“UConn Cycles” Bicycle Loan Program Based at Babbidge Library

Jane Recchio

Members of the campus community will soon be able to exercise more than just their minds at Homer Babbidge Library. The Library, in partnership with the Undergraduate Student Government (USG), the University’s Office of Environmental Policy, and its affiliated student organization, EcoHusky, will launch a bike share program this fall called “UConn Cycles” through which bicycles may be borrowed by members of the campus community.

The pilot program features 20 new “Raleigh Circa 18” cruiser bikes purchased by the USG for their ease of use, universal fit, and simplified maintenance. The bikes will be available for a same day loan period. The program is limited to UConn students, faculty, and staff with valid IDs. After furnishing an ID at the Library’s Desk and signing a waiver form, borrowers will receive a key to a bike. Helmets will be available and their use is encouraged. Under the plan, the Library will house the bicycles in a rack on the west side of the building, and charge them out much like a book.

Students who live in EcoHouse, a new Learning Community, which is part of the EcoHusky organization, and which is located near the library, will check the bikes on a daily basis. If problems arise, they will report them to the Tolland Bicycle Shop, where they were purchased. David Barrow, the shop’s owner, will work with and train the students. The students will also maintain statistics on how often the bikes are checked out and record the mileage from the bicycles’ odometers.

Two years ago, the UConn Libraries began to explore partnerships with others on campus in an effort to achieve the University’s goal of becoming more carbon neutral as specified in the Academic Plan. Earlier this year, the library saw what appeared to be a natural fit with a previously imagined, but unrealized, bicycle share program proposed by the Office of Environmental Policy and EcoHusky.

Many universities in the United States have developed bike sharing programs. While almost all initially began with an environmental or physical fitness focus, they typically collaborate with libraries or student unions, which serve as hubs for the bicycles. Homer Babbidge Library seemed uniquely suited for the program. The building offers a sheltered area to store the bicycles, is centrally located, and more importantly, can provide the necessary “accountability” through its circulation system.

According to Richard Miller, director of UConn’s Office of Environmental Policy, “The bike sharing program helps demonstrate that bicycling at UConn is a viable, healthy and clean transportation alternative that would reduce air emissions from use of cars and other vehicles.”

There is a history of bike sharing at UConn. In the 1970s, the “Blue Bike” program was started by then President Homer Babbidge. That program had no formal checkout system, leaving the bikes available wherever they were found. Over time, they began to disappear.

This program aims beyond the “Blue Bike” program’s goals with activities to promote the environmental and health benefits of cycling for the campus community at large. The UConn Cycles program is just part of a larger effort to improve transportation congestion at Storrs. New bicycle road signage and markings are planned as well. Educating cyclists, motorists, and pedestrians who live in EcoHouse, a new Learning Community, which is part of the EcoHusky organization, and which is located near the library, will check the bikes on a daily basis. If problems arise, they will report them to the Tolland Bicycle Shop, where they were purchased. David Barrow, the shop’s owner, will work with and train the students. The students will also maintain statistics on how often the bikes are checked out and record the mileage from the bicycles’ odometers.

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Welcome Back

Brinley Franklin, Vice Provost
University of Connecticut Libraries

A University of Connecticut students, faculty, and staff return this fall; they will discover significant improvements have been made to the UConn Libraries’ services and facilities.

On the Storrs Campus, library users will find a much improved Learning Commons on Level 1 of Homer Babbidge Library (HBL). Many of these enhancements were accomplished in conjunction with the University’s Institute for Teaching and Learning (ITL). Electronic Classroom 1 has been converted into a full service teaching facility (see Kennedy article, p. 1) and the Libraries have arranged with the ITL to have media technicians services available to quickly respond to media service calls. Additional math and science tutoring space is now available in the Q Center and a staff area has been set aside on Level 1 to house Q and W (Writing) Center staff offices adjacent to their service points.

Also in HBL, based on numerous requests, the Libraries have added 100 electrical outlets to Level 1, 40 outlets to the counter seating in Bookworms Café, and 30 outlets to the north reading area on Level 4. Five new media viewing stations have been installed in the Level 3 media center. New scanning facilities, 60 movable tables, improved seating, and four Mediascapes have been added to the Learning Commons to accommodate student’s learning styles, and lockers have been added in several locations to secure belongings.

Babbidge Library has added new seating for an additional 160 users.

Three additional consultation rooms will permit subject librarians to offer more private one-on-one information services and new chat and text reference services have been implemented. One hundred research carrels have been set aside for graduate students working on their theses and dissertations. Five iPads will circulate from the iDesk and a sixth has been designated for reserve materials. Interlibrary loan/document delivery enhancements will enable users to more easily request library materials from Boston Library Consortium members and the other UConn Libraries. The Connecticut State Data Center website has been initiated and graphic maps are available for direct user download.

The Regional Campus Libraries have been active as well; each of them has removed stacks to create more public spaces (see Dryden article, p. 4). The Avery Point Library has been remodeled to incorporate an improved service desk, collaborative areas (including a Mediascape), and new study tables, carrels, and comfortable seating. Trecker Library in Greater Hartford now offers a media room and a Mediascape collaborative workstation. The Jeremy Richard Library in Stamford has added two media-equipped group study rooms and large screen monitors were added in the conference room and two additional group study rooms. The Torrington Library now offers a collaborative workstation and the Waterbury Library added a group study room, a Mediascape collaborative workstation, and improved seating.

Welcome back to our campuses. The Libraries have been busy during the summer improving our services and facilities to better serve the UConn community.

MAGIC Sponsors First Geospatial Workshop for State Teachers

Jeff Dunn

The Map and Geographic Information Center (MAGIC), in concert with the Connecticut Geographic Alliance (CGA), conducted its first ever Educators’ Geospatial Workshop on August 2 titled, “Interactive Maps to Enhance Student Learning.” In the workshop, 22 Connecticut teachers from K through grade 12, learned how to create digital, interactive maps complete with information about topics they already teach in the classroom (History, Science, Math, and English). It’s really all about delivering information to students in a spatial way!

Interactive, digital maps have long been the domain of the expert user in the field of Geographic Information Systems (GIS). In simple terms, GIS is the merging of cartography, statistical analysis, and database technology. Typically, GIS software and the associated skills needed to create and manipulate digital maps have required a significant investment in training, money, time, and support. However, due to the continued improvements in web mapping technology, many of these obstacles have been overcome.

In light of these improvements, MAGIC has made geospatial data and digital mapping available to the general user leveraging free platforms that include: Google Maps, Google Map Mash-Ups, MAGIC’s own “Outside the Neatline,” blog, Google Earth, and Arc GIS Explorer Online. These platforms require a minimal investment of training, money and time and provide a large base of support through MAGIC and other online sources (tutorials, how-to’s, etc.). These strengths make them ideal for K-12 educators to implement in the classroom.

The daylong workshop introduced teachers to free GIS platforms and free geospatial resources on the Web. The day began with a MAGIC workshop with brief discussions with the staff and instruction on how digital geospatial content is created. For the duration of morning, brief presentations of how other educators are using GIS technology in the classroom and the community were given. Between presentations, educators had the opportunity for hands-on activities that demonstrated:

• how to add customized content to Google My Maps,
• view Google Earth Tours created by the U.S. Geological Survey and,
• open interactive literature tours hosted on GoogleLitTrips.org.

The morning was rounded out by a demonstration of ArcGIS Explorer Online which provides an excellent interface that allows quick creation of presentations and access to a large public library of geospatial data sets.

After a pleasant lunch, the participants spent time learning how to customize pop-up balloons in Google Earth and how to create a Google Earth Tour. The final part of the day featured an excellent presentation by Jack Dougherty, Ph.D. of Trinity College. Dougherty presented his website “On The Line” (http://onetheeline. trinoi.edu/), which documents the history of school districts and housing that have shaped Hartford, Connecticut. Particularly powerful were the side-by-side placement of Google Map Mash-ups of 1934 aerial images and modern images of the same location.

This was an exciting pilot for MAGIC and the CGA and there are plans to repeat the workshop next summer with the possibility of extending the length of the workshop and an additional day to integrate hand held Global Positioning System units in the professional development workshop.

For further information about how to use geospatial technology in curriculum or for general use, please contact Jeffrey Dunn at: jeffrey.dunn@uconn.edu, or MAGIC at magic@uconn.edu.

Librarians Publish Survey of Electronic Resources

Jill Livingston and Richard Bleiler

For consumers with home magazine subscriptions, renewal rates topping 100 percent would be clear grounds for cancellation. Academic libraries, however, routinely, and most often quietly, grapple with such hefty increases in licensing fees for the electronic resources they provide, weighing the cost against a critical need by faculty and others, making the issue less clear cut. A new survey conducted by two UConn librarians and published by the Association of Research Libraries examines what libraries consider when acquiring electronic resources.

Two recent headlines in The Chronicle of Higher Education drew public attention to just how high the stakes can be. A June 8, 2010 article, “University of California Tries Just Saying No to Rising Journal Costs,” details a case in which that university system was presented with a license to purchase a journal which it could not afford. A June 8, 2010 article, “University of California Tries Just Saying No to Rising Journal Costs,” details a case in which the University of California Hopes to Lead Fight Against High Subscription Prices,” (July 4, 2010), examines a decision by the University Librarian of the University of Prince Edward Island, to cancel the Web of Science database after receiving a contract proposal that required a three-year commitment with annual price increases totaling 120 percent. While the Canadian library cancelled their subscription, the California library rejected the increase and urged an institutional boycott of Nature’s journals.

The issues academic libraries consider when acquiring electronic resources are the focus of a survey of 73 North American research libraries, conducted by University of Connecticut librarians Richard Bleiler, Humanities Librarian, and Jill Livingston, Liaison to Allied Health, Kinesiology, and Physical Therapy. The results are published in American Research Libraries’ Spec Kit 316: Evaluating E-Resources. Among the survey’s findings:

• The selection criteria considered important to libraries

Continued on page 4
Leonard Weisgard: Renowned Illustrator and Author’s Papers Donated to the Northeast Children’s Literature Collection

Suzanne Zack

Leonard Weisgard spent his life giving visual expression to stories he and others had written for children. In the process, he helped generations of young readers open their eyes to new ideas and take their first steps into the yet to be discovered worlds.

A treasure trove of illustrations, sketches, letters, books, and collateral materials that document the creative process and life of this prolific and widely acclaimed illustrator and writer was recently given to the Northeast Children’s Literature Collection at the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center by Weisgard’s three children.

“Books have opened doors and spread wide vistas of excitement and hope for me and I want so very much for young people everywhere to experience this same potential and everyday life.

Weisgard, whose career began in the 1930s and extended through the early 1970s, died in 2000 at the age of 83. His interest in children’s books began in earnest when his family returned to the U.S. when he was 8, and he found childhood in England, where his father had been born.

Weisgard illustrated more than 200 children’s books, perhaps most memorably with his longtime friend and collaborator author Margaret Wise Brown, including those for “The Little Island,” which earned him a coveted Caldecott Award, given annually for the most distinguished picture book for children. Their collaboration began in 1939 with the “Noisy Books” series, which included gouache, poster paint, crayon, chalk, decoupage, stenciling, and pen and ink.

Weisgard’s work is an important addition to the NCLC, Goldich says, not only because of his stature in the children’s literature world but because of the depth and breadth of the collection materials.

Weisgard’s papers were started during his career. After his death, Weisgard’s children were at a loss as to how to handle his papers. They approached Leonard’s former secretary, Billie M. Levy, who had been working with Weisgard for 30 years.

“Once processed, researchers will be able to gain a deeper knowledge of the creative processes Leonard employed as well as get to know him as father and husband, as evidenced by the illustrated personal letters and notes between him, his children, and his wife,” Goldich says.

Books illustrated by Weisgard found in the Northeast Children’s Literature Collection (NCLC); bottom, left to right: Jorge Santos, an English Ph.D. student at UConn, who sorted and organized Weisgard’s papers this past summer, reviews artwork with Abigail Weisgard, the artist’s daughter, and Terri Goldich, Curator of the NCLC.

Leonard Weisgard and Dryad” and “The Nutcracker” in the 1950s.

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Abigail, who spent her early years in New York’s Greenwich Village before the family moved to their home in Roxbury, CT recalls living a “charmed, wonderful life,” which was punctuated by frequent visits to the theater and ballet. The Weisgard household was frequented by many other artists, she says. She remembers dancers from the San Francisco Ballet joining their family for Thanksgiving one year, enjoying more of the feast than it seemed their little frames would allow, she recalls.

Equally memorable was her father’s solution for her brother’s childhood insomnia, which stemmed from a fear of strange creatures lurking beneath his bed. Weisgard painted a “Peaceable Kingdom” of animals on the walls of his son’s room. “All the animals were friendly animals and would protect him while he slept,” Abigail recalls her father telling her brother. “Ethan seemed to have no trouble falling asleep after that,” she notes.

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Electronic Resources
Continued from page 2
and consortia include compatibility with library systems, uniqueness/completeness of content, anticipated usage rate, user-friendly interface, and relevance to faculty research. However, despite various legal and other considerations in licensing, cost was consistently rated the most important criterion.

Libraries and consortia consider a number of licensing terms when reviewing contracts, such as applicable law, permissibility of walk-in use versus use by a number of the campus community, use in electronic reserves, level of support/help, cancellation restrictions, use with interlibrary loan, consequences of unauthorized access to the database or use of database content, any requirement for the library to indemnify the licensor, archival and perpetual access rights, access by IP address, and use of licensed content in course packs.

Because libraries consider cost the most important criterion for acquiring a networked electronic resource, they do not appear to take advantage of other subscription criteria, such as being compensated for service failure or the withdrawal of content that may save them money.

The executive summary of ARL Spec Kit: Evaluating E-Resources is available online: http://www.arl.org/bm–doc/spec-316-web.pdf. The entire publication may be borrowed from the UConn Libraries.

Weisgard
Continued from page 3
his wife, seems to have been inherited by their children. Abby is a successful artist in Copenhagen, where she also designs window displays, and arranges special events and styles photographs shot in Denmark and elsewhere in Europe. Her sister, Christina, is a painter and teacher, who also works as a web designer, and their brother, Ethan, an aikido instructor and musician, who was the percussionist with the Danish Radio Big Band (also called the Danish Radio Jazz Orchestra) for 27 years, recording more than 35 albums with the band.

While Weisgard’s collection is expansive, Abigail Weisgard points to two things that were of particular importance to her father. He was the first American to be invited to participate in the United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF), which used five of his paintings to produce greeting cards. The proceeds, which amounted to millions of dollars, were used to supply milk and medical supplies to children in need throughout the world. His effort drew the personal thanks of First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt.

In the second case, he successfully overcame a racial taboo in publishing through creative design work. He used coffee-colored paper with a cream shade to illustrate Mark Twain’s 1876 book about a dark-skinned girl who lived in troubled times in the South, The Secret River. It was honored by the American Society of Graphic Arts.

The collection is expected to be catalogued and available to researchers by the end of 2011. For more information about the artist, please visit Weisgard’s official website: http://www.leonardweisgard.com/.

Suzanne Zerk, Marketing and Communications Specialist.

New Improved Instant Message Reference System Debuts
Kate Fuller

Getting online reference help just got easier thanks to the Libraries’ new and improved instant messaging system.

The enhanced “Ask a Librarian” reference service will now allow users to pose questions using chat windows from Library Web pages, as well as through AOL Instant Messenger, Google Talk, MSN Messenger, and Yahoo Messenger software. Questions received can be easily transferred to librarians with expertise in specific subjects, so responses will be more comprehensive and immediate.

In addition, the new service will allow multiple librarians to monitor questions simultaneously and thus enable the library to respond to an increased volume of queries.

New Collaboration Spaces at the Regional Libraries
Nancy Dryden

Responding to needs communicated by regional campus students in surveys, and aware of the increasing number of class assignments requiring collaboration, the UConn Libraries determined that group study spaces are critical to this commuting population. During the summer, all five libraries acquired new collaborative work spaces, including bulletin tables, mobile whiteboards, large LCD screen monitors and, in some cases, new study rooms to facilitate group interaction as well as video viewing and presentation practice. Several of these work spaces consist of Steelcase’s “Mediascape” technology, which allows students to share information on their laptops. They can walk up, plug in, and press the “Puck”™ to switch the display. The group study spaces were immediately popular with the summer population and are sure to be a welcome surprise to returning students in the fall.

UConn Cycles
Continued from page 1

The service operates during the academic year when librarians are scheduled: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Monday through Thursday, and from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday.

During the fall semester, the library will explore integrating the chat software into UConn’s WorldCat catalog, Class Guides, and licensed databases to provide online assistance closer to sites where questions may arise.

The new system uses “LibraryHip,” an instant message platform designed by University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill librarian Pam Sessions and her husband, programmer Eric Sessions. The system is now in use by more than 400 university libraries.

Kate Fuller, Learning Commons Research Coordinator.

Electronic Classroom
Continued from page 1

student learning and achievement in the Learning Commons space and to also promote new synergies and new opportunities for collaboration and service integration between the Library, the Institute for Teaching & Learning, and other centers encompassing the whole of Undergraduate Education. For further information and to schedule Electronic Classroom 1, please contact: Susanna Cowan, Leader for Undergraduate Education, University Libraries, (860) 486-1265, susanna.cowan@uconn.edu or Instructional Resource Center, Institute for Teaching & Learning, (860) 486-5052, ibrhelp@uconn.edu.

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The enhanced “Ask a Librarian” reference service will now allow users to pose questions using chat windows from Library Web pages, as well as through AOL Instant Messenger, Google Talk, MSN Messenger, and Yahoo Messenger software. Questions received can be easily transferred to librarians with expertise in specific subjects, so responses will be more comprehensive and immediate.

In addition, the new service will allow multiple librarians to monitor questions simultaneously and thus enable the library to respond to an increased volume of queries.

New Collaboration Spaces at the Regional Libraries
Nancy Dryden

Responding to needs communicated by regional campus students in surveys, and aware of the increasing number of class assignments requiring collaboration, the UConn Libraries determined that group study spaces are critical to this commuting population. During the summer, all five libraries acquired new collaborative work spaces, including bulletin tables, mobile whiteboards, large LCD screen monitors and, in some cases, new study rooms to facilitate group interaction as well as video viewing and presentation practice. Several of these work spaces consist of Steelcase’s “Mediascape” technology, which allows students to share information on their laptops. They can walk up, plug in, and press the “Puck”™ to switch the display. The group study spaces were immediately popular with the summer population and are sure to be a welcome surprise to returning students in the fall.

UConn Cycles
Continued from page 1

The new system uses “LibraryHip,” an instant message platform designed by University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill librarian Pam Sessions and her husband, programmer Eric Sessions. The system is now in use by more than 400 university libraries.

Kate Fuller, Learning Commons Research Coordinator.

Electronic Classroom
Continued from page 1

student learning and achievement in the Learning Commons space and to also promote new synergies and new opportunities for collaboration and service integration between the Library, the Institute for Teaching & Learning, and other centers encompassing the whole of Undergraduate Education. For further information and to schedule Electronic Classroom 1, please contact: Susanna Cowan, Leader for Undergraduate Education, University Libraries, (860) 486-1265, susanna.cowan@uconn.edu or Instructional Resource Center, Institute for Teaching & Learning, (860) 486-5052, ibrhelp@uconn.edu.

Scott Kennedy, Director, Undergraduate Education and Anna Smeris.

Kate Fuller, Learning Commons Research Coordinator.

New Improved Instant Message Reference System Debuts
Kate Fuller

Getting online reference help just got easier thanks to the Libraries’ new and improved instant messaging system.

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The Puerto Rican and Latin American Cultural Center (PRLACC), located in UConn’s Student Union, has provided a space for dialogue and cultural exchange since its founding by a group led by director, Dr. Isnoel “Ino” Ríos in the early 1970s. Since that time, UConn faculty, staff, students, and the greater community have gathered to share cultural experiences, to discuss issues that affect the Latino community, and to provide opportunities for engagement among academics, community leaders, and students.

The Center’s archives hold hundreds of photographs and documents that attest to its vibrancy and its leadership on campus. During the past year, I have had the privilege of serving as the Center’s interim director. And although most of my experience for the decade I have been at UConn has focused on my role as a faculty member, I have maintained active in support roles on advisory boards on and off campus, and through my role as advisor to organizations, including PRLACC’s Bringing Awareness Into Latino Ethnicities (B.A.I.L.E.), and the Latino Students’ Association (LSA). My past professional roles in Student Support Services and Director of TRIO, a program funded in part, by the U.S. Department of Education in Puerto Rico, and as the Coordinator of the Teacher Academy at Rhode Island College, which provides a pipeline for urban and underrepresented high school students to teaching careers, have provided me with a solid foundation for my PRLACC responsibilities.

Individual groups active in PRLACC serve different constituencies. The Association of Latino Faculty and Staff (ALFAS), currently presided over by Dr. Rosa Chinchilla of Modern Languages, and Mentoring, Educating, and Training for Academic Success (METAS), a peer mentoring program in which upperclassmen assist other students in their transition into college, are intricately woven into the goals and objectives of PRLACC. Coordinators for METAS for Academic Year 2010-2011 include: Graziella Direnzo, senior, Biological Sciences; Natasha Rodríguez, junior, Biological Sciences; and Armando Jiménez, sophomore, Business. In addition, one of our graduate students, Lorna Carrasquillo, Teacher Certification Program for College Graduates (TCPGC) at the Neag School of Education, teaches our First Year Experience (FYE) course, which is designed for METAS mentees. New METAS mentors are also required to take a three credit course, which I teach under the auspices of the Puerto Rican and Latino Studies Institute, our academic partner, directed by Dr. Diana Rios. The course addresses issues of college retention and academic and professional success of Latino students through the examination of research, and provides students with the opportunity to converse with a variety of guest speakers.

Last year, we hosted Dr. María Martínez, Interim Vice Provost, UConn Institute for Student Success and Director of the Center for Academic Programs, Ob-Gyn Physician Yvette Martas, Financial Planner Andre Wade, and Health and Life Coach Professor Carrie Graham, who provided guidance and networking opportunities for mentors. In 2009, our signature programs included the Hispanic Heritage Celebration, September 15-October 15, which featured an exhibit of artwork by Alexander Sarria and José Aguayo at the Student Union Gallery. This fall, we will feature local artist Valentin Tirado’s work and a posthumous exhibit of work from former staff member Fernando Olmo ’94. Their contributions to the artistic life of the community are known to many educators and residents of Willimantic and beyond.

Our traditional and much anticipated Latin Fest held last April that featured Andy Andy and Tony Vega, was a resounding success and brought our community from within and outside of Connecticut to campus. It draws alumni and our Latino faculty, staff and students, and an increasingly diverse audience anxious to practice their dancing skills. We hope to create a program this year that is as exciting and successful as last year’s.

Our major closing event is our recognition banquet, which focuses on the accomplishments of our graduates, staff, faculty, and students. Those recognized in 2009-2010 were: Faculty, Dr. Lario Negroni, School of Social Work; Staff, Melanie Rodríguez, Elementary Education, and Pablo Sánchez ’10, Psychology. Special recognition was given to Jacqueline Güzman ’10, PRLACC Graduate Assistant, 2008-2010, Higher Education and Student Affairs.

During the past year, our website and newsletter, El Pulso, were revamped with assistance from students Aaron Aguirre, Doris Batte, Jason Baron, and Jenna Simmons, who were supervised by Jackie Guzman ’10. The site now features a variety of photo albums and links to pertinent events and sites. Assistance in updating the site and administrative support for the program was provided by our Program Administrator Jennifer Morenas. Our Advisory Board, chaired by Robert Vanez, PRLSI faculty Marysol Crisco, Family Studies, and Charles Venator–Santiago, Political Science, and our graduate assistant, Gretchon Marin, Sociology, and Lois Ramirez, contribute in critical ways to PRLACC’s success. For further information and updates, please visit http://prlacc.uconn.edu.
Library Honors the Late Josephine McDonald

Josephine "Jo" Herring McDonald, of West Simsbury, CT, widow of the longtime Director of the University of Connecticut Libraries, John P. McDonald, died suddenly at the age of 78, on June 26, 2010 at the McLean Healthcare Center in Simsbury, CT. Mr. McDonald, died suddenly at the age of 78, on June 26, 2010 at the McLean Healthcare Center in Simsbury, CT. Mrs. McDonald attended Vassar College and graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, where her husband was a member of the library staff. The couple resided in Storrs for more than 40 years.

A longtime supporter of the UConn Libraries, Mrs. McDonald had a keen interest in current events and politics and was an early and active member of the League of Women Voters. In addition, she was a long-time volunteer for Planned Parenthood, at one time serving on the Board. A lifelong opera buff, she was a supporter of the opera organizations in Connecticut and serving on the Board. A lifelong opera buff, she was a supporter of the opera organizations in Connecticut and serving on the Board.

To honor Mrs. McDonald, the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center acquired the Archives & Special Collections the artist's book O is for Opera. Produced by Sybil Rubottom and Jim Machacek, the volume features a program and paper opera glasses for an “alphabetic romp through opera, from Aida to Die Zauberflote.”

Donations in Mrs. McDonald’s memory may be made to the University of Connecticut Foundation’s John R McDonald Library Fund at 2390 Alumni Drive, Unit 3206, Storrs, CT 06269-3206.

Research Highlights @ Noon Resumes

On October 6, Homer Babbidge Library will resume its lunchtime series, “Research Highlights @ Noon,” with a talk by Associate Professor of Economics Christian Zimmerman entitled “Unemployment Accounts vs. Unemployment Insurance: A Quantitative Approach.”

His talk will take place at noon in the Class of ’47 Lecture Room, which is across from the library's south entrance and adjacent to Bookworms Café.

A question and answer session will follow the talk. Those who plan to attend are invited to bring a lunch.

For more information on the series, please visit: http://www.lib.uconn.edu/about/researchhighlights

New Staff

Theresa Palacios-Baughman

Theresa Palacios-Baughman has joined the Libraries as Coordinator of Document Delivery and Interlibrary Loan Borrowing Services. Before joining UConn, she served as Assistant Librarian at the Janet Carlson Calvert Library in Franklin, CT and as a University Assistant at Eastern Connecticut State University.

Dawn Cadogan

Dawn Cadogan has joined the Libraries as the Liaison to the departments of Psychology and Communication Sciences. Prior to coming to UConn, Cadogan served as Outreach Services Librarian at Odum Library of Valdosta State University and Library Specialist at the Robert W. Woodruff Library of Emory University.

She holds joint bachelor degrees in Psychology and Sociology from Wesleyan University and a Master of Library and Information Science degree from Syracuse University.

Dawn Cadogan

John Gialluca

John Gialluca has joined the Libraries as the Liaison to the departments of Psychology and Communication Sciences. Prior to coming to UConn, he spent the past nine years working for The Hartford and IBM as a security and advisory IT specialist.

He holds a degree in Computer Science from the University of Connecticut Libraries.

Douglas Neary

Douglas Neary has joined the Libraries as the Applications Developer in ITS. For the last 25 years, Neary worked at Nerac in Tolland, CT, a technology research firm, which was previously known as the New England Research Application Center, a collaboration between the University of Connecticut and the National Aeronautics & Space Administration.

At Nerac, Neary was responsible for development, systems administration, and managing developers.

He holds a degree in Computer Science from Thomas State College. Prior to Nerac, he worked as a production analyst/programmer at General Dynamics in Newport, RI.

Tom Schmiedel

Tom Schmiedel has joined the Libraries as Sciences Liaison to the departments of Chemistry, Molecular & Cell Biology, Physiology & Neurobiology, and Chemical, Materials & Biomolecular Engineering.

Prior to coming to UConn, Schmiedel served as the Content Development Librarian at the Dana Medical Library at the University of Vermont and as Reference Librarian at the John F. Reed Library at Fort Lewis College in Durango, CO.

In addition, he taught chemistry, biology, and Earth science for two years at the secondary school level.

Rumery Named Head of Avery Point Library

Beth Rumery has been named Director of UConn’s Avery Point Library. She succeeds Jan Heckman, who will concentrate on his role as the liaison librarian to the departments of Marine Science and Maritime Studies. In addition to her supervisory role, Rumery will continue her duties as an undergraduate librarian.

Rumery, who joined the library in 2006, 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 23 years working in academic libraries, including 16 years at UConn and Eastern Connecticut State University.

2011 Connecticut Book Festival

Planning is underway for the 2011 Connecticut Book Festival, a new statewide book fair for young adults and older. The Festival, a two day celebration of reading, writing and books, will be held on Saturday and Sunday, May 21 and 22, 2011 at the University of Connecticut’s Greater Hartford Campus. The event will feature author readings, book signings, and storytelling among other things. Food and book-related vendors will lend a festive note to the occasion.

The Festival is being sponsored by a partnership of the Connecticut Center for the Book at the Hartford Public Library, the Connecticut Commission on Culture & Tourism, the Connecticut Library Association, the Connecticut State Library, the West Hartford Chamber of Commerce, the UConn Co-op, the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center and UConn’s Greater Hartford Campus.

Connecticut author Wally Lamb is the honorary chair of the Festival. There will also be a gala fundraiser at the Town & County Club in Hartford, on November 20, 2010 from 5 p.m.-7 p.m. Tickets are $75 per person and proceeds will benefit the Festival.

For more information on either event, please contact the Connecticut Book Festival Offices, 786 South Main Street, Middletown, CT, 06457, (860) 704-2214 or ctbbookfestival@gmail.com or www.ctbookfestival.org.

Nationally known children’s book illustrator Wendell Minor was presented with the Northeast Children’s Literature Collection’s Distinguished Service Award on May 9 during a reception opening the exhibit Wendell Minor, An American Narrative: Telling America’s Story through the Art of Children’s Books. The exhibit, hosted by the University Libraries, was mounted in connection with Minor’s receipt of an honorary degree from UConn. Left to right: Wendell Minor, Norman Stevens, director emeritus of the UConn Librar-ies, Terri J. Goldich, Curator for the Northeast Children’s Literature Collection.
Gifts to the University Libraries

January 1 to June 30, 2010

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The 19th Annual Connecticut Children’s Book Fair Needs Your Help!

For the past 18 years, the Connecticut Children’s Book Fair has brought world-renowned authors and illustrators together with the public to foster the enjoyment of children’s literature and literacy. This very popular — and free — two day event has been made possible, in large part, through the generosity of our donors.

The 19th Annual Connecticut Children’s Book Fair will be held on November 13th and 14th. This is an appeal to our friends who would like to support this public service to the community. To make a tax-deductible contribution, go to http://bookfair.uconn.edu/support.htm or send a check made payable to the University of Connecticut Foundation (please include CT Children’s Book Fair on the memo line) to Terri J. Goldich, Thomas J. Dodd Research Center, 405 Babbidge Road, Unit 1205, Storrs, CT 06269-1205. Thank you in advance for your generosity at any level.

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I want to make a tax-deductible contribution to support the University of Connecticut Libraries in the amount of:

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NLRB 801

*Indicates in-kind gift

Every effort has been made to review all of the information included in this report. However, errors or omissions may still occur. Please accept our apologies if your information appears incorrectly, and please bring it to our attention.
What’s INSIDE

Page 2  The Vice Provost for University Libraries says the campus community will notice a significant number of improvements to the Libraries this fall. • The Map and Geographic Information Center, together with the Connecticut Geographic Alliance, hosted its first geospatial workshop for teachers in August.

Page 3  The papers of noted children’s literature illustrator and author Leonard Weisgard are donated to the Northeast Children’s Literature Collection.

Page 4  A improved instant messaging system for help debuts. • New collaborative spaces are installed at the regional campus libraries.

Page 5  In a guest column, the interim director of the Puerto Rican and Latin American Cultural Center explains how the center is enhancing diversity inside and outside of the classroom.

Page 6  A new director is named at the Avery Point Campus Library. • Five new staff members join the library. • The Dodd Research Center honors the memory the late Jo McDonald.

Volume 16, Number 3 September/October 2010

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 Galonska at ann.galonska@uconn.edu or 860-486-6882.

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Contributors  Richard Bleiler, Nancy Dryden, Jeff Dunn, Brinley Franklin, Kate Fuller, Terri Goldich, Scott Kennedy, Jill Livingston, Jane Recchio, Xae Reyes.

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The Libraries wishes to acknowledge our friends for their generous support.

EXHIBITS

September – December 17, 2010

“Reality Check”  Faith Olows
Stevens Gallery, Babbidge Library

“Epic Shadows: Tolu Bommalata Puppets from Andhra Pradesh”  Ballard Institute and Museum of Puppetry
Dodd Research Center Gallery and Gallery on the Plaza, Homer Babbidge Library

“An Alter Ego”  Normand Chartier’s Watercolors
Dodd Research Center Gallery and Stevens Gallery, Homer Babbidge Library

“37 and Counting”  A Retrospective of Normand Chartier’s Career

“The public is cordially invited to attend an opening reception on Sunday, October 24, 2:00-4:00 p.m. in Homer Babbidge Library.

“Woodblock Prints in the Arts and Crafts Tradition”  Paulette Nyirko
Gallery on the Plaza, Homer Babbidge Library