



Library *Perspectives*

TRACY CHEVALIER TO DONATE PAPERS TO OBERLIN

NOVELIST TRACY CHEVALIER '84 has decided to donate to Oberlin the papers related to all of her published novels. Author of seven historical novels, Chevalier is best known for *Girl with a Pearl Earring*, which sold four million copies worldwide and was made into a feature film starring Colin Firth and Scarlett Johansson. She received an honorary doctorate from Oberlin in 2013 and was also that year's Commencement speaker.

According to Chevalier, "It feels a little strange, a little early to be committing my papers to an institution while I'm still in the full bloom of writing. However, if any place feels safe and appropriate, it's Oberlin. My



Serena Creary, Tracy Chevalier, and A.J. Pettit

time as a student there was life-changing—I learned how to read, to write, to think. Recently I have honored it by making it a setting for my novel *The Last Runaway*. Settings are always special places for me. So if my papers and notebooks (yes, I still write longhand!) are not going to remain in my office and attic, I want them to be at one of my spiritual touchstones."

The papers for each of Chevalier's novels consist of handwritten and computer-printed drafts, research notebooks, correspondence (both print and electronic), and wide-ranging research materials, such as photos,

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RAY ENGLISH TO SPEAK AT FRIENDS DINNER



Ray English, who will retire at the end of 2014-15 following 25 years as Oberlin's Azariah Smith Root Director of Libraries, will be the featured speaker at the Friends of the Library annual dinner on Saturday, November 1.

English has led the library through extraordinary change since becoming

director in 1990, a period when networked information technologies fundamentally altered academic and research library resources and services. In the two and a half decades of his tenure, the library joined OhioLINK (the first private college to do so) and it developed entirely new operational areas, including a sophisticated web environment, an institutional repository that hosts Oberlin's scholarly and creative output, and digital collections and digital scholarship services. The library also collaborated closely with faculty to increase use of special collections and study of the traditional book within the curriculum. Major upgrades to library facilities have included a new Science Library in 2001, the Academic Commons in Mudd Center in 2007, and renovation of the Main Library's special collections and archives reading and teaching spaces in 2012.

English has been actively involved in national library issues. He was a primary founder of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) scholarly

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ANTI-SLAVERY COLLECTION OPENLY ACCESSIBLE

MAJOR PORTIONS OF THE OBERLIN ANTI-SLAVERY COLLECTION are now openly accessible online through the Internet Archive. Virtually all pamphlets from the collection are currently available and two additional sets of materials, primarily books and newspapers, will be added in the near future. The collection covers the moral, religious, economic, political, and legal aspects of the slavery debate; travelers' observations of slavery; slave narratives; poetry and songs; biographies of leaders of

the anti-slavery movement; and children's literature.

The collection was digitized through an arrangement with Gale Cengage Learning for inclusion in the commercial database *Slavery and Anti-Slavery, Part I: Debates over Slavery and Abolition* (see *Perspectives*, Fall 2009). Gale digitized the pamphlets using microform masters made in the 1960s by Lost Cause Press of Louisville, Kentucky. The contract with Gale included provisions that gave the library the right to make the digital

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RECENT GIFTS

THE LIBRARY gratefully acknowledges the following significant planned gifts, monetary gifts, and gifts-in-kind.

Planned gifts:

A charitable trust established by **Greta '41** and **Hugh Pallister** has created a substantial endowment for the Clarence Ward Art Library.

The proceeds of a generous charitable annuity created by **John Patton '49** have been received by the Friends of the Library.

Major monetary gifts have been received from:

Jeffrey T. Long for an endowed library fund for art history in honor of his parents **Minor B. '48** and **Sybil E. Long '45**.

Clyde Owan '79 for the George A. and Susan P. Lanyi Endowed Library Book Fund.

William G. '64 and **Alice Roe** for the Librarian's Discretionary Fund and the Friends of the Library.

Virginia Luce '63 for the Library Special Book Fund.

Lucy Marks '73 and **Scott Sprinzen** for the Lucy Marks Endowed English and Classics Book Fund.

Generous monetary gifts have been received from:

Karen Burgess '72 for the Friends of the Library.

Jeffrey Levi '75 for the George A. and Susan P. Lanyi Endowed Library Book Fund.

Paulina Marks '45 for the Friends of the Library.

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Library Perspectives

Ray English
Cynthia Comer
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Editors

A newsletter for users and Friends of the Oberlin College Library, *Library Perspectives* is issued two times a year. Printed from an endowed fund established by Benjamin and Emiko Custer.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY FALL 2014 PROGRAMS

Exhibitions:

Selections from the Milton J. and Mona C. Hinton Papers

Tuesday, September 2—Friday, December 12, Basement Level, Kohl Building

Milt Hinton on the Road

Monday, September 22—Wednesday, November 26, Academic Commons, Mudd Center

Lectures and Other Events:

"Oberlin, Hotbed of Abolitionism," Lecture by J. Brent Morris

Monday, September 29, 4:30 p.m., Moffett Auditorium, Mudd 050

"Fictions of the Bad Life: The Naturalist Prostitute and Her Avatars in Latin American Literature," Talk by Claire Solomon '98, Assistant Professor of Hispanic Studies

Thursday, October 9, 4:30 p.m., Moffett Auditorium, Mudd 050

Friends of the Library Annual Events

Saturday, November 1

1:30 p.m. Friends Council and Membership Meeting, Goodrich Room, Mudd Center

5:45 p.m. Friends Annual Reception and Dinner, Root Room, Carnegie

8:00 p.m. Featured Speaker, Ray English, Root Room, Carnegie

The Harold Jantz Memorial Lecture, "Picturing Jazz," Gary Giddins

Thursday, November 20, 4:30 p.m., King 106

"Simone de Beauvoir and the Politics of Ambiguity," Talk by Sonia Kruks, Professor of Politics

Thursday, December 4, 4:30 p.m., Moffett Auditorium, Mudd 050

"A Celebration of Oberlin Scholarship"

Friday, December 5, 4:30 p.m., Azariah's Café, Mudd Center

FRIENDS UPDATE

THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY received a total of \$104,561 in gifts during the 2013-14 academic year, including \$58,406 in regular membership contributions and proceeds from a substantial gift annuity created by the late John Patton '49. Membership in the Friends totaled 762, including 558 regular members who contributed directly to the Friends, 121 members who donated to other library funds or made gifts-in-kind, 27 members who were students or recent graduates, 44 life members, and 12 honorary members.

The Friends followed customary practice of allocating \$40,000 to support acquisitions in subject areas across the curriculum.

Purchases included special collections materials to support specific courses (most notably a Renaissance manuscript of the works of the Latin poet Martial), online research resources in multidisciplinary areas, and a variety of resources to support specific subjects, including music, the natural sciences, and art.

Highlights of Friends programs included faculty book talks by Dan Styer, Professor of Physics; Drew Wilburn, Associate Professor of Classics; Sheila Jager, Associate Professor of East Asian Studies; Anu Needham, Professor of English; and a joint reading by Kazim Ali, Associate Professor

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OBERLIN DIGITAL SCHOLARSHIP PROJECTS UNDERWAY

SIX OBERLIN FACULTY MEMBERS have received support for projects under the grant "Digital Collections: From Projects to Pedagogy and Scholarship," awarded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to the Five Colleges of Ohio in 2013. The grant provides funding for faculty to collaborate with librarians and archivists in creating digital collections and digital scholarship projects that are integrated into courses (see *Perspectives*, Fall 2013).

Carol Lasser, Professor of History, will have students in her courses on first- and second-wave American feminisms work with primary sources in the College Archives to create openly accessible archival websites for use by students, teachers, and scholars. The students will learn to select, contextualize, and interpret primary documents for online presentation.

Joanne Erwin, Professor of Music Education, is creating a website of videos of student performers demonstrating various techniques for playing stringed instruments. Students in her courses will use the videos to improve their techniques for teaching young children.

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LIBRARY BOOK SALE NOVEMBER 7-8

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! The 2014 Oberlin College Library book sale will take place on Parents & Family Weekend, November 7-8. According to Gifts Coordinator Faith Hoffman, "There will be books in just about every subject area, particularly in anthropology, art, history, religion, and American music." In addition to paperback and hardcover books, the sale will include a small selection of CDs and DVDs.

The event will be held in the Academic Commons in Mudd Center. Sale hours are Friday, November 7, 12:30–7:00 p.m. and Saturday, November 8, 10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. The presale for Friends of the Library members is scheduled for 10 a.m.–noon Friday. •

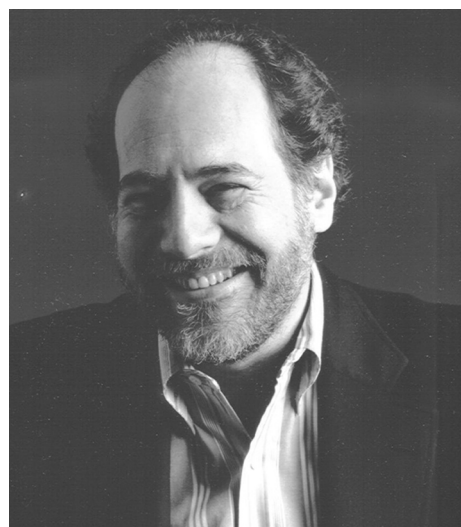
GARY GIDDINS TO DELIVER JANTZ LECTURE

Gary Giddins, renowned jazz critic, author, and film director, will deliver the fall 2014 Harold Jantz Memorial Lecture on Thursday, November 20. His lecture, held in conjunction with exhibitions and events across campus, will focus on the subject of jazz and photography.

Giddins is the author of 11 books on a variety of topics related to jazz and he wrote the jazz column "Weather Bird" in the *Village Voice* for thirty years. He also directed well-received films on Louis Armstrong and Charlie Parker and was interviewed throughout Ken Burns' 10-part PBS series *Jazz*.

Among his many awards and achievements, Giddins received the National Book Critics Circle Award in 1999 for his book *Visions of Jazz*, is a six-time winner of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers Deems Taylor Award for music criticism, and received a lifetime achievement award in 2003 from the Jazz Journalists Association.

Complementing Giddins' lecture, the Allen Memorial Art Museum and the library will exhibit a variety of materials related to the photography of jazz bassist Milt Hinton. *An Insider's Lens: The Jazz Photography of Milt Hinton*, an exhibition featuring 99 photographs taken by Hinton and on loan



from the Milton J. Hinton Photographic Collection, will be on display in the museum's Ripin Gallery; additional photographs taken by Hinton will be exhibited in the Conservatory Lounge. Selections from the Milton J. and Mona C. Hinton Papers will be on display in the Conservatory Library, the basement of the Kohl Building, and the Main Library. Digital exhibitions related to Milt Hinton will be on view on the first, second, and third levels of the Kohl Building.

These events highlight an exciting new relationship between Oberlin and the estate of Milton J. and Mona C. Hinton that includes acquisition of four of Hinton's

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OBERLIN AND ABOLITIONISM LECTURE



J. BRENT MORRIS, Assistant Professor of History at the University of South Carolina Beaufort, will speak about Oberlin and the anti-slavery movement on Monday,

September 29. Morris' new book *Oberlin, Hotbed of Abolitionism: College, Community, and the Fight for Freedom and Equality in Antebellum America* (University of North Carolina Press, September 2014) argues that Oberlin was at the center of the anti-slavery

movement in the West and also one of the most important forces for social reform in antebellum America.

A fellow at the University of South Carolina Institute for African American Research, Morris is a highly published scholar who has received numerous grants and awards. He is also the author of *Yes Lord I Know the Road: A Documentary History of African Americans in South Carolina, 1526-2008*, forthcoming from the University of South Carolina Press.

Morris' lecture is co-sponsored by the Friends of the Library, the Oberlin College Archives, the Oberlin College Department of History, the Oberlin African-American Genealogy and Research Group, and the Oberlin Heritage Center. •

Library Haiku contest

THE LIBRARY held a student haiku contest this past April to celebrate National Library Week and National Poetry Month. Entries had to address a library-related theme (such as libraries, books, reading, research, or studying) and follow the traditional 17-syllable, 5/7/5 haiku format. Unattributed submissions were judged by a panel that included Nancy Boutilier, Visiting Associate Professor of Rhetoric and Composition; Jessica Grim, Collection Development Librarian; and sophomore Mark Sikorski. Due to the high quality of entries, the judges awarded a tie for third place. Each winner received an Amazon gift card.

Here are the winning haikus.

First place:

Ryan Yates '16

*Back to work again
Leaves of information bloom
In the April rain.*

Second place:

Sarah Lomax '16

*Pages collide, come
Forth with knowledge fit to burst
Our strained – desires.*

Third place (tie):

Zachery Crowell '15

*At wisdom's summit,
I fall and break my glasses.
Helpless, stuck in mud(d).*

Ha-Eun Ryu '15

*Lolita missing –
All copies gone. Conclusion:
Nabokov is dead.*

WANT TO ATTEND THE FRIENDS' DINNER?

Invitations to the Friends of the Library annual dinner will be mailed to Friends members in Ohio and neighboring zip code areas in early October. Anyone who would like to attend and does not receive an invitation should contact Marla Thompson (marla.thompson@oberlin.edu, 440-775-5042) by October 20. ●

GRADUATE LIBRARY SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



ADEKEMI LOLADE GBADEBO '11 AND CHARLOTTE BEERS PLANK '11 are winners of 2014 Friends of the Library Graduate Library School Scholarships in the amount of \$3,500 each. Two scholarships were awarded this year due to a very strong applicant pool and the quality of the winning applicants.

Gbadebo (pictured above) majored in cinema studies at Oberlin, with minors in Africana studies and studio art. She also served as a research desk student assistant in the Reference and Instruction Department of the Main Library. She is enrolled in the

online MLIS program at Rutgers University and currently works as a library assistant at the Oakland Public Library, where she prepares materials for circulation and assists with class visits by elementary school children. She is interested in a career in school libraries with the aim of empowering children to explore and “confidently shape their world.”



Plank, who is currently enrolled at the School of Library and Information Science at Kent State University, majored in German

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BOOK COLLECTION COMPETITION

The Friends of the Library sponsored its biennial student book collection competition during the spring semester 2014. The competition, first held in 1994, is an ongoing program designed to recognize the efforts of students who collect books and to inspire others to start collecting.

Jonathan Jue-Wong '16 received first prize in the amount of \$300 for “Curtain Up! A Collection Honoring the American Musical Theatre.” Jue-Wong notes that he was inspired by “an intense respect for and



Robert Longworth, Jonathan Jue-Wong, Alexandria Phillips, Abraham Rowe, and Jesse Gamoran

appreciation of the musical theatre art form.” The judges found his collection to be compelling and cohesive.

Second prize in the amount of \$200 was awarded to Alexandria Phillips '14 for her collection “Black

Woman’s Liberation Library.” Reflecting a personal journey in both literal and figurative senses, her collection embraces U.S. and international authors and includes a wide variety of forms and aesthetics.

Abraham Rowe '14 received third prize in the amount of \$100 for his collection

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ALUMNA LIBRARIAN HONORED



STEPHANIE DAVIS-KAHL '94, has received the Distinguished Education and Behavioral Sciences Librarian Award from the Education and Behavioral Sciences Section (EBSS) of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL). The award honors a distinguished academic librarian who has made outstanding contributions as an education or behavioral sciences librarian through accomplishments and service to the profession. Davis-Kahl was also recently honored by *Library Journal*, which named her a Change Agent in its 2014 class of Movers and Shakers.

Davis-Kahl is the Scholarly Communications Librarian and Associate Professor at the Ames Library at Illinois Wesleyan University. For her EBSS award, Davis-Kahl received a prize of \$2,500, which was presented at the annual American Library Association conference. As noted in an ALA press release, Davis-Kahl has made a “significant impact on the library field” through her many articles and book chapters and her wide-ranging service to EBSS and ACRL. In addition to scholarly communication, her professional activities have focused on information literacy and undergraduate research.

Davis-Kahl earned a bachelor’s degree at Oberlin in East Asian studies and a Master of Library Science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She previously worked in public service positions at the University of Southern California and University of California, Irvine libraries. At Oberlin she worked as a library student assistant and was one of six seniors in 1994 to receive a Keyes Metcalf Award for distinguished service to the library. •

BIBLIOPHILES VISIT OBERLIN



Ray English introducing the faculty panel

THE LIBRARY hosted a group of over 70 book collectors from around the country at Books at Oberlin, a full day of book-related activities held on Saturday, June 14. The day was planned in conjunction with the Fellowship of American Bibliophilic Societies’ annual Bibliophiles Tour, which was held in Cleveland June 11-15. The library partnered with the Rowfant Club, a Cleveland-area book club, in coordinating the event.

The day’s activities included panel sessions by members of the Rowfant Club, who discussed their book collecting interests, and by Oberlin College faculty, who spoke about how they teach with library special collections.

Oberlin faculty who participated in the panel session were Jennifer Bryan, Associate Professor of English; John Harwood, Associate Professor of Architectural History; Wendy Hyman, Associate Professor of English; Erik Inglis '89, Professor of Medieval Art History; James O’Leary, Frederick R. Selch Assistant Professor of Musicology; and Ann Sherif, Professor of Japanese. The participants then viewed special collections materials related to



Visiting Special Collections

abolitionism, the history of the book, fine press books, and the history of music and musical instruments. They also visited the library’s letterpress studio and viewed medieval manuscripts from the collections of the Allen Memorial Art Museum and the

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NEW MEMBERSHIP STATUS IN CENTER FOR RESEARCH LIBRARIES

THE LIBRARY is now a full voting member of the Center for Research Libraries (CRL), an international consortium of academic and research libraries based in Chicago that collects unique and rare materials from around the world. CRL has the largest circulating collection of newspapers in North America, more than 38,000 foreign journals, 800,000 foreign dissertations, and major microfilm and print collections from Africa, Latin America, the Middle East, Europe, and Asia. A substantial portion of CRL’s collections are held in few, if any, other U.S. libraries.

Oberlin participated in CRL for many years through an OhioLINK group

membership, which provided CRL resources for users and also enabled the library to contribute to CRL initiatives such as preservation of the JSTOR print journal archive. With OhioLINK’s recent decision to drop its group membership due to

financial constraints, the library chose to become an individual CRL

member. The new membership status gives the library a voice in CRL’s collaborative work to “identify, preserve, and acquire critical evidence and documentation for advanced research and teaching.” It will also allow Oberlin to participate in cost-effective group licenses for electronic resources, such as the *New York Times* campus site license. •



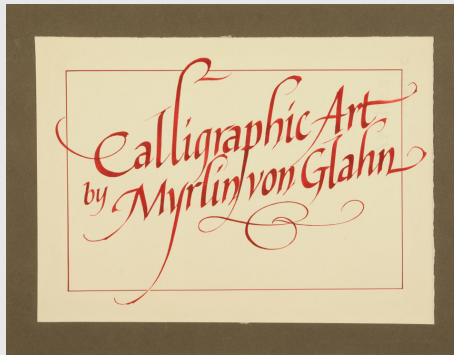
VON GLAHN CALLIGRAPHY GIFT



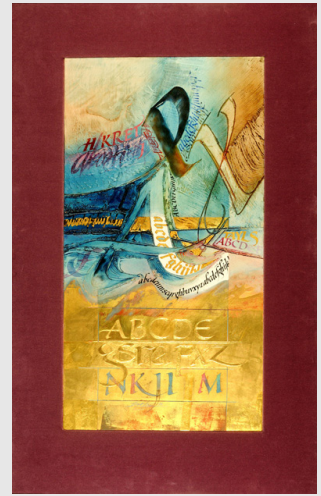
Sheila Waters,
Letters Are Symbols

MYRLIN VON GLAHN '48 has given the library a valuable collection of calligraphic art. The collection features her own original artworks and pieces by leading calligraphers in the U.S., Britain, and Europe. Her gift also includes her personal library of books and periodicals on calligraphy as well as archival materials related to her compositions and her career as a calligrapher.

Notable calligraphers represented in the collection include Donald Jackson, official scribe and calligrapher to the Crown Office of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and Thomas Ingmire, the first American elected to craft membership status in England's Society of Scribes and Illuminators. Jackson served as artistic director of *The Saint John's Bible*, a monumental handwritten and illuminated Bible completed by an international team in 2011, and Ingmire was one of its illuminators. The collection also includes works by Sheila Waters of England, now residing in Washington, DC; Alison Ulwick of England; Friedrich Neugebauer of Germany; and American calligraphers Richard Beasley and James Hayes, among others.



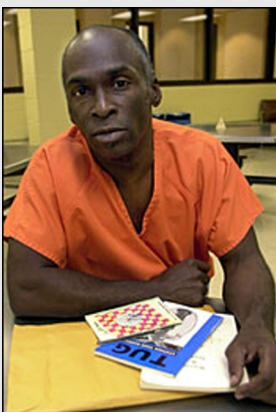
Von Glahn's career as a calligrapher developed over time. After graduating from Oberlin with a B.A. in fine arts, she first worked in graphic and lettering design in the Cleveland area. In the 1970s she became involved in the calligraphy guild movement, which grew in response to the decline in calligraphy training in art schools, and she also studied with major calligraphy teachers. She was a co-founder of the Western Reserve Calligraphers Guild and served as an instructor at the Cleveland Institute of Art and other institutions in the Cleveland area; she has been doing freelance calligraphy since 1977.



Richard Beasley, *Pax*

The von Glahn gift is a fine addition to the library's holdings related to the history and art of the book. In addition to its artistic value, the collection offers interesting comparisons to calligraphy as represented in medieval and Renaissance manuscripts and in later revivals following its decline after the invention of printing in the West, most notably in the Arts and Crafts Movement. •

LIBRARY ACQUIRES DEATH ROW POET'S PAPERS

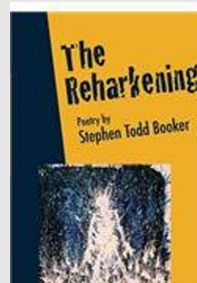


Stephen Todd Booker

THE LIBRARY has received the first installment of the papers of Stephen Todd Booker, a published poet who is a Florida death row inmate. Booker, who found his literary voice after being convicted and sentenced to death for the 1977 murder of a 94-year-old woman, has received acclaim for his several volumes of poetry. His most recent collection, *The Rebarkening*, was issued earlier this year. He has also published widely in well-known literary journals.

The gift of Booker's papers was facilitated by Stuart Friebert, Emeritus Professor of Creative Writing. Friebert became familiar with the poet's work early on and has corresponded with him

regularly for over 30 years, even testifying at one of his legal hearings. The murder victim's great-niece Page Zyromski, a religious author and staunch opponent of the death penalty, also befriended Booker and has assisted his literary career. She is currently writing a book about him and his legal case. Friebert's acquaintance with both Booker and Zyromski was instrumental in Booker's decision to house his papers at Oberlin. The collection currently includes two book-length manuscripts,



photographs, more than 50 handwritten poems, selected correspondence, and published poetry. Eventually the library expects to receive additional papers, including manuscripts, correspondence, publisher files, and other documents related to Booker's life and publications. His papers will be housed in the library's Special Collections Department. •

LIBRARY STRATEGIC PLANNING

In preparation for Oberlin College's upcoming strategic planning process, the library conducted an extensive self-study during spring semester 2014 that was followed by an external review team visit by three distinguished librarians. The self-study and the review team's report provide a sound basis for the library's future planning and for incorporating major library concerns into the college's strategic planning.

The self-study process included surveys of both faculty and students to assess their views of library services and operations and also their attitudes toward various planning directions. Survey responses provided interesting new information about user preferences, such as their attitudes toward e-books (see related article on page 10). The surveys also documented the high regard that both faculty and students have for the library system; the centrality of the library to teaching, learning, and research; and the library's importance for recruiting and retaining students and faculty.

The self-study looked at all aspects of the library's operations and services with a view toward future planning. Major questions dealt with the development of the library's collections, especially transitions to electronic formats; the library's pedagogical and curricular roles; public and instructional services; and library systems and technical services. A significant part of the self-study dealt with library facilities. It included a recommendation that an architectural study of Mudd Center be undertaken in order to develop a vision for the building that would, if implemented, ensure that the Main Library continues to be central to the academic life of the college.

The external review team consisted of Jane Gottlieb, Vice President for Library and Information Resources at the Juilliard School; James Neal, Vice President for Information Services and University Librarian at Columbia University; and Sabrina Pape, Director of Libraries at Vassar College. They met with library staff, faculty, students, and college administrators during their campus visit on April 23-25. Their report endorsed the major planning directions suggested in the library self-study while also providing several new ideas.

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E-BOOK UPDATE: PROS AND CONS

According to the popular adage, the more things change the more they stay the same. And so it goes for electronic versions of books. A *Library Perspectives* article published in fall 2011 assessed the current state and future outlook of e-books. While e-book formats have evolved in the intervening years, they continue to present both advantages and disadvantages in academic library contexts.

On the plus side, e-books offer 24x7, remote, simultaneous access for multiple readers; full-text searching capabilities; the ability—at least on some platforms—to highlight passages, add notes, and



adjust font size; and the added advantage of not taking up valuable shelf space. There are also significant drawbacks, however: e-book computer interfaces, and sometimes the content of e-book collections, are in constant flux; digital rights management (DRM) provisions frequently restrict both libraries' and readers' access to and use of content; and the availability of electronic versions of new books is often delayed until well after they have appeared in print.

Most academic publishers lag behind their trade counterparts in developing new models for e-book purchases that

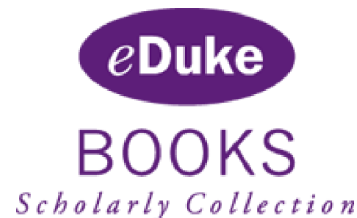


permit libraries to offer short-term loans and allow borrowers to download books to personal mobile devices such as the Amazon Kindle, Apple iPad, and various other tablets. Many academic publishers are still focused on delivering content via web browsers or proprietary browser plug-ins that are designed for desktop PCs or laptops. A related concern is the fact that virtually all e-book licenses restrict

interlibrary loan or other means of sharing e-books among libraries. As a result, an increasing percentage of current scholarly monographs purchased within the state is not shareable among libraries. OhioLINK's member libraries hope to investigate new strategies for addressing this problem.

Fortunately, many academic publishers are doing a better job of responding to librarians' concerns and adapting to the mobile computing environment. There are several promising enhancements on the horizon for some of the library's most popular e-book platforms to help optimize them for laptop and tablet users. As e-books continue to capture a growing share of the market, such developments are welcomed by libraries and their users.

Surveys conducted by the library last spring revealed conflicting attitudes and varying levels of acceptance of e-book formats among Oberlin faculty and students. In one telling example, 67% of faculty survey respondents and 76% of students either disagreed or strongly disagreed with the



statement "When using books I prefer digital to print," while just 15% of faculty and 17% of students strongly agreed or agreed. Comments by survey respondents indicate that for many, e-books are primarily valued when only short sections are needed, when skimming or searching for specific content, for convenience and accessibility while off campus or traveling, and as a format of last resort when a print copy is not available.

The library plans to conduct a follow-up survey to explore specific aspects of e-book user preferences in more depth. Though the library acquires e-books in substantial numbers, it still devotes a far larger share of its budget to print books. Library staff will continue to monitor e-book user acceptance, developments in the publishing marketplace, and legal issues. •

Karla Parsons Hubbard, Professor of Geology, is continuing to work with students on creating a digital archive of the Geology Department's substantial collection of invertebrate fossils. The collection will support student research projects in her courses on paleontology and the evolution of the earth.

Charles McGuire, Professor of Musicology, is creating a database and electronic encyclopedia of musical festivals in Great Britain from 1695 to 1940. For the first phase of his project he is developing a database of festival programs that will be used for assignments in his introductory and advanced music history courses and will also be drawn upon for a future monograph on the British musical festival.

Laurie McMillin, Professor of Rhetoric and Composition, is creating an online journal called *AWAY* that showcases student travel writing. The journal will be integrated into her course Writing about Travel for students who have had significant travel or study abroad experiences.

Ann Cooper Albright, Professor of Dance, is expanding a multimedia website called Accelerated Motion that is used in high schools and colleges. The site combines primary source materials (both video and print) with suggestions for teaching dance literacy. The website, currently hosted by Wesleyan University Press, will be moved to a cloud-based server maintained by the library.

All of these faculty projects are being developed in close collaboration with library and archives staff, and with Jacob Heil, the Five Colleges of Ohio Digital Scholar. The projects all involve the creation of openly accessible resources that can be used at other institutions and by the general public. •

Giddins, continued from page 3

basses; donation of the Milton J. and Mona C. Hinton Papers, comprising materials created and compiled by the Hinton family over the course of their lives (see *Perspectives*, Spring 2014); and donation of the \$250,000 Milton J. Hinton Scholarship Fund, which supports the biennial Milton J. Hinton Summer Institute for Studio Bass.

Giddens' lecture will take place on Thursday, November 20 at 4:30 p.m. in King 106. •

NEW DIGITAL RESOURCES

THE LIBRARY recently acquired the following new resources to support curricular programs and research.

Berliner Philharmoniker Digital Concert Hall is the virtual concert venue of the Berlin Philharmonic. The web site allows listeners to experience the orchestra performing live through video streams at the Philharmonie in Berlin in more than 40 performances each year. The sound quality is comparable to that of a CD and the picture quality is similar to HDTV. Following each performance, a recording of the concert is added to the archive. The site has over 250 archived concert recordings and also includes more than 150 interviews with soloists and a selection of documentary films.



Caribbean Newspapers, Series 1: 1718-1876 offers more than 140 fully searchable 18th- and 19th-century Caribbean newspapers from 22 islands. Most papers are in English, but a number are in Spanish, French,

Caribbean Newspapers, Series 1, 1718-1876: From the American Antiquarian Society
An America's Historical Newspapers Collection



and Danish. The database supports research on colonial history, the Atlantic slave trade, New World slavery, the African Diaspora, international relations, and related topics. Created by Readex, a publisher of primary source research materials, in cooperation with the American Antiquarian Society, the resource chronicles the region's evolution across two centuries through news stories, editorials, legislative information, letters, poetry, advertisements, and obituaries.



The Dictionary of American Regional English (DARE) documents words, phrases, and pronunciations that vary from place to place across the United States. Challenging the popular notion that our language has been homogenized by the media and our mobile population, *DARE* demonstrates that there are thousands of differences that characterize the dialect regions of the U.S. The recognized authority on American English, *DARE* is based on interviews carried out in all 50 states, along with a comprehensive collection of written materials (diaries, letters, novels, biographies, newspapers, government documents, etc.) that cover usage from the colonial period to the present. *DARE* was founded by Oberlin alumnus Frederic G. Cassidy '30, MA '32. He continued to review dictionary entries up until his death in 2000 at the age of 92, regularly stopping by the editorial offices at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he was Emeritus Professor of English.

Digital National Security Archive (DNSA) offers two new modules titled The United States and the Two Koreas, Part II, 1969-2010, and Mexico-United States Counternarcotics Policy, 1969-2013. *DNSA* contains declassified government documents covering critical world events, countries, and policy decisions from post-World War II through the 21st century. The library has been purchasing *DNSA* content since 2003.

DIGITAL NATIONAL SECURITY ARCHIVE
The documents that made U.S. policy

Drama Online features some of the most studied, performed, and critically acclaimed plays from Aeschylus to the present day. Scholarly information such as theater history surveys, interpretations, and information on authors, movements, periods, and genres are included, providing contextual and critical background. The database also showcases historical production photos from the Victoria and Albert Museum, shedding light on changes in scenography, costume design, and performance styles. Interactive features such as character grids, the ability to select only the lines of a given character, filtering by cast size and gender role, and note taking tools offer new ways to engage with plays for close study and performance.

The Economist online includes full access to each week's issue of the print edition of the magazine and a variety of web-only content. *The Economist* covers the major business and

Recent Gifts, continued from page 2

Significant gifts-in-kind include the following:

T. Jefferson Kline '64 has donated a valuable collection related to French author André Malraux.

The estate of William E. "Bill" Anderson '67 has given 800 jazz LPs and 3,000 jazz CDs.

Gene Woodling has contributed additional books and DVDs for the Gene Woodling Collection of Gay Fiction.

Len Smith '80, Professor of History, has given a large number of books in the field of history.

James Dobbins, Professor of Religion, has donated the complete Buddhist canon and other important Buddhist texts.

Robert Rotberg '55 continues to donate materials related to African and Caribbean history, including an inscribed copy of *Oeuvres Essentielles* by Dr. François Duvalier.

Robert Soucy, Emeritus Professor of History, has given many books and materials primarily about fascism in France.

Bruce Simonson, Professor of Geology, continues to donate books on geology as well as popular science texts.

Andre Jagendorf has donated a number of works by Moritz Jagendorf from the estate of **Daniel Jagendorf '86**. •

Winners, continued from page 4

studies and organ performance. As a student she held several jobs in the library system including stacks work in the Main Library and service at the circulation and reference desks in the Conservatory Library. She also served as project intern for the James and Susan Neumann Jazz Collection (see *Perspectives*, Spring 2012). Plank currently works at the Oberlin Public Library where she provides reference assistance and processes interlibrary loan requests; she is also organist and choir accompanist at Christ Episcopal Church in Oberlin. She plans to pursue a career in music librarianship.

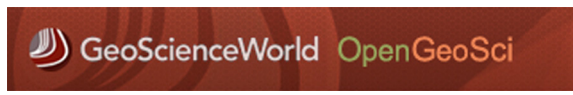
The scholarship awards committee consisted of Friends President Robert Longworth, Collection Development Librarian Jessica Grim, and Director of Libraries Ray English. •

New Digital Resources, continued from page 8

political events of the week, offering authoritative insight and opinion on international news, politics, business, finance, science, technology, and the arts.

Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS) Daily Reports, the United States' principal record of political open source intelligence, features files for several new geographic areas. The library's subscription now includes Eastern Europe; Western Europe; the Soviet Union and Central Eurasia; and Asia, Pacific, and East Asia. Documents in *FBIS* include English translations of foreign broadcasts and news services from around the globe, forming a unique archive for students and scholars of international studies, political science, and world history.

GeoScienceWorld eBook Collections is the first nonprofit, multi-publisher e-book platform for the earth sciences. With more than 1,000 scholarly titles from 10 leading publishers, the collection features map-based and faceted searching, mobile access, social sharing tools, and downloadable, DRM-free PDF chapters. The platform also offers cross-searching with GeoScienceWorld's journal platform and the popular *GeoRef* journal indexing database.



Global Plants from JSTOR features botanical resources from herbaria, libraries, museums, and other research institutions. The database includes over two million high-

resolution images of plant type specimens, scientific research articles and correspondence dating back hundreds of years, and full-text books and reference works. It supports research and teaching in botany, ecology, and conservation studies. Through *Global Plants*, researchers can share specimens, students can discover and learn about plants, and a record of plant life can be preserved for future generations. The content in *Global Plants* has been developed through a community-contributed database known as the Global Plants Initiative.

ProQuest Executive Branch Documents 1789-1932 is the latest module of *ProQuest Congressional Publications*. It covers the entire range of executive branch publications issued by the U.S. government in its first 144 years, consisting of approximately 7.5 million pages. Topic coverage is vast, spanning business and industry, foreign trade, immigration and population, health and mortality, religious affiliations, military operations, railroads, weather conditions, Native Americans, agricultural experimentation, education, and more. The wide range of content makes it suitable for researchers in history, political science, business, and physical sciences. It is also of value to genealogists, as many documents include lists of names.

RILM Retrospective Abstracts of Music Literature, a valuable new resource for historical music studies, indexes material published from the 18th century through 1966. The database complements *RILM Abstracts of Music Literature*, which starts in 1967. *RILM Retrospective* includes nearly 20,000 records, including music-related articles published in conference proceedings and *Festschriften*. Journal articles and other document types will be indexed as new content is added monthly.



Social Explorer provides convenient access to current and historical census and other demographic data. Combining sophisticated web-based software with an easy-to-use online interface, the database lets users create tables, maps, and reports to illustrate and analyze patterns buried in the raw numbers. *Social Explorer* offers basic GIS and data manipulation functions suitable for demography experts and novices alike. With over 40 billion



continued on page 11

English, continued from page 1

communications program. He served as both a member and longtime chair of the steering committee of the Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition (SPARC), a leading advocate for open access to scholarly research information. He was named ACRL Academic Research Librarian of the Year in 2006 and in 2009 received the Hugh Atkinson Memorial Award that recognizes “an eminent librarian and leader” in the academic library profession (see *Perspectives*, Fall 2006 and Spring 2009). A graduate of Davidson College, he earned master’s and Ph.D. degrees in German literature as well as a master’s degree in library and information science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

In his remarks English will reflect on his career in librarianship; the library’s past, present, and future; its role at Oberlin; and the elements needed to maintain its superb quality. •

Book Collecting, continued from page 4

“The ‘Text That Nature Renders...’: Narratives of the ‘Golden Age’ of Polar Exploration.” Rowe’s collection demonstrates his passion for the material, his love of books, and his aptitude for collecting.

Entrants submitted an essay describing the motivation behind their collection, including collecting criteria or philosophy, and also a bibliography of the books in the collection, with annotations for at least ten of the most representative or most important items. Selections from the winning collections were displayed in the Academic Commons in May, and Friends President Robert Longworth presented the awards at a ceremony on May 9 at which the students said a few words about their collections. Entries were judged by Jesse Gamoran ’16, Coordinator of the Student Friends of the Library; Jessica Grim, Collection Development and Management Librarian; and Ed Vermue, Special Collections Librarian. •

Chevalier, continued from page 1



Images and illustrations that helped set the stage for Remarkable Creatures

illustrations, physical objects, articles, documents, and maps.

Chevalier discussed her extensive research process as a historical novelist during appearances in Oberlin last year (see *Perspectives*, Spring 2013) at First Church and in an interview during Commencement/ Reunion Weekend with Director of Libraries Ray English. She remarked during that interview that she had never followed frequently-offered advice to young writers to “write about what you know,” preferring instead to immerse herself in a new subject with each book. Her working papers reflect the prodigious amount of research required to make her novels authentic and compelling.

Aspiring writers and students in English and creative writing classes who examine the collection will see the methodology of Chevalier’s work. Two students in the Danenberg Oberlin-in-London Program had that opportunity while enrolled in Nature and Culture in the Long Nineteenth Century, co-taught by Professor of English Nick Jones and Professor of Biology Roger Laushman in Spring 2014. Biology major A. J. Pettit ’14, and Serena Creary, a senior double-degree music composition and comparative literature major, collaborated to inventory and process the materials Chevalier used for *Remarkable Creatures* (Dutton, 2010).

The novel tells the story of Mary Anning (1799-1847), an amateur paleontologist whose fossil discoveries are still considered some of the most significant geological finds of all time. Major themes of Jones’ and Laushman’s course are embodied in the novel, including the elite and chauvinist

nature of science societies; the revolution in scientific understanding realized through ocean voyaging; the recognition of geologic ages, evolution of species, and extinction; the development of paleontological techniques; and the discovery of other cultures with vastly different belief systems.

Students toured the Lyme Regis area where the novel is set, followed a guided walk through the fossil-rich beach and cliffs, and visited the Mary Anning Wing of the Lyme Regis Museum. Pettit and Creary were able to relate those experiences to the papers and other objects in Chevalier’s home that she used as background for the book, seeing the direct connection between developing the novel and the upheaval in religious, evolutionary, and geological understanding during the 19th century.



Ichthyosaur fossils at Lyme Regis Museum

College Archivist Ken Grossi, Special Collections Librarian Ed Vermue, and Ray English provided guidance to Pettit and Creary via Skype. The students’ work resulted in a process paper and finding guide that categorizes materials as diverse as Chevalier’s notes from the Enlightenment Gallery in the British Museum to the will of Elizabeth Philpot (supporter of Mary Anning) to photos from excavations on the Lyme Regis beach. Pettit and Creary sorted and packaged the materials in acid free paper, folders, and boxes in preparation for shipment to Oberlin.

Chevalier’s papers will be housed in the Oberlin College Archives. She intends to send the papers for *Remarkable Creatures* this fall. Papers for older novels will be shipped during the coming academic year, while those for more recent titles will be sent as her need to consult the materials declines. •

Anti-Slavery, continued from page 1

files openly accessible after a specified period.

The Internet Archive is a nonprofit digital library that offers free access to books, video, and audio files, as well as more than 400 billion archived web pages. Oberlin's anti-slavery materials will be discoverable via Google and other search engines as well as directly at the site (archive.org/details/oberlincollege). Users may read texts online or download them in a variety of formats including PDF and Kindle. The library has worked with the Internet Archive on other projects, including its e-book lending program (see *Perspectives*, Spring 2012). •

Friends Update, continued from page 2

of Creative Writing and Mohammed Mahalatti, Presidential Scholar of Islam. Major programs included a lecture and wood engraving demonstration by artist Barry Moser; talks by David Ferriero, Archivist of the United States, at the Friends annual dinner, and by Aimee Lee '99 on Korean papermaking; an exhibition, theater productions, and other events honoring the late dramatist Romulus Linney '53; and the Harold Jantz Memorial Lecture by Robert Edsel, author of *The Monuments Men*. •

Bibliophiles, continued from page 5



Erik Inglis, Professor of Medieval Art

library as well as materials from the Art Library's Thomas Jefferson Architectural Books Collection and its extensive collection of artists' books.

Participants had high praise for the faculty panel. According to Joan Knoertzer, a collector from Ann Arbor, Michigan, "The faculty symposium was simply wonderful. Donors love to hear that instructors and students are using the materials they have provided, and it was great to learn how special collections are incorporated into coursework." •

New Digital Resources, continued from page 9

data elements, 500,000 variables, and 25,000 interactive maps, users can visualize data using interactive tools. Data at all geographic levels, including state, county, census tract, block group, and zip code can be downloaded in a variety of file formats. It includes the U.S. Census from 1790 to 2010, the American Community Survey from 2005 to 2011, and the Religious Congregations and Membership Study from 1980 to 2010.



The following four digital collections of historical documents from U.K.-based publisher Adam Matthew were recently acquired. Adam Matthew publishes unique primary sources from archives around the world, focusing on highly targeted collections that span the social sciences and humanities.

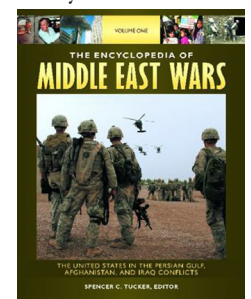
The American West: Sources from the Everett D. Graff Collection at the Newberry Library, Chicago includes original manuscripts, maps, and rare printed sources covering such topics as the growth of urban centers, the environmental impact of westward expansion, Native American history and culture, and tales of frontier life, vigilantes, and outlaws. Papers of early pioneers, explorers, and hunters are well represented; other unique materials include records of railroad companies, guides for emigrants, travel journals, store catalogs, accounts of ranches and prairie lands, and contemporary newspapers.

China: Culture and Society: the Wason Pamphlet Collection, Cornell University spans three centuries (ca. 1750-1929), making available rare pamphlets from the Charles W. Wason Collection on East Asia. One of the oldest and most distinctive collections of its kind, the collection meets the growing demand for English-language sources relating to China and the West, and addresses a variety of research interests surrounding Chinese history, religion, culture, and everyday life. Materials include addresses and speeches, annual reports, journals, lecture notes, letters, magazine articles, and minutes of meetings.

Meiji Japan: the Edward Sylvester Morse Collection from the Phillips Library at the Peabody Essex Museum includes manuscripts for the study of Meiji society and culture. Morse (1838-1925) was one of the first Americans to live in Japan, teaching science at the Imperial University of Tokyo and devoting much of his time to documenting life in Japan before it was transformed by Western contact. In addition to preserving the household records of a samurai family and many accounts of the tea ceremony, Morse made notes on subjects as diverse as shop signs, fireworks, music, games, printing, carpentry, gardens, art, and architecture. An accomplished draftsman, his pencil and ink drawings enliven his diaries, travel journals, scrapbooks, correspondence, and research files.

Romanticism: Life, Literature, Landscape includes the manuscript collections of the Wordsworth Trust, offering students and researchers access to primary materials related to William Wordsworth and his fellow writers. Resources include notebooks, manuscripts, diaries, travel journals, correspondence, guide books, maps, and financial records. Through these documents, one can trace the interactions of literary and political figures of the 18th and 19th centuries and study the close circles in which authors and artists moved and how they influenced each other's work. Also included are images of over 2,000 works by artists of the period and an interactive map with modern photographs of the Lake District, allowing users to trace the movements of Romantic writers, poets, and artists across the landscape that inspired their creativity.

A number of major new reference works have been added to the library's e-book collection, including *CQ Press Guide to Congress; Guide to the Presidency and the Executive Branch; The Literature of Propaganda; The Encyclopedia of Middle East Wars: the United States in the Persian Gulf, Afghanistan, and Iraq Conflicts; Brill's Encyclopaedia of the Neo-Latin World; the second edition of Encyclopedia of Quaternary Science; Handbook of High-resolution Spectroscopy; Comprehensive Inorganic Chemistry II: From Elements to Applications; and the seventh edition of Magill's Medical Guide.* •



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Strategic Planning, continued from page 7

The library self-study committee was co-chaired by Ray English, Director of Libraries and Alan Boyd, Associate Director of Libraries. Other committee members were Deborah Campana, Conservatory Librarian; David Heetderks, Assistant Professor of Music Theory; Alison Ricker, Science Librarian; Ann Sherif, Professor of East Asian Studies; Greg Solow, Conservatory Library Circulation Coordinator; and Jennifer Starkey, Reference and Instruction Librarian. •