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ELIZABETH A. EHRNST APPOINTED VISUAL RESOURCES CURATOR



Elizabeth A. Ehrnst joined the RWU Library in September as our new Visual Resources Curator. Elizabeth is a native of Petoskey, Michigan, and holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in photography from Northern Michigan University, in Marquette. After completing her undergraduate studies,

Elizabeth moved to Albuquerque, New Mexico to become the Conservatory Manager at the National Conservatory of Flamenco Arts. Her success in the position was recognized by others and Elizabeth was subsequently selected as the Research Center Coordinator for the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum Research Center. Among her many duties in this position, she oversaw the annual fellowship program and was responsible for the fiscal management of the Center. Returning to academia, Elizabeth moved from Albuquerque

to Bloomington, Indiana to study library science at Indiana University. There she earned a Master of Library Science with a specialization in fine arts librarianship. During her time at IU, Elizabeth worked in the Fine Arts Slide Library, progressing in responsibility from Cataloging Assistant to Image Metadata Specialist. While there, she had the opportunity to work with, and learn from, Eileen Fry and B.J. Irvine, two of the preeminent names in academic visual resources and art librarianship.

We are very fortunate to have Elizabeth with us at RWU as Curator of the Visual Resources Center. The Center, located in the Architecture Library, has a collection of approximately 80,000 slides, and under Elizabeth's leadership, a continually growing collection of digital images in support of teaching and scholarship. If you have the chance, please stop by to say hi to Elizabeth, and learn more about visual resources at RWU from an expert.

Personnel Notes

Tim Spindler, *User Services/Information Systems Librarian*, has earned his MBA with a concentration in CIS from Bryant University. Please join us in offering our congratulations to Tim.

Jessica Dziedzic has joined the library as a *Technical Service Assistant*. Jessica's past experience as customer service representative at Seekonk Public Library, as well as her experience as a teacher, will be a great asset to the library. Jessica holds a degree in Education/Organizational Communications from Northeastern University. Please join us in welcoming Jessica to the staff.

Congratulations to **Claudia DeAlmeida** who has been appointed *Circulation Coordinator* of the Architecture Library. Many of you know Claudia from her fine work as *Senior Copy Cataloger* in the Main Library. Her pleasant attitude and helpful manner will guarantee the continued fine service of the Architecture Library.

Beverly Dupre has been tapped to fill the *Senior Copy Cataloger* position in the Main Library. Her previous work as *Technical Service Assistant*, *ILL Assistant* and *Circulation Supervisor* were well appreciated. We look forward to the many talents that Beverly will bring to this position.

Brenda Boal is a new *Weekend Circulation Supervisor* who started in September. She also works as a program manager in career education at Johnson & Wales University.

Gary O'Shea is filling a new position as a *Late Night Circulation Supervisor* for the library from 10 p.m. – 2 a.m. Sunday through Thursday. He comes to the library with an MA in Library Science from the University of Missouri at Columbia and an undergraduate degree in business information systems from UMASS-Dartmouth.

Co-Editors: John Fobert, *Serials/Government Documents Librarian* • Veronica Maher, *Media Services Librarian*



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ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES WINTER 2008 ISSUE TEN CONNECTIONS

From the Dean's desk...

Changes and Opportunities

During the Summer of 2007 the library staff and its IT partners accomplished a remarkable transformation of its reference and public service environments on the University Library's first floor. This transformation was the first and significant step toward a total reconfiguration of space for both library operations and services. While remaining a vital information service center for the University undergraduates and graduate students, the transformation and its anticipated future steps target faculty research and teaching support, as well. Thanks to the generosity of The Champlin Foundations, a new Instructional Technology Development Center welcomes faculty to transform their curricular materials using the latest innovative hardware and software applications.

And although the past summer provided opportunities to align the traditional roles and functions of the University Library with the future, we also continue to build the Library's annual public

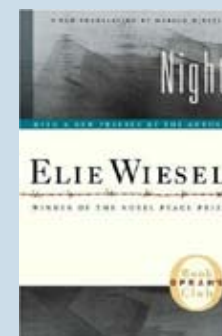
program and exhibit initiatives. The University Archives, staffed and energized during the University's 50th anniversary celebrations, has provided historical resources for welcoming new and returning students to the institution's traditions and legacies. Fall 2007 displays also: introduced an annual tradition of faculty and student reading interests, highlights from the Center for Global and International Programs, the 2007 Common Reading by Ishmael Beah, *A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier* and, thanks to artist Johanna McKenzie, the 02863 Boot Project, designed by the Art League of Rhode Island, which received a grant from the Timberland Company (to demonstrate that graffiti can be applied to surfaces other than private or public property).

From traditions to new expressions, the University Library has become even more a destination of choice for its many users.

Peter Deekle, *Dean of University Library Services*

BIRSS MEMORIAL LIBRARY EXHIBITION TO CELEBRATE THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF "NIGHT" BY ELIE WIESEL

By Christine S. Fagan, *Collection Development/Acquisitions Librarian*



The eighth annual Professor John Howard Birss, Jr. Memorial Library Exhibition will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the publication of *Night* by Elie Wiesel. This exhibition will take place in the library foyer from February 1 through March 15, 2008 and will include items on loan from the Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial Museum in Providence. In 2006 *Night* was published in a new translation by Wiesel's wife, Marion.

This new edition was listed on the *New York Times* Bestseller List for eighty consecutive weeks.

It is my hope that you will visit the University Library to view this exhibition which focuses on both Wiesel as a writer and the

Holocaust. It is perhaps the most difficult exhibition that I have produced as part of the Birss Memorial series, but it may be the most significant in terms of the message that it brings. Elie Wiesel was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his tireless efforts to ensure that the truth of the Holocaust would not be forgotten and for his advocacy for good over evil throughout the world. It is my hope that in a small way the efforts of Roger Williams University in celebrating the book, *Night*, will contribute to Wiesel's mission.

This exhibition is produced in conjunction with the Professor John Howard Birss, Jr. Memorial Lecture



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“NIGHT” BY ELIE WIESEL cont.

which will take place on February 27, 2008. The speaker will be Dr. James E. Young, Professor of English and Judaic Studies at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. Dr. Young is a nationally recognized scholar in Holocaust studies and is the author of three books and numerous articles on the topic. His books include *Writing and Rewriting the Holocaust* (1988); *The Texture of Memory* (1993), winner of the National Jewish Book Award; and *At Memory's Edge: After-Images of the Holocaust in Contemporary Art and Architecture* (2000).

INTEGRATING LIBRARY SERVICES INTO BLACKBOARD

By Susan McMullen, *Information Services Librarian*

Ready access to research assistance has never been easier. Faculty teaching research intensive courses may wish to partner with a librarian to embed a library research module into their Blackboard courses. Librarians can customize resources to address the requirements of your assignments and be available via the Blackboard communication tools to respond to student

More E-journals Added to Library Collection

By John Fobert, *Serials/Government Documents Librarian*

The library is pleased to announce the purchase of two electronic collections which will increase our number of electronic journals by 1242. Blackwell Synergy offers over 750 titles covering disciplines such as Business, Engineering, Humanities, Criminology, Life and Physical Science, Mathematics, Social and Behavioral Sciences, the Arts, Veterinary Medicine and Aquaculture.

The other database is SAGE Premier. SAGE Premier provides

Other related events include a preliminary lecture to be delivered by Professor Stein, a book discussion sponsored jointly by the Honors Program and the RWU Library; and the Birss Competition sponsored by the Feinstein College of Arts and Sciences. In addition, Professor Stein and Professor Tackach are teaching a one-credit course on Wiesel and his trilogy of books including *Night*, *Dawn* and *Day* (originally issued as *The Accident*). This course will be offered again in the spring semester. Should you have any questions regarding the library exhibition, please contact Christine Fagan, exhibition coordinator, at x3029 or cfagan@rwu.edu.

requests for research help. By embedding a librarian into your Blackboard course site, students will have ready access to all the resources they need to be successful in your course and will enjoy having a personal library contact to help them with their research needs. Library Research Modules provide students with practical information, such as how to activate their library barcode or cite sources, and with direct links to the databases and online journals that you prefer students use when conducting research for your class. Electronic course reserves can also be made accessible from within your Blackboard course. To help you post your e-reserves, the Access Services staff can scan photocopies of your reserve materials. If you have an embedded course librarian, he or she will post them in Blackboard for you. If not, we can assist you in uploading these scanned reserves into your Blackboard course. For scanning purposes, we will need an 8.5x11 single sided photocopy. Faculty members wishing to have an embedded research module within Blackboard should contact a member of our Library Instruction Team -- Barbara Kenney, Susan McMullen, Veronica Maher, Tim Spindler, or John Schlinke.

access to 460 SAGE journal titles in the social sciences, humanities, medicine, engineering, and physical and life sciences, with back files to 1999. Those familiar with our SAGE Criminology collection will understand the value of this expanded collection. All the titles from these databases have been added to our library catalog so they can be searched by title or subject and are accessible both on and off campus. If you have any questions, contact John Fobert at x3374 or see a reference librarian.

ELIZABETH PECK LEARNED AWARDED ANNAMAE AND ALLAN R. CRITE PRIZE



Elizabeth Peck Learned, Associate Dean of University Library Services, was the first recipient of the Annamae and Allan R. Crite Prize from Harvard University. The award was established by the Harvard Extension School and the Harvard Extension Alumni

Association in Honor of Annamae Crite, who for more than a half-century faithfully attended Extension courses, and her son, Allan R. Crite, A.B. in Extension Studies '68, who is widely recognized as the dean of African-American artists in the Greater Boston area.

The prize is awarded to Extension School degree recipients who demonstrate “singular dedication to learning and the arts” in this case Betsy, A.L.M. concentrator in history of art and architecture. Her thesis, titled “Ernest Fenollosa’s ‘Final Asian Man’ and the Growth of Nihonga in Meiji

Japan,” explores the development and consequences to Japanese art of Fenollosa’s aesthetic philosophy, derived from his early studies of Hegel and Spencer and grounded in the belief that an artist could employ the best of both Eastern and Western artistic techniques toward the creation of an ideal, “syncretic” art. Learned’s thesis director, Yukio Lippit, assistant professor of history of art and architecture at Harvard, praised the study as “a truly original interpretation of Fenollosa’s evolving mindset during the 1880s and ’90s. ... Learned is able to provide a much more nuanced and textured exposition of his intellectual breadth than previous scholars have. The thesis is so impressive that its author has been invited to join — and hopefully play a central role in — a special study group at Harvard on Fenollosa that aims eventually to exhibit and publish his manuscripts at the Houghton.” Betsy holds a B.A. in English and an M.A. in library science from Indiana University.

SUSAN MCMULLEN INVITED TO SPEAK AT SPANISH LIBRARY ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE.



Just as the Learning Commons model is being adopted by university libraries across the United States, Spanish academic libraries are also beginning to embrace this new paradigm for service and integrated technology spaces. In Spain, the Information or Learning Commons is known as CRAI (Centers of Resources for Learning and Investigation). In order to help build support for this new model and inform Spanish librarians about the operations, services and cross-training needed to support the commons, the Spanish Library Association, in partnership with the U.S. Embassy in Spain, invited Susan McMullen to present at their professional conference entitled “Professionals

for CRAI: Are we ready for change.” They had learned about Susan’s work on the Learning Commons through her published sabbatical research located at <http://faculty.rwu.edu/smcullen>. While in Spain, Susan also lectured library school students at Universidad Carlos III de Madrid and was interviewed for the Spanish library journal, *CLIP*. Additionally, Susan was interviewed by *El Mundo*, the Spanish daily newspaper. The article/interview that appeared in the Campus edition of *El Mundo* on November 28, 2007 provided an overview of “CRAI” and how it impacts students and learning in Spanish universities.

