The University of Connecticut Libraries launched DigitalCommons@UConn, an innovative new service for storing and preserving the research and educational output of the academic community, in April 2005. DigitalCommons@UConn is an electronic library of articles, working papers, theses, presentations and other files produced by scholars affiliated with the University. With this development, UConn joins other pioneering institutions that have recognized the promise and potential of similar projects, known as institutional repositories.

Such repositories have the potential to effect fundamental change in scholarly communication and its preservation for the University. No longer will individual departments, centers, and institutes need to provide access to intellectual content, although they certainly can. This could potentially free up server space and maintenance requirements, as well as valuable personnel time and energy, for those communities that participate in the development of the repository.

In addition, DigitalCommons@UConn provides the comfort of knowing that the system is secure and the files are backed up on a regular basis. Since the Internet addresses (URLs) of the files are guaranteed not to change, contributors know that the files will always be where they are supposed to be. DigitalCommons@UConn can accommodate almost any file type. The only constraint on what can be included is author affiliation, as only contributions from those affiliated with the University of Connecticut are accepted. Some file types—particularly proprietary economic development, as with the “Structure and Performance of the Rice Market in East Pakistan.” The mundane and materialistic “Handbook of Driving in Connecticut” might be followed by the esoteric spirituality of a guide through the “Cemeteries of Madrid.”

Even within a specific subject area such as natural history, contrast is engaging. The latest addition to the seemingly endless series of pamphlets on the “Birds of North America” might describe a species whose habitat is limited to a single volcanic crater on one of the Hawaiian Islands, while a subsequent nature pamphlet might deal with the “Effects of Military Operations on Behaviour and Hearing of Sonoran Pronghorns.”

A different source of fascination is provided by the widely disparate locations reflected in the titles: a pamphlet called “Australian Tariff Policies” might well be followed by “Retirement Systems Consolidation: The South Dakota Experience.”

Actually, merely skimming the titles of the pamphlets that come my way is a source of fascination. Again and again I am surprised by the contrast between successive titles. On any particular day, the first pamphlet might deal with an issue of domestic intimacy, such as the “Management of Balsam Twig Aphids in Christmas Trees,” while the very next title might sweep us directly into the stream of global economic development, as with the “Structure and Performance of the Rice Market in East Pakistan.”

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Pamphlets can encompass information of a sweeping highbrow type as in “Reconstructing the Human Community,” “Report on the World Social Situation,” “Addressing the New International Terrorism: Prevention, Intervention, Multinational Cooperation,” “Causes and Opportunities: The Future of Scholarly Publication.” Alternately, the pamphlets may bring more narrowly conceived
Library Joins the Center for Research Libraries

Peter Allison

The University of Connecticut Libraries took a big step into its future this summer when it joined the Center for Research Libraries (CRL), a consortium of 203 North American research libraries and universities that has been building and maintaining shared collections of primary materials for scholarly research for more than 50 years. CRL collections include research resources from every part of the world. Original deposits from the founding members—Chicago, Kansas and many of the Big Ten universities—were predominantly printed volumes, but most subsequent acquisitions have been in microform.

Notable CRL collections include:
- Extensive records in diplomatic history, including archives in the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Tokyo, 1869-1945, as filmed by the Library of Congress; German records seized during World War II; significant holdings of microfilmed records from the British Foreign Office; a large collection of U.S. Department of State records on the internal affairs of foreign nations; and records, papers and diaries related to such important figures as Henry Lewis Stimson, Dean Acheson, Christian Herter and John Foster Dulles.
- The records of post-World War II military tribunals and war crimes trials from China, Japan and Germany, including copies of records from the Nuremberg trials and records of the trial of Adolph Eichmann in Jerusalem.
- Extensive Christian missionary records from China, Africa and the Middle East.
- Over 6,300 foreign newspaper titles, including current subscriptions to 310 newspapers from 93 different countries.
- Substantial holdings of the U.S. ethnic press, including current subscriptions to 54 foreign language ethnic publications and 19 African American papers.
- Complete holdings of the U.S. manuscript census on microfilm.
- Ongoing collecting of current research materials from South Asia and Southeast Asia as filmed by the Library of Congress field offices in New Delhi and Jakarta.
- Nearly comprehensive access to doctoral dissertations from universities outside the U.S. and Canada.

A few scholars who need to browse in the CRL print collections travel to Chicago for that purpose, but most researchers borrow materials on extended loan for use at their own institutions. CRL’s catalog is searchable on the Web, and many of its holdings are represented in WorldCat. UConn hopes to load substantial portions of CRL records into HOMER, our online catalog.

The CRL web site at www.crl.edu provides information about the collections and programs of the Center. Resources available at this site include their catalog, specialized databases covering specific parts of the collection, and a series of topical guides to the collections.

Significant CRL resources are not fully cataloged. Faculty and graduate students can contact the Center about the details of specific collections; but general queries should be made through your liaison librarian. Requests to borrow items should be routed through interlibrary loan using the same electronic forms used for other requests. There is no limit on the quantity of material a user from a member institution can borrow from CRL.

As a member institution, UConn will have a voice in new materials acquired by the Center and the opportunity to participate in emerging Center initiatives, including digitization, the archiving of political web sites, and deeper involvement with the AAU/ARL Global Resources Network. CRL currently administers four of the six Global Resources Network projects:
- Cooperative African Newspapers Project
- Digital South Asia Library
- German-North American Resources Partnership
- Latin Americanist Research Projects Project

UConn’s decision to join CRL follows several years of review and consideration. No one can be certain in advance that the significant cost of membership (approximately $40,000 per year) will be justified by the level of use our community makes of CRL resources. However, we’ve recognized that proper support for humanities and area studies research at UConn depends on our users having better access to materials held in other institutions. This recognition drove our decision to join the Boston Library Consortium, whose Virtual Catalog allows UConn users to borrow directly from member college and university libraries in New England. Frustrated gently but persistently by Barbara Oakley, director for library access services, who previously worked at CRL, we came to feel that our commitment to meeting the needs of users through cooperative agreements required us to support CRL, the oldest and most significant cooperative effort in the country.

The library intends to participate actively in CRL projects and to promote use of its resources by UConn faculty and students. We plan to donate some of our seldom used microform collections to CRL in an effort to encourage other libraries to share more of their resources with the membership. We also hope to encourage the Center to broker access to the many local newspapers microfilmed under the NEH-supported National Newspaper Project. Current library data on interlibrary loan activity suggest that historic newspapers are among the most frequently borrowed materials by UConn researchers.

Peter Allison, team leader for collection development and history liaison librarian, is the Libraries’ principal representative to CRL.
Stanley Israelite: Finding Fulfillment In Helping Others

Suzanne Zack

To Stanley Israelite, all that glitters is gold. But for Israelite, 80, who experienced a short-lived career in the family jewelry business, it wasn’t the glitter of diamonds but rather the sparkle in a grateful person’s eye that he treasured. Israelite operated a jewelry store in Norwich, CT for 15 years before he changed course and found riches beyond compare in a career in public service. He first lent a helping hand to residents of Norwich as a member of the City Council and head of the Chamber of Commerce, before extending his reach to the people of Connecticut as state director and senior adviser to U.S. Sen. Christopher Dodd. In that role, which he held for 25 years, he not only helped citizens negotiate the often-frustrating federal bureaucracy, but also was instrumental in establishing the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center.

Israelite found his appetite for public service whetted following his discharge from the Army in 1946. He was working at the family jewelry store when a friend, who was a nurse at the Norwich State Hospital, suggested that he become a volunteer there. “I don’t know anything about mental illness,” was his reticent reply. But when told he could volunteer at the hospital’s soda fountain, he agreed. He tended the jewelry store during the week, and spent several hours each Sunday at the hospital, serving patients and their families ice cream and sodas.

By the early 1950s, Israelite had new responsibilities as a husband and father. Nevertheless, he found himself drawn to people who were grappling with life’s challenges without support from family or friends. At the hospital, he became more intimately involved with patients’ lives through companion therapy, in which volunteers were paired with young people to enhance their quality of life. “I clicked with my first patient,” said Israelite, then in his early 20s and only a few years older than the patients he worked with.

“Billy,” he recalls, was a 17-year-old who was the product of a difficult home environment and an unsuccessful school experience. He was picked up on the streets of Hartford, and labeled a “mental defective.” After getting to know him, Israelite questioned Billy’s diagnosis and challenged his doctor to re-examine him. “They retested him and I was right; he was illiterate,” Israelite says. Because of his intervention, Billy was discharged, trained to be a roofer, and became successful in the trade. Israelite’s experience with Billy and other patients at the hospital affirmed what he instinctively knew: he needed to alter his life’s course. “It made me realize I hated what I was doing. I wanted to do something with people,” he says.

After gaining formal experience in public service through membership on Norwich’s City Council in the 1960s, an opportunity arose that would expand Israelite’s ability to serve the public on a full-time basis. He became head of the Norwich Area Chamber of Commerce in 1964 and spent a decade in the position. “I had a great job. I became a big fish in a small pond,” he says. He drew statewide attention to Norwich for his innovative work in raising local funds to rehabilitate housing. “People stuff,” he says with a smile, “I was doing something that was helping people, so I was happy as hell.” When he departed from the Chamber, the city conferred upon him the honorary title of “Citizen of the Decade.”

Israelite then extended his reach further and became an economic development specialist in the non-profit arm of the Chamber of Commerce, the Norwich Community Development Corporation. There, he worked diligently to shore up the city’s declining industrial base and is credited with creating a 411-acre business park, which now has been named in his honor. Not content to merely focus on the city’s industrial growth, Israelite also served as co-founder of the Norwich Rose Arts Festival, and as a corporator of the William W. Backus Hospital and the Norwich Savings Society. In 1998, he was received the Director’s Community Leadership Award from Louis J. Freeh, then director of the FBI.

Through Israelite’s work in the field of mental health and social services, he developed a friendship with Sen.Christopher Dodd’s first wife, Susan, who served as a senior prosecutor in the International Military Tribunal, the first of the Nuremberg Trials. “It started as a crazy dream of finding some way to get those materials properly handled in an archival situation. Never in my mind could I have imagined what happened,” Israelite reflects.

In 1987, Israelite contacted several of Connecticut’s most prominent businessmen. “The idea is grand in scope but the essence of it, simply put, is to create a place for all to study Connecticut political history.” Israelite’s letter to them reads. One need only look at the Dodd Research Center’s Konover Auditorium and the Strochitz Travel Grant Endowment, to see evidence of Israelite’s powers of persuasion for two of the letter’s recipients. In addition to the private funding he helped to secure, Israelite was instrumental in enlisting the State of Connecticut’s participation in the Center’s construction.

In marking its first decade of existence, the Dodd Research Center has not only provided researchers with access to the Nuremberg Trial documents and myriad other rare materials, but has played host to Elie Wiesel, President William J. Clinton, Taoiseach (Prime Minister) of Ireland Bertie Ahern and Britain’s Deputy Prime Minister John Prescott. Israelite has witnessed many of these events and helped bring new ones to fruition. Although he retired from Dodd’s staff in 1999, he maintains his friendship with the senator and with the Dodd Center. The license plate on his car punctuates that enduring connection—“Dodd-2.”

According to Sen. Dodd, “Stanley was critically important in helping to create and implement the mission and the vision of the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center. I relied on him to help complete the bricks and mortar phase of the project and to carry out the Center’s special programs. Because Stanley is on the job, every day, the Dodd Center and its activities have been a tremendous success in the 10 years of its existence.”

Six decades after beginning his public service career, “Mr. Norwich,” as Israelite is affectionately called, continues his efforts to help people by working full time at the Norwich Community Development Corporation. He also stays busy participating in the lives of his wife, four children, two stepchildren, and six grandchildren.

What is Israelite’s recipe for happiness? “I really believe in people. That’s the whole secret. I was fulfilled because it made me happy. Dodd was like my railroad tracks. He helped me fulfill myself. By fulfilling myself, I served him well.”

Suzanne Zack is marketing and communications specialist for the Libraries.
Lecture: Mathematicians, Educators, and International Development

Jocelyn Birget, professor of mathematics, Yale University; Carrie Dann, an activist working to access property rights and turn their assets into leverageable capital.

A lecture series that help the poor of developing and ex-communist countries

Frameworks that help the poor in light of increasing cultural, economic, and military globalization.

Rights


Economists and policymakers are increasingly attempting to link socio-economic and civil and political rights in unprecedented and innovative ways. The University, in honor of the legacy of Thomas J. Dodd and the Nuremberg Trials, is hosting this international conference to honor this move and document developments.


To review the library’s evolution from a room full of books, files, tables, desks and chairs into a major research facility, the library was moved into the Rostov Barracks. The library was moved into a former classroom on the first floor. The center included a media preparation room where the media faculty and graduate students on a self-instructional learning center was performed mediated database searches for personal computer, located down the hall from the library in a small alcove outside the front entrance.

In the 1980s, the pharmacy librarian performed self-instructional learning center was created in a former classroom on the first floor. The center included a media preparation room where the media specialist produced teaching materials.

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energetically, the students, moved everything out of the library in one day in May and returned everything on the last day before classes started in the fall. Upon completion of the renovations, the library provided its first end-user workstation, with Medline on CD-ROM and available exclusively to faculty and graduate students.

In the mid-1990s, four networked computers were installed to provide one-to-one instruction and search capabilities. For the first time, professional degree students were performing their own online research. The learning center evolved into a small computer laboratory, equipped with free, used computers obtained by an interested faculty member.

These were steps in the right direction. But by 2000, the library and learning center were stretched beyond their ability to provide adequate resources for an increasing number of professional degree students and to meet the needs of a complex, data-rich environment and a computer literate clientele.

A School of Pharmacy Building Committee was convened in the fall of 1998, including faculty from the departments of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Pharmacy Practice and members of the staff, including the pharmacy librarian. The architectural firm of Davis, Brody Bond, of New York, was commissioned to design a new building to be located between the Babbidge Library and the School of Business. In October 1999, however, the proposed Pharmacy Building was relocated to the research science area and several biology laboratories were added to the plan. Thus the Pharmacy/Biology Building was born.

The new location required significant redesign, but the architects adjusted the plans to the new topography and added several much needed biology laboratories. In November 2000, Gilbane Building Company was selected as construction manager for the project.

On June 14, 2005, the Pharmacy Library was the first unit of the School of Pharmacy to move into the new building. In contrast to the do-it-yourself move of 1989, professional movers with experience in both library and laboratory moves were hired to do the heavy work. Succeeding days and weeks saw the arrival of new furniture and equipment, a new security system, and various contractors performing the finishing touches necessary in a new building.

The new library is an inviting space and more than twice as large as the previous facility. A multitude of windows create a feeling of spaciousness as well-suited facility. Seating is comfortable and attractive, with individual study lamps and convenient access to data and power. Four group study rooms, also equipped with data and power outlets, facilitate student group assignments, and an electronic classroom provides a venue for teaching technological and learning skills.

The Pharmacy/Biology Building will be dedicated on Friday, October 21, 2005, and visitors are welcome to tour the new library at any time.

Sharon Giovanelle, pharmacy librarian, admires the new equipment in the School of Pharmacy’s electronic classroom.

A Great Lineup of Authors & Illustrators for the 2005 Connecticut Children’s Book Fair

Generously supported by the Banknorth Charitable Foundation, the SBM Charitable Foundation, Mohegan Sun, and the Connecticut Library Association, the 14th Annual Connecticut Children’s Book Fair, on November 12-13, will feature an outstanding lineup of authors, illustrators, and activities to engage both the young and the not so young. Old friends Tomie dePaola and Wendell Minor will be on hand, as will new friends such as Susanna Reich.

Other confirmed speakers include: Paul Catanese, Suzanne Collins, Caroline Cooney, Katie Davis, Patricia Hubbell, David Johnson, Kathleen Kudlinski, Jean Marzollo, Barbara McClintock, Robert Sabuda, Matthew Reinhart, Nancy Tafuri, Mark Teague, and Terrence Webster-Doyle.

In conjunction with faculty in the Neag School of Education’s Reading and Social Studies programs, a conference for aspiring teachers will take place on November 11. “Literacy and Literature” is designed to highlight the role of literature and story telling in the promotion of literacy. The conference will feature a keynote presentation by Kathleen Kudlinski, a former teacher and now an author of biographies, historical fiction, and books about nature and science.

The popular “Breakfast with the Characters,” which debuted last year and met with great enthusiasm from parents and children, will take place on both Saturday and Sunday mornings from 9 A.M. to 10 A.M. in the South Campus cafeteria. Children and their families can have breakfast with their favorite book characters, such as Clifford the Big Red Dog, Curious George, and Winnie the Pooh. The event is free but requires pre-registration by calling 1-800-U-READ-IT.

For the latest updates about the 2005 Connecticut Children’s Book Fair, please see bookfair@uconn.edu. If you would like to help as a volunteer, contact Billie Kapp, billiekapp@aol.com or 860-647-0097.

UConn graduate Jean Marzollo (Class of ’64) is one of the many authors who will participate in the 2005 Connecticut Children’s Book Fair. Marzollo has published more than 100 children’s titles on science, history, poetry and sports, and is best known for her I Spy series of educational books. She recently began a new series of books based on stories from the Bible, Miriam and Her Brother Moses. Daniel in the Lion’s Den and David and Goliath are illustrated with her paintings. These books, along with her latest publication—Little Bear: You’re a Star: A Greek Myth about the Constellations—will be available for purchase at the Fair.
The Wharton Data Research Service
New Database Suite Transforms Academic Financial Research
Shelley Cudiner and Amy Dunbar

The UConn School of Business has purchased an ongoing subscription to the Wharton Data Research Service (WRDS) for business faculty and students and is enabling access to the service for all other UConn faculty, PhD and graduate students for legitimate academic use. Thanks to a collaborative effort between the School of Business and the UConn Libraries, this state-of-the-art service will change the face of empirical archival research at UConn.

WRDS is an Internet tool created at the University of Pennsylvania’s Wharton School of Business to help business faculty access and analyze large downloads of financial data. It has transformed academic business research by allowing users to access various business databases directly, without having to write the detailed programs previously required to manage such data. As a result, business faculty and other users can download and merge files to create personal data sets for research and analysis—and they can do this from their desktop, at home or at work.

In the past, the School of Business maintained several CD-ROM databases for research, which meant that faculty had to access data while on the Storrs campus. WRDS maintains these CD-ROM databases, plus over 100 additional data files, on site at Wharton, and provides password-protected access over the Web. UNIX access is also available.

The UConn subscription also includes server space to save research files and access to SAS 9 for file manipulation. Programmers and statistical experts at Wharton are available 24/7 to assist with any issues or problems that may arise. Faculty can create datasets on the Wharton server and no longer need to store data on their hard drives. The WRDS Web search page provides a unified interface to all data files, eliminating different interfaces for various products.

WRDS not only enhances research opportunities for UConn faculty and students, but also serves as a recruitment incentive for faculty seeking tenure-track positions.

Some of the common data and data sets accessible via WRDS include:

- **Compustat** Data: Balance sheets, income statements and other company-based financial items, bank financials. Data sets: Industrial, full coverage, research, and backdata annual/quarterly, business industry segments price, dividends, earnings, bank annual/quarterly
- **Center for Research in Security Prices (CRSP)** Data: Stock prices and returns, U.S. Treasury interest rates. Data Sets: Monthly/daily stock files, indices files, bonds, bills, and inflation files
- **Institutional Brokers’ Estimate System (I/B/E/S)** Data: Analysts forecasts. Data Sets: Daily detailed history, summary history
- **Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC)** Data: Banking industry conditions. Data Sets: All files

**Finding a World**
Continued from page 1

information as in a 2004 supplement to the “Compendium of Statutory and Regulatory Mandates on Municipalities in Connecticut,” or even simpler, “The Pesticide Content of Connecticut Tomatoes.”

Not only do these pamphlets have unusual contents they often come from unexpected sources. Thus, it is interesting to discover that a pamphlet dealing with “Preemption and Two Front Conventional Warfare” originated at the Leonard Davis Institute for International Relations at the University of Jerusalem.

Many pamphlets appear as separate entities, but many also participate as parts in an extensive publication series. In the series on North American Birds, mentioned earlier, each bird species is dealt with in a separate pamphlet, some of them with as many as 300 references indicating extensive and exhaustive research. There is a series in which the CEOs of a variety of industrial and commercial enterprises, such as banks or railroads, provide brief histories of their particular endeavors. One large pamphlet series describes a wide variety (more than 400) of career possibilities; e.g., how to become a plastic surgeon or an assistant nurse, a theoretical physicist, or a garage mechanic. Each pamphlet gives a brief history of the prospective career, its pros and cons, and short autobiographical sketches of some prominent individuals who pursue it. One can learn from the diary career pamphlet, for example, that the initial steps of dairying occurred in 8000 BC in Persia.

Together, these pamphlets reflect the vast scope and infinite diversity of human activities and interests—which is the most surprising revelation of sewing paperbacks into hard covers.

**Professor Emeritus Henry Herrmann, Molecular and Cell Biology Department at UConn, is a founding member of the American Society for Cell Biology and a Fellow of the New York Academy of Science. Born in Vienna, Austria in 1911, he received his MD degree from the University of Vienna in 1936. He is the author of 114 research articles, 12 book chapters, and two monographs. Dr. Herrmann has been a faithful volunteer in the Libraries’ Conservation Laboratory since Fall 1999. An earlier version of his essay appeared in The Glen Ridge Gazette: An occasional publication of the Glen Ridge Community, Storrs, CT. No. 13, April 20, 2005.**

**Global Insight** (provided by UConn Libraries)
Data: U.S. and international macroeconomics. Data Sets: Annual, quarterly and monthly Basic economics

Faculty and students who wish to use WRDS will sign up for an account and password at the WRDS website. The UConn Libraries will manage user verification with user eligibility determined by the School of Business. For further information, contact Shelley Cudiner at shelley.cudiner@uconn.edu or go to the School of Business website.

Shelley Cudiner is the business reference librarian at the Jeremy Richard Library on UConn’s Storrs campus, and Amy Dunbar is associate professor of accounting on the Storrs campus.

**Shelley Cudiner and Amy Dunbar**

**Ralph Arcari** retired on June 30 from his position as associate vice president for academic resources and services and director of the Lyman Maynard Stowe Library at the UConn Health Center, where he worked for 30 years. Under his direction, the UCHC Library developed Heathnet, the Connecticut Consumer Health Information program; EFTS, an interlibrary loan billing service for health sciences libraries in the U.S., Canada and Mexico with 1030 participants; and served as the Regional Medical Library for New England from 1991 to 2001 in the National Network of Libraries of Medicine. The Health Center Library was extensively renovated in 2004 as an information commons and was rededicated in May 2005.

Ralph earned his MSLS at Drexel and holds an MA in political science from Trinity College and a PhD in higher education from UConn. As an assistant professor in the UCHC Community Medicine Department, he taught the history of medicine elective course in the School of Medicine. He also taught a course in medical librarianship at Southern Connecticut State University.

Ralph served two terms as president of the Capitol Region Library Council and was honored as the Connecticut Library Association’s Librarian of the Year in 1987. He received the Rogers Award for Information Technology from the Medical Library Association in 2003.

**Susanna Cowan** joined the Babbbidge Library staff in August as undergraduate education and outreach librarian. She received her BA from Swarthmore College and her PhD in English from the University of Utah. From 1993 to 2002, she taught English, writing, communications, and honors classes at several universities and colleges. Susanna began her association with the University of Connecticut Librarians in 2003 as an intern working with the Libraries’ principal bibliographer, getting first hand experience in materials selection, liaison duties, personnel supervision, and ejournals management. She moved to Research and Information Services in the Fall of 2003, where she taught up to 20 classes each semester and developed teaching materials and active learning experiences. In May 2005 she was awarded her MLS from Southern Connecticut State University. Susanna will work with Kathy Labadorf, Shikha Sharma, and Shelley Roseman (from Stamford) to coordinate the information literacy program for first year students. She will teach information literacy and library research methods to students in English 110/111 and will develop new outreach activities directed at undergraduate programs and student organizations.

**Shelley Cudiner**
Yes, I want to be a Friend! if so, I want to donate a tax-deductible contribution to support the University of Connecticut Libraries in the amount of:

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Please make check payable to the UConn Foundation and send with this form to: Linda Perrone, Director of Library External Relations, Babbidge Library, 369 Fairfield Road, Unit 1005-A, Storrs, CT 06269-1005.

DigitalCommons@UConn (continued from page 1)

formats such as PowerPoint presentations and pdfs—will pose a challenge to our ability to preserve all files that are in the repository. The libraries are therefore investigating preservation issues and developing plans, so that the content will be available far into the future.

Accessibility is a driving force behind institutional repositories. DigitalCommons@UConn is an “open access” repository; its content is available to anyone. This means that the research stored there may be viewed by a wider audience than is typically granted with conventional publication methods. Both authors and users of the content stand to benefit: authors, because their efforts can and will be seen and appreciated by researchers around the world; and users, who will gain access to more information than has been available previously.

DigitalCommons@UConn is still in its pilot phase, and a select number of communities are participating to demonstrate the potential of the repository. A limited number of objects—text files, presentations, and audio and video files—are being added, while the library assesses the repository’s value and success.

Participating Communities include the Institute of Water Resources, which has loaded a series of special reports; the Senior Honors Program, which is contributing senior honors theses; the Teachers Education Resource Community and the Mathematics Education Research Group, both interdisciplinary programs based within the School of Education; and the Center for HIV Intervention and Prevention.

DigitalCommons@UConn can serve individuals as well as institutes, centers, or other communities. Professor Tom Meyer, from the Department of Natural Resources Management and Engineering, has contributed recent articles from several peer-reviewed journals as a way to enhance access to his research. He comments, “As a scholar, I feel it is my purpose to create and review journals as a way to enhance access to his research. He comments, “As a scholar, I feel it is my purpose to create and disseminate knowledge widely and freely. Information dissemination via the Web is probably the greatest breakthrough in knowledge sharing in many centuries. DigitalCommons@UConn struck me as a system that can play a part in helping me accomplish this goal.” The ease with which documents can be loaded means that there is little burden on the content creator. “The process of loading my articles in the Commons was painless and simple; no more difficult than uploading any other file to a remote computer,” reports Dr. Meyer.

Having UConn’s research output in electronic form and collected in a single location will also benefit the entire University. The breadth and depth of the research and researchers at the University will be demonstrated to potential faculty, researchers, students, and donors, helping to ensure that UConn attracts the best of each. In addition, it represents a commitment to public service, an effort to make our research available to those who might use it.

The pilot phase of the project is set to end in March 2006. If the decision is made to fully implement the repository, the limit on the number of contributions will no longer be in effect, opening the door for all who are interested in expanding access to their research, increasing the visibility of their work, and contributing to the development of a comprehensive collection of scholarly research across subject disciplines.

Jonathan Nade is a reference librarian and liaison to the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. He can be reached at jonathan.nade@uconn.edu or at 860-486-6688. The DigitalCommons@UConn can be accessed at digitalcommons.uconn.edu
The Thomas J. Dodd Research Center
Celebrating 10 Years of Service

The University of Connecticut Libraries established its Special Collections Department in September 1965 in the Wilbur Cross Library. The collection began with a modest assortment of rare books, some processed manuscripts, 557 cataloged volumes, U.S. Army maps, and a commitment to assemble the University’s archives. Today, the holdings of Archives & Special Collections have grown to over 25,000 linear feet and more than 185,000 cataloged items. Much of this growth can be attributed to the creation of the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center in 1995. The Center has become a forum for the University of Connecticut, the citizens of Connecticut, and scholars from around the world to share and to celebrate the academic and cultural treasures housed there. This 10th anniversary exhibit includes representative items from the major collections in Archives & Special Collections, as well as photographs and objects from special events sponsored by the Dodd Research Center.

Dodd Research Center Gallery, through December 30

Bob Englehart Master of the Editorial Cartoon

Two hundred and fifty times a year, for nearly 25 years, Bob Englehart, the first full-time editorial cartoonist for The Hartford Courant has been giving the paper’s readers a piece of his mind in the form of a drawing that says something pithy about a politician, a policy, or perhaps the awesome performance of the Husky basketball teams. Englehart recently donated more than 30 of his original drawings to Archives & Special Collections. The cartoons in this exhibit are from his more recent work. Englehart has published several collections of his syndicated editorial cartoons, in addition to illustrating a children’s book and providing television cartoon commentary. He lives and works in Middletown.

Babbidge Library, Gallery on the Plaza, through October 14

What’s Past Is Prologue

The public is cordially invited to attend a program of readings from entertaining, informative, and significant items in the Archives & Manuscripts collections. Readers include: former U.S. Ambassador Thomas J. Dodd, Jr., Abbie Hoffman’s brother Jack Hoffman, Dean of the School of Nursing Laura Dzurec, Provost Peter J. Nichols, Vice Provost Greg Anderson, and Gary English, head of the department of dramatic arts in the School of Fine Arts. The program will conclude with a ceremony honoring Richard Schimmelpfeng, head of special collections from 1965 to 1991, for his contributions to the Libraries during his 40 years as a staff member, volunteer, and donor.

September 21, 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.
Konover Auditorium, Dodd Research Center
Reception to follow

Photographs by Meredith Miller

Meredith Miller photographs women who struggle with obesity, seeking to challenge our perception of these women and to broaden our ideas of femininity. She says of her work, “My visual language, inspired by Rubens’ treatment of voluptuous nudes, enables me to photograph large women so that their beauty and grace transcend their generous girth. I hope to show my subjects a new way of seeing themselves, and my audience a new way of seeing my subjects—as classically beautiful women.” Miller’s photography has been exhibited in New England and beyond since 1996. She lives and works in New Haven.

Babbidge Library, Stevens Gallery, through October 14

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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.
Editor David Kapp