PRODUCTION NOTE

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Library
Retired AT&T Executive Establishes Record-setting Endowment

The Library has received a $1.6 million gift to establish the largest unrestricted library endowment fund in its history.

The donation, in the form of a trust, comes from retired AT&T vice chairman Charles Marshall ('51) and his wife, Millicent Bruner Marshall, of Naples, Florida, to create the new Charles and Millicent Bruner Marshall Library Endowment Fund.

In recognition of this gift, and in recognition of the Marshalls' twenty years of active personal and financial support of both the Library and the University, the Library plans to dedicate the east foyer of the Library as the Charles and Millicent Marshall Library Gallery.

"Chuck and Millicent Marshall have contributed to the University in so many ways," says the U of I Foundation's executive director, Dr. B.A. Nugent. "They are just terrific people who have supported us not just financially, but in literally thousands of ways through their leadership and example. We could point to no one better than Chuck Marshall as a model of a distinguished graduate whose values, character, and years of distinguished service have set such a leadership example."

The Marshalls have been among the University's most visible supporters since 1976 when, says Mr. Marshall, a friend suggested he become more involved with his alma mater.

"From the time I graduated in 1951 until 1976, I wasn't really active," he admits. "Then I realized it was time to give something back, and I have."

Since then, the Marshalls have been generous supporters of the University and, since 1994, of the University Library in particular. It was a resource Mr. Marshall and his father, both graduates of the College of Agriculture ('22), had used frequently.

"I studied at the Library, and my father (William F. Marshall, '22) frequently used the Library when he was at the University," explains Mr. Marshall.

"We both have a keen interest in books," adds Mrs. Marshall, "so the Library seemed to be the proper place for this endowment."

Except for a few years of farming on the family farm after graduation and a stint in the Air Force, Mr. Marshall spent his entire career working for AT&T, starting at Illinois Bell, which at the time was one of AT&T's twenty-one wholly-owned subsidiaries.

"He almost didn't get that job," remembers Mrs. Marshall with a laugh. "He was 24 1/2 years old, and they told him he was too old. Then, because he had been farming, they asked why a farmer wanted to work for a phone company, instead of Kroger's [the supermarket chain]. He told them, 'This is where I want to work.' So, they gave him the test and offered him a job in Peoria."

Although Mr. Marshall started out as the person who made sure that Illinois Bell's pay phones had directories and working lights, he quickly rose through the ranks.

"All of us at AT&T worked our way up from the bottom," says Mr. Marshall.

By 1959, he was being tapped by Illinois Bell's corporate parent, AT&T, to help introduce the Princess telephone, the touchtone system, and the now defunct farm interphone. In the 1970s, he was asked to set up a school to teach AT&T executives the economic history of the telephone industry.

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Record-setting Endowment
(cont’d)

After stints as vice president at Illinois Bell and Southwestern Bell, and as president and chief operating officer of Illinois Bell itself, he became, in 1981, the executive vice president in charge of planning for deregulation at AT&T.

"I had been in New York for only two months when deregulation came," remembers Mr. Marshall. "It was a traumatic time for the industry. We were in the midst of a major antitrust trial, and half-way through the trial, the judge said he was inclined to believe that something had to change. Our chairman, Charlie Brown, felt it would be better to make that change ourselves rather than have the court do it.

"So, when Charlie signed the consent decree in Washington, I was given the task of calling all the Bell presidents to tell them the Bell system was no more. They had all been in earlier in the week to hear for the first time that the break-up was likely, but the reality still came as a sober message to all of us."

For the Marshalls, as for many other AT&T executives, the break-up really hit home because the phone company had been part of their family history.

"My grandfather owned a little switchboard that he kept in the house," explains Mrs. Marshall. "He and my grandmother ran the phone company. When my father died, then my mother started working for the phone company, and she hired me, when I was 14, to work the switchboard on vacations and weekends. Actually, Mother fibbed—you had to be 16 to work, so she said I was 15 while I was training and about to turn 16, but I was really 14 about to turn 15."

After raising their four children, Mrs. Marshall became active in charities throughout the Chicago area, becoming the founding president of the Museum of Science and Industry’s President’s Council, a charter member of the Women’s Board of Northwestern University, chair of the Boys Club ball, and board member of the USO. After moving to New York in 1981, she joined her husband on his extensive travels. "It’s been fun being an executive’s wife," she says. "A lot of women don’t enjoy it, but I certainly did."

In New York, Mr. Marshall went on to become chairman and CEO of American Bell and AT&T Information Systems, and vice chairman at the corporate headquarters of AT&T. He retired in 1989, but continues to serve on five corporate boards.

He is also a member of the Library’s National Advisory Committee, a member of the U of I Presidents Council (the University’s highest donor group), an elected member (as is Mrs. Marshall) of the U of I Foundation since 1977, a former member of the Foundation’s board of directors, and president of the Foundation’s board of directors from 1987-89.

Both he and Mrs. Marshall are also active in the Naples (Florida) Philharmonic Society, where Mrs. Marshall sings in the orchestra’s chorus and Mr. Marshall serves on the board of directors. "Once you get trained to be busy, you can’t quit," he laughs.

In recognition of Mr. Marshall’s efforts on behalf of the University, he was awarded the President’s Award for Service to the University of Illinois Foundation in 1989.

The University Library, however, remains one of the Marshalls' main interests.

"The Library is an essential part of this great university," says Mr. Marshall. "We used to say that state funding will continue, but it can’t make it a great university. That’s where private gifts come in. We need to encourage people to give something back so that others can have the same benefit we had when we were students."

Library’s Examination Catalog Wins Four Awards

The Library’s 1995 exhibition catalog, *Scholarly Treasures of the University Library*, has won top awards at three major national design competitions and a top prize in a regional competition.

The catalog won first place for catalogs, four-color process, in the international In-Print 96 competition, co-sponsored by the International Publishing Management Association and In-Plant Graphics magazine.

The catalog also won a first-place prize for a museum catalog in the 1996 University and College Designers Association competition.

In the Gold Ink competition, sponsored by the Publishing and Printing Executives association and *Printing Impressions* magazine, the catalog garnered the Bronze Award for a four-color catalog, beating out competition from corporations such as Pillsbury and Trump Enterprises.

In the Champaign County CHAAMPS 1995 competition, whose winners were announced in May 1996, the catalog won not only first place for a catalog, but also the Judge’s Merit Award.

The design was conceived and executed by Amy Harten, formerly of Champaign, IL, now of Cincinnati, Ohio, who for the past ten years designed all of the publications for the Library Office of Development and Public Affairs.

Copies of this award-winning publication are still available for $25 (includes cost of shipping). It contains thirty-six full-color reproductions of some of the Library’s most beautiful or important items, with explanatory text.

If you are interested in owning this limited edition, award-winning publication, please contact Judy Graner, annual funds secretary, at the Library Office of Development and Public Affairs, 227 Library, 1408 W. Gregory Drive, Urbana, IL 61801; or phone (217) 333-5683; or by e-mail at j-graner@uiuc.edu.
Pioneers in Computerized Distance-based Learning Establish New Endowment

Two pioneers in computerized distance-based learning, who helped twenty years ago to link the Library's online catalog to a worldwide computer network, have created a new endowment in the Library. It's the new Elaine S. and Richard Allen Avner Library Endowment Fund. Fifty percent of the income from the new endowment will be dedicated to acquisitions of Judaica material, with the rest to rotate yearly between the Reference, Map and Geography, and Newspaper libraries and the Illinois Historical Survey for the purchase of machine-readable databases.

"It is especially gratifying to have two long-time Friends, Allen and Elaine, establish a permanent source of funding through their endowment," says the Library's director of development and public affairs, Joan M. Hood, about the new endowment. "The combination of acquisitions and new technologies shows a true understanding of the direction in which research libraries are rapidly heading."

The Avners have been two of the Library's most devoted supporters for many years, donating not only financially to the Library (they are Life Members of Library Friends and members of the University Librarian's Council), but with Elaine also a past member of the Library Friends Board of Directors.

"We're really being very selfish, contributing to areas of our own interests," chuckles Elaine Avner about the new endowment. "The U of I has excellent programs in Jewish Studies and in history, and we want to support those collections."

"We are both also interested in the technological side," adds Allen Avner. "We certainly benefitted from the machine-searchable databases at the Library, but we'd notice databases that were not updated, or that the Library wouldn't have a database we knew was available. It seemed like an area the Library was moving into, and an area that was in need."

It's an area that is as familiar to the Avners as the backs of their hands. Both worked for nearly thirty years at the U of I's now-defunct Computer-based Education Research Laboratory (CERL), which created the first computerized, distance-learning program PLATO. Allen, an emeritus principal research scientist, spent his career evaluating the center's hardware and software for teaching effectiveness. Elaine, a retired senior research scientist, helped to create some of the initial PLATO systems and the lessons' documentation as well as to provide online advice and consultation with users.

In fact, it was the Avners who collaborated with the Library back in the 1970s to connect the Library's first-ever online catalog with PLATO.

"Our motive again was selfish," remembers Elaine. "We wanted to be able to find and order books for ourselves from the PLATO terminals in our offices. We realized that it would rapidly become a popular feature for users of PLATO on campus and at other schools in Illinois, but we were amazed to find that the online catalog was also being used at PLATO sites all over the world!"

No wonder the Avners say their jobs were "a lot of fun"—so much so that the Avners have turned their once part-time consulting business, Avner Associates, into a full-time occupation.

It's also a background that has provided the Avners with a keen sense of not only the benefits of machine-searchable databases, but also the work involved in creating them.

"The sort of information that an undergraduate can now get in ten or fifteen minutes would have been an appropriate topic for a master's thesis fifteen years ago," says Allen Avner.

And Allen Avner was notorious as a stickler for a proper bibliography. "The Library's ERIC and government publications collections gave me access to even the most obscure publications," he says.

"During the ten years I edited the Journal of Computer Based Instruction, the completeness of the University Library collections made me the bane of authors who included citations of literature they had not read themselves."

Although machine-searchable databases are a relatively new phenomenon, the Avners have been in the computerization business long enough that not much else on the scene today—not even World Wide Web-based instruction—is really new. PLATO, after all, was a networked educational tool that got its start in the early 1960s.

"Every five years someone reinvents the language used so that something that's been around for awhile sounds like something new," says Allen Avner. "People in that area for years recognize it as something old with a new name. But a newcomer who does a bibliographic search with the new terms would assume the technology is only five years old because no citations to the old literature would be found.

A case in point? "E-mail," says Elaine Avner. "Back in the '70s, I was doing online consulting. I could communicate with people all over the world. In fact, we were the first to provide online consulting. We called it 'p-notes'—personal notes. I still catch myself calling it that instead of 'e-mail.'"

The new endowment fund will enable the four designated library units and the Judaica collection to keep up with these changes for as long as the Library exists—a welcome prospect, according to the librarians.

"The Avners have been such good supporters for a long time," says the head of the Illinois Historical Survey, John Hoffmann. "It's not just their annual gifts, but also books they've bought for their own research that they've donated to us over the years. And now this endowment fund will help us immensely, once our computer equipment is upgraded."

Adds Jane Wiles, head of the Newspaper Library, "Our patrons are literally crying out for more machine-searchable databases, which are very expensive for us. News of this endowment is just wonderful!"
Eleven Rare Works Added to German Baroque Literature Collection

Eleven rare German works purchased with private funds by the Library at a recent book auction in Berlin have significantly increased the stature of the Library's already prestigious collection of German Baroque literature.

The books all come from the private library of University of Michigan Professor Gerhard Dünnhaupt, the world's foremost authority on German Baroque literature and the compiler of the definitive bibliography on the subject.

"Professor Dünnhaupt's collection of books is so rich that no single library could possibly have afforded to buy the entire collection, but we managed to get the gems," says U of I German professor Mara Wade about the purchases. "And what we bid for all build on the strengths of the Library's rare-book collections."

Professor Wade should know—Professor Dünnhaupt was her dissertation advisor, and it was from his tremendous private collection that he taught his students. "This is the collection I learned from," she says, "so I know personally that these are all really good books."

One of the most exciting purchases was a 1663 edition of Paul Fleming's Poemata, edited by Fleming's literary executor, Adam Olearius. "Fleming was the premiere poet of the first half of the seventeenth century," explains Professor Wade, "but he died very young and very suddenly. His works were not published during his lifetime, so we are extremely fortunate we could get an edition seen through the press by his literary executor."

Another exciting purchase was a complete set of Monatsgespräche (1663-1669), a three-volume work of conversational literature in eight parts by Johann Rist and Erasmus Francisci. Rist is well-known for his dramas, poetry, prose, and Lutheran hymns, many of which are still sung today.

"A complete set of Rist has not come on the market at one time in the past fifty to seventy-five years," says Professor Wade, "so this is quite a purchase. We already have several works by Rist, who is very important because he's a north German Baroque writer, which is underrepresented at most libraries."

Other purchases included Birken's Ulysses (1669), considered a monument of German literature; the collected works in six books of Andreas Gryphius (1663), an important set because it is the only complete edition of his works that he saw through the press during his lifetime; Georg Philipp Harsdorffer's Geschichte... (1703), an emblem book that joins the Library's world-famous collection of emblem books; Daniel Casper von Lohenstein's Lobgeschriuft (1661), a book in praise of a Silesian prince that adds to the Library's excellent collection of court literature; the complete Poematm (1637) and Catonis Disticha (1662) of Martin Opitz, who is considered the father of modern German belles lettres; Christian Weise's Nachtticht (1701) and Geographie (1706), which is one of the first German textbooks to mention America; and Philipp von Zesen's Helicon (1641), which is an original edition of his poetry.

The eleven works were chosen by the Library for bidding from among the hundreds of lots available at auction based on input from Professor Wade and bibliographic research by the head of the Library's Modern Language and Linguistics Library, Thomas Kilton. Expertise on how to bid came from the Library's curator of rare books, Fred Nash.

"Fred was extremely well-informed on the strategies of how to bid at an auction, which, combined with his broad bibliographic knowledge, enabled us to actually bid successfully on everything we wanted," says Professor Wade."

But it was Professor Kilton's quick action that enabled the Library to even contemplate bidding in the first place. The Library, as it turns out, received only two weeks' notice about the auction, and that was at the very end of the fiscal year, when no state funds were left for purchases.

Notes Professor Wade, "While others might not have done anything in this circumstance, Tom immediately put in a huge amount of time, right down to finding the source of funding. He realized what an important opportunity this auction was for us."

Funds for the purchase came from the NEH Challenge Grant Endowment Fund, created with individual private donations to the Library during the Challenge Grant project. Notes the Library's director of development and public affairs, Joan M.
Hood, "Without private funds, we couldn't have acted so quickly. I can't think of another project that shows so clearly the importance of private funds to the Library."

**Technological Challenges to the Book and to Knowledge the Subject of Seventh Mortenson Lecture**

The book as we know it is slowly disappearing, leaving humanity with the choice of shaping its replacement into either a heaven or a hell.

That was the message of Talat Halman, professor of Middle East studies at New York University, who delivered the seventh annual C. Walter and Gerda B. Mortenson Distinguished Lecture on October 17, 1996.

"...[On the eve of the third millennium, we are in the process of destroying libraries, exterminating books for another creative and scientific venture, and we are figuratively shouting, 'All truth is in the holy computer—no books are necessary anymore,'" Professor Halman told the audience of nearly 150. "[But] there can be no culture without books in some form or other, regardless of what the transformation of books will be. In the future, books and libraries will probably undergo massive change and take new shape."

Professor Halman painted a picture of constant assaults on the written word dating back to the times of Julius Caesar, who inadvertently burned part of the Thalamic Library in Alexandria in 48 B.C. Censorship, even of his own books this past summer by the new government of Turkey, is the most common assault on the written word.

"But now in the world we are having a different kind of development," he said. "Technology is beginning to threaten the existence of books as we know them, as we touch them, as we love them, as great objects...[but] I am too steeped in the glorious history of books and libraries to leave them in the graves of the third of Alvin Toffler's waves."

The library, he predicted, would turn into a "cybrary," an institution that would be an "all-embracing library, a total library" combining cybernetics, the internet, and comparable inventions. For those in the hard sciences, "...the advantages of this type of super-efficiency are glorious, luxurious. By lifting a finger, anyone will have access to the entire corpus of human knowledge as embodied by all archives, databanks, and libraries."

The danger, he noted, was that an individual's acquisition of knowledge might seem unnecessary since there would be instant and constant access to a limitless amount of information.

"In the next century, everything will be available to any of us, and without the need to read or study," he said. "It is a privilege we shall begin to share with god. Thanks to the accessibility of total knowledge, we shall be liberated from knowledge itself to pursue noncerebral pleasures in the enormous expanses of our leisure."

The final result, he said, could be the end of physical entities such as museums or universities (they could all be accessed online) and a new isolation of humans from each other as everyone finds everything they need via computer. "We, still as human beings, have the power to create of this cyberspace a paradise or hell," he stated. "That is the great ethical choice before us."

To make that choice a paradise, Professor Halman predicted that technological advances would produce the ability to "simulate any book, be it from an ancient Egyptian papyrus roll or the latest release..." by means of special printers, collators, and binders. "We'll be able to create our own books, our own works, and they will be palatable like the books we cherish nowadays," he said.

He also predicted that the new technologies would equalize and democratize learning, overcome mass illiteracy, free societies from political oppression and economic exploitation, promote active participation in governmental processes, and foster international tolerance.

A printed version of Professor Halman's speech will be available from the Mortenson Center in mid-1997.

The Library is Looking for...

$575 to purchase *Dictionnaire du Darwinisme et de l'Evolution* for the Biology Library. This new, three-volume work, hailed as an "admirable achievement of scholarship," is the only critical, historical encyclopedia of its kind, making it an essential reference work for a major research library.

**Funds to purchase**

- The five-volume *The Earthquakes of Stable Continental Regions: Assessment of Large Earthquake Potential* for the Geology Library. The occurrence of a large earthquake in the central United States is rare but is now termed a possibility within the next 15 years. This set will serve as a reference volume for geologists, seismologists, and others as a comprehensive database for distinct areas of the central United States and similar areas. **Cost is $500.**

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To donate any of the items mentioned above, please contact Sharon Kitzmiller, associate director of development, at 227 Library, 1408 W. Gregory Dr., Urbana, IL 61801, or telephone (217) 333-5683.
New Endowment Supports Unique Music Collection

When U of I director of bands James Keene exhorted the alumni attending the 1990 centennial celebration of the U of I Band to become involved again with the university, Lloyd Farrar ('55, '56) decided to act.

As the son of an entomologist at the Illinois Natural History Survey, located at the U of I, and later as an undergraduate trombone major in the School of Music, he had grown up with the university band that had literally started the nationwide college band movement.

Now, Mr. Farrar and his wife, Doris Vogt Farrar, have created an unusual endowment — the Vogt/Farrar Fund — within the Library to support his other major gift to the Library — the donation, over the next several years, of his personal collection of more than 800 historic band instruments, known as the Patuxent Martial Musick Collection. The instruments will be accompanied by his research papers containing full historic annotations as to the instruments’ makers, owners, and any unusual patents.

The purpose of the new Vogt/Farrar Fund is to provide a fellowship or scholarship grant to graduate or advanced undergraduates studying the physical character and historical origins of musical instruments, with recipients helping with curatorial oversight of the Library’s special collections of musical instruments and band research archives.

The fund is named in memory of Mrs. Doris Farrar’s ('56) father, Lawrence Vogt, who was a lawyer in Belleville, Illinois, for over fifty years; and Mr. Farrar’s father, Milton Dyer Farrar, who worked at the Illinois Natural History Survey from 1926-1942. Milton Farrar later became the dean of the College of Agriculture at Clemson University.

The instrument collection will become part of the Library’s Sousa Archives for Band Research.

The instruments range from tin flutes used by school children during the mid-twentieth century to a set of rare baritone trombones, which were popular from the late 1800s until the 1920s.

"The materials I am donating will complement and augment significantly the resources already in the University's collections," says Mr. Farrar, a retired professor of musicology at Montgomery College.

"It's my personal hope that the Illinois collection, augmented by my gift, will grow as a center for research in this field and provide a treasure-trove of primary materials, particularly for students at the U of I."

Mr. Farrar’s collection focuses primarily on instruments made by nineteenth-century craftsmen in the Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New York areas. The collection also contains several examples of instruments with unusual patented features, such as unique clarinet key systems or valve operations for brass instruments.

A third focus, which many might recognize from their childhood, is instruments invented in the 1940s and 1950s strictly for teaching school children, such as the saxette (a recorder-like instrument, but double the size of a recorder) and the tintette (a plastic instrument made possible by the invention of Bake-a-lite).

This was the material Mr. Farrar used as the major American contributor to The Langwill Index (1993), the definitive source of information on musical instrument makers and inventors, and as the contributor of several new articles to the upcoming revision of the Grove Dictionary of Music.

So far, Mr. Farrar has sent five instruments and accompanying documentation to the Library. During the spring, he plans to transfer a large group of trumpets, cornets, alto horns. By 1999, the entire collection will be at the U of I. "My wife will be glad to see the instruments go," he laughs. "They do take up a lot of space, and they do need a lot of dusting!"

Mr. Farrar also has donated to the Music Library more than 600 books and miniature scores.

Says Sousa archivist Phyllis Danner of the new collection, "This is one of the most complete collections of musical instruments in the country, and none of the others has the depth and breadth of documentation that these instruments have. We now have the groundwork for further research on the history of musical instruments from a trailblazer in the field."

From the University Librarian

Currently, most of the major acquisitions in our Rare Book and Special Collection Library are acquired via gifts from the private collections of donors or from private funds. Recent notable gifts to the Library include the donation of private papers from William Maxwell, award-winning novelist and former fiction editor of the New Yorker.

Occasionally, major auctions of books and manuscripts by internationally prominent auction houses like Christie's or Sotheby's remind us of some of the more exciting activities of building library collections. Identifying items that are proposed for auction that would enhance our collections, determining if we can afford to make a bid based on estimated prices from the catalog, and the tension of waiting for the outcome of the auction, are all a vital part of the auction process.

Late in 1996, we had the experience of bidding in two major international auctions of books and manuscripts. Both were held in London and, like most bidders, we had to employ an agent to represent our interests at the auction.

In the first auction there were several lots of letters by and to Marcel Proust. Although Proust’s correspondence with this person is already represented in our
collection, it was determined that certain of these letters would be an important enhancement to our already unrivaled Proust collection. Regrettably, we were unsuccessful in obtaining any of the lots we wanted. According to our agent, two telephone bidders outbid all others for the letters.

In the second auction, we identified two H.G. Wells letters that would be important additions to our unique Wells collection, which draws more scholars and students to our campus than any other collection in the Rare Book and Special Collections Library. One letter had a reference to a trip to the moon, which we thought would be especially notable to display in conjunction with the planned celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the film 2001: A Space Odyssey, scheduled this spring’s Cyberfest.

This time we bid somewhat more aggressively and were successful in obtaining both items at lower-than-expected prices.

Using private gift and endowment funds intended for auctions, rather than state funds, is an infrequent activity, but it does represent one aspect of the level of activity associated with building research collections, now being spearheaded by our new head of the Rare Book and Special Collections Library, Barbara Jones.

—Robert Wedgeworth

Challenge Grant Funds
Augment Humanities Collections

What does a library unit do when professors need a set of books that costs $8,000, which is approximately 20% of your entire annual book budget?

You turn to the endowment funds established between 1988 and 1992 as part of the Library’s $4 million NEH Challenge Grant program.

Every year, a panel of librarians sifts through hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of requests from virtually every humanities-related library unit before choosing the lucky recipients.

This year, nineteen units received a total of $110,000 from five private endowment funds to purchase items that are essential but beyond financial reach.

“Our criteria focused on those materials that were most appropriate to the curricular needs of the University,” says Barbara Jones, chair of the committee and head of the Rare Book and Special Collections Library. “We also paid particular attention to requests for reference items because by fortiying reference materials, you get a good start on research even if you can’t buy everything.”

The Asian Library’s request for the $8,000 Chi’um Slish ts’ang Sin (Treasury of Chinese Classics) more than fit the criteria. The work is a compilation of approximately 1,000 of the most significant classical works from the pre-Qin dynasty period to the end of the Qing dynasty.

“This is a limited-edition work compiled by many researchers and scholars in the People’s Republic of China, and it’s needed by professors in many areas of Chinese history, not just one,” says Asian Library head Karen Wei. “I certainly couldn’t afford it without these funds.”

The NEH Challenge Grant Endowment Fund, created from the many small, private donations received during the challenge-grant period, will provide the funds for her request.

Two other essential reference titles to be purchased from the same endowment fund are the microfiche of the alphabetical card catalog of the Russian National Library and, in a cooperative purchase agreement, the 500-reel microfilm set of finding aids to the Archives of the Soviet Communist Party and Soviet State.

“The microfiche of the card catalog is tremendously important—a wonderful, wonderful thing,” enthuses Helen Sullivan, manager of the Slavic and East European Library’s world-famous Slavic Reference Service. “This will allow scholars to check in advance as to whether the Russian National Library, which is in St. Petersburg, has what they need, so it really allows them to prepare in advance. Since we annually host the Summer Research Institute, which usually draws about 300 scholars, this will be a big help to the entire country.”

The microfilm of finding aids was purchased as part of a cooperative arrangement with the Consortium for Institutional Cooperation (CIC), a consortium of Big Ten schools plus the University of Chicago, because no one school could afford the total price of $44,847. Under the arrangement, the microfilm will be stored at the U of I Library and will circulate only to other CIC institutions.

“The Communist Party archives microfilms much more accessible when aids are cataloged, it will make the actual archives much more accessible to researchers.”

Other items to be purchased with private funds generated during the NEH Challenge Grant period include Illerup Adal (archaeological excavations in Denmark), and microfilm of the Jewish Chronicle (1841-1910), both with funds from the George F. and Edna Brown Titus Library Endowment Fund; microfilm of Great Britain Cabinet Papers, with funds from the Cordelia Reed Library Endowment Fund; rare Spanish Civil War materials, purchased with funds from the George and Sarah Patterson Pagels Library Endowment Fund; and several other important items.

Says Jewish Studies bibliographer Karen Schmidt, “Ours is such an interdisciplinary area that there is a lot to do with almost no resources. The private endowment funds are absolutely indispensable for us to buy primary-source research material for our faculty and students.”

The NEH Challenge Grant Program funds include an endowment fund created with federal matching funds, used for preservation projects and to improve access to the collections; an endowment fund created with individual gifts of under $10,000, and several individually named endowment funds created during the program by donors contributing $10,000 or more. These latter are used for acquisitions.

Richard Nixon, President of the United States of America, in consideration of the following document and other good and valuable consideration, for the purchase and sale of the same, do hereby grant, transfer and convey to the Library of Congress, in the City of Washington, District of Columbia, a single 1974 presidential pardon from Richard Nixon to Spanish Civil War veteran John Gales, a former U.S. Communist Party member. From the John Gales papers, purchased for the Rare Book and Special Collections Library with funds from the George and Sarah Patterson Pagels Library Endowment Fund.
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