

NEWS *from* FONDREN

A LIBRARY NEWSLETTER TO THE RICE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

LIBRARY BUILDING PLANS MOVE IN NEW DIRECTION

Most of you are aware that the university has been working with architects Michael Wilford and Associates and Geoffrey Freeman of Shepley Bulfinch Richardson and Abbott in planning a new library facility. This new building was designed to fit in with the aesthetics of the campus's main academic quadrangle, utilizing a slip bar design and reflecting the architecture of Lovett Hall and the other buildings nearby. In order to fulfill the needs of the library's building program and keep massing above ground to scale, a significant amount of space was planned to be located underground. The monumental floods from Tropical Storm Allison on June 9, 2001, caused many to reflect on the wisdom of planning such space in light of the extensive damage to the nearby Medical Center and the downtown arts complexes, as well as other parts of Houston.



In a July memo to the Rice community President Malcolm Gillis announced the suspension of the library design process. The flood raised fundamental questions about the wisdom of putting the library's irreplaceable collection underground. Issues with regard to funding have also been brought to the fore. According to Dr. Gillis, "even under the best of circumstances, raising the required funds for the new library has been understood, from the beginning, to be a daunting challenge, with uncertain outcome." Given the environment in Houston following the flood and the competition for funds with the arts organizations, the Medical Center,

and other worthy groups, there were serious doubts that we should move forward at this time.

As President Gillis indicates in his memo, the university is still very committed to enhancing the academic and scholarly value and functionality of the library. A group will be formed in the near future to assess the university's options and recommend to the Board of Trustees the best approach to achieving Rice's "library of the future." This is an exciting project, which will involve many people in planning for the further integration of new information technologies, as well as enhancing the important traditional aspects of the library and the collection.

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LIBRARY SERVICE CENTER

While plans for a new library building are under review, plans to build a high-density library storage facility are proceeding. This facility, to be called the "Library Service Center" (LSC), will be built on land near campus on South Main Street, donated by Trustee Raymond Brochstein. Currently in the planning stages, the LSC will be designed and constructed over the next year, with a projected opening date of early 2003. To plan the building, the library is working with consultant Reese Dill, an expert and early designer in the concept of using industrial storage methods to store library materials.

In high-density storage facilities, books, microfilm, archival materials, CDs, and other types of materials are stored very efficiently by size, using approximately seven different sizes of modular book trays to store books on thirty-six-inch-deep shelving. Grouping materials by size on industrial-type shelving and using an order-picker vehicle to elevate an operator to shelves reaching high above ground allow the storage of a very large number of volumes per square foot. In a ten-thousand-square-foot facility approximately 1.8 million volumes can be housed. Low-use materials from Fondren Library will gradually be processed and moved to the LSC, and materials currently stored in the football stadium will also be relocated. By relieving some of the overcrowding in the library, additional space can be recaptured for new services and user seating.



High-density shelving in the Moravia Park Shelving Facility of Eisenhower Library at Johns Hopkins University. Used with permission.

In addition to the efficient use of space, the shelving facility will also provide an environment that is excellent for preservation purposes. Specially designed, environmentally controlled systems regulate conditions within the storage area, keeping the temperature at a constant fifty degrees Fahrenheit, with 30 percent relative humidity. These conditions are ideal for the long-term storage of library materials.

Services in the LSC are still in the planning stages, but the library expects to have materials requested from the facility brought back to campus within twenty-four hours. A small user area is also planned for the LSC, so that members of the Rice community could use materials on-site if they desired.

A new concept in the mid-1980s, this type of library storage facility has now become commonplace. Other universities utilizing high-density storage facilities include Harvard University, Yale University, Duke University, and the University of Texas system. Some facilities are jointly owned and administered; for example, a joint facility is currently under construction by Columbia and Princeton universities and the New York Public Library. For more information about library storage facilities, see: <http://www.librarystorage.com>.

Sara Lowman
*Director of Fondren Library and
Associate University Librarian*
lowman@rice.edu

INTERLIBRARY BORROWING IMPROVES SERVICE

INTERLIBRARY BORROWING MATERIALS NOW AVAILABLE AT CIRCULATION

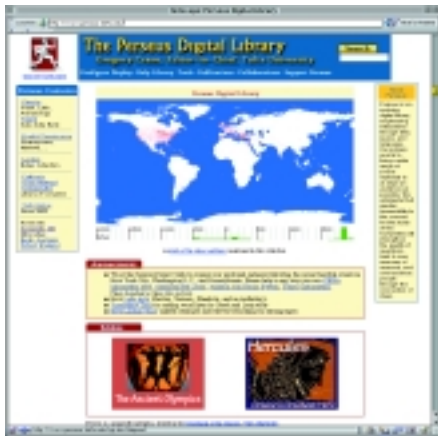
In order to provide greater convenience to users, materials requested through Interlibrary Borrowing (ILL) may now be picked up from and returned to the Circulation Desk. Users may obtain their ILL materials almost any time the library is open, including nights and weekends.

Renewals will continue to be handled directly by ILL department staff. To request a renewal, or for other questions about ILL services, contact the ILL department at extension 2284.

ONLINE CANCELLATION AND COMMENTS FORMS DEVELOPED FOR USE

Users who wish to cancel a previously submitted ILL request may now do so via the Web by using the cancellation form. Simply fill in your name, status, e-mail address, the date of the original request, and the bibliographic information for the item you wish to cancel. A new comments form has been added to the menu to permit users to send feedback on services to ILL staff. Ideas for changes or improvements to ILL service policies receive careful consideration. Links to these forms can be found on the Interlibrary Borrowing home page at: <http://riceinfo.rice.edu/Fondren/Forms/ill.html>.

CREATING A COMPREHENSIVE CAMPUS DIGITAL ENVIRONMENT: THE RICE DIGITAL LIBRARY INITIATIVE



<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/>

Only the world's leading libraries contain all the essential classical texts, from Aeschines to Xenophon. Yet Perseus (<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/>), a digital library initially focused on ancient Greece, offers not only fully searchable versions of several hundred classical works, but also maps of the Greek and Roman worlds, images of over fifteen hundred vases and five thousand archaeological sites, extensive secondary source material, dictionaries, and concordances. To build connections among its different resources, Perseus automatically generates hyperlinks between items in the archive; for instance, by clicking on a word, the user can be taken to a dictionary entry, map, or linguistic analysis tools.

Recently Perseus has expanded its offerings to include the English Renaissance, Victorian England, and the United States. In only two years, the Perseus project has attracted over twenty-three million

Internet hits and glowing testimonials from schoolchildren, scholars, and nonspecialists interested in everything from Greek sculpture to the geography of the American West. By offering access to a rich array of resources, as well as to powerful tools for analyzing and understanding them, Perseus illustrates the advantages of digital libraries for the humanities or, indeed, any discipline.

WHAT IS A DIGITAL LIBRARY?

The term "digital library" means different things to different people. Some may associate it with collections of digitized resources such as the Association for Computing Machinery's Digital Library (<http://www.acm.org/dl/>), which provides access to thousands of computer science journal articles. But this definition overlooks the fundamental purpose of a "library," an entity that selects, organizes, preserves, and makes available in-



<http://www.acm.org/dl/>

formation. Mel Collier provides a definition that includes the service as well as content, explaining that the digital library is "a managed environment of multimedia materials in digital form, designed for the benefit of its user population, structured to facilitate access to its contents, and equipped with aids to navigate the global network ... with users and holdings totally distributed, but managed as a coherent whole" (*International Symposium on Research, Development, and Practice in Digital Libraries*, 1997).

The fundamental thinking behind digital libraries was articulated in 1945 by Vannevar Bush, who was then the director of the U.S. Office of Scientific Research and Development. In "As We May Think," Bush argued that traditional methods for performing and organizing research were inadequate for dealing with the flood of information. To ensure that researchers could create their own paths through a mass of information, Bush envisioned the Memex, "a device in which an individual stores all his books, records, and communications, and which is mechanized so that it may be consulted with exceeding speed and flexibility. It is an enlarged intimate supplement to his memory." Bush was prescient—even if he imagined the Memex as a souped-up microfilm reader that would take advantage of recent advances in dry photography.

HOW DO DIGITAL LIBRARIES HELP?

With the rise of the World Wide Web, digital collections focused on everything from stamp collecting to high-energy physics have proliferated. Despite the variety offered online, many are frustrated with the unreliability of the information, the difficulty of locating what they need, and the frequent changes to—even disappearances of—favorite Web sites. A digital library seeks to address these very frustrations by meeting traditional library functions in innovative ways, employing new technologies to direct users to the most appropriate information, ensure its quality, and preserve it. Whereas traditional libraries have limited hours and can only check out as many copies of works as they own, digital libraries can provide access to materials around the clock, and multiple copies of a single work can be in use at one time.

Digital libraries give wide access to resources formerly available only to researchers with substantial travel budgets, if at all. For example, the Library of Congress's American Memory



<http://memory.loc.gov/>

project (<http://memory.loc.gov/>) lets users examine images of important American documents, as well as recordings of folk music, early twentieth-century films, rare nineteenth-century photographs, diaries about life in the American West, and much more. For the scientific community, an exemplary digital collection is the Los Alamos E-Print Archive (<http://xxx.lanl.gov/>). Established in 1991, the E-Print Archive speeds and expands scientific communication by collecting new research papers in physics and related fields, serving over thirty-five thousand users worldwide every day. As the example of this archive illustrates, digital collections enable researchers to have quicker access to more current information, since digital information is typically easier to update than print.

Even more important than providing expanded access, digital libraries facilitate new ways of organizing and analyzing information. Researchers can use digital libraries to interact with information, execute sophisticated searches, assemble concordances, perform calculations, organize their research using bibliographic software, and re-present data in different formats, such as graphs and charts. Digital libraries offer access to information in new formats, such as streaming video and audio, animations, and raw data collected through scientific experimentation. In addition, digital libraries may provide spaces for collaboration, so that participants can exchange ideas and information through online chat rooms and bulletin boards, common data repositories, teleconferencing, and other means.

Some digital libraries are also exploring customization, delivering information to users based on their specific needs and interests.

PROBLEMS

Although the President's Information Technology Advisory Committee (PITAC) has recently articulated the vision of using digital libraries to provide universal access to human knowledge, significant obstacles must be overcome. Technical problems include developing the means for digital libraries to interoperate (so that one could, for instance, search multiple repositories at once), creating more effective tools for search and retrieval, building better user interfaces, determining and disseminating the most appropriate metadata formats for recording information about digital objects, and so forth. Perhaps more significant than the technical problems are the legal, social, and economic obstacles. Since digital information can be easily copied and disseminated, the question of intellectual property rights—who owns information and who should have access to it—becomes increasingly complex. Even though some of the costs associated with digital libraries (particularly storage) are dropping, creating and managing digital content still present a significant expense. How are these efforts to be funded?

Developers of digital libraries must determine how best to serve the needs of users, in addition to managing the creation and organization of digital content. One of the most significant problems—a problem that cuts across the technical, economic, legal, and social dimensions—goes to the heart of the library's mission: preservation.

Whereas manuscripts and books have demonstrated the ability to survive for centuries, digital information may last only decades, since data formats, software, and hardware change frequently, and the media upon which digital collections are stored deteriorate rapidly.

CURRENT PROJECTS

Fortunately, several projects are now beginning to address at least some of these issues. In 1994, the



<http://www.dli2.nsf.gov/dlione/>

National Science Foundation, DARPA (Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency), and NASA launched the first phase of the Digital Libraries Initiative (<http://www.dli2.nsf.gov/dlione/>), which funded six four-year research projects based at different universities. The University of California at Santa Barbara, for instance, focused on geospatial data, Carnegie Mellon on video, and the University of Illinois on a federated library of science and engineering journals. The second phase of the national Digital Library Initiative (<http://www.dli2.nsf.gov/>) is now underway. (One of these grants went to the



<http://www.cdlib.org/>

Perseus Project for building a digital library for the humanities.)

State agencies have also sponsored digital library programs. For example, in 1997 the University of California made the California Digital Library its tenth library. (The other nine are located at the UC system's physical campuses.) The California Digital Library (<http://www.cdlib.org/>) provides access to a computer-based catalog of holdings at all UC libraries, collects finding aids to archival materials, supports innovations in scholarly communications, and builds digital collections.

RICE DIGITAL LIBRARY INITIATIVE (DLI)

Whereas other digital library programs are directed at particular disciplines, collections, or research problems, the Rice Digital Library Initiative (DLI) focuses on the broader academic community, seeking to build an integrated digital environment that both reflects and promotes the vitality of the university. The initiative seeks to offer essential resources, tools, and

services for finding and managing information, whether digital or analog. As Tony Elam, assistant dean of the School of Engineering, told the *Rice News*, "It is one thing to scan images and put data online. A digital library acts as a catalyst for the use of information. We want students, faculty, and alumni to be able to continue to create new information and collaborate through this facility."

The Rice initiative will support all phases of scholarly activity, from posing initial research questions and locating relevant resources to publishing original findings and archiving data. It will also construct managed repositories for course-related materials, exercises, and software, offer tools for collaboration, and provide storage space for digital portfolios assembled by Rice students and alumni. These portfolios—which might contain a résumé or curriculum vitae, as well as digitized versions of musical or dramatic performances, engineering or architectural designs, or research papers and essays—can serve as an interactive, dynamic record of a student's accomplishments, furnishing valuable information to graduate schools, prospective employers, and peers. Students and graduates would be granted not only long-term access to space for their portfolios, but also a constant e-mail address.

AIMS OF DLI

The DLI aims to build connections among diverse projects currently underway at Rice and to spark new activities. Already some innovative digital resources are being developed on campus. For instance, the Connexions Project

JAPAN FOUNDATION GRANT ENLARGES FONDREN'S COLLECTION

Fondren Library has been awarded an in-kind "B2 Library Support" grant from the Japan Foundation. These competitive grants are awarded to libraries working with the faculty of newer and developing Japanese studies programs to create library collections strongly supportive of these programs.

Library materials worth two million yen were requested by Fondren Library in our grant application; the first group has just arrived on the Rice campus. The materials should include a variety of core reference works and basic materials that cannot easily be shared through interlibrary loan, including dictionaries, encyclopedias, and manuals. These titles will substantially enhance research and access to library collections in the Japanese language for the entire Houston community. We thank Dr. Sarah Thal for her efforts, without which neither the application nor the award would have been possible.

(<http://cnx.rice.edu/>) is creating flexible, interactive, and dynamic educational materials that reveal the linkages between ideas; Rice Webcast (<http://www.rice.edu/webcast/archive.html>) is building an online collection of talks given by significant thinkers and leaders who have spoken at the university; and Fondren Library is creating sophisticated digital projects such as the Bon Po Textual Collection (<http://antioch.rice.edu/digproj/bonpo/>), which will offer new access to key texts in an important Tibetan tradition.



<http://antioch.rice.edu/digproj/bonpo/>

Other significant digital resources, such as collections of curricular materials, archives of preprints and reports, and 3-D visualizations of architectural spaces, are also cropping up throughout Rice's digital environment. Without the appropriate tools and management structure, these valuable resources are difficult to locate and access, variable in their conformance to standards, and at risk of being lost as data formats and hardware change. The technologies needed to properly manage, protect, and make this rich digital information available to those seeking it are being addressed

through the Rice Digital Library Initiative.

The initiative also aims to reduce the frustrations and inefficiencies associated with current research tools. Rather than having to conduct multiple searches of different information sources, researchers will be able to employ advanced search tools and a common interface to quickly and accurately extract information from diverse databases. They will be able to search not only full-text databases, but also collections of audio recordings, videos, images, and software. Furthermore, the products of research—preprints of articles, research data, scholarly digital projects, etc.—can be stored in common repositories accessible to researchers and students around the world. Such repositories will enable Rice to share its cutting-edge research, build interdisciplinary communities, recruit graduate students, and serve the public by offering access to the knowledge being created here. Results of technology research by Rice students and faculty will be harnessed and incorporated into the digital landscape to ensure that the Rice community will be advantaged by the technological advances their research is producing.

The Digital Library Initiative will also pursue its own active research agenda by studying the technical, cognitive, and social dimensions of digital information. It will examine the most effective methods for creating, searching, and storing digital information, the networking infrastructure that will be needed to support the global sharing of digital information, and the implications of digital resources for



Geneva Henry

learning strategies, collaborative activities, and scholarship.

DIRECTOR OF DLI

Geneva Henry directs Rice's Digital Library Initiative. Before coming to Rice, she was an IT Architect and technical manager at IBM, TRW, and the Rand Corporation. Her early work in expert systems and natural language processing provided a background for her later involvement with digital libraries. While at IBM, she served as a digital library consultant, working with museums, universities, governmental agencies, and medical organizations to develop digital library strategies and systems. Her last projects at IBM included the development of some complex medical imaging digital archives and large-scale planning for multimedia repositories for the entertainment industry. At Rice, Henry oversees the development of the digital library, seeking to understand the many needs for and uses of information throughout the Rice community and the ways in which technology can provide an improved environment for facilitating information use.

UPCOMING SYMPOSIUM

On December 11, CITI (the Computer and Information Technology Institute), the Department of Computer Science, and the Office of the Vice President for Information Technology will sponsor a day-long symposium focusing on topics such as digital library system architectures and search technologies. Leading researchers and practitioners from across the country will speak at the symposium, including Dan Greenstein (Director of the Digital Library Federation), Robert Wilensky (UC Berkeley), Brewster Kahl (Alexa), Bruce Schatz (Illinois), Andrei Broder (Altavista Search), and Reagan Moore (San Diego Supercomputing Center). This symposium, which will be held in McMurtry Auditorium (1055 Duncan Hall), is free and open to the public.

Lisa Spiro
*Director, Electronic Text and
Image Center*
lspiro@rice.edu

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DVD ACCESS TO BE PROVIDED

Fondren Library will begin providing access to text, data, and video materials in the DVD format during the fall 2001 semester. A region-free DVD player will be placed in the media viewing room (Room 410) of the library, and a U.S.-region DVD player will be installed in the VCR viewing area on the second-floor balcony. Video DVDs will be shelved at the Reserve Desk and will circulate for the same time periods as the existing video materials on videocassette.

SCULPTURE ENRICHES LIBRARY

Many years before the famous turning of William Marsh Rice's statue to face the library, another Rice University statue was making headlines. The piece, a bust of Gertrude Stein by famed artist Jacques Lipschitz, was stolen from the entrance to Fondren Library only a few days after Mrs. Kenneth Dale Owen donated it in 1954. Over the years it endured many hardships, including having its face painted, cigarettes inserted into its mouth, and even catfish eyes inserted into its eye sockets. After being located for many years in the library, this sculpture, one of the university's most valuable works of art, is currently housed in the university's art collection storage area.



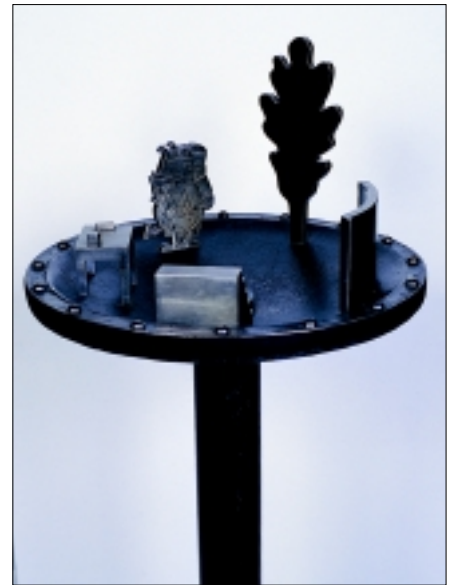
Autumn Breeze II, by Bob Guelich

Since it was built, the library has housed numerous works of art. Presently several sculptures are on display. Located near the entrance to the library is the largest and, possibly, the most imposing. Depicting an owl, the sculpture, created by Bob Guelich, is entitled *Autumn Breeze II*. University president Malcolm Gillis discovered this piece in the Nanette Richardson Fine Art Gallery in San Antonio. Interested in adding works of art that display owls, a well-known symbol of the university, Dr. Gillis persuaded the gallery to loan the bronze sculpture to Rice. Eventually Mrs. Wesley West generously donated funds to allow the university to purchase the piece.

In the Park with Crazy Kat, housed in the Brown Fine Arts Library, is a fun and whimsical piece composed of welded steel. Several friends of Pat Toomey, a long-time slide curator in the Art and Art History Department, commissioned the piece from noted Texas sculptor Jim Love after her death. The work was created in the years 1989-1990. The artist is well known

for another piece located on campus, entitled *Paul Bunyan Bouquet No. 2*. Located in the Lovett College commons, this intricate work is made from discarded railroad equipment.

Situated in the Fay Bibliography Room, near the Reference Desk, is a bust of Dr.



In the Park with Crazy Kat, by Jim Love

Radoslav A. Tsanoff, for many years a distinguished professor of philosophy at Rice. Three alumnae—Mary Greenwood Anderson, Homoiselle Haden Fay, and Dorothy Dunn Davis—commissioned the piece from Houston artist Carol Crow. The work was cast in bronze in Florence, Italy, and formally unveiled in 1976.

Just outside the rotunda, near the Reference Desk, can be found an intricate

piece entitled *St. Francis, Man of Peace*, created by noted American artist and sculptor Lorenzo Ghiglieri. This work was created in 1982 to mark the



St. Francis, Man of Peace, by Lorenzo Ghiglieri



H. Malcolm Lovett, by David Parsons



Martha W. Lovett, by David Parsons

eight hundredth anniversary of St. Francis. Cast in bronze in an edition size of forty-four, copies of the piece were presented to Pope John Paul II, King Juan Carlos I of Spain, and Mikhail Gorbachev. The piece was donated to the library after an exhibit of the artist's works at the University of St. Thomas.

The Woodson Research Center houses two portrait busts: one of its namesake, Benjamin N. Woodson, and one of the noted architect and professor, William Ward Watkin. Woodson's bust, inscribed PACK, was unveiled in May 1992. It was donated by the Houston Chapter of the American Society of CLU & ChFC, as well as numerous life insurance companies. Woodson, long a prominent figure in the life insurance industry, donated the original \$10,000 that helped establish the Woodson Research Center.

William Ward Watkin was responsible both for the design of Rice Institute and for overseeing the original construction of the campus. His bust was cast in 1938 by the sculptor William M. McVey. McVey, a former student at Rice,

also created the frieze and three-dimensional star atop the San Jacinto Monument. The downward look on Watkin's face is explained by the fact that the artist created the piece while Mr. Watkin worked at his desk. McVey commented that Watkin had a distinctive face which was ideal for sculpting and not "just your every day puss."

The library has three bas-reliefs created by David Parsons, a professor emeritus of art and art history, who has numerous works located around Rice University. Two are portraits of Martha W. and

H. Malcolm Lovett, which are located on the third floor of the library in the Lovett Lounge. H. Malcolm Lovett, the son of Rice's founding president, Edgar Odell Lovett, was a former chairman of the university's Board of Governors. He and his wife initiated the Friends of Fondren Library endowment fund and provided continuous support to the library. The Friends of Fondren Library dedicated the lounge to the couple in May 1988.

The third of Parsons's bas-reliefs, done in hammered lead and entitled *Prayer*, hangs in the Woodson Research Center. Originally composed in 1964, Parsons reworked it in 1973 and donated it in memory of Harden Craig, Jr., who was the University Librarian from 1954 until 1968.



Prayer, by David Parsons

David Bynog
Assistant Acquisitions Librarian
dbynog@rice.edu

EXHIBITION CATALOGS: AN IMPORTANT SOURCE OF INFORMATION ABOUT ARTISTS

Visitors to museums and galleries, such as the Museum of Fine Arts Houston, are treated to a multitude of exhibitions each year, ranging from cityscapes by the eighteenth-century painter Bernardo Bellotto to a group exhibition of works from American Impressionist artists of the Cos Cob art colony. In conjunction with these exhibitions, catalogs or scholarly monographs are often produced. Like the exhibitions themselves, these catalogs may focus on the work of one or more artists or may be organized thematically. An exhibition catalog serves both as a guide to the exhibit and as a printed record of a temporary exhibition. In some cases, the catalog may be the only printed documentation on a particular artist, especially in the case of lesser-known artists. In addition to providing biographical information, catalogs are often rich sources of critical analysis.

The Brown Fine Arts Library possesses an extensive collection of exhibition catalogs, some of which can be located online and some of which must be located through a traditional card catalog or a computer-generated list. The library's online catalog has bibliographic records for approximately twelve thousand exhibition catalogs, which are shelved in the Brown Fine Arts Library's stacks by Library of Congress classification number. There is also a substantial

pre-1979 collection of about six thousand single artist and thematic catalogs housed in vertical files. A card catalog provides access to this collection, developed largely by Shelby Miller, the Art Librarian from 1969-1979, by offering Menil Foundation publications in ex-



change for those of museums and galleries worldwide. While acquiring catalogs through an exchange program is still common among museum libraries, it is less common among academic libraries, which usually purchase exhibition catalogs through commercial vendors. In recent years approximately 550 new catalogs of North American and European museum and gallery exhibitions have been purchased annually.

Although the library ceased its participation in the exchange program in 1978, for several years some galleries continued to send

catalogs, which were added to a sizeable backlog of catalogs in storage. In 1986 the Art Librarian and the Cataloging Department coordinated efforts to process over five hundred exhibition catalogs for the vertical files by using simplified records providing information on the artist's surname, medium, century, and nationality. A computer-generated list offers

access by artist, museum, or gallery. Because the vertical file collection is often overlooked, the Art Librarian has an ongoing project to select exhibition catalogs to receive full Library of Congress cataloging, so that these titles can be shelved in the stacks and identified through the online catalog. Among the most recently selected

catalogs were fifty titles on American decorative arts of the early seventeenth through the nineteenth centuries, which will support new courses offered by the Department of Art and Art History.

Lee Hilyer
Interlibrary Loan Librarian
lhilyer@rice.edu

Jet Prendeville
Art & Architecture Librarian
jetp@rice.edu

BEHIND THE SCENES: BROWN FINE ARTS LIBRARY

As Fondren Library completes the first year of the twenty-first century it seems an appropriate time to reflect on the history of the collections which comprise the Brown Fine Arts Library. The Art Library and the faculty of the Art History Department of the University of St. Thomas became part of Rice University in 1969 under an agreement with the Menil Foundation, the University of St. Thomas, and Rice University. Functioning as a branch of Fondren Library, the Art Library was originally located in the basement of Allen Center, then moved in 1971 into Sewall Hall.

With the collection growing at the rate of approximately two thousand volumes a year, space soon became a critical factor. As early as 1976, the architectural firm of Antonio and Adele de Souza Santos prepared plans for an art and architecture library to be located in the basement of Fondren Library. The Art Library was transferred from Sewall Hall to the Fondren basement location during the summer of 1978. Recognizing that this space was only a temporary solution, the Architecture and Art History faculty strongly encouraged University Librarian Sam Carrington to address the long-term space needs of a library supporting the School of Architecture and the Department of Art and Art History.

In 1984 Dr. Carrington set into motion plans to renovate part of the third floor of Fondren Library for a Fine Arts Library, which would also house the music collection. The library was to occupy space which had previously housed a music room and general stacks. Combining two service points and three collections (the art books in Fondren's general stacks, the Art Library, and the Music Library), which had a high percentage of large-format books, sound recordings, rare books, and audio equipment stations, was an efficient use of renovated space. On October 5, 1985, the new Fine Arts Library was dedicated to Alice Pratt Brown, in recognition of her many contributions to the university and to the fine arts at Rice in particular. At the time of the library's dedication, the art and architecture portion of the collection numbered about 40,000 volumes. Today a collection of over 100,000 volumes supports the research needs of the School of Architecture, the Department of Art and Art History, and other de-



Student Ana Wandless and Mary Du Mont at Listening Station

partments such as History, Religious Studies, and Anthropology.

Until the Shepherd School of Music was formally instituted in 1975, Fondren Library's music collection primarily supported the interests of users for whom music was not a primary field of study. To support the growing music school, the scope of the music collection changed, focusing on scholarly editions of scores for major composers, performance editions of the Western classical music tradition, and sound recordings. In the last decade, greatly increased funding for the acquisition of music materials has dramatically improved the library's collection of scholarly collected editions, scores for the standard repertoire (including music for individual instruments, symphonies, chamber music, and voice), sound recordings, books, and journal subscriptions. A modest collection when it became part of the Brown Fine Arts Library in 1985, the music collection now consists of over 70,000 books, journals, scores, and audiovisual materials.



Jet Prendeville and Margaret Henderson Confer in Reading Area of Brown Library

THE LIBRARY TODAY

The Brown Fine Arts Library's staff presently consists of Art and Architecture Librarian Jet Prendeville, Music Librarian Mary Du Mont, Circulation/Reserves Supervisor Richard Watts, and evening Circulation/Reserves Assistant Margaret Henderson, helped by a group of invaluable Rice student assistants. Except for Jet Prendeville, the permanent staff members are all new this year. Mary Du Mont is the former head of the music library at Kent State University in Ohio. (See her biographical sketch in the spring 2001 issue of *News from Fondren*.) A native of Galveston, Richard Watts came to Fondren with extensive experience in fine arts libraries, including the Parsons School of Design and the Pratt Institute in New York City. Margaret Henderson is a Rice alumna, with a dual B.A. degree in art history and economics.

The Brown Fine Arts Library operates like a microcosm of Fondren Library, offering its own circulation and reserve services and specialized reference assistance. It houses a current periodicals reading area, a reference collection, sixteen audio stations, three audiovisual stations, open book stacks, and a closed stacks area for an extensive sound recording

collection, videos, flat folios, and rare books. The two Circulation/Reserve staff members are responsible for basic reference assistance, processing reserves, supervising the circulation and shelving duties of twelve to fifteen student employees, placing recalls, mailing overdue notices, searching for missing books, maintaining a current book display, maintenance and shifting of the sound CD collection, solving photocopier and audio equipment problems, and fielding almost any kind of request for assistance. In addition to substantial online circulation, the Brown Fine Arts Library staff conducted over eleven thousand manual circulation transactions and answered approximately two thousand reference questions during the past year.

The Art and Architecture Librarian hires and supervises the Circulation/Reserves Supervisor and Assistant. She is also responsible for acquiring current and out-of-print scholarly books, catalogues raisonnés, exhibition catalogs, and journals which support the research and curricular needs of the Department of Art and Art History and the School of Architecture. This is partly achieved by monitoring approval plans (i.e., agreements with book dealers whereby new books in particular subject areas are automatically shipped to the library), which supply a large percentage of new English-language books. Reviewing bibliographic slips and catalogs is the principal way of identifying other new scholarly materials (such as European publications) and out-of-print books. Smaller booksellers contribute their inventory information to cooperative Web sites, such as AddALL, Alibris, and Advanced Book Exchange (abebooks).

The Music Librarian is responsible for coordinating the production of sound reserves, acquiring current and out-of-print scholarly musicology books, journals, scores, sound recordings, and videos which support the research, curricular, and performance needs of the Shepherd School of Music. Many items are purchased from major vendors, while other items are purchased from antiquarian dealers.

Both librarians evaluate online databases and make recommendations for subscriptions. A recent addition to the online resources of the Brown Fine Arts Library is *RIPM Online: International Index to Nineteenth-Century Music Periodicals*. With strong budgets, both librarians are able to keep pace with contemporary publications, while enhancing the research value of the collection with purchases of primary source materials, such as the first edition of



Student Chuck Clark and Richard Watts at Work at the Circulation Desk

Nicola Vicentino's *L'Antica musica*, Rameau's *Traité de l'harmonie reduite à ses principe naturels* (published in 1722), a 1601 edition of Palladio's *I Quattro libri dell'architettura*, and the 1914 edition of *Der Blaue Reiter*; edited by Wassily Kandinsky and Franz Marc.

In addition to collection development responsibilities and faculty liaison work, both librarians help patrons find research materials using print and online resources, present bibliographic instruction sessions, prepare research guides, keep the content of the Brown Fine Arts Library Web page current, and supervise the physical maintenance of their respective collections by planning shifting and shelfreading projects and replacing outdated material. The librarians hire and schedule student employees and participate in their intensive training. They are also very active in the professional activities of Fondren Library, the Art Libraries Society of North America, and the Music Library Association.

Jet Prendeville
Art and Architecture Librarian
jtep@rice.edu

Mary Du Mont
Music Librarian
mdumont@rice.edu

DID *you* KNOW?

The Gilberta Zingler Library Endowment, to be used for the purchase of library materials, has been activated this year. This fund was created in memory of a former Head of Acquisitions, who was a long-time member of Fondren Library's staff.



Fondren Library will be receiving over \$100 thousand from the latest round of noncompetitive library technology grant awards from the Texas Infrastructure Fund Board. This year's grant will help in improving several library technologies, including upgrading of the online catalog.



Last year Fondren Library borrowed 2.7% more materials from other libraries than in the previous year. The increase in materials provided to other libraries was greater: we experienced a 10.1% increase in lending. The time needed to fill a request for a Rice borrower is 8.85 days, which is 43% less than the average time for research libraries.

New interlibrary loan (ILL) management software is helping us analyze our service, and we are seeking ways to continue improving what ILL can do for you.



Fondren Library's subscription to the IEEE Xplore system has been upgraded to permit access to all back files (previously limited to 1998+) and IEEE journals, conference proceedings, and standards (not previously accessible) and allows a larger number of simultaneous users (15 versus 5).

COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT SPECIALISTS



Debra Ellett

DEBRA ELLETT

Debra Ellett joined the Fondren staff on August 10 as a Science Reference/Collection Development Librarian. Her collection development responsibilities include physics, astronomy, mathematics, and statistics. She enjoys going out and meeting with faculty and is pleased to be working with the faculty in her subject areas.

Debra adapts easily to new technologies and takes a creative, innovative approach to situations. She looks forward to enhancing Web page content for her collection development areas and maintaining a strong presence for those areas on the Fondren Web site. Student outreach is high on Debra's list of priorities, and she plans to focus on increasing student awareness of electronic resources.

A Texas native, Debra grew up in College Station, living in Texas

A&M married student housing while her father, now Director of the Center for Bioacoustics at Texas A&M Corpus Christi, earned his Ph.D. Debra remembers this time as a very multicultural experience within the College Station community. She also remembers being a daily after-school library user at Texas A&M and describes herself as a "library latch-key" child.

Debra graduated *cum laude* from Sam Houston State University with a B.A. in English in 1995.

She earned her M.L.I.S. from the University of Texas at Austin in 1996. While in graduate school, Debra was offered a much sought-after internship at Sematech in Austin. During the six-month internship at the semiconductor company she provided library instruction, did online research, and was the front-line person in the company library. After graduation Debra accepted a position with the Montgomery County Memorial Library System and, in 1999, was promoted to the position of Branch Manager for the system's library in Magnolia. Debra also worked as an adjunct faculty member at Tomball College, providing library instruction to students, faculty, and the community.

Debra's childhood desire to become an astronaut has never completely faded. She plans to obtain a pilot's license and starts ground school this fall. She is also taking the continuing education

course "Beyond the Telescope." Another of Debra's interests is evidenced by her membership in the Culinary History Group in Houston.

Community and professional involvement is very important to Debra. While working in Magnolia she became an active member of the Chamber of Commerce, helping to organize two annual Christmas parades and, on one occasion, filling in as an elf! She helped organize the database for the Magnolia Food Bank and is a participant in literacy efforts. Debra is an active member of the Special Library Association and the American Library Association.

ELKA TENNER SHLOMO

Elka Tenner Shlomo accepted the position of Collection Development Coordinator this summer and arrived at Fondren on September 4. Elka brings with her a strong interest and a wealth of experience in the humanities and social sciences. In her previous position at Texas A&M University she was the Director of the Humanities/Social Sciences Services, where she supervised twenty-two librarians and staff members and provided leadership in all areas, including collection development. She helped set up a liaison system between the librarians and the academic departments, similar to the system used at Rice.

Elka's career in libraries began in 1979 at the University of Texas at El Paso, where she was an Acquisitions Librarian. While there, she had the pleasure of



Elka Tenner Shlomo

working with Carl Herzog to catalog his collection of books on typography and the graphic arts. From 1988 until 1994 Elka worked at Loyola Law School in Los Angeles, first as Government Documents and Media Librarian and later as the Special Collections Librarian. Moving to Texas A&M, Elka headed the Documents/Maps/Microtext department from 1994 through 1998, before moving to the position of Director of the Humanities/Social Sciences Services.

Elka holds a B.A. in anthropology from the University of Texas and an M.L.S. from Texas Woman's University. Prior to receiving her B.A., Elka completed forty-four hours of course work in Middle Eastern archaeology at Tel Aviv University and a practicum at Tel Beer Sheva. Her academic interests today include human-computer interaction, particularly the study of how people search electronic resources and how database searching can be made easier.

Throughout her career, Elka has been a very active member of

the library profession. Her publications include "End-User Acceptance of Electronic Journals: A Case Study from a Major Academic Research Library," *Technical Services Quarterly*, 17, no. 2 (1999) and "Reference Service for Maps: Access and the Catalog Record," *Reference & User Services Quarterly*, 38 (Winter 1998): 181-186. She has made presentations at various library association conferences and is a member of the American Library Association.

At Fondren Library Elka hopes to bring together a management information system for collection development that would help Fondren staff serve users more efficiently. In addition to oversight of the library's approval plan, she will have responsibility for collection development in several academic areas, including psychology, library science, and education. Elka is looking forward to meeting the "great Rice faculty" and to learning new skills.

Elka's personal interests include cooking, jewelry, and sailing, and she hopes to get back into horseback riding. With her husband of five years, Elka has traveled extensively, visiting India, Japan, Russia, Germany, France, Israel, Denmark, and Sweden. Elka's family also includes one son in college and a cat.

Esther Crawford
*Head of Government Publications
and Microforms*
crawford@rice.edu

LIBRARY PARTICIPATES IN NINCH PROJECT

Rice University is one of the core participants in a project to create a prototype of a free Web-accessible international database of digital humanities projects. This database is being constructed under the auspices of the National Initiative for a Networked Cultural Heritage (NINCH). The project is being designed as a resource for researchers and developers in the field. The goal is to create an actively maintained, international, collaborative database containing peer-reviewed information on research and resource-building projects that make significant use of humanities computing methods. The database will include projects that collect, encode, analyze, or present source materials and projects developing computing tools. Chuck Bearden, part of the Information Technology staff at Fondren Library, is acting as project liaison and coordinator for the Rice campus, and Heather Phillips and Alice Rhoades of Cataloging are creating metadata records for the project.

NEWS *from Fondren*

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Editor

Elizabeth Baber
baber@rice.edu

Proofing

Joe Hatfield

Newsletter Committee

David Bynog
Esther Crawford
Lee Hilyer
Kerry Keck
Alice Rhoades
Lisa Spiro

Photographer

Tommy LaVergne

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is published twice a year, in the
fall and spring.

For information, contact

Elizabeth Baber
Rice University
Fondren Library—MS 44
P.O. Box 1892
Houston, Texas 77251-1892
713-348-3749

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RICE UNIVERSITY FONDREN LIBRARY

Regular Hours

September 5, 2001 - December 18, 2001
and January 15, 2002 - May 7, 2002

Open 24 hours,

Sunday noon - Friday 10:00 PM • Saturday 9:00AM - 10:00 PM

Library hours are modified during the following periods.

Labor Day Week

Saturday, September 1 - Monday,
September 4

Fall Midterm Recess

Friday, October 12 - Monday,
October 15

Thanksgiving Recess

Wednesday, November 21 - Friday,
November 23

Final Exams and Holidays

Friday, December 7 - Monday, January 14

Spring Midterm Recess

Friday, March 1 - Saturday, March 9

Spring Recess

Wednesday, March 27 - Sunday,
March 31

Last Week of Classes & Spring Final Exams

Friday, April 26 - Sunday, May 5

Summer Hours

May 8, 2002 - September 2, 2002

Monday - Thursday 7:00 AM - 9:00 PM • Friday 7:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Saturday 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM • Sunday 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM
(Closed May 25-27, Saturday - Monday, for Memorial Day)

Please call 713-527-4800 for information. Library hours are subject to change.



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Rice University
Fondren Library—MS 44
P.O. Box 1892
Houston, Texas 77251-1892