



A Newsletter for Employees of the University of Louisville Libraries

The Owl

"The Owl of Minerva takes flight only as the dusk begins to fall." — Hegel

MEDIA RESOURCES: A BRIEF HISTORY

by Justy Engle, Media Resources

Upon completion of Ekstrom Library's West Wing in 2006, the main Circulation Desk moved to the new West Entrance, leaving a void by the East Entrance. Space concerns on the second floor of Ekstrom, especially in the Media and Current Periodicals Department, had grown with the advent of the Student Government Association Video Collection in 2004. Clearly, a change was needed to maximize space and resources. It was at this time that the separate departments of Current Periodicals and Media Resources were created. Due to the popularity of the SGA Video Collection and a variety of other factors, The New Wing Planning Group, headed by Diane Nichols, decided that Media would move to the former Main Circulation point at the East Entrance in August 2006.

All the videocassettes, audiocassettes and DVDs moved downstairs and 20 laptops, formerly part of Circulation, were transferred to Media. Periodicals and microform collections remained on the second floor and spaces were adjusted to make the area more open and provide a place for the Laura Kersey Reading Room. Initially, Media Resources consisted of fourteen viewing stations, three rolling red carts for videos and two viewing rooms, in addition to the main desk and office. Room 1 is now part of the Digital Media Suite and contains a green screen that students are utilizing in conjunction with video editing for class projects. Viewing Room 2, as the signage still calls it, is available for use by 3-10 students wishing to watch VHS tapes or DVDs together.

Since Media's move downstairs, circulation for August 2007 – July 2008 (78,484 items) increased 231% from August 2005-July 2006 (23,707 items including Multi-Media books with CDs that are now housed in the RRS). In 2009 alone, Media has already circulated 8,881 SGA titles, and from the Ekstrom Collection 297 VHS and 298 DVDs. Each year statistics steadily increase as the Collections grow and the department reshapes to suit the changing needs of its patrons.



Photos by Bill Carner



The driving question behind the Media Department, the unspoken question of purpose, has always been: how can we best serve our patrons? Media is a dynamic department that changes according to the needs of UofL's students. Additionally, Media serves the needs of faculty by providing assistance with films for courses, from tracking down hard-to-find documentaries and speeches, to helping choose a relevant video from the collection for a 50-minute class. (The "long view" in Minerva lists runtimes for most Media films.) You'll also see Media staff in a typical day setting up the projection and microphones for events in the Chao Auditorium and supervising student assistants in the Learning Commons Computer Lab.

Currently, Media is home to 50 laptops for use by students, faculty and staff within the library. Each laptop has wireless connectivity and is set up to print through the Uniprint stations in the library, just like the wired computers in the labs. There are 50 pairs of headphones for use within the library by all patrons with either a Cardinal Card or Community Borrower card.

There are two distinct video collections in Media. The Ekstrom Collection, as it is commonly known, is housed in closed shelving units in the Media storage room for use within the library by students and outside the library by faculty, staff and graduate students. This is the collection that faculty members use for classroom instruction, related course work and research. It mainly consists of documentaries, educational films

and feature films. Within the collection there is a large collection of foreign films in about 25+ different languages, about half of the [Criterion Collection](#) (a film fanatic's heaven consisting of director's cuts and re-mastered editions of cinematic classics) and educational titles covering a wide spectrum of curriculum standards. This collection is only available to faculty, staff and graduate students for a loan period of three days; patrons can even renew these titles online. Some of the newest additions of note are the entire collected works of [William Shakespeare's plays on DVD](#) and, coming soon, courtesy of very generous funding by the Commonwealth Center for the Humanities and Society and its director, Professor Tom Byers, even more titles for the growing Criterion Collection. There are over 6,000 titles, including both DVDs and videocassettes, in the Ekstrom Collection.

The SGA Collection was the first collection in Media with items that can be checked out of the library to undergraduate students. Created by the Student Government Association for students as a free service so that students could blow off some steam from their difficult academic pursuits, the collection contains feature films as well as popular documentaries and complete runs of television series. Items are purchased thanks to a generous annual donation from the Student Government Association. The collection is driven by student recommendations and current release titles. Every year the collection grows as do check-out statistics. Title suggestions may be made either in person at the SGA suggestion box in the library or by email to the service account at medcirc@louisville.edu. *continued on page 3*

The Owl is published eight times a year as an online PDF publication by the University of Louisville Libraries, Louisville, KY 40292.

There is a combined June-August "summer" issue and a November-January "winter" issue.

Co-Editors: Robin Harris (robin.harris@louisville.edu, 852-6083) and Amy Purcell (amy.purcell@louisville.edu, 852-1861).

Editorial Board: Bill Carner, John Chenault, Jessie Roth.

Book Editor: Anna Marie Johnson. Layout: Bob Roehm.

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The Owl's purpose is to promote communication among the various libraries in the UofL system.

Deadline for publication is the 21st of each month preceding publication.

Opinions expressed in *The Owl* are not necessarily those of the University Libraries or the University of Louisville.



From the Dean of Libraries . . .

By Hannelore Rader, Dean, University of Louisville Libraries

On March 27, I attended the SAALCK meeting held at Northern Kentucky University, Steely Library. Discussed were the FoKAL Summit planned for June 09, the reorganization and bylaws revision of KYVL, the activities of the SAALCK Collections Committee, the April reception for Dr. Jeffrey Huber, the new Dean of the UK School of Library and Information Science, the 2009-2012 SLIS Strategic Plan and the WorldCat Local Trial.

April 6-7 I along with 300 others attended the Coalition of Networked Information (CNI) meeting in Minneapolis. As usual, Clifford Lynch, Executive Director of CNI provided an informative introduction to the meeting. David Rosenthal from Stanford University gave the opening address entitled: "Are we ensuring the longevity of digital documents?" Sayeed Choudhury from Johns Hopkins University and Patricia Cruse from the University of California presented the closing plenary session, "Initiatives from the National Science Foundation's DataNet Program." Also presented were 35 project briefings. As usual, this was a most informative conference.

On April 8, the libraries hosted a reception honoring Nat and Holmesetta Green to thank them for their \$1.1 million bequest to the Libraries, the Muhammad Ali Institute and the African American Theater Program. Vice Provost for Diversity and Equal Opportunity Mordean Taylor-Archer welcomed everyone and appreciation for the gift was expressed by representatives from the Libraries, the Associate Director of the Muhammad Ali Institute for Peace and Justice and the Dean of Arts and Sciences, Blaine Hudson.

The Faculty Senate Committee (FSCOL) met on April 8 to discuss new degree updates.

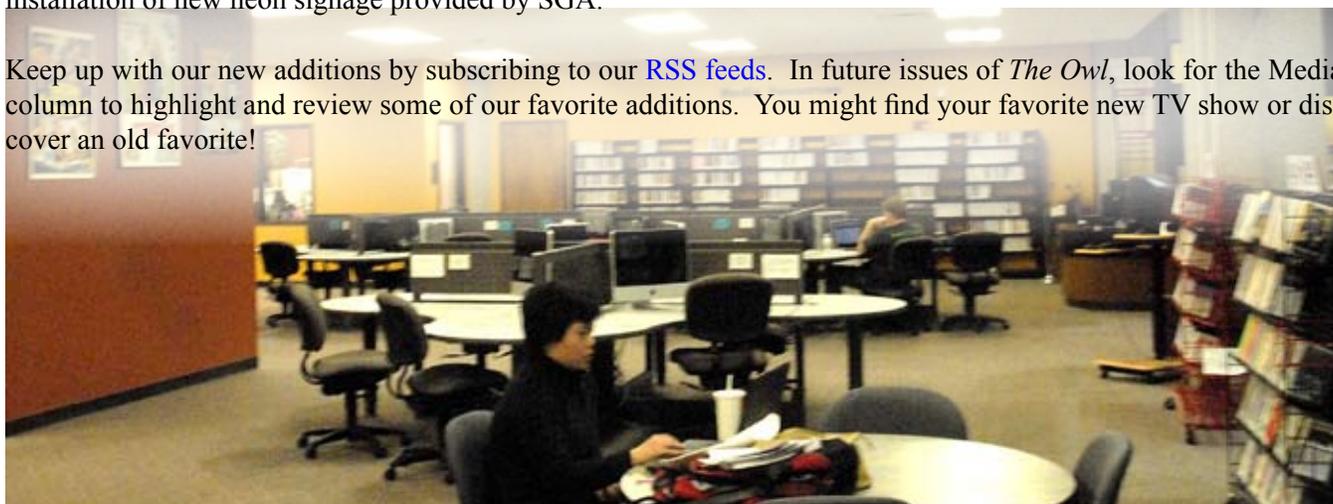
On April 13, the Libraries hosted the program "Misconceptions About Japan" in the Chao Auditorium to express appreciation for 100 books donated by the Toyota Foundation in Japan and to thank Sheri Moore, Education Professor. The featured speaker at this program was Robert L. Brown of Greenebaum, Doll and McDonald Law Firm. Mr. Brown has worked with various countries including Japan and China.

SOLINET and PALINET have now merged into LYRASIS, located in Atlanta and Philadelphia.

The Libraries began testing the OCLC WorldCat Local in April and will continue testing through May.

continued from page 2 VHS tapes were added as the result of a donation from a former co-worker and are still added in this manner. All DVD and VHS donations that fall into the categories of film, TV show, or documentary are accepted. Since the move downstairs additional shelving has been added to accommodate the constantly expanding collection; more may be necessary very soon. This collection is open to all members of the UofL community; items have a check-out period of five days. There are, at press time, 2519 DVDs and 471 videocassettes. May 1 saw the installation of new neon signage provided by SGA.

Keep up with our new additions by subscribing to our [RSS feeds](#). In future issues of *The Owl*, look for the Media column to highlight and review some of our favorite additions. You might find your favorite new TV show or discover an old favorite!



Library and Department News

Art Library

New Acquisition for the Art Library

Gail Gilbert attended the annual conference of the Art Libraries Society of North America in Indianapolis at the end of April. In addition to the usual meetings, there was a silent auction. One of the items offered was this stamp box made by Alma Lesch (1917-1999), which Gail purchased and will donate to the Art Department's collection. The box is covered inside and out with canceled U.S. four- and five-cent stamps. Kentuckian Alma Lesch was a nationally recognized textile artist, named Master Craftsman by the World Crafts Council in 1974.



Ekstrom Library

Reference

Welcome

The Reference Department would like to welcome **Rob Detmering**, who started at the beginning of April as the Teaching and Reference Librarian in the Humanities. Rob comes to us after teaching part-time in the UofL English Composition program as well as several other regional universities. He has an MLS from UK and a MA in English Literature from Ohio University. Rob is featured in the new employees column this issue. Come by and say hello to him at the Reference Desk!

Farewell

We would also like to say farewell to our Engineering grad student **Sean Craig** who will be leaving us for better paying work! We will miss him, especially since this was his second stint with us and we have become quite fond of him! Good luck, Sean! Just remember, you can always come back again!

Special Collections

The Nell Dismukes McWhorter

Edgar Rice Burroughs

Memorial Collection

By teaching her 5-year-old son George to read Burroughs, Nell Dismukes McWhorter inspired the collection that today bears her name. *The Owl* reported last year that George McWhorter established an endowment for the Burroughs Memorial collection. Now see the feature on George and the collection in the Spring 2009 issue of the *UofL Magazine*. See <http://louisville.edu/uofl/magazine/spring2009/features/lordoftarzan> for the full article by Ron Cooper.



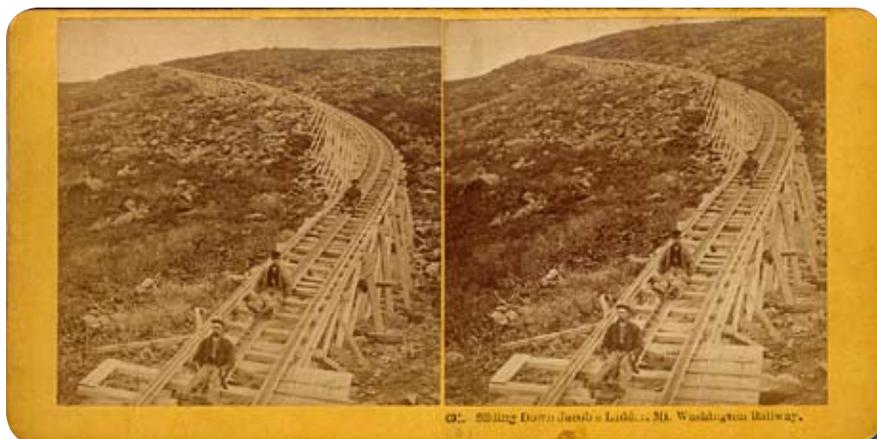
Digital Collections Update

By Rachel Howard, Digital Initiatives Librarian

While I was out this winter tending to my own new addition [*editors note: Rachel had a baby!*], no new collections were added to the Digital Collections website, but scanning, metadata, and web design work continued, and the following new additions are waiting in the wings, soon to debut at <http://digital.library.louisville.edu>:

Stereographic Views of Louisville and Beyond, 1850s–1930 — Over 700 stereographs (double photographs that appear three-dimensional when viewed through a stereoscope) from Special Collections and University Archives and Records Center, showing city views, railroads, landmarks and scenic views, events, and disasters from the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Arthur Younger Ford (1861–1926) Photograph Albums — 313 silver gelatin prints of rural Kentucky scenes captured at the turn of the 20th century and assembled by former UofL president Arthur Younger Ford for display in the Kentucky Building at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition (the 1904 World’s Fair), plus 77 images taken at the exposition.



A stereograph from the Yater Collection. The caption reads “Sliding Down Jacob’s Ladder, Mt. Washington Railway.”

[Kornhauser Health Sciences Library History Collections](#) — 36 additional medical school catalogs and two more medical school class photos will be added to the existing site.

[African American Oral History Collection](#) — five new interviews have been added to the existing site, with several more to be added soon.



View of “Grand Canal” at the 1904 World’s Fair. (Ford Albums, Special Collections)

We’ve also added a “Browse Collections by Subject” feature on the site’s [browse page](#); incorporated links to collections from the Libraries’ [Subject Guides](#); and will be upgrading to a new version of CONTENTdm software and a new server this spring—plus there are a number of other collections in various stages of production.

Researchers from all over the world continue to find and use our Digital Collections—in March 2009 alone, the site had 927,010 page views!—and we regularly hear from researchers who want to learn or share more information about items they’ve encountered on the website.

Kentucky Women's Book Festival

The U of L Women's Center and the University Libraries proudly present the Third Annual Kentucky Women's Book Festival on Saturday, May 16 from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. in the Ekstrom Library. This celebration of Kentucky women

writers and their readers will feature a host of outstanding Kentucky authors, including Fran Eilers, Bethany Griffin, and Carridder "Rita" Jones. Authors will be on hand to "meet and greet" folks and to sign books. Motes Books publisher Kate Larken will deliver the closing address.

Festival events require no registration and are free and open to all, except for the mid-day luncheon, which costs \$16. U of L's own award-winning author, Dr. Sena Jeter Naslund, will present the luncheon keynote address, "When I Write a Woman, She Has Friends." Call the Women's Center today at 852-8976 to reserve your luncheon spot!

For more information about the KWBF, including a complete schedule, visit <http://louisville.edu/womenscenter/kwbf>



Clockwise, from top left: Sena Jeter Naslund, Bethany Griffin, Kate Larken



NEW EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Name: Rob Detmering

UofL position and dept: Teaching and Reference Librarian, Ekstrom Library

Hometown: Independence, KY

Schools Attended: Masters in Library Science, University of Kentucky; Masters in Literature, Ohio University; BA in English and History, Northern Kentucky University

Significant Other: Laura Detmering

Favorite Books: anything by Don DeLillo; also, Jane Austen and Herman Melville

Favorite Music: Miles Davis, Tom Waits, and 1970s progressive rock. . .seriously

Anything else you would like to tell us about yourself: It's great to be here.



THANK YOU HAPPENINGS

- Thanks to **Terri Holtze** for doing her usual fine job at web design, including working ahead so that we have pages designed for upcoming Digital Collections before she goes on sabbatical! – *Rachel Howard*
- I'd like to thank everyone who has helped to migrate our web site into the new systems we're using. I'd especially like to thank **Nancy Utterback, Rachel Hodge, Gail Gilbert, Weiling Liu, Carrie Daniels, Barbara Whitener and Anna Marie Johnson** for their contributions to this enormous project. – *Terri Holtze*
- I would like to thank **Latisha Reynolds** for so kindly giving me her old bike after mine was stolen outside the library. – *Rachael Elrod*
- I would like to thank all of our student workers for doing such a great job this semester, their assistance is appreciated:
Brandon McKinney, Chayla Boyd, Donya Peppers, Duke Appiah, Elliott Paul, Jason Nally, Matthew Blandford, Michael Worful, Nipuni Sumanasekera, Patrick Mono, Pavan Putcha, Ryan Snyder, Sachin Gaidhane, Vicky Sotil, Nick Clark, and April Evans. – *Joan Nailon*
- I would like to thank all Libraries faculty and staff for their dedication and hard work. – *Dean Hannelore Rader*
- I would like to thank whoever nominated me for the performance award. It was a delightful surprise to be recognized (and rewarded!) at the last Info Exchange and I am very appreciative. Thanks too to the Rewards and Recognition Committee. – *Gail Gilbert*

Thank You

Bill Carner

Justy Engle

Gail Gilbert

Rachel Howard

Anna Marie Johnson

Melissa Laving

Hannelore Rader

Famie Saunders



... for contributing to this issue of The Owl!

Library Exhibits

Ekstrom Library

Lower Level Lobby

Special Collections

Photographic Archives Gallery

First Exposure

A selection of acquisitions made within the last ten years to the [Photo Archives' Fine Print](#) collection.

March 1 - May 29, 2009



Girl With Curlers, 1949

© Ida Wyman

Rare Books Kain Gallery

The Robert and Diane Miller Collection

An exhibition drawn from the collection's more than 400 volumes, including rare first editions, proof copies, and first appearances in print of modern authors and poets such as Shirley Jackson, Sarah Orne Jewett, Marianne Moore, and Richard Wilbur. Professor Emeritus of English Robert H. Miller also formed the Libraries' Graham Greene collection, and taught the art of descriptive bibliography to several generations of scholars.

February 25 – May 29, 2009

Ekstrom Browsing

Kentucky Women's Book Festival

Books by Kentucky women authors presenting in this year's festival May 16, 2009. See more information about the festival on page 6.

May 11 – 19, 2009

New Wing First Floor Display Cases

Woodblocks from John P. Morton and Company

Morton and Company was a Louisville-based book publisher. While they published books on all subjects, two specialties were titles in the health sciences and children's books. The woodblocks displayed were for the latter.



Land, River and Peoples: Louisville Before the Civil War

Rare materials from UofL's and Filson Historical Society collections.

May 29 – 30, 2009

See: <http://php.louisville.edu/news/news.php?news=1422> for conference information.

Law Library

Reading Room

Sisters in Struggle: Women in the Louisville Civil Rights Movement, 1945-1975

This exhibit showcases several Louisville women who played a vital role in the local civil rights movement. For more information, see <http://www.law.louisville.edu/node/2086>.



Music Library

First Floor

Works of Brett Dean

Winning composer of the 2009 Grawemeyer Award for Music Composition

Through May, 2009

