Library Receives National Award for Excellence

The Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) has selected the Oberlin College Library to receive its 2002 Excellence in Academic Libraries Award in the college library category. The ACRL award program recognizes academic libraries that provide exemplary services and resources to their users. Awards are made to a university, college, and community college library each year.

“Receiving an Excellence in Academic Libraries Award is a national tribute to a library and its staff for the outstanding services, programs, and leadership they provide to their students, faculty, and community,” according to Mary Ellen Davis, ACRL Executive Director.

Oberlin was selected for the award in recognition of the Library’s long tradition of excellence in its campus programs and its national and regional leadership in the library profession.

“The Oberlin College Library has clearly demonstrated leadership in developing exemplary programs that other libraries can emulate,” said Larry Hardesty, chair of the award selection committee.

Among the points highlighted in the Library’s application for the award and cited by the selection committee were the service orientation of the staff, the Library’s recognition of excellence and service among student workers, various programs to recruit students to the library profession, leadership in the Five Colleges of Ohio information literacy grant, collection development and preservation programs, outreach to alumni librarians, resource sharing, the support of the Friends of the Oberlin College Library, and the Library’s diversity program.

“It’s a great honor for us to receive the ACRL Excellence Award,” said Ray English, Director of Libraries. “We’re absolutely delighted by the selection. The award is a testament to the superb dedication, professionalism, and service orientation of our entire staff. I greatly appreciate the opportunity that the award provides to celebrate the staff’s many accomplishments.”

continued on page 2
Friends Award Honorary and Life Memberships

The Friends of the Library awarded one honorary and two life memberships at their annual dinner on Saturday, November 10, 2001. According to the Friends bylaws, life memberships are granted to those who have made generous contributions to the Library or the Friends of the Library, while honorary memberships go to those who have made outstanding contributions.

Mimi Halpern ’60 received an honorary membership. She served as a member of the Library Visiting Committee in the early 1990s and was also a very generous donor to the Library’s capital fund efforts. In recognition of her support she was awarded a life membership in the Friends in 1994. In recent years, she has made exceptionally generous gifts to support the Library's highest priority needs.

A life membership was awarded to Robert Campbell ’34. Mr. Campbell has made generous gifts for rare book conservation and for the Library’s special collections. He has recently pledged to make an estate gift to the Library of his valuable collection of rare books, maps, and prints. The collection includes materials on the history of England, particularly the history of London, as well as materials relevant to American history, travel and discovery, and art and art history.

Hugh and Gretta Pallister ’41 also received life memberships. The Pallisters have made major gifts to the Art Library special book fund to support the purchase of books on architectural history. They have also designated the Art Library as a beneficiary of a charitable remainder trust.

Library Receives National Award for Excellence continued from page 1

Mary Reichel, President of ACRL, will present the award to the Library staff at a luncheon on campus on May 1. The Award, which is sponsored by Blackwell’s Book Services, includes $3000 and a citation.

Other ACRL Excellence Award winners for 2002 were the Cornell University Library and the Anne Arundel Community College Library in the university and community college categories respectively.
Sociology Student Receives First Research Award

Oberlin College senior Elizabeth Weinstein received the first annual Friends of the Library Excellence in Research Award at the Friends' reception and dinner on November 10. The research award recognizes outstanding research projects conducted in the freshman, sophomore, or junior year.

Ms. Weinstein was nominated for the award by Sociology Instructor Antoinette Charfauros McDaniel for her paper “Deconstructing Autism: A Sociological Perspective on a Puzzling Disorder,” which she wrote for Sociology 121.

Ms. McDaniel noted that, in researching the paper, Ms. Weinstein was “both deliberate and systematic in her utilization of secondary resources, providing a historical account of the syndrome and subsequently drawing upon the personal reflections of a woman who has lived with and written extensively about autism for a number of years.” McDaniel further notes that “the result is a sensitively and masterfully written paper which was among the top papers I have read at the College to date.”

In reviewing the nominations for this award, members of the awards committee considered the range of resources used, thoroughness, creativity, accuracy, and attention to detail.

Nominations from faculty are currently being sought for this year’s Excellence in Research Award. The nomination form is available at http://www.oberlin.edu/~library/friends/ResearchNominationForm.pdf.

Medieval Manuscript Donated

Ogden Hannaford and other heirs of Foster Hannaford (1888-1981) of Winnetka, Illinois have given to the Oberlin College Library a complete medieval manuscript in original bindings.

The fifteenth century manuscript book is a missal of German origin that contains a full set of liturgical calendars and extensive hand coloring.

According to Erik Inglis, Assistant Professor of Art History, the “Hannaford missal is a wonderful addition to Oberlin’s collections. A well-written manuscript with nicely illuminated letters, the missal represents the high level of craft put into working manuscripts, which would have been used on a daily basis. The missal will be very useful to students studying the transition from manuscripts to printed books.”

Recent Gifts

Mimi Halpern ’60 and the Jade Tree Foundation have made major gifts to the Library. Robert Rotberg ’55 has continued to make major gifts to the endowed book fund that he established jointly with his daughter Fiona Rotberg ’90.

Richard and Geraldine Meyer ’45 have established a major gift annuity for the Library.

Robert Campbell ’34 has donated two rare items to the Library’s Special Collections, An Historical Account of All the Voyages Round the World, Performed by the English Navigators (London F. Newbery, 1773-74) and A New Map of that Portion of North America Exhibiting the United States and Territories, the Canadas, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Mexico, also Central America and the West India Islands (Baltimore, J. P. Monk, 1833).

The Cinema Studies Program has donated 161 videos to the Audiovisual Department’s film collection.

George Kalbouss and Christina Kalbouss McGarvey ’87 have given a collection of materials on Russian literary scholarship.

Randa A. Kayyali ’93 has donated materials published by the Association of Arab-American University Graduates.

Barbara Bloom Kreml ’54 has given the Library a first edition of the Memoirs of General William T. Sherman.

Mrs. Vern W. Reeder of Iowa City, Iowa has donated several hundred musical scores to the Conservatory Library.

Carl Scovel ’53 has given a collection of books related to the German resistance to Nazism.

James Bobick, father of Michael S. Bobick ’02, has donated a number of volumes related to science and technology, including several current reference books.

Janet Knapp Byles ’44 has given a variety of materials related to musicology.

Eugene Beer ’73 has donated to the Science Library a substantial number of journal issues related to semiconductors.

Ann Bitner of Grafton, Ohio has donated a collection of books on English and American literature from the estate of her husband, Edward Bitner.

Janice Zinser, Professor of French, Presents Research Award to Elizabeth Weinstein as Antoinette Charfauros McDaniel Looks On
Friends of the Library Acquisitions

The Friends of the Library Council, at its meeting on November 10, 2001, authorized the expenditure of approximately $28,000 of Friends' funds to enhance the Library's collections in the following areas:

Curricular Support for Photography and Architectural History
Friends funds will be earmarked to support the increasingly important photography collection in the Art Library.

Architecture in Detail series, published by Phaidon Press. Each volume in this series focuses on a single celebrated building and includes text by a respected author, sequence of color and black-and-white photographs, a set of technical drawings, and working details. The Friends' contribution will allow the Art Library to complete its holdings in this important series which was launched in 1991.

Recent Reference Works on the Middle East

Special Collections Materials
Icones Librorum Artifices includes twenty-four etched color portraits of the most important printers, binders and illustrators in the history of the book and it represents a culmination of Leonard Baskin’s lifetime devotion to the book arts and private printing. Baskin was an internationally acclaimed sculptor and graphic artist as well as proprietor of Gehenna Press, one of the most important private presses of the 20th century.

Get Me the President. John Carrera. Quercus Press, 1999. This artist’s book, created by an Oberlin graduate, is 1 of 12 copies bound in leather with 24-carat gold trim, encased in a 19th-century safety deposit box. With pages made from U.S. currency (a total of $300 in denominations ranging from $10 to $100), this book is “the story of the men of the money, a celebration of the art of money.”

Friends of the Oberlin College Library
Spring 2002 Programs

Wednesday, February 20, 4:00 p.m., Moffett Auditorium

Sunday, April 7, 3:00 p.m., Oberlin Public Library
Novelist Denise Chavez will speak and read from her work Program co-sponsored with the Oberlin Public Library

Saturday, May 25, 3:00 p.m., King 106
Friends Commencement Weekend Program
Speaker: Daniel Goulding, Emeritus Professor of Theater & Dance
“Belgrade Follies: Surviving the Milosevic Legacy”
Reception follows in the King-Rice Courtyard
Scientists Share Information Literacy Experiences

Thirty science faculty and fifteen librarians from the Five Colleges of Ohio gathered at Ohio Wesleyan University on January 9 for a workshop on information literacy and the sciences. The workshop was sponsored through the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation grant to the Five Colleges, Integrating Information Literacy into the Liberal Arts Curriculum.

The workshop included a panel of three faculty-librarian teams who made presentations about their collaborative Mellon grant projects to incorporate information literacy into chemistry, psychology, and geography courses. The workshop also included a cross-disciplinary search exercise in which faculty researched questions on topics outside of their areas of expertise, as well as concurrent sessions on geographical information systems, SciFinder Scholar (a database enabling highly sophisticated research in a number of scientific disciplines), and on the ”pitfalls and gems” of conducting science research on the Web.

Faculty attending the workshop noted that they found it to be very useful and they appreciated the opportunity to discuss information literacy issues with their Five Colleges colleagues.

Oberlin science faculty who are interested in potential Mellon grant projects should contact Alison Ricker or Jessica Grim.

Alison Ricker Receives Distinguished Service Award

Science Librarian Alison Ricker has received the Jay Ladd Distinguished Service Award from the Academic Library Association of Ohio (ALAO). The Award, which was presented at the 2001 ALAO Conference in November, recognized Alison’s extensive record of leadership and service in furthering ALAO’s mission.

In addition to serving as vice president/president-elect, president, and past-president, Alison has been a long-standing member of the ALAO board of directors and she has chaired ALAO’s public relations, awards, communications review, and nominating committees. She has also served on three annual conference program committees, the budget and planning committee, and the research and publications committee. She has been co-editor of the ALAO Newsletter since 1997.

Friends of the Library Acquisitions continued from page 4

Major Reference Works

Dictionary of Spanish and Latin-American Music. Spanish Society of Composers and Authors, 2000-. 10 vols. This eagerly anticipated resource is the work of a distinguished team of more than 800 experts, and it embraces all aspects of Hispanic musical culture—composers, performers, libretto writers, musical forms, music theory and terminology, festivals, instruments, dance, choreographers, archives, libraries, and more.

The McGraw-Hill Encyclopedia of Science and Technology. 9th ed. McGraw-Hill, 2002. 20 vols. This work is the standard reference encyclopedia in the sciences. For more than a third of a century, the McGraw-Hill Encyclopedia of Science & Technology has remained one of the most consulted, most respected, and best-reviewed science and technical references in the English language.

New Catholic Encyclopedia. 2nd ed. Gale, 2002. 15 vols. Prepared by an editorial staff at the Catholic University of America, this is the second edition of the standard reference work on all aspects of the Roman Catholic Church—it’s teaching, history, organization, activities, and important personalities.

Primary Source Materials

The First World War, a Documentary Record. Series One, European War, 1914-1919, the War Reserve Collection from Cambridge University Library. Part 2: Trench Journals, Personal Narratives, and Reminiscences. 20 reels of microfilm. This rich documentary collection of correspondence, diaries, and journals written in the trenches constitutes a valuable body of primary source material to support study of the “war to end all wars.”

continued on page 6
Join Us. Be A Friend.

The Friends of the Oberlin College Library provide significant support for special acquisitions and programs that help the Library fulfill its fundamental role in the academic life of the College.

Members receive the Library Perspectives newsletter, invitations to Friends programs, and other privileges. Most of all, Friends have the satisfaction of supporting Oberlin’s outstanding Library.

**Annual Membership Categories**

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**Films & Videorecordings**

Sichuan Soundscape and Sichuan Shaman (2001). These documentary films, produced by Professor Emma Zevik (Harvard Center for East Asian Research) during her 1995-97 residence in Chengdu, Sichuan, China record the sights, sounds, and music of urban life in contemporary Chengdu.

Displaced Persons (1982), Cooperation of Parts (1983), and Persistence (1997) comprise a trilogy about a second generation experience of war by Daniel Eisenberg, a major award-winning filmmaker and Professor of Film, Video, and New Media at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

Arab diaries. This five-part documentary series produced by Deborah Davies, Daoud Kuttab, and Ilan Ziv presents a fresh and insightful picture of contemporary life across the Arab world. The stories are taken from Arab countries in the Middle East and North Africa, including Egypt, Lebanon, Morocco, Algeria, Palestine, Syria, and Iraq.