After the success of Buley Library’s past participation with the Greater New Haven Big Read, Library Director, Dr. Christina Baum and Professor, Dr. David Pettigrew chaired a new One-Book committee called the Southern Read in which the Southern community chose one book to read, “Out of Africa” by Isak Dinesen. Two supplemental books were also chosen that added to the discussion about colonial Africa: “Weep Not Child” by Ngugi wa Thiong’o and “Things Fall Apart” by Chinua Achebe.

These three books highlight many issues from the biodiversity of Africa to the influence of the West on Africa throughout history. There were two panel symposiums to discuss the themes of all three books. The first discussion, moderated by Cindy Schofield-Bodt (Library Services), was on October 27. The speakers were Shirley Cavanagh (Library Services), Ken Gatzke (Philosophy), and Michael Rogers (Anthropology). During this discussion, the speakers highlighted the book “Out of Africa” and they talked about the relationship between the white settlers and the native Africans during the early 20th century. Ken Gatzke discussed the difference between what actually happened in Dinesen’s life and what is described in the book. He also recommended that the audience read “Out of Isak Dinesen: Karen Blixen’s untold story” by Linda Donelson for more insights into the book. Shirley Cavanagh’s presentation stressed the lack of literacy in the native population and the settler’s desire to keep it that way. She said that Kenya is much different today and has a very high literacy rate. During the presentation, Michael Rogers showed slides of his travels and work in Kenya and there was a map in the background that showed Isak Dennison’s farm in relation to Nairobi.

The movie adaptation of “Out of Africa” is very different from the book. It highlights the relationships between Dinesen and her lovers, while the book concentrates on describing the land and the people of Kenya. David Pettigrew and Ken Gatzke hosted a viewing of the movie as part of the Cinema Du Monde program on Wednesday, October 29th. A lively discussion followed the movie.

The second panel discussion, moderated by Jackie Toce (Library Services), was held on November 3rd on the Ground Floor of Buley Library. The speakers for the second panel were: Jon Bloch (Sociology), Kathyrn de Luna (History), Elsie Okobi (Library Science), and Kalu Ogbaa (English). During this panel discussion, the speakers concentrated on the two supplemental books and the relationship of Kenyans and Africans with the Western world. Elsie Okobi was able to bring to the discussion her understanding of the author Ngugi wa Thiong’o because she knows him personally. Kalu Ogbaa has written many books about African Literature and Chinua Achebe. Kathyrn de Luna gave the audience an overview of African History in relation to...
Director’s Column

Since the last Buley Bulletin, we have moved into the beautiful new library addition. Everything went smoothly due to the great work of Roxanne Perugino and Tammi Cantalini from Diversified Project Management who coordinated the move. Everyone has settled in for the most part and many of us are making the best of a “temporary” situation while we wait on the former library building to be completely renovated, which will double the space of Buley Library. Some of these temporary spaces include the Reference area, the Circulation Desk, the Learning Resource Center, Special Collections (the materials are housed in the old student center) and the Administrative Offices, which are currently located in study rooms. The renovation seems to be moving very slowly and the expansion of Buley into the renovated building won’t occur until sometime in the 2010-11 academic year. However, when this $64 million project is completed, it will allow us to continue and advance existing resources, services, and programs as well as develop important new initiatives.

But even while we wait on the older library to be renovated, Buley has become the academic hub of the University. With its new facilities and leading edge technologies, Buley Library is attracting more students than ever. They are enjoying group study rooms, quiet study areas, comfortable seating, a state-of-the-art instruction classroom, one-on-one instruction with a reference librarian and access to a wide array of excellent resources, including over 150 databases. As I walk through the building, I often see students waiting in line to use the computers in the Reference area, students at the Reference Desk waiting on assistance with their research, study rooms filled with students working on projects, and students all over the library who have carved out their little niche in which to study. And yes, they are walking the aisles of the book stacks with listings of call numbers looking for books! Imagine that!

And finally, I would like to mention that Friends of Hilton C. Buley Library has recently been established and our first mailing campaign takes place in early November. As Director of Buley Library, I am very excited about this initiative and the opportunities it provides and I invite you to become a member of Friends. By making a contribution of $50 to the library, you will automatically become a Friend and will enjoy many benefits, including borrowing privileges to Buley Library’s circulating collection and in-house use of library services, receiving print or electronic copies of the library’s newsletter, the Buley Bulletin, special invitations to all Friends’ events, lectures, exhibits, programs and receptions, and recognition of your generosity on the library’s web page and in other university publications.

If you haven’t been in to see the new Buley, I invite you come by and see the exciting changes, take a tour, or visit us virtually at http://library.southernct.edu.

Dr. Christina Baum, Director of Library Services

continued from page 1

the books and asked the audience to look at African History as a whole and not to segment it into pre-colonial, colonial and post-colonial periods. Jon Bloch’s presentation stressed the symbolism of different events in the books including the choices that the characters had to make in the story “Weep Not Child”.

The Southern Read has been a success because it generated a campus-wide discussion about African history and modern Africa. There will also be discussion groups forming throughout the semester. Free copies of the books for students have been provided by student affairs and are available at the library circulation desk. There are also copies for sale in the bookstore that are discounted 20%.

By Jacqueline Toce, Cataloging Librarian
The New Building!

The new library building opened June 2, 2008, for the start of the summer semesters. If you make your way around the “green barricade,” as one student called the construction fences around the old building, the new entrance is by the Adanti Student Center. This entrance is temporary, while the reconstruction of the old building is being completed. The full project is currently scheduled for completion in 2011.

The entrance leads you to the first floor. Let’s start our tour on the lower level by going down the stairs near the entrance. This level houses the print journals, microfilm collections, and current newspapers. The Technical Services offices are in the back. There are lots of study tables down here, especially at the bottom of the two story windows.

Heading back up to the first floor, we find most of the Reference Collection, the Reference Desk, and the Circulation/Reserves Desk. Circulation and Reference offices are in the back. The majority of the library computer workstations are here, right next to the Reference Desk so students can ask for help. Students like the comfy chairs by the big windows, looking out across the road to the park-like cemetery.

On the second floor, the Reference Collection continues, and the Stacks Collection starts. This is the area most suited to quiet study, with lots of tables, chairs, and desks. There are also 3 study rooms. In the back are the library classroom and the Library Director’s office.
The third floor houses the continuation of the Stacks, and the Oversized, Theses, Juvenile, Curriculum, and Learning Resources Center Collections. The Learning Resources Center also has media reserves, equipment for playing media, and poster/billboard production equipment. Near the back is Special Collections. Most of the Special Collections, including the University Archives, are in storage, but are available by request. The view out the big windows is the most spectacular in the library proper.

The fourth floor is not part of the library itself. The Department of Information and Library Science, Dean Harris of the School of Communication and Information Science, and the Office of Information Technology all have offices on the fourth floor. One of the campus’s main Macintosh computer labs is up there (with a few PC’s), and the Faculty Technology Walk In Center and STARS students.

--by Rebecca Hedreen

--photos by Rebecca Hedreen
Staff Updates --by Cindy Schofield-Bodt

Welcome Wagon

This fall Buley welcomed two new faces to the staff.

Renée Rausch has been part of the Southern Community since September 1970, and is happy to be starting a new chapter of service in Buley Library as the Administrative Assistant to the Director. She began her career at Southern as a secretary in Academic Affairs and then spent many years as a secretary in the Economics Department. More recently, she had been an Administrative Assistant in the School of Arts and Sciences. “I am very pleased to be a part of the Library Services team. I’m happy to be included in this enjoyable and professional group of people.”

Renée is a life-long Connecticut resident and has two young-adult children - John (22) and Emily (18). She enjoys crocheting and the out-of-doors, especially birding!

Estelle Pope joins the Library Services faculty as the new Systems Librarian. She most recently held a position as Systems Librarian at Yale University, and has also worked as a manager of digital library projects at Boston College. Esté holds an MA in theology from Boston College in addition to her MLS from Simmons College. Though born in Texas, she grew up in Groton Connecticut, and currently lives nearby with her husband and young son. She is an avid knitter and has an interest in art. “I am excited about being able to interact with faculty and students in this university community.” Esté’s work is primarily concerned with library technology, the world wide web and on-line resources. When she goes home at the end of the day with a smile on her face, she is satisfied.

Elected!

Jackie Toce was elected Chair of the Technical Services Section of the Connecticut Library Association. Her group hosted the fall conference “Open Source ILS Showcase” in November.

Presented!

Special Collections Librarian Dr. Paul Holmer presented his paper “Rory, a girl of the stacks: researching girlhood through two centuries of juvenile literature,” at the October 18th 2008 SCSU Women’s Studies Conference: Girls, Culture & Girls Studies: Surviving Revising, Celebrating Girhood.

Technical Services Librarian Cindy Schofield-Bodt presented the workshop “Cataloging Electronic Documents” for the Connecticut State Library Division of Library Development On October 6, 2008.

Access Services Librarian Shirley Cavanagh served with other Southern faculty members on the discussion panel for Southern Read’s featured title “Out of Africa” on October 27, 2008.

Attended!

In addition, Dr. Holmer attended Rare Book School at the University of Virginia

And more!

Buley’s “November Babies” held their annual birthday bash on November 12th. The group of 4 Buleyites takes advantage of the fact that their birthdays are in the month of Thanksgiving to ask staff to bring cash instead of cards to a cake and coffee birthday celebration. The money collected is donated to the St Ann’s Soup Kitchen on Arch St. around the corner from the university. This year’s donation will be over $200.00. Throughout the years the Soup Kitchen has received over $2,500.00 from the library staff.

Published!

Rebecca Hedreen’s article “Exploring Virtual Librarianship: Second Life, Library 2.0, in the journal Internet Reference Services Quarterly.

Promoted!

Librarians Diane Tomasko and Rebecca Hedreen were promoted to the ranks of full and associate librarian respectively. Their promotions were based on positive reviews of their work in the areas of their primary responsibility, library and university service, professional participation and creative activity by peers and administrators.

Attended!
New at the Library:

Databases

WestLaw – The State Library of Connecticut provides electronic research resources to Connecticut libraries, including Southern, through the iConn program. One of those databases was Lexis-Nexis Academic Universe. This summer iConn replaced Lexis-Nexis Academic with WestLaw’s Campus Research database. The two databases cover similar resources. Primarily known for legal resources, WestLaw also has hundreds of international, national, and local newspapers, business resources like Hoover’s company records, industry trade magazines like Advertising Age, newswires, and broadcast transcripts. Connecticut sources include the Hartford Courant, the Connecticut Post, the Stamford Advocate, the Waterbury Republican American, and transcripts from Hartford and New Haven TV stations. Legal resources include state and federal codes, the Federal Register, federal and state court cases, European law resources, law reviews and journals, American Jurisprudence (2nd ed.), and American Law Reports.

Safari Books – The Safari electronic book collection covers technology and business from privacy to PhotoShop to eCommerce to Outlook tips. Our subscription includes several hundred books (plus some tutorials and videos) from publishers such as O’Reilly, Peachpit Press, Microsoft, Sams, and Adobe. Each book is completely online, including graphics, and you can read it page by page, just as if you had the book in front of you. Some publishers permit printing and supply the contents of the CD’s that would normally accompany the books (such as sample photos used in PhotoShop tutorials).

Nursing Reference Center – The Nursing Reference Center, from EBSCO, is a clinical care resource, with evidence-based care sheets, patient information (in English and Spanish), legal cases, research instruments, and continuing education documents on diseases and conditions. Also available are F.A. Davis’s Laboratory & Diagnostic Tests with Nursing Implications, F.A. Davis’s Drug Guide for Nurses and Taber’s Cyclopedic Medical Dictionary, all from within the same search interface. All these resources, plus the 150+ more, are available at the Search Databases link under Find Articles on the Library Homepage.

Guides

There are also new Subject Guides: United States History Primary Sources, (with nearly 1,000 links) by Alba Reynaga (History Librarian), Asian-American Literature by Winnie Shyam (English), and Connecticut Science by Rebecca Hedreen (Sciences). All of these, and the other Subject Guides are available at the Research Guides link under Find by Subject on the Library Homepage.

Equipment

The library is getting a computer cart with a laptop and a projector for use in the library study rooms. Small groups of students, faculty, and staff will be able to watch DVD’s, practice presentations, and surf the Internet together.

-- by Rebecca Hedreen, Coordinator for Distance Learning and Sciences Librarian

Buley Bulletin Staff include:

Rebecca Hedreen, editor & Reference Librarian;
Christina Baum, Library Director,
Cindy Schofield-Bott, Head of Technical Services,
and
Alba Reynaga, Reference Librarian.