361 students and Rachel King’s Creative
Great news! After over three years of inactivity, work on the renovation of the old Buley Library is underway! In September 2011 the Department of Construction Services (DCS) initiated advertising for architectural engineering services to complete Phase II of Buley Library. Following State procedures, DCS conducted a review of bid submit-tals and selected OakPark Architects and Holtzman-Moss-Bottino to complete the design. The initial scope meeting with OakPark was held on November 30, 2011. The design phase has commenced and will run approximately eight months followed by appropriate reviews and approvals. It is expected that construction documents will be available to initiate the bidding process for construction services next fall 2012. Construction is scheduled to begin in January 2013 and is expected to take approximately 18 months.

Also underway is the demolition phase which began in March 2012. This includes asbestos abatement followed by bringing the building down to its steel beams. The renovation will include all new walls, windows, etc. The demolition phase is expected to take approximately 8 months.

All future departments of the newly renovated Buley have had meetings with the architects to review updated design plans (original plans were done 10 years ago) for their respective areas. Final touches to those plans are currently in process.

I must admit that these days walking into work from the parking lot and seeing the gate open to the construction area, several trucks parked around the site, signs of activity occurring, brings a smile to my face. It has been three long years, but BULEY LIBRARY IS NOW ON THE MOVE!!

Christina D. Baum, Ed.D.
Director of Library Services
Hilton C. Buley Library

Writing students. The Creative Writing class visited the Artists’ Book Collection for a viewing of the artists’ books, and then came to the library to fold and construct books of their own writing, ultimately resulting in a small edition of poetry taking the form of an elaborate fold book (photo).

Design Informed by Design, was a collaborative exhibition of student projects and artists’ books from the Buley Library Artists’ Books Collection, displayed in the art gallery in Earl Hall from November 29 through December 16th. Tina Re worked with Sally Hill and students in Graphic Design 361 to research and select an artist and to create a promotional piece on the artist. “There is no teaching substitute for understanding and producing beautiful design than seeing beautiful design,” says Ms. Hill.

For the last five years, Sally’s students have come to the library to research an artist for their project, to view the artists’ book collection, and to learn some folding techniques for their own folded promotional brochures. The exhibition was widely attended.

-- Tina Re
America’s First Schoolbook: The Accidence of Ezekiel Cheever

Special Collections at Buley Library is happy to relate the acquisition of a remarkable book, Ezekiel Cheever’s *A Short Introduction to the Latin Tongue*, known generally as Cheever’s *Accidence*. “Accidence” is a word now forgotten in pedagogy, but it was once universally understood, being the term for an elementary grammar for beginning students in Latin or Greek. Cheever himself can lay claim to being New Haven’s first schoolmaster and his small volume is almost certainly the first American textbook.

Ezekiel Cheever received his education at Emmanuel College, Cambridge, a nursery to Puritan leaders, including John Harvard. Both came to Boston in 1637 but Cheever left in 1638 for New Haven where he was one of the original founders. Here he taught first in his own house, then in a school built for him. He returned to Massachusetts in 1650 and taught at Ipswich and Charlestown before taking the position of head of the Boston Latin Grammar School. There he taught for thirty-eight years until his death in 1708. He was almost ninety-four years old and had taught for seventy years.

Cheever’s *Accidence* was a popular book in New England throughout the eighteenth century; the last edition was not until 1834. As with most early school books copies are rare, they were used up by successive generations of students and at the end served to light fires, plug window cracks and a myriad of other purposes in an age when paper was expensive. In later years both schoolmasters and textbooks were to be a New England export industry while its colleges would draw on a world-wide audience. Cheever was here at the beginning, three generations before Yale.

The volume is part of the Historical Textbook Collection of Buley Library which includes a number of rarities.

--Paul Holmer

Video Tutorials

Buley Library is pleased to announce new database video tutorials. Video tutorials have established a new presence and are a popular form of computer-assisted instruction in many universities along with YouTube and ITunes. These video tutorials are a convenient alternative to the face-to-face instruction on database searching provided by librarians and serve as tools for self-directed learning. They can help students learn at their own pace or catch up if they have missed a library session. We hope our students will take advantage of these tutorials. The tutorials are specifically designed for students of English 111 and English 112 classes but can be used by anyone who is interested in learning how to search a library database effectively. Tutorials are available for searching Ebsco's *Academic Search Premier*, Congressional Quarterly’s *CQ Researcher*, Gale’s *Opposing Viewpoints in Context* database, and *Literature Resource Center*. We have also uploaded a tutorial on *Periodical Articles*. Techsmith’s *Camtasia Studio 7*, a powerful screencasting program, was used to create the tutorials. The tutorials can be accessed through the library’s Research Guides Help Page at http://libguides.southernct.edu/libraryhelp.

--Winnie Shyam
Hilton C. Buley Library Brochure wins Connecticut Library Association Publicity Brochure Award

The Library’s Tiffany windows brochure has received the 2012 Publicity Brochure Award from the Connecticut Library Association. The CLA Publicity Committee sponsors an Annual Awards Contest in which materials designed by a library to promote a library concept or event may be submitted. Christina Baum, Director of Library Services, and Alba Reynaga, Social Sciences Reference Librarian, will be honored for their work on May 7th at the Connecticut Library Association Awards Reception at the Mystic Marriott Hotel and Spa in Groton, Connecticut.

The brochure showcases details and elements of the Tiffany windows, which are currently in storage due to the renovation of Old Buley. Featured is Dr. Robert Koch, Professor Emeritus (1918 – 2003) a decorative arts expert and Louis C. Tiffany’s biographer, who set in motion a revival of interest in Tiffany’s Art Nouveau glasswork designs. Dr. Koch was responsible for the four magnificent Tiffany Windows donated to Southern Connecticut State University. Three were given by the First Church of Christ of New Haven and the fourth was donated in the 1990’s by the North Stonington Congregational Church. These priceless works of art are treasures for our University and beyond, and once construction is complete, they will once again be proudly displayed.

In addition, the brochure highlights Student Services, Faculty Services, Reference Services, Circulation Services, Special Collections and Databases.

The Graphics Department of the Office of Public Affairs deserves recognition for its outstanding contributions, and we thank in particular the following: Barbara Kagan for the brochure’s graphic design; Mary Pat Caputo, the Director of Marketing and Communications, for managing the project; Isabel Chenoweth, University Photographer; and Marylou Conley, Coordinator of Graphic Services, who served as art director for the project.

---Alba Reynaga, Social Sciences Reference Librarian and Christina Baum, Director of Library Services

From left: Barbara Kagan, Graphic Designer, Isabel Chenoweth, University Photographer, Christina Baum, Library Director, and (seated) Alba Reynaga, Reference Librarian
Occupy the Classroom!

The second Connecticut Information Literacy Conference, entitled Occupy the Classroom, took place on April 13, 2012 and featured Southern librarian Wendy Hardenberg and adjunct professor Jane Carlin as two of the speakers. This year and last, conference organizers sought to fulfill their mission “to gather academic librarians from as many Connecticut institutions of higher education as possible in order to survey and discuss the diverse ways in which information literacy (IL) is delivered to college undergraduates.” (Connecticut Library Information Literacy Wiki, Conference notes PowerPoint slides, 2011). The Connecticut Consortium of Academic Library Directors (CCALD) has sponsored the events as opportunities for librarians from a broad spectrum of academic institutions, including traditional four year public and private colleges and universities, community colleges, and online programs, to present models of information literacy and share best practices for information literacy instruction and assessment.

Dialogue has revealed that there are numerous models at play in Connecticut higher education including curriculum wide IL programs that culminate in senior project assessments, IL goals embedded in freshman year writing courses and required or elective credit bearing courses that deliver IL instruction. This year’s conference focused on successful collaborations between librarians and classroom faculty.

In Igniting General Education Task Force, Stephen Ersinghaus, from Tunxis Community College, spoke about the process of working with classroom faculty to identify key IL skill goals and ensure that they are addressed in developing gen-ed requirements. He was also able to make a positive correlation between the concepts his task force had distilled out as important and the guidelines being developed by the new CT Board of Regents for higher education. Southern’s speakers, Hardenberg and Carlin, outlined their success in reaching first-year students through the required INQ (inquiry) class. Librarian-led sessions built around class research topics delved into issues of accountability, source citation, search strategy and other IL skills and topics that are all transferable to other courses. Their presentation, From the Basics to Bibliotherapy: Collaborating on Information Literacy for a First-Year Seminar, was well received and opened an animated discussion. The last presenters from Emerson College led the audience through an entertaining and thought-provoking skit that was part of an exercise they do with faculty members at an annual three day intensive session in IL concepts described in It Takes a Campus: Lessons from a Faculty Information Literacy Collaborative. Faculty members receive stipends to attend a form of “IL boot camp” where they gain valuable insights and skills which they use during summer planning. Their fall classes are then informed by their experience and students receive the benefit of being taught by IL-savvy professors with clear understandings of articulated IL goals.

The conference is certainly one that will continue to grow as colleges and universities strive to prepare students to succeed in a world of information overload. Buley Library was well represented including two librarian attendees and Library Director Christina Baum, as a CCALD sponsor. The 2013 Literacy Conference is already being planned and will certainly be of interest to all faculty—in the library and the classroom!

--Cindy Schofield

Instruction Librarian Wendy Hardenberg at the Connecticut Information Literacy Conference, April 13, 2012
Buley Web Site: Changes Are Coming

The Library Technology Committee is looking at Buley Library’s web site and investigating ways that it can be improved to make information retrieval easier for our patrons. The committee hopes to use the findings to do a redesign of the site this summer. The web site had a complete “overhaul” in 2006. But just in the past few years there have been major technological shifts in the way that our society and libraries access the Internet. An obvious major change is that people are now using their mobile devices to access web content. Our current web site is visible on a smart phone but the text is very tiny and needs to be enlarged to be visible. This is one example of the issues the committee hopes to address.

Distance Education Librarian, Rebecca Hedreen, has been gathering data from sites like Google Analytics to determine which content on our site is being accessed the most. She found that on average our home page gets between 8,000 and 10,000 “hits” a day during regular semesters and most of the links on the home page get clicked on. That’s a lot of clicks but it doesn’t really tell us if our patrons are ultimately finding what they need for their research.

Usability tests are helpful in planning web sites. Web developers have learned that it isn’t enough to just have an aesthetically pleasing web site. It should also meet the needs of the user. The feedback librarians can get from a usability study is particularly useful because we have our own “library speak”, vocabulary that we use in our profession. Students may not be aware of some of these terms if their professors have not brought them to the library or invited a librarian to their classroom for library instruction. The Library Technology Committee is conducting a usability study of our current web site to find out what is working, what gets clicked on, and what is just “in the way”. The library is promoting the usability study at the Reference Desk and on its Facebook site. As an incentive to participate, students who complete the test get a five dollar gift card for Barnes and Noble. Participants are asked to spend about 15-20 minutes with the librarians who will ask the students to perform a task using the library Web page. During the task, the testers take notes and record what the students do and whether they accomplish the task. Then the testers spend a few minutes speaking with the students about how they felt they did on the task and what suggestions they have that would make the web site easier to use.

The committee will spend the summer designing mock-up pages for the new site and asking student and faculty focus groups for feedback. Changes may coincide with the upcoming changes to the university web site and may use similar graphics and color schemes. The library hopes to have a newly refreshed web site ready for the Fall 2012 Semester.

The Library Technology Committee members are: Sue Clerc, Rebecca Hedreen, Cindy Schofield, Diane Tomasko, and Jackie Toce.

--Jackie Toce
In Memory of Richard Hegel  
– Retired Buley Library Director

I first met Richard Hegel when I was applying for a librarian position at Buley Library. When I came into the library, he was at the Circulation Desk and greeted me warmly. He introduced himself and wished me well in my interview. When I was hired for the position, his daily routine was to stop at the Circulation Desk for conversation. He was talkative, knowledgeable and loved to tell stories. I also learned from my daily talks how much he loved the city of New Haven and the joy of learning. He was a graduate of Yale University but pursued graduate degrees from both Southern and Gateway. He would often talk about his Yale experience but also took great pride in his graduate degrees from Southern. He told me that he “didn’t like to put on airs” and appreciated all of his wonderful educational experiences. I once told him that Southern would have to develop a new graduate program because he had already acquired every graduate degree offered by our University. He laughed but I could sense that he liked the idea of pursuing another graduate degree.

If you had any questions about New Haven or urban renewal, Dick was the person to call. He worked in the pre-internet era, so his vast New Haven knowledge was the place to seek out answers. He would often receive calls from New Haven officials who needed information about a New Haven landmark or neighborhood. Dick would regale them with not just a fact or two but would tell fascinating stories about a particular person or place. He was the perfect choice when he was named Municipal Historian for the city of New Haven.

While he was Library Director at Buley, Dick would go almost every day for lunch at the Educated Burger on Broadway in New Haven. He was a member of the prestigious Yale Club and the venerable Mory’s but the Educated Burger was his real home. One winter day, my coworker, Marsha Clement, and I were getting concerned because a heavy snow was falling. It was lunch time so we knew exactly where to find Dick. We called the restaurant and asked to speak to him. Of course he was there and immediately said that he would be back shortly. When he arrived back at the library, he came to the Circulation Desk with a wide, friendly grin. In his Dick Hegel way he calmed us down and ensured us that everything would be fine.

He was a man of great humility who loved talking to people and hearing their stories. The New Haven and Southern communities will remember him for his intelligence, extensive knowledge of New Haven history, and participation in community organizations. But I will always remember Dick for his kindness, his warm smile, and those words of encouragement when I first started working at Buley Library. Rest in peace Dick. Thanks for the memories.

--Shirley Cavanagh
Staff News

Late January saw a group of librarians at the Midwinter American Library Association meeting in Dallas. Attendees included Director Christina Baum, Cindy Schofield, David Feinmark and Jackie Toce.

It was also in January that Buley welcomed a new Librarian, Katherine Adams. Kathy has been a catalog librarian for over 10 years and has worked at the Huntington Library, Bowdoin College, and, most recently, Yale University. She lives in the East Rock neighborhood of New Haven with her cat, Pantaloons. When not at work Kathy enjoys reading novels, visiting museums, and attending the ballet.

Jackie Toce has written an article for CLA Today called “SCSU Digitizes ‘Connecticut Libraries’” explaining how the library digitized the collection of postcards depicting Connecticut libraries donated by Professor Emeritus David Libbey some thirty years ago. Jackie’s article can be found at: http://www.clatoday.org/?p=746

Rebecca Hedreen was a technical reviewer this year for the federal Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCCT) Grant Program. This provides $2 billion over 4 years for online programs for job training from community colleges.

Winnie Shyam has reviewed Social Science Librarian Lisa Bier’s new book on Gertrude Ederle: Fighting the Current: The Rise of American Women’s Swimming, 1870–1926, (McFarland). In 1926 Ederle was the first woman to swim the English Channel as those readers of a certain age will remember seeing her in silent films. Lisa has been at Southern for ten years – this is her second book. http://www.clatoday.org/?p=734

March saw Special Collections Librarian Paul Holmer at Wesleyan University for the spring meeting of the New England Archivists Association.

Also in March, Christina Baum was a first-time attendee to the Innovative Interfaces Academic Library Directors Symposium, which was held in San Francisco, CA.

Emeritus Librarian Hing Wu wrote an article: “RDA Essentials.” RDA – Resource Description and Access – are the new cataloging rules which will replace the old rules, known as AACR2. Although Hing has retired from SCSU she is a cataloger of immense experience and it is good to see that she still has her hand in the game! http://www.clatoday.org/?p=518

--Paul Holmer

Book Sale

The library will be holding its fourth annual book sale on May 3rd from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the Plaza Level patio of the Adanti Student Center. There will be approximately 5,000 books for sale. Hardbacks and videos will be sold for one dollar, and paperbacks for fifty cents. The proceeds of the sale will go to the Friends of Buley Library. In case of rain, the sale will be moved to the first floor of the library. For more news of the Friends, see http://libguides.southernct.edu/hcblfriends

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