

BOOKMARKS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

Winter 2000

Volume 10, No. 1

THE FIRST WORD

by Teresa Montgomery, Interim Library Director

WELCOME to the return of the University Library's newsletter! With a new name and a fresh look, *Bookmarks* will continue to provide a forum for the latest in library services, staff, and technology.

The major news of the year revolves around the new and the traditional—the computer and the book. At the end of the summer, Southern Oregon University's electronic classroom moved into a larger space on the first floor. The classroom, paid for by funds from the student technology resource fee and Computing Services, has twenty-four individual workstations, a teaching workstation, and projection equipment.

Through the library's participation in the Orbis consortium's group database licensing, we now have over eighty online databases available for student and faculty research from both on and off campus. We are continuously evaluating new products. For a sneak peak, check out trial versions of databases under review at the library's Web site: www.sou.edu/library.

In the realm of traditional library resources, we are extremely pleased about our recent acquisition of the Adrienne Lee Ferté Memorial Collection of contemporary American poetry. This collection of over 800 items was donated by Thomas Ferté, professor emeritus of Western Oregon University and Southern Oregon College alumnus. The University Library and the Friends of the Library are planning two poetry events in early April to commemorate this significant literary donation.

Since the electronic classroom displaced the popular Group Study Room, preparations for moving it to the first floor involved a bit of juggling. The University Archives were moved to the Music Building, and materials in the Lewis Osborne Press Room were placed in storage. Walls were removed, some new walls built, and a smaller Group Study Room has emerged across from the first floor elevator. The library is constantly working to reconfigure the space in the building to allow room for new services, workstations, and the ever-growing collection.

We are happy to report that the University Library is busier than ever. The electronic classroom schedule is full and workstations in the Reference area are always in use, with students searching databases, the online catalog, Orbis, and the Web.

ELECTRONIC CLASSROOM OPENS

THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY'S first-floor electronic classroom (EC) opened in fall 1999. Ideal for library instruction, the EC allows the librarian to demonstrate electronic resources on the projection system while students access these resources at one of twenty-four workstations. Library instruction classes are offered for students at all levels by faculty request. In-services are also offered for faculty and staff development.

When classes are not in session, the electronic classroom is used as a general student lab. The EC is adjacent to the library's Information Technology Center (ITC), which is staffed full-time to provide individual assistance and instruction to registered students, University faculty and staff, and members of the Alumni Association. The twenty-four computers in the EC, in addition to the twenty workstations in the ITC, have access to the campus network and software for word processing, spreadsheets, databases, presentation graphics, and the Internet. Students interested in more advanced graphic and Web page design may use the scanner, Photoshop, and Fireworks for their projects. The electronic classroom was funded by the student technology resource fee and Computing Services.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY ACQUIRES LITERARY COLLECTION

THE ADRIENNE LEE FERTÉ Memorial Collection of contemporary literature has been established in the University Library Special Collections. This new collection contains 694 books and 108 journal issues, for a total of 802 items. The cataloging of these valued materials is now underway.

Contemporary American poetry, including works by Oregon and Northwest poets, comprises much of the Ferté Memorial Collection. Of particular note are works by William Stafford, Madeline DeFrees, Ursula K. LeGuin, Carolyn Kizer, Vern Rutsala, and Robert Bly. Many of the volumes are signed first editions.

Thomas Ferté, professor emeritus of Western Oregon University and SOC alumnus, donated the collection. The University Library and the Friends are collaborating to host a two-day celebration on April 3-4, 2000, to commemorate this significant literary donation. The events will feature poetry readings by Carolyn Kizer, winner of the Pulitzer Prize in poetry, and take place in Stevenson Union at 7:30 p.m. each evening.

PULITZER PRIZE WINNING POET CAROLYN KIZER COMING TO SOU!

7:30 p.m., April 3, Stevenson Union Rogue River Room

7:30 p.m., April 4, Stevenson Union Redford Lounge

IN CELEBRATION of the recently acquired Adrienne Lee Ferté Memorial Collection, the library is bringing Carolyn Kizer, recipient of the Pulitzer Prize in poetry, to the SOU campus. On April 3, Kizer will read from several of her books in the Ferté Collection, including her most recent book, *Harping On: Poems 1985-1995*. A book-signing will follow the reading. The next evening, Kizer will join local poets in reading poems from first-edition books by other poets in the 800-volume collection. The public is invited to both events.

LIBRARY NEWS

NEW JOURNAL ARTICLE ALERTING SERVICE

THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY is pleased to announce a new table of contents service that is available to all faculty. The UnCover Reveal Site License can help faculty stay current on the latest news in their fields of interest.

UnCover Reveal, having replaced and improved upon the OCLC Contents-Alert service, is an automated alerting service that emails tables of contents from new journal issues directly to faculty. Additionally, the service permits faculty to create search strategies that scan the entire UnCover database on a weekly basis for the latest articles or books on specified topics. Interested faculty should contact Kathy Hoxmeier, periodicals technician, at 552-6844 or hoxmeier@sou.edu.

NEW RESEARCH DATABASES

SEVERAL DATABASES have been added since our last newsletter. For more information on the databases below, please contact the library reference desk at 552-6442.

Academic Universe Lexis-Nexis is an academic version of the well-known Lexis-Nexis database, which is used by many law firms and businesses. Academic Universe provides full-text access to news, legal, business, medical, and reference materials. Sources include domestic and foreign newspapers and wire reports; federal and state case law, codes, and regulations; and financial data.

America: History and Life is a Web-based bibliography that provides historical coverage of the United States and Canada, from prehistory to the present. The database is also an unparalleled research tool for related disciplines, including popular culture, multicultural studies, American studies, gender studies, anthropology, sociology, literature, and folklore.

American Chemical Society Publications provides an online database with the full text of twenty-nine journals in chemistry and related sciences, dating back to 1996. Current and back issues are accessible by journal title, date, and table of contents. A search engine also allows users to search the full text of the entire database by author or keyword.

Anthropological Literature is an index to articles and essays on anthropology and archaeology, including art history, demography, economics, psychology, and religious studies. Anthropological Literature indexes English and European language materials from the late nineteenth century to the present, with selections from up to 890 journals.

Criminal Justice Periodical Index is a comprehensive index to periodical literature in the field of criminology, policing, penology, justice studies, and law. Over 190 journals are indexed, with full-text articles provided for 44 titles.

Education Abstracts Full Text, produced by the H. W. Wilson Company, is a full-text database that indexes and abstracts articles ►

FINDING RELIGION A
LIBRARY—IT'S NOT S

BY ALEX ROSS, TU

A library.

It's more than books, microfiche labs, and computer science manuals from 1971.

It goes beyond the North Dakota bimonthly neo-gothic architecture journals, the study carrels, and the forty-two broken copy machines. Sure, these are all integral parts of a library, but they're just parts. Screws, nuts, and bolts. Two by fours and iron beams. For you and me, Joe College Student, the library's not just a place to study. It's also a place to call home.

Most university faculty members would deny this for the record. Or, if feeling especially liberal, they'd tell you, "Sure, a library is a home," perhaps laughing that students sleep there more than anywhere else (except maybe their 8 a.m. lecture), but saying that the real importance of a library is that it furthers research, educates students, and provides the academic community with a forum for study. In their eyes, a library is a tool. An instrument. A means to an end.

They're right, but mostly, they're wrong.

And let me tell you why.

Go ahead. Hike over to your university library. Walk through the doors, climb a story or two and seek solace in some light-craving corner study carrel.

March past the janitors who have been lost in the North Dakota neo-gothic architecture section since 1969, and sit and study. Or at least try to. But, of course, you can't study, so instead you watch the dust rise into the late afternoon sunlight. Up, then down. Two-hundred-year-old dust imported in books from the Orient to Eastern Europe to Brazil.

There's religion in that dust—it's here now, and it'll be here when we're gone and different eighteen-year-olds are converting from Catholicism to Calculism at that same desk.

When different eighteen-year-olds are wondering who wrote "Steven loves Katie" on the wall, just as you are now. Wondering who Steven was and what his story was. Wondering what ever happened to Katie. Wondering what her story was, too. Wondering if theirs was a real love story like

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aross@mailhos

AND A HOME IN THE JUST FOR STUDYING

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the ones you hear about. You watch the dust settle on “Steven loves Katie,” and, hopefully, you realize that people usually don’t find theses or Shakespeare in the library. They find a home.

Go ahead. Choose a random aisle and pick up a book. It’s in Portuguese. Or French. And there’s something wonderful about that. And also, the book you pick up reeks of something you can’t quite touch, smell, or see. Some call it history. Others call it your history. And still others call it you.

And while flipping through the pages, you understand Portuguese. Like the Old English poem that your grandma gave you when you were a kid. It was gibberish, as far as you were concerned. Faulkneresque language and stuff far beyond your “See Spot run” logic. But staring at it, late afternoon sunlight falling across your face, you understood.

It was like a hug, you remember.

Close the book. Watch the hundreds, the thousands of books you pass as you walk back to your desk. Think of all the people, all the stories. Yours is somewhere in there, too.

Sit. Try to study. Try to further your research, educate yourself, and provide your-

self with a forum for study. Try to think about your library’s lack of funding, its small staff, and its inane shelving system. About how in the “official” rankings, it’s ninety-seventh or something like that. Try to think about all this. Try to pretend you care.

But you can’t. And you don’t.

So you put your head down and shut your eyes. A quick rest, then you’ll be able to study. Inevitably you fall asleep, perhaps remembering how your mom used to tuck you in when you were a kid. You dream dreams. The deep kind.

A library desk sure does make a good bed.

You wake up to warm stars and realize it’s late. So in the darkness you leave, the library lights burning bright on your back. You pass others on their way to the library, and you tell them goodnight.

“Don’t forget to tuck yourself in,” you say, and they smile.

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► from English-language periodicals and yearbooks published in the United States and elsewhere. Books relating to education published in or after 1995 are also indexed.

SPORTDiscus covers both serial and monographic literature dealing with recreation, exercise, physiology, sports medicine, coaching, physical fitness, training, conditioning, and the psychology, history, and sociology of sports. Seventy percent of the database consists of periodical articles.

Wilson Biographies Plus Illustrated contains the full text of biographies and obituaries, as well as photographs, from major biographical reference book series, such as *Current Biography*, *the World Author Series*, *Nobel Prize Winners*, and *World Artists*.

INSIDE THE LIBRARY: FOCUS ON ANNA GRZESZKIEWICZ

SOU REFERENCE LIBRARIAN Anna Grzeszkiewicz, who is filling a one-year position at the library, helps coordinate the library’s instructional program. Anna enjoys being an academic librarian because she loves teaching, learning, and connecting people with the information they need. She finds that everything she learns is relevant to her work as a librarian.

Anna has a BA in theater arts from the University of Toledo and a master’s degree in library and information science from San Jose State University. She has worked in libraries at the University of the Pacific; California State University, Stanislaus; and the Stockton-San Joaquin County public library system.

Born in a displaced persons camp in Germany, Anna immigrated to the United States when she was six years old. Later in life, she took her first job with Pan American Airways because it allowed her to travel to Europe. In addition to travel, Anna’s interests include yoga, performing arts, and volunteer work with community organizations. Enjoying this year in Ashland, Anna has managed to see all but one of the season’s Oregon Shakespeare Festival productions.

PROXY SERVER BRINGS LIBRARY DATABASES TO REMOTE USERS

DISTANCE EDUCATION students, as well as faculty and students working at home, can now access the many research databases that were formerly only available on campus. The proxy server acts as an intermediary between a user and the Internet to provide system security, administrative control, and caching service. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Forensics Laboratory shared their expertise and provided technical support to the library in setting up proxy server access to library databases.

Because licensing agreements of costly research databases forbid public access from the Internet, proxy servers are essential for off-campus library access. Proxy servers allow SOU students, staff, and faculty to connect to our system and utilize campus Internet addresses as if they are on campus. For information on remote access to library databases, email Dale Vidmar at: vidmar@sou.edu or connect to www.sou.edu/library/article.

BOOKMARKS

FRIENDS CORNER: NEWS OF THE FRIENDS OF THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

THE FRIENDS BOARD pledges \$5,000 toward step one of library expansion, the hiring of an architectural firm to create a conceptual plan. An essential first step toward the much-needed expansion of the library, the conceptual plan is expected to cost between \$40,000 and \$50,000.

The Library Lecture Series has a great lineup for 1999–2000. On January 27, Bill Ashworth discussed how he became an award-winning nature author in his talk, “The Accidental Writer.” Ashworth won the 1999 Oregon Book Award for his most recent book, *The Left Hand of Eden* (OSU Press, 1999).

In the final lecture of this year’s series, local historians Carol Barrett and Hank Henry will talk about “the story behind the stories” in researching Rogue Valley history. You are invited to attend the program, “As It Was, Southern Oregon Remembered,” on Thursday, March 9, at 7:30 p.m. in Stevenson Union 330.

Former legislator Les AuCoin will be keynote speaker at the Annual Benefit Dinner. Join the Friends for a reception and dinner on Friday, May 19, 2000. A social hour with complimentary wine will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Stevenson Union Redford Lounge, with dinner at 7 p.m. in the Rogue River Room.

The SOU Friends of the Library is a membership organization established in 1975. The Friends are committed to improving the University Library collections and sponsoring the Library Lecture Series on a variety of interesting and timely topics. Member benefits include library checkout privileges; participation in a series of evening talks; the opportunity to associate with fellow bibliophiles; and the satisfaction of supporting the University Library. Call 552-6848 for information about upcoming events or becoming a Friends member.

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Southern Oregon University is committed to providing equal opportunity in its recruitment, admissions, educational programs, activities, and employment without discrimination on the basis of age, disability, national origin, race, color, marital status, religion, sex, or sexual orientation. Inquiries may be directed to: Associate Provost, 1250 Siskiyou Boulevard, Southern Oregon University, Ashland, OR 97520, or via phone at 541-552-6114.



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