






UNT Libraries' Newsletter

Fall 2002

Welcome to the Fall 2002 edition of the UNT Libraries' Newsletter and Faculty Guide.

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Comments from the Dean

On behalf of the entire staff of the UNT Libraries, I offer greetings and a welcome to your libraries. Thanks to the strong support of the University's Administration and the active involvement of the faculty, the collections of the Libraries have been increasing at a rapid rate. The Libraries' holding of over five million items makes us the fifth largest research collection in the state. Last fiscal year the Libraries' had 5.5 million dollars available for the purchase of resources and equipment, of which the University Library Committee allocated nearly three million to the direct support of departmental library requests. Noteworthy recent developments in the research collections include:

- A special new budget line (\$1.6 million) for electronic resources was established to promote the rapid growth of current journals and databases for faculty working in targeted R&D areas.
- The Libraries negotiated license agreements with major science, technology and medical publishers and vendors to provide full-text electronic access to 2,372 journals. Also acquired were fourteen new major science databases including Web of Science, Current Content Connect, SciFinder Scholar, and IEEE Electronic Library.
- As one of the two research libraries in the United States serving as a Cybercemetery for defunct federal agencies, the Libraries added several new agency archives including Access America, National Bioethics Advisory Commission, and the National Gambling Impact Study Commission. In April 2002, the Cybercemetery received over 700,000 visits.
- In June the Libraries opened its Cybercafe on the first floor of Willis Library. This inviting area, with its comfortable furniture, readily available computers, and close proximity to current newspapers and journals is already gaining popularity with students, faculty, and staff.

The UNT Libraries have been able to develop several outstanding collections, including one of the finest music collections in the nation. This has been possible through the support of the University Administration, the dedication of the staff of the Libraries, and the active interest and participation of the faculty. I hope you will assist us in the continued growth of the collections: if you discover weaknesses in the collections or have concerns about provided services, please inform one of the librarians or bring it to my attention. Again, welcome and may you have a rewarding academic year.

B. Donald Grose
Dean of Libraries



Usability Study Conducted on the Libraries' Web Site

During July, three members of the Libraries Web Work Group conducted usability focus groups with thirty students. The group examined a sub site of the Libraries Web site to determine if the site was meeting the needs of the students. Results from the study included many helpful suggestions made by the students. The work group chair, Beth Thomsett- Scott said of the study, "It was an exciting opportunity to meet with students and hear how the library is performing." The Libraries hope to conduct similar groups in the future in order to continue to improve the Web site and meet the needs of students and faculty.

New Art Librarian:

Rebecca Barham-Johnson is the new Art Librarian in Reference & Information Services at Willis Library, taking over from Tara Carlisle as of June 2002.

Rebecca is a long-time employee of UNT, having worked at various positions in the library for almost 10 years while pursuing degrees.

Familiar to many from her time in Circulation, Fines, Media, and Preservation/Conservation, Rebecca has a B.F.A. in Art History, an M.F.A. in Painting and Drawing with a minor in Metalsmithing, and a Masters in Information Science with digital imaging coursework.

Her first goal in her new position is to get acquainted with the interfaces of all the several hundred various electronic resources available through UNT, to insure successful retrieval of research information for art and other disciplines. Ultimately she wants to become a great liaison between the Library and the School of Visual Arts. Said Rebecca:

“I think the best type of liaison for the School of Visual Arts is one who understands the special needs of visually oriented artists and researchers. A good liaison would not only insure that the art collection is ordered and maintained, but provide and support personal research for faculty and students, provide research instruction, and work with vendors to obtain any electronic resources that would be useful for artists and researchers in this current technological/ information age.”

When not at work, Rebecca’s major interests include painting, making jewelry, mosaics, reading ancient manuscripts, visiting ancient sites, gardening and jogging. A stray Russian Blue cat, known as “Anubis”, has also adopted her and her husband recently.

Nancy Viens

New Addition to Electronic Resources:

SciFinder Scholar

SciFinder Scholar, the Web version of Chemical Abstracts, is now available from the Electronic Resources page. This resource will allow faculty and students to access the premier chemistry information online. SciFinder Scholar includes records from 1907 to the present. There are records of over 1,600 chemistry journals indexed cover to cover and another 8,000 journals are selectively indexed. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Beth Thomsett-Scott at 369-6437.



Media Library:

More than Old Films

Did you know that the Media Library has over 20,000 titles that support research and instruction in all academic disciplines and genres of film?

The Media Libraries' Mission is to provide access to a broad range of media materials that support research and instruction in all academic disciplines and genres of film.

In an ongoing effort to achieve our mission, the Media Library was recently awarded a Charn Uswachoke International Development Fund Grant for the continued development of the Media Library's international film collection. Over fifty films from countries including China, Iran, Hong Kong, Nepal, and Korea will be added to the collection this fall.

To find out more about these titles and others in the Media Library's continuously expanding collection of resources, search the Media Library Catalog at <http://iii.library.unt.edu/search~S6>. The Media Library Catalog also includes subject and new titles lists.

For additional assistance in locating media materials, the Media Library also provides research and reference services, including:

- assisting in integrating media into instruction, such as recommending appropriate titles for specific courses or topics,
- locating rental and distribution sources for media materials,
- providing reference by appointment with a Media Librarian for extensive or special research needs.

Although visits to the Media Library are always welcomed and encouraged, faculty may book materials online from the comfort of their home or office online (<http://libmed.library.unt.edu>), by phone (940) 565-2484, or fax (940) 369-7396. Booking materials in advance ensures the availability of items needed for instruction.

Materials may be delivered directly to and picked up from your departmental office by the Media Library courier. The courier service requires a 48-hour notice in advance of the item's scheduled first use.

The Media Library also provides reserve services to ensure the availability of materials for student viewing in the Media Library. Faculty and Staff may place either personal items or Media Library collection items on reserve.

Location:

Chilton Hall, room 111

Phone:

(940) 565-2480

Fax:

(940) 369-7396

Hours:

Mon–Thurs 7:45am to 10:00pm.

Fri 7:45am to 5:00pm.

Sun 4:00pm to 9:00pm.



UNT Libraries Government Documents Department: Preserving Texas' Past

The Government Documents department of the UNT Libraries is working to preserve the history and heritage of Texas. Under the direction of project manager Cathy Hartman, the department has created *The Nineteenth Century Texas Law Online: Gammel's The Laws of Texas* (Volumes 1-10). The project, sponsored by a grant from the TexTreasures Program and by the University of

North Texas Libraries, is an on-going effort to digitize the rare and important set Gammel's Laws of Texas. With volumes 1-10 completed, and covering the years 1822-1897, the over 16,500 digitized pages cover Texas history during some of its most tumultuous times, from colonization, through the Republic, Annexation, the Civil War, and to the closing years of the 19th Century. The success of the project can be seen in the 20,000 users it has each month.

The Gammel's volumes have never been reprinted, despite their importance to researchers. Said Hartman: "Only a few libraries across the state own copies of the printed volumes, but professional or amateur historians, from their office or home computer, now may quickly access the most important compilation of nineteenth century Texas laws on our Web site." All of the pages from the digitized volumes of Gammel's Laws are available in PDF format. Users can browse Gammel's and other Texana materials by volume or perform a keyword search.

To view the web site go to <http://texinfo.library.unt.edu/lawsoftexas/>.

In addition to the Gammel's project, the Government Documents department is currently working with the University Archives and the Rare Book & Texana Collections on a further project to digitize rare and important Texana materials.

One of only two sovereign nations to become a part of the United States of America, the annexation of Texas occupies a unique place in American History. Throughout that era, Anson Jones, who would be the last president of the Republic of Texas, played an important role

in leading the Republic during this tense period of annexation debates when many voices were raised both pro and con. The Jones family library, with important primary and secondary materials on the Republic and annexation, was donated to the UNT Libraries in 1972. Related items in the Rare Book & Texana Collections and the University Archives enrich the Jones materials and include various published addresses, speculations, official announcements and reports. For many of these items, fewer than 7 copies are known to exist in the state.

For more information on either project, contact Cathy Hartman, Head, Government Documents Department, UNT Libraries, and manager of the Texas Law & Historic Documents digital projects, at (940) 565-3269.

Anything Worthwhile at the Library?

A recent conversation about resources and important materials at the Libraries raised the question "if the UNT Libraries were going to be destroyed, what do you think would be worth saving?" Beyond things like family pictures, purses, plants,

“Otis” (an Easter-Island sculpture pencil-cup) and the occasional co-worker, an informal poll of people in the Libraries created an interesting list of items that they consider very important for one reason or another, and highlight the wide variety of things available at the UNT Libraries. Listed below are some of the responses. The location of the item is given in parentheses after the item:

The 1st edition of the Samuel Johnson Dictionary, printed in 1755. Dr. Grose, Dean of Libraries. (Rare Book Room, Willis Library, 4th Floor)



The Frank Loesser musical P.F.C. Mary Brown: a WAC musical revue, of which only a few original copies survive. M. Kelly, Associate Dean of Libraries. (Government Documents, Willis 3rd Floor)

The slide rule on display in Sci/Tech – one of the world’s largest. G.Woods, Librarian. (Science & Technology Library, ISB)



The American Periodicals Series on Microfilm – thousands of rare periodicals all on microfilm. M. Tarlton, Head, Reference & Information Services. (Microforms, Willis Lower Level)

The Servers and Web Servers – irreplaceable data and services for off-campus users. E. Truax, Librarian; Yan Wu (Graduate Library Assistant. (LAN Management)

Art books. J. Clark, Administrative Assistant. (Willis 3rd Floor)

The original scores and music, like the Kenton items. K. Westergren, Accounting Clerk. (Music Library, Various locations, Willis 4th Floor)



The Apple, a unique artist's book. M. Durio, Curator, Rare Book Room; C. Mitchamore, Graduate Library Assistant; L. Jorgenson, Student Assistant; and others. (Rare Book Room, Willis 4th Floor)

Signed and 1st Edition scores by Claude Debussy. R. Hartsock, Librarian. (Music Library, Sanborn Room, Willis 4th Floor)

The Denton Record Chronicle on Microfilm. S. Anderson, Librarian. (Microforms, Willis Lower Level)



The physical Card Catalog. [Anonymous Student Assistant] (Main one in Willis Library, 1st Floor, others with special collections.)

Young's Analytical Concordance to the [King James] Bible. [Anonymous Staff Member]. (Willis Library, 2nd Floor)

The Early Dorothy Parker books. [Anonymous Student Assistant]. (Willis Library, 4th Floor)

The pictures of the old library buildings. S. Atchison, Assistant to the Dean of Libraries. (Dean's Conference Room, Willis 2nd Floor)

The collection of Miniature Books and Pop-Up Books. P. Johnston, Librarian. (Rare Book Room, Willis 4th Floor)

The Fourth Floor [of Willis Library]. L.A. Bradley, Librarian. (University Archives, Rare Books, Music Library)



The Coke Machine. [Anonymous by request]. (Willis Lower Level, Southwest Corner)

The American State Papers and Serials Set – the basis of the foundation of our nation. C. Hartman, Librarian. (Government Documents, Willis 3rd Floor)

The Unabridged Dictionary. D. Chipman, Library Specialist. (Various locations throughout the libraries)

Storia della musica by fr. Giambatista Martini. S. Cleveland, Librarian. (Music, Sanborn Room, Willis 4th Floor)

The Rare Books Department. [Several people]. (Rare Books, Willis 4th Floor)

Anything in the Sanborn Room [Several people]. (Music, Sanborn Room, Willis 4th Floor)

The Archives – it's full of unique source data. [Several people]. (University Archives, Willis 4th Floor)



The Wellesley index to Victorian periodicals, 1824-1900. M. Lyons, Graduate Library Assistant. (Reference, Willis 1st Floor)

The Collection of WWII Posters. C. Luce, Librarian. (Government Documents,
Willis 3rd Floor)