



PERSPECTIVES

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Library Receives Major Preservation Grant

The Charles E. Culpeper Foundation has awarded the Oberlin College Library a grant of \$150,000 to support new collection preservation initiatives. The Culpeper funds will be used over a three-year period to conserve materials printed on acidic paper. Under the grant program selected books and other materials will be sent for deacidification treatment (a process described in the September issue of *Library Perspectives*). Materials that have become embrittled beyond use will be "reformatted" either by photocopying them onto acid-free paper and rebinding them or by converting them to microform. Where possible, materials that have artistic or archival value will be retained in their original format. The grant, which will be administered by the Preservation Department, will also enable the library to hire a part-time employee who will assist in the physical preparation of materials that will receive preservation treatment.

According to Director of Libraries Ray English, "The Culpeper grant provides ample testimony to the quality of the Library's preservation program and the superb professional contributions of Dina Schoonmaker, our Preservation Librarian. Ms. Schoonmaker's energies have for many years made our library a leader in the preservation field. In



Preservation Librarian Dina Schoonmaker with Mending Assistants Andrea Knepper and Jamie Ingpen

receiving this grant Oberlin will become one of a select group of libraries that routinely send materials to be deacidified. Most importantly, the grant will make it possible for the Library to take a much more aggressive approach to the enormous preservation challenges posed by our older collections. It will allow us to conserve for future readers items that would otherwise become unusable due to the inevitable deterioration caused by acidic paper."

Oberlin's CD-ROM Network Debuts

The Library in cooperation with the Computing Center has recently installed a CD-ROM (Compact Disk-Read Only Memory) network. The introduction of this network, now available from five computers in the Main Library reference area, will greatly improve access to important indexes in the humanities, social sciences, and sciences. The network

will soon be expanded to allow users to choose from a menu of eleven different databases, including the *Modern Language Association Bibliography*, *Sociofile (Sociological Abstracts)*, *Psyclit (Psychological Abstracts)*, the *Art Index*, *America: History & Life*, the *Life Sciences Collection*, and *Books in Print*. The network allows multiple users to search a single database at the

same time, whereas previously each index was mounted on its own computer and could be searched by just a single user at a time. In addition, users in the Main Library will now have access to indexes previously available only in the branch libraries, such as the *Art Index* or *General Science Index*. The second phase of the CD-

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New Electronic Services

In recent months the Library has begun offering two important services in a new way—via electronic mail. Oberlin College faculty and staff can now transmit interlibrary loan requests and reference queries directly to the interlibrary loan and reference staffs using the campus network QuickMail system.

Until last October, initiating an interlibrary loan request required a trip to the Library during hours when our reference desk was open. Today many of our faculty can send ILL requests directly from their own office computers at any time of day or night. The reference query service, which was made available at the start of the spring semester, works in a similar way:

faculty and staff send their brief reference questions to the reference staff, and receive answers electronically, usually within a day. Utilizing another recently-implemented electronic service, faculty and staff who use *FirstSearch* may transmit interlibrary loan requests to library staff directly from the *WorldCat* and *ArticleFirst* databases.

These new services reflect the increasing extent to which our staff and users rely on electronic transmission, both for its convenience and its speed. Future plans include providing electronic services from other areas of the Library, such as the Reserve Room (for reserve lists) and the Acquisitions Department (for book ordering).

The Library's Quality Cataloging

Academic libraries participate in cooperative cataloging arrangements in order to improve the efficiency of their technical operations and make their collections as accessible as possible. In recent years the Library has earned the distinction of being invited to participate in a number of national cooperative cataloging projects, a clear indication of the quality of our technical services operations.

The OCLC Enhance project consists of approximately one hundred libraries authorized to correct and otherwise improve cataloging records in the OCLC union catalog, the nation's largest shared-cataloging database, consisting of over 27 million bibliographic records. For almost a decade the Conservatory Library has participated in this project by enhancing bibliographic records for scores and

INTERLIBRARY LOAN REQUESTS VIA QUICKMAIL

How it works:

1. Choose ILL Photocopy Request or ILL Book Request from the list of QuickMail forms installed on your computer.
2. Fill in all requested information.
3. Send the form to "ILL" (listed in the LIBRARY address book).

sound recordings. This past year saw the addition of the Main Library Catalog Department to the ranks of those eligible to enhance cataloging records for books. In addition to recognizing the high quality of our cataloging work, OCLC grants a monetary credit to the library for each record enhanced.

In 1992, the Main Library Catalog Department became the
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Notable Gifts

Professor Emeritus J. Milton Yinger (Professor of Sociology) has donated over 700 volumes of books and periodicals. The gift reflects his research interests and distinguished publications in the field of sociology: race relations, minority groups, and countercultures. The donation also includes scholarly monographs and texts in history and psychology.

Professor Emeritus Ellsworth C. Carlson (Professor

of History, and former Provost and Acting President) has donated 900 volumes from his personal collection. The focus of the collection is Chinese history, with most of the books being English-language titles published between 1930 and 1980. Professor Carlson had previously donated to the Library most of his personal library of Chinese language history books.

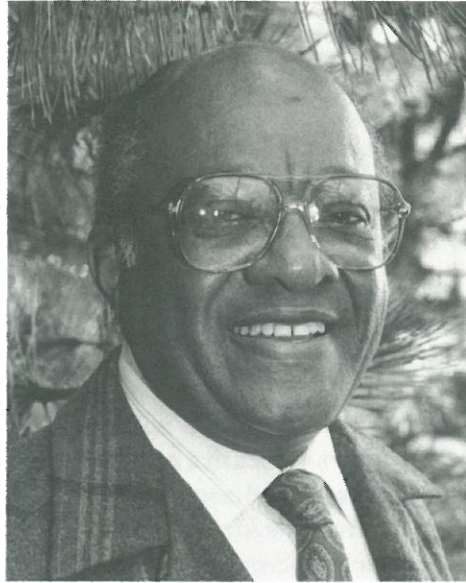
The American soprano **Arleen Augér** (1939–93) made her oper-

atic debut with the Vienna Staatsoper in 1967 as the Queen of the Night in Mozart's *Magic Flute*. Her multifaceted career included an active schedule of both art song and operatic performances (Metropolitan Opera debut in 1978) as well as a prolific output of recordings, notably of Bach cantatas. Under the terms of her estate her personal collection of scores and recordings has come to the Conservatory Library.

Friends Honor New Life Members

Life memberships in the Friends of the Oberlin College Library were awarded to the following people at the organization's annual dinner on October 2:

Professor of Sociology **Albert J. McQueen '52**, who has been a strong supporter of the Library throughout his career at Oberlin, has given the Library over 1,000 volumes from his personal collection and has donated to the College Archives a number of records that document the College's response to important social and minority concerns from the 1960s to the present. Titles in his book collection emphasize general sociology, ethnic and minority studies, youth movements, social protest, and social change. Professor McQueen has also established a bequest expectancy, which provides that a major portion of his



Albert McQueen

estate will be used to establish an endowment for library acquisitions.

August Meier '45, Emeritus Professor of History at Kent State University, gave the Library an outstanding collection of over 750 volumes on the history and culture of India. The collection, which emphasizes English-language sec-

ondary sources on twentieth-century Indian history, includes important reference works as well as reprints of many rare nineteenth-century titles. In addition to donating his collection, Professor Meier established a gift fund that will be used to purchase current materials on the subject of Indian history and culture. Professor Meier's collection is particularly welcome since Oberlin has recently added courses on Indian history to the curriculum.

Mr. and Mrs. Leo Guzik of Pompano Beach, Florida donated to the Library a major collection in the field of Judaic and Near Eastern studies. Their gift of over 3,700 volumes is especially strong in Biblical and Jewish history, the Talmudic period, and Near Eastern and Egyptian archaeology. The collection, a significant portion of which is in the Hebrew language, includes many editions of the Bible and the Talmud as well as scriptural commentaries and related theological works.

Friends Meeting Highlights

At their October 2 meeting the Friends of the Library Council heard and discussed reports from its committees, revised its policy for spending Friends funds to provide for the Friends publications program, and selected officers for the 1993-94 year.

Members who attended the annual membership meeting later that same afternoon heard welcoming remarks from President Marian Baum, a report on the Library from Ray English, and reports from each of the standing committees. The membership also passed bylaws revisions and elected new members of the Friends Council.

Minutes of both the Council and Membership meetings may be requested from: Friends of the Oberlin College Library, Mudd Center, Oberlin, OH 44074.

Learning Basic Library Skills

During the week of March 21, The Friends of the Library, in cooperation with the Living and Learning Institute, will offer a course in Basic Library Skills.

Designed primarily for Friends members and Institute teachers, the course is intended to prepare participants to use the library efficiently. It will include instruction in searching online catalogs and other electronic databases and will be taught by library staff.

Meeting times are 10:30 a.m. until noon on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday (March 21, 23, and 25). Please contact Judy Fannin in the Main Library Office if you are interested in taking the course (216-775-8285, Ext. 234).

Friends Provide New Resources

In October 1993 the Friends Acquisitions Committee authorized the use of Friends of the Library funds to acquire a variety of resources that will enhance the Library's collections and significantly improve support provided for several curricular areas. Here is a summary by category of the most recent Friends purchases:

New Faculty Support (\$3,500)

1. Multiculturalism in the visual arts: funds to acquire art exhibition catalogs, monographs, and other materials supporting the study of African-American, Native American, Asian-American, and Hispanic-American art and artists (Professors Johnny Coleman and Nanette Yannuzzi Macias).

2. Spanish Literature—medieval to eighteenth century: funds to acquire literary texts and criticism in Spanish literature to fill gaps in the collection (Professor Eva Florenza).

Science Journals (\$2,500)

Funds to acquire back volumes of major science journals supporting such curricular areas as environmental sciences, geology, and neuroscience. The Library will now be able to purchase needed retrospective volumes of such major science periodicals as *Journal of Neu-*

roendocrinology, *Meteoritics, Molecular and Cellular Endocrinology*, *Trends in Ecology and Evolution*, and *Trends in Neuroscience*.

Videocassettes (\$3,000)

The availability of and demand for video resources has increased significantly in recent years. While both the Main Library and Conservatory Library video collections have been growing, funding for additional video resources is most welcome. Friends funds will be used to acquire videos in a number of disciplines. Purchases will include titles from the African American Perspectives Series (Professor Wendy Hesford, Expository Writing) and from the PBS education series (Professor Catherine Jarjisian, Music Education).

Multimedia Materials to Support Teaching of American History and Culture (\$595)

The American History Video-disc contains images of paintings and sketches, sculpture, documents, and other visual materials supporting the teaching of American history and culture from the Colonial period to the present (2,490 images selected from eighty archives, 11 sound and image overviews of eras in American history, 105 historical maps, and 20 video

sequences).

Major New Reference Work (\$1,652)

Grande Dizionario Enciclopedico UTET, 4th edition (1984–91). This Italian dictionary will support Italian language studies in addition to work at the reference desk and in the Catalog Department (especially for cataloging Art Library materials).

Primary Source Materials (\$3,420)

Documents of the American Revolution, 1778–1783. Complete transcripts of documents in the British Library relating to the American revolution.

Il Codice Squarcialupi (Firenze, Biblioteca Laurenziana, ms. Med. Pal. 87). A full-color facsimile of the most extensive manuscript anthology of Italian trecento music. Compiled during the first two decades of the fifteenth century, this source contains 354 vocal compositions of the period 1340–1415, together with painted miniatures and portraits of composers.

Dmitri Shostakovich, *Symphony No. 7, Op. 60* ("Leningrad" Symphony). A full-color facsimile of the autograph score from 1941.

1993-94 Friends Council

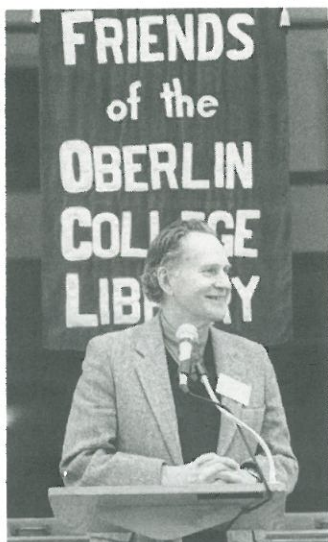
The following people have been chosen to be officers and members of the 1993-94 Friends of the Library Council:

Officers: Erwin N. Griswold '25, Honorary President; Marian H. Baum, President; Ruth I. Hughes '85, Vice President; Nathan A. Haverstock, Secretary.

Members: Marybeth Bridegam '57, Nancy Cooper '51, Benjamin A. Custer '31, Robert H. Jackson, Marlene D. Merrill, Lois G. Peterson '37, Barbara Richards '61, Mary Rosenbloom '80, Milton Yinger, Janice Zinser.

Ex-Officio and Appointed Members: Terry Carlton, Chair, General Faculty Library Committee; Eric Carpenter, Collection Development Librarian; Ray English, Director of Libraries; Jessica Grim, Reference Librarian.

Romulus Linney Addresses Friends Dinner



Romulus Linney

Obie award-winning dramatist Romulus Linney ('53) delighted the audience attending the annual Friends of the Library dinner on October 2 with remarks about his personal experiences as a student at Oberlin, his youth in Madison, Tennessee, and his career as a dramatist.

A book that Linney bought in a library booksale when he was a freshman—the *Facetiae* of Poggio—began for him a “life-long love of libraries and research and of old book sales.” The first

story he read from the book, a blasphemous tale about a friar who has an illicit affair with a woman during the days of the Spanish Inquisition, kindled his interest in reading and embodied for him much of what he attempts to realize in his dramatic works.

At the conclusion of his remarks Linney noted that he “owes the library a great deal for this little story” and he presented the library a copy of a recently published collection of his full-length plays.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY Spring Semester Programs

March 21, 23, 25

10:30 a.m. - noon each day

Basic Library Skills Course

Sunday, April 17

2:00 p.m. Book Collecting: An Informal Workshop and Panel Discussion

3:00 p.m. Presentations by Student Book Collection Contest Winners

3:30 p.m. Refreshments

4:00 p.m. “The Second Greatest Sport: Book Collecting.”
Lecture by Robert H. Jackson, Cleveland Book Collector and Friends Council Member

Sunday, May 29

Commencement Reunion Weekend

2:00 p.m. “Clash of Cultures: Missionaries, Boxers, and the Memorial Arch.” A talk by Nat Brandt, author of *Massacre in Shansi*. Response by Carl Jacobsen, Executive Director, Oberlin Shansi Memorial Association.

Followed by reception for Nat Brandt.

Co-sponsored by Friends of the Library, Oberlin College Archives, Oberlin Shansi Memorial Association, and Syracuse University Press.

Spring Semester Exhibitions

March 30 to April 22

Student Book Collection Contest Winners

April 25 to June 15

Friendly Support: Titles Purchased by the Friends of the Library

Quality...

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first college library to participate directly in another cooperative project, the Library of Congress Name Authority Cooperative (NACO). Participating libraries create authority records which establish forms of names and references for authors that are added to the national authority file via a computer-to-computer transfer known as the Linked Systems Project (LSP). The Conservatory Library has just been accepted into NACO-Music, a cooperative project which draws participants from a small number of leading music libraries.

The Library's level of participation in the OCLC Enhance and Library of Congress NACO projects make Oberlin unique among college libraries. Efficient work flows and dedicated staff allow the Library to be involved in these national efforts while maintaining a high level of service to the Oberlin community. The Library is pleased to be recognized for the quality of its cataloging staff and to share its work with the national library community.

The Friends of the Oberlin College Library provide significant support for special acquisitions and programs that help the library fulfill its fundamental role in the academic life of the college.

JOIN US. BE A FRIEND.

Members receive the *Library Perspectives* newsletter, invitations to Friends programs, and other privileges. Most of all, Friends have the satisfaction of supporting Oberlin's outstanding library.

Annual membership categories:

- \$1 Student \$25 Friend \$50 Associate
- \$100 Sponsor \$500 Patron \$1000 Benefactor

Please return this coupon with your membership contribution to:

**Friends of the Oberlin College Library
Mudd Center, Oberlin, OH 44074**

Name: _____
Street: _____
City: _____
State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Please make checks payable to Oberlin College.
Friends contributions are tax deductible.

CD-ROM Networks...

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ROM network implementation will expand access to the branch libraries, and to "remote" locations such as faculty offices and student residence halls.

Library Perspectives, a newsletter for users and Friends of the Oberlin College Library, is issued three times a year. Printed from an endowed fund established by Benjamin A. and Emiko Custer. Editors: Ray English, Jessica Grim, and Dan Zager.

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