Independence Seaport Museum Partners with Digital Library on Commodore Barry Papers

Historians, community dignitaries, naval officers, librarians and prominent members of the Irish-American community gathered on May 13 to commemorate the signing of a historic partnership agreement between Falvey Memorial Library and Independence Seaport Museum to digitize and mount online the Seaport Museum’s rare collection of the papers of Commodore John Barry.

This celebration of the memory of John Barry, and of the newly enhanced access to his original papers, was punctuated by a full afternoon of speeches, music and ceremony, and highlighted by a reenactment of the signing of the partnership agreement by University President Rev. Peter Donohue, O.S.A., and Independence Seaport Museum President Lori Dillard Rech.

In addition to a military honor guard procession, the piping of the colors by the Emerald Society Band and the singing of the American and Irish national anthems, the audience was treated to the remarks, prayers and anecdotes of more than 20 notable speakers, including Ancient Order of Hibernians President Seamus Boyle, Commodore Barry Club of Brooklyn President Mary Nolan, Commander Scott Calvert of the United States Navy, Falvey Library Director Joe Lucia and Wexford County (Ireland) Council Chair Peter Byrne.

Later, as the new online collection was demonstrated, a roundtable featuring several prominent Barry historians convened to discuss the magnifying effect that expanded access to the Barry-Hayes Papers collection will have on Commodore Barry’s legacy. Previously, scholars of John Barry would need to travel to Philadelphia to the museum and make an appointment to view these materials. Now, with the digitization effort, scholars around the world can access the collection at anytime, from anywhere.

Continued on page 8
Evolution of an Invisible Infrastructure with Service as the Goal
by Joe Lucia

American libraries have a long and rich history of cooperation and collaboration. The guiding vision behind library cooperation has been to provide library users with access to the combined wealth of our collections across organizational, geographical and even international boundaries. This service, traditionally referred to as interlibrary loan, remains an active and growing dimension of our operations, even in the digital era. For example, during the 2008/2009 academic year, Falvey Memorial Library borrowed over 12,500 items from other libraries for Villanova students and faculty. During that same period, we delivered 11,500 items from our collection to users at other libraries within the mid-Atlantic region and across the nation.

Those services are built upon an infrastructure that includes skilled staff, shared databases, transaction tracking systems, shipping and receiving programs, and reciprocal use agreements. It has taken decades to establish this complex infrastructure. Interestingly, the earliest versions were built upon large shared card files such as the Union Library Catalogue of Pennsylvania, established in Philadelphia in 1936 as a WPA-funded project. This eventually led to the formation of PALINET, a mid-Atlantic regional library consortium.

As library collections began utilizing computer-based cataloging operations, these resource sharing tools and procedures migrated from card-based systems to large, centralized databases. Those databases also served as central sources for library descriptive data, or cataloging records, used to build online catalogs. The dominant purveyor of library descriptive data and also the largest shared repository of library collection holdings information has been OCLC (Online Computer Library Center). Through the decades, OCLC has worked closely with regional consortia such as PALINET to support shared cataloging and inter-library services.

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Recently, the relationships between those regional organizations and OCLC have undergone evolutionary pressure as a result of the general Web-driven trend toward disintermediation of any transaction that can be
On May 1, Falvey Memorial Library honored graduating seniors with the Falvey Scholars award. The awards are given each year to distinguished Villanova seniors who have demonstrated outstanding undergraduate research in writing a senior thesis or completing a capstone project.

The 2009 Falvey Scholars, their mentors and research are as follows:

Sinéad Cloughley, English/Irish Studies (College of Arts and Sciences); Mentor: James Murphy, Ph.D.; Project: “A Study of Impact of the Irish Language on the Work of Four Modern Irish Writers: Yeats, Joyce, Ní Dhomhnaill and Friel”

Sara Fridinger, Biology (College of Arts and Sciences); Mentor: Louise Russo, Ph.D.; Project: “Bisphenol A: An Environmental Threat to Endocrine Function”

Martha Hughes, Economics and Statistics (School of Business); Mentor: Mary Kelly, Ph.D.; Project: “The United States and the European Union: How Differences in Monetary and Fiscal Policies Contribute to Differences in Economic Competitiveness Over Time”

Jennie Kotschneff (back, second left), with team members (front, l. to r.) Kristina Salcedo, Christine Matula, Patricia Abel, (back, l. to r.) Melissa Kay, Meghan Dwyer and Sarah Galvanek (College of Nursing); Mentor: Marcia Costello, Ph.D., R.D.; Project: “A Population Assessment of Chulucanas, Peru”

Mark Woods, Mechanical Engineering (College of Engineering); Mentor: C. ‘Nat’ Nataraj, Ph.D.; Project: “Unmanned Sailboat Control”

The students presented their papers in Falvey’s first floor lounge and were supported by family, friends and faculty. Library Director Joe Lucia served as emcee and introduced the winners and their mentors. After presenting their research and engaging in a lively question and answer session with the audience, the students received framed certificates recognizing their achievements.

The Falvey Scholars steering committee consists of Lucia, Darren Poley, Outreach librarian, Edwin L. Goff, Ph.D., associate dean, Honors Program, and Jane Morris, director, and Nora Pillard, assistant director, Center for Undergraduate Research and Fellowships.

“The Falvey Scholars award honors the work of undergraduate exceptional talent,” said Lucia. This year, the award selection was broadened to name a student from each of the five discipline areas: Arts, Business, Science, Nursing and Engineering.

By Kiran Qureshi; photographs by Natalie Tomasco

To our readers:

News From Falvey features events, exhibits, services, people news, trends, innovations and other activities at Falvey Memorial Library. We hope you enjoy the publication and welcome your comments and suggestions.

More news about Falvey can be found at blog.library.villanova.edu

Judith Olsen, editor
New Resources

African American Studies Center Online
Provides students, scholars and librarians with online access to the finest reference resources in African American studies. AASC features the new *Encyclopedia of African American History 1619-1895; Black Women in America*, and the highly acclaimed *Africana*, a five-volume history of the African and African American experience. The Center also includes the African American National Biography project and the *Encyclopedia of African American Art and Architecture*.

CQ Press Voting and Elections Collection
Organized into categories of elections: presidential, congressional and gubernatorial. Also, it includes campaigns, political parties, voters and demographics, covering 1789 to the present. In addition, it includes candidate and office histories, seat status and competition, special elections, maps, bibliographies, chronology, definitions and sources.

Chicago Manual of Style Online
Also incorporates the popular Chicago Style Q&A, a resource that thousands have found as entertaining as it is informative.

e-Codes from International Code Council (Civil Engineering)

Gerritsen Collection (1543-1945)
Primary sources on women's history from around the world: books, pamphlets and periodicals spanning four centuries in 15 languages. These materials reflect the evolution of a feminist consciousness and the movement for women's rights.

UpToDate
Evidence based, peer reviewed resource for nursing clinicians, allowing them to answer questions quickly, increase their clinical knowledge and improve patient care.

The Blues Celebrated by Students, Faculty, Librarians and Student Life

It's the spirit of African-American anguish, rebellion and survival. It's beans ‘n’ cornbread. It’s the zoot suit. It’s the sound of the Mississippi Delta, Chicago and even England. It’s the devil’s music. It’s the blues!

On March 30, Katharine Hall residents, along with their Augustine & Culture Seminar (ACS) instructors and guests, celebrated their appreciation of the blues. The evening opened with a Blues Museum in which students showcased their work, while Stephen Spatz of Falvey Memorial Library played selections from his 3,000-plus blues LPs on the turntable.

Dining Services served a scrumptious Southern dinner that included shrimp Creole, gumbo, fried tomatoes and banana bread pudding. During dessert and coffee, philosophy professor John Immerwahr and Vice President for Student Life Kathleen Byrnes presented awards for the best group research projects. Live entertainment by Parris Bradley and the Johnny Never Blues Band got every toe a-tappin’, and dance instructor Sandra Dee got students movin’ to the beat.

The participating ACS students were enrolled in one of the Katharine Hall Learning Communities for first year students, and their course instructors were Professors Ruth Anolik, Rachel Baard, Noël Dolan, Nancy Kelley and Bernard G. Prusak.

A Villanova Institute for Teaching and Learning (VITAL) minigrant, awarded in spring 2008, with funding from the Center for Liberal Education (VCLE) and the Office of Student Life, supported the students’ innovative and interdisciplinary course work and research. The minigrant made possible a series of planning meetings during the summer and academic year that paved the way for this truly collaborative venture.

Bradley, the theatre department’s technical director, brought live blues music and lore to the classes. Falvey librarians Jutta Seibert and Barbara Quintiliano provided research support by making students aware of the wealth of library resources available to them, such as the ARTstor database of images and photos. Cathy Kolongowski, Center for Instructional Technologies, offered technical expertise to make the Blues Museum a success, and also took photos.

According to Dr. Kelley, “The best thing about the Blues Museum and dinner was the unique energy and collaboration among ACS faculty, Falvey librarians, Cathy Kolongowski as our technological support and inspiration, and Parris Bradley’s expertise both with the history of the blues and the five instruments he played with his band. After researching and presenting various aspects of the blues, the Katharine Learning Communities enjoyed a truly interdisciplinary experience, along with a most creative Southern meal while listening to the best of the blues music. Active, engaged learning doesn’t get much better than this!”

By Barbara Quintiliano
Internships at Falvey
Collaborative Experiences in an Academic Setting

A library is a good place to study, conduct research and hold study sessions with friends over endless cups of coffee during finals week. However, Falvey Memorial Library, apart from being a great resource for faculty, students and the University community, hosts various internship opportunities that offer in-depth practical work experience to Villanova University graduate students as well as to individuals from the outside community.

The Events and Publications teams offer a shared year-long paid internship to a graduate assistant from the communication department. This intern’s duties are divided between these two teams and include “working with students, staff, faculty and guests while maintaining a regular flow of feature articles and blog entries that meet exacting editorial standards,” explains Darren Poley, Outreach librarian.

Through this experience, the intern achieves a level of mastery with event planning and management and gains the ability to work with a diverse group of people. “The intern would, it is hoped, benefit from learning about team efforts and resources for organizing and documenting library intellectual programming,” says Poley.

“The intern should also be a good writer and interested in developing communications skills, which is one reason that the communication department has been interested in placing their interns with us,” says Judith Olsen, Publications and Communications librarian.

In addition, Special Collections and the Digital Library offer the Thomas C. Middleton Villanova Digital Library and Archives Internship. The position is a part-time temporary staff position offered during the fall and spring semesters.

Applicants need to have experience in the digital library field and familiarity with general library activities and cataloging procedures for historic artifacts. Given the qualifications for the position, it is geared to library and information science students from other universities.

The Middleton intern is trained to “scan items, handle books, perform meta-data, undertake cataloging and description of items, provide marketing and support for digital items and write articles for blogs. The intern will be expected to complete projects such as creating exhibits, processing digital library material and creating a finding aid,” explains Michael Foight, Special and Digital Collections librarian.

The Middleton internship, the first internship created by Falvey, received its name in memory of Father Middleton, who was both the founder of the American Catholic Historical Society (ACHS) and president of Villanova University. He was also one of the librarians who dramatically increased the number of rare books in the Falvey collection.

Foight, who named the internship, says “Our first partnership in the Digital Library was with the ACHS, so it is important to create a link with them as well as to remind us of our primary responsibility. In that regard, Father Middleton symbolizes all of the Augustinians who have devoted their lives to education and to the preservation of the collective Catholic heritage.” Since its inception two years ago, three individuals have served as Middleton interns.

Last semester, the Special Collections department, under the supervision of Bente Polites, Special Collections librarian, offered a semester-long internship. That intern was primarily involved with working on projects pertaining to Special Collections and assisted with “managing papers for archival descriptions,” says Polites.

The overall goal is for Falvey interns to leave with practical knowledge in such areas as event planning, outreach, public relations, web development, digitization or rare book projects, all in the context of collaborative experiences in an academic setting.

Falvey also benefits from the positions. “These internships provide us with a ‘renewable’ supply of energy, talent and insight, allowing us to advance the mission of the library while also providing support and learning opportunities for skilled graduate students from Villanova University and beyond,” says Joe Lucia, University librarian.

By Kiran Qureshi, 2008-9 Events & Publications Intern
What’s in a Language? Anthropology Professor Speaks on the Origins of Language

“The Science of Humanity: Tongues, Stones, and Bones” was the theme of this year’s Anthropology Lecture Series. Lowell Gustafson, Ph.D., professor of political science and associate dean of social sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, opened the first lecture with his presentation, “Speaking Up: The Origins of Language” on Feb. 10.

Linguistics, the study of language, is one of the main sub-fields of anthropology. It is also one of the most important things that define what it means to be human. The language we speak, be it French, German, Chinese or Arabic, can often serve to divide us. However, the fact that we have language is common to virtually all human beings.

Folklore: An Unconventional Way of Interpreting African New World Fiction

Folklore in New World Black Fiction: Writing and the Oral Traditional Aesthetics, the recent book by Chiji Akoma, Ph.D., focuses on his new readings of African folklore. Dr. Akoma discussed this research at his Scholarship@ Villanova lecture on Feb. 11.

In his book, Dr. Akoma, associate professor of English, offers a different perspective for approaching the African New World novel, one which focuses on folklore. Rather than identifying African cultural references in the narratives of some New World writers of African descent, Dr. Akoma contends that these writers may, in fact, be reconfiguring the aesthetics of African oral performance.

Through an examination of the texts of four African Caribbean and African American novelists, Roy A.K. Heath, Wilson Harris, Toni Morrison and Jean Toomer, Dr. Akoma seeks to broaden the understanding of the dimensions of folklore and stress the importance of performance art in folklore analysis.

Penn Museum Curator Examines Past and Future of the Ancient Maya Civilization

On March 10, Richard M. Leventhal, Ph.D., professor of anthropology at the University of Pennsylvania and curator of the American Section at the Penn Museum, offered insights into the collapse of the major cities of the Maya and interpreted the past and future of the ancient Maya during his presentation, part of the Anthropology Lecture Series.

The ancient Maya are one of the great cultures of the ancient and modern worlds. Around A.D. 800, the major cities of the Mayan world were rapidly abandoned in one of the largest demographic shifts ever. Recent excavations at the ancient Mayan city of Xunantunich in Belize shed new light on this ‘collapse.’ Dr. Leventhal discussed how the excavation and preservation of Mayan cities as modern centers of economic development force a re-examination of the position of the ancient and modern Maya in today’s world.
Symposium and Concert to Honor Poetic Legacy of Juan Ramón Jiménez

Falvey Memorial Library and the modern languages and literature department proudly hosted an afternoon dedicated to the life and work of Juan Ramón Jiménez, Nobel laureate in literature, on March 31.

The symposium, initiated by Mercedes Juliá, Ph.D., featured three internationally renowned specialists on the poet: Carmen Hernández-Pinzón, grand-niece and representative of the heirs of the poet; Mª Ángeles Sanz Manzano, Ph.D., professor at the University of Alcalá de Henares; and Graciela Palau de Nemes, Ph.D., University of Maryland. The symposium was followed by a poetry recital that included faculty and students from the modern languages department and a concert by Chili Valverde, a singer from Huelva, Spain.

An international traveling exhibit created by the Junta de Andalucía and the Triennium Juan Ramón Jiménez commemorating the life and work of the poet was displayed on Falvey’s fourth floor during the entire month of March. This exhibit consisted of a remarkable series of thirty-four large posters which traced the life of the Juan Ramón Jiménez.

Where Did We Come From? Where Are We Headed? Professor Maps Past, Present and Future of Human Life

On April 14, Michael R. Zimmerman, M.D., Ph.D., took his audience on a trip through time and geographic space. Part of the Anthropology Lecture Series, the journey began with ape-like creatures that turned onto a unique road in eastern Africa some four to five million years ago and ended with some predictions for the coming centuries and millennia. Dr. Zimmerman’s research in paleopathology, the study of the evidence of disease in ancient remains, has resulted in numerous publications and speaking engagements.

Calling All Poets! Open Mic Event Celebrates Poetry at Villanova

Falvey Memorial Library and the English department invited all poets and poetry-lovers to join Senior Class Poet contestants to an open mic poetry reading on April 15. The event also celebrated the publication of student art and literary magazine Arthology.

Poems by senior poets were posted throughout Falvey’s first floor to promote their work and to celebrate April as National Poetry Month. The seniors included Laura Freeman, Jimi Honochick, Jennifer Nelson, Ivanley Noisette, Elizabeth Milarcik, Danielle Robert, Charlotte Thurston, Allison Friedman, Kimberly Jackson and Brigid Black.

By Kiran Qureshi; posters by Chris Barr
The forming of this partnership is a significant milestone for digital libraries as well, because in expanding the scope of special collections by partnering with an outside entity to digitize a collection of interest, an academic library has the potential to deepen the focal research interests of its parent institution that it reflects through its collection.

In the case of Falvey Memorial Library's Digital Library, the addition of the Barry-Hayes Papers complements Villanova University's cultural and academic heritage in a number of ways: as a native of County Wexford, Commodore Barry's history is of direct interest to Villanova's thriving Irish Studies program; as a prominent Catholic American, Barry and his history are relevant to the University's Augustinian heritage and to the Digital Library's growing collection of Catholica materials (built in partnership with the American Catholic Historical Society); and as a military hero and the father of the American Navy, Barry casts his light on Villanova's respected and highly ranked Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps, housed in a campus building which bears his name.

Since that date, Lyrasis has voted to integrate into its operations yet another similar consortium, NELINET, which serves New England libraries. Lyrasis membership will soon number over 4500 libraries and library systems across the entire region east of the Mississippi.

I am currently serving as president of the Lyrasis board, and I believe that through this new organization all member libraries will be able to deliver an even more impressive array of cooperative services to our local users.

Joe Lucia photograph by John Welsh

Explore the Barry-Hayes Papers collection at http://digital.library.villanova.edu
The Roycrofters: A Little Journey to the Home of Elbert Hubbard, on display from Jan. 20 through Aug. 1, began in two cases on the first floor and continued onto the second floor. It displayed materials from the Hubbard Collection donated to Special Collections in 1972. This collection consists of over four hundred pieces related to Elbert G. Hubbard (1856-1915), originally collected by Ray D. Packard and donated to Falvey by his daughter, Shirley A. Stine. There are books, serial and motto cards printed at the Roycroft Press and/or authored by Hubbard; there is also a box of manuscripts and memorabilia. Much of the Hubbard Collection’s visual beauty can be enjoyed on the Digital Library’s Web site.

The exhibit title derived from the phrase, “A Little Journey,” which is part of the title of a number of books printed by the Roycroft Press, but the exhibit included far more. In addition to books and pamphlets, the exhibit featured periodicals, *The Fra* and *The Philistine*, motto cards; invitations to events at the Roycroft Library; a 1904 guestbook for the Roycroft Inn; and a photograph of the Roycroft Chapel.

Elbert Hubbard made his fortune as a part owner of and successful salesman for the Larkin Soap Company. After he sold his share of the company, he visited England where he met William Morris, an artist, author, manufacturer and the founder of the Kelmscott Press. Upon Hubbard’s return to the United States, he founded the Roycroft Press and began publishing *The Philistine*, a magazine which became popular and helped fund the East Aurora, New York, artistic community which eventually included a bindery and leather, metal working and furniture shops, a library, a chapel and an inn which was built to house the numerous visitors. The village craftsmen, called Roycrofters, were among the most skilled participants of the Arts and Crafts Movement.

After Hubbard and his wife died in 1915, the Roycroft community was managed by their son until the business was sold in 1938. Several owners continued the Roycroft workshops and press until the community went bankrupt in 1987. The Roycroft Campus became a National Historic landmark district in 1986.

This comprehensive and visually appealing exhibit, curated by Bente Polites, Special Collections librarian, and Teri Ann Pirone, Special Collections curatorial assistant, included, in addition to the objects themselves, well researched information about a man and his colony often unknown to many viewers.

Other exhibits One Book Villanova: “The Glass Castle and the Artifacts of Memoir,” was featured in the cultural display window at the entrance to Falvey in February. Created by Joanne Quinn, she noted that she wanted her display “to reflect the clean lines of the book cover, *The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls.” Ann Stango assisted Joanne in mounting the display.

In recognition of Women’s History Month in March, the window display honored Villanova University’s women faculty book authors. This colorful display was also mounted by Joanne Quinn and organized by Lisa Sewell, Ph.D., and Seth Whidden, Ph.D., co-directors of the Gender and Women’s Studies program, and Elise Scioscia, a graduate assistant.

The 2009 Falvey Scholars were honored in April in another colorful window display by Joanne Quinn. Central to the display were five empty picture frames, representing the areas, Arts, Engineering, Business, Nursing and Sciences, from which the scholars would be selected. After the winners were announced on May 1, their photographs were placed in the frames. (See accompanying article on page 3.)

Two smaller exhibits, one celebrating Russian Week and the other supporting the Mirror Images Conference which commemorated the 25th anniversary of the Center for Arab and Islamic Studies, occupied two cases on the first floor.

The first of these, Russian Week 2009, March 23-28, focused on various Russian arts, sacred and secular, visual and literary, with items loaned by Rev. Joseph Loya, O.S.A., Ph.D. and Adele Lindenmeyr, Ph.D. Taras Ortynsky, librarian liaison to Russian Area Studies Concentration, collaborated with RASCON faculty, and the exhibit was mounted by Joanne Quinn.

Mirror Images: Challenges for Arab and Islamic Studies, a display of books, book covers, images, text panels and Egyptian artifacts, was the work of Merrill Stein, coordinator of the political science/geography/cultural studies liaison team, and Joanne Quinn. Taras Ortynsky, a member of that liaison team, also assisted with the display. Books, both fiction, poetry and non-fiction, provided an indication of the wealth of material available at Falvey.

By Alice Bampton
Robin Bowles recently joined Falvey Memorial Library as a member of the life sciences/nursing team. Robin has a master of science in library and information science from Drexel University where she specialized in medical and life sciences research and instruction. She received her bachelor’s degree in liberal studies with a concentration in science and mathematics from West Chester University.

Before coming to Villanova University, she worked at Colorado State University as the interim liaison librarian in biology and veterinary medicine. She has also held positions at the University of Pennsylvania Biomedical Library in reference and interlibrary loan, and at the Devereux Behavioral Healthcare Library (Villanova, Pa.) in serials management, assessment, interlibrary loan and document delivery.

Robin, a native of the Philadelphia area, noted that her high school graduation was held here on campus in the Pavilion.

Her hobbies are hiking, sewing, logic puzzles and attempting to master Google’s products and services.

Robin said, “I’m very excited by the prospect of forging long-term relationships with people here at Villanova ...and integrating new technology into the learning environment of the future.” ~AB

Barbara Quintiliano, instructional services librarian and coordinator of the nursing/biology library liaison team, recently received the Facultas Award for fall 2008.

The award was presented by Villanova University President, Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., Ph.D.; he was accompanied by two members of the Facultas committee, Victoria B. McWilliams, Ph.D., and Lillian (Boots) Cassel, Ph.D.

Library Director Joe Lucia said, “This is a well deserved honor for Barbara. She is one of our most able and committed professionals who is always eager to go the extra mile in her work. She is creative and enthusiastic in the work she does, most notably for the College of Nursing.”

Associated with Falvey since the 1980s, Barbara has been Falvey instructional services librarian since 2003; she also serves as a research consultation librarian.

The purpose of the Facultas Award is “to acknowledge and honor the contributions of members of the Villanova community; to focus attention on the vital, yet often unnoticed, services essential to the smooth and efficient functioning of the Villanova community, especially the academic faculty.”

Barbara noted, “I feel proud to be in the company of my colleagues here at Falvey who have also received the Facultas Award: Bente (Polites, fall 2004), Phylis (Wright, spring 2006) and Domenick (Liberato, fall 2007).” Even earlier, in 1996, the award was given to the late Therese Dougherty, a Falvey staff member who worked in interlibrary loan. ~AB

Jacqueline (Jackie) Mirable, a reference librarian at Falvey, has been selected to lead the Information and Research Assistance team. In her new role she supervises both the research support librarians and the library information specialists, two groups who have been merged to form one team.

Her goal is to carry out the directive set by Library Director Joe Lucia to “provide accessible, flexible and authoritative library services ... to satisfy the intellectual, cultural and scholarly appetites of Villanova students and faculty.”

A Falvey librarian since 1982, Jackie also coordinates Falvey’s communication, education and psychology liaison team, and she serves as resources editor of the Publications & Communications team. ~AB

Phylis Wright was recently elected the Falvey Memorial Library representative to the University Staff Council, created in 2008 by University President Father Peter Donohue to encourage dialogue and involvement from Villanova University staff members.

Phylis, a senior access and information specialist, has been with the University for 13 years. Serving on the Library Staff Council committee with Phylis are Jeannine Ahern, Margaret Duffy, Bill Greene, Mary Heyman, Gina McFadden and Joanne Quinn.

The University Staff Council sponsors the Faculty/Staff Christmas Party, Faculty/Staff Community Picnic, Bread and Soup Lunch during Hunger Awareness Week and the Midnight Shift Recognition Team events. The Staff Council also awards the Distinguished Service Award, the Work Process Improvement Award and the Above and Beyond Award. ~AB

Teaching and Learning Strategies

Several Falvey librarians presented at “Teaching and Learning Strategies 2009” in May, sponsored by the Villanova Institute for Teaching and Learning. Jutta Seibert, with James Murdoch, Ph.D., a professor in the Center for Liberal Education, presented “Back to Basics: Teaching Students the Art of Selecting Successful Topics,” based on insights and results from library workshops for two Augustine & Culture Seminar sections. Barbara Quintiliano and Alfred Fry discussed “Incorporating RefWorks into your Courses,” about the citation management system that supports research projects.
Falvey Bids Farewell to Louise Green

During her 40-plus years at Falvey Memorial Library, Louise K. Green, who has a bachelor’s degree in education and a master of science in library science, has been a reference librarian, head of the reference department, lecturer in the library science department, instructor, acting library director twice, associate director for public services and a member of the Academic Integration team. She retired at the end of May.

Early in May, I asked her the following questions:

NT: At what colleges did you receive your undergraduate and library degrees?
LG: I majored in mathematics at East Stroudsburg Teachers College (now East Stroudsburg University) and received my library degree from Villanova University in 1965.

NT: How did you come to Falvey and when did you start?
LG: While pursuing my degree, I worked as a graduate assistant in the library science department where I taught a one credit course to arts and sciences undergrads on the use of books and the library. When a part time position opened in Falvey, I was interested. Since my daughter was still young, I worked part time for six or seven years. I also taught graduate reference courses while working at Falvey.

NT: What drew you to library/reference work?
LG: In high school and college, I was a library assistant and enjoyed helping fellow students find books and information.

NT: You have seen much change in libraries over several decades. Which changes do you consider the best? The worst?
LG: Better funding for the library, especially for research access. When I first proposed a subscription to an online data retrieval service (BRS), I was told we couldn’t afford it. Being persistent, I convinced the administration to let us do the retrieval during off hours to save money and then pass the costs on to the academic departments utilizing the service. Now databases and online journals are a major part of the library’s budget. Since patrons are able to access information from dorm rooms and offices, along with the use of e-mail and (the online link) “Ask a Librarian,” a good deal of interpersonal contact has been lost. Of course, having patrons get the assistance and information that they need efficiently and quickly is our mission.

NT: How were your experiences as an acting director?
LG: Interesting and challenging. I was able to get an overview of the inner workings of a university during my time on the Council of Deans and I came to appreciate the variety of issues that a director has to handle. Since I had been considering getting my Ph.D., it helped me to realize that administrative work was not my strong suit and that I would be happy to go back to my reference work. I didn’t enjoy dealing with budgets and salaries.

NT: Did you help design the first instruction room?
LG: I worked with former Library Director Dr. Mary Ann Griffin and UNIT to set up a computer room where the instructor had control of all the computers and could display an individual student’s screen to the entire class. Since we were one of the first schools in the area to have this Classnet hardware, people from local colleges came to see how it functioned.

NT: What part of your work here did you enjoy the most? The least?
LG: Working the reference desk while getting to meet students, faculty and staff members. All were interesting and a pleasure to meet and assist. There was no downside to reference for me. People were always so appreciative of the time spent with them guiding their research. Most of all I disliked trying to understand and deal with usage statistics. I won’t miss that at all!

NT: You have served on several committees and councils. Where do you feel that you contributed the most?
LG: I thoroughly enjoyed being on search committees, especially for library directors.

NT: Who was the most interesting/unforgettable person you have encountered or worked with among the faculty, administration or staff?
LG: There have been many over the years, but I still remember a certain chemistry professor whose breadth of inquiries was amazing. I never knew what subject we were going to research; the areas ranged from crossword puzzles to philosophy to art and to Beilstein, an important organic chemistry set (now online).

NT: Do you have any funny stories to share?
LG: One day while assisting a student, I asked him his professor’s name. His reply was “Mr. Staff.”

NT: If you weren’t a librarian, in what other field would you have liked to work?
LG: I would have taught mathematics at a local high school.

NT: What plans do you have for your first few months of retirement?
LG: My husband and I will be taking a trip to Santa Fe with friends and then we will spend some time in Cape May with our family. I also plan to explore volunteer work in my community. I will certainly miss the day-to-day interaction with my colleagues and the sense of satisfaction I have derived from my reference work.

In addition, Louise served on numerous University committees. In 1997, she was awarded the “Distinguished Service Award” in recognition of her many contributions to Falvey Memorial Library and Villanova University.

Louise Green, with her dedication and enthusiasm and wit, will be missed.

Article and photograph by Natalie Tomasco
The Owl, a student magazine published by Phi Kappa Pi, the engineering honor society, highlighted student life and activities in the engineering community at Villanova from 1925 to 1933. Recently added to the Digital Library, The Owl can now be read online (digital.library.villanova.edu).

In addition to articles about new engineering projects in the Delaware Valley, The Owl carried news about students and engineering alumni. Photographs taken by engineering students are featured in most issues and show the vibrant and energetic Villanova College campus of the 1920s. Sport also figures in many issues with photographs of athletic events and athletes, and a score roundup as well. In 1933, the title changed to The Villanova Engineer.

Many highly talented and creative students produced The Owl. Most issues included cartoons. In another featured column, “Snapshots of Tech Life,” students are whimsically portrayed in romantic scenes under the rubric of the serious “Astronomical Absurdities.”

Villanova student engineers were involved in drafting plans for the future development of the campus: an illustration taken from a published engineering study places a new athletic field in the space where the Pavilion now rests.

By Michael Foight