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Digital Age Challenges Copyright Law

Copyright Project Team and Suzanne Zack

The rapid changes brought about by digital technology may alter beyond all recognition the cornerstone of creative protection for authors and inventors.

So says Robert Oakley, a copyright expert who is director of the Law Library and a professor at the Georgetown University Law Center who spoke at a public forum sponsored by the University Libraries on April 4 entitled “Whose Rights & Who’s Right: Copyright in the Digital Age.”

During the session, Oakley held up an iPod and asked how many in the audience had one, or a similar device that plays songs, podcasts and videos. Almost everyone’s hand went up. When he further asked whether the contents were lawfully acquired or paid for, only about half of the hands remained up — along with nervous laughter.

As concerned as rights owners were over the profusion of photocopiers and VCRs back in the 1970s, Oakley said, they are far more concerned today over digital technology and networks that now make it possible to make perfect copies and distribute them anywhere instantaneously to millions of people.

“Digital changes everything,” he said.

A decade ago, things were distributed in tangible copies, such as photocopies or cassette tapes. Now digital distribution is everywhere.

Members of the University community have long taken advantage of the “fair use” provisions of the copyright law, but this too is changing. Many academic activities, such as distance learning, courseware (WebCT), podcasts, and reserves have embraced the new technologies. New technologies have raised new questions, and the law has not kept pace. Oakley said all four factors of the provision must be considered to determine if the use of a copyrighted work is “fair.” Those factors are the purpose and character of the use; the nature of the copyrighted work; the amount and substantiality of the portion used; and the effect on the market. Teaching, research, and scholarship are among the favored purposes under the first factor, but the other factors must also be weighed.

“Digital technology makes it difficult to control copying and has copyright owners scared,” Oakley said. “They fear the loss of their markets, and they are taking legal action more aggressively than ever and against individuals, not just big time pirates.”

DigitalCommons@UConn Completes Successful Pilot

Electronic Repository to House University’s Scholarly Output

Jonathan Nabe

A new service has begun that will allow the UConn community to take advantage of developing technologies in order to solve a number of questions regarding the presentation, distribution and preservation of research and educational materials in electronic form. Participants from centers and departments to individual researchers can use the service to maximize the visibility and usefulness of their intellectual output, ensure its stability and preservation, provide access to a global user community, and enhance the reputation and impact of the University.

The service—and the solution—is DigitalCommons@UConn. DigitalCommons@UConn is UConn’s institutional repository—an electronic library of articles, working papers, theses, presentations and other files. After a successful one-year pilot, the Libraries are opening up the repository to the entire University, as well as the branch campuses, the Health Center, and the Law School.

DigitalCommons@UConn serves a variety of functions in the scholarly communication process. As an information-sharing tool, it provides access for the entire world to the valuable research conducted here. Documents are easily and reliably found via standard Internet search tools such as Google and Yahoo. The
Six Steps Toward the Future in 2006

Each year, the Libraries work toward the future by identifying a handful of library-wide priority objectives that we believe will move us closer to our strategic vision. In 2005-2006, the Libraries took six steps toward realizing our “Strategic Plan 2010” by accomplishing the following:

1. **External Reviews**—The Regional Campus Libraries, the Dodd Research Center, Information Technology Services and Access Services retained outside consultants this year to conduct area assessments and identify new staff skills and competencies needed to position the Libraries for the future.

2. **WebCT Vista**—The Libraries worked with the Institute for Teaching and Learning and University Information Technology Services staff to develop a Library Resource Tool to incorporate electronic course reserves into WebCT Vista. UConn’s upgraded course management software.

3. **Electronic Resource Management**—Library staff created an interlibrary database in accordance with Digital Library Federation guidelines to manage the University’s growing investment in electronic resources. Staff also input holdings data into the database and began a procurement process to potentially purchase one of the commercial electronic resource management software products currently available.

4. **Copyright Guidelines**—Working with the Attorney General’s Office and others, the Libraries developed copyright guidelines for the UConn community in the new digital library environment. The Libraries also co-sponsored a public forum “Whose Rights and Who’s Right: Copyright in the Digital Age” with the Provost’s Library Advisory Committee.

5. **Technology Learning Center**—In collaboration with the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education, a Learning Resource Center opened on Level 1 of Babbidge Library to assist UConn students with various issues related to using technology in coursework and for administrative functions like WebCT and PeopleSoft.

6. **Institutional Repository**—The Libraries completed the Digital Commons@UConn pilot project and purchased Proquest’s remotely hosted software. UConn dissertations, center and institute papers, senior honors theses and other campus publications are now offered through this institutional repository.

The Libraries accomplished these objectives while facing a challenging financial climate in Fiscal Year 2006. It is truly the Library staff’s hard work on all the UConn campuses that moves us further ahead in developing new electronic information services and positions us for the future while continuing to offer excellent facilities and strong print collections.

**“UConn Links” Provides Shortcuts to Full-Text Articles**

Stephanie Willen Brown and Nicholas Estelman

Accessing the full-text version of online articles has become easier. The Libraries has launched a new product called SFX, which creates shortcuts to the full-text of online articles and other Library services. If the full-text is not available in the database you are searching, SFX replaces “LinkFinder Plus” and is active in most of the Libraries’ databases.

Here’s how it works:

- When searching in a SFX enabled database, click on the “UConn Links” button. You’ll see a pop-up menu that will link directly to the full-text article if it is licensed for the UConn community. You can also see if the journal is available in the library by checking Homer, the Library’s online catalog.
- Click on the “go” button and you’ll be taken to the full-text of the article. This doesn’t always work perfectly; you may be directed to the journal’s home page rather than the article, but you can usually navigate to the full-text.
- If the Library doesn’t have access to the article in full-text, you’ll see options that will let you search the catalog, check if we have the item in print, request the article through Document Delivery/Interlibrary Loan, and search Google for your article on the Web.

Another helpful feature of SFX is the “Citation Linker,” which lets you see if UConn has licensed the book or article online in full-text. To access the new feature, simply click on: http://sfx5.exlibrisgroup.com:3210/uconn/cgi/core?citation-linker.cgi.

Enter as much data as you know (the date and journal name are especially important) and click the “go” button. You’ll see a pop-up menu. The options will vary depending on whether we have licensed the article in full-text online or not.

For tips on using SFX, go to: http://lib.uconn.edu/~sbronw/sfx-help.html

To locate your favorite database, go to:
http://lib.uconn.edu/online/databases/ERM/

Comments on the new product may be sent to: ELibrary@uconn.edu

**New Children’s Book Collection on Human Rights Established**

Michelle Palmer has established the Malika Penn Children’s Book Collection on Human Rights as part of the Northeast Children’s Literature Collection at the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center.

The books address issues such as racism and prejudice, war and conflict, and the Holocaust, and include picture books and young adult novels and non-fiction. A “15 Best” list, 10 picture books and five chapter books chosen from those published in the previous year, will be on display in the Dodd Reading Room during April and May.

Ms. Palmer, who has written several children’s books under the pseudonym Malika Penn, is also a volunteer on the Library Exhibits Committee.

**Print Material Scanning Service Expansion Planned**

Beginning July 1, 2006, the Library’s Rapid Retrieval program, which provides scanning of print materials housed in Homer Babbidge Library, will not only be available to faculty and staff, but also to graduate and undergraduate students on the Storrs campus.

Through the service, the Library’s D-ocumen D-elivery Interlibrary Loan office scans journal articles, conference papers, and chapters from books, from either the paper or microform collections housed in Babbidge Library, and makes them available electronically in Portable Document Format (PDF) via electronic document delivery.

A new pricing structure will accompany the expansion. Starting July 1, a flat fee of $6 will be charged per document, plus a per page fee of $.35 for black and white and $.70 per page for color. For example, if a document is black and white and 20 pages in length, the cost would be $6.00 + $.70 = $6.70.

If a document is 20 pages in length, with three-color pages, the cost would be $6.05 + $.70 = $6.75.

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The new methods of payment will be Husky Bucks and Department Card accounts, which are Husky One Cards provided to University departments by the Library. Most departments on the Storrs campus already have a Department Card, but may apply for additional ones. For questions about Department Cards, please contact Amelia Hinchliffe at 486-1256 or amelia.hinchliffe@uconn.edu.
A Personal View of the Watergate Scandal

Norman D. Stevens

In the fall of 2005, the Dodd Center acquired from the Antiques Marketplace in Putnam, CT an assortment of artwork relating to President Nixon and the Watergate scandal created in 1972-1974 by W. Frederiksen. This material complements the Dodd Center’s Alternative Press Collection (APC), which began just prior to Watergate, that contains a wide range of contemporary commentaries on political and societal issues. The only clue about W. Frederiksen was a mailing label on the cover of a news magazine used in a collage, which indicated that he had lived in Chester, MA. An e-mail to the Chester Historical Society brought a quick response that led to a direct contact with William Frederiksen who now lives in Westfield, MA. He has subsequently added a few more items to the collection.

Bill, as he prefers to be called, was born in Bergen, Norway in 1914. When he was nine years old, his family moved to Chicago to be near an uncle. He received a B. A. degree from the Institute of Design at the Illinois Institute of Technology. He served in the U. S. Navy during World War II. Subsequently he worked, along with his wife, as a designer and art director for commercial firms in New York before opening their own art and antique gallery in Chester in 1949. Bill was, as he still is, a prolific artist using a variety of media and techniques. His apartment is filled with his art and he remains an active and vital artist. Bill explained that he was not a political activist but was compelled by the magnitude of the Watergate scandal to spend a year on a daily basis, as he sat in his gallery, to create the artist’s book now in the Dodd Center. The five volumes of that book, which consists of a series of individual pieces loosely held together by metal ring clips, speak strongly to Bill’s reaction to the seminal events of that time seen from the perspective of an educated citizen watching them unfold in the media. They evoke the enormous personal impact that those events had. Some of the work takes the form of collages created from clippings from contemporary magazines and newspapers to which Bill added his own color, commentary, and/or images. Some of it consists of colorful and provocative hand-lettered posters. All of it suggests just how significant those events were.

Norman D. Stevens, emeritus director, UConn Libraries

Copyright Law (continued from page 1)

The Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) of 1998 was a direct response to this concern. The DMCA prohibits users from bypassing technological protection measures (TPM), even if use of the item might otherwise be considered “fair” under the law.

Other legislation responds to the changing copyright landscape. The TEACH ACT of 2002 allows more liberal use of copyrighted materials—under specific circumstances—for teaching purposes, including distributing materials via web sites, and this year, proposed legislation will address “orphan works,” where the copyright owner cannot be located to give permission for use of a work. The proposal outlines reasonable options for users who make good-faith efforts to identify the owner, and for owners who eventually make themselves known.

Also, the U.S. Register of Copyright has appointed a group to re-examine the provision that allow libraries to make preservation copies of materials. The current law requires that materials be damaged or deteriorating before copies can be made, but with digital files, the originals may be unusable by that point. Furthermore, digitized preservation copies of books and other materials may only be viewed on site. This makes little sense in an age of wireless networks.

“The take-away message from today is that it is increasingly important for the University to have policies in place about the use of copyrighted material and to have a way to advise faculty, staff and students about what they can and can’t do in this new environment. To the extent that that is being worked on, that’s a good thing; to the extent that it’s not, it is important to put the mechanisms in place,” Oakley said.

A small group of librarians has been examining copyright issues this past year with the intention of identifying problems and resources to address them within the University community. Ultimately, a broader conversation across the University will be required in order to help establish policies and guidelines to advise faculty, staff and students about their rights and responsibilities regarding intellectual property and copyright.

For additional information, contact betsy.pittman@uconn.edu.

Barbara Oakley, area head, access services
Betsy Pittman, University archivist
Tacny Routh, music librarian/liaison to Dramatic Arts
Suzanne Zadik, marketing and communications specialist

Dodd Center to Host Meeting of Association of Centers for the Study of Congress

On May 10-11, 2006, the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center will host the fourth Annual Meeting of the Association of Centers for the Study of Congress (ACSC). The organization was founded in 2003 as an independent alliance of organizations and institutions which promote the study of the U.S. Congress through the study of its history and development or through collections of the papers of United States senators and representatives.

The ACSC currently has more than 40 institutional members located at universities from Alaska to Mississippi and California to Maine. The Dodd Center is a charter member of the Association and Tom Wilsted, Dodd Center director, serves as a member of the ACSC Steering Committee.

The keynote speaker for the conference is Max Evans, executive director of the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, whose talk is entitled “Documenting Democracy.” Other programs during the two days will address the value of research materials available in Congressional collections, methods of encouraging the use of Congressional collections, and the use of public polling materials to study Congressional behavior.

For more information about the organization and a complete program, please visit the ACSC website at: http://www.congresscenters.org.
I t's no surprise that undergraduates are, by their sheer numbers, the greatest users of library services. What may be surprising, though, is the fact that student workers outnumber full-time library staff by almost 2 to 1, making them a critical component in the library’s operations.

According to a recent administrative report, some 230 students worked about 3,600 hours during a two-week time period performing a variety of tasks from re-shelving books, to staffing the Circulation/Reserve Desk, to photocopying documents in Copy Services.

While some students may perform tasks like photocopying documents for users, other more experienced students have mastered the computer software used in the library’s systems and function essentially as professional staff members.

We queried student workers asking them to tell us: their major, hometown, where they work, length of time they’ve worked here, the best thing about working here, and what’s surprised them about the library.

Below are some of their responses.

William Swilling
8th Semester, Computer Science
Shelton, CT
Library Administrative Office
Four Years

With my job here, there is always something that needs to be done. Some of my responsibilities include entering business transactions into the computer database; analyzing and creating reports for student payroll; making copies and small deliveries; sorting, analyzing and filing paperwork; creating financial reports for various library departments; and reconciling budget entries.

I didn’t know that there was so much going on under the surface of a library. I always assumed that libraries were just places where librarians sort and store books. But here we have many more departments essential to the operation of the University Library. The business staff handles all of the supplies and equipment needed by all departments of the library as well as a keeping track of departmental budgets, employee travel, official visits, etc. The IT staff maintains all of the computer and electronic information systems employed by the library. The mail room staff handles the transfer of packages and sensitive materials not only among departments of the library, but between the library, the University campus, and the rest of the world. And this is all just so that we students can have a nice place to study and do research work.

Lidia Gaal
Communication Design, BFA
Born in Budapest, Hungary, now living in Ashford, CT
Art & Design Library, Preservation
Five Years

When I first started, I worked in the Conservation and Preservation Department as well as the Stacks Management area. While I was learning how to conserve and repair the different remains of the diverse material in the library, I also had the opportunity to learn the Dewey and Library of Congress classification systems and to discover all the departments within one library.

During the past five years I have had the chance to follow many parts of the library system that contribute to the whole and make a library unique. I have also cultivated my dreams follow my passion to help people and take an active part of others’ everyday life. I hope to study library science in the near future.

With the current political scenes in the United States I became a citizen just before the 2004 elections so I could vote! I believe that the country is a great need in people who pursue and strongly believe in the First Amendment. As a graphic designer, I have the power of the visual and the content communicated through typography to convey information. I believe that as a future librarian I will have more power to communicate information, provide more sides of the “reality” to the public, to the people as holding the key to all the entrances of knowledge and history.

James Ford
8th Semester, Accounting
Southport, CT
Map & Geographical Information Center & Information Technology Services
Four Years

My job includes program development and support for the tools necessary to organize thousands of digital maps. One project I’ve been working on has been sponsored by the Library of Congress and involves several other universities. It deals with the organization of information about maps, also known as metadata.

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I’ve recently been offered a position in Paraguay starting this summer. Hearing about his experiences has encouraged me to join.

I’m always surprised by the wealth of information available at the library and have been exposed to things that I couldn’t get anywhere else. If we many amusing majors can say they know how to use a program like Arc View (a geographic information system software for visualizing, managing, creating, and analyzing geographic data)? The librarians I work for have also been great sources of advice and knowledge as I start planning what to do after graduation. I work with a librarian who has been a great source of information on the Peace Corps, having previously served in it.

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Suzanne Zack
Kelly Hushin  
7th Semester, Theater Studies and Journalism  
Coventry, CT  
Culpeper Media Library  
Four Years

It is convenient, quiet, non-stressful and patrons are generally friendly. A la, my boss has always been one of the most beneficial aspects of the job.

If no more professors assign their students movies to watch! I never knew there were so many.

Amanda Gaillard  
4th Semester, Molecular and Cell Biology  
Hamden, CT  
Circulation/Access Services  
Two Years

I get to meet and interact with new and quite interesting people every day. Most students are surprised when I tell them that they are allowed to borrow up to 150 books.

Heather Ferrick  
9th Semester, Physical Therapy, five-year Master’s Program  
White River Junction, VT  
Collections Services  
Four Years

I work mainly in Monographs where I help to order books and process them when they arrive. I also work in Serials doing a similar job.

I love how friendly everybody is, and also the understanding my supervisor has about flexibility with hours when my classes start getting crazy.

I just had no idea previously about everything that goes on behind the scenes in a library, and it’s been good to get a different perspective.

Bryan Conway  
4th Semester, Physics  
Old Saybrook, CT  
Collections Services  
Two Years

I work in Federal Documents receiving them and doing catalog maintenance. The atmosphere has always been nothing short of welcoming and congenial – my co-workers really represent the most positive aspect of my work. I’ve been continually amazed at the sophistication of the work being done in the sciences at UConn, and also surprised at the very great number of degrees in education granted here.

Brian Marhefki  
8th Semester, Psychology  
Simsbury, CT  
Circulation  
Four Years

As a psych major, I really like interacting with different types of people. Working at the library gives me an excellent opportunity to interact with all sorts of different people and I’ve formed close bonds with several faculty and grad students.

Andrew Tait  
8th Semester, Journalism/Political Science  
Collegeville, PA  
Culpeper Media Library  
Three Semesters

I enjoy the daily interaction with a variety of people in the community.

I’ve been surprised that many times, students follow instructions better and are more library-savvy than professors.

Christopher Beesley  
8th Semester, Art  
Windham, CT  
Art & Design Library, Administrative Office  
Two Years

My job involves creating work schedules, entering student time sheets and re-shelving books when necessary in the Art Library. I also work in the Library’s Administrative Office designing print marketing materials.

The best thing about working here is being able to read art books while you work.

I’ve been surprised that some people are dismayed when they find out we don’t still have card catalogs and would still want to use them after the development of such an efficient search engine like the Homer.

Semone Shante Spears  
8th Semester, Human Development and Family Studies  
Irvington, N.J.  
Collection Services  
Four Years

I assist with basic cataloging of graduate theses, create brief bibliographic records in the Homer database.

Abeer Ayaz  
5th Semester, Medical Technology  
Middletown, CT  
Collections Services  
One Semester

I work in Database Management services. I update book records, add thesis records, make Radio Frequency Identification tags, and create item records or bar codes for books.

The people are very nice. You find out about the different kinds of books there are. In your own daily life you learn to become organized by working in a library.

I didn’t know that the library ends up throwing away outdated books nor did I know we receive book selections as gifts from people.

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New Staff

Beth (Elizabeth) Rumery has joined the University of Connecticut Libraries as the Undergraduate Services Librarian at Avery Point. In this half-time position she will be involved with library instruction, information literacy, liaison activities with undergraduate faculty, electronic course reserves, student supervision, and many everyday activities to support the library.

She received a B.S. in Psychology with a minor in Fine Arts from Santa Clara University and has done graduate work in Marriage, Family and Child Counseling at the University of San Diego. Rumery, who holds an M.L.S. from Southern Connecticut State University, has spent more than 18 years working in academic libraries including Eastern Connecticut State University, University of San Diego, University of Connecticut, United States Coast Guard Academy and Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts. She is also the sole proprietor of a library insourcing business, Rumery Contemporary Cataloging.

Electronic Repository (continued from page 1)

site itself provides a search tool as well. Documents are all open access, meaning anyone with an Internet connection can view, print, and download them. The only exception is UConn dissertations, which are also made available in DigitalCommons@UConn, going back to 1997. The full text of the dissertations is available only to UConn-affiliated individuals.

As a preservation tool, DigitalCommons is superior to the diverse and uncoordinated efforts now in place at UConn. Currently, the uncertainty of staffing and budgets can lead to sudden changes in the availability of materials on department sites and servers. With DigitalCommons, that uncertainty is removed. Files are assigned a URL, which is guaranteed not to change. So when you want to point your colleagues to your research, you can provide them with a link, and know that the document is going to be there—always. Files are backed up nightly, so they will never be lost. This should free up valuable staff time for departments, since they will no longer need to provide this service.

A number of individual researchers, departments and centers on campus have already taken advantage of, and seen its benefits. Faculty from the Center for Health/HIV Intervention and Prevention have used the repository to increase access to their published articles and book chapters—as many publishers allow posting of documents in repositories (and we can help identify which publishers do). According to Jeffrey Fisher, professor of psychology and director of CHiP. “The Center gets many hits on Digital Commons. It provides a useful and important service for those seeking specific writings.”

Faculty from the College of Agriculture have likewise contributed peer-reviewed articles. The Senior Honors Program has begun storing Senior Honors' theses here. Before DigitalCommons, these theses would have had almost no visibility to the outside world—now, usage statistics indicate that users around the world have downloaded them hundreds of times already. The Teachers Education Research Community, an interdisciplinary research group of educators and scientists, have opted to place conference presentations—both as PowerPoint and PDF files—in the repository.

These are just a few examples of what can be included. Working papers, sound files, video files, artwork, educational materials—all can be included. Xiuchun "Cindy" Tian, assistant professor in Animal Science, who also performs research in the Center for Regenerative Biology, has begun submitting her peer-reviewed articles to the repository. In addition, she sees the site as an ideal location for "laboratory techniques and protocols, undergraduates' honors theses, independent research term papers, …and preliminary and supplementary data that are not included in formal publications in research journals."

Of course, there are many other possibilities, and new ideas are encouraged. The only restriction is that they be realized and submitted in electronic form.

Copyright issues may deter potential contributors—but they shouldn’t. As mentioned, many publishers now allow posting of published materials in institutional repositories—sometimes as pre-prints, sometimes as post-prints. Information on copyright, and other concerns, are addressed on a "For Authors" page within the repository. All repository policies, as well as information on how to establish a presence and the submission process are also available there.

DigitalCommons@UConn is open to all faculty, staff, and graduate students of the University of Connecticut. Contributions from undergraduates are considered on a case-by-case basis. Documents from UConn-sponsored conferences, meetings, etc., are also accepted, whether or not the author is from the University of Connecticut.

Throughout the coming months, informational sessions on how to participate will be organized for departments, centers, and individuals. Keep an eye open for these opportunities. For more information, or to establish a place in the repository, visit the site at digitalcommons.uconn.edu, or contact Jonathan Nabe, coordinator, at jonathan.nabe@uconn.edu.

Jonathan N. Nabe, reference librarian and liaison to the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Staff Service Anniversaries

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Photographs were unavailable for: Heidi Abbey (10 years), Fred Rick (15 years), and Norma Holmquist (20 years).
Peter Good & Son to Design Husky Dog Sculpture

Award-winning graphic artist and UConn alumnus Peter Good ’65 and his son, sculptor Jesse Good will design an original husky dog sculpture as part of the "UConn Husky Trail" art project for permanent display in the Homer Babbidge Library.

Sponsored by the UConn Alumni Association, the exhibit will coincide with the University’s 125th anniversary and feature husky dog animal sculptures at locations throughout Connecticut decorated by artists from throughout the country. The exhibit will debut with a major unveiling in June and end with an auction during the University’s homecoming weekend in October. Proceeds will benefit the Alumni Association Scholarship Fund.

The Husky Trail will be similar to last year’s Whale Trail event, in which 50 whale sculptures were displayed throughout southeastern Connecticut, Westerly, R.I., Boston and New York City. The exhibit raised some $100,000 for non-profit organizations.

The Whale Trail was a variation of the Cow Parade, a public art event, one of which was hosted in West Hartford in 2003. The cows were auctioned off in February 2004, raising about $400,000 to benefit Connecticut Children’s Medical Center and more than 45 local charities.

The Homer Babbidge Library is one of the official organizations sponsoring the UConn Husky Trail art project. The Goods’ finished piece will be placed on permanent display in the newly renovated Bookworms Café in the Homer Babbidge Library, scheduled for completion in August 2006.

Peter Good and his wife, fellow artist and business partner Jan Cummings Good ’66, both alumni of UConn’s School of Fine Arts, were married on the Storrs campus in 1965. Today they live and work in the town of Chester, CT where they are partners in the internationally recognized graphic design studio, Cummings & Good.

In addition to creating the University’s oak leaf logo, the Goods created the logo used by the University to commemorate the formal dedication of the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center by President Bill Clinton in 1995 and the year-long series of human rights events celebrating the University’s homecoming weekend in October. Proceeds will benefit the Alumni Association Scholarship Fund.

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New Fund to Support Charters’ Archive of Blues and Vernacular African American Music

UConn Professor of English Ann Charters has established an endowed fund to support an archive of African American music that she and her husband donated to the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center six years ago.

Interest generated by the fund will be used to acquire, preserve and make accessible materials related to the Samuel and Ann Charters Archive of Blues and Vernacular African American Music. At its dedication in the fall of 2000, the collection contained more than 3,000 recordings, hundreds of books, an extensive sheet music collection, in addition to original research materials, video recordings and photographs. Since then, the Charters have added a significant number of jazz recordings to it, including the complete catalog of Fantasy Records re-releases of its “Original Jazz Classics Series.”

“I am happy to establish an endowed fund that will help to preserve the Archive and keep it up-to-date so that it can continue to be a valuable resource in future years for students and scholars in the field of African American music,” Ann Charters said.

Central to the collection is the working archive of Samuel Charters, who is both an author and record producer, which reflects his more than a half century involvement in African American music. Recipient of a Grammy Award for producing the album I’m On My Way with Clifton Chenier, Charters was presented with the Deems Taylor Award for his book The Roots of the Blues, and in the spring of 2000, was inducted into the Blues Hall of Fame for his book The Country Blues.

In researching his many books in this field, Charters amassed a wide ranging archive, which extends from sheet music with Ethiopian melodies from the pre-Civil War years to LPs, CD’s and videos documenting the rap music of today. Although the collection emphasizes the blues, the intention has been to document every style of music which has flourished in the African Diaspora, from the islands of the Caribbean to Brazil, Colombia, Venezuela and areas of West Africa.

In addition to the Archive, the Charters have contributed funds to establish the Samuel & Ann Charters Multimedia Room, a multimedia listening and viewing area in the Dodd Research Center, which enables researchers to listen to and view items from the collection on site.

For more information on the collection, visit: http://www.lib.uconn.edu/online/research/speclib/ASC/dodda2z/AToZ.cfm

UConn President Philip Austin with one of the husky dogs that will be designed for the UConn Husky Trail.

Professor of English Ann Charters (left), and her husband, Sam Charters, with Kristin Eschelman, curator of the archive of the Charters’ Blues and Vernacular African American Music at the Dodd Center.
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University of Connecticut Libraries is published four times each year to provide current information about collections, services, and activities to those interested in the welfare of the Libraries. If you do not wish to receive the newsletter, please contact Ann Galianoska at ann.galianoska@uconn.edu or 860-486-6882.

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T his summer, exhibit space in the UConn Libraries will abound with examples of Native American artistic traditions. Artifacts from the collections of the Connecticut State Museum of Natural History and Connecticut Archaeology Center juxtaposed with the work of contemporary artists will demonstrate the enduring spirit of Native American art forms.

Like many Native American collections today, a good number of the Museum’s artifacts were gathered in the Industrial Age when extraordinary changes in technology and urbanization created a romanticized view of nature. The prevailing European-based culture viewed the Native Americans as a vanishing “race” and many collectors sought to retain knowledge of them by preserving objects from their material culture. It wasn’t until later in the 20th century that the artifacts were recognized for their own inherent artistry. Today, we celebrate that artistry — both past and present — and the spirit that gave rise to it.

A Gathering in Celebration of Native American Life and Artistic Traditions

June 10, 2006 • 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Dancers in Native American regalia, drumming, storytelling, books, vendors and more
Homer Babbidge Library, South Plaza

1 p.m.
“Native American Site Preservation and Public Awareness: The role of the State Archaeologist and Importance of Collections”
Nicholas Bellantoni, Connecticut State Archaeologist
Konover Auditorium
Thomas J. Dodd Research Center

2 p.m.
“10,000 years of Native History at Mashantucket”
Kevin McBride, UConn Professor of Anthropology, Research Director, Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center
For an updated schedule, go to: http://www.lib.uconn.edu/about/exhibits/Gathering.htm

Exhibits June 5 through August 20

Enduring Spirit
Native American Life and Artistic Traditions

The Clan Mothers
Babbidge Library, Stevens Gallery

Between the Sky and the Earth: Aboriginal Spirituality
by Sylvia Bertolini
Babbidge Library Plaza, West Alcove

Cedars Song Flutes
by Jim Adams
Music & Dramatic Arts Library Lobby

Native American Artifacts
from the Connecticut State Museum of Natural History and Connecticut Archaeology Center
Dodd Center Gallery