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The Social Life of Libraries

Brinley Franklin
Director of Library Services

These days, when a library director is interviewed, he or she is invariably asked if libraries will continue to exist as physical entities as information becomes more readily available electronically. I always answer “yes” for the University of Connecticut Libraries, and my reasons for doing so are many.



In their book, *The Social Life of Information*, John Seely Brown and Paul Duguid devote several pages to “digitized libraries.” They point out that the dream of making all printed material digitally accessible died not long after it was born. Project Gutenberg, perhaps the earliest attempt to realize this dream, is now 30 years old and has managed to mount only 10,000 titles online. The most popular electronic book vendor, netLibrary, has about 30,000 titles available. Meanwhile, in 1999, the most recent year for which we have statistics, 100,000 titles were published in the United Kingdom alone.

Brown and Duguid note that the dream of an all-digital library (with which several new universities have experimented) is largely the stuff of visionaries. In fact, digital and physical libraries are complementary. Moreover, as the gap widens between the amount of information produced and the ability of any one library, or consortium of libraries, to collect the sum total of information available, libraries increasingly will reflect the uniqueness and diversity of their users, their services, their holdings, and their buildings.

The continuing need for a physical library facility on UConn’s Storrs campus is demonstrated by the fact that the Babbidge Library is visited more than one million times each year by students, faculty, and other scholars. It can be assumed that the great majority of these users own or have access to personal computers and could approach many of the library’s information

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The Hoffman Family Collection, which traces the life and times of activist Abbie Hoffman, is now part of Archives & Special collections in the Dodd Research Center. A photo from the collection shows Abbie (left) sharing something presumably illegal with his friend, Beatle John Lennon. Story on page 3.



Library Investing Heavily In Electronic Journals

The digital revolution, at last, is providing more titles than ever—and at a price we can afford.

Peter Allison, Principal Bibliographer, and
Carolyn Mills, Liaison Librarian for the Biological Sciences

The University Libraries are about to achieve a significant milestone in providing electronic information to the desktop—in a month or so, we will offer access to more scientific and technical journals in digital form than we have available via print subscriptions. This figure includes more than two thousand scholarly titles to which we have no current print subscription.

This is very good news for busy students and researchers, who will be able to consult these titles without leaving their dorms, homes, labs, or offices. This enhanced access will help users save valuable time, increase research efficiency, and greatly speed up preparation of time-dependent grant proposals.

We’ve come further—and faster—than we expected, toward a goal we had set, because large commercial publishers, concerned with their loss of market share, have proposed very favorable terms on packages of digital content. The larger publishers typically are offering electronic access to all or almost all their electronic journals for only 5%-10% over print subscription costs. In many cases, the agreement is made even more attractive by the inclusion of a cap on price

increases for both print and electronic titles. And, in a number of instances, the library has regained access to important, but painfully expensive, titles that were cancelled in the 1990’s.

We have contracted for substantial content from the following publishers: Academic Press, American Chemical Society, American Institute of Physics, Association for Computing Machinery, Blackwell Science, Churchill Livingstone, Elsevier Science, Human Sciences Press, Institute of Physics, Karger, Kluwer, North Holland, Oxford, Pergamon, Plenum, Saunders, Springer; and Wiley Interscience.

The figures below include those agreements that will bring in the largest number of new titles. They demonstrate the title gain for the Storrs community. And, since the libraries at the regional campuses and the Health Center subscribe to fewer print journals than Storrs, system-wide electronic access yields an even greater title gain for them. Faculty, staff and students will be able to consult most of the electronic journals through a web browser by registering their browsers through a proxy server in University Information Technology Services.

Most publishers represented above share a
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Publisher	Existing UC Subscriptions	eTitles Now Available	Increase
Academic Press	98	200	102
Blackwell Science	27	219	192
Elsevier	379	1028	649
Kluwer	157	484	327
Springer	66	482	416
Wiley	47	321	274
Totals	774	2734	1960



UConn undergraduate Marisa Olivo is among the first to browse the shelves of Babbidge Library's recently restored current journals area. Photo: Suzanne Zack

Babbidge Library Restores Current Journals Browsing Area

Long-time Homer Babbidge Library users will recall the Current Journals Reading Room that existed on Level B before that floor was renovated in 1997-98. During the renovation, unbound journals were moved to Level 3 and shelved next to bound volumes of the same title.

The library's User Team then decided to use the opportunity to survey several hundred users of the unbound journals to see which of several possible shelving arrangements they preferred for current issues. Users were evenly divided in preferring unbound journals shelved either as a separate browsing collection or on the shelves with the bound volumes. It was clear, however, that they preferred having both current and bound journals on the same floor. Library staff decided to maintain both bound and unbound journals on Level 3 as an integrated collection and not to re-establish a separate browsing collection of current issues only.

Soon thereafter, the Libraries received a petition from department heads and faculty in the Humanities requesting that the library restore a current journals browsing area. The Vice Chancellor for Information Services, Paul Kobulnicky, and I met with the petitioners, and the matter was subsequently referred to the Chancellor's Library Advisory Committee. In the spring of 2000, the Committee unanimously recommended the creation of an unbound journals browsing area on Level 3.

The library's Space Planning Team (Brinley Franklin, Scott Kennedy, and Dennis Thornton), assisted by David Kapp, former Associate Director for Collections and Information Services, prepared a shelving configuration that would accommodate 4,500 unbound journal titles in an area adjacent to bound journals on Level 3. Shelving was constructed in November 2000. Library conservator Carole Dyal and Lee Astin, who maintains the journal collections, planned the arrangement of unbound journals for the shelves, then Lee and Patrick Dillon oversaw the shifting of unbound journals to the new shelving over the winter recess. Carole Dyal, Head of Preservation, and Meredith Petersons, Signage Team Leader, coordinated the title-by-title production of labels and signs for the collection.

The current journals browsing area is now restored to faculty, students, staff and others. The project is noteworthy, we believe, as an example of the importance of user feedback in the library's decision-making and resource allocation processes. It also serves as a good illustration of the way in which staff members work as a team to respond to users' concerns with solutions that meet their needs. ■

Brinley Franklin, Director, University Library Services

Video Theater 1 Renovated; Online Reservation Forms Available

Over the winter recess, Video Theater 1 was completely outfitted with new multimedia projection equipment, including a digital video disc player, a universal video cassette player, a liquid crystal display projector, and a new screen and audio speakers. All of the equipment is operable from a lectern that provides computer connectivity to the Internet. Video Theater 1 seats 35 people. A second project to upgrade Video Theater 2 is underway; see the story on page 7.

Faculty now may reserve Culpeper Library A/V media and book Video Theaters 1 and 2 using web-interactive forms. The online forms should greatly reduce and eventually eliminate paperwork and delays in reserving both media and the theaters.

The *Media Reserve Request Form* enables faculty to reserve library or personal video, audio, or DVD items for a semester or for specific days. Up to five items at a time may be reserved. Once the form has been completed and sent online, both user and Culpeper staff receive confirming email notices. <www.lib.uconn.edu/libraries/culpeper/reserve/mediaReserve.html>

The *Video Theater Booking Form* is designed to reserve either theater for specific dates and times. Users can check an online schedule to make sure their reservation does not conflict with another event. Faculty may also reserve the A/V media needed for their booking on this form. When the reservation is confirmed online both user and Culpeper staff receive email notification. <www.lib.uconn.edu/libraries/culpeper/reserve/theaterReserve.html> ■

Fang Gu, Media Librarian, Culpeper Media Services Library

Gejdenson Papers Donated to Dodd Research Center

Former Congressman Sam Gejdenson has donated his papers to the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center, where they will complement the Center's collection of congressional papers, including those of Thomas J. Dodd, Barbara Kennelly, Prescott Bush, Francis Maloney, Bruce Morrison and William Ratchford, among others. Mr. Gejdenson represented the Second District of Connecticut from 1981 until 2000. The collection consists of materials pertaining to his congressional career and includes correspondence, reports, news clippings, press releases, speeches, committee and issue files, and audio visual materials.

Known as a passionate advocate for children, senior citizens, and working families, Gejdenson supported efforts to bring modern technology to schools and to make college more affordable. He also worked to enhance retirement security, to create jobs here in the United States by promoting the export of American-made goods and services, and to protect the environment for the enjoyment of future generations.

Gejdenson, the first child of Holocaust survivors elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, was born in 1948 in an American displaced persons camp in Eschwege, Germany. He received an A.S. degree from Mitchell College in New London in 1968 and is a graduate of the University of Connecticut with a B.A. awarded in 1970.

In 1974, he was elected to the Connecticut House of Representatives, serving two terms before accepting a post in the administration of Governor Ella T. Grasso. In the 104th and 105th Congresses, Gejdenson served as Co-Chairman of the Democratic Task Force on Retirement Security. In the 106th Congress, Representative Gejdenson served

as the Ranking Democrat on the Committee on International Relations; he was a member of the Committee since coming to Congress in 1981. His other committee appointments include the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Joint Committee on the Organization of Congress, Joint Library Committee, Committee on House Administration and several task forces.

For more information about the Sam Gejdenson Papers, or other political collections at the Dodd Research Center, contact Betsy Pittman, University Archivist and Curator, Political Archives, at Betsy.Pittman@uconn.edu or 860 486-4507. ■



Sam Gejdenson represented Connecticut's Second District in the U. S. House of Representatives from 1981 through 2000. Photo: Peter Morenus

Statistical Universe Your Best Source for Statistics

Statistical Universe is the most comprehensive database available for statistical data from federal and state governments, international and non-governmental organizations, and the private sector. UConn faculty and students now have online access to this database at the Libraries' web site, <www.lib.uconn.edu>. The electronic database is a continuation of three printed indexes: *American Statistics Index*, *Statistical Reference Index*, and *Index to International Statistics*; providing access to publications from over 200 federal agencies, 50 state governments, 100 international and intergovernmental organizations, and 500 private and academic sources.

Direct links to many U.S. government statistical sources and World Bank publications are provided in the Abstracts database. The Homer Babbidge Library subscribes to the accompanying IIS microfiche set of international statistical publications indexed by Statistical Universe. The Power Tables module contains the full text of tables from statistical publications from 40 federal agencies, state compendiums of statistics, and the World Bank, as well as the entire content of the *Statistical Abstract of the United States*. Many tables are available in Excel format, usually with more data than is provided in the print publication. ■

Steven Batt, Reference/Liaison Librarian

C.H. Dexter & Sons Records In Archives; Was Oldest Stock Traded on New York Stock Exchange

The Dexter Corporation, highly respected in the specialty papers and fibers industry, was a vibrant and successful business that provided employment to thousands of Connecticut workers for well over 200 years. The corporation's roots extended to 1767, when Seth Dexter II founded a sawmill in Windsor Locks. Seth's son, Charles Haskell Dexter, experimented in the 1830s with making

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Hoffman Family Collection Traces Life of Activist Abbie Hoffman

Terri J. Goldich

Curator, Alternative Press and Children's Literature

Trying to write about Abbie Hoffman and the Hoffman Family Collection is a little like trying to remember the 60's. Who said, "If you remember the 60's you weren't part of it"?

It has been said of Hoffman that he was one of the first political activists to understand and utilize the connection between politics and that ever more popular medium, television. His ability to attract media attention was amply demonstrated by his famous antics during the Chicago Seven trial: he wore a flag, he wore judges' robes, and he threw a back flip on the sidewalk outside every morning before entering the courtroom.

Hoffman knew the value of the outrageous act. He had, after all, nominated a pig, "Pigasus," for President. I recall, very clearly, hearing the chant supposedly started by Hoffman, "The whole world is watching!" during the demonstrations at the 1968 Democratic National Convention. Abbie and seven others were arrested following the riots, at times now called a police riot, that turned Chicago upside down and mesmerized the rest of the world. One defendant, Bobby Seale, was jailed for contempt of court, and the rest earned fame as the Chicago Seven.

Archives & Special Collections, at the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center, has acquired a body of materials from Jack Hoffman, Abbie's younger brother. Known as the Hoffman Family Collection, it includes family correspondence, article and book research, personal papers, written material by and about Abbie Hoffman, copies of government files newspaper articles, 16 mm films of the family, and personal photographs. Collection processor and graduate intern Ryan Thompson writes in the collection's finding aid of Hoffman: "Abbot Howard Hoffman, 'Abbie,' was born November 30, 1936 in Worcester, Massachusetts. He studied psychology with Abraham Maslow at Brandeis University, where he graduated in 1959 with a BA. He then completed a year of graduate work at the University of California at Berkeley.

His growing participation in the various counter-culture movements led to his arrest and subsequent trial as a member of the Chicago Seven following the 1968 riots at the Democratic National Convention. He co-founded the Yippie movement and was a vocal activist for civil rights, ending the Vietnam War, and other social movements.

Following his arrest for selling cocaine in 1973, he jumped bail and spent the next seven years as a fugitive, sometimes traveling abroad while continuing to write and protest before re-emerging in 1980. After serving a brief jail term, Abbie continued to write both articles and books, work with community groups in organizing local

protests, and visit campuses to speak with students about taking civil and political action until his death in April of 1989."

The Hoffman collection came to UConn through a contact between Emeritus Director of University Libraries, Norman Stevens, and his friend, the late Leah Levenson. Until her recent death, Levenson had been working on a biography of Abbie. She had consulted with Jack Hoffman, who showed her the materials he had amassed through research conducted while writing his own book about Abbie, *Run Run Run: the Lives of Abbie Hoffman*. Dr. Stevens informed the Dodd Center staff that a collection of historical importance was potentially available. Negotiations for the transfer of the collection to Archives & Special Collections then began with a visit to Jack Hoffman's basement in Framingham, Massachusetts by Betsy Pittman, University Archivist, Dr. Stevens, and myself.

Earlier, Jack Hoffman had offered the materials to Brandeis University, Abbie's alma mater, and to Clark University, in the Hoffman hometown of Worcester, but both institutions had declined the collection. While there were no familial or collegial connections to the University of Connecticut, Jack felt that the Dodd Research Center was an appropriate place for the collection because of its location between New York and Boston, as well as the quality of the facility and the commitment of the curatorial staff.

The relationship of the Hoffman materials to other materials in the Dodd Center is most obvious with the Alternative Press Collection (APC). This nationally significant collection was established in the 1970s to collect, preserve, and make available publications documenting major social movements in this country and elsewhere. It includes materials on the counterculture, antiwar, protest, and student movements, along with publications from the beginnings of the feminist, black liberation, and gay rights movements. The APC is one of the most heavily used collections in Archives & Special Collections, consulted year round by researchers on site and around the globe via interlibrary loan.

Jack Hoffman hopes that his donation will lead others who still hold materials either connected to Abbie or related to the period to place their materials in the Dodd Center as well. News of the donation, appearing in the media, prompted one California musician to send us an image of an American flag he owns, which is signed by Hoffman, Dave Dellinger, William S. Burroughs, and the poet Allen Ginsberg. (The flag itself is promised to the Smithsonian Institution.)

The collection is an interesting combination of the personal and the political. Housed in 16 boxes and several oversize drawers, the bulk of the collection consists of FBI and New York City Police Department surveillance files. At one time, Hoffman was under surveillance by as many as seven local, state, and federal agencies. The FBI files are fascinating as much for what they do not provide as what they do include; the pages are heavily censored in black marker. Even the FBI microfilm records are censored. Any information that could be used to identify a particular agent or member of the agency, for instance, has been removed.



Abbie doing what he did best - talking! Hoffman Family Collection, Archives & Special Collections, University of Connecticut Libraries

There are intensely personal items such as Abbie's prayer shawl, and yes, the dirty socks, once white with American flags on the sides. There is a Celtics jacket with its own interesting question about its original owner. Jack Hoffman recalls the jacket being given to Abbie by Bill Walton. But, there is mention in a 1988 interview Abbie did for alternative publication Earth Star:

ES: Why did Danny [Ainge] give you the jacket?


AH: Well, I must tell you he did not personally hand it to me, through intermediaries. The reason is not political. It's because it's well known that I bet.

An avid sports bettor, Abbie worked on a sports betting program called "Steal This Game." Perhaps Walton did give him the jacket.

In addition to Hoffman family memorabilia, such as family vacation films, there are files of correspondence consisting mainly of letters among Abbie, Jack, and their mother Florence. One of the most interesting, and touching, letters was written by Abbie while incarcerated. The intensity of the activist is obvious and unabated even while his physical movements are restricted.

Artifacts in the collection include awards, with one from a Camp Mohican (is there a camp award for organizing?), posters, political pins ("El Salvador is Spanish for Vietnam"), and a few stolen hotel keys. There are also items relating to Abbie's death, such as sympathy cards and the memorial book from the funeral home, signed by family and friends and annotated with small peace signs, "Abbie lives!" and one bold "Right on!" in black ink.

Collection processing is now underway. A finding aid, now in draft form, will soon be available on the Dodd Center web page. The 16-mm films in the collection will be transferred to videotape, an expensive but very necessary step to preserve the films and make copies available to researchers. And new materials are still being added to the collection as they are received from Jack.

Abbie Hoffman died in April 1989, in New Hope, Pennsylvania, very near to where Thomas Paine wrote *Common Sense*. His death was ruled a suicide. 

STEAL THIS EXHIBIT!

Items from the Hoffman Family Collection will be displayed in the Dodd Research Center, March 25 through May 25, 2001, in commemoration of Abbie Hoffman's death.



Abbie Hoffman, NYC, 1970
Photo: Fred McDarrah

Staff News



David Garnes, Reference Librarian and Liaison to the Schools of Nursing and Allied Health, retired at the end of January after twenty years of service to the university. David came to UConn in 1981 as Head of Library Acquisitions, and

later the newly formed Collection Development Department. Earlier, he taught high school English in New York City before earning his MLS degree at Columbia University and serving as Head of Book Acquisitions for the Columbia University Libraries from 1973-1981.

During the 1980s, the library experienced both financial cutbacks from the state as well as subsequent significant growth in the collections, particularly with the advent of electronic products and services. A milestone of David's tenure as Head of Collection Development was his establishment of a comprehensive collection development approval plan with our principal book vendor, assuring automatic receipt of all primary U.S. academic publications.

In 1990, following an extended leave from the university to attend to a family medical situation, David opted for a career change, choosing to return to the library as a part-time reference librarian and as liaison to the Schools of Nursing and Allied Health. His "second career" with the Libraries turned out to be as successful as his first. A natural teacher, a leader in public service, and a mentor to younger colleagues, David established a model for collaboration with the academic community, helping to transform our notion of librarianship and the expectations we have for librarians. Through his example, David has also encouraged library staff to engage fully in university initiatives. He has served in the University Senate, and participated in the Freshman Reading Program, the Freshman Book Selection Committee, the UConn Connects Program, the Rainbow Center, and the Gay and Lesbian Studies Task Force.

Beyond the library, David has held leadership positions in the American Library Association, the Connecticut Library Association and the Association of College & Research Libraries/New England Chapter. He has served on editorial boards, chaired awards committees, published numerous articles in the library literature, and served as an adjunct faculty in the graduate library degree program at Southern Connecticut State University.

Most recently, David has enjoyed great success as a published author of biographical essays, short stories, memoirs, and occasional poems. We look forward to a new creative outpouring as we wish him all the best in his retirement.

Friends, family, and colleagues of David Garnes are invited to attend a party to celebrate David's contributions to the University Libraries on Wednesday, March 7, 4-6 PM in the Dodd Research Center. RSVP to 860-486-2219 if you wish to attend. ■



Tara Hurt has resigned from the staff of the Dodd Research Center to accept a position as Head of Archives & Special Collections at Eastern Connecticut State University. Tara joined the UConn Libraries as a student assistant in 1990. Following her

graduation in 1994, she was hired as Reader Services Coordinator in the Dodd Center. In 1996, Tara assumed curatorial responsibility for several collections, including the records of the Connecticut Historic Preservation Commission, the Waugh Sundial Collection, Photographs, the Keyes Horse Collection, the Fred Ho Collection, and, most recently, the Sam Charters Collection. She received her Master's in Library Science from Southern Connecticut State University in 1999.

Tara's contributions to the library and to Archives and Special Collections have been significant. She helped to plan the move of the collections into the new Dodd Research Center in 1996. She served as student supervisor for Archives & Special Collections during her entire tenure and has welcomed and bid fond farewell to more than seven student classes. Tara also has been heavily involved in library personnel issues, serving more than three years on the team that redefined the University Library Assistant (ULA) job structure and as chair of the first panel to evaluate ULAs. ■



Alice Permenter has joined the staff of the UConn Libraries as Area Head for Collections Services. Alice has been a librarian for almost 20 years and comes to us from Tulane University in New Orleans where she was Head of Cataloging. During

her tenure at Tulane, she also served as Acting Head of Monograph Acquisitions. Prior to going to Tulane in 1997, Alice held various department head positions at Loyola University Chicago and Southwest Texas State University. She brings a wealth of experience in supervision, project management and technical services operations to the UConn Libraries. ■



Cristina Simbotin joined Access Services as a volunteer in the Fall of 2000.

Originally from Romania, she earned a B. S. degree in physics from the University of Bucharest. In Bucharest, she worked as a library assistant in

the British Consulate. Christina and her husband, a post doctoral researcher in the Physics Department, came to the U.S. just over a year ago. She has been handling a variety of projects in Access Services, including scanning materials for Electronic Course Reserve. ■

An Honor With Books Fund has been established in David Garnes name.

David has designated that the fund be used to help accomplish a long-time library goal—the establishment of a recreational reading collection in the Babbidge Library. The primary clientele for the collection will be undergraduates, who have no easy access to a public library in Storrs.

The goal for the fund is \$10,000, of which \$4,000 has already been pledged. Donors of \$50 or more will be acknowledged by name on a plaque to be placed in the new Recreational Reading Area. Donors of \$100 - \$249 will be designated as "Benefactors," and donations of \$250 or more will qualify as "Leadership" gifts. If you wish to make a donation for this purpose, please contact Linda Perrone, Director of Library Development; linda.perrone@uconn.edu or 860-486-0451.

Collections and Services

Continued from page 2

wrapping paper from rope by using power from the mill, sealing his name on the company and the company's future in the paper industry. Seven generations of Dexter descendants owned and operated the company for most of its existence.

The company name, C.H. Dexter & Sons, was established in 1867. Among other products, the company produced the first packaged sheets of toilet paper, catalog cover paper, and metal tarnish tissue; but it was known best as a maker of teabag papers, with the largest teabag paper factory in the world located in Windsor Locks. In the 1950s, as part of an effort to modernize, the company changed its name to Dexter Corporation and expanded its markets to create a narrow niche for itself.

In September 2000, fending off a hostile takeover bid, the company was forced to sell itself to Ahlstrom Paper Group of Finland and Invitrogen Corporation of California. It was the oldest company traded on the New York Stock Exchange.

The history of C.H. Dexter & Sons will live on in the Connecticut Business Archives of the University of Connecticut Libraries. Soon after Dexter was sold, the new owners donated its historical records to Archives & Special Collections. The records are a fitting addition to the Connecticut Business Archives, which holds many collections of businesses whose roots go back to the 18th or early 19th centuries. Among these are the records of the Cheney Brothers Silk Manufacturing Company of Manchester; the Farrel Company of Ansonia, which produced heavy machinery; and the E. Ingraham Company of Bristol, maker of watches and clocks.

The C.H. Dexter & Sons records include samples of their products, correspondence, memorabilia, annual reports, photographs, and historical documents of the Dexter and the Coffin (also Dexter descendants) families. The records will provide researchers with information about how a company can serve as a vibrant force in its community and the manufacturing of paper-based products and how it changed throughout the 19th and 20th centuries. ■

Laura Katz Smith, Curator, Business, Railroad, Labor, Ethnic Heritage and Immigration Archives



Interior of paper factory, Dexter Corporation, 1950s; C.H. Dexter & Sons records, archives and special collections

Online for Posterity: A Plan To Preserve Electronic Records

Traditionally, the university's official work has been documented at specific points with records on paper. For example, when a student graduates, a paper transcript of his or her record is created and placed into files the university is required to maintain permanently. But what happens when the transcript is created in digital format without a paper component? Given changes in technology, how will we maintain these electronic documents and ensure that only authorized people are able to

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access them? What happens when a university official sends out an e-mail memorandum establishing a policy? Where will that e-mail reside as part of the university's records?

These are among the issues the university has been considering as the result of a grant received in April 2000 from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. Under the grant, the university has now developed a strategic plan to preserve and make accessible its administrative records created in electronic format.

Following receipt of the grant, Vice-Chancellor for Information Services Paul Kobulnicky appointed a project planning team consisting of team leader Thomas Wilsted, Director of the Dodd Research Center; Elaine David, Coordinator of Special Projects in University Information Technology Services; Betsy Pittman, University Archivist; and Tom Ruller, Project Consultant. From April through June, the team met with representatives of university administrative units already using and/or developing electronic records systems, and they established an advisory board to help develop a strategic plan. The 14 members of the advisory board represent the major university constituencies. Together, the two groups have prepared a strategic plan, which has been endorsed by the chancellor's office.

To implement the strategic plan, Wilsted says, the university will:

- Identify its core information assets
- Establish university-wide policies and procedures pertaining to electronic information
- Develop training programs for staff who are responsible for preserving electronic data
- Establish the position of knowledge asset manager to develop programs regarding electronic information

The complete plan can be found at: <www.lib.uconn.edu/DoddCenter/ASC/pages/StrategicPlanElectronicRecords.2000.htm>. Comments on the plan or its implementation may be sent to any member of the planning team. ■

Homer Upgrade Improves Searching and Screen Displays

Homer, the Libraries' online system, has been upgraded to provide enhanced features for searching and display, as well as improved functionality for acquisitions/serials control operations.

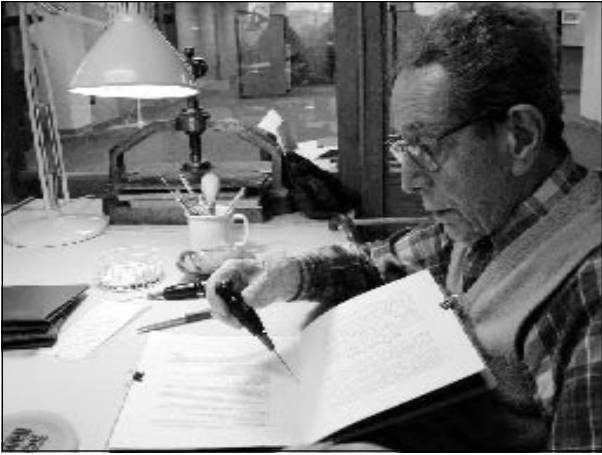
- *Simplified search screen* A simple basic search screen allows users to enter search terms, choose the type of search to be done from a pull down menu, and even select one of a number of frequently-applied search limits like location or language.
- *Capitalization not required* It is no longer necessary to capitalize the Boolean operators AND, OR, and NOT when entering a keyword search.
- *Selected records retained on multiple screens* It is possible to retain selected records across multiple pages of a search result so that all can be printed/saved/mailed together.
- *More information in initial display* The initial display of titles resulting from a search now includes the location, call number, and circulation status of each title listed.
- *Post-search limits* Users can apply limits to a result set after it displays in order to reduce the number of records to be reviewed.
- *New sort options* Users can re-sort the items in the results display.
- *Jump bar* A new "jump bar" allows users to navigate large result sets more easily.
- *New search anywhere* A search box that displays along with results makes it easy to modify the current search or to initiate a new search without returning to the original search screen.

In addition to these enhancements to Homer's public interface, behind-the-scenes operations in

Heinz Herrmann—Volunteer

Suzanne Zack, Asst. to the Vice Chancellor
for Information Services,
Marketing and Communications

For Professor of Biology Emeritus Heinz Herrmann, life seems to focus on beginnings. Herrmann spent his decades-long career delving into the mysteries of life by unraveling the molecular and cellular mechanisms that regulate embryonic development. Now retired, he finds that he himself has begun a new life. He is a volunteer in the Conservation Lab at



Library Conservator Carole Dyal says of volunteer Heinz Herrmann, "Professor Herrmann infects us all with his love of learning and his deep appreciation for research library collections in a way that we do not often experience." Photo: Suzanne Zack.


Homer Babbidge Library, where he helps to preserve the Libraries' research collections. "It's fantastic," Herrmann says of his work. "I don't see how any person, whether an academician or anyone with a trace of intellectual curiosity could not enjoy it. I handle everything from resolutions of the United Nations about how to take care of the environment, to sheet music for piano concerti, to pamphlets from art galleries. I don't have to go to New York, I have everything here," Herrmann quips.

Since fall, 1999, Herrmann has spent two afternoons each week in the lab sewing single-section items, such as music scores, into specially prepared covers. His contribution extends well beyond that, according to Carole Dyal, who heads the lab. "Professor Herrmann infects us all with his love of learning and his deep appreciation for research library collections in a way that we do not often experience," she says.

Herrmann's enthusiasm for the new worlds he is exposed to mirrors that of his academic life. He received his M.D. degree from the University of Vienna Medical School in 1936 and began a career as a research scientist by studying for several years at The Carlsberg Laboratories in Copenhagen. In 1939, he came to the United States, where he conducted research first at Johns Hopkins University Medical School and later at the Yale Osborn Zoology Laboratories. He established the noted Laboratory of Chemical Embryology at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, then came to UConn in 1959 as the second director of the university's Institute of Cellular Biology, a position he held for ten years.

After retiring in 1978, he continued his scholarly pursuits and produced two highly

collections. While around ten percent of the materials needing physical treatment require commercial binding, most materials can be handled in the lab itself. The lab work force performs a wide variety of conservation treatments including: flattening, cleaning, alkalizing, repairing, encapsulating, mounting, hinging and matting flat paper items such as manuscripts, maps, and drawings; cleaning, repairing, binding, and rebinding pamphlets, books, and other volumes; preparing volumes for commercial library binding; and constructing a variety of custom-made protective enclosures. On average, the Conservation Lab provides treatment of some 15,000 items a year, not including those salvaged from disasters.

Herrmann intends to continue exploring the new worlds he encounters as a volunteer. "Last week, I had a pamphlet about the history of bee keeping by an English author, who noted that bee keeping has been with us for 5,000 years," he observed. "There was a figure that was mind boggling. The author said there are 20,000 books about bee keeping. Can you imagine that? I wish I could be irresponsible and just sit here and read," he chuckles as he begins work on another pamphlet. 

The volunteer program enables people to work in many areas of the library, ranging from Archives and Special Collections in the Dodd Research Center, to Circulation, to the Art and Design Library. Volunteers generally work at least two to three hours per week, but may also have the opportunity to work on special projects of limited duration. For additional information, contact Betty Tonucci in the library's administrative offices at 860-486-0845.

the Libraries will also benefit from more flexible and efficient processing procedures. Questions and/or comments regarding Homer may be referred to Melissa.Wisner@uconn.edu or Fritzi.Batchelor@uconn.edu. ■

Barbara Cervera, Reference/Liaison Librarian

The Connecticut Digital Library

During the 2000 legislative session, the General Assembly enacted Public Act 00-187, authorizing the creation of the Connecticut Digital Library(CDL). Years hence, the establishment of

the CDL will be remembered as a milestone in the history of information access in Connecticut, for it will provide immediate and free access to full-text information at each citizen's desktop, whether at home or at the office, at the library or in school. The CDL will offer current, reliable information via full-text journal and newspaper databases, a consumer-oriented health database, and a business database; and through reQuest, a state-wide catalog of publicly available collections and resources.

The CDL is administered by the Connecticut State Library in conjunction with the State Department of Higher Education. It is a component of

Continued on page 7

Library Investing Heavily In Electronic Journals

Continued from page 1

primary focus on scientific and technical information. The library is giving priority to the acquisition of electronic journals for communities of users who typically work within very short time frames or who are constrained in their ability to make regular use of our physical facilities. These groups include undergraduates, commuter and distance education students, and laboratory scientists.

For several years the Libraries have offered a substantial body of full-text material to undergraduates and business students through aggregated collections of business, legal, journal and news sources such as Academic Universe, Dow Jones, and Westlaw; and mixed databases of journal abstracts and full-text such as InfoTrac, and WilsonWeb. The large scientific and technical publishers, however, have generally resisted licensing their content to aggregators, preferring to deal directly with libraries and library consortia. Now that significant electronic content is available in the sciences and an attractive business model has emerged, the Libraries are moving into this arena as strongly as resources permit.

How will we make such a vast number of new titles and easily accessible content transparent to users? In the short run, users are being directed to eCompass, a full-text journal locator on our web site. Ultimately, all titles to which we subscribe directly will be represented and hot-linked through HOMER, our web-based catalog.

Links to electronic journals also are becoming a common feature of the bibliographic and citation databases to which we subscribe. Examples of databases offering direct links to full-text journals are Web of Science; Current Contents, Medline, and PsychInfo through the vendor Silver Platter; and Aquatic Sciences & Fisheries Abstracts, Metadex and Water Resources Abstracts through the vendor Cambridge Scientific Abstracts.

We are pleased to be able to offer such a bonanza of added electronic journal content to the university community. At the same time, we are concerned by the dramatically changed circumstances in which we find ourselves. Some agreements into which we are entering strain our resources and may limit future choices. Commercial publishers’ practice of bundling many journals into large packages decreases our ability to influence the quality of journals on offer through title-by-title selection or cancellation decisions. Licensing is not the same as owning; subscriptions to digital content can disappear completely if they are not renewed. And no one in the library community believes that commercial publishers can be relied upon to provide long-term archival access to their electronic output.

It is no accident that the publishers who have driven the huge escalation in scientific and technical journal prices over the past three decades are now in the best position to offer large quantities of digital content on attractive terms. Six of the journal publishers listed above are owned by Reed Elsevier, whose electronic journal product, Science Direct, is the most ambitious, costly, and, in some quarters, controversial of our new digital commitments.

The library would prefer to partner with non-profit and society publishers who share our long-term interest in the future of a sustainable system of scholarly communication. Unfortunately, many of these publishers lack the capital to invest strongly in the digital transition. Others seek to finance their electronic offerings by requiring prospective users to pay exorbitant premiums over the cost of their print subscriptions. Despite our preferences and concerns, however, we are very aware that commercial publishers continue to control substantial content that library users want.

Retention of print subscriptions is still linked to the pricing of electronic journals at this time; however, the large commercial publishers are moving rapidly toward the abandonment of paper publishing. Soon, they are likely to be offering economic incentives to cancel rather than to retain their print titles. Exclusive electronic publishing will be more profitable for them, and quite likely cheaper for us because of reduced check-in, claiming, and binding activity. Difficult archiving issues still remain to be addressed.

We foresee an exclusively digital future for many news services and specialized scholarly journals, but we will approach replacement of local paper subscriptions with caution. Initially we will focus on titles of current interest only, titles available through multiple vendors, and titles maintained electronically by societies or non-profit organizations, whose primary commitment is to the dissemination of knowledge, rather than to an increased rate of return on investment. In upcoming years we will work towards sharing responsibility for electronic archiving with other libraries on a national or possibly international basis.


The library is committed to managing the cost of the new electronic journals for the next couple of years without substantial reductions in our print subscriptions. The price caps associated with many of the new agreements give us reason for optimism in this regard. Some believe that the transition to exclusively electronic publishing will allow commercial publishers to expand their profitability without increasing prices. Others doubt that publishers habituated to double-digit returns can ultimately evolve a symbiotic relationship with the higher education community, where investments continue to be in people and prospects for significant revenue growth are limited.

The University of Connecticut Libraries will continue to support progressive electronic publishing efforts by non-profit and scholarly society publishers, such as JSTOR, Project MUSE, and BioOne. We look to this sector for long-term strategic partners. We will also work nationally, through the Association of Research Libraries’ Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition (ARL/SPARC), and on campus as well, to encourage academics and scholarly societies to retake greater control of their own literature. Should we find that we cannot sustain these commitments in the face of increasing costs for our commercial packages, we will reduce our commitments to commercial providers.

Most of us arrived at our understanding of the library’s journal collection in the age of print. We subscribed to as many high quality, pertinent titles as we could afford. When inflation drove costs beyond our resources, we embarked on title-by-title cancellation projects in discussion with affected faculty. This model no longer describes our reality. We are entering an era where selection is often by publisher, not by title; many of today’s offerings conceivably could disappear tomorrow.

The concept of library holdings has become increasingly hard to define. In the future, users will retrieve content via hot links from database

to journal article or from journal citation to cited journal. The distinction between what the library owns or licenses and content for which no such provision has been made is likely to arise only when a particular user’s access is specifically affected. Publishers and vendors who provide these links hope to add value for their customers and, simultaneously, to steer them toward content from their corporate family or strategic partners. Libraries are just beginning to grapple with how best to communicate their own choices and assist their users as they navigate this new environment.

We are moving rapidly into largely uncharted waters, but our mission gives us a good sense of direction and we see a new world of possibilities for ourselves and our users. Clearly, we are not in complete control of our circumstances and can assay only the obstacles that appear above the surface. Users will need to recognize the risks we confront and to accept the regular chop and occasional heavy weather that may well accompany the voyage. 

The Social Life of Libraries


Continued from page 1

resources from their dorm rooms, offices, or homes if they chose to do so. Despite their easy, “twenty-four/seven” online access to our web site, students still ask us regularly to extend the library building’s service hours.

Faculty, too, have registered their need to have printed journals available, no matter that many titles, particularly in the sciences and social sciences, are available electronically. In response, the Chancellor’s Library Advisory Committee unanimously recommended that Babbidge Library restore its unbound journal browsing collection, and we have done so. (Story on page 2)

The staff of the UConn Libraries is fully engaged in enhancing access to information resources both virtually *and* physically. Concurrent with the purchase of our first electronic monographs from netLibrary, our online offering of more than 12,000 full-text electronic journals, and the introduction of interlibrary loan/document delivery service available only via the web, we are at work on a number of projects to enhance the physical presence of the Libraries. In 2000, we dedicated the new Music and Dramatic Arts Library on the Storrs campus. Planning is underway for libraries in the new School of Pharmacy building and for the new downtown Waterbury regional campus.

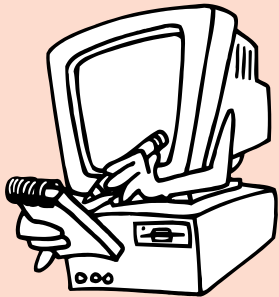
In recent years, beginning with the Class of 1947, UConn alumni have established a new tradition of offering increasingly strong support for our efforts to upgrade the library’s physical facilities by selecting the library as the recipient of their 50th anniversary and graduating class gifts. They have helped us to furnish the new Music and Dramatic Arts Library (Class of 1948), the Class of 1947 Meeting Room, and the Class of 1949 Electronic Classroom. Most recently, alumni as diverse as the Class of 1950 and the Class of 2000 helped us to create a Library Lecture Room and to renovate the 24-Hour Quiet Reading Room, respectively. This year, the Class of 1951 50th anniversary gift is funding the renovation of Video Theater 2. (Story on page 7)

Yes, along with our initiatives to deliver pertinent information to your desktop, wherever that may be, UConn’s physical libraries will continue to exist. Bricks and bytes will complement each other. President Clinton was quoted recently in *The New York Times* as saying he wants the library that will be part of the William Jefferson Clinton Presidential Center in Little Rock, Arkansas to be a place “people will want to walk into 100 years from now.” We have the same vision for the University of Connecticut Libraries. We hope UConn’s Class of 2100, like the Class of 2000, will also choose the Libraries to receive their graduating class gift. 

Contact Brinley Franklin at brinley.franklin@uconn.edu or 860-486-0497.

Coming Soon: Library Notices Via Email

In response to many patron requests, library notices will soon be delivered by email. This new service will be implemented during the spring semester. Stay tuned for more information!



Class of '51 Anniversary Gift Will Refurbish Video Theater

David Garnes, Liaison for Nursing & Allied Health

The Class of 1951 will celebrate its 50th anniversary reunion at the Storrs campus in June. In honor of this special occasion, the Class of 1951 Gift Committee, co-chaired by George R. Brown and Seymour Gavens, has pledged to raise \$100,000 for the refurbishing of Video Theater 2 in the Homer Babbidge Library. The theater is part of the Culpeper Media Services Library, an audio/video/microform facility established in 1986 through a grant from the Charles E. Culpeper Foundation.

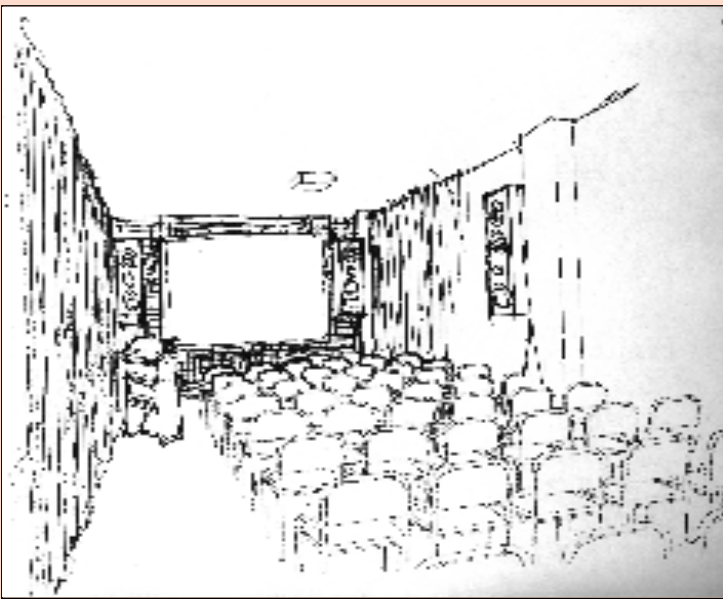
In reviewing possible gifts to commemorate its reunion, the committee was drawn to ways in which the library's interior space might be enhanced to complement the extensive, state-funded, exterior renovations completed in 1998. "We were aware that few dollars were earmarked for new furnishings and equipment," says co-chair George Brown, "and we were inspired and challenged by the successful efforts of the Class of 1950 in raising funds last year for the Class of 1950 Lecture Room on Level Two of the library."

The decision to retrofit the 15-year-old video theater will accomplish an important library goal, according to Brinley Franklin, Director of Library Services. "The Class of 1951 gift acknowledges and supports the faculty's increased use of video and other technologies to enhance the learning experience for students," he says. "Our goal is to provide students and faculty with a state-of-the-art facility that will recreate, as nearly as possible, the cinematic experience they enjoy in a multiplex theatre."

The refurbished theater, to be renamed the Class of 1951 Video Theater, seats approximately 100 people. A new sound system and new acoustical treatment will be installed. In addition, the room will be outfitted with new multimedia projection equipment, a new screen, and lectern and jacks for laptop/desktop computer

connectivity. These enhancements will make the room a state-of-the-art facility. If the budget permits, seating will be raised and banked to improve sight lines.

Class of 1951 Gift Committee co-chairs George Brown and Seymour Gavens are impressed by the many changes that have occurred not only on the Storrs campus but also at the regional campuses since their time at UConn half a century ago.



Artist's rendering of the new Class of 1951 Video Theater
Roz Cama, Inc., Designers

Each a recipient of a BS degree from the School of Business Administration, they began their affiliation with UConn at different locations. Seymour went directly from high school to the then-downtown Hartford campus on North Main Street. George, a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II, was a member of the first class at the Fort Trumbull Extension in New London, a regional site created in 1946 for approximately 2000 returning military personnel. Tuition was \$250 a year in those days, and the university was just beginning the massive post-war expansion that was

the hallmark of the Albert N. Jorgensen and, later, the Homer D. Babbidge, presidencies. As long-time active alumni, both George Brown and Seymour Gavens share a commitment to supporting and enhancing the services of the university. And each recognizes the importance of an excellent library in achieving this goal. As Seymour says, "When you look at an academic institution, you look at its library. If the library isn't first-rate, you don't have a first-rate university."

George Brown served on the University Board of Trustees as Alumni Trustee from 1989 to 1993, and he well remembers the difficult times the library has experienced in terms of funding shortfalls and structural woes. "I saw and lived through a lot of negative publicity about the Babbidge during that time," George says, "and I want to do all I can to continue to promote a positive image for the library."

Now approaching its twenty-fifth year as the university's flagship library, the Babbidge Library has been the recipient of five consecutive 50th anniversary class gifts, thanks to the efforts of Linda Perrone, Director of Development for the University Libraries, and the staff of the University of Connecticut Foundation. Linda says, "It is wonderful to know that alumni recognize the significance of the library and are taking renewed pride in helping to maintain its central role within the university."

Work on the Class of 1951 Video Theater project is well underway, with Media Services Librarian Fang Gu and Dennis Thornton, Head of Library Facilities, as project managers. Roz Cama Inc. is serving as design consultant and Crimson Tech as primary supplier. Completion is expected by the time alumni from the Class of 1951 return to celebrate their anniversary in June.

Collections and Services

Continued from page 5

the Connecticut Education Network, which is mandated to provide "state-of-the-art, high-speed, reliable Internet access and video, voice, and data transmissions that electronically link all educational institutions in the state, including public and independent institutions of higher education; the state's libraries and all elementary, middle and secondary schools; and other institutions including businesses, job centers, and community organizations" (Public Act 00-187, Section 35).

The Connecticut Education Network establishes a framework through which the university community can communicate with schools, institutions, centers, and businesses throughout the state. The opportunities for education and outreach, for preparing students for university life, for establishing a better-informed citizenry, are suddenly multiplied a thousand fold.

State Librarian, Kendall Wiggin, calls the establishment of the CDL "the most significant new investment in library service in Connecticut in many years." A kick-off conference that will introduce the CDL to the Connecticut library community is planned for March 26, 2001. The conference will provide a detailed introduction to all digital library resources and address questions of curriculum integration. For more information visit cslib.org/cln/diglibinfo.htm.

Scott Kennedy, Area Head, Research & Information Services

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If you wish to discuss annual giving opportunities, long term commitments, or your interest in a special project or specific area, please contact Linda Perrone at linda.perrone@uconn.edu or (860) 486-0451.



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Babbidge Library Hours
Monday-Thursday 8 am - Midnight
Friday 8 am - 10 pm
Saturday 10 am - 6 pm
Sunday Noon - Midnight

Dodd Research Center Hours
Monday 8:30 am - 7 pm
Tuesday-Friday 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

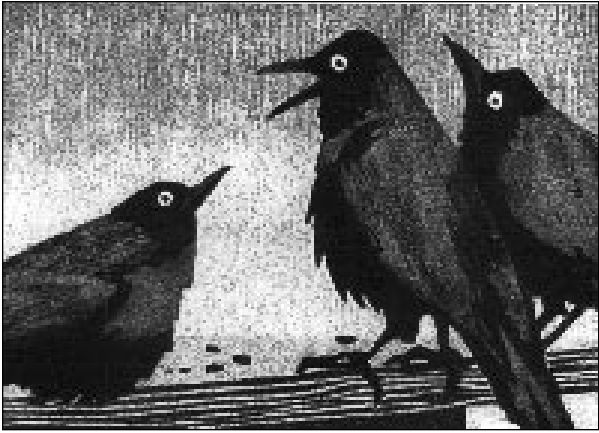
EXHIBITS THROUGH MARCH 16, 2001

Moku Hanga

Japanese Woodcuts by Lynita Shimizu

Lynita Shimizu has been creating Japanese woodcuts (moku hanga) for twenty-five years. She studied art at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, then moved to Japan to concentrate on woodblock printmaking. During her four years there, she studied in Kyoto with a master of traditional woodblock printmaking, Tomikichiro Tokuriki, and in Tokyo with contemporary printmaker Yoshisuke Funasaka. She has exhibited nationally and internationally, including recent shows in Uganda and Israel.

Homer Babbidge Library, Gallery on the Plaza



Common Grackles, woodblock print by Lynita Shimizu



SNET lineman Dick Bernier high above the Quinebaug River after the Floods of August 1955

Going Beyond the Call
*Southern New England Telephone's
Response to Natural Disasters
in Connecticut*

Connecticut has had its share of devastating natural disasters. SNET has responded to each by acting swiftly and efficiently to restore telephone service to its customers. SNET's slogan, "We Go Beyond the Call," truly was put to its test when times were tough. In this exhibit, captivating photographs recall the disasters that have befallen Connecticut and demonstrate the response of SNET's work force. The photographs are complemented by historical documents and published sources from the SNET Historical Collection.

Dodd Research Center Gallery

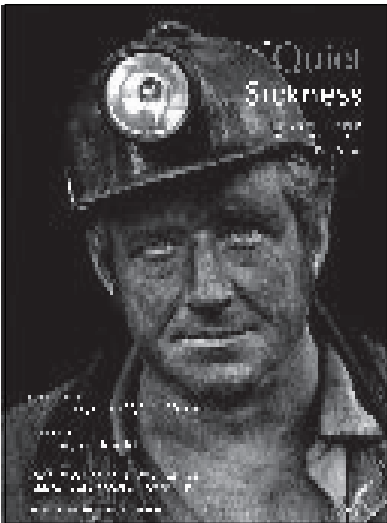
The Quiet Sickness

*A Photographic Chronicle of
Hazardous Work in America*

A photography exhibit by Earl Dotter

Earl Dotter enjoys a national reputation for his vivid and insightful workplace photographs, used extensively in textbooks, health and safety manuals, national magazines, and by OSHA and NIOSH. In his words, "When I walk through a mine, mill, factory or on board a commercial fishing vessel, I find myself drawn to those subjects who emanate a sense of personal worth and belonging to the human family. When I experience tragedy in the workplace—death and disability—I use the camera to explore not just the person or event, but my own reaction to it. If I am successful, then the viewer will be better able to stand before the photograph and feel the intensity of the moment as I myself felt it." Sponsored in cooperation with the University of Connecticut's Center for Environmental Health.

Dodd Research Center, West Corridor



Coal miner Lee Hipshire has just emerged from the mine at the end of the day shift. At age 46, he had worked 26 years underground. A few years later, Lee took early retirement because of Black Lung disease. He died at 56. Logan County, West Virginia (1976)

All in the Family

*The Art of Margot and Karin Rosenthal
Paintings, Prints, Collages & Photographs*

Born in Berlin, Margot Rosenthal studied art in Dresden before coming to the U.S., where she continued her education at the Hartford Art School. Her paintings, prints and mixed media works have been exhibited in many New England one-person and juried group exhibitions, winning more than 40 awards. In 1999, she was honored with a retrospective of her work at the Hartford Jewish Community Center, where she taught for thirty years.

The photographs of Karin Rosenthal, Margot's daughter, are included in many museum, library, corporate, and private collections and have been published in a number of books. Currently, she is preparing an exhibition of her work for the New England School of Photography and another to be shown at Harvard University's Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts.

Homer Babbidge Library, Stevens Gallery