No artist during the last 200 years has gained more fame as a painter of witches than Arthur Rackham (1867-1939), a self-styled “Transpontine-Cockney.” As a child he used to smuggle soft lead pencils to bed with him at night so he could scribble witches and gnomes on his pillowcase, often to his mother’s dismay. Caricature was a lifelong passion for Arthur Rackham. His sense of humor was innate, and it fed his caricatures to perfection. No matter how weird or menacing his drawings became, there was always a sense of fun in their creation. Witches were Rackham’s consuming passion and his wife Edyth, a fine portrait painter in her own right, gave up her career to nurture his, knowing that public esteem was on his side. His little daughter Barbara often posed for him and, before each modeling session, he used to tell her: “Try to look like a witch.”

Rackham began his career as a police sketch artist whose on-the-spot crime scene sketches appeared in the daily newspapers. Children loved his drawings and he once told reporters that children deserved the best art during their formative years, so he always gave them the best, starting in 1896 with The Zankiwank and the Bletherwitch (see the cover illustration on the next page). By 1909 when his illustrations for Fairy Tales of the Brothers Grimm were published in London, his name had become a household word. (Thirty years later, Walt Disney invited him to America to work on his new animated film Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, but the artist was too ill to make the trip and had to decline. You can see in...
Rackham’s drawing at the right how much his art influenced the Disney movie version.)

I fell under the spell of Rackham’s magic brush nearly forty years ago, and began collecting his works before prices went into orbit. In 1972, I donated the collection to the UofL Library and have learned from latter-day biographers that it ranks among the top three collections in the world. As Hallowe’en 2004 approached, The Owl co-editor Amy Purcell remembered Rackham’s penchant for witches and asked for a brief article to justify the many illustrations in this issue. I was happy to oblige, and hope you like his style, which never seems to go out of season. His favorite medium was pen and ink sketches, which he then colored in subdued pastel shades. If you would like to see more samples of his work, stop by the Department of Rare Books on the ground floor for a tour. We have all of his books and magazines as well as eighteen signed originals.
From the Dean of Libraries . . .

The SAALCK (State-Assisted Academic Library Council of Kentucky) met on September 10. Issues under discussion were: the results of the SAALCK-LAMA (Library Administration and Management Association) Regional Institute; the forthcoming KHECC (Kentucky Higher Education Computing Conference); a proposed SAALCK-OCLC Copyright Workshop; and, updates on various database negotiations. The next SAALCK meeting is scheduled for October 8.

The IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations) World Congress took place in Buenos Aires, Argentina from August 22-27. More than 3,000 delegates from 112 countries attended this World Library and Information Congress, held for the first time during its 70 years of existence, in South America. The theme of the conference was appropriately “Libraries as tools for education and development.” Many opportunities were provided to appreciate the rich information culture of Argentina, since many of the sessions were conducted in Spanish as well as English and several programs were held only in Spanish. Alex Buren is now the President of IFLA and will be in charge of Planning the IFLA Congress in Oslo, Norway in 2005. You may remember that Alex visited the University of Louisville several years ago.

It is most noteworthy that during this particular IFLA Congress more information literacy programs took place than ever before, demonstrating that information literacy has definitely become a global concern. The IFLA Information Literacy Section sponsored several programs, including one with UNESCO on “information literacy for lifelong learning.” Other sessions dealt with “defining information literacy in the 21st century” and “International Guidelines for Information Literacy Standards.” I facilitated an all-Spanish program, “Information Literacy for Lifelong Learning,” which featured speakers from Chile, Brazil, Argentina and Norway.

Local culture and music provided wonderful entertainment, expressed especially well through the music and dance of the tango. Buenos Aires has a very European aura and offers many cultural attractions and excellent entertainment and restaurants. I also took advantage of a one-day boat trip to Uruguay, which I found equally interesting and educational.

— Hannelore Rader, Dean of University Libraries

Library Dept.
& Team News

Art Library

The Art Library is pleased to report the receipt of another endowment. Established by Lowry Watkins, Jr., the Nora I. Bullitt Memorial Book Fund will be used primarily for the purchase of materials on sculpture. This fund complements the Barbara Bullitt Christian Memorial Book Fund Mr. Watkins established last year for materials in photography.

Ekstrom Library

Circulation & Interlibrary Loan

Jami McCoy Allen will be traveling all the way to Hazard, Kentucky for the Hazard Family Reunion on the weekend of October 9. We wish her the best as she reunites with long-lost family members.

Mike Smith’s wife, Kristy, turns 25 on October 27. Their cats, London and Governor Gray Davis, turn two on Halloween! Happy Birthday to them and everyone else celebrating birthdays this month!

Collection Development

The Collection Development Office is extremely pleased to welcome Vivian Harrison, the new Administrative Assistant in the position vacated by Jodi Duce. Vivian formerly worked as a serials cataloger in Collection Accessment and Management.

Bob Roehm attended the 62nd World Science Fiction Convention in Boston over Labor Day weekend. Among the dozens of authors participating were Terry Pratchett, Neil Gaiman, Larry Niven, and Brian Aldiss. Bob spent most of his time (and money) in the dealer’s room looking at books, but also took time to tour Boston and take in a couple nice restaurants (particularly a good Italian dinner at a North End spot).

Office of the Dean

Congratulations!

Effective September 20, 2004, Leon Leydershnyder, Library Technology Student Assistant, accepted the full-time position of Technology Specialist. Leon’s responsibilities include PC and server support as well as application development. Leon will report to Weiling Liu and Mark Paul.

Marketing Team Disbanded

Jessie Roth has taken over part of the duties of the Marketing Team. If you have news or announcements for UofL Today, student news on ULink, Inside UofL, the University of Louisville calendar events, or any other medium, send them to Jessie via email with the following information:

Announcement title (all caps):
Description:
Time, if applicable:
Date, if applicable:
Contact person:
Contact person’s phone and email:
Reference

Interns

Reference is happy to have two interns working with us this semester. Luke Stiffler is a Library Information Science student at UK and is doing field experience under the supervision of Sarah Jent and Claudene Sproles. He’s getting some desk experience and learning about government publications and maps. Lisa Stapleton is a Liberal Studies student here at UofL.

In an arrangement made through Dean Rader, Lisa is receiving three hours class credit for 12 hours work per week in the library learning and doing some basic tasks. She works half her time in Rare Books. In Reference she has been attending InfoLit classes, having tutoring sessions with various librarians on reference resources, and observing at the desk. In October we hope to put her to work on some special projects.

We enjoy this opportunity to give these young students a taste of the real library world, and they provide us with a dose of enthusiasm and fresh outlook!

Special Collections

Great Assistance!

Special Collections has been very lucky this year in recruiting work-study students to work for us. Compared to last year, we have roughly tripled our work-study allotment potential! We are also very fortunate to have such a wonderful group of young men and women working for us.

Returning students Cheryl Caskey, Courtney Hughes and Joseph Dane are being joined by our new hires Christy Dupin, Shawn Firchau, Khamphou Khaykeo, Felicia Patty, Kelly Southworth and, after several years away from Photographic Archives, Roea Wallace. These students come from a diverse background of majors and experiences, ranging from the military to computer engineering.

We have also been honored with the services of a student volunteer, Anna Krippenstapel, who, after visiting Special Collections during an Honors orientation, came back with a desire to work with the collections and assist the staff with their maintenance and preservation. Another welcome addition, Lisa Stapleton, is also spending time in Special Collections during her internship here at Ekstrom. She has been working primarily in Rare Books with Delinda Buie on the Writing Center Research Project exhibit, mounted in conjunction with the Thomas R. Watson Conference on Rhetoric and Composition “Writing at the Center.” For more information about the conference, see http://www.louisville.edu/a-s/english/watson.

Student workers in Special Collections are assisting the staff with every aspect of our duties. Some standard tasks include working in the darkroom, digitizing images, helping construct exhibits, and helping to organize our collections. One major task students are currently working on is the compilation of a database for the 80,000 images of the Standard Oil of New Jersey collection. This collection, a true jewel in the Photographic Archives crown, is a national treasure. The project’s aim was to document the benefits of oil on everyday life in the United States with photos dated from 1943-1951. The completion of this database would be a great benefit to researchers nationwide. Without the aid of student workers, it is unlikely we would be able to complete such a large project with our current staffing levels.

We wish to welcome our returning and new students and give them our thanks and appreciation. Without their able efforts, we simply would be unable to function with any degree of efficiency!

Law Library

A Tuscan Wedding Adventure

In early September, Robin Harris and new husband Ron Flowers traveled to the small town of Bigallo in Tuscany for the September 9th wedding of Jennifer Carrico, long-time student worker at the Law Library. (Some readers of The Owl may remember Jennifer from her days as a student worker at Ekstrom Library.) Jennifer, who lives in Palo Alto, California, married Chris Kelly, a lawyer and software developer. It was a lovely wedding, in a 13th-century hillside monastery, with 35 American wedding guests in attendance.

Before going to Tuscany, Robin and Ron visited Rome for three days, where they feasted on wonderful Italian food, toured the Roman ruins, climbed the Spanish Steps, tossed three coins into the Trevi Fountain, marveled at the Pantheon and the Coliseum, and (of course) spent a day at the Vatican. Other highlights included a day trip to Perugia and Assisi, and a three-day stay in Florence. Currently, Robin and Ron are busy looking for another good reason to visit Italy.

And speaking of former Ekstrom student assistants... The Law Library is very fortunate to have two former Ekstrom Library student assistants working with us this fall. Michael Schoen, a third-year evening law student, worked in Circulation several years ago and is now working in Technical Services. Olga Zhuravliova, a second-year day law student who worked in Serials Cataloging while she earned her B.A. in Political Science, now works for Jodi Duce, our Unit Business Manager. The Law Library is benefiting daily from the excellent library skills that both Michael and Olga bring to their work.

No More Print Copies of The Owl for Libraries’ Employees . . .

Beginning with the February 2005 issue, The Owl will be distributed only as an online PDF publication to University Libraries’ employees. The website is: http://owl.library.louisville.edu (The Owl has been available online since November 1997.)
Louisville Mandolin Orchestra on WUOL

The Louisville Mandolin Orchestra (http://lmo.org) will perform live in the Public Radio Partnership Performance Studio on Wednesday, October 13 at noon in the Lunchtime Classics program on WUOL 90.5FM. The concert (which is free and open to the public) will feature selections from Ottorino Respighi, Heitor Villa-Lobos, and two Mozart operas: Don Giovanni and Cosi fan Tutte. This is the second time the LMO has performed on Lunchtime Classics. The December 27, 2003 LMO concert and more information about the series are available on the WUOL Audio Archive at http://wuol.org.

Music Library

Her recent audition earned Music Library student assistant Marlene Ballena the principal cellist chair in the University Symphony Orchestra. She is taking the place of Whitney Allen, a former student assistant, who has gone on to graduate studies at DePaul University in Chicago.

Look for Music Library student assistant Cecil Edford on the small screen. She is one of four gals vying for the attention of a young bachelor on one of those new-fangled, cut-throat, hook-up shows called Elimidate. The show will be recorded at Huber Farms in Southern Indiana. We’ll let you know when it will be aired and on what channel.

UARC

SAA at UofL

Chad Owen, as a member of the Administrative Board of the Kentucky Council on Archives, has been the local point person for the planning of a two-day workshop presented by the Society of American Archivists (SAA) and the fall meeting of the Kentucky Council on Archives (KCA). This is much more work that one might think and Chad has done a great job representing the University Archives in this process.

On Wednesday, September 29 and Thursday, September 30, UofL hosted the SAA workshop “Understanding Archives: An Introduction to Principles and Practices.” The workshop met from 9am-5pm at Founder’s Union on the Shelby Campus, and was made possible by NHPRC (National Historical Publications and Records Commission) grants administered by the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives and the State Historical Records Advisory Board.

KCA on Shelby Campus

On Friday, October 1, the Kentucky Council on Archives (KCA) held a joint meeting with the Society of Indiana Archivists. The theme of this meeting, also held at the Founder’s Union on the Shelby Campus, was “Public History in the 21st Century.” The featured speakers were Connie Rendfeld, Associate Director of Local History Services for the Indiana Historical Society; Lisa Carter, Audio/Visual Archivist for the University of Kentucky; Owen Glendening, President and CEO of the Minnetrista Cultural Center, and Chris Goodlett, Curator of Collections at the Kentucky Derby Museum.

Thank You

Alice Abbott-Moore
Gwendline Chenault
Carolyn Gettler
Gail Gilbert
Anna Marie Johnson
Kathie Johnson
James Manasco
George McWhorter
Hannelore Rader
Mike Smith

Art Library
Belknap, Covi, Gallery X Galleries
BFA Exhibits: Angela Connelly, Kathleen Draus Browning, Anne Michele Kelly, Nancy O’Neil, Lauren Morris, Shih-Yu Peng, Kenneth Andreozzi, Emily Wrinkles, Meghan Wnorowski
Artist’s Reception: October 14, 5:00-7:00 pm
October 14 – November 14, 2004

Ekstrom Library
Lobby
Saving the Best: Architectural Preservation at UofL
September 17 – November 2004

Special Collections
Photographic Archives Gallery
Joseph and Joseph Architects: An Exhibition of Architectural Photographs
August 30 – October 15, 2004

Rare Books Gallery
Writing Center Archives & HVIS CLOS: an installation of 33 prints and an artist’s book by Terry Taylor and C.J. Pressma
Gallery Talk October 7, 2:00-3:00pm and 5:00-7:00pm
October 1 – November 14, 2004

Music Library
First Floor
Selected Accomplishments of School of Music Faculty
July 1 – October 31, 2004
“I would like to thank Bettie Lewis and Katrina Butcher for closing when we recently had sickness in the department. They really alleviated the stress of the situation by putting their personal plans aside and making arrangements to close on short notice. Thanks!”

—Jami M. Allen, Circulation Department, Ekstrom Library

“I’d like to do an unsigned “dare to say thank you” to Angela Elliott for her hard work on the Kornhauser Library display on the history of the library—she did a great job!”

—Anonymous

“Many thanks to Karen Little, Julia Graepel, Carolyn Gettler, Mark Dickson, and Don Dean for taking on all of my responsibilities while I was at home with my new little one. While I wasn’t quite ready to return to work, it was nice to know that I wasn’t coming back to complete chaos. I know it was probably stressful at times so I just wanted you all to know that I really did appreciate it. Thanks again for everything you did!”

—Rachel Hodge, Music Library

“I would like to thank John Burton who once again recently helped with a very quirky label printer machine spacing problem by cleaning the machine and got a second printer hooked up to use as backup. John can always be relied upon to come up with a solution, and pleasantly.”

—Ben King, Shelf Prep, Collection Access & Management, Ekstrom Library

“I want to send a giant-sized thank you to all the people who actively assisted me in one way or another with administering the ETS information literacy test. The group includes Latisha Reynolds, Anna Marie Johnson, Weiling Liu, Calvin Miracle, Jami Allen, Margo Smith, Martha Parry, David Horvath, Rebecca Rumbley, Trish Blair and Claudene Sproles. This project truly would not have been possible without their help and I am very grateful.”

—Melissa Laning, Assessment Team Leader

“I want to thank Fannie Cox, Angel Clemons and Mark Paul for their tremendous work on the Business Liaison Team during 2004. They are not only co-teaching, but co-writing and attending meetings together. They traveled to Chicago in April to make a presentation to EDUCAUSE! It’s a pleasure to work with you—thanks for all you do!”

—Glenda Neely, Reference Department, Ekstrom Library

“Working in an archive can be pretty chaotic. There is a lot that can distract you. That’s why it is so great to have James Manasco’s organized input! He has made many multifaceted tasks run smoothly and efficiently. And he has a calming affect on the whole department. Thanks, James! We needed that!”

—Amy Purcell, Special Collections, Ekstrom Library

“I do have someone to thank. She tirelessly reminds everyone that good deeds of any size have merit and need to see the light of day. She continually tries to call us to recognize the best in everyone, even when we fail to see it in ourselves. People don’t have to be perfect to be nominated, just appreciated. Thank you, Alice Abbott-Moore, for being relentless. I believe Augustine when talking about his rebellious ways before encountering God described your quality so well, saying ‘grace was like a hound from heaven always knapping at his heels.’”

—Steve Whiteside, Periodicals/Binding, Kersey Library

“I would like to thank Angel Clemons, Cathy Hoover, Marette Irwin, and Anna Marie Johnson for their volunteering to help with the KLA Book Sale either by donating a door prize, donating books, or by working the sale. I would not be able to pursue such tasks without the efforts and support from people such as you!

“And to Ms. Vicki Niehaus, for her spectacular partnership during the preparation and co-presentation of our KLA mini-session: “Clean It Up! Organizing and Preventing Chaos.” Vicki is a delight and joy to work with!”

—Alice Abbott-Moore, Collection Access & Management, Ekstrom Library

“We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to Sheila Birkla and Mioshi Cobble for coming to our aid when our laptop failed to work 35 minutes before our mini-session presentation for the KLA/KSMA Fall Conference. If it wasn’t for their quick thinking and even more speedy responsiveness, we would have been up a creek without a paddle! The libraries are very, very, very lucky to have such two such persons on our staff.”

—Vicki Niehaus and Alice Abbott-Moore

Thank you to Pat Waters and Adam Lawrence for flawlessly holding up the fort as Kersey Library faced a series of personal tragedies and challenges during September. Their efforts and dedication to our users should be commended.

—Catherine Lavallée-Welch, Kersey Library

Read The Owl on the Web at http://owl.library.louisville.edu

Note: The web sites cited in this issue are active at the time of publication but may not be available later.