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February/March 2006

THOMAS J. DODD RESEARCH CENTER *Celebrates Its 10th Anniversary*

Jean Nelson and Tom Wilsted

The Thomas J. Dodd Research Center celebrated two important anniversaries during the fall semester, the 10th anniversary of its dedication by President Bill Clinton in 1995 and the founding of Archives & Special Collections in 1965. The celebration focused on both public programs and collections through a series of exhibits, conferences, programs and lectures.

To reflect on these two distinct occasions, the Dodd Research Center offered a wide range of events and programs to the

University community on topics including human rights, economic rights and global equity, along with creative programs focused on the collections that included a series of readings from archival material, an exhibit of materials acquired during the past 10 years, the Connecticut Children's Book Fair and an evening with Sam and Ann Charters discussing the Center's *Samuel and Ann Charters Archives of Blues and Vernacular African American*



Bob Englehart, editorial cartoonist for the *Hartford Courant*, discussed his 25-year career September 22 and afterward demonstrated his craft for a student. The lecture coincided with an exhibit of his work at Babbidge Library last fall.

Musical Culture. The Center collaborated with more than 15 other departments and institutions to offer 17 programs and four exhibits. Nearly 6,500 students, faculty, staff and the public attended various events over the course of the three month celebration.

Significant speakers for these

events included Louise Arbour, U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights; Richard Goldstone, retired Justice to the Constitutional Court of South Africa; Dr. Hernando de Soto, President of the Institute for Liberty and Democracy; *Hartford Courant* editorial

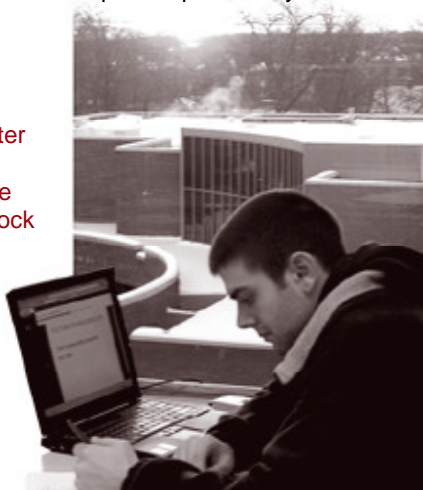
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Human rights advocates Louise Arbour (left) and Richard J. Goldstone (right) shown with UConn President Philip Austin, received the 2005 Thomas J. Dodd Prize in International Justice and Human Rights in October.



Above all, they recommended the addition of a café where they could go for refreshment and social conversation. Nowadays, we pay focused attention to this concept of "library as place," and the first of the five strategic goals in our Plan 2010 is dedicated to just that.

Marc Paradis, a 5th semester accounting major from Enfield, CT takes advantage of the library's round-the-clock hours during finals and watched the sun rise while he studied.



Building the Library as Place

Scott Kennedy

Analyzing statistical data, conducting user surveys, reviewing daily comments received via the web and print forms are mechanisms that help us gauge our success as we strive to develop a library that more truly meets the needs of the University community. However, it is the discussions with constituent groups such as the Provost's Library Advisory Committee, the Graduate Student Senate, and the Undergraduate Student Government's Academic Affairs Committee that generally prove more rewarding, for they provide a forum for dialog and exploration that brings flesh and bones to the data gathered.

For me, the meetings with undergraduate students have proven particularly valuable. Though the undergraduate student body is the most transient of our populations, it is also the largest, the most socially active, and the most in tune with modern trends. Not yet focused on career or competitive research, their aims are pragmatic and fundamentally here and now.



Students gather around a large plasma screen in the new Learning Resource Center to study for an exam.

This first became evident as we were planning the renovations to the Homer Babbidge Library that took place in 1997-1998. The library staff met with various constituent groups to gather suggestions for developing a library that would better serve contemporary needs. The most memorable sessions by far were those with undergraduate students, for it was through their eyes that we learned the library was much more than a place to access recorded knowledge, more than a storehouse for books, journals, sound recordings, films, manuscripts, and maps—it is a place with its own personality and atmosphere, a place that can

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Opening the Libraries' Doors

*Brinley Franklin, vice provost
University of Connecticut Libraries*



In the not-too-distant past, the UConn Libraries opened its doors and UConn students, faculty, staff (as well as the general public) flowed in to read and do research using our vast collections of print materials. Many UConn community members still do visit us physically—Babbidge Library continues to receive more than one million visits a year and our print book circulation is still about 200,000 books annually. Recent predictions of libraries closing their doors due to lack of interest in a world of electronic information appear to be off-target.

Today, when we open our doors, library users are greeted with a plethora of modern library collections and services. As Scott Kennedy describes quite eloquently in his article in this issue, our undergraduate students in particular have told us the kind of contemporary library they need and want, and then helped us to provide it through two senior class gifts.

UConn alumni have also been particularly supportive in helping us offer the types of spaces a modern library requires. With the help of 50th anniversary class gifts, the Libraries have added a technology-enhanced meeting room, furnishings for a new Music and Dramatic Arts Library, a high tech library lecture room, three electronic classrooms, two video theaters, and a quiet reading room.

We have learned, from our participation in the LibQual+™ library service quality user surveys, that our users seek greater control over their individual information needs. Our role, as librarians, is to empower users to be successful information seekers in an increasingly electronic information environment. When students come to the library now, they may be coming to work on a group project in the café, they may be looking for a quiet place to study, they may be using our vast collections of materials, they may be viewing an exhibit on their way across campus, or they may be attending an information literacy class. Alternatively, they may be attending a lecture in the Dodd Research Center, or they may be studying between classes at a regional campus library.

Just as importantly, they may be listening to digital audio reserves generated by our Music & Dramatic Arts Library in their dorm room, they may be writing a paper off-campus using library-purchased electronic resources, or they may be requesting a book from another Boston Library Consortium library without having to engage library staff at all. Our doors are no longer just physical entrance ways, but rather gateways into a world of information and services that did not exist a decade ago.

The library as place seems secure in our world for the foreseeable future, but today, when we open our doors, a broad array of collections and services lies behind the threshold. With the help of the UConn community and its many friends, the Libraries will continue to open doors leading to learning and the pursuit of knowledge in new and different ways that serve our users' needs for many years to come.

New Improved Circulation/Information Desk

David Avery

Conducting business at Homer Babbidge Library's Circulation/Reserve Desk will be quicker and easier than ever before.

The staff of Access Services, working with the Libraries' Facilities Librarian, has designed a new circular Circulation/Reserve Desk, which will bring the staff closer to the patrons making them more accessible to answer questions and also allow for a free flow of traffic at the library's entrance and exit.

The new desk, constructed from the same golden oak used on the current desk, was created by the University's carpenter shop, which has done an outstanding job of matching the style of the existing desk with that of the new renovation.

Staff will be seated at the two computer terminals at the new desk and have easy access to information in assisting patrons with inquiries and circulation and reserve requests. Patrons will also find it easier to return their library books to the book drop, which has been moved and which is now closer to the entrance/exit of the library.



Self-checkout machines at the Circulation/Reserve Desk remain popular among our patrons, with over 50 percent of materials circulating from those stations. With the new desk addition, the staff will be closer at hand to assist patrons in using these machines for the first time. One of the machines has been fitted with a magnetic card swipe that works just like an ATM or credit card reader for easier use. Patrons who have tried it really like the ease of use. We encourage everyone to come by and check us out!

David Avery, facilities librarian



WebCT Vista's "Library Resource Tool" Enhances Learning

Steve Bustamante

Online access to comprehensive library resources for courses is now a reality.

Thanks to a special tool developed in connection with the University's new, powerful course management software WebCT Vista, the Library is now able to develop and make available modules of library resources online for either individual or multiple courses. In addition, instead of being able to only place PDFs of print material on Electronic Course Reserves (ECR), faculty can now post more sophisticated materials, such as photos, audio files, and spreadsheets for their students' use.

WebCT, or Web Course Tools, has been widely adopted since its debut at UConn in 1999. By spring semester 2006, an estimated half of all faculty, graduate students, and professional staff teaching courses had WebCT sites for a total of some 3,000 classes, sections, and labs. Through these sites, instructors post lecture notes and assignments and students contribute to online discussions of topics covered in class, or submit their work to the professor.

The Library Resource Tool (LRT), which was developed by WebCT and University Information Technology Services for the libraries, is now operating in a one-year pilot program, and will provide faculty who participate in WebCT with direct access to library resources geared for their area of study. It is scheduled to become fully operational this fall.

Currently, faculty may choose whether to use

WebCT Vista or the older "Campus Edition" WebCT for courses that are already web-enhanced or completely online. The LRT is only available in Vista. The Campus Edition of WebCT will be disabled by fall 2006, necessitating the use of Vista.

With the LRT, library liaisons will be able to develop modules of library materials tailored to a specific area of study. Once developed, the module can be made available to faculty teaching other courses with a similar focus.

Instructors who wish to use WebCT Vista sit through a brief workshop conducted by the Instructional Resource Center in the Center for Undergraduate Education building. To request online reading material from the Libraries, instructors simply complete the online request form to give the Libraries Reserve Services the necessary information to allow support staff to pull, scan, title, and upload files into WebCT.

In the fall 2005, only five courses were using ECR in Vista. Currently, 93 courses are using ECR in Vista for the spring semester.

For more information about ECR, contact Steve Bustamante at 486-1158 or steve.bustamante@uconn.edu. To learn about developing learning resource modules, faculty should contact their department's library liaison.

Steve Bustamante, digital reserves coordinator



Norman D. Stevens

The Wisdom and Spirit of a Librarian

Suzanne Zack

Saul Bellow once wrote, “Human beings can lose their lives in libraries. They ought to be warned.”

Bellow’s admonition, included in a volume of 100 quotations about libraries compiled by Norman D. Stevens, emeritus director of the University of Connecticut Libraries, seems an uncanny description of Stevens’ own life. He spent nearly a quarter of a century as a UConn library administrator, including eight years as director, helping to transform it from essentially a student study hall in the Wilbur Cross building to information resource central to the campus in the Babbidge Library.

Not content merely to surmount the challenges of running a major academic library, Stevens shared his experiences with others by writing a dozen books on libraries and librarianship, including one on humor, a trait not typically associated with librarians. Stevens has worked steadfastly to correct this misconception through his creation of the Molesworth Institute, whose mission is to “wreak havoc with the established, but often ill-conceived norms of librarianship.”

In the early 1960s, pursuing his interest in library history, Stevens began to collect postcards, commemoratives and souvenirs, and other artifacts relating to libraries and librarianship. That collection, much of which relates to library architecture, and which contains 25,000 postcards, is now housed in the Canadian Center for Architecture in Montreal. His book, *A Guide to Collecting Librarianship*, was the first to be written on the subject and is considered the “bible” by collectors of library artifacts and memorabilia.

Library of Congress

Stevens began to “lose his life” to libraries as a teenager growing up in Nashua, N.H. Inspired by his high school teachers, his love of learning caused him to routinely trek the half hour to his local library where he borrowed books on a host of subjects. After high school, he traveled to Washington, D.C. to study at American University. There, he lived with his older brother, Bob, a librarian at the Library of Congress, and sister-in-law, Helen, who is also a librarian. Eager to challenge himself academically, he also began his studies at

American University. While attending the university, he took his first steps toward his eventual immersion in the field of librarianship by working at the Library of Congress.

The then comparatively small number of employees at what is the largest library in the world, allowed for an easy exchange between all levels of staff as well as the opportunity to delve into different areas within the institution.

Stevens recalls one experience in the Map Department as especially memorable. “I was assigned to a special project to help sort and organize maps captured from the Japanese following World War II. I didn’t know any Japanese, but the maps often were in boxes with indexes so you could tell, even if you didn’t know the language, what they were. Often, there was an overall chart, so you could arrange them by series, making, I’m sure, many mistakes.” Apparently, his errors were minimal; he ended up being transferred to the Map Library.

After two years in Washington, Stevens returned home to attend the University of New Hampshire where he earned a degree in government and graduated in 1954. He spent the remainder of that year as a Fulbright scholar making extensive use of the Alexander Turnbull Library as he studied the emerging role of labor unions into politics in the early 20th century in New Zealand at Victoria University College. When he returned to the U.S., he considered studying politics in graduate school with thoughts of eventually teaching at the college level, but heeded the suggestion of his older brother who urged him to attend the library school at Rutgers University instead.

Stevens earned his Master’s degree in library service from the Graduate School of Library Service at Rutgers in 1957 and, as a bonus, met and married his wife Nora, who also earned her M.L.S. degree there. He held several positions, including a year as a cataloguer that was his only working line professional job, before going on to earn the first Ph.D. in Library Service from Rutgers in 1961; the renamed School of Communication, Information and Library Studies named him Distinguished Alumnus of the Year in 1989. Stevens credits the numerous distinguished faculty of the library school at Rutgers with strengthening his interest in librarianship and giving direction to many aspects of his career. He held several positions in the Rutgers University Library from 1955 through 1957 then landed a job as Acting Director of the Howard University Libraries. He returned to Rutgers as Associate Director in 1963 where he also served as acting director of the Rutgers Libraries for a short time before joining the administrative



Norman and Nora Stevens

staff of the University of Connecticut Libraries in 1968.

Homer Babbidge Library

Stevens’ contributions to the UConn Libraries are many. He was involved in the planning and development of the Homer Babbidge Library building, and the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center, as well as for the substantial growth of the collections, services, staff, and the uses of library technology that took place from 1968 through the mid-1990s. He is pleased with his work with the New England Library Information Network, the regional cooperative automation organization and the Connecticut Library Information Network as well as his early efforts to generate private support for the libraries.

“Norman Stevens has always been the heart and soul of the University of Connecticut Libraries,” according to Fred Maryanski, interim provost and executive vice president for academic affairs and longtime senior academic administrator in the Office of the Provost, who is now president of Nevada State College. “He has nurtured the library and guided its development into one of the nation’s fine university libraries. More importantly, it was Norman’s vision for both the physical facility and the operational structure that has made the Babbidge Library the centerpiece of the Storrs campus. The library is now at the core of the educational experience of UConn students. It has become *the* place to study and just spend out-of-class time.”

Maryanski credits Stevens with playing a major role in the library’s metamorphosis. “Under Norman’s guidance, the library has become integrated into the University’s curriculum. This was accomplished by a commitment to understanding and meeting the needs of the faculty and students, not just building a new library. I know that Norman suffered through the early facilities problems with the Babbidge building, but in the end an outstanding library emerged from the plastic wrap. It is that library that reflects the wisdom and spirit of Norman Stevens.”

A Volunteer and Donor

Although Stevens officially retired from his position in 1994, he has continued to be a familiar sight at the library. After his retirement, he served for a year as acting director of the newly created Thomas J. Dodd Research Center.

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Norman Stevens, former University Librarian, addresses the audience of students, faculty and guests in the North Reading Room during the re-dedication of the Wilbur Cross building Nov. 20, 2003. The building, originally the University’s library, is now a student services center.

Norman Stevens (continued from page 3)

First as an administrator and later as a volunteer, he was involved in the development of the Northeast Children's Literature Collection (NCLC), now housed in the Dodd Research Center, which is one of the nation's major collections of books and original art and manuscripts from many distinguished children's authors and illustrators. He and his wife are also active participants in the Connecticut Children's Book Fair, which promotes children's books and the work of NCLC.

In addition, he has served regularly as a reference desk volunteer at the Dodd Research Center and the Homer Babbidge Library, arranged special events, and curated art exhibits as a long-time member of the library's Exhibits Team. A gallery in Babbidge Library is named in his honor in recognition of his contributions.

Not only has Stevens been generous with his time and knowledge, but also with his resources. He and his wife have given well over 3,000 books to the University Libraries—the lion's share of them juvenile literature.

Nora Stevens, who served as coordinator of school libraries for the Mansfield Public Schools until her retirement in 1991, and who has also served as a volunteer at the Children's Book Fair and many other Dodd Center events, credits her experience with children as being a strong influence in the couple's ongoing interest in the genre. "I just can't resist buying children's books," she says.

The couple says the thrill of acquiring books is surpassed by steering material to the right home. That holds true in particular for the library and the Dodd Center.

They are constantly adding material to the University Archives, directed Emeritus Professor of Civil Engineering Jack Stephens and his wife Virginia in donating some 270 Connecticut town histories to Archives & Special Collections, and have played a substantial role in many other donations especially to the NCLC.

"Both Nora and Norman have been instrumental in the ongoing documentation of the University and its history," says University Archivist Betsy Pittman. "Not only have they provided materials themselves, but they have also guided the papers and memorabilia of friends, colleagues and alumni to the Dodd Research Center. We are very grateful for their ongoing interest and support of the collections at the Center."

The Stevens' largesse is deeply rooted. "We both come from certain limitations," says Nora Stevens. "We had [needy] families in the little community where we lived, and you shared. My parents always set that example. It's not something you think about."

Stevens acknowledges his wife's influence in their support not only for the library and the University, but also for local service organizations such as the Holy Family Home and Shelter, the Covenant Soup Kitchen, Willimantic Area Interfaith Ministries, and the World Wide Lighthouse Missions. "We're in a position to use our resources to be helpful," he simply says.

The Stevens' largesse has also benefited the League of New Hampshire Craftsmen, which celebrates its 75th anniversary next year, the Mansfield Historical Society, where he is now the program chair, and the "Revels," a non-profit performing arts company in Cambridge, MA whose annual winter solstice celebration they have attended for some 30 years. Nora and Norman also plan to assist their friend Tomie DePaola, noted children's author and illustrator whose papers are

in the Dodd Center, in raising funds for a private school in Vermont in memory of their mutual friend children's book illustrator Trina Schart Hyman.

In April, the couple will be inducted into the University's Founders Society, which recognizes UConn's most generous benefactors: individuals and couples who have made significant contributions for the advancement of the University.

In the meantime, Stevens will continue to occupy himself with the countless other things that interest him. He intends to pursue new research projects related to libraries, adding to his latest publication, "The Fully Electronic Academic Library" in *College and Research Libraries*, a peer-reviewed journal of the Association of College and Research Libraries. With this article, Stevens achieved his goal of having a piece from the Molesworth Institute published in every major U.S. professional library journal; and, in recent years, he has extended the



Institute's reach through articles published in Italy and Sweden. The article describes the planning process carried out by consultants from the fictitious Molesworth Institute for a new university library that is totally paperless—even in the restrooms!

Although Stevens' passion for librarianship has not taken root in either his son or two daughters, it appears to have hit a resounding chord in one of his three grandchildren, Chelsea, 14, who has been appointed as director designate of the Molesworth Institute.

To prepare for that transfer of power, Stevens will no doubt continue to share his wry wit and love of libraries with her and others as evidenced by a recent tagline in his e-mail correspondence:

I don't believe libraries should be drab places where people sit in silence, and that's been the main reason for our policy of employing wild animals as librarians.

Anonymous

Suzanne Zack, marketing and communications specialist



Library as Place (continued from page 1)

thoughtfully help or unintentionally hinder the success of students in so many ways.

They told us they would welcome a library that provided a variety of computer and copy services; that offered Internet connectivity throughout the building; that reflected a diversity of architectures and atmospheres; and that provided opportunities for quiet study as well as for collaborative engagement. Above all, they recommended the addition of a café where they could go for refreshment and social conversation. Nowadays, we pay focused attention to this concept of "library as place," and the first of the five strategic goals in our Plan 2010 is dedicated to just that.

We have continued to dialog with undergraduate student groups on a regular basis ever since, particularly with the Academic Affairs Committee of the Undergraduate Student Government, who meet with us two or three times each year. At each meeting the wish list we come away with is sober, pragmatic, and prioritized.

Among the changes we have made to the Homer Babbidge Library as a result of these discussions are:

- Extending library opening hours to 2 a.m. Sunday-Thursday during academic terms
- Keeping the library open 24/7 during final exam periods

- Providing wireless access throughout the building
- Designating the entire Level 4 a quiet study area
- Increasing the number of group study and collaborative spaces
- Creating dedicated areas for tutoring programs that support general education skills, including writing, information literacy, quantitative research, and computer competence

The library is no longer seen as just a storehouse for books and other media: it is a place where all manner of learning is valued and supported and academic life is refreshed.

The undergraduate students have not only been creative with their comments and criticism, they have also put their money where their mouth is. The Senior Gift of the Class of 2000 went to the establishment of a 24 hour quiet study room adjacent to the Bookworms Café. The 2006 Senior Class Gift will go toward expanding the Bookworms Café itself, nearly doubling its seating area and significantly increasing the food and beverage offerings.

Most of the time I come away from our meetings with undergraduate groups feeling quite in sync with their perspective, but sometimes I am surprised. The last time the Vice Provost for Libraries and I met with the Academic Affairs Committee, I described how we go out of our way to keep the library building open during snowstorms and other weather emergencies. This led to a prolonged period of silence and some unexpected smiles until one of them said: "Aw, just take the day off."



An architectural rendering of the expanded Bookworms Café, which will nearly double its seating area and significantly increase the food and beverage offerings. The expansion will be made possible, in part, by the 2006 Senior Class Gift.

Scott Kennedy, director of research & information services



Julia Brooker Thompson Library Joins in the 40th Anniversary of the Torrington Campus

Sheila Lafferty

In the fall of 1965, UConn President Homer Babbidge presided over the dedication ceremonies of the Torrington Campus at 855 University Drive. This past fall, the campus celebrated its 40th anniversary with a series of events in which staff from the University of Connecticut Libraries participated.

In early spring 2005, a small committee of Torrington faculty and staff formed and diligently worked with University Events staff to plan the celebration for the fall semester. Campus Librarian Sheila Lafferty and campus Administrative Assistant Melissa Clark served as co-chairpersons of the planning committee.

One of the first challenges of the committee was to track down names of former Torrington Campus students for a mailing list. Since students do not generally graduate from a regional campus, former regional campus students are not easily identified by the University. An initial list of student names was provided by the UConn Alumni Association and was enlarged as library staff added names of former faculty, staff and students culled from the local library collection of catalogs, campus directories and newspaper clippings.

After successfully identifying former students, the committee compiled a pictorial history of the campus for a digital slideshow which was shown during the events. Able to only find a few photos locally, the library staff visited the Dodd Research Center University Archives and found an assortment of photos and slides from the dedication in 1965 to the 1970s and 1980s. University Archivist Betsy Pittman provided digital scans of selected photos for the compilation of a pictorial history of the campus. The Dodd Center also accepted the donation of some additional items from the Torrington Campus, most notably the 1983 "Fight Banner" which hung on campus for more than 15 years during the protracted legal battle to stay open. [<http://uconntorrington.blogspot.com/2005/07/fight-banner-symbolic-of-era-at-uconn.html>]

While many former students and friends still live in close proximity to the campus, there are many who have moved to areas far beyond the Northwest corner and who would have been unable to attend the celebration. To allow virtual participation, the library created a weblog at <http://uconntorrington.blogspot.com> and posted anniversary information, trivia, old photos and recent photos of the campus showing the recent facility upgrades.

By early fall, the celebration was ready to officially begin. The kickoff event, a September 10th University of Torrington Campus 40th Anniversary Community Picnic, was held on the grounds of the Torrington



Clockwise from top: Pulitzer Prize-winning author Frank McCourt with English lecturer Davyne Verstandig; the 1983 "Fight Banner" which hung on campus for more than 15 years during the protracted legal battle to keep the campus open; the library in the 1970s; the dedication of the campus with John J. Budds, chairman of the UConn Board of Trustees, Gov. John Dempsey, UConn President Homer Babbidge, and Glen Kilner, first Torrington Campus Director, undated photo of Julia Brooker Thompson whose bequest of \$650,000 in 1965 made the construction of the Torrington campus possible.

Campus under a large tent decorated with blue and white balloons and harvest decorations. Attendees enjoyed a great cookout from a local caterer, Freund's Farm Market, while listening to live music provided by the D Smith Blues Band. Some toured the campus classroom building to see the campus improvements and took in the campus history slideshow. People young and old strolled the campus grounds while taking their picture with Jonathan, the UConn mascot and viewed a selection of classic cars provided by Litchfield Hills Historical Auto Club. The car display was a vivid reminder to everyone of how essential the car was and still is to the commuter student. Throughout the day, a number of UConn items were awarded to the audience, including a \$150 gift certificate from the UConn Co-op won by a former library student worker and UConn graduate, Betty Long Anderson. The amount was significant because it represented the cost to attend the Torrington Campus for a year in 1965. How things have changed!

Keeping with a campus tradition of opening one class to the public, the campus offered English 217:

"Writers of Litchfield County and Films Made From Their Works" to the campus community and the public. Designed and co-taught by English lecturer Davyne Verstandig and Drama lecturer John Long it included guest speakers Frank McCourt, Bill C. Davis and A. R. Gurney. The guest speakers captivated their audience with lively discussions of their works and the film adaptations and then signed copies of their works at a reception after class. The class was sponsored by the Litchfield County Writers Project, the UConn English Department and the Tri-Campus. To help facilitate the class, the library purchased the films shown during the class, placed books and articles on reserve for the class, and assisted with WebCT and the class webpages.

On October 14, the campus held a screening of *Pursuit of Precision*, a documentary about the rise and fall of the Torrington-based manufacturing company, the Hendey Corporation, which was produced, written and directed by Drama and Film lecturer John Long. The documentary received the 2004 Gold Aurora award for Historical Documentary and was recently broadcast on Connecticut Public Television. The library staff is noted in the credits of the film for its assistance with research.

On October 29th, Gina Barreca, author, humorist and UConn English professor spoke at the University of Connecticut Torrington Campus 40th Anniversary Dinner at the Torrington Country Club in Goshen. In typical fashion, Ms. Barreca had her audience in stitches as she related stories from her experiences as a student at Dartmouth and as an English professor. Each guest received a signed copy of her latest book, *Babes in Boyland: A Personal History of Co-Education in the Ivy League*. The pictorial history of the campus was on display during the cocktail hour.

The last event held in honor of the 40th anniversary and co-sponsored by the Litchfield County Writers Project, was the Poetry Reading by Sharon Charde on Nov. 14. Ms. Charde read poems from her 2005 chapbook *Bad Girl At The Altar Rail*.

The Julia Brooker Thompson Library looks forward to serving the future generations of Torrington Campus students and the community of Litchfield County. Although the physical library has not expanded or changed very much during the past 40 years, the library has greatly expanded its capacity to serve the information needs of its community with the addition of networked databases and integrated collections and wired and wireless capabilities. The regional campus library will continue to embrace change as students adopt new technologies and learning techniques.

Sheila Lafferty, reference librarian/liaison & operations coordinator





Esther Gillie has joined the Libraries as the Circulation/Reserves Team Leader. She comes to UConn from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign where, as User Services Coordinator and

Assistant Professor of Library Administration in the Music Library, she planned for and coordinated staffing for research-related music reference and user services and created instructional aids and tutorials. Prior to that, she served as Sound Recording Archivist for the audio archives of the Eastman School of Music at the University of Rochester. Esther received her B.A., summa cum laude, from Skidmore College and her M.L.I.S. from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Outside of work, Esther remains active as a choral conductor and is currently working toward a Master's degree in choral conducting from Concordia University, Mequon, WI.



Linda Jackson has joined the Libraries as Digital Integration Librarian. She has been the Head of Library Technologies at the University of Hartford responsible for managing Voyager,

ENCompass and LFP and managing the computers in the University Library. She has a B.S. in Public Resource Management from Michigan State University and a M.S.I. from the University of Michigan.



Diane Mather is the new half-time Undergraduate Services Librarian at the Julia Brooker Thompson Library on the UConn/Torrington campus. Prior to joining UConn, she worked as a

University Assistant in the Interlibrary Loan Department of Central Connecticut State University and as ePortfolio Educational Assistant at Capital Community College. In her new position at UConn, she will assist with all library functions, including circulation, reserves, interlibrary loan, reference, and library instruction. Diane also works in circulation and reference at Avon Public Library. She holds a B.A. degree in mathematics from SUNY Buffalo and an M.L.S. from Southern Connecticut State University. Diane's non-professional interests include cross country skiing, hiking, gardening and spending time with family. She also enjoys listening to books during her Torrington commute.



Tom Wood has joined the Libraries as applications developer in Information Technology Services. Most recently, Tom developed meta-analytic statistics software for the Center for Health/HIV

Intervention and Prevention at UConn, Storrs. He began his career as a research programmer for the Robotics Institute at Carnegie-Mellon University. Since then, he has served in software engineering and engineering management positions at Sun Microsystems, BroadVision, FreeGate Corporation, and Tut Systems, all in California, and HotJobs, Inc. in New York City.

Class of '56

Gift to Support the University Archives

Art Sorrentino

As the University of Connecticut celebrates its 125th anniversary this year, the Class of 1956 has chosen for its 50th reunion gift campaign a project with historical significance. Members of the Class of 1956 gift committee, working with the UConn Foundation, have elected to create an endowment supporting the University Archives housed in the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center.

The *Class of 1956 Archives Endowment Fund* is expected to generate income that will be used to gather, preserve and provide access to historic University materials ranging from official documents to other

objects of unique research and scholarly value, such as records of governance, policy, operation of administrative offices, programs and publications.

The University Archives – in effect, the collective memory of the institution – was formally established in 1969, and in its first nearly 40 years has seen significant growth, development and use by a wide range of scholars both from within and outside UConn. Currently occupying more than 3,000 linear feet and available through a combination of sources both in the reference room and online, the collection consists of thousands of University publications, periodicals, photographic images and selected artifacts in a variety of formats.

Among the items are the original 1881 Prospectus for Storrs Agriculture School, as well as records of numerous academic departments, schools and colleges, divisions, institutes, campuses and centers. Also included is a wealth of material covering the University's student life, athletics, University publications, plans and drawings of campus buildings, plus photographs of campus scenes, dances, graduations, students and faculty.

"Coinciding as it does with the University's 125th anniversary, the decision by the Class of '56 is particularly inspired," notes Tom Wilsted, director of the Center. "The University has a rich history that we strive to preserve and make available to a wide audience interested in learning more about the growth of a great public institution. This effort illustrates what a tremendous difference significant gifts from alumni can make in shaping our future."

According to Wilsted, proceeds from the endowment will enable the Dodd Center to acquire and provide access to original materials for research; promote wider knowledge, appreciation and use of the Archives by students and scholars through outreach activities; and develop public programs, exhibitions, conferences and similar events.

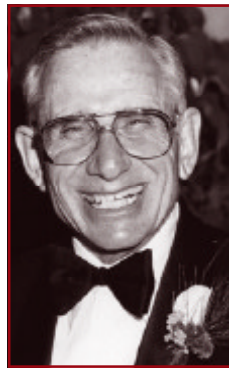
The Class of '56 gift committee and the UConn Foundation are in the process of completing informational and solicitation materials that will be sent to all members of the reunion class. Each of these dedicated individuals – Ray Neag, Thomas Wolff, Lionel Olmer and Bill Ratchford – has a long history of philanthropic and

volunteer support for the University of Connecticut. A \$125,000 goal has been established for this special project and at the end of January nearly \$50,000 had already been raised through the efforts of the individual members.

Mr. Wolff, who co-chairs the committee along with Mr. Neag, sums up his personal feelings this way: "I'm thrilled to have the opportunity of helping to celebrate my fiftieth class reunion. I enrolled at UConn with the



Lionel Olmer



Thomas Wolff



Bill Ratchford



Ray Neag

help of the GI Bill and two part time jobs after the Korean War. It was a turning point in my life. The class gift is a great opportunity to memorialize the past for future research and I hope all members of our class generously support this effort."

Plans call for the fundraising drive to be completed in time for Reunion Weekend in Storrs on June 2nd and 3rd. Part of the festivities on those days will involve tours of the Dodd Research Center and selections from the University Archives. In addition, a commemorative plaque will be unveiled in a place of honor to acknowledge all those who have contributed leadership gifts to the campaign.



Bedrije Mekolli, left, from the University of Kosovo gets advice on treatment options for a damaged book from Carole Dyal, the Libraries' conservator. Ms. Mekolli and five fellow faculty members from the University of Kosovo are establishing a new library that will serve as both the academic library for the University of Kosovo as well as the first National Library of Kosovo. She spent several weeks in this country as part of a grant from the U. S. Department of State given to the Institute for Training and Development located in Amherst, Massachusetts. The I.T.D. offers programs that involve a wide variety of clients from home and abroad to "act as effective change agents in the creation of a better future for their organizations, communities, and nations." Other groups receiving training this year include Islamic educators from the Philippines learning about American school systems and indigenous youth of Bolivia studying American democracy. Ms. Mekolli, who is a professor of chemistry at the University of Kosovo, will be developing a conservation program for the new library. She visited the Conservation Lab in Homer Babbidge Library as part of her training.



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Every effort has been made to review all of the information included in this report. However, errors and omissions may still occur. Please accept our apologies if your information appears incorrectly, and please bring it to our attention.

10th Anniversary (continued from page 1)

cartoonist Bob Englehart; Benjamin Ferencz, a prosecuting attorney at the Nuremberg Trials; Jack Hoffman, brother of peace activist Abbie Hoffman; and Martin Luther King III.

These programs could not have been possible without the generous support of numerous University and non-university departments and institutions including:

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- The Human Rights Institute
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- RBS Greenwich Capital
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- SBM Charitable Foundation
- U.S. Senator Christopher J. Dodd and his staff
- SUBOG Lecture Committee
- The Department of Mathematics
- Thomas J. Dodd Research Center Advisory Board
- University of Connecticut Libraries
- William Benton Museum of Art
- Women's Studies Program

Jean Nelson, events & facilities coordinator, Dodd Research Center



Tom Wilsted, director, Dodd Research Center



Dean of Fine Arts David Woods, left, and Vice Provost for University Libraries Brinley Franklin, right, were on hand January 29 when engraver and illustrator Barry Moser, center, presented the library with more than 50 engravings from his "Literary Genius" exhibit at the Dodd Research Center. Moser recently shared the prestigious Umhoefer Prize for achievement in the humanities with Richard Grossman for their book *A Year with Emerson* published by David Godine. His personal papers relating to his children's books are housed in the Libraries' Archives & Special Collections.

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Exhibits THROUGH MAY 19

Susan Neet Goodwin

Preserving Identities

Gallery on the Plaza, Babbidge Library

The purpose of Susan Neet Goodwin's work is to document and bring attention to ethnic groups. Her sculptures remind us that each person is unique and interesting, as are the groups people form. She hopes her work will encourage us to recognize our similarities, and celebrate the details that make us different from each other. She says, "The reality for many people the world over is that they struggle tenaciously to maintain their culture. The

identifying specifics that help to define a culture are reflections of people's lives. Often those details are visually stunning, and intriguing. Consider Himba skin, coated with butterfat and ochre, a protection from desert insects and intense sun. Likewise, envision Malagasy cemetery sculpture, Lapp clothing, and New England stonewalls. The list is endless."

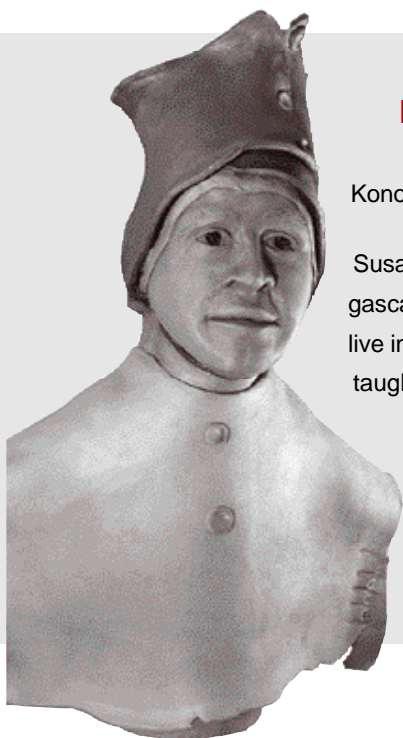
A graduate of the University of Massachusetts, Neet Goodwin holds an M.A. in Education from the University of Connecticut. She lived in Storrs for many years while she taught art at Tolland High School and Woodstock Academy. Recently, she has been teaching in the pottery village of Alasora, Madagascar. An exhibit of her work, "Preserving Identities" will be on display in the Gallery on the Plaza of Babbidge Library from March 13 through May 19. For more information, see www.susanneetgoodwin.com.

Lecture by Susan Neet Goodwin

Sunday, March 19, 2006 • 1 p.m.

Konover Auditorium, Thomas J. Dodd Research Center

Susan Neet Goodwin will discuss the island of Madagascar and its inhabitants, focusing on the people who live in the pottery village of Alasora, where she has taught. In her talk she will describe the efforts of the potters to learn, expand, and develop objects for sale into a small but developing tourist market, while trying to overcome difficulties related to infrastructure, energy supplies, and changing markets.



Ballard Institute & Museum of Puppetry Tenth Anniversary Season



Music & Dramatic Arts Library Lobby

The Holy City Early Photographs of Jerusalem

Dodd Research Center Gallery

Darfur Drawn The Conflict Through Children's Eyes

Dodd Research Center, West Corridor

Abstractions Paintings and Collages by Felix Bronner

Babbidge Library, Stevens Gallery

INTERTEXT A Hands-On Display of Magnetic Language

Babbidge Library, West Alcove

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University of Connecticut Libraries is published four times each year to provide current information about collections, services, and activities to those interested in the welfare of the Libraries. If you do not wish to receive the newsletter, please contact Ann Galonska at ann.galonska@uconn.edu or 860-486-6882.

Editor Suzanne Zack

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