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**FROM THE DIRECTOR**



Having announced that I will retire after this academic year, I have been going through old files and rediscovering past reports and presentations. In one of those documents, titled “Remarks to Board of Trustees – October 17, 1991,” I gave my first impressions of Oesterle Library:

“When I first entered the library, I was struck by its light and airy feeling. That feeling has not left me. It is truly a joy to walk into a library building every day that erases the stereotype of a library as a dark and musty place.”

I am pleased to share that many years later, I still feel the same way.

In the document, I outlined the challenges facing the library at the time - in terms of collection development, space, staffing, and services. I ended my remarks by stating:

“In conclusion, I believe that the vessels in which information is contained will change dramatically over the next 20 years. Oesterle Library needs to be flexible – both in building use and staffing patterns – to accommodate and train users in these changing information vessels.”

Libraries will continue to change and evolve. Thanks to Clare and Lucy Oesterle, Oesterle Library is well-positioned to continue its evolution.

Carolyn A. Sheehy  
Clare and Lucy Oesterle Director of Library Services

**NEW COMPACT SHELVING**

As an antidote to a lack of space for the library’s ever expanding Circulating Collection, compact shelving was scheduled to be installed over Interim. In preparation, approximately 26,000 books in the Circulating Collection were transferred to almost 100 rented book carts (pictured at right). Unfortunately, due to a manufacturer’s production delay, installation of the new compact shelving was re-scheduled for the end of January 2008.



## HIDDEN GEMS: THE LIMITED EDITIONS COLLECTION by Rosemary Henders

The Sang Jazz Collection was highlighted in the fall edition of EX LIBRIS: From the Library. The Sangs' generosity did not stop there however. Philip and Elsie Sang also donated over 70 titles, published from 1960-1975, from the nearly 600 published exclusively for the members of the Limited Editions Club.

The Limited Editions Club was founded in 1929 by George Macy (1900-1956) to publish finely made and finely illustrated limited editions of classics of literature - and of some carefully selected contemporary titles. Most of the books were designed and beautifully illustrated with original artwork by leading commercial artists, who signed the books. Some were also signed by famous book designers and by the authors.<sup>1</sup>

Typically, 1,500 copies were printed of each of an average of twelve titles a year. In 1929 each book sold for \$10. Macy's family sold The Limited Editions Club to Boise Cascade in 1970, and the printing limit was raised to 2,000 copies shortly thereafter.

North Central's Limited Editions Collection includes such titles as *Heart of Darkness* by Joseph Conrad, Charles Darwin's *The Descent of Man*, *Daisy Miller* by Henry James, Livy's *The History of Early Rome*, Sophocles' *Antigone*, *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck, Edith Wharton's *The Age of Innocence*, and W.B. Yeats' *Irish Folk Tales*.

Patrons wishing to use the Limited Editions Collection may contact Technical Services Coordinator Emily Prather, 637-5709, to make an appointment.

<sup>1</sup> Monpelier Books & Art, <<http://www.majure.net/lechistory.htm>>

## ARCHIVES EXHIBIT: NCC MULTICULTURAL STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

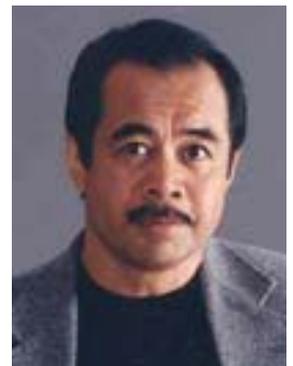


Multicultural Student Center Mural in Goldspohn

The winter Archives exhibit focuses on the history of multicultural student organizations at North Central. Through photographs, programs, news clippings, and correspondence, the exhibit traces the development of some of these organizations. Groups featured in the exhibit include the Black Student Association, the Multicultural Student Association, La Familia, and Raza Unida. Also featured is the Gospel Extravaganza (originally developed by the Multicultural Student Association) which will be celebrating its 20th anniversary this January.

## “COMMUNITY SPEAKS” PROGRAM FEATURES RICHARD GUZMAN

The winter term “Community Speaks” program will feature **Professor Richard Guzman** discussing his book *Black Writing from Chicago: In the World, Not of It?* The anthology features works of Chicago's black writers from 1861 to the present, including newspaper writing, poetry, fiction, drama, essays, and historical and social commentary.<sup>1</sup> According to Lisa Woolley, author of *American Voices of the Chicago Renaissance*, Guzman succeeds in counterbalancing the previously predominantly white representations of multiethnic Chicago, by revealing “the continuous presence of black writers in Chicago and their pivotal contributions to the city's cultural, political, and intellectual life.”<sup>2</sup>



“Community Speaks” will take place in the library's lower level lobby on Tuesday, March 4 at noon.

<sup>1</sup> Southern Illinois University Press, <<http://www.siu.edu/~siupress/GuzmanBlackWritingfromChicago.html>>

<sup>2</sup> Southern Illinois University Press

## LIBRARY SERVICES STAFF: COMINGS AND GOINGS



Library staff members welcomed North Central College graduate **Melissa Jung** to the staff in October when she took over the position of Acquisitions Assistant. A resident of Naperville, Melissa graduated in 2006 with a BA in Psychology. She had been working as a preschool teacher prior to joining the library staff. Melissa had already decided to pursue a Masters of Library and Information Science degree, so applying for the Acquisitions Assistant position seemed like a logical step in preparing for her new career.

In addition to applying to library school, Melissa plans on moving to Chicago within the next year, joining the ever-growing band of Oesterle Library staff train commuters. Her cat, Lina, will be making the move with her. Melissa's creative outlets include sewing, writing poetry and song lyrics, and perfecting her skill as a pianist. She also enjoys nature and hunting for antiques.

Students who regularly study in the library during the evening will notice the absence of the smiling face of **Janet Miranda**, part-time Reference Services Librarian, at the Information Services Desk. After nearly two years on the evening shift, Janet has taken a day job as part-time cataloger at the Carol Stream Public Library. The shift will enable her to play a bigger role in her children's after school activities, as well as to sharpen her cataloging skills.



## "QUIET ZONE" ESTABLISHED ON LOWER LEVEL

In response to student concerns regarding noise levels in the library, the following policy has been added to the *Guide to North Central College Library Services*:



*Noise: Oesterle Library is a vital and vibrant learning environment, providing as many accommodations for different learning styles as space permits. For those users desiring a "Quiet Zone," such a space is available on the lower level of the library.*

Patron suggestions and concerns are taken very seriously by the library staff. The "Quiet Zone" policy is the result of lengthy conversations with students, faculty, and staff. Because a definition of "noise" is really in the ear of the beholder, a survey of library users this spring will include questions about noise in the library and offer respondents an opportunity to offer suggestions. The library staff will review the responses and make any necessary adjustments.

Library patrons should never hesitate to make library services staff aware of situations which compromise their ability to study and do research. As the *Guide to Library Services* states: "In order to maintain an appropriate learning environment, persons engaging in disruptive behavior will be asked to leave the premises immediately." Library staff are always happy to speak to anyone whose behavior is interfering with another's ability to study.

## LIBRARY ORIENTATIONS

Orientations to Oesterle Library will be held Tuesday, January 8 from 5:30 - 6:15 p.m. and Saturday, January 12 from 12:15 - 1:00 p.m. No advance registration is necessary. Participants meet in the lobby of the library.

## THE FINAL WORD: LIBRARIAN/FACULTY COLLABORATION by Belinda Cheek and Kim Butler

“The Final Word” continues it’s year long exploration of how faculty and the library’s professional staff collaborate to infuse information literacy principles into the curriculum.

For many years, EDN 328 (Techniques in Elementary/Middle School – Social Studies) and EDN 348 (Techniques in Secondary Education – Social Studies) classes have spent one class session in the library. This session was developed by Belinda Cheek, Access Services Coordinator and Library Liaison to the Human Thought and Behavior Division, in collaboration with education faculty members Maureen Kincaid, and more recently Nancy Keiser. In addition to a general introduction of curriculum and activity materials available to education students, this session’s main focus has always been how to find and access primary resources for use in social studies classrooms. Nancy Keiser outlines her goal for this session:

*There is one particular goal I have for the elementary and secondary pre-service teachers in the social studies methods courses I teach. That goal is that they will be able to teach their students to “think like historians”. When we teach students how to think like historians, we teach them to search carefully for facts, to use a variety of sources, to judge the evidence for accuracy without bias, and to write about the facts objectively.*

With the plethora of digitization projects in recent years, primary sources have become increasingly accessible to anyone with Internet access. This library instruction session has focused largely on finding and accessing digitized materials, with some time also spent on traditional formats such as books and microforms. Keiser continues,

*The collaboration with the library personnel has been essential in equipping the college students with the skills to teach in this manner. The sessions Belinda teaches provide the students with the ability to locate primary documents, which are major resources for them to use when preparing and teaching lessons in their practicum placements in the schools.*

However, many primary materials have still not been digitized and, therefore, are not available online, but rather available to researchers only in their original physical format in local or regional repositories such as archives and museums.



Actually working with the original physical object adds another dimension to research that cannot be experienced by using only online sources. Ultimately, the students’ research results in a much richer product when they move beyond solely using digitized items. During a conversation between Cheek and Kim Butler, the College’s Archivist, the idea of incorporating the use of the North Central College Archives into this library session was born. This would present students with the concept of working with original materials and where to find them. Conversations and meetings between Butler, Keiser, and Cheek resulted in the revision of the fall library session to include this new component. Keiser comments:

*With the addition of Kim’s session on using archives, the pre-service teachers have another valuable source of information to draw from when teaching students how to think like historians. The college students really enjoy the analysis that is involved when using archival materials – it’s like detective work – and they enjoy planning lessons that allow the elementary, middle, and secondary students to discover the past in this same manner.*

The fall session was well received by the students. Keiser, Butler and Cheek will continue their collaboration to refine this session to meet the ongoing needs of the students.

Faculty interested in exploring other means of incorporating information literacy skills and the use of the North Central College Archives into their courses are encouraged to contact their library liaison and/or Kim Butler.

EX LIBRIS: From the Library is published Fall, Winter and Spring Terms.  
Also available online at the library's Web site:  
[http://www.noctrl.edu/library\\_ncc/about\\_us/exlibris/exlibris.htm](http://www.noctrl.edu/library_ncc/about_us/exlibris/exlibris.htm)  
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