






UNT Libraries' Newsletter

Spring 2004

Welcome to the Spring 2004 edition of the
UNT Libraries' Newsletter and Faculty Guide.

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Newsletter Staff:

Editor:

Gayla Byerly,

Librarian, Humanities & Social Sciences / Reference & Information

Services Department.

Co-Editor:

Edward Hoyenski,
Assistant to the Curator, Rare Book & Texana Collection.

Staff Writers:

Nancy Viens,
Secretary, Reference & Information Services Department.

Frances May

Librarian, User Education and Outreach

Ellen Truax

Librarian, Humanities & Social Sciences / Reference & Information Services
Department.



Keeping the Student's Computers Computing: Judy Hunter

Although they don't know it, thousands of students each semester owe their term papers and assignments to Judy Hunter and her staff. As Computer Lab Administrator in Willis Library, Judy's extensive experience in working with computers has helped her run the Willis Library 24-hour Access Computer Lab for three years and seven months - so far! - providing UNT students with the ability to type up their papers and assignments, do the research, and earn the grades.

Before taking on the task of keeping the computers computing here at Willis, Judy was a student employee for two years, and a part-time student tech in the College of Arts and Sciences. If that hadn't been enough, she also worked at the Texas Woman's University computer labs before that! Judy graduated from UNT with her Bachelor's Degree in Applied Technical Training and Development in 2000, and is presently working on her Masters in Public Administration in the field of Emergency Planning.

The twenty-four-hour Computer Lab in Willis Library, mainstay of UNT students, is the only one of its kind in the North Texas region. It is state-of-the-art, with forty public

machines, of which one is a “print-only” machine. Continuous upgrades occur to keep the students supplied with the programs they need. Currently, the LAN Department is working on a Windows XP installation, and have installed a new screensaver constructed by Hasitha Samarajeewa. They have reason to be proud of this screensaver - check it out next time you are in the Lab!

The Lab is paid for out of student fees, and serves only enrolled students, faculty, and staff. The cost of printing for students from the printers is free and comes out of technical fees - although users have to break up long print-jobs into sections of 20 pages at a time to give other users a chance to print too!

All this is overseen by Judy and her staff of eighteen part-time Student Assistants and one full-time Technical Office Assistant who manage to keep tabs on all the enthusiastic patrons and keep the lab running smoothly.

As if the Lab weren't enough, Judy has also worn other hats in the Libraries, including having been backup for Thao Wong on III (Innovative Interface, Incorporated), the system which runs our Online Catalog. She did this for three and a half years, helping to facilitate record keeping for patron loads and setting up accounts. She also shares is our Timeclock Administrator, which is the library's new online time management system for our part-time employees. This program was used in the Computer Lab before, and now all of our part-time library people are participating in it.

And on the off-chance all of that doesn't earn her the respect she deserves, be aware that she has a Black Belt in the AKBBA (American Karate Black Belt Association)! Judy's other interests include Irish step-dancing, hula dancing, and communicating with her two-year-old cat, Kira. Rumor also has it that she plays the piano, but we haven't been able to get confirmation on that one yet!

All in all, Judy is a very active, dedicated member of our library as well as a multi-faceted person when she leaves the campus. We are extremely fortunate to have her as a member of our staff!

Nancy Viens
Staff Reporter

Library Tours: Guided tours of the Undiscovered Resources!

The Spring Schedule of Library Tours is available. Whether you are new to the campus or an old-timer, attending one of the tours will give you a new perspective on the UNT Libraries and a better understanding of what they can do for you.

The tours consist of a short PowerPoint presentation describing the Libraries, a demonstration of one of the general periodical databases, a walkabout of the first floor of

Willis Library, and a visit to the Rare Book Room. They last approximately an hour, although there is a tendency to linger in the Rare Book Room admiring the miniature books or some of the other treasures.

The schedule is as follows:

Wednesday, January 28	10:00 AM and 2:30 PM
Thursday, January 29	10:00 AM and 2:30 PM
Monday, February 2	2:30 PM
Tuesday, February 3	2:30 PM
Tuesday, February 17	5:30 PM
Thursday, February 19	5:30 PM
Monday, February 23	5:30 PM
Wednesday, February 25	5:30 PM

If you have a special need for a group tour, such as dorm residents or any other specialized group, please call Frances A. May at 940-565-4812 or email her at fmay@library.unt.edu to arrange a tour for them. Please notify her two weeks in advance of the date you would like.



Helping history hang on: Perri Hamilton, University Archives

Visitors to the University Archives on the 4th floor of Willis Library are likely to be greeted by a very modest lady who will proceed to amaze them with her knowledge of

both University and Denton history, and her incredible ability to retrieve materials pertinent to their research from the millions of items housed in the University Archives.

Perri Hamilton, Assistant to the University Archivist, has been with the Archives since 1986. Her warm greetings to those who enter the Archives help put people more at ease, and her encyclopedic knowledge of the collections permit her to help anyone from the novice visitor to the most experienced researcher. A large part of her job includes helping to educate users, showing them what is available, how to use it, and how to handle fragile and rare materials which she retrieves from the closed stacks of the Archives. She frequently helps people with their searching, asking questions and helping clarify topics so that she can bring out just the right materials to answer the information needs.

Another part of Perri's responsibilities is that of processing collections. As materials arrive at the Archives, they need to be unpacked, examined, identified, organized, put into acid-free folders and boxes, and sometimes repaired. Much of this processing and conservation is either done by, or overseen by Perri, who supervises the Student Assistant who works for Archives. Perri makes light of the many tasks involved, and claims that she spends much of her time identifying old photographs of University events - but we know better!

Born and raised in Denton, Perri attended Denton High, and got a BFA in Weaving and Fabric Design from NTSU, although she admits that lately she hasn't done much weaving; these days her artistic talents finding their expression in watercolors. Perri also has a wealth of knowledge on the decorative arts.

Prior to transferring to the Archives, Perri worked for the Historical Collection, the museum that used to exist on campus. Her 3 years with that department have served her well, for at it's closing, the artifacts in the Historical Collection came to the University Archives. The majority that were retained by the University are now on loan to the Denton County Courthouse On The Square Museum, and part of Perri's duties is to conduct periodic inventories of materials out on loan, and to maintain the records of the loans.

"Perri has performed valuable services over many years assisting researchers from all over the world with using the Archives' collections. She also performs a particularly difficult job in handling all the issues related with the closed Historical Collections" says her boss, University Archivist Richard Himmel. We second that, and venture to state that she is a valuable resource herself!

Edward Hoyenski
Staff Reporter



The Research Park Library

Even though work is still going on to prepare the Research Park Library for its opening in February, library service is being provided to faculty and students of the Research Park by a librarian with a table, a cell phone, and a wireless laptop. Gay Woods, long-time Science and Technology librarian, is committed to making sure the Research Park has library service, no matter what! When finished, there will be two sites that house the library facilities. One will contain books and bound journals, and the other will house a learning center/computer lab, computer work areas, rooms for group projects, current periodicals, and the assistance of librarians Gay Woods and Randy Wallace.

Stay tuned for more information!



Before

During

After

A Holiday's worth of chaos brings a new look to the Rare Book Room

The intrepid staff of the Rare Book & Texana Collections and a small group of devoted volunteers spent much of December and part of January painting, moving, and rearranging the Rare Book Room to make better use of the space, and to (hopefully!) make it more inviting to visitors, researchers, and classes.



"Exhibition Alley"

The new "Look" includes moving the exhibition cases to the front of the room so that casual viewers can see the entire exhibit without having to trek the length of the room or fear disturbing readers. The new "L" shaped arrangement along the front and south wall of the room allow a "quick overview" of the displays, and permit viewers the luxury of knowing how much awaits them. A center "island" composed of display cases and the beloved antique book-binder's bench allows for the display of not only items related to the changing exhibitions, but also a permanent display of antique printing materials illustrating the history of book manufacture.



Newly arranged reference and research area

For those more interested in research than exhibitions, the west portion of the Rare Book Room has been reorganized to allow for an expansion of the Reference Collection, as well as creating a section of the room where readers won't be disturbed by passing exhibition viewers.

A perennial favorite of visitors, the Miniature Book Collection, has been installed in two larger cabinets along the south wall of the room, providing more space to not only house the extensive collection, but also to permit more interesting items to be displayed to the best advantage.



Expanded Miniature Book Collection display

The last change to the main room - which everyone thought might be the biggest - is often the last to be noticed. For those who remember the blank white walls of the room, be aware that they have changed drastically. The new colors (which don't show up in this poor photographer's pictures) are dark red, off-white, and black, which actually DOES match some of the books!

But did the amazing crew stop there? NO! They also painted the Curator's Office, and the Conservation Lab as well, making the whole space that much better!



"During" pictures

Great thanks to all our volunteers and "loaners" from other departments who provided labor to accomplish the job: Gayla Byerly, Laura Easterling, John Gale, Chris Childs, and Jennifer Karr.



"During" pictures

Our thanks also to the anonymous donor who purchased much of the paint and painting supplies that allowed us to make the Rare Book Room that much better for our users.

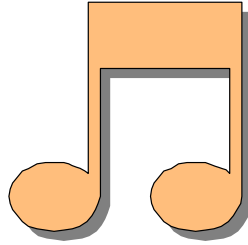
New EbscoHost Additions

In an on-going effort to provide easier and better access to the information you need, the Libraries' have switched a number of databases to the EbscoHost interface. These include Ageline, Art Abstracts, Biological Abstracts, EconLit, Humanities Abstracts, MLA International Bibliography, and Social Sciences Abstracts. Those using Academic Search Premier and Business Source Premier are already familiar with the EbscoHost interface and the ease it provides for printing, downloading and emailing citations and full text articles. Additionally, the link to "Ask a UNT Librarian" at the bottom of the search screen provides options for personal assistance, including online chat and telephone assistance.

"Through EbscoHost we have also acquired a subscription to Information Science & Technology Abstracts and will soon begin receiving the Hospitality & Tourism Index. In addition this year we are receiving free trial access to American Humanities Index and to Communications & Mass Media Complete," says Martha Tarlton, Head of Reference and Information Services.

For more information please about these or other electronic resources available through the University of North Texas Libraries please contact the reference librarians.

Ellen Truax,
Reference Librarian



Music Library Audio Center: From our shelves to your ears!

The phenomenal UNT Music Library has an equally phenomenal Audio Center that circulates CD's, DVD's, and LP's to UNT students, faculty, and staff, and provides opportunities for listening to a number of other formats. The majority of the almost one quarter of a *MILLION* pieces of recorded music in the collection is classical or jazz, but in the past few years, it has begun collecting popular music, as well. Many of the discs in the pop collection are from indie-rock (independent) labels rather than the top 40 that can be heard on any popular music commercial radio station. In addition to rock, some of the genres represented include hip-hop, Latin pop music, and reggae. Susannah Cleveland, who oversees the Audio Center, says that the most popular pop group here at UNT, in terms of how many times their works have circulated, is the British group Radiohead, one of the leaders of current alternative music groups, who are respected artistically as well as being popular. She says that after the music students, the departments that seem to use the audio center the most are art, followed by business.

New additions to the Audio Collection have been supplemented by the purchase of much of the back catalog of Smithsonian Folkways on compact disc. The recordings range from field recordings of folk songs to political songs to early rock and country recordings.

CD's, LP's, and DVD's may be checked out for one week. Magnetic media, such as audiocassette and reel-to-reel tapes, must be used in the audio center, where there is equipment that can play them, and pipe the music to one of the sixty carrels in the Audio Center. The Audio Center Collection is indexed in the UNT Libraries Catalog, the Special Collections Database, the Stan Kenton Database, and the 78 Database, all of which are accessible from the Music Library's General Collections and Facilities page, <http://www.library.unt.edu/music/gencol.htm#Audio>.



Frances A. May
Staff Reporter

Hi-Tech Help from All-Tech Librarians: Changes in the Chatroom:

The UNT Libraries will take a leap forward with the new chat system that will be implemented this semester. The new software is called Docutek. Chat Services coordinator, Monika Antonelli, says the new system will allow the librarians to better serve users of the chatroom.

“Docutek will allow us to co-browse with our patrons and assist in filling out forms with them.” The librarian will even be able to speak to the patron if the patron has speakers on their machine. If the patron has a microphone, the librarian will be able to carry on conversations with the patron. “Once we have the microphones, we will have gone beyond telephone communications. Not only will be able to talk to them and show them, but actually see what they are doing. This is the next step beyond.” However the capabilities of the new equipment will depend upon the level of the patron’s technology, Monika cautions.

“We will support every level of the user’s technology.” But the increasing level of technology of the user will allow the advanced features of the Docutek software. Some examples of advanced features are the ability to email the questions to another person, to ask someone else to join the discussion, and the capability to track a question to make sure it was answered.

The big change in chat systems is the voice over IP which allows people to talk over the computer. Ms. Antonelli asserts that this is what librarians have been waiting for. “It is like having someone at your desk with you. The librarians will be able to talk to you and take over your computer to show you what to do. The ramifications for distance learning are amazing. It will equalize the library instruction of the on campus students and distance education students.”

The hours of service for the Ask A Librarian chatroom are Monday through Thursday 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM and Friday 10:00AM to 5:00 PM.



999 down, 1 to go: Help us purchase our 1000th Miniature Book

In the 1930's, the library received as part of a donation a handful (literally!) of antique miniature children's books. From this humble beginning has grown the Miniature Book Collection. Now, some 70 years later, through many donations and a few judicious purchases, the collection stands on the brink of the 1000 mark.

From a 4,000 year old clay table to 21st century publications, the Miniature Book Collection in the Rare Book Room shows a sidelight to human history and culture that most people never knew existed. Religious scriptures, children's books, political documents, literature, artistic works, and reference books all less than 4" in height show humankind's fascination with the small.

The Rare Book & Texana Collections has the chance to acquire a very special miniature book as its 1000th miniature item - but we need your help to purchase it for UNT.

This amazing miniature is a very rare copy of an American printing of *Verbum Sempiternum*, an important "thumb bible," or paraphrase of the Bible for children. Published in Philadelphia by A. Steuart, this volume, the seventh edition, is undated, but was printed between 1760 and 1769.



The first miniature book printed in the Americas was published in 1690. The first thumb bible printed in the Americas, an earlier edition of the *Verbum*, was published about 1750. This copy of the *Verbum* is thus one of the first 10 miniature book titles printed in the Americas, and is also an important example of Colonial-era printing, as well as illustrating the history of religion and of education and of children's literature in the American Colonies. Only 13 documented examples of any American colonial-era editions of the *Verbum* are in US Libraries, and none are in Texas institutions. Only 3 copies of this edition are known to be in other libraries.

As a piece of American history, we would love to see the *Verbum* acquired as a very fitting 1000th miniature book for a collection dedicated to education. Having the only copy of it in a Texas library would be all the better.

For more information on the *Verbum*, please see the website the dealer has created specifically for us: http://www.prbm.com/quotes/CD-NorthTexas_Mini1000.shtml. The kind people at Philadelphia Rare Book & Manuscripts are working with us to help us secure this piece for the collections of the University of North Texas.

Contributions gladly accepted in any amounts. Donations can be dropped off during open hours* at the Rare Book Room on the 4th floor of Willis Library, or sent to:
Rare Book & Texana Collections
UNT Libraries
PO Box 305190
Denton, TX 76203

In the event that we cannot raise enough money to purchase the *Verbum*, all collected funds will be held to purchase another significant item for the 1000th miniature. Any excess funds will be used to purchase other miniatures for the collection.

* The Rare Book Room is open Monday through Thursday from 8am to 5pm, Friday from 8am to 12noon, and by appointment. Please call us at (940) 565-2769 for more information or to arrange other visiting times.

Major Doings in the Music Library

MUSIC LIBRARY RECLASSIFICATION PROJECT

For a couple of years the Music Library staff has been involved in a massive reclassification project of our Dewey Decimal-classed scores. These include items that have previously been added to the online catalog as well as many items that were never converted, and, consequently, get little use. Thus far we have reclassified almost 4500 titles, and are approximately halfway through the project. As you no doubt realize, this endeavor also requires relabeling and processing, as well as substantial shifting in other areas of the score collection, so virtually the entire staff is involved in one way or another in our project. It is definitely worth the effort as valuable older materials are now available to our own patrons as well as to others, since our holdings for these items are reflected in WorldCat.

MUSIC SPECIAL COLLECTIONS ON THE WEB

One of the activities our staff has been working during the past year has been creating and enhancing Web pages for our various special collections. These include the collections of [Osborne Duke](#), [Willis Conover](#), [Julia Smith](#), [Duke Ellington](#), [George Bragg](#), and Don Gillis. In addition, we have acquired microfilms of Renaissance music manuscripts from the collection of [Dr. William McMurtry](#), a UNT alumnus and for many years professor of music at Oklahoma State University. His collection complements our holdings of similar materials from Prof. Helen Hewitt, with whom Prof. McMurtry

studied. These items are now cataloged and accessible via the UNT online catalog as well as through the Web site.

Mark McKnight
Music Library