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Q Center Experiences Explosive Growth

Suzanne Zack

One need only walk by the University’s Quantitative Learning Center (Q Center) in the Learning Commons on Level 1 in Homer Babbidge Library any afternoon or evening to witness the intense activity that characterizes it. A survey of students who used the facility last semester confirms the obvious: more and more students have discovered the Q Center and return to it for answers to their math and science questions.

According to the survey, students visited the Q Center more than 6,500 times in fall 2007, compared to 600 during the same period in 2005. “The number of visits had been roughly doubling each semester since tutoring began in fall 2004, but we were not really prepared for the more than tripling we experienced in fall 2006,” says Q Center Director Tom Roby. “We seem to be meeting a significant need on campus, and doing it well enough that students return and recommend us to their friends.”

Officially started in 2004, the facility was first housed in the Center for Undergraduate Education (CUE), and moved a satellite operation to the library in 2006, before making the library its home last year. “Before I arrived, all tutoring took place in what is now just my office, with perhaps 200-300 visits each semester,” Roby notes.

Now that the Center has become more widely known, two student greeters have been added to manage traffic flow. Students typically drop in and work one-on-one with a peer tutor for anywhere from 15 minutes to an hour. During busy periods, tutors often work with multiple students.

Some 40 percent of the respondents said they had visited the Center four or more times last year. One need only walk by the University’s Quantitative Learning Center (Q Center) in the Learning Commons on Level 1 in Homer Babbidge Library any afternoon or evening to witness the intense activity that characterizes it. A survey of students who used the facility last semester confirms the obvious: more and more students have discovered the Q Center and return to it for answers to their math and science questions.

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Copyright and the Classroom: Scenarios Help Light the Way for Legal Educational Uses

UConn Libraries’ Copyright Team

Your class next week will focus on race relations and free speech in late-20th century popular media. You own a DVD copy of Spike Lee’s Do the Right Thing and plan to show portions to your students. You also want to upload Ice T’s song, Cop Killer, (which you bought from iTunes) to HuskyCT and burn it onto a CD to place on reserve for your students. Can you do legally do this?

A series of scenarios just like this one were posed in an e-mail sent on August 23, 2007 to all UConn faculty from Veronica Makowsky, vice provost for undergraduate education. The UConn Libraries’ Copyright Team, which created the scenarios, has posted both the hypothetical questions and the team’s responses on its Web site at http://www.lib.uconn.edu/copyright/. These scenarios serve as a springboard for providing practical guidance for common situations, helping faculty and staff make appropriate decisions about using copyrighted materials in classes and other academic endeavors.

Last year, the Copyright Team launched a new copyright Web site for “members of the UConn community to have a copyright resource at their fingertips.” (See the full profile in the November/December 2006 Library Newsletter.) Fast forward one year later, the team is continuing to build a list of useful scenarios on topics including showing feature films on campus (both in and out of the classroom), copying maps, posting images from the Web, and, finally, (a team favorite) finding the right balance between using others’ works and protecting one’s own!

According to the Random House Unabridged Dictionary (2006), a “scenario” is “an imagined or projected sequence of events, especially any of several detailed plans or possibilities.” Scenarios with respect to copyright give life to situations that could arise in everyday teaching and can be helpful for understanding different issues and identifying what can be done in the classroom and beyond.

Now back to Do the Right Thing. A short and easy answer would be “yes,” if you are teaching a class on race relations and you plan to bring your own DVD of the movie (or one you rented) to show in class (literally in the classroom!). As long as it’s being shown in a “face to face” classroom situation (or online equivalent) for educational (not entertainment) purposes, it is permissible. The copyright Web site provides more details and touches briefly on the grey areas, such as crossing the line from teaching to entertainment or “performance.”

And what about uploading that copy of Cop Killer, legally purchased from iTunes, onto your HuskyCT account and also burning it onto a CD to place on reserve in the library? The quick answer, unfortunately, is “you probably cannot do this!” iTunes is a contract service; when you sign on or download the iTunes software, you agree to abide by the iTunes Terms of Service which specify personal, noncommercial uses of iTunes, and prohibit further distribution of the recording. But you have options—and it all begins at the UConn Libraries. Check out the Library’s online audio service, Naxos (http://edlib.uconn.edu/databases/1054), or work with the library Reserve staff to have tracks from a library- or personally-owned CD made available on HuskyCT through Digital Audio Reserve. Remember that the library can order CDs to support University courses … with advanced notice, of course.

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Continued on page 4

Continued on page 4
Changing Libraries

The University of Connecticut is adopting an academic plan that aspires to establish UConn as one of the top-ranked research libraries in the country and the world. As the University makes strategic choices and reshapes its academic programs to become selectively excellent, its Libraries must also adapt to support the University’s successes in achieving its aspirations.

Fortunately, the library staff has been adapting to change for some time. In a recent New Yorker article, Sergey Brin, Google’s co-founder, cited how the nature of functions change, “just as the role of librarians has.”

The last five years have seen remarkable changes in how the UConn Libraries go about their academic support work. More students are coming to the UConn Libraries. Our libraries are now open more hours than ever before. Not only do students ask for longer hours, food, and coffee, they also require a variety of learning environments, including: individual quiet study; group studies; access to computers; assistance with technology; help with research methods; tutoring and advising services; collaborative spaces, and social interactive areas.

The Libraries are cooperating with Undergraduate Education and Instruction to ensure our spaces and services meet the needs of today’s undergraduate students. At the same time, the way many faculty and students access library “collections” has changed amazingly quickly. Five years ago, our faculty was divided in whether they preferred electronic access to current literature or print collections. Today, most faculty and graduate researchers clearly want information delivered to them. They enjoy the ability to directly link to relevant electronic journal articles we license and to request, through the Libraries’ Web pages, that books be purchased or borrowed for them.

It has taken a rapid re-thinking of library collections and services for the UConn Libraries to respond to the current and ever-changing information environment. The Babbidge Library iDesk answers most of our library users’ questions in the library, as do the Access Services staff at the regional campus and branch libraries. Our Collections Services staff still acquire, catalog, and preserve carefully chosen materials, but increasingly they negotiate licenses, ensure electronic resources are available and easily accessible, and add UConn-authored materials to our institutional repository. Beginning this year, we are digitizing our unique library holdings and making them available via the Web through the Open Content Alliance.

Our Document Delivery/Interlibrary Loan staff have never been busier, borrowing almost 3,000 items a month at no charge to UConn faculty and students. Our undergraduate services librarians are active participants in helping undergraduates fulfill their information literacy general education requirement. Our liaisons are increasingly leaving the library to work with faculty and graduate students “where they live” in their academic departments as they engage in their work with faculty and graduate students “where they work.”

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Patricia M. Wald to Deliver 14th Annual Sackler Lecture in Human Rights on March 3

Patricia M. Wald, who served for two decades on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit and as U.S. Judge on the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY) at The Hague, Netherlands, where she rendered significant decisions in the field of international humanitarian law, will deliver the 14th Annual Raymond and Beverly Sackler Distinguished Lecture in Human Rights on March 3 at 4 p.m. in Konover Auditorium in the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center. The title of Wald’s talk is “Perplexing Predicaments in Human Rights Law: Women, Terror, and Tribunals.”

Wald received her bachelor’s degree from Connecticut College and her law degree from Yale Law School, where she was editor of the Law Journal. She began her career as a law clerk to Judge Jerome N. Frank of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. She was an associate in the Washington, D.C. firm of Arnold, Fortas & Porter, an attorney in the Office of Criminal Justice of the Department of Justice, attorney for Neighborhood Legal Services, member of the District of Columbia Crime Commission, Co-director of the Ford Foundation’s Project on Drug Abuse, attorney with the Center for Law and Social Policy, and Litigation Director of the Mental Health Law Project.

In 1977, Judge Wald was appointed Assistant Attorney General for Legislative Affairs in the U.S. Department of Justice, and in 1979 President Carter appointed her to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit where she served until her retirement in 1999. From 1999 – 2001, she served on the ICTY, 2002 – 2004 as Chair of the Open Society Justice Initiative, and from 2004 – 2005 as a member of the President’s Commission on U.S. Intelligence Capabilities Regarding Weapons of Mass Destruction.

Judge Wald is a Council Member and former First Vice President of the American Law Institute (ALI) and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. She is the author of Law and Poverty (1965) and co-author of Bail in the United States (1964) and Dying with Drug Abuse (1973). She has published numerous articles on a wide range of legal subjects.

Judge Wald is a Fellow of the American Philosophical Society and a former member of the Executive Board of the American Bar Association’s Central European and Eurasian Institute (CEEI). She received the American Bar Association Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award, the Annual Award of the Environmental Law Institution and the annual Award of the International Human Rights Law Group. She has received numerous honorary degrees from Universities and Law Schools including most recently Doctor of Law, Yale University.

Archivist of the United States Allen Weinstein to Deliver RBS Greenwich Capital Lecture on April 2

Professor Allen Weinstein, the ninth Archivist of the United States, will deliver the RBS Greenwich Capital Lecture on April 2 at 4 p.m. entitled “Reflections on Archives and Democracy.” The program will take place in Konover Auditorium in the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center.


From 1985 to 1990, he served as president of The Center for Democracy, a non-profit foundation based in Washington, D.C. that he created in 1985 to promote and strengthen the democratic process. His international awards include the United Nations Peace Medal (1986), The Council of Europe’s Silver Medal (twice, in 1990 and 1996), and awards from the presidents of Nicaragua and Romania for assistance in their countries’ democratization processes. His other awards and fellowships have included two Senior Fulbright Lectureships, an American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship, the Commonwealth Fund Lectureship at the University of London, and a Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars Fellowship.

Papers of Louise Gaffney Flannigan, the “Railroad Poetess,” Donated to Dodd Center

Laura Smith

Louise Gaffney Flannigan was born in 1867 and was a lifelong resident of New Haven, Connecticut. Her brother Fred Gaffney and husband Frank Flannigan worked as brakemen for the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad out of New Haven, and were members of the Brotherhood of Railroad Brakemen Lodge No. 201, better known as the Elm City Lodge. Louise was a writer and poet, and in the 1880s and 1890s she served as the “poetess” of the lodge. She wrote emotion laden poems in memorial to brakemen who died in the line of duty or in celebration of their bravery. She was a contributor to the Ladies Department section of the Railroad Brakemen’s Journal and to the local newspaper, the New Haven Register.
Suzanne Zack

As a five-year-old growing up in war-torn Germany, Werner Pfeiffer recalls being evacuated from his home in the industrial city of Stuttgart and moved, along with his mother and older sister, to the safety of his father’s family’s 200-year old homestead in a tiny town in the Black Forest. With no electricity or telephone in the house and a town crier delivering messages on a bicycle, even today, 66 years later, Pfeiffer vividly recalls it as the place where he encountered his first book: the classic German children’s picture story and morality tale Max and Moritz by Wilhelm Busch. 

“I was inspired by issues from the eastern European countries behind the Iron Curtain; later, by events in Central and South America, Nicaragua. There was constantly a process of censoring or cutting information out. Every time I got some information, I started making, distorting, cutting up books and killing them to really object to the whole idea of censorship. It’s really my love of books that makes me do that. Books are such a wonderful idea. It’s where men’s history is recorded, how we survived; how we lived.”

Pfeiffer’s books, collages, drawings, paintings, prints and sculptures have been shown internationally in more than 100 group exhibitions and in more than 60 solo shows in countries such as Chile, Colombia, France, Germany, Israel, Sweden, Switzerland, and in the U.S. In addition to being in many private and corporate collections, he is represented in the United States in institutions such as the Brooklyn Museum, the Guggenheim Museum, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Museum of Modern Art, the Whitney Museum of American Art, and elsewhere in the world at places such as the Buchmuseum in Dresden, Klingspor Museum in Offenbach, the National Museum and Osterreichs Museum in Sweden, and the Staatsgalerie in Stuttgart, where his work was also exhibited in a show, along with that of his wife, Lise Poirier, who is a collagist. In Connecticut, his work may be seen at UConn’s Law School, at the criminal court building in Waterbury, and the Hartford Courant’s office among many other places.

He attended the Akademie der Bildenden Künste, (State Academy of Fine Arts and Design) in Stuttgart, where he trained as a fine artist specializing in book arts. He emigrated to New York in 1961, where he worked for a decade in the commercial realm as a freelance designer and art director, amassing numerous citations and awards for his work. Simultaneously, through a connection with a former classmate in Germany, he traveled north to a job at the Sitheenour Press in Vermont, one of the nation’s leading fine art print houses, which, coincidentally, was doing a project for the prestigious Pratt Institute in Brooklyn. In need of assistance in setting up a typography department, Pratt looked to Pfeiffer for guidance. He was appointed professor and director of the Adlib Press at the Pratt Institute in 1969, a position he held for 42 years.

“Through my work with books, I get involved in not only the book as an entity, but as a structure and method of communication and our flow of information,” observes the artist, who resides in Red Hook, NY. “Very early on, I was intrigued with [Marshall] McLuhan’s writing. There’s been a shift in publishing, a shift in why books are published. We rarely publish for literary purposes. Like everything else, publishing is governed by economics. If somebody wants to publish a beautiful book of poetry, they can’t, because they tell us there’s no market for it.”

Currently, he is working on a book about “Ernanter,” a poem written by J. R. R. Tolkien and another about the Dutch artist N.H. Werkman, who was executed by the Nazis, which will be among works in a show scheduled to tour colleges in Canada and the east coast this spring entitled “Werner Pfeiffer: Villain Sensor, Provocateur, Experimenteer, Book Artist and Artists Books.”

“I think part of the resurgence of artist’s books, the handmade books, is really a reaction to the sterility of computer activity. On a computer, you could sit at a keyboard and you could type or do a Photoshop drawing, there’s no difference. There’s no tactile experience, there’s no aroma. When you open a book, there’s a smell to it. I think that’s why artists have gone back to making their own paper, making their own ink, and making everything themselves, and putting out these limited editions as a reaction to this loss of dexterity and intimacy with a book.”
Railroad Poetess

(Continued from page 2)

The poem “A Brakeman’s Death” well illustrates Louise’s affection for the trainmen and her grief when they died at their work:

Whenever I pass near the railroad track
And on the train it rolls so fast
I have to warn the shaky brakesmen
To take care when the rail cars go by.

Seated on the cants in the early morning
They seek retreat from the heat of day
The shriek of the train too dangerous to avoid
For trainmen have no way to evade.

When duty calls them they obey
They face dangers, just as bravely
As in the day when they do their work
They never lack firm courage.

Their eyes are ever on the alert
To see each bridge and dodge down low
And the skies are dark and drear
The winds howl as they pass.

And see the trains roll by so fast
The poem “A Brakeman’s Death” well illustrates
Louise’s affection for the trainmen and her grief when they died at their work.

In addition to the poems there are several other items of interest in the collection, including a lengthy writing of a trip Louise and Frank took in 1897 from New Haven to the California coast and back by train. Louise writes in detail of her fascination with the western landscape and her impressions of the people and sights on the train trip.

The Railroad History Archive in Archives & Special Collections at the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center is honored to have received these writings in June 2007. The papers have been organized and a finding aid to the writings can be found at: http://www.lib.uconn.edu/online/research/speclib/ASC/

Copyright and the Classroom

(Continued from page 1)

But wait, you just realized you also have Ice T’s Rap Killer on a CD you legally purchased — and, now that you mention it, other rap songs dealing with race relations and free speech would be great examples to share with your class. What now?

The hypothetical questions cover this possibility. You could bring the CDs into class and play them or you could burn them onto your iPod and use that to play them for your class, as long as it is for instructional purposes, in a “face to face” teaching environment (or online equivalent), and at a non-profit educational institution.

The Copyright Team and the Web site it has created are not intended as legal advisors; no one can substitute for a good lawyer well-versed in U.S. copyright law, especially when it comes to the sticky details of an evolving legal landscape. However, there are many common copyright scenarios that faculty face when preparing for class and the copyright site can be an invaluable resource when those questions come up. Check out the site or contact someone on the team (http://www.lib.uconn.edu/copyright/copyrightTeam.html), if you need help identifying issues and resources to light the way toward legal uses of copyrighted materials.

Q Center Grows

(Continued from page 1)

more times in the past month; more than 25 percent visited for the first time.

According to the survey, the majority of students who used the Q Center’s services were freshmen or sophomores. Courses that most often motivated those visits were Chemistry 127Q, Math 111Q and Math 115Q.

Over the summer, glassed-in breakout rooms were added, which allow for small workshops.

The Q Center has been continually expanding its hours to meet user demand. This spring semester its hours are: Monday-Thursday 11 a.m.–11 p.m.; Sunday 1 p.m.–11 p.m.

The Q Center is one of several academic support services now operating in the Learning Commons. Other services include research assistance, writing assistance, and computer technology assistance.

Suzanne Zech, marketing & communications specialist

Library Changes

(Continued from page 2)

teaching and research.

The transition to digital library services means that we try to add more information technology staff each year. Library collections like the rare materials housed in the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center find a larger audience as they are digitized and freely offered to researchers through the Web.

The University of Connecticut is well-positioned to improve its status among public research universities. And the UConn Libraries, as partners in that effort, are adapting to make sure we do our part to ensure the success of the University’s academic plan.

Copyright Team Leader.

Jay Jordan, chairman and CEO of the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC), a nonprofit, membership, computer library service and research organization dedicated to the public purpose of furthering access to the world’s information and reducing information costs, was the featured speaker at the Libraries’ public forum on December 11. More than 60,000 libraries in more than 100 countries and territories around the world use OCLC services to locate, acquire, catalog, lend and preserve library materials. Among those who attended the session were, from left to right: Jay Schaefer, director of Libraries at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst; Jay Jordan; Barbara Preece, executive director of the Boston Library Consortium; and Brinley Franklin, vice provost for University Libraries.
Women's Center: Supporting Women's Diversity and Strength for 35 Years

Kathleen Holgerson

In celebration of Women's History Month in March, the UConn Libraries will feature related library and archival resources including books, films, research guides, and Web sites: http://www.lib.uconn.edu/using/Diversity/womenhistory.htm

The Women's Center was formally established in 1972, although our existence is clearly thanks to the dedication and activism of the feminist community, which was well established before that. We have been fortunate to celebrate over three decades of anniversaries, most recently our 35th. Each of those anniversaries gives us the occasion to revisit our collection of newspaper articles, old photos, and yes, minograph correspondences in an effort to round out the “herstory” of the Center. Here is a portion of the story, but we know that this could not reflect the diversity of perspectives and voices of all of those who were involved.

Boistered by the national climate of the civil rights movement and the women’s liberation movement, a group of students, faculty, and community members began organizing in the late 60’s in an effort to raise awareness of the issues facing women on campus. This led to the formation of the Free Women's Collective in 1972, which had establishing a Women's Center as a primary goal. In March of 1972, Elizabeth (Bert) Roper, the Director of the Continuing Education for Women program provided temporary space in the Bishop Center for the Center. She was also responsible for overseeing the hiring of the first full-time director, Catherine Havens, who is currently the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at the School of Social Work.

In the first two years of our existence much of the focus was on providing permanent and adequate space for the Center. At the same time, there were several critical moments of feminist activism occurring on campus. Women were advocating for changing rooms in the athletic facilities. A female faculty member was denied tenure and a woman administrator was terminated, and many on campus saw these actions as directly related to these women’s scholarly and advocacy efforts on behalf of women’s issues. Additionally, the University was facing complaints of discriminatory hiring practices. These concerns crystallized with a sit-in at Gulley Hall by two dozen demonstrators who presented their demands to then acting president, Edward V. Gant.

As part of the feminist activism that was happening on campus, a number of collectives formed. These collectives brought together individuals who were interested in and/or impacted by specific identities or life circumstances. They included the Black Women’s Collective, the Child Care Collective, the Counseling Collective, the Lesbian Collective, the Library Collective, and the Writers’ Collective. Over time these collectives became either the foundation for freestanding organizations, such as the Rape Crisis Collective which became the local sexual assault crisis center, or were integrated into what is now known as the Women’s Center’s Board of Advisors. Our commitment to creating space for dialogue among and between identity groups continues in the work of our Women’s Advance Conference Planning Committee and our Women of Color Events Planning committee.

As part of the planning for our 35th Anniversary celebration this past November, we asked people to submit their reflections on the impact the Women’s Center had on them. As you can imagine, we were fortified in our continued commitment to our work by what was shared by current and past friends of the Center.

Every year, I have the opportunity to share our “herstory” with the 30 or so students who work at the Women’s Center during the academic year. During our retreat with them, we tell the story and then ask them “why is the story important?” In addition to it providing some amusing reinforce-ments about how much things have changed (such as women don’t have to wear skirts to class anymore), it also reinforces the connection to our activist roots. It tells the story of what can happen when we build alliances and support networks in the name of social justice. It also gives us role models, and as stated above, hope.

But it’s also important to talk about where we are now and our plans for the future. A quick look at our Web site (http://www.womenscenter.uconn.edu) will give you a sense of where we are now. We sponsor a variety of educational programs each semester which bring in scholars and activists in the areas of violence against women, politics, media, and engaging men in feminist organizing. We provide advocacy both on an individual level with survivors of sexual assault, dating/domestic violence, and stalking, and on an institutional level with our work on balancing work/life issues, pay equity, and enhancing access for women to leadership opportunities. As and most on campus know, we provide support services in the form of short-term crisis intervention counseling and discussion/support groups, such as the Graduate Women’s Group, the Support Staff group, and Between Women.

As far as our future plans, several things we know for sure. First and foremost, our work is always in the service of gender equity. And certain principles will underlie our work:

• We’re part of a community of departments that work to promote an understanding of a variety of identity groups; to create an inclusive environment for students, staff, and faculty; and to work towards social justice.

• Our work intersects with a variety of campus constituencies, especially because “women” are not a monolithic group.

• We cannot achieve the mission on our own; therefore, working with individuals and departments throughout the University community to support their own work in the service of gender equity is a critical component of our strategy.

• We value equity and cultural diversity and have made a commitment to working from an anti-racist perspective.

We hope that if you find something in our “herstory” or our current work that speaks to you, that you will stop by the Center and explore the community that celebrates women’s diversity and strengths, while actively confronting societal challenges and obstacles through activism and change.

Kathleen Holgerson, director, Women’s Center

“I have served on some of the committees... and have met and had the opportunity to work with some amazing and inspiring women. I also have attended several workshops including the Women’s Advance which have helped to enrich my life and challenge me to grow.”

“The Women’s Center has helped me grow as a feminist, activist, educator, intellectual, and mentor. It has given me a great amount of hope for change.”

“The Women’s Center has helped me learn how to empower myself and other women, how to challenge sexism and other forms of inequality as well as bringing strong, intelligent and proactive women into my life (which is a priceless support system).”

“The Women’s Center has provided networking opportunities and solidarity building activities that have been a major influence in my professional commitments at UConn.”

Maureen Roddy, a world-class sailor, mother, and cardiac surgical nurse, who launched the Red Dress Racing Campaign to raise awareness about cardiac disease, spoke at the Center last year.

Above: Members of the community celebrate the Women’s Center 35th anniversary in November; an anniversary panel discussion with: Carol Buch, adjunct faculty member in Women’s Studies; Holgerson, Valencia Louis, Women’s Center student staff alumnus; and Maria Martinez, director, Center for Academic Programs and longtime Women’s Center Advisory Board member.
Farley Named Assistant Vice Provost

Marian Farley has been named Assistant Vice Provost, University of Connecticut Libraries, replacing Deborah Stanbury Sunday. She assumed the position on February 1, 2008.

Farley previously was Vice President, Global Business Information Services at Morgan Stanley in New York City, where she developed and administered a $30 million budget and supervised 30 staff. Her previous experience includes: Director of Library Services, Universitas 21 Global, Farmington Hills, MI; Manager of the Technical Information Center, Duracell, Inc. in Bethel, CT; and Corporate Librarian, Analytic Sciences Corporation in Reading, MA. She has also served as the Head of Reference at the University of Vermont’s Dana Medical Library and UMass, Lowell; and as the Head of Circulation at UMass Lowell and Iona College.

Farley earned a bachelor’s degree at St. Bonaventure University and a master’s degree in Library and Information Science at the State University of New York at Albany. Her primary responsibilities at the University of Connecticut Libraries will be overseeing the administrative services staff and the Libraries’ budget, human resources, labor relations, and facilities functions.

Howser Named Undergraduate Instruction & Distance Learning Librarian

Michael Howser has joined the library as Undergraduate Instruction & Distance Learning Librarian. Howser received his B.A. degree in Geography from the University of Cincinnati and his Master of Library and Information Science degree from Kent State University. He has had considerable teaching experience as an Adjunct Instructor of Geography at the University of Cincinnati Clermont College, as Social Sciences/GIS Librarian at Miami University, and as an instructor for the Interactive Media Studies department at Miami University.

Most recently, he served as Information Literacy/GIS Librarian at Miami University, where he worked to enhance and continuously improve the quality of information literacy instruction there. He also served on that institution’s Liberal Education Council and facilitated a faculty learning community for Improving Student Research Fluency, where he worked to integrate information literacy into the curriculum.

Kaman Corp. Gift to Upgrade Computer Workstation for Disabled Students

The Kaman Corporation of Bloomfield, CT has donated $5,000 to Homer Babidge Library, which will fund upgrades to the workstation for students with disabilities. Kaman made a similar gift in 2000, which first established assistive technology for students in the library.

The gift will provide the library with a new Dell computer with a flat screen monitor, a Hewlett Packer scanner, a Dragon NaturallySpeaking device, a Kurzweil 3000 package, JAWS® software, and a ZoomText Magnifier.

Dragon NaturallySpeaking software enables spoken language to be transcribed to written text and written text to be converted to a synthesized audio stream.

Kurzweil 3000 software scans a printed document and reads the document out loud while highlighting the image of the print as it is being read. JAWS® is software that features an internal speech synthesizer through which information from a computer screen is read aloud.

The ZoomText Magnifier enlarges and enhances images on the computer screen, and also reads documents, Web pages, and e-mail through the computer’s speakers. The workstation is located on Level one of the Library in the Learning Commons.

Perrone Retires; Will Continue Development Efforts

Linda Perrone, director of external relations, retired officially on January 1, 2008, but continues to work part-time on the development opportunities that have been so successful during her 17 years here.

Perrone moved to UConn’s Development Office in 1990 and in 1992 she volunteered to work with the Libraries on the establishment of the Dodd Center. She coordinated the activities of 13 different steering committees working on different aspects of the events related to the opening. She cultivated a strong and enduring relationship with Sen. Christopher Dodd and the entire Dodd family.

In addition to her ongoing relationship with the Dodd Center, she assisted in raising more than $4 million in cash gifts and more than $6 million in gifts in-kind for the UConn Libraries, including 12 consecutive 50th anniversary class gifts (1947-1958) and three senior class gifts (2000, 2006, and 2007).

If you wish to make a gift to the library, please contact Perrone at (860) 486-0451, or, linda.perrone@uconn.edu.

Among the many friends and colleagues who attended a reception in honor of Linda Perrone’s retirement at the Dodd Center on January 16 were two friends, who are associates of Sen. Christopher Dodd. Left, Stephen Kinney, a member of the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center Advisory Board and a partner in the government relations and political consulting firm of Gaffney, Bennett, and Associates Inc., and Lester Baum, a UConn alumnus and active supporter of the University, extend their congratulations to Perrone.

Strochlitz Travel Grant Recipient Examines Public Polling Techniques

In December 2007, Jason Petralis, a Ph.D. candidate at Columbia University and recipient of a 2007 Sigmund & Rose Strochlitz Travel Grant, visited the Dodd Center to use collections from the Archives of the Pioneers in Survey Research for his dissertation, “Marketing America, 1932-1948.”

Petralis’s research focuses on the development of public polling techniques and how the federal government applied them to build support for World War II. During a presentation to faculty and library staff, he described how polling techniques helped define government publicity in areas such as the sale of war bonds, support of recycling efforts, and use of food, clothing and gasoline rationing.

Among the collections Petralis used were those of Archibald Crossley, an important contributor to the development of the field of public opinion polling, and the papers of Elmo Roper, who was a pioneer in the fields of market research and public opinion polling.
Forum on Open Access Mandates on March 26 at Dodd Research Center

The Libraries will sponsor a public forum focusing on the impact of recent developments in scholarly publishing entitled, “Mandatory Open Access: Friend or Foe? Coming to Terms with National Institutes of Health (NIH) and Federal Research Public Access Act legislation,” on March 26 from 3 to 5 p.m. in Konover Auditorium in the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center.

The event will explore the newly passed NIH public access mandate which became law in December, 2007. The NIH mandate requires that journal articles resulting from NIH-funded research be made freely available to the public in the 12 months after publication. The forum will also look at proposed legislation such as the 2006 Federal Research Public Access Act, which would expand that mandate to include research funded by other U.S. government agencies.

Scheduled to speak are: Heather Joseph, executive director of Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition (SPARC), and former president and chief executive officer of BioOne™, a non-profit collaboration to bring biology society journals into the digital realm; Kent Holinger, UConn faculty member, past president of American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS), and a member of the Board of Directors for BioOne™; and Samuel Kaplan, chair, Department of Microbiology (AIBS), and a member of the Board of Directors for Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition (SPARC), and former president and chief executive officer of the U.S. government agencies.

The forum is sponsored by the University of Connecticut Libraries’ Scholarly Communications Team.
What's INSIDE

Page 2: The vice provost for University Libraries examines what the Libraries are doing to support the University's new academic plan.

Page 2: Poems and papers belonging to Lusia Gaffney Flannigan, a writer and wife to brakemen for the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad, who served as poet of the Brotherhood of Railroad Brakemen Lodge No. 207.

Page 3: Werner Pfeiffer, an artist whose book sculpture "Endangered Species" will be permanently installed in Bookworms Café, is profiled.

Page 5: The director of the Women’s Center traces the beginnings of the Center 35 years ago and what it’s currently doing to support women.

Exhibits January 22 - March 7, 2008

Rail, Rural and River
The Art of John Fleming Gould

Design for the Real World
Student Work in Communication Design
At the University of Connecticut

Photographs at a Different Wavelength
By Marcia Reid Marsted

His & Hers: New Yorker Cartoons
by Michael Maslin & Liza Donnelly

Coming March 17 - May 16, 2008

Bramble and Bramble
Remnants, Glyphs and Palimpsests

The Ethnic American Press
Cultural Maintenance & Assimilation Roles

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

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