ILLINOIS
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

PRODUCTION NOTE

University of Illinois at
Urbana-Champaign Library
A New Home for the Asian Library

The 15th Birthday Celebration

The Asian Library has moved upstairs to a new home. To celebrate its 15th anniversary on 25 April, and dedicate its new facilities, special guest Dr. Warren Tsuneishi, Director for Area Studies of the Library of Congress, spoke about Asian Library resources and shared in the festivities. Over 100 friends and well-wishers of the Asian Library attended and had an opportunity to admire the more spacious and efficient quarters.

The Asian Library was established as a unit of the UI Library in the early 1960s. Acquisitions programs of the vernacular language materials became more active after 1965. Today the library serves the midwest and the nation as a major resource of Asian materials and research. There are now over 200,000 uncataloged volumes in East Asian, South Asian and Middle Eastern languages.

American Library Resources for the Study of Asia

(Editor's Note: The following is an excerpt from Dr. Tsuneishi's speech presented during the dedication of the Asian Library's new quarters.)

American library resources for the study of Asia are essentially a creation of the 20th century, with the greatest advances having been made in the post-World War II period as American universities responded to newly-developed area studies programs covering regions of the world heretofore relatively neglected.

As American research libraries move into a computerized future featured by network development, at least two key issues require further attention at this time. First, the capability of American library systems to process nonroman alphabet data—for example, bibliographic data in a mixture of roman and Chinese, Japanese, and Korean scripts—needs to be developed. This represents the technical prerequisite to the second issue, which is actually a constellation of related issues: national bibliographic controls, a national collection development plan, resource sharing, assured access to library resources throughout the country, and national preservation programs.

—Warren M. Tsuneishi
Director for Area Studies
Library of Congress

American Library Resources for the Study of Asia

Among the stars of materials in the Asian Library are the 5000 books, periodicals and pamphlets about the Ottoman empire, Balkans and Near East of the Albert H. Lybyer collection. A private collection of some 500 diaries, manuscripts, and other publications developed by the famous Indian social and political activist, Shudha Mazumdar, constitutes the most valuable holdings in the South Asian collections. According to Asian Librarian Dr. Wong, the first Chinese rare books were acquired a little over a year ago; these are works from the 4th and 9th centuries edited and printed by Chiku Ko in 1629. These join over 150 Japanese rare book titles in the collection.

Holdings of particular strength include modern history, social sciences and the humanities. There are also fine collections of Japanese and Chinese art and literature from classical and modern periods. The growing collection includes a special piece of history itself, "Hyakumanto Darani," a Buddhist paper charm from the 8th century. It is considered to be one of the oldest printed documents in the world.

Peter Schran, Director of the UI Asian Studies Center, and other faculty members were happy about the Asian Library's improvement in facilities. The Asian Library maintains a place among the UI Library's outstanding research and special collections; the next 15 years hold promise for the development of its key bibliographic and scholarly resources available to our faculty, students and other users.

From left to right: Dr. Warren Tsuneishi, speaker; Robert Crawford, Director, School of Social Sciences; Joan Hood, Friends Coordinator; and William S. Wong, Asian Librarian.
Do It Yourself!

If you have access to a computer terminal that is used in conjunction with a telephone, you can do your own library search for materials you need. Ms. Becky Lenzini, head of automated records maintenance at the Library, says that anyone may now use the Library’s LCS dial-up search by calling (217) 333-2886. Computer terminals should be set at one-half duplex, 300 baud, even parity. Dialing the number will connect you directly to the library computer system, so no log-on is required.

If you want to use this service, you will have easier access if you call evenings and weekends. LCS is open from 8 a.m. til midnight weekdays, and from 9 a.m. Saturdays and 1 p.m. Sundays. If you’d like more information, please call the Library’s phone center, (217) 333-8400.

From the Librarian’s View

Thoughts on What Materials a Research Library Should Contain

Over the last few years a number of institutions and individuals have studied the patterns of use of library materials (particularly books and journals) in research libraries, and have, I believe, mistaken efficiency for quality when attempting to make “scientific” studies of the appropriate collection for a research library.

One of the findings that is often pointed to is that a very small portion of any library collection (true of any kind of library, although in the context of these studies it is quite often noted that all libraries share this phenomenon) accounts for a very large proportion of the actual book and journal use. The figures show that some 20% of a library’s collection accounts for 80% of the usage. What seems to be misunderstood is that the remaining 20% of usage is randomly scattered over the entire collection. That is, if one wants to go to 81%, 82%, or 83% of use, then an enormous number of titles is necessary to support each additional percentage of use.

What appears to be lacking in these studies is the realization that satisfaction in the mid- to high-90s is needed. Furthermore, user satisfaction—not mere use of what is provided—is the better test of a research library.

One of the more obvious analogies is that of hardware stores. These same planners have analyzed hardware store usage, and you will note that K-Mart’s hardware section has a very small number of items but provides 20% of items which account for 80% of sales in a general hardware store. The same is true of convenience food stores such as 7-Eleven versus the large, general-purpose supermarkets. However, all of us see the value of a full-service hardware store or a large supermarket as compared to their more efficient but certainly less satisfactory counterparts.

The same phenomenon holds true for libraries. This is why the difference between the Library at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and a large number of other libraries serving general research universities is so significant. It is the commitment to both depth and range that produces high quality and sets our Library apart from so many of the others.

—Hugh C. Atkinson, University Librarian

“New” Maria Leach Folklore Collection

The Maria Leach Folklore Collection has been the featured exhibit in the University Archives this May. Acquired October 23, 1979, through the generous contribution of Theresa Brakeley, the collection consists of 819 books and periodicals, as well as published and unpublished manuscripts, reviews, research notes and correspondence with publishers and other prominent folklorists, such as Marius Barbeau, Ben Botkin, Erminie Voegelin and Gertrude Kurath.

Maria Leach was born in 1892 and received her MA in English from the University of Illinois. She was the editor and energy behind the Funk & Wagnalls Standard Dictionary of Folklore, Mythology and Legend (1949-50). As stated in her introduction, this work was an attempt to “cut a cross section into the spiritual content of the world.” She authored several books, including a collection of creation myths, and a compendium of folklore about the dog. In addition, she wrote a number of folklore books for children.

Indexing of the papers in the collection was supervised by Nancy Barry, graduate student in English, and was completed in February 1980. The Archives exhibit contained several autographed books and samples of Ms. Leach’s correspondence with eminent authors and folklorists. Also in the collection are reviews and copies of her works, and manuscripts of both her published and unpublished books. At the time of her death, Ms. Leach was engaged in compiling an index to the Dictionary, a labor of 17 years. The Archives filmed over 100,000 note cards of her index onto 5 reels of microfilm. Selected cards and pages of the typed index, which has never been published, may be seen in the Archives. Many of the monographs and journals in the collection, which cover a wide range of subjects relating to folklore, will be added to the Library’s collections. The Library plans to donate unneeded duplicate titles to Earlham College in Indiana, where Ms. Leach received her undergraduate degree.

Also a specialist in American slang and dialect, Ms. Leach represents the “popularist” as opposed to “scholarly” side of folklore. However, her research was extensive and the gift of her collection to the Library will be of considerable value to scholars of the history of folklore. Her notes and work on the index are a source of interest to anyone curious about folklore research methodology.

—continued on page 3
Children's Books Displayed

An exhibit of children's picture books from 1500 to 1900 has been on view in the Rare Book Room of the University of Illinois Library. A reception to mark the opening of the exhibit was held May 6th in the Rare Book Room.

Graduate students in the library science course, "History of Children's Literature," prepared the display, entitled "Come Lasses and Lads."

"Children today may revel among many splendid books in which text and illustrations are fully integrated," said Professor Selma Richardson, who teaches the course. "This exhibit has been designed to show the antecedents of the modern picture book."

On display from the 1500s were a teacher's book on instruction and an alphabet for children. From the 17th century there are works designed to "chasten Puritan youth," and from the 18th century, editions of Aesop's Fables, which indicate that animal stories have a lengthy history and tradition. Other works in the collection are books by 19th-century illustrators Randolph Caldecott, Kate Greenaway and Walter Crane.

Quotables

From K. Patricia Cross

(Editor's note: K. Patricia Cross, Ph.D. psychology, 1958, is Distinguished Research Scientist, Educational Testing Service, Berkeley, California. Her work has included research on the role of libraries in the learning society; this fall she will complete a book on lifelong learning.)

"Some have referred to the coming years as the Knowledge Revolution, meaning that knowledge will replace machines as the dominant force in world progress. Since knowledge is accumulated gradually by new generations of scholars building upon the work of their predecessors, it is critically important that the nation's great university libraries have the resources to maintain the continuity of knowledge."

I am sure that there are many alumni of the University who are as grateful as I am to the Library for an unparalleled opportunity to explore the works of scholars, past and present. Let us hope that many are eager to contribute to the preservation of such opportunities for new generations of students.

Sunny weather on Sunday, April 20, encountered strong competition in the person of Mr. Sol Cohen for the attention of over 80 people gathered at the Rare Book Room for a spring Friends program. Mr. Cohen, music teacher and composer, and long-time resident of Champaign-Urbana, treated the Friends to a reading from his memoirs as a music student in Paris in the early twenties. He concluded with a particularly moving passage about the last minutes of the war before the 1918 Armistice.

The afternoon's success concluded with refreshments and a reception to honor Mr. Cohen in the Rare Book Room.

I wish to be a member of Library Friends. Please use my tax-deductible gift to strengthen the great collections at the University of Illinois Library at Urbana-Champaign.

Enclosed is my membership contribution:

- Life Member ($1500)
- Subscribing Member ($50)
- Benefactor ($1000)
- Contributing Member ($25)
- Patron ($500)
- Student Member ($5)
- Sponsor ($100)

Name _________________________
Address ________________________
City ______ State _____ Zip

University of Illinois Library Friends

Please send this card with your check payable to University of Illinois Foundation, 224 Illini Union, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois 61801.
On May 12 the Slavic and East European Reading Room celebrated its tenth anniversary. Birthday cake was served to the many friends and associates of the University's Russian and East European Center on hand for the event. The Reading Room is a part of the Slavic Library and is named after tobacco heiress Doris Duke, who in 1961 bestowed upon the University a gift of $300,000 for Russian studies.

At the open house, UI President Stanley Ikenberry presented his predecessor David Dobbs Henry with a citation expressing appreciation for his early confidence in and support of the Center. It was President Henry's decision to pass the entire Duke gift on to the new Center with no restrictions, save that the money be used as they saw fit to advance Russian studies on campus. Former UI Librarian Robert B. Downs was in turn given a citation by Chancellor Cribbet for his instrumental role in helping the Library to become a key research site for Slavic and East European studies. Under his administration, the Library's Slavic holdings rose from a ranking of 30th place nationally to 3rd among American universities. Moreover, it was Dean Downs who authorized the formation of a separate Slavic unit of the Library.

The Slavic collection of the UI Library totals about 450,000 volumes, not counting microforms, and is the largest west of Washington, D.C. More than 370,000 titles are in Slavic and East European languages. The extensive reference materials are put in close proximity to the comprehensive professional staff to interpret them. This arrangement has helped the Center establish a wide reputation as probably the most efficient place in the country for research in the field, according to Ralph Fisher, Director of the Russian and East European Center.

Several special projects of the Russian and East European Center have also contributed to this reputation. The Illinois Summer Research Laboratory on Russia and Eastern Europe was begun in 1973 to offer interested scholars access to the Library's unique resources in the area of Slavic studies. Attendance over the last 7 summers has totaled 765.

The Slavic Reference Service, established in 1976, currently receives about 400 requests each month for verification of titles and information on locations of books and articles not readily available in the United States. Materials not in the library or other North American institutions are usually ordered on microform from Soviet or European libraries and made available by UI through interlibrary loan.

Other projects include a 4-year cooperative program with Helsinki University, supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities, through which the UI selects rare Russian books and makes them available on microfiche to 24 research libraries throughout the world. In addition, the U.S. Office of Education has presented a 3-year grant to the Library for an acquisitions program to strengthen the Slavic Reference Service. One aspect of the program is the building of complete files of some 300 Russian serials, which will for the first time be made available nationwide.

Open House

On Wednesday evening, April 2, the University Archives and the Illinois Historical Survey, located next to each other on the Library's basement, held a joint open house. This event featured short tours that included a look at sources for research in family, local and university history. Visitors were invited to bring old documents from their attics and professional archivists and manuscript curators were on hand to advise them on the documents' preservation and historical importance.

The Survey Library has 10,000 volumes, some dating from the colonial and territorial periods, which are frequently used by genealogists as well as historians and other researchers interested in Illinois. According to John Hoffmann, Survey Librarian, the collection's strengths lie in the county and city's histories.

In the University Archives are housed, among other things, 8500 cubic feet of office records, publications and personal papers documenting the history of the UI from its founding in 1867. Notable in the collection are the papers of chemist Roger Adams, historian Arthur Bestor, Jr., Olympic official Avery Brundage, agriculturalist Eugene Davenport, and sculptor Lorado Taft.

Book Sale Coming Up

The University of Illinois Library will be conducting a Book Sale of some of its gift duplicates to be held from 9-4 on September 11 and 12 in the first-floor corridor of the main Library. Proceeds from this sale will be used to purchase needed volumes for the Library. Volunteers are needed to help on the days of the sale, and during July and August with categorizing and pricing materials. If you would like to provide assistance, please contact Marilyn Satterlee, 127 Library (333-6193) and indicate your interest.

If you have books in your personal library that you would like to donate to this cause, please bring the volumes to 127 Library before September 5. Books covering any or all subjects are welcome.

Jackson Bate Lectures

Pulitzer Prize-winner W. Jackson Bate was on the Urbana-Champaign campus April 22 to deliver a lecture on Samuel Johnson and the eighteenth century. Dr. Bate, a renowned authority on Johnson, is Abbott Lawrence Lowell Professor of the Humanities at Harvard.

The lecture was sponsored by Library Friends, the English Department, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the School of Humanities, and the George Miller Committee.
A Message from the President

Library Friends was established in 1972 by a core group of people concerned with maintaining the excellence of the University of Illinois Library. Stewart Howe was one of the charter members of our organization. His Foundation, under the direction of Carlyle Anderson, has provided much of the impetus for us in our attempt to make up for the growing gap between tax support and inflation that our Library has suffered. The fact that both our membership and our income have doubled in the last year is the result of that impetus and the efforts of many people. Mrs. Earl Porter has been one of the most important of those people.

Mrs. Porter, only our second president, is stepping down after having served for over one year. She has been a leader and a worker in every facet of the Library Friends Executive Committee's work. Before serving as president, Mrs. Porter offered her time and efforts as the first coordinator of Friends activities. She will be missed, but she has assured us that her advice and counsel will always be available. We will utilize it.

The mission of the Friends has barely started, and we know that we will have to continue to double our membership and income each year for the next four or five years before we will be meeting all of our goals. We will continue to reach out for new friends as well as further involve old friends.

We hope that each one of you will feel free to let us know of any ideas or means by which our Library can be helped. We are grateful for the success of our national membership drive, but we are always looking for more ways to help our Library to maintain its margin of greatness. We need your input, too.

—Robert Watts, President
Library Friends Executive Committee

The Drive for Membership

Last fall the Friends membership committee embarked on a national membership solicitation campaign. The results of this drive have been very successful, and here are the numbers to prove it:

New members: 382
Funds raised: $10,647
Total membership: 939
Average renewal gift level: $43

For the past two years, the funds donated annually have doubled, and there are now more than twice as many members as one year ago. Again, the figures tell the story:

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The Library Friends presented over $27,000 in 1979 for special acquisitions needed to keep the Library the outstanding research center that it is. Several of the purchases simply could not have been made without the contributions of the Friends.

A Letter from Marcel Proust Arrives

The UI Library, as Professor of French Philip Kolb is quick to point out, has the world's finest research collection on Marcel Proust—and the Friends have recently helped to make that collection even stronger. Professor Kolb should know; he is widely recognized as an international authority on Proustian scholarship.

With the help of Friends funds, the Library has made a successful bid for an autograph (handwritten), signed letter to Marquis Francois de Paris written by the famous French novelist in the summer of 1908.

The 7-page letter, written on black-edged paper, has never been published. In it Proust takes great pains to justify himself over a remark made to the Princess de Chimay which the marquis had misconstrued. He also reproaches his friend for his "recent coldness."

At the end of the letter, Proust's tone is melancholy, expressing regret over not having been introduced at a recent ball to Mlle de Goyon, whom he describes as "merveilleuse" and an incomparable dancer. This section is strongly reminiscent of many passages in his great novel, A La Recherche du Temps Perdu (Remembrance of Things Past) and may have been the original inspiration for an episode during a ball in A l'Ombre des Jeunes Filles en Fleurs.

The Library's collection of materials by and about Proust includes over 1000 such autograph letters. Funds from contributions to Library Friends have now enabled the Library to add a new dimension to this outstanding collection.
Calendar

Exhibits

July 1-31
“Moscow Olympics.” University Archives.

July 1-August 25
“Renaissance at Illinois.” Rare Book Room.

August
“Storms and Tornadoes.” University Archives.

September
“Rogers Collection of Eighteenth-Century English Literature.” Rare Book Room.

The Kinley and Clark Era: 50 Years Later.” University Archives.

October

Events

June 30
Friends of Libraries U.S.A. annual meeting, New York City. Public is welcome to attend. 9:30-11 a.m., Barbizon Plaza Hotel; luncheon and afternoon meeting at New York Hilton.

September
Opening of the Robert Wentworth Rogers Collection of Eighteenth-Century English Literature. Friends will be notified when the date is set.

October 30
Gutenberg Galaxy Lecture: “Lincoln and Sandburg.” William A. Sutton, professor of English at Ball State University, speaker. 4:00 p.m., Rare Book Room.

Kappa Delta Pi Makes Grant

Alpha Chapter of Kappa Delta Pi, an honor society in education, has presented a grant of $500 to the Friends for the Library’s Education “S” Collection.

The honorary organization, founded at UI in 1911, works to encourage excellence in scholarship and in contributions to the field of education. The presentation was made by chapter president Robert Koch during the group’s annual banquet held April 23.

Mary Frances Collins, Director of Public Services for the Library, accepted the donation on behalf of Library Friends for the Education and Social Science Library.

Kappa Delta Pi has wasted no time in putting the funds to good use to fill out the Library’s research collection of award-winning children’s books.

The Friends applauds this generous contribution from Kappa Delta Pi. The goals of both organizations have been well served through this grant. Friends welcomes the opportunity to work together with these service groups.

Cum Laude

The Library is very proud to have had recent honors bestowed on two of its emeritus faculty:

Robert B. Downs, Dean of Library Administration Emeritus, was selected this spring as one of the 15 outstanding librarians in the United States. Dean Downs was honored by the Council on Library Resources as one of the 15 individuals to have made a major impact on libraries in the last 50 years.

Eleanor Blum, Professor Emerita of Library Administration, will be honored at the Association for Education in Journalism convention this summer as the first recipient of AEJ’s Committee on Research award for Distinguished Service to Research. Dr. Blum’s contributions to the field have earned her the recognition she so richly deserves.

The Friends extend their congratulations to these scholars.

Goodies in the Mail

All members of Library Friends have been sent a complimentary copy of the exhibit catalog, The Renaissance at Illinois, a beautifully illustrated catalog of the Library exhibit prepared in conjunction with the Central Renaissance Conference.

The catalog is one way of thanking Friends by showing them what they have helped to make possible.

Next month Friends can look forward to another treat. Non Solus, the annual report of Library Friends, is scheduled to be mailed at the beginning of July. Please allow time for the mail service to bring it to you, but if you do not receive a copy, be sure to contact the Friends Office, 422W Library, University of Illinois, Urbana, IL 61801 (217) 333-7480. Enjoy, enjoy!

Photos by Joseph M. Wesolowski