Library Directions:
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NOTE FROM EDITOR

Our feature “Letter from the Dean” will return in the next issue of Library Directions.

We are trav’ling in the footsteps
Of those who’ve gone before…
Oh, when the saints go marching in
Lord, how I want to be in that number
When the saints go marching in…

In this issue of Library Directions you will read about how the 2006 American Libraries Association conference marched into New Orleans and helped jump-start their post-Katrina convention business. The librarians also helped give back to the New Orleans community by volunteering for a variety of organizations like Habitat for Humanity. Also in this issue, walk back into the past with Deepa Banerjee as she describes new additions to the South Asian Collection at Suzzallo Library including English language newspapers from India, and the digitized collection of historical and religious manuscripts from the Asa Sphukuthi Archives in Kathmandu. Travel in the footsteps of William Craft Brumfield, professor of Russian at Tulane University and see some of his photographs which will eventually make up the world’s largest web-accessible collection of noteworthy Russian architecture.

Take a moment to see where our librarians have been marching to lately with “What We’re Writing About: Librarian Publications 2005-2007.” Our librarians take you on an amazing journey, from “Trends in Czech Contemporary History, with Reference to Poland,” to “Using Spreadsheets to Map a Library Reclassification, Reorganization and Merger.” And last of all, join us in recognizing the special achievements of our amazing staff, including professional appointments, promotions, and a wide variety of awards.

—Maureen Nolan
OH, WHEN THE LIBRARIANS COME MARCHING IN

Maureen Nolan, Natural Sciences and Resources Librarian, with contributions and photos from Faye Christenberry, Anne-Marie Davis, Amanda Hornby, Jill McKinstry, and Stephanie Wright

At first, nothing in the announcement that the American Library Association would hold its 2006 conference in New Orleans was out of the ordinary. ALA had held its Annual Conference in New Orleans many times in the past. But then the Gulf Coast Region’s biggest nightmare came true in the form of Katrina, a level five hurricane that hit the city nearly dead-on in August of 2005. Over 80 percent of the city was flooded by the subsequent catastrophic failure of the levees.

After Katrina, the image conjured up by the mention of New Orleans’ Morial Convention Center was not one of bright lights, vendors and convention attendees, but one of devastation and misery. An estimated 20,000 people took refuge in the convention center with no food, water, or electricity and, after being left to fend for themselves for days without help from the federal government, eventually no hope. With the city nearly destroyed from flooding following the levee breaches, most of us assumed the conference would be canceled or moved. However, as newspaper headlines later announced, the librarians did indeed come marching in. ALA’s conference was the largest held in New Orleans since Katrina, with about 18,000 people in attendance.

With images of destruction fresh in our minds, it was surreal to arrive in the almost untouched French Quarter and to walk into the clean, bright, and blissfully air-conditioned Morial Conference Center. It was almost easy to forget, as columnist Bob Greene wrote in *The New York Times*, “…the shivering revulsion the rest of America felt when hearing of the people stranded [in the convention center]. The stories of human waste soaking the floors, of violence, of people crying out for buses that would not come…” But as we found out, the people of New Orleans are not so easily defeated.

Our reception was warm and gracious. Signs welcoming “The Librarians” were everywhere, along with banners proclaiming, “We’re Jazzed You’re Here.”

Over and over, we were told how glad the people of the city were that we had come. New Orleans was thrilled to have the librarians there—it meant welcome revenue and also sent a message to other groups that New Orleans was still capable of handling a big convention. We brought an estimated $20 million boost to the New Orleans economy. *The New York Times* praised the convention, saying, “The nation’s librarians proved themselves an
intrepid lot this week, venturing into this limping city where other conventioneers have feared to tread.” We felt very welcome, but at the same time felt somewhat like interlopers.

One minute we were laughing at the inevitable T-shirts in the French Quarter (“FEMA Evacuation Plan—Run, Bitch, Run!”), and the next we were crying over the necessity of having the National Guard patrolling the city, for the stories of lost homes, lost businesses and a city in disarray, of people willing to just endure and go on. We saw so much destruction, the Lower Ninth Ward, boarded-up homes, abandoned and ruined cars. It made us humble. We felt there was so little we could do… However, many UW librarians were among the more than 900 people who volunteered to assist with community projects and library rebuilding efforts while attending the conference as part of ALA’s Libraries Build Communities Project.

There were 22 projects to choose from, including work at branches of the New Orleans Public Library, half of which were damaged beyond repair. Other volunteers worked at local college, university, school, and public libraries, sorting and cataloging materials, cleaning, doing minor repairs, shelving, and even landscaping. Non-

library projects included work with Habitat for Humanity, Common Ground, Second Harvest and Operation Helping Hands.

Volunteers reporting to the Morial Convention Center on their assigned days were issued bright yellow t-shirts emblazoned with the slogan, “Libraries Build Communities.” We left the relative normalcy of the French Quarter and downtown hotels in air-conditioned buses chattering and excited for a chance to help. As the group I was assigned to, Habitat for Humanity, headed out into the Ninth Ward, a hush descended over the bus as we drove through neighborhoods of empty houses and ruined businesses. The boarded-up houses were covered with spray painted notes: “No Loitering!” “SPCA, 2 dogs. One dog removed, one at large” “0 dead bodies” and “TFW,” which we learned stood for “toxic flood

“I was sent to a Catholic elementary school that had been under 3 feet of water (and later an oil slick) in the St. Bernard Parish. It was one of the hardest hit places. We were putting together a library again and I got to work with children’s literature and work with Dewey. All in all, a very emotional experience.”

— Jill McKinstry

Abandoned home in lower 9th Ward showing spray-painted messages left by rescue workers. (Photo by Amanda Hornby)
One of the many things that was missing (to my dismay) was the abundance of local musicians who used to hang out in the streets of the Quarter and play—since these were the poor people in town whose homes were destroyed, I wondered if they’d ever be back. I saw a group of high school kids playing Dixieland on Monday afternoon—that made me feel a little hopeful.” —Faye Christenberry

“Hurricane Katrina devastated Our Lady of Prompt Succor Parish School, as well as countless homes, libraries, schools, and businesses. Ten months post-Katrina, it was shocking to see how much rebuilding the city and region still have left to do.” —Amanda Hornby

At the Habitat for Humanity construction site, librarians in their bright yellow t-shirts worked side-by-side with volunteers from all over the country. We cheerfully climbed ladders, painted, used power tools, and (mostly) avoided smashing our fingers with our hammers. Working outside in the 90-plus degree heat and humidity of a New Orleans summer was a challenge to librarians from the Northwest, but it was worth it to help build the “Musicians Village,” a colorful village of new homes designed to attract musicians, the soul of New Orleans, back to the city.

Librarians who volunteered with Our Lady of Prompt Succor School in the St. Bernard Parish, worked to restore the library of the elementary school that had first been under three feet of water and then an oil slick. The school “library” was just a small room filled with donated desks, books, computers, cabinets, and other supplies. With the unbearable heat shimmering outside, volunteers unpacked donated books, organized children’s books by reading level, stamped, and data-entered the books into an online cataloging system using wireless technology.

Working outside in the sun was easy compared with the work done by a few brave souls who donned full Tyvek environmental suits, complete with respirators, to work with Common Ground in destroyed neighborhoods, tearing down mold-covered, ruined houses. Sweating in the blistering heat, these librarians recalled stories of survivors waiting for days in the full sun on the roofs of these same destroyed homes with no shade and no water.

Habitat for Humanity’s “Musician’s Village” in the 9th Ward. Welcome signs in foreground are from New York kids to the children of New Orleans. (Photo by Stephanie Wright)
In total, the volunteer hours added up to 3.5 years (yes, years) of work done over two days. However, the work we performed was a tiny drop in a very large bucket. Why did we begin with libraries? Well, because we’re librarians. Also because, as Martha Ward, New Orleans resident and author of *Voodoo Queen: The Spirited Lives of Marie Laveau* said, “There is such a thing as the social fabric, and ours has a gaping hole or wound. And libraries are, in a sense, a therapeutic space where the reweaving can take place.”

All in all, our time in New Orleans was both wonderful and heartbreaking. We were called “intrepid” for visiting for a week. But it is those who are choosing to stay and rebuild New Orleans who are resilient and daring. These residents of New Orleans begged us to tell our stories so theirs would not be forgotten. New Orleans is still a mostly ruined city, struggling to rebuild what was destroyed, not by a hurricane (as we were reminded over and over), but by flooding after failure of the levees. If you are interested in information about groups working to help rebuild New Orleans, or wish to donate supplies or funds, here are some ways you can get involved:

- More information on how to help libraries in the New Orleans/ Louisiana area through the ALA Hurricane Katrina Library Relief Fund can be found at: [www.ala.org/ala/cro/katrina/katrina.htm](http://www.ala.org/ala/cro/katrina/katrina.htm)

- Common Ground collective is an organization that provides short-term relief for victims of hurricane disasters in the Gulf Coast Region, and long-term support in rebuilding the communities affected in the New Orleans area, visit them online at: [www.commongroundrelief.org](http://www.commongroundrelief.org)

- New Orleans Area Habitat for Humanity, founded in 1983, is an autonomous Louisiana non-profit corporation that serves the parishes of Orleans, Jefferson, Plaquemines, St. Bernard and St. John the Baptist. In its 22-year history, NOAHH has built over 100 Habitat homes, including 50 in the past five years. [www.habitatnola.org](http://www.habitatnola.org). To read about the Musicians Village, go to: [www.habitat.org/newsroom/2005archive/insitedoc011244.aspx](http://www.habitat.org/newsroom/2005archive/insitedoc011244.aspx)
NEW SOUTH ASIAN ACQUISITIONS AT SUZZALLO LIBRARY

Deepa Banerjee, South Asian Studies Librarian

The Suzzallo Library’s South Asian Section has acquired some major additions to the collection through South Asian Center’s Title VI funding for 2006 (funded nationally by the U.S. Department of Education under Title VI of the Higher Education Act of 1965). These new additions include:

- **Times of India** Microfilms, 1997-2000
- **The Tribune** Microfilms, 1948-1960
- The digitized collection from Asa Saphukuthi Archives

*The Tribune* and *Times of India* are English language newspapers from India and can be consulted for current news, historical news and records for many years to come. The library has a continuous run of *Times of India* 1839 to the present, with the exception of a few gaps in the collection. They should be of interest to faculty and students interested in colonial, post-colonial, comparative colonial and current studies.

The Asa Saphukuthi Archives in Kathmandu is a unique collection of historical and religious manuscripts. Founded by the late scholar Prem Bahadur Kansakar in the 1980s, it now has a total holding of 7000+ manuscripts, 1200 palmleaf documents, some 600 theses and published works on the culture of the Nepal Valley, together with nearly all print material in Newari.

The manuscript collections in Nepal are renowned for having some of the earliest Sanskrit Buddhist manuscripts in South Asia. The wealth of Hindu, Buddhist and Tantric texts, as well as ritual manuals, astrological texts, artist sketch books and musical treatises included in this collection, will give UW faculty and students interested in South Asian history, religion and culture an excellent set of materials to work with.

The beauty of this digital collection is that it enables one to work with otherwise extremely fragile documents. Some of the older documents have lasted a long time because of the arsenic wash traditionally used as a preservative on the manuscripts. However, this also makes the original manuscripts slightly toxic to handle. The original manuscripts are often difficult to read, due to small size of handwriting, smudges, or insect damage and glare on pages. Thus the digitized images are much better to work with, since they don’t have to be handled directly and can be enlarged and brightened or darkened to decipher difficult sections. The Archive in Nepal has been working hard to protect and preserve these documents as soon as they are acquired through private family donations.

This acquisition will also complement the UW Libraries’ other South Asian and Buddhist manuscript collections. Faculty and students working on the Early Buddhist Manuscript Project in the Asian Language and Literature Division, as well as faculty and graduate students in South Asian studies, Comparative Religion, Textual studies and Ethnomusicology will all benefit from having this collection readily available.
PARTNERSHIP FOR PRESERVATION AND ACCESS: THE BRUMFIELD COLLECTION OF RUSSIAN ARCHITECTURE

By A.C. Petersen, Development Officer

William Craft Brumfield, Professor of Russian at Tulane University, and America’s leading authority on Russian architecture, has partnered once again with University Libraries to create the Brumfield Russian Architecture Collection, which is planned to be the world’s largest web-accessible collection of photographs of noteworthy Russian architecture. Thanks to a major grant to the Libraries from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), the digitization and cataloging of over 30,000 of Brumfield’s images of noteworthy Russian buildings dating from the middle ages to the present day is now underway.

The NEH collaboration builds on a pilot project begun in 2002 through a partnership between Prof. Brumfield, the Libraries, and the UW Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, with funds from the Gladys Kriebel Delmas Foundation. That earlier project, available online at depis.washington.edu/ceir/brumfield, provides access to 1,200 representative photographs through an interactive map-based interface that allows the user to search for buildings by architect, date of construction, type of building, location, and other attributes. By clicking on a building’s icon, the user retrieves an array of exterior and interior views of the structure, as well as extensive descriptive text. The site provides a unique opportunity to study historic structures that are difficult to visit and that, in some cases, have deteriorated or even disappeared since they were photographed.

Brumfield’s collection now numbers more than 100,000 color slides and black-and-white photographs taken since his first trip to Moscow as a graduate student in 1970, when he carried a fixed-lens Konica and two rolls of film. In the thirty-six years since then, Brumfield has published more than ten books on Russian architecture. The second edition of his widely-acclaimed History of Russian Architecture appeared from the University of Washington Press in 2004. Even Russia recognizes the importance of his life’s work. He was recently elected to the prestigious Russian Academy of Arts as an honorary (non-Russian) member, and he has been a member of the State Russian Academy of Architecture and Building Sciences since 2002.

Any of Brumfield’s photographs can stand alone aesthetically. The National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC, has accessioned and cataloged approximately 11,000 of his black-and-white prints. What makes the University Libraries’ online collection unique is its wide accessibility, its academic focus and well-researched descriptive metadata, and the ability it gives users to compare and contrast any of a large number of buildings located all across Russia’s vast Eurasian expanse.

For Brumfield, “the accessibility is the important part.” He continues, “the UW Libraries has the structure to preserve and access the information, and the know-how” to create this comprehensive resource.

The NEH Reference Materials Program grant to the Libraries will allow the project to proceed for two years, but will by no means fund the digitization and cataloging of Brumfield’s entire collection. That doesn’t stop Brumfield, who continues to travel widely throughout Russia in search of more noteworthy structures to photograph.

Where do we look for inspiration today? Yes, there are good movies now and then. But if you would like to contemplate a scene for a longer period than a movie permits, William Brumfield’s photographs can be looked at like going on an inspirational and edifying retreat. The images may or may not remain in your memory, but the subtle effect that they have on your psyche will.

— Archpriest Alexander Garklavs, St. Vladimir’s Theological Quarterly Holy Trinity Orthodox Church East Meadow, New York

Recently Published

Vologodskii Al’bom (Vologda Album) Moscow: Tri Kvadrata, 2005


Wologodskii Al’bom, Church of the Nativity of John the Baptist, Kargopol, Russia. The photo was taken in 1998.


Brumfield. Cathedral of the Dormition in the Nerchinsk Dormition Monastery near Kalinino, Russia. Date of photograph not indicated.


AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Nancy Huling Wins ALA History Section Award

Nancy Huling, head, Reference and Research Services Division, has been chosen as the 2006 recipient of the Genealogical Publishing Co./History Section Award presented by the Reference and User Services Association (RUSA) of the American Library Association (ALA).

Huling was selected in recognition of her many contributions to RUSA and the RUSA History Section, including serving as a member of the Bibliography and Indexes and Local History Committees, chairing conference programs, and editing the History Section’s column in the RUSA Update. In addition, Huling served as chair of the History Section Executive Committee and most recently as RUSA president.

Read the full announcement at: www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2006/march2006/hulingwins06geneologic.html.

Marc Studer Receives UW Bothell’s Staff Appreciation Award

Marc Studer received UW Bothell’s Staff Appreciation Award at the annual Staff Appreciation Luncheon held on June 16, 2006. The award, which includes a cash prize, is awarded yearly by the chancellor to a staff member selected through a campuswide nomination process. Studer, who has worked at UWB Campus Media Center for 10 years, heads the Production Services unit and is well-known on campus for the quality of his photographic work that chronicles all of the significant events at UWB for the last ten years. Marc was singled out for his can-do attitude, the excellence of his work, and his consummate professionalism. He embodies high quality, user centered service.

Engineering Librarians Win Award!

The Engineering Library’s Julie Cook and Linda Whang, along with Theresa Barker, a graduate student and research assistant in the Department of Industrial Engineering, have won the inaugural Best Poster Award from the Engineering Libraries Division (ELD) of the American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE). Julie and Linda presented the poster, “Desperately Seeking Information: How and Where Engineering Students Find the Information They Need”, on Wednesday, June 21st, during the ELD Poster Session at the ASEE Annual Conference and Exposition in Chicago. Their poster was judged the best, from among the 19 posters presented by ELD members, by the members of the ELD Awards Committee. The poster can be viewed by going to eld.lib.ucdavis.edu/conf/06/aseeposter06.ppt, saving the page (aseeposter06.ppt), and then opening it in PowerPoint.

Kathryn Leonard Wins Distinguished Staff Award

Kathryn Leonard, Library Materials Conservation Supervisor, Special Collections, has received one of five 2006 Distinguished Staff Awards from the UW. These awards are given to staff who contribute to the mission of their unit or the University, respond creatively to challenges, maintain the highest standards in their work, establish productive working relationships and promote a respectful and supportive workplace. “I enjoy the problem solving that each project offers and I enjoy the collaboration with my colleagues more than anything — colleagues within the department and outside.”

Excerpted with permission from University Week, the faculty/staff newspaper.
Group on Odegaard Library Displays Cited for Advancement of Hellenism

The American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association awarded a commemorative plaque to the Group on Odegaard Library Displays (GOLD), citing Guita Monfaredi, Lynda Ekins, and Jill McKinstry for special recognition for their role in the advancement of Hellenism. In November and December of 2005, OUGL hosted the exhibit, “Paintings, Prints and Masks by Joanna Giannoulas-Papanicolaou” with supporting Greek artifacts. In addition, the exhibit was accompanied by several lectures co-sponsored by the University of Washington Hellenic Studies Program held in room 220. The exhibit inspired a donation to purchase additional display cases for other exhibits from a grateful member of the community.

EMPLOYEE NEWS

*Adam Jackman, Library Fellow, UW Bothell Library, 9/26/06-6/30/07
Zhijia Shen, Director, East Asia Library, 9/1/06.
John Vallier, Head, Multimedia Services, Odegaard Undergraduate Library, 9/1/06.
Anna B. Sveinbjornsson, Nordic Studies Librarian, Reference & Research Services Division, 10/1/06.

*indicates temporary appointment

Librarian Emeritus Status Awarded
Nancy Blase, 7/01/06

Librarians Promoted in Rank
Theresa Mudrock, History Librarian, Reference & Research Services Division. Promoted to Librarian.
Laura Lillard, Education Librarian and Diversity Officer, Reference & Research Services Division. Promoted to Associate Librarian with permanent status.
Maureen Nolan, Natural Sciences Librarian, Natural Sciences Library; Head, Friday Harbor Library. Promoted to Associate Librarian with permanent status.
Carole Svensson, Head, Web Services, UW Tacoma Library. Promoted to Associate Librarian with permanent status.
Laura Barrett, Undergraduate Services Librarian, Odegaard Undergraduate Library. Promoted to Senior Assistant Librarian.
Justin Wadland, Reference Librarian, UW Tacoma Library. Promoted to Senior Assistant Librarian.
Ann Lally, Head, Digital Initiatives Program. Associate Librarian. Awarded permanent status.
Julie Cook, Engineering Information Services Librarian, Engineering Library. Reappointed as Senior Assistant Librarian.
Gail Kouame, Consumer Health Coordinator, Health Sciences Libraries. Reappointed as Senior Assistant Librarian.
Eileen Llona, International Studies Computer Services Librarian, Digital Initiatives Program. Reappointed as Senior Assistant Librarian.
Julie Planchon Wolf, Reference and Instruction/Nursing Librarian, UW Bothell/Cascadia Library. Reappointed as Senior Assistant Librarian.
A LEGACY IN THE MAKING

A bequest to the University of Washington Libraries is a thoughtful way to achieve your charitable goals without making an outright gift today. Your bequest to the Libraries may reduce your estate taxes as well as provide you with other benefits, including:

• Your assets remain in your control during your lifetime.
• You may direct your bequest to serve a specific purpose within the Libraries.
• You can modify your bequest at any time if your circumstances change.

If you would like to learn more about making a bequest to the UW, please contact Libraries Development at 206-616-8397 or the Office of Gift Planning at 206-685-1001, toll free at 800-284-3679, or via e-mail at giftinfo@u.washington.edu.

TOGETHER, WE ARE CREATING BETTER FUTURES. JOIN US.