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UMass Amherst Friends of the Library Newsletter - Fall/Winter 2005 (no. 30)

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University of Massachusetts Amherst

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Learning Commons Dedicated October 21

Steve Ballmer, CEO of Microsoft, President Jack Wilson, Chancellor John V. Lombardi, and Provost Charlena Seymour celebrate the Learning Commons dedication with UMass Amherst students on October 21.

“A campus’ library is the soul of an academic institution, and we want our students to spend quality time there,” said Charlena Seymour, provost and senior vice chancellor for academic affairs. “At the Learning Commons, students will transform information into learning. They will explore ideas and share insights with other students as they blur the lines between studying and socializing.”
Message from Jay

"F WE BUILD IT, THEY WILL COME." This paraphrased quotation from the movie "Field of Dreams" is often heard in the new Learning Commons. The transformation of approximately 23,000 square feet of the Main Floor of the W.E.B Du Bois Library over the summer months is like a dream come true for the many individuals on campus who worked to make the project successful. The heartfelt reward for us all is not the jubilant ceremony of the dedication, but seeing hundreds of students using this 21st century reading room on a daily basis.

Engaging, renovated facilities are not the only exciting activity here at the Libraries. As you will read in this newsletter, a variety of exhibits, receptions and colloquia buttress our mission of fostering a diverse and inclusive environment in which to engage with ideas. Funding of these endeavors depends on generosity like that of the Friends of the Library. Your gifts will allow the UMass Amherst Libraries to continue creating exciting, new spaces and supporting the freedom of inquiry that is so central to the heart of the campus.

Jay Schafer
Director of Libraries

Jay Schafer named Director
May 2005

“I am honored that Provost Seymour has asked me to assume the position of Director of Libraries at UMass Amherst on a permanent basis. The support expressed by the Library staff . . . has been especially meaningful since it is the diligent work of the staff that makes any library director successful. This is a transformative time for libraries. I look forward to the challenges and opportunities the future offers as we strive to provide the very best in library services, collections and facilities for the students and faculty at UMass Amherst.”

- Jay Schafer

Learning Commons Dedication

Director of Libraries Jay Schafer welcomes Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer on October 21.

UMass Vice President for Information Services David Gray, Chancellor John V. Lombardi and Director of Libraries Jay Schafer formally dedicate the Learning Commons.
THE NEW 23,000 square-foot Learning Commons, the centerpiece of the Du Bois Library’s 2005 renovations and an innovative new space in the heart of campus, was dedicated on October 21, 2005. The day began with a breakfast with Microsoft’s CEO, Steve Ballmer, who came by helicopter to name UMass Amherst the first Microsoft IT Showcase School in the nation.

Later in the morning, the dedication ceremony took place right in the middle of the Learning Commons and was standing room only with over 175 in attendance. Speakers included Chancellor John V. Lombardi, Provost Charlena Seymour, Director of Libraries Jay Schafer, Chief Information Officer John Dubach, Assistant Vice Chancellor Emeritus at the University of Wisconsin and Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of New Mexico. Professor Ibarra gave an intriguing and inspiring talk, “A Place to Belong: The Library as Prototype for Context Diversity.”

The lunch for 140 guests was sponsored by Microsoft, and Philip DesAutels, Academic Developer Evangelist at Microsoft, offered congratulatory remarks on the opening of the Learning Commons. Dr. Ibarra’s travel was made possible by the Wallenius Library Endowment Fund.
“I'm a senior - I just came down to the Learning Commons to see what the buzz was all about. It's beautiful! I'm really excited to see something that will certainly have a positive impact on the education here.”

“The Uncommon Commons”  
[The Learning Commons] provides an environment that is conducive to learning and productivity.”

“I think everything looks wonderful. It's nice to know that our money is being spent wisely.”

“I think everything looks great! It's a sleek yet comfortable setting.”

“I am very, very pleased with this unexpected change, and hope that it will stay this way for many years to come! Thank you to the people that came up with this idea!”

“I think the Library has improved tremendously and it is truly a privilege to have such amazing technology and resources available to us.”

“I am currently a sophomore and I wanted to let you know that the new Learning Commons is excellent. All of my peers share the same thoughts as I do. Thanks for this new space.”

The Learning Commons contains 164 work stations, 400 laptop ports, 16 email kiosks, 13 rooms for group study. The Learning Commons is open 24 hours a day from Sunday 11:00 a.m. to Friday 9:00 p.m., and Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The Uncommon Commons  
by Faye Wolfe

...On the garden level, the butterflies have abandoned the buddleias in the courtyard outside its windows, but plenty of people are flocking there to use LC amenities. ... By late morning most days, the Learning Commons is full of students drafting papers at new, curvy maroon tables; collaborating on projects, nestled in stylish, suede-like chairs on wheels. ... Every one of those 56 workstations, as well as many of the computers reserved for students, are in use. In the meeting rooms, classes and small groups jot ideas on white boards mounted on the walls. As well as offering assistance on how to make use of the library's more than 300 databases, 12,000 electronic journals, 15,700 subscriptions, 5.8 million books and government documents, the Learning Commons houses Academic Advising; the Writing Center; a branch of Career Services; a help desk for technical support; and the Assistive Technologies Center, a drop-in lab for people with disabilities. ... On the tenth floor of Du Bois, the Learning Resource Center is open for walk-in tutoring and instruction. ...
Seventh Annual Donor Appreciation Reception

Barry Moser, an extraordinary bookman, and one of the world’s great book designers and illustrators spoke at the annual donor appreciation reception on September 25, 2005. World renowned for his illustrations, wood engravings, watercolors, and reinterpretations of the classics, Barry Moser’s art is represented in numerous library and museum collections. His work has been published in more than two hundred books for children and adults. His magnum opus, the Pennyroyal Caxton Edition of the Holy Bible was published in 1999.

The 2005 Siegfried Feller Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service was presented to Joseph Donohue, Professor of English who recently retired after teaching at UMass Amherst for 34 years. He has been a staunch supporter of and advocate for the Library and a long-time donor of books, journals, and reference materials. After serving as editor of the Readex Nineteenth-Century British and American Plays project, Joe very generously donated his own set of that collection, consisting of 23,335 titles, to the Libraries.

Thank you to the Jeffery Amherst Bookshop for once again donating a portion of the event’s book sales to the Library.

Counterclockwise from top: Jay Schafer, Emily Silverman, Joe Donohue, Jim Kelly; self-portrait by Barry Moser; Barry Moser autographs a book for Ruth Owen Jones; Barry Moser gives the keynote; Joe Donohue accepts the Feller Award; attendees Barbara Kerewsky-Halpern and Rhoda Honigberg.
Social Change Colloquium
“Crossroads: A Colloquium on Social Change” was held on October 31, 2005. The event was sponsored by Special Collections & University Archives and the Social Thought and Political Economy Program. The keynote speakers were Carl Oglesby, a major figure in the anti-war movement in the 1960s and 1970s and a former president of the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS); Tom Fels, a former resident of the Montague Farm Commune, and a curator, writer, and student of American culture whose work has appeared in numerous museums and publications; and Catherine Blinder, a former resident of the Tree Frog Farm commune, and an activist, writer, and consultant based in Hartford. This first annual social change colloquium was held in honor of Beth Hapgood, who earlier this year donated her papers, including a wealth of materials relating to the Brotherhood of the Spirit commune, the largest commune in the eastern U.S. during the late 1960s and early 1970s.

Exhibits
Reflections: Cars and Parts an exhibit by Bryant J. Stewart at the Integrated Sciences & Engineering Library (ISEL) featured sixty of Stewart’s pieces. Stewart creates representations of classic cars and trucks, mostly from the 1930s and 1940s. He often combines his pieces with actual car and truck parts such as grills and hubcaps. Another technique used is turning antique parts into art by wire-brushing and applying urethane to the rust to make beautiful patinas. Stewart also uses anamorphic art, which is “the process of greatly distorting an image only to have it revealed either from a single vantage point or from its reflection on a mirrored surface.” Taken from the ancient Greek word for transformation, anamorphoses was popular in the Renaissance and used by artists like da Vinci, Escher, and Dali.

New Orleans: Land and Waters featured satellite, geologic, and topographic maps that graphically demonstrated the underlying causes of the immense natural disaster that engulfed New Orleans and surrounding areas, raising many questions about the future of the entire Louisiana delta.

Celebrating 20 years of the Stonewall Center - As part of our commitment to diversity, the library hosted an exhibit celebrating the history and achievements of the Stonewall Center, a lesbian, bisexual, gay and transgender educational resource center. The exhibit displayed the historical context in which the Stonewall Center was formed and contained the original student demands and reports that convinced UMass Amherst to support the program. It also illustrated some of the positive changes that have taken place since the Center’s creation.

Oz Books, The Movie, Gay Men, Oh My! from the collection of Dee Michel was on display in the Du Bois Library this fall. The exhibit consisted of books, cards, musical recordings, ads, web pages, and collectibles from The Wizard of Oz. It highlighted books by L. Frank Baum and his successors, the 1939 MGM movie, print, stage and film adaptations, the connection between the movie and gay male culture, and a celebration of Oz by fans, critics, and entrepreneurs. On October 5, the Library hosted a reception to celebrate the exhibit and the Stonewall Center’s 20th Anniversary. Dee Michel spoke on the appeal of The Wizard of Oz for gay males. The exhibit was sponsored by the UMass Amherst Library’s Committee on Community, Diversity and Social Justice in conjunction with GLBT History Month in October.
Hokkaido Delegation Visits Library

On October 15, a delegation from Hokkaido, Japan visited UMass Amherst to mark the 15th anniversary of a sister-state relationship and renewed ties that extend back to 1876. William S. Clark, the president of Massachusetts Agricultural College (MAC) helped found Sapporo Agricultural College – now Hokkaido University. Clark, who inspired Japanese students with his pioneer spirit and farewell salute, “Boys, be ambitious,” is still a revered figure in Japan’s northernmost and largely rural island. Provost Charlena Seymour greeted the 26-member delegation at the Du Bois Library, where a pioneer of the UMass-Hokkaido relationship, William Penn Brooks, was remembered at a ceremony marking the donation of some of his papers to Special Collections and University Archives. Brooks was a young MAC graduate who accompanied Clark to Hokkaido and stayed on to work at the new college. He later returned to MAC and served for many years as director of the Experiment Station.

Peregrine Falcons Nest Successfully on Roof of Du Bois Library

Three peregrine falcon chicks hatched in May on the roof of the Du Bois Library. David Fuller ’88 and Ralph Taylor ’83 of Mass Wildlife’s Connecticut Valley District banded the chicks when they were 2-3 weeks old. Richard Nathhorst, Facilities and Campus Planning, coordinates the banding process. This is the third year in a row that the nesting on the Library roof has been successful. Peregrine falcons are still endangered in Massachusetts. The nesting box was installed on the roof in 1998. It is a joint project of the department of forestry and wildlife management, the Physical Plant and Facilities Planning divisions, the Hitchcock Center for the Environment, the Conservation Department of the town of Amherst, and the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife.
**Scholarly Colloquium**

“University E-Repositories: Solutions for the Scholarly Community,” the fourth colloquium in an ongoing series, was held on September 29, 2005. Ann Wolpert, Director of Libraries at MIT, and Nancy Fried Foster, Lead Anthropologist and Co-manager of the Digital Initiatives Unit, University of Rochester, discussed the issues and implications of E-Repositories for faculty, librarians, and graduate students.

Ann Wolpert is the Director of Libraries at MIT and co-leader of MIT's institutional repository, DSpace. A model for many other universities, DSpace was developed over the past two years by MIT Libraries and Hewlett-Packard Laboratories. She currently serves as President of the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) and member of the Board of Directors of the Boston Library Consortium, among many other affiliations.

Nancy Fried Foster is the Lead Anthropologist and Co-manager of the Digital Initiatives Unit, River Campus Libraries at the University of Rochester. She conducts research on faculty, staff, and students to document work habits and identify needs for web-based products to support research and writing.

**Kosovar Librarians**

The Institute for Training and Development and the Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Sciences jointly conducted a 17-week training and academic program for nine Kosovars employed at the National and University Library of Kosovo from August 21 to December 17, 2005. The UMass Amherst Libraries hosted three of the nine visiting librarians from September 9 through November 10. They received an in-depth orientation to the administration, collection management, collection development, and public services operations of our Library.

At the end of their stay, Mr. Elhame (Eli) Buzuku, Mr. Ardian Haxhaj, and Mr. Besim Kokollari invited all library staff to a program on life in Kosovo. Their program addressed the culture, politics, economy, education, and libraries and librarianship in Kosovo.

The Library’s Community, Diversity, and Social Justice Committee (CDSJ) hosted an ALANA Library Career Reception on November 9th featuring keynote speaker Tracie Hall, Director of the American Library Association Office for Diversity. Other guests included students from library school programs and professional librarians. ALANA students were invited to learn about the career opportunities in libraries. The event was sponsored by the UMass Amherst Libraries, University of Rhode Island Graduate School of Library & Information Studies, and Simmons College Graduate School of Library & Information Science.

“Me, a Librarian?”

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Supporting the Library

SELECTED NOTEWORTHY ACQUISITIONS

Class of 1955 50th Reunion Gift
Alumni returned to campus June 3-5 for Reunion Weekend 2005, sponsored by the UMass Amherst Alumni Association. The weekend’s events included the dedication of the Class of 1955 Garden. The ceremony took place in the Second Floor Reading Room of the Du Bois Library, overlooking the garden site. The 50th Reunion Gift, a beautiful, park like garden area, is on the north side of the Library.

Gift of Professor Arnold Silver
Arnold Silver, English Professor from 1959-1996 donated 5,000 books, consisting of primary and secondary sources in the fields of English and American literature, rhetoric and composition, philosophy, history, and many other topics. A Shaw scholar and playwright, Professor Silver taught a range of courses for the English Department. In 1997, he published Shortchangers, a fictional farce set in an American university.

Beth Hapgood Collection
Assembled over more than three decades of collecting, the Hapgood Collection contains approximately 35 linear feet of material relating to the Brotherhood of the Spirit, its successor the Renaissance Community, and Beth Hapgood’s other interests in spiritual, social, and intellectual matters. The collection is currently being processed.

From its beginnings in a treehouse in Leyden, Mass., in 1968, the Brotherhood of the Spirit grew to become the largest commune in the eastern U.S., with almost 350 residents at its peak in the early 1970s.

Beth Hapgood, a resident of nearby Northfield, met Michael Metelica, founder of the Brotherhood when he was barely 16 and remained close to him until his death in 2002. It was Hapgood who introduced the Brotherhood to the psychic channeller Elwood Babbitt (the “spiritual advisor” to the commune for a period of time) and Hapgood who assiduously collected information on the group.
**Rebecca Addison** was appointed to the position of Library Assistant II (Acquisitions Ordering). Rebecca comes to the Library from the Dean’s Office in the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics.

**Emily Alling** was appointed to the position of Science and Engineering Reference Services Librarian in the Integrated Sciences and Engineering Library. Emily holds a Master’s degree in Linguistics from Harvard University and an MLS degree from Simmons. Emily comes to UMass Amherst from Springfield College where she was the Reference Technology Librarian.

**Shaodan Luo**, our first East Asian Library Intern, has a Ph.D. in Chinese Literature from UC Berkeley and has been a visiting professor at UMass Amherst teaching Chinese language and Literature. He is working with Sharon Domier to review the Chinese collection, select and catalog gifts and new orders, and create online user guides to the collection.

**Jo-An Bourguignon** of Interlibrary Loan/Document Delivery accepted a position in the Isenberg School of Management.

**Emily Alling** was appointed to the position of Library Assistant III (Reserves/Media Supervisor). Joseph comes to the Library from Engineering Computer Services.

**Lorraine Lapointe** of Reserves/Media was appointed to the position of Library Assistant III (Library Building Monitor Supervisor).


**Peggy Garceau** was appointed to the position of Library Assistant II in Interlibrary Loan. Peggy comes to the Library from Military Science.

**Joseph Heimann** was appointed to the position of Library Assistant III (Reserves/Media Supervisor). Joseph comes to the Library from Engineering Computer Services.

**Donna Myrick** was appointed to the position of Clerk IV (Library Business Office Assistant). Donna comes to the Library from the Bursar’s Office.

**Michael Patterson** was appointed to the second shift position of Library Assistant III (Library Building Monitor Supervisor). Michael comes to the Library from Physical Plant, and previously was a member of the Library’s custodial staff.

**Peter Stern** was awarded a travel grant from the University of New Mexico Latin American and Iberian Institute Library Visiting Researcher Program. This program is designed to provide scholars with the opportunity to work with one of the largest Latin American collections in the U.S. Peter is researching two Mexican political-artistic groups: the Liga de Escritores y Artistas Revolucionarios, and the Taller de Grafica Popular, which flourished in the 1930s and 1940s.
Karyne St-Pierre, MLIS student at the École de bibliothéconomie et des sciences de l’information, Université de Montréal, did an internship in Collection Development and Reference. She is now working at the Outremont Public Library, a branch of the Montreal Public Library.

Myles Sullivan was appointed to the third shift position of Library Assistant III (Learning Commons and Support Desk Supervisor). Myles is a former member of our student staff.

Jason Sullivan-Flynn of Acquisitions and Roberta Merrington of Circulation have each been appointed to the 1/2 time position of Library Assistant III (Library Building Monitor Supervisor).

Margaret Temesvari of the Library Business Office accepted a position in the Alumni Development and Capital Giving Office at Deerfield Academy.

Peter Tigner of Circulation was promoted to the position of Library Assistant III (Learning Commons and Technical Support Desk Supervisor).

Carol Will was promoted to the position of Library Assistant III (Learning Commons and Technical Support Desk Supervisor). Carol transferred from Acquisitions.

Tania Romanovich Mastaliz, 89, passed away August 6. Tania worked in the Acquisitions Department from 1968 until 1986 when she retired.

Christine (Field) Purinton, 86, passed away October 31 at Newham Hospital, London, England. Christine worked in the Acquisitions Department, retiring in 1980.
THANK YOU for your generous contributions to the Library. Listed below are our donors for the 18-month period January 1, 2004 – June 30, 2005.

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- Thomas & Carol Waskiewicz
The new Du Bois Library plaza is in, there's a brand new beautiful entrance to the building, the trees will be planted in the planters come spring.
Professor David Schimmel of Education at work in the Library with his mug of Rao’s coffee from Procrastination Station.
“The Great Chill Out” celebrated our graduating student assistants with make-your-own sundaes from Flayvors Farm Hadley. Thank you to Beth Cook, owner of Flayvors and her staff.

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