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Jay Schafer
University of Massachusetts Amherst

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Honoring the generosity of library donors has traditionally been a function of the Friends of the UMass Amherst Libraries newsletter. Last year this listing of some 5,000 donors required twenty pages with five columns of small print. This year we have even more names – 6,344 to be exact (and we are always in danger of omitting at least one person’s name in a list this long).

To list or not to list, that is the question. Most donors enjoy seeing their names in print and we love to provide a documented list of our Friends, both as individual recognition and as a demonstration of the extensive support the Libraries receive on an annual basis. On the other hand, it is the donors’ contributions that pay for the newsletter, and is a sixteen-plus page list of names the best use of these funds?

One suggestion this year was to list only the contributions above a certain dollar level. Depending on the chosen level ($100, $250, $500, $1,000, $5,000, $10,000), this could significantly reduce the number of pages required to acknowledge donors. My immediate reaction was to reject this proposal.

Every donation given to support the vision and mission of the UMass Amherst Libraries is vital to our success, no matter the sum. A $10 donation from a student is as meaningful as a $600,000 donation from a major corporation, especially when the gross annual earnings of both are considered.

Obviously, money matters. Support from the state legislature, student fees, and research income provide only a baseline of support for the library budget. We depend on the contributions from our Friends to take the Libraries – our collections, services, and facilities – to the next level of excellence.

We hope the activities, accomplishments, and aspirations described in the following pages affirm your support for the UMass Amherst Libraries. A complete listing of our donors is available at www.library.umass.edu/friends/donors.html. Please know, as you review this list, that the library staff and I thank each and every donor and we appreciate knowing that you are our Friends.

Most sincerely,

Jay Schafer
Director of Libraries

Microsoft’s Anthony Salcito (r) presents the “Unlimited Potential” grant to Director of Libraries Jay Schafer

Microsoft Grant Celebrated
Libraries Improve in National Rankings and Raise $1.1m
21st Century Library Technology Fund Update
Libraries Host Learning Commons Open House
Summer Improvements

Eighth Annual Donor Appreciation Reception

Supporting The Library

New Library Web Site Introduced
New Five College Libraries Catalog Debuts
Libraries Assist Center For Hierarchical Manufacturing
ScholarWorks Institutional Repository Launched
Staff Appointments and Accomplishments
Save The Date – Back Cover

www.library.umass.edu/friends
On May 31, Anthony Salcito, General Manager of U.S. Enterprise Education at Microsoft Corporation, presented an “Unlimited Potential” grant to Director of Libraries Jay Schafer. According to Salcito, the $600,000 software donation will help students learn a range of information technology skills to compete more effectively in a global economy. The software is available in the Learning Commons and includes MS Digital Image Suite (image viewer), MS Infopath (information processing), MS MapPoint (map software), MS OneNote (note management), MS Student (learning tools), and MS Visio Pro (diagram/flowcharting).

“\[quote\]We are educating information-literate, technology-savvy users.\[quote\]”

At the spring Dinner with Friends, we kicked off the concept of a new endowment – the 21st Century Library Technology Fund. The fund will support technology and infrastructure initiatives, such as the Learning Commons and a new multimedia center.

Several donors built upon the initial challenge gift by Lorrey and Kathy Bianchi; the “Tech Fund” donors to date include: Thomas and Cynthia Ackerman, Emily Alling, John and Elizabeth Armstrong, Lorrey Bianchi and Kathy Casey-Bianchi, Marilyn Billings and Timothy Coppolo, Will and Lee Bridgeham, Community Foundation of Western Mass, Mango Crist, Siegfried Feller, Howard and Joy Gersten, Naka Ishii, Paul Jones and Ruth Owen Jones, Beth Lang, George and Ann Levinger, Rachel Lewellen, John and Cathryn Lombardi, Lewis and Caden Mainzer, Lauren Matsuko, Susan McBride, Christine McCormick, Timothy Meldrum, Mike Milewski, Donald and Mary Jean Proulx, Masha Rudman, Jay Schafer, Maxine Schmidt, Harry and Charlena Seymour, Kelsey Shepherd, and Emily Silverman. Thank you one and all.

Keep the gifts coming!
Remarks by Professor Robert Potash Honoring Vincent Ilardi

Vincent Ilardi is being honored today with the Siegfried Feller Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service. This award, established in 1998, is given annually to an individual who has made outstanding contributions to create awareness and build support for the UMass Amherst Libraries.

Professor Ilardi is Professor Emeritus of History at UMass Amherst. A Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Rutgers University, he went on to receive the Ph.D. in Renaissance History at Harvard University. From 1957 until his retirement in 1995, he played an active role in the life of our campus. Beginning in 1990 and continuing until 2001, he was also affiliated with Yale University initially as a Visiting Research Scholar, then as a Visiting Professor, Adjunct Professor and Visiting Fellow.

For over thirty-five years, Vincent took an active interest in this Library initially as a member of the Faculty Senate Research Library Council which advises the Library regarding its functions and operations and then as a member of the Friends of the Library Board of Trustees where his passion and generosity have inspired others to think about the Library, to give to the Library, and tell others about this important resource. Aware of what a research library should be through his own research at other institutions, he was a constant voice urging administrators and fellow faculty to do what they could to build up its collections and update its facilities. To cite one example, in the mid-1960s, it was Vincent who mounted a campaign to have the Library acquire Xerox machines over the opposition of the then Library Director who seemed to view them as expensive machines of little use. Professor Ilardi’s own research interests have been shaped by his passion and generosity have inspired others to think about the Library; to give to the Library, and tell others about this important resource. Aware of what a research library should be through his own research at other institutions, he was a constant voice urging administrators and fellow faculty to do what they could to build up its collections and update its facilities. To cite one example, in the mid-1960s, it was Vincent who mounted a campaign to have the Library acquire Xerox machines over the opposition of the then Library Director who seemed to view them as expensive machines of little use.

Professor Ilardi’s special field of interest has been the Italian Renaissance and more specifically its diplomatic history about which he has published a half dozen books and more than a score of articles. His most important contribution to this field I would argue, however, transcends his published work and is found in the massive collection of diplomatic records that he put together on microfilm through periodic research trips to Italian and other European archives. The existence of this superb collection has facilitated the work of numerous scholars, some of whom have found it more convenient to do their research in the Ilardi home in Sunderland rather than in a dusty Italian archive. They can also do it now at Yale University where a copy of the microfilms has been deposited.

Professor Ilardi’s own research interests have been shaped by documents he discovered in the collection. Although his main area of research is the history of diplomacy, he was diverted into studying the origins of eyeglasses after reading a 15th century letter by Francisco Sforza, the Duke of Milan, to an agent in Florence ordering multiple pairs of glasses that could be used by people of different ages. This inspired Vincent in 1976 to undertake the long-term study that enabled him to prove that concave lenses for nearsightedness were in use much earlier than previously believed, and that Florence, rather than Venice, was the leading manufacturer of spectacles in the Middle Ages. For this study, he collected archival materials from around the world together with visual materials from museums, churches, and private collections, and has used the information to trace the history of the telescope, which requires a combination of convex and concave lenses. His years of research on optical instruments have been distilled into a book called Renaissance Vision from Spectacles to Telescopes. This book is to be published later this year by the American Philosophical Society. Moreover, this November, Vincent will receive the 2006 John Frederick Lewis Award, an award created in 1981 to recognize the best book published by the American Philosophical Society in a given year.

It is my honor to present Professor Vincent Ilardi, scholar, historian, and library enthusiast, with the 2006 Siegfried Feller Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service to the UMass Amherst Libraries. On behalf of the Friends of the Library, thank you, Vince, and congratulations.
supporting the library

2006 ~ THE LIBRARY’S BEST YEAR YET

Thanks to you, we raised over $1.1 million dollars this year, and we are not stopping! We have lots of work to do and we invite you to continue to be a part of our success. A complete listing of all 7,292 gifts from our 6,344 donors in fiscal year 2006 may be found at http://www.library.umass.edu/friends/donors.html.

Introducing the Director’s Council

The Director’s Council has been formed to raise awareness of and financial support for the UMass Amherst Libraries. Members of the Director’s Council will serve as advocates—through financial support and outreach—for the Libraries, on campus and throughout their own spheres of influence. The Council’s targeted projects include the Learning Commons, installing wireless access throughout the Du Bois Library, creating a multimedia center, providing alumni access to selected databases, and building the 21st Century Library Technology Fund. The Director of Libraries welcomes the assistance of alumni and friends as we create this vital new advocacy group for the UMass Amherst Libraries. If you are interested in joining the Council, contact Emily Silverman at (413) 545-0995 or friends@library.umass.edu.

Director’s Council members:

Lorrey Bianchi ’69, co-chair
Kathleen Casey-Bianchi, co-chair
Philip DesAutels (friend)
John Dubach, Chief Information Officer
Karen Hayes, Research Liaison and Development
Lewis Mainzer (faculty)
Dean Marchetti (parent)
Jay Schaefer, Director of Libraries
Tatso Tammerk, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Development

Library Endowed Funds

Endowment funds are created to strengthen the Library for the benefit of students, faculty, and other scholars for today and long into the future. Gifts to help build the Library’s endowments can be made on the reply envelope enclosed, or by phone (413) 545-0995 or email friends@library.umass.edu.

21ST CENTURY LIBRARY TECHNOLOGY FUND to support technology and infrastructure initiatives

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY ENDOWMENT to build the collections

JOHN W. BENNETT LABOR HISTORY COLLECTION ENDOWMENT for activities related to the John W. Bennett Labor History Collection, co-sponsored with the Labor Relations and Research Center

ANN EDNA BISTRO MEMORIAL LIBRARY ENDOWMENT for materials in business reference

HORACE E. AND MARGARET E. BARR BIOLOGY ENDOWED FUND for the Life Sciences Collections for biological sciences and geosciences journals

RANDOLPH W. BROPHY LIBRARY ENDOWMENT FUND to support initiatives that enhance the legacy of W.E.B. Du Bois, and to encourage academic scholarship that builds upon the contributions of the W.E.B. Du Bois Papers and related collections

BRONDELLE M. HOOVERA MEMORIAL BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES LIBRARY FUND for materials in the biological sciences

LATIN AMERICAN COLLECTION ENDOWMENT for materials for the Pauline P. Collins Collection on Latin America

LIBRARY ARCHIVE FUND for the preservation and restoration of archives

LIBRARY STAFF DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING FUND for development and training opportunities for the Library staff

OWALD TIPPO LIBRARY ENDOWMENT FUND for the acquisition of exceptional materials that enrich the scholarly collections

VAL Y. AND IRA G. L. WALLENS LIBRARY ENDOWMENT FUND for the acquisition of library materials and support of library programs representative of diverse cultures

Donors Support Purchase of New Database

Through the generosity of a lead anonymous donor, we acquired the database “Women and Social Movements in the U.S. 1600-2000” an outstanding resource that includes tens of thousands of primary documents, document projects with introductory essays that interpret the documents, a definitive bibliography, related web links, a dictionary of social movements, and an enormous collection of images chronicling women’s involvement in various historical events.

Your Name Here!

There are many projects underway in the Libraries, and several could use your support. If you are interested in sponsoring any of the following, please contact Emily Silverman at (413) 545-0995 or friends@library.umass.edu. All donations will be recognized with a special plaque.

Adopt a Study Carrel

There are 292 study carrels in the Du Bois Library and every one of them is ready for renovation. We invite you to consider “adopting” these small, quiet study rooms by making a gift at the $2,500 or $5,000 level. Your support will enable us to renovate the carrels with fresh paint and carpeting, handsome new furnishings and bookshelves, and the installation of new window blinds and shades. Donors will be recognized with a name plaque on the carrel door.

Memorial Gifts 2006

The Library received gifts in memory of the following individuals:

- Karen Feller
- Andrew D. Haigh
- Priscilla Gibson Hicks
- Patricia Fitzsimmons Hunter
- Nina Bardi
- Irene Kavanagh
- Elizabeth “Bette” Kilham
- Jeanne Sargent Lyman
- Tania Mastalir
- Heidi Adams Milewski
- Diane Prince
- Benjamin Ricci
- Oswald and Emmie Tippie
- James F. Toohin
- Helen V. Walsh

Honor Gifts 2006

The Library received gifts in honor of the following individuals:

- John J. Bonsignore
- Alexa Colly
- Olivia Colly
- Larry Feldman
- Siegfried Feller
- Joel Halpern
- Barbara Kerewsky-Halpern
- Rosemary K. Quinn
- Interlibrary Loan and Document Delivery
New Library Web Site Introduced
We introduced a handsome new look for the Library web site early this fall. The design includes a changing array of news, features, and images, and content areas specifically for community members, distance learners, faculty, people with disabilities, and, of course, students. Explore the new site at http://www.library.umass.edu.

New Five College Libraries Catalog Debuts
The new Five College Libraries Catalog debuted in late summer. The new catalog provides improved access to the millions of resources at the UMass Amherst Libraries and those of the Amherst, Hampshire, Mount Holyoke, and Smith College Libraries.

Some of its new features include:
- Searching all libraries simultaneously
- Foreign language searches
- Limiting searches to a particular collection or format (i.e. book, CD, journal, etc.)

To view the site: http://www.library.umass.edu.

Libraries Assist Center for Hierarchical Manufacturing
The Libraries will develop and maintain a dynamic, web-based clearinghouse of nanotechnology data and information for the Center of Hierarchical Manufacturing (CHM). Work will begin this fall at the Integrated Sciences and Engineering Library with a team consisting of a science librarian, a web developer, and student assistants. The CHM is an initiative established by UMass Amherst and made possible through a five-year, $16 million grant from the National Science Foundation. The CHM’s mission is to move nanotechnology from laboratory innovation to components and devices that can be manufactured. Nanotechnology is a branch of science and engineering devoted to the design and production of extremely small electronic devices and circuits built from individual atoms and molecules.

ScholarWorks@UMassAmherst Launched
ScholarWorks@UMassAmherst, an institutional repository, will provide a place for UMass Amherst faculty, researchers, and scholars to store and share their digital materials. The Library will provide access, indexing, and preservation of these items. Institutional repositories can bring together a university’s research under one umbrella, with an aim to preserve and provide access to that research.

To see ScholarWorks@UMassAmherst, go to http://scholarworks.umass.edu.

Appointments and Accomplishments
EMILY ALDING was appointed to the position of Coordinator of the Learning Commons and Undergraduate Library Services. Emily previously worked as a Science and Engineering Reference Librarian, and was a Reference Technology Librarian at Springfield College before coming to UMass Amherst.

MEGHAN BACHINI was appointed to the position of Metadata Catalog Librarian. She previously worked at the Brandeis University Archives, the Sophia Smith Collection at Smith College, and as an archives assistant at the John F. Kennedy Library in Boston.

PAULA BARTOX was appointed to the part-time position of Library Building Monitor Supervisor.

STEVEN FOLSON was appointed to the position of Metadata Catalog Librarian. He previously worked at the D’Amour Library at Western New England College and was a graduate student assistant at Mount Holyoke College Library.

JAY SCHEFER, Director of Libraries, was elected Vice President/President Elect of the Management Council of the Boston Library Consortium. The Boston Library Consortium, an association of 19 academic and research libraries located in Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island, is dedicated to sharing human and information resources to advance the research and learning of its constituency.

Isabel Espinal presented a paper “El incansable juego/The Uniting Game: Dominican Women Writing and Translating Ourselves in a Transnational Context” as part of a program sponsored by the Latin America, Caribbean, and Latino Studies Center entitled “Translocalities/Translocalidades: Feminist Politics of Translation in the Latin(a) Américas.”

Isabel Espinal, Anne L. Moore, Emily Silverman, and Christine Turner were among the 900 library volunteers from around the U.S. and Canada who worked on more than 20 community projects and library rebuilding efforts during the American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference in New Orleans in June.

Betse Luang was named Head of Research and Instructional Services (RIS). Beth previously served as interim head of RIS and as a reference librarian.

Lauren Matusko was appointed to the position of Library Assistant in Reserves/Media.

Amanda Stevens was appointed to the position of Library Assistant in Circulation.

Christine Turner was elected President of the Association of College and Research Libraries New England Chapter.

In Memoriam
Louise Casa passed away May 1, 2006. She was 58. Louise served as Library Officer Assistant for over eight years and worked on campus a total of 21 years. Her cheerful spirit is greatly missed.
Charles C. Mann’s most recent book 1491: New Revelations of the Americas before Columbus (2005), is a history of the Americas before Columbus. A correspondent for The Atlantic Monthly, Science, and Wired, he has covered the intersection of science, technology, and commerce for many newspapers and magazines in the U.S. and abroad. He has co-written four other books: The Second Creation: Makers of the Revolution in 20th-Century Physics (rev. ed. 1995); The Aspirin Wars: Money, Medicine, and 100 Years of Rampant Competition (1991), Noah’s Choice: The Future of Endangered Species (1995), and @ Large: The Strange Case of the Internet’s Biggest Invasion (1998).

Lesléa Newman is the author of over 50 books including Heather Has Two Mommies, A Letter To Harvey Milk, Writing From The Heart, In Every Laugh a Tear, The Femme Mystique, Still Life with Buddy, Fat Chance, and Out of the Closet and Nothing to Wear. Her recent projects include a young adult novel Jailbait (2005), a middle-grade novel Hachiko Waits (2004), and several picture books including A Fire Engine for Ruthie (2004) and The Boy Who Cried Fabulous (2004). She is the author of poems, short stories, and novels, and writes for both adults and children. She has received many literary awards including Poetry Fellowships from the Massachusetts Artists Fellowship Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts, the Highlights for Children Fiction Writing Award and the James Baldwin Award for Cultural Achievement.