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Suzanne Zack

University of Connecticut - Storrs, suzanne.zack@uconn.edu

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Artificial Intelligence
by Brinley Franklin
Director, University Library Services

Artificial Intelligence, a Steven Spielberg/Stanley Kubrick project about a robot/boy (a mechanized human, or “mecha”) living in the not-too-distant future, was one of last summer’s blockbuster movies. The primary struggle portrayed in the film deals with the robot/boy’s Pinocchio-like quest to become a real child, but there are other intriguing sub-themes, notably the ability of scientists to endow mecha with human-like characteristics, including artificial intelligence.

In one sequence, the robot/boy seeks the blue fairy from Pinocchio so that she can instruct him how to become a real child. In the course of his search, he is led to Dr. Know, a mechanized purveyor of information. Dr. Know conjures up images of a cross between the Wizard of Oz, drawn from the past, and the present day Ask Jeeves, a self-described “leading provider of intuitive, intelligent Web interaction solutions delivering a humanized online experience.”

It is clear from his responses to the robot/boy that Dr. Know cannot differentiate reality from fantasy as he recites “information” drawn from his knowledge bank. Much like the robot/boy, Dr. Know lacks the critical thinking skills to be genuinely knowledgeable.

One of the challenges facing higher education today is to prepare students to be knowledgeable in a world made increasingly more confusing by a complex information environment. Just as the robot/boy is led to believe that Dr. Know has the answers in a future world where “information is the most precious commodity,” many of today’s institutions of higher learning rely increasingly on students’ online experiences to help educate them. As educators, we must ensure that our students learn to evaluate the relative worth of information they discover—both in print and online.

The Association of College and Research Libraries acknowledges this quandary in Informa-
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The Human Rights Semester at UConn
Lectures, Conferences & Exhibits Will Explore Issues in Human Rights
by Thomas Wilsted
Director, Thomas J. Dodd Research Center & Area Head, Archives & Special Collections

Chancellor John Petersen has designated the fall semester of 2001 as the Human Rights Semester at UConn, a powerful symbol of the university’s firm commitment to the achievement of fundamental human rights for all the world’s people. A series of lectures, conferences, exhibits, and special programs is intended to involve students, faculty, and the public in issues that have an impact on human beings in the United States and abroad and to encourage individual involvement as a means of creating societal change.

The Human Rights Semester reflects a growing human rights program at the University of Connecticut, in which the University Libraries play a central role. The 1995 dedication of the then new Thomas J. Dodd Research Center was followed by a year of programming on human rights topics, during which a series of world leaders visited the campus to raise awareness of and stimulate interest in these issues. The “Dodd Year” led to the development of the on-going UConn/African National Congress partnership that has been created to preserve ANC archives and to develop an oral history focusing on ANC party members and leaders.

In the spring of 2001, the university approved an academic minor in human rights, and the first classes will be offered during the fall semester. Other efforts to expand human rights academic programs on campus in recent years include the endorsement by Raymond and Beverly Sackler of the Sackler Distinguished Lecture in Human Rights at the Dodd Center, and the establishment of the Gladstein Distinguished Visiting Professor of Human Rights by UConn alumnus Gary Gladstein. Dr. Wiktor Ostojiński, of the Central European University, Budapest-Warsaw and visiting professor at the University of Chicago Law School, was the first Gladstein visiting lecturer.

The offices of the president, the chancellor, the dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and the Dodd Center have provided funding to support the programs and activities of the Human Rights Semester. A planning committee, chaired by Thomas Wilsted, director of the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center, established a program of competitive mini-grants available to faculty and students who wish to sponsor an activity. A faculty committee reviewed a total of thirty-three applications and awarded a total of $25,000 for nineteen projects.

Incoming UConn freshmen were introduced to the Human Rights Semester when author Stephen Gould talked about his book The Means of Man, during Freshman Orientation in August. Rhoda Howard Hassman, the second Gladstein Distinguished Professor and author of Human Rights and the Search for Community and the International Handbook of Human Rights, will inaugurate the semester officially when she lectures on September 25, speaking about “Hu-
man Rights and the Culture Wars.” Activities and events will continue through Human Rights Day, December 10, 2001, and will take place on the Storrs, Hartford, Torrington, and Stamford Campuses.

Program sponsors include: the Schools of Law, Family Studies, and Nursing; the Colleges of Agriculture and Natural Resources and Liberal Arts and Sciences; the Institutes for African American, Asian American, Latin American & Caribbean, and Puerto Rican & Latino Studies; the Asian American Cultural Center, the Women’s Studies Program, the Center for Students with
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Visit Colonial Connecticut Via a New Digital Collection

Are you curious about what life was like in Connecticut in the 17th and 18th centuries? What did people grow in their gardens and on their farms? What were the penalties for idleness or adultery? How did the Colony view the Indians? Now, a new digital collection, "Colonial Connecticut Records" (CCR), allows you to step back in time at <www.colonialct.uconn.edu>. The CCR contains a wealth of information dealing with Connecticut's history, politics, law, agriculture, society, Indians, military activities, foreign relations, and a great deal more.

State historian Christopher Collier states that, "Basic to any serious research in Connecticut history between 1640 and 1820 are... The Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut." About four years ago a group of history graduate students met with David Avery, supervisor of the Librarians' Colonial Records Documents Collection to voice their concern over the fact that the print volumes of The Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut 1636-1776 were frequently missing from the library stacks, even though they were non-circulating. The meeting inspired David to seek a digital solution to the problem, and the idea for the CCR was born.

Through contacts at the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center, a partnership was struck. With Kevin McBr ide, Brian Jones, Paul Grant-Costa and Tobias Glaza, scanning specifications were worked out, and the architecture for the project began to take place. At the library, David worked with webmaster Steve Wieda, digital collections librarian Heidi Abbey, and the Digital Collections Planning Team to create the finished product.

CCR users gain access to the Public Records by browsing the A-Z subject index, or by searching date or volume and page number. Direct access to charts, laws, wills, estate inventories, and other documents is possible through the Colonial Pathways link. Full-text and keyword access to the text is not yet available, but future phases of the project will incorporate this level of advanced access. Visit the CCR and explore Connecticut's past.

Babbidge Extends Service Hours; Dodd Offers Saturday Service

Hours in the Babbidge Library and Dodd Research Center have been altered in response to new service demands. Early in the fall 2000 term, Justin Carbonella, then chair of the USG Academic Affairs Commit tee, approached the library administration, petitioning for an increase in Babbidge Library weekend and final exam hours. Justin spoke passionately about enhancing intellectual life on the Storrs campus and of changing the prevailing culture from that of a five-day suitcase school to a seven-day university. He pointed out that, aside from the Babbidge Library, there were no reliable options on campus for students seeking quiet study space Friday and Saturday evenings or workstations for preparing papers and media presentations, and no place for conducting information research or for preparing group projects. The USG was asking the library staff to partner with them in fostering the new seven-day culture on the Storrs campus.

Later in the fall semester the USG and the Student Library Advisory Committee conducted a joint survey of some 250 library users on this issue. Results indicated overwhelming interest in extended library hours, providing significant support to the call for longer hours being received from individuals and groups on an increasing basis. After reviewing the survey results and other comments, analyzing hourly exit statistics, and preparing cost analyses, the library's Leadership Council unanimously endorsed the USG request for increased hours on both weekends and during final exams. The new hours for Babbidge Library are:

Babbidge Plaza

Sunday 10 am–Midnight
Monday 10 am–7 pm
Tuesday-Friday 10 am–10 pm
Saturday 10 am–1 pm
Hours in both Babbidge and Dodd are reduced during recess periods. For detailed information, consult the library's web site at <www.lib.uconn.edu>.

Major Changes Planned for Babbidge Plaza

During the summer, the general circulation desk and the reserve circulation desk, on the Plaza Level of Babbidge Library, were combined. Patrons can now use either service at a single desk. The consolidation of these two service points is the first step in a much larger project to reconfigure Plaza Level services over the course of the coming year.

Boyson Family Donates Children’s Literature Collection

Bert Boyson, a resident of Brookfield, Connecticut, along with his daughter and son, has donated a major collection of children's books and associated items to Archives & Special Collections. The collection, consisting of some 5500 items, has been given in memory of Mr. Boyson's late wife, Phyllis Hirsch Boyson, and is named in her honor.

Mr. Boyson amassed the collection during her career of teaching and working with children. She focused her collecting on three areas of special interest: historical works, Judaica, and works by and about Native Americans. During the summer, work was begun on a database that will list the items in the collection and provide access to them for researchers. For more information, please contact Terri Goldich, curator of the Children's Literature Collections, at terri-goldich@uconn.edu or 860-486-3646.
The library has purchased and begun to implement a new collection security system. The Checkpoint Intelligent Library System will improve self-checkout capabilities for users and provide unmediated exit control for the library. In addition, it interfaces with the library’s En-deavor Voyager management system, and will allow for improved inventory control, eliminate the need for paper pocket cards, and provide an automated inventory for reshelving statistics and automated shelf reading.

The new Checkpoint system uses radio frequency identification technology for collection management and has been installed successfully in other large libraries, but Babbidge Library is the first main library at an Association of Research Libraries institution to use the technology. Implementation of the system will enable the library to eliminate the staffed exit control desk while still maintaining collection security.

Architectural plans for the physical renovation of the entrance and exit gate configuration are being developed by Allan De Har Associates of New Haven, the firm responsible for the renovation of the Babbidge Library. Complete implementation of all phases of the project is expected to take a year.

E-Books Available Via netLibrary

NetLibrary, the leading provider of ebooks, provides full-text searchable books for use on personal computers in online and offline formats. NetLibrary has both public and private collections and offers electronic access to the publications of more than 300 of the world’s leading publishers. The public collection, available to all subscribers to netLibrary (<www.netlibrary.com>), contains over 3500 classic works in the public domain in ebook format.

The University of Connecticut Libraries participates in the NELINET/NetLibrary Shared Collection program, which now includes over 3500 current and imprint ebooks. The Shared Collection is available only to members of the university community who have registered at NetLibrary from a computer within the UConn domain. Bibliographic records for the Shared Collection are included in the libraries’ online catalog.

University E-Records

The team drafting a strategic plan for the university’s electronic records (Tom Wilsted, Betsy Pittman, Elaine David, and Tom Ruller, consultant) met for the last time in June. At that meeting, the team demonstrated for its Advisory Board a power point presentation that will be used to educate the university community about the significance of the information now being created, stored, and used electronically throughout the campus and how it should be preserved.

The group discussed the future of the project, now that the strategic plan has been approved by the chancellor’s staff. Several proposals for collaboration with peer institutions facing similar issues were put forward. Currently, the team is working with the Chancellor’s Office to develop a formal committee that will include representatives from all areas of the university. The committee will be charged with crafting the necessary legislation to allow the university to move forward with an electronic records project. The team will also work to formulate a plan for implementation of the strategic plan. Paper copies of the proposal can be made available to the university community for review.

Homer’s Rapid Retrieval Service

Homer’s Rapid Retrieval Service, a new, fee-based service available to Storrs campus faculty, enables the user to request and receive materials from the Homer Babbidge Library collection in portable document format (PDF). Within the guidelines of copyright and fair use, users may request delivery to their desktop of conference papers, journal articles, chapters from books, and other items from the paper or microform collections of the Babbidge Library.

Faculty members who sign up for the service may request materials using the Document Delivery/Interlibrary Loan web request application, selecting Rapid Retrieval as the delivery option. The requested material will be retrieved, scanned, and delivered as a PDF file that can be viewed, printed, and saved with the Acrobat Reader. PDF is the only format in which documents will be made available to Rapid Retrieval participants. Documents that contain color images and graphics are supported in this format. Requests may be submitted 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Every effort will be made to turn requests around within one business day when classes are in session. Each document scanned will carry a nominal fee of $2. Participating faculty will be invoiced monthly. Payment can be made via check or credit card.

For more information, contact Document Delivery/Interlibrary Loan at udoc@lib.uconn.edu or 860-486-4959.

Colleen Callahan is the new circulation supervisor for the Music & Dramatic Arts Library. The considerable experience that she brings to the position includes work in customer service at the Jorgensen Auditorium, managing the UConn choral library for several years, teaching voice pedagogy in the Music Department, and working to integrate a music curriculum into a K-6 program. Colleen is completing the requirements for a Master’s degree in music performance (vocal) in the UConn Department of Music.

Maureen Coonan, technical services assistant for the Jeremy Richaud Library on the Storrs/UConn campus, retired in early July. Maureen will be sorely missed for her many competencies, wonderful sense of humor, and gracious way with the public.

Kristin Esthelman has joined the staff of the Dodd Research Center as curator of multi-media collections and coordinator of teaching services. Kristin served as photo archivist for the University of Kansas from 1995 to 2001; prior to that appointment she was a cataloger at the Center for Creative Photography at the University of Arizona. [Photo: James W. Seavall]

Tom Jacoby retired as art and design librarian and medieval studies bibliographer at the end of August 2001 after more than twenty-two years of service to the university. Tom was a PhD student in medieval art history at UCLA when earning graduate degrees in art history and library services at UCLA and an undergraduate degree in business from Loyola University of Los Angeles.

Tom joined the University of Connecticut Libraries in 1979. Immediately prior to his arrival at UConn, he served as the fine arts librarian and bibliographer at SUNY Binghamton. He also held various library positions at UCLA and the University of California, Riverside and lectured in art history and archaeology at several colleges and universities, including Trinity College in Hartford.

Tom achieved the highest librarian rank at the University of Connecticut in 1995, when he was promoted to University Associate Librarian. He has been active in the Art Libraries Society of North America as well as in its New England chapter throughout his career and has held a number of positions in the society, both regionally and nationally. He also holds membership in the Society of Architectural Historians and is a founding member of the Connecticut Committee for the Preservation of Architectural Records (CoCOPAR), which he continues to serve as a member of the board of directors. He has been instrumental in the design of the CoCOPAR database, which is about to be made web-accessible. Tom continues to collaborate with Hildegard Cummings, retired curator of education at the William Benton Museum of Art, on expanding the coverage of the Connecticut Arts Project (ConnAP) to embrace histories and indexes of exhibitors and prize-winners in the exhibitions of the various artists’ organizations active in Connecticut.

Beyond his library work, Tom has contributed to the University of Connecticut by serving as a member of the University Senate, the University Budget Committee, the Senate Curricula and Courses Committee, and chair of the Student Life Committee of the University Senate.

Tom’s deep interest in art and design contributed in large part to the strengths of the University’s Art and Design Library collections. He built sound relationships for the University Libraries with the Benton Museum and the departments of art, art history, and landscape design. Under his leadership, a dedicated cadre of volunteers was recruited to work in the Art & Design Library, contributing greatly to building the collections and making them accessible to patrons.

In retirement, Tom will continue to pursue his passion for art history by assuming content editorship responsibility for Art Documentation: Bulletin of the Art Libraries Society of North America, which is an MRIA sponsored, primary refereed publication. Tom is a talented photographer, and many of his photographs of early Christian/ Byzantine churches in Syria are in the Dumbarton Oaks research collections in Washington, DC. He plans to continue indexing his personal collection of several thousand such photographs for scholarly purposes. Just for fun, he also hopes to master the art of bread-making, travel, and finally, to learn how to ride a bike. We will miss Tom as a colleague and wish him all the best in his retirement.

Jill Livingston is the Librarian’s new reference librarian/ liaison to the Schools of Nursing and Allied Health. Jill earned her BA in Communications at UM/Amherst and received her MS in Library Science from Simmons College. She served as a National Library of Medicine Informatics Fellow in 1995.

Subsequent positions she held in the libraries of Simmons College and the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, she became education coordinator for the National Network of Libraries of Medicine in the New England Region. In this role she developed training materials and provided training on NLM software, Internet resources, and Internet searching; wrote articles on NLM issues and other topics of interest to medical librarians in New England, and promoted NLM products at regional and national conferences. Most recently, Jill has been an information services librarian at the University of Connecticut Health Center, where her duties included reference, instruction, webmaster, grant coordinator, and editor of the library newsletter. She currently serves as president of the Connecticut Association of Health Sciences Librarians and as programming chair for the North Atlantic Health Sciences Librarians 2001 conference.

Scott McEathron, map cataloger and liaison to the Departments of Natural Resources and Geology and Geophysics, has been appointed to become assistant map and geography librarian at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

Susan Martin, acquisitions librarian in the Babbitt Library and liaison for French and Italian literature, has resigned to become technical services librarian at Quinnipiac Community College in Worcester, MA. Susan helped to develop library policy for the licensing and acquisition of electronic resources and played a key role in the procurement and implementation of the Voyager system.

Audra Porteous has joined the staff of the Administrative Offices following four years of employment with the Libraries as a UConn undergraduate. Audra’s duties include the reception, travel arrangements, assignment of research studies and student hiring.

Connie Roberts, the Libraries’ principal catalog librarian and liaison to the Departments of Philosophy and Linguistics, has resigned to become head of technical services at Hamilton College.

Connie earned a Master’s degree in library science at Peabody College, now part of Vanderbilt University. She also received a Bachelor’s degree in history from the College of Saint Rose in Albany, New York. After receiving her library science degree, Connie spent three years as a cataloger at three institutions, including the Georgia Institute of Technology.

Connie joined the UConn Libraries in 1986 as a serials cataloger. She was promoted to the rank of University Assistant Librarian in 1995 and has served as the Libraries’ principal catalog librarian since the early 1990s. Connie has contributed her skills to many library group efforts, including the American Academy of Religion. In the Process in 1995, the Organizational Review in 1996, the HOMER 2 Processing Task Team in 1999, and the Task Force on Access to Electronic Resources in 2000. She has also contributed her skills at the Babbitt Library reference desk.

Connie has been active in professional organizations during her tenure at UConn. She served as membership chair for the Association of College and Research Libraries/New England Chapter and has also been active in the North American Serials Interest Group, the Connecticut Library Association, and the New England Library Association.

The Libraries have been fortunate to benefit from Connie’s catalytic expertise for the last fifteen years. She helped lead us from a card catalog to first and second generation integrated library systems. We wish her continued success in her new role at Hamilton College.

Dipa Roy, the Libraries’ team leader for reserve services, was honored in April with one of the university’s five initial Women of Color Recognition Awards. A staff member since 1979, Dipa received the award in recognition of her outstanding contributions to the library and to the university community.

Dipa’s excellent relationships with university faculty have enabled her to build one of the most effective and more heavily used reserves operations in the state. Since 1995, she has also worked to develop the electronic course reserves program into one of the largest and most successful of the Libraries’ digital projects; her peers in New England recognize her as a pioneer and a leader in this area of library service. In addition to her service on many library teams and her participation in various professional organizations, Dipa has given generously of her time and energy to the university at large.

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George Waller retired from the Information Technology Services Area (ITS) on June 1, following 27 years of service to the University Libraries. George joined the staff in 1974 as a university library assistant, performing pre-order searching and copy cataloging. In 1983 he was selected to be a part of a project team charged with procuring and implementing the library’s first integrated library system. During this period, he also planned and supervised the retrospective conversion of the library’s collections from the MARC cards to an integrated library system. During this period, he also planned and supervised the retrospective conversion of the library’s collections from the MARC cards to an integrated library system.

George has made many contributions to the University Libraries; among them, some of our most significant technology “firsts”:

- He introduced the first PC workstations to the library in 1988.
- He implemented the first email system for the library in 1988.
- He justified and implemented the first server for the library and was the first server administrator.

Beyond the library, George pursues many areas of personal interest and expertise. He is an experienced genealogist and historian who maintains a regional genealogy website and assists the Mansfield Historical Society with their research. In addition, George is an avid and prolific volleyball player and an expert in rock and roll music of the 1950s and early 1960s. We’re grateful for his contributions to the library and we wish him well in his new life.

Staff News
Continued from page 4

Astrid Terman Balluh Library circulation systems librarian since 1998, has resigned to accept a position as systems librarian for digital libraries at the University of Connecticut in Madison in 1998. Among her most recent awards are residencies at: Casa Manilva, Manilva, Spain (1995); Fundacion Valpraiso, Mogacar, Spain (1996); the Gail Riaiag Project, Ballinskelligs, Ireland, (1998); Cite Internationale des Arts, Paris (1999); Sanskriti Kendra, New Delhi, India (1999); and the Kanoria Center for Arts, Ahmedabad India (1999). A Fulbright award will take her back to India in 2002, where she will teach at the Government College of Arts in Madras from January through June.

Recent one person exhibitions include: Galerie du Tableau, Marseilles France, (1999); the Bruce Museum, Greenwich, CT (2000); the Irish Art Center, NYC (2000); and the Chitrakirangeth Gallery, Trivandrum, India (2001). Two person exhibitions include 100 Pearl St. Gallery, Hartford (2001); and the Lenore Gray Gallery, Providence (2001).

Ms. Myers’ work has also been shown at the DeCordova Museum, Lincoln, MA; the Appleton Museum of Art, Ocala, FL; the Musar Museum of Art, Monro, LA; DeLand Museum of Art, DeLand, FL; the Frizzell Cultural Center, Fort Myers, FL; the C&A Gallery, New York, NY; the Mahler Gallery, Washington, DC; the Struve Gallery, Chicago; and the Galerie Silvano Lodigiani, Milan, Italy.

The opening reception for the Kathryn Myers exhibit will be held on Thursday, September 6, from 6 to 7:30 PM in the Stevens Gallery, prior to the opening reception for the Annual Faculty Exhibit at the William Benton Museum of Art, scheduled for 7 to 9 PM the same evening. Both events are free and open to the public.

Trecker Uncovers Cache of 70s Campus Newsletters
by William Uricchio, Director, Harleigh B. Trecker Library

Staff at the Harleigh B. Trecker Library, on the Greater Hartford Regional Campus, recently discovered a collection of student-produced newsletters from the 1970s. The newsletters had been neatly organized and saved by a long-time employee who uncovered them as he moved files from an office to another location.

The collection, which contains names like The Jacobin, Unicorn, Conn, Mercury, Intercon, and one issue entitled Suggestions for the Yale for the Newspaper, provide an interesting window into a volatile time in the University’s history.

A random examination of Intercon, one of the “official” news sources, indicates that the Greater Hartford Campus, then newly relocated to the current West Hartford site from an historic mansion in Hartford’s posh West End, was home to a number of activities which have long ceased to exist. Frequent references to athletics (e.g., a 7 and 3 season for the “Hartford Huskies” baseball team in 1971 and a basketball team complete with championships and cheerleaders), an active drama club that offered Tea and Symphony and other “major productions” at Trinity College’s Austin Arts Center, and a busy and increasingly controversial ROTC operation, among other typical college life activities, provide insight into a campus which was striving to provide a broad undergraduate experience for its students.

While Intercon contains its share of period Vietnam War related materials, alternative newsletters like The jacobin used most of their space for political commentary. The very first jacobin issue contained an article entitled “Entropy at UCH” and “POW Hypocrisy.” A cartoon took President Richard M. Nixon to task for comments made in response to the My Lai incident, and the paper quoted Hermann Goering on ways governments manipulate citizens so they will participate in military efforts.

No campus is complete without one or more students who prefer to take a wry look at their times as witnessed by this letter which appeared in the Intercon in 1973: “Dear Editor in Concern: I am concerned concerningly. Their use of the word “concern” concerns me deeply. The concern of the concerned students is truly concern of the concerned students. Their use of the word “concern” concerns me deeply. The concern of the concerned students is truly concerned with the issues concerning them. If the word “concern” is to be used, it must concern the issues concerned. [signed] Concernedly, an Interconcerned Student.” To protect the fragile sheets and to make them available to the broader UConn community, the Trecker Library’s newsletter collection will be relocated to the university’s archives at the Dodd Research Center.
The Human Rights Semester at UConn

Disabilities, the Rainbow Center, the UConn/ANC Partnership, the Departments of Anthropology, Sociology, History, Philosophy, and Dramatic Arts; the Benton Museum of Art, the Student Union Board of Governors, and the University Libraries.

Some of the topics being addressed include the rights of the disabled, access to health care, human rights education, the rights of children, reparations to Holocaust survivors and African Americans, capital punishment, and access to adequate nutrition.

Among the speakers are Lani Guinier, Professor of Law at Harvard University (October 4) and author of The Memoirs of Lani Guinier; Martin Biner, author of The Debt: What America Owes Blacks (November 6); and Dith Pran, author of The Killing Fields (November 15).

The University of Connecticut Libraries will be an active participant in the Human Rights Semester. On October 30, 2001, Father Robert Drinan will present the Sackler Lecture on Human Rights and the new illustrated version.

Thursday, October 11, 7:00 pm

“The Rider from Nowhere,” are from the three-part serial in Argosy under the title “The Rider from Nowhere,” are from the collection of University of Connecticut professor Carl Schaefer, the author’s son.

The exhibit also features printed versions of the novel, including the dedication copy inscribed to Jack to his son Carl (to whom the book was dedicated), and a copy of the new Houghton Mifflin “Illustrated American Classic” version with Wendell Minor’s images. Mr. Minor, one of the nation’s preeminent book illustrators, lives and works in Washington, Connecticut.

The public is invited to attend a special presentation and book signing.

Shane

Revisiting an American Classic

Shane, the classic 1949 western novel by Jack Warner Schaefer, recounts the story of a stranger who helps settlers overcome land-hungry ranchers. Director George Stevens and actors Alan Ladd and Jack Palance brought the story to the screen in a highly successful 1953 film, which was nominated for five Oscars, including best picture and best director.

A new edition of Shane, richly illustrated by Wendell Minor, affords an opportunity to revisit this timeless story through words and images. In addition to Mr. Minor’s preliminary sketches and his brilliant original paintings for the new edition, this exhibit includes pages from two versions of the original manuscript. Those from the novel have been loaned by the American Heritage Center at the University of Wyoming. Those from an earlier 1946 version, published as a three-part serial in Argosy under the title “The Rider from Nowhere,” are from the collection of University of Connecticut professor Carl Schaefer, the author’s son.

The exhibit also features printed versions of the novel, including the dedication copy inscribed to Jack to his son Carl (to whom the book was dedicated), and a copy of the new Houghton Mifflin “Illustrated American Classic” version with Wendell Minor’s images. Mr. Minor, one of the nation’s preeminent book illustrators, lives and works in Washington, Connecticut.

The public is invited to attend a special presentation and book signing.

Wendell Minor and Carl Schaefer will talk about Shane, its author, and the new illustrated version.

Thursday, October 11, 7:30 pm

Dodd Research Center, West Corridor, through October 19. Curator: Norman D. Stevens

For more information, please call 1-800-U-READ-IT, or visit our website http://bookfair.uconn.edu.
Class of 1947 Meeting Room
Class of 1948 Electronic Classroom 2
Class of 1949 Music and Dramatic Arts Library
Furnishings
Class of 1950 Library Lecture Room
Class of 1951 Video Theatre 2

Access to Art & Design Collections Enhanced

Since its inception in 1979 the Art & Design Library has been managed as a semi-autonomous operation within the Babbidge building. With the renewed emphasis on access to library materials at all hours, ADL services are being redefined. Still a distinct and separate collection, the primary services are becoming more fully incorporated into general library operations. Beginning this fall, the Art & Design reading room will be open whenever the Babbidge building is open, thus increasing access to these collections from 68 to 104 hours per week during academic terms. Access to the ADL restricted materials will be available every day of the week: from 1 pm-9 pm, Sunday through Thursday; and from 1 pm-6 pm on Friday and Saturday. And books from the Art & Design circulating collections can now be charged out at the main circulation desk on the Plaza Level at any hour the Babbidge Library is open. For more information on these changes, please contact Scott Kennedy at scott.kennedy@uconn.edu or 860-486-2522.

An Online Exhibit: Voices from the Underground

"Voices from the Underground: Radical Protest and the Underground Press in the Sixties," an exhibit based on the Libraries’ Alternative Press Collection and created by Ellen Embardo, former curator of that collection, was displayed at Fairfield University in the Fall of 1999. You can view the online version at <www.lib.uconn.edu/~embardo/voices> and relive the 1960s.

Collections and Services

Researchers can now complete their preliminary research at their desktop for many of the collections held by Archives & Special Collections (A&SC) before they make a journey to the Dodd Research Center. On the recently redesigned A&SC webpage, users can browse through an alphabetical or subject list of over 550 collections that have been processed and are available for research in the Dodd Center. Each entry includes the title of the collection, inclusive dates, the types of materials to be found in the collection, and a brief description.

Researchers are also informed as to whether the finding aid to the collection, which provides detailed information about the collection, is available electronically or in paper. Over 160 electronic finding aids are included on the web site to date, with an expected twenty to fifty new additions each year. The Libraries’ Alternative Press Collection is one of these.

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Class of 1952 Electronic Classroom

The UConn Class of 1952 has selected the Babbidge Library as the recipient of the first $100,000 it raises towards its 50th reunion class gift. This marks the sixth consecutive year that the 50th anniversary class has selected the University Libraries as the beneficiary of its reunion gift. The gift will be used to upgrade our primary electronic teaching facility on Level 2 of Babbidge Library.

Anniversary class gifts have contributed to the Libraries’ presence as one of the university’s outstanding facilities. The following facilities were funded in recent years with 50th anniversary reunion gifts:

- Libraries' presence as one of the university’s outstanding facilities. The following facilities were funded in recent years with 50th anniversary reunion gifts:

- Electronic teaching facility on Level 2 of Babbidge Library.

- The UConn Class of 1952 has selected the Babbidge Library as the recipient of the first $100,000 it raises towards its 50th reunion class gift. This marks the sixth consecutive year that the 50th anniversary class has selected the University Libraries as the beneficiary of its reunion gift. The gift will be used to upgrade our primary electronic teaching facility on Level 2 of Babbidge Library.

- Anniversay class gifts have contributed to the Libraries’ presence as one of the university’s outstanding facilities. The following facilities were funded in recent years with 50th anniversary reunion gifts:
Popular fiction owes its beginning to social, economic, and industrial advances that converged in the mid 19th century. As larger populations became literate and could afford to spend a nickel or dime for reading material, printing and shipping costs were decreasing while presses and modes of transportation became more efficient. In industrialized cultures, these trends enabled publishers to develop new markets for the printed word. The printing industry in America began this fledgling enterprise, aimed mostly at young working class men, with what were coined “dime novels.”

Dime novels flourished until the early 1900’s, when interest declined due to other distractions—most notably silent films. New clientele were sought and a new genre, often called “pulp fiction,” was developed—this time aimed directly at adults. Between the World Wars, pulp fiction became a dominant force in popular culture. Appealing to a growing population, reaching out to women as well as men, more themes were introduced, most of which continue today.

The heyday of pulp sparked fierce competition among publishers and writers, who came and went, and the art of promotion—a book became significant. Book cover images, always used to stimulate interest—and sales—became even more outlandish. (Now many collectors seek classic pulp just for their covers!)

While the academic world may shun the commercial nature of best sellers and popular fiction, there is no denying the significant social impact these writings carry in our modern world. This body of writing is, for good or ill, a significant element of our “common knowledge.” As a result, the influence of popular literature has become a subject of academic research in many disciplines. The exhibit aims to encourage viewers to examine the role of popular literature in their own lives and in society at large, and it coincides with the establishment of the new Abbie Jean Quick Leisure Reading Collection in the Babbidge Library. See the story on page 2.

The first issue of Big Sky, edited by Bill Berkson, published in 1967...