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ON THE COVER: A selection of images from the Libraries' newest digital collection, Oregon State Baseball: 100 Years to a National Championship, 1907-2006. To learn more about the collection, see page 13.

THE MESSANGER
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The Messenger is published biannually.
Hello Library Supporters,

I hope this issue of The Messenger finds you well and enjoying the long awaited beautiful spring weather. It is difficult to believe that graduation day is here and that another class of students will be launched into a new life. I am confident that whatever career path they choose, their library experience will play a role in their future successes. Those students who have the skills to search out and evaluate information will clearly be advantaged in the ever changing world of technology. Three students that have obviously mastered these skills are Matt Bradley, Carmen Halstead and Luke Peterson, award winners of our first annual Undergraduate Library Research Award. Each student was nominated for the award by faculty in their discipline. The criterion for nomination was excellence in research, using multiple library resources and good writing. Each student was awarded a $1000 scholarship which I want to thank the Library Advisory Council for funding, developing the award criteria, reading the papers of those nominated and making the final selection. You can read more about these students and their use of the library on pages 14 and 15.

In each issue of The Messenger, we try to introduce you to new services that the library is developing. Often what we describe is the end product, not the process we go through when we agree to adopt and/or develop a new service. A key step in this process is usability testing. In her article on page 11, Margaret Mellinger writes about OSU Libraries hosting Dr. Carlos Jensen’s Introduction to Usability Engineering course. The goal of the class was to teach usability engineering methods for the design and evaluation of software systems and user interfaces. The Valley Library became a laboratory for these students as they studied services and processes, and then proposed innovative ways to address problems they had identified. While this was a one-time assignment, the OSU Libraries Usability Team noted the processes used by the students and have since incorporated some of them in their day-to-day usability work. If you have an interest in helping us test some of our services, please let me or Kerrie Cook know.

OSU students never stand still and neither do OSU Libraries. While it is fantastic to see students graduate and succeed, it is also great when they come back to visit their old stomping grounds, OSU and OSU Libraries. We invite you to come back and visit your Alma Mater and the OSU Libraries. See how far the library has come in the past years and what a dynamic learning and social space it is! As always, I thank you for your continued support and hope to see you soon.

Sincerely,

Karyle Butcher

"OSU students never stand still and neither do OSU Libraries"

Karyle Butcher
New Employees

**Laurie Bridges** holds a B.S. in Education from the University of Nebraska in English, an M.S. in College Student Services with a minor in Women Studies from OSU and an MLIS from the University of Washington. Laurie enjoyed working with students as the Marketing Coordinator for OSU University Housing and Dining Services for the past six years. She is now the Business Librarian for The Valley Library and loves interacting with and helping students and faculty.

**Eric Clark** graduated from the OSU English Department. He has been working at The Valley Library since October 2005 and became staff when he graduated the following spring. He grew up in Creswell and is an avid reader. In Circulation, he manages the newspaper collection, helps with course reserves, and assists patrons.

**Hannah Rempel** is the Biosciences Librarian, currently covering the departments of Biochemistry & Biophysics, Genetics, Microbiology, Food Science & Technology, Biology, Molecular and Cellular Biology, and the Center for Genomics Research and Bio-computing. Hannah has an MLIS from the University of Washington and an M.S. in Horticulture from OSU.

**Ian Scofield** provides troubleshooting services for our online journals as the new Electronic Resources Technician in Technical Services. He was previously a library assistant at Hewlett-Packard, and he is currently working on his BA in English at OSU.

**Kristin Swetland** works in The Valley Library. Originally she was hired as a Reference student assistant — now she is a Library Technician I in circulation and collections maintenance. Kristin is a graduate of the OSU apparel and design program.

**Andrea Wirth** is the new Geosciences and Environmental Sciences Librarian for OSU Libraries, though her areas of subject responsibility also include atmospheric sciences, water resources, and maps. She previously worked for OSU Libraries from 1992–2000. Andrea received her MLS through a distance program offered by the University of North Texas. She had been working for the City of Eugene Wastewater Division.

**Kate Yonezawa** is our new Undergraduate Services Coordinator in the Undergraduate Learning and Library Information Access Department. Kate received her MLIS from Emporia State University in 2006. She brings to us over 15 years of teaching experience in the United States and Japan.

Congratulations

**Larry Landis** received the Oregon Heritage Excellence Award at the Oregon Heritage Conference in Pendleton on May 4 from the Programs Division of Oregon Parks and Recreation. This prestigious award recognizes individuals, businesses, and organizations for outstanding efforts on behalf of Oregon heritage, for making the most of available resources and skills.
Alice’s Stray Hair: An Artwork by Phil Sylvester

by Ashley Blackwell, Senior Art History Student

Many artworks that are commissioned in panels maintain a flow of motion between them; however, Phil Sylvester’s piece, Alice’s Stray Hair, does not. Instead, each panel appears to have been created apart from each other while still maintaining commonality of color, style and brush stroke. Drama combined with a release of emotions, engulfs the three vertical panels in a storm of bold colors that are ripped apart with thick black lines. Each step closer reveals broad brush strokes and interesting shapes that have been thrown together by the artist.

This is a piece that demands the viewer’s attention and encourages further inquiry as though looking deeper will reveal a hidden truth. Maybe there is something more behind the layers of color that could tell the viewer an important message or maybe something personal about the artist himself. Either way, it is arguably one of the most viewed artworks in the OSU Libraries Pacific Northwest Art Collection being that it rests just inside the entrance to The Valley Library in an open location above the staircase to the coffee shop below.

The artist, Phil Sylvester, began his artistic career as a musician before branching into the visual arts for a relatively short period of time. His art theories are primarily expressionist since he views his work as an exploration of personal intuition combined with impulses that he finds particularly stimulating. Rather than painting a picture for the picture’s sake, he chooses to use paint merely as a medium to discover the world and relationships around him. Before he began to paint, Phil made a living as a professional guitarist, which is where his passion remains. His love for music and the drama within it is contained and vibrantly shown in Alice’s Stray Hair. Among these panels the viewer can get a sense of Phil’s love for jazz, as it invokes the melodic rhythms of an old jazz bar. The saturated colors continuously fill the senses with delight regardless of how many times people pass by.

It may be surprising to some that Phil is a self taught artist who earned a Master of Architecture degree from Princeton University, in addition to a B.A. in Mathematics from Reed College. He also received a certificate in performance from the Hayes-Marshall School of Theater and spent two years at the Berklee College of Music. Phil credits some of the 20th century artistic masters such as Cezanne, Matisse, and Johns with teaching him what he calls “the economy of technique; doing what is necessary to get the job done right, nothing more, nothing less.”

Alice’s Stray Hair is a direct representation of his personal interest in paint as a medium in addition to his aptitude to learning about more recent art masters and theorists. All three panels are executed with captivating strokes and uses of color that entice the viewer to want more from him as a painter. He prefers to leave the viewer in amazement and desire which makes Phil as mystifying as one of the Northwest’s leading artistic minds. 🎨
The Seed and Nursery Trade Catalogue Collection Website

by Alice Krinsky Formiga, Affiliate Faculty, Special Collections

The OSU Libraries Special Collections is known internationally for its Linus Pauling archive; however, few people are aware that Special Collections also houses over 2,000 seed and nursery trade catalogues from the 1830s to the 1960s.

With the upcoming launch of a new website that will describe the collection and allow researchers to search its contents, many more people will soon become aware of this collection. The site will contain scans of catalogue covers, plant lists, and art, and will place these items within the context of an introductory narrative about the history of seed and nursery catalogues from their earliest European origins in the seventeenth century to the present. For the past six months, I have been writing the narrative as a volunteer in cooperation with the Special Collections staff.

Former agricultural librarian Laura Kelts compiled the OSU seed and nursery trade collection from various sources in the 1960s and 1970s. At that time, it was stored in a locked room in a science area of the library, where space was at a premium. In the early 1970s the collection was deemed ephemeral and nearly discarded, when it was rescued from a dumpster by reference librarian, Michael Kinch who recognized its historical value.

The study of seed and nursery catalogues combines history and horticulture. Reading older catalogues can help researchers ascertain dates of introduction of particular plants, and track which varieties withstood the test of time. They show changes in gardening fashions, and display many examples of commercial and botanical art. Because they are often not listed in library catalogues, or are mixed in with other ephemera, it has been difficult for researchers to find out which catalogues are located in archives around the country. As more libraries put the contents of their trade catalogue collections online, or integrate them into online library catalogues — both of which are becoming more common — it will be much easier to find out the answers to questions like, which American seed firm was really the first to introduce color illustrations.

Last spring, after deciding to pursue a Master of Library Science, I found out that the application deadlines for the schools I wished to attend had just passed. A librarian acquaintance advised me to make use of this year by volunteering. I sought out a project that would benefit the library, and build on my prior interests and experience. Although I studied History and German in college, I spent many years working in Germany and the United States as a gardener and horticultural advisor for garden seed companies. When I noticed that the contents of Special Collections’ seed and nursery catalogues were not yet listed online, I asked whether there was anything I could do to make it more accessible. In September, Cliff Mead, the Head of Special Collections, invited me to view the collection. Although it had already been catalogued, he suggested that I submit a proposal for a website.

In writing the proposed website narrative, I faced various challenges. For one thing, the collection does not contain an equal number of catalogues for each time period or in the range it spans. While there are not many...
examples from the nineteenth and early twentieth century, many of the older artifacts in the collection are quite rare and came from prominent firms such as James Carter, Kelway’s Nursery and James Veitch & Son in England, and G. Thorburn & Son, Joseph Breck, C.M. Hovey and James Vick in the United States. By contrast, there are hundreds of catalogues from Great Britain in the 1920s and 1930s, and twenty-two bound volumes from the United States for the year 1940. What I have found most interesting is learning how seed and nursery companies responded to historic events such as the World Wars, and how they changed in response to improvements in transportation and postal services. I have also enjoyed learning how catalogue covers, art and photography evolved as new printing and photographic technology became available.

As Katherine White wrote in “Onward and Upward in the Garden,” a critical but affectionate review of seed and nursery trade catalogues of the 1950s and 1960s, “I am an addict of this form of literature.” Seed and nursery catalogues make fascinating reading, and I look forward to sharing my enthusiasm for them via this website.

1889.001.cover 1889 Dingee & Conard of West Grove, PA — “The New Guide to Rose Culture”

The Oregon Explorer

By Janine Salwasser, Natural Resources Digital Library Program Director

We are truly excited about our new natural resources digital library — the Oregon Explorer. This site (www.oregonexplorer.info) offers new ways of accessing electronic information for users at all skill levels.

The site allows access to archived digital documents and online tools for mapping, reporting and visualizing the landscapes of Oregon’s 15 watershed basins and 9 ecoregions. It is a “purposeful” digital library to help people make better decisions with more access to information about Oregon’s valued natural resources.

Oregon Explorer is the result of an innovative partnership between OSU Libraries and the Oregon University System Institute for Natural Resources (INR). Through our collaboration with INR, we are reaching out to a varied group of users, from policymakers at the Capitol, to landowners and volunteer citizens working in watersheds throughout the state.

Decision-makers, planners, agency staff, watershed council members, educators, and many others have been involved in all aspects of digital library design, development, testing, and evaluation as we moved from prototypes at the basin scale to implementation at the statewide level. We are literally building the Oregon Explorer from the ground up with local user involvement across the state.

A needs assessment completed in 2001 has served as a framework for development and a business plan completed in 2006 is helping to guide our work into the future.

We have learned that, in the natural resources arena, place matters. People want to learn about specific places throughout Oregon, whether it is a local watershed, county or ecoregion, or home location.

Development of the digital library started at the local level with the creation of basin prototypes for the Willamette Basin, North Coast, and Umpqua Basin. With each of these Explorer prototypes, a diversity of available digital content was integrated with an expanding set of digital library technologies. Web design services have been provided by Edge Design of Portland (Corvallis office).

The Willamette Basin Explorer was developed first (www.willametteexplorer.info) to help inform decisions about land and water use. The most popular feature is the multi-media story that provides a context for why someone should care about the Willamette Basin and alternative future conditions.

A variety of natural resource issues are addressed, ranging from floodplain restoration to future water availability under different land use scenarios. The information is largely drawn from the Willamette Basin Planning Atlas produced by a consortium of scientists to evaluate alternative futures for the Willamette Basin.

The North Coast Explorer (www.northcoastexplorer.info) was developed next to help make information about coastal watersheds and salmon more accessible. Interactive maps are available through the feature story about the Coastal Coho Assessment. In the example below, the Coho Assessment Viewer allows users to view data on a number of important risk factors potentially limiting Coho Salmon’s recovery in Oregon’s North Coast. From the site, you can track how populations of Coho Salmon vary over space and time.

Images of restoration sites, like the one pictured above, in the Umpqua Basin from the Umpqua Basin Explorer, show differences over time.
A good measure of success for our basin prototypes was when a local community group, the Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers (PUR), requested us to create an Umpqua Basin Explorer using local funds after liking what they saw with the completion of the North Coast Explorer.

The Umpqua Basin Explorer (www.umpquaexplorer.info) was created to provide background and information about a number of topics relevant to decision-making about natural resources in the Umpqua Basin. These topics include fish, habitat, water quality, watershed restoration, and Native American tribes of the Umpqua Basin. This site also provides access to the mapping and reporting tools that were developed for the other Explorer sites, with information that is specific to the Umpqua Basin. PUR has taken on the content maintenance of the site so that the information remains current and relevant to the locals who live and work in this area.

When complete, the Oregon Explorer series will include localized information for all the watershed basins and ecoregions in Oregon, as well as an expanding collection of topical portals. The first topic portal — the Wildfire Risk Explorer (www.oregonexplorer.info/wildfire) — was created to provide access to statewide analyses of Communities at risk led by the Oregon Department of Forestry. With this site, a user can type in their zip code or community name and retrieve a map or create a report of the relative amounts of high, medium or low wildfire risk in an area of interest. The next topic portal to be created will be the Land Use Explorer. This site will feature access to the Measure 37 claims database developed by Portland State University and other archived land use documents.

It is not enough to just provide access to data or documents in a digital library. Users want access to a wide variety of integrated information resources like — digital documents, interactive maps and reports, decision support tools, high resolution imagery, and access to available expertise. Stories and annotations throughout the site provide a context for these available resources.

Funding for the Oregon Explorer has come from private foundations, state agencies, the Institute for Natural Resources, and library gift funds. To date, more than $1.5 million has been invested over the last five years to develop the collection of Explorer sites.

This evolving natural resources digital library will enable users to learn about Oregon’s environment, to actively engage in creating and sharing knowledge, and to make informed decisions about our natural resources throughout the state.


Come Celebrate With Us June 28th

OSU Libraries and the Institution for Natural Resources invite you to the public launch of the Oregon Explorer, www.oregonexplorer.info. Short discussions, question and answer sessions as well as hands on demonstrations will be conducted.

Where: The Valley Library Autzen Classroom on the 2nd floor.
When: Thursday June 28, 2007 from 11AM-2PM. Light refreshments provided.

If you would like more information contact Kerrie Cook at 541-737-4633 or via email at Kerrie.Cook@oregonstate.edu.

We would love to show you what we have accomplished!
Where can you find records of Congress’s investigation into the sinking of the Titanic or the Challenger space shuttle disaster 74 years later, learn about common diseases and pests that plague Pacific Northwest conifers or find a topographic map of the Three Sisters? All of these and many more documents published by the U.S. government (the world’s largest publisher) can be found in The Valley Library. 2007 marks OSU’s 100th year as part of the Federal Depository Library (FDLP).

The Federal depository system was established by Congress in 1813. After the British army burned the Library of Congress during the War of 1812, it was decided to ensure the survival of the records of the government by placing copies in selected libraries throughout the nation. By collecting, organizing, maintaining, preserving, and assisting users, depository libraries like ours preserve the public’s right to know about their government.

On March 1, 1907, forty-three land grant colleges—including Oregon Agricultural College—were designated Federal Depository libraries under a provision of the Nelson Amendment to the First and Second Morrill Acts, which had previously established the land grant colleges. This was the largest group of libraries ever to enter the program in a single year.

OSU and the community at large greatly benefit from their access to a Federal Depository Library collection. In fact, it is difficult to name a program at OSU including Political Science, Economics, Sociology, Oceanography, Education, History, Women’s Studies, and Public Policy. The Valley Library also stores excellent historic and current collections on Agriculture and Forestry; many technical reports useful for Engineering; scientific research across a broad spectrum of disciplines; large amounts of demographic information from the Census Bureau; and Congressional publications applicable to almost every subject.

**Depository Libraries in a Digital Age**

The transformative characteristics of the Internet have brought an unprecedented expansion in public access to U.S. government information. Even so, depository libraries still serve a necessary function in the 21st century.

A significant number of documents are issued only in paper, such as long documents that can be extremely tiring to read online or maps that are often more useful in a tangible form. And while the Federal government and its many partners (including OSU) are busy digitizing older documents to make them freely available online, most documents older than ten years still only exist in paper format. Physical depositories are necessary for housing historic collections.

By being open to the public, depository libraries provide access to the modern equipment and connections necessary to retrieve and use electronic information for those who do not own computers or do not have internet access. This has a democratizing effect, and is one way OSU Libraries can address the “digital divide” — the disenfranchising economic, social, and cultural barriers to electronic information—in our community.

By providing computer links within our catalog and records to electronic documents, libraries offer users a way to discover the existence of government information that they may not even realize exists. While the Federal government itself has a catalog, a search engine, and many websites, it can still be difficult to locate information online. The assistance of trained professional librarians is a necessary part of providing citizen access to information from their government.

We invite everyone to join in our celebration of 100 years as a Federal Depository library, by visiting our collections in person or online (http://osulibrary.oregonstate.edu/research/govpubs.html).
Students Brainstorm Library Improvements
by Margaret Mellinger, Engineering Librarian, Reference Consulting & Innovative Services

Have you ever tried to open a door by pushing, discovering that you must pull instead? Do you find yourself turning on the wrong burner because the knobs don’t match the stove top? When you have experiences like these, you are bumping into usability issues.

Usability is a measure of the ease people have when interacting with tools and products. Designing products and services without considering usability can make them unpopular, useless, unusable and, sometimes, dangerous. The field of usability engineering evolved as a process for methodically designing systems that people find both useful and usable. In the digital world of computer software, usability engineering is as important as it is in the physical world of doors and stoves.

Students used The Valley Library as a laboratory in Dr. Carlos Jensen’s Introduction to Usability Engineering course (Computer Science 352) during the winter term. Dr. Jensen led teams of students through a usability engineering process focusing on OSU Libraries’ digital interfaces. The students came up with wonderfully perceptive and inventive solutions to usability problems within the library.

Ethnographic study
Student teams chose specific places in the library, such as the 4th floor rotunda or the study rooms, and spent hours observing the activities of library users. Before conducting the observations, students learned about ethical experimentation methods and took an Institutional Review Board certification test. Each group wrote a descriptive inventory of the architecture, the objects in the space, the technology available, and the people using the spaces, objects and technology. While true ethnographic studies take place over days and weeks, rather than hours, students quickly gained an understanding of the library from the users’ perspective.

Project design and testing
Team members designed projects to solve usability problems they identified in their library observations. Their projects passed through several levels of feedback and subsequent refinement. The teams presented their first prototype designs to each other in a design gallery. Design galleries are used in graphic arts and other fields as a way for students to learn to critique others’ work and take criticism of their own. After the design gallery, students devised usability tests for their prototypes. At one class session, teams set up usability testing stations all around the classroom. Each student had a chance to play the role of the researcher conducting the test and to be a participant in another team’s usability test.

Final Projects
Students presented their final projects in a poster session hosted by The Valley Library. The Willamette rooms were buzzing with energy as the teams explained their prototypes to library staff and other visitors. There was a lot of lively interaction as library staff viewed the teams’ innovative solutions. For example, the ‘Reserve This!’ Team demonstrated an online study room reservation system to replace the current paper system. The ‘BookFinder’ Team presented their online system to help users locate books on the shelves. The ‘Plasma Screen Everybody Looks At’ Team illustrated a dashboard-like graphical display for the large plasma screen in the Information Commons. Other teams suggested novel ideas to improve the appearance and functionality of the online library catalog. Students were surprised and flattered by the keen interest their projects raised.
New Tax Incentive for Charitable Giving

In August 2006, President George Bush signed into law new tax incentives for charitable gifts from donors who are 70 or older. The Pension Protection Act of 2006 encourages financial support of the good work done by charitable organizations in the United States.

Under the new law, you can use funds from your IRA to make a lifetime charitable gift, free of tax obligations. Prior to the law, you would have to report any amount taken from your IRA as taxable income and then take a charitable deduction for the gift, but only up to 50% of your adjusted gross income. Fortunately, now these IRA gifts can be accomplished simply and without tax complications. You may contribute funds under this new tax-saving opportunity if:

- The gifts do not total more than $100,000 per year.
- You make the gift on or before December 31, 2007.
- You transfer funds directly from an IRA or Rollover IRA.
- You make the gift to a public charity, which includes the OSU Foundation but excludes gifts made to charitable trusts, donor advised funds, and supporting organizations.

In the past, if you wanted to give a cash gift, you first had to sell the IRA assets and pay income taxes on them. With this law, the entire proceeds would go directly to OSU Libraries. For the donors who had planned to donate their IRA to OSU Libraries after their lifetimes, the law means you can see the impact of that gift now.

Tom McLennan, our new Director of Development, is almost an Oregon native. Tom spent many years growing-up in Oregon. His father worked for the US Forest Service and his mother was a teacher.

After graduating from high school he came directly to OSU where he majored in Speech Communication. Of his current job he says “Development is all about creating relationships with people. My major really taught me a lot about understanding people and interpersonal communications.”

After graduating from OSU, Tom joined the Peace Corps where he taught middle school in the Kingdom of Tonga, a cluster of 176 Polynesian islands. Additionally, he learned much about the importance of family.

If you have any questions regarding giving to the OSU Libraries for Tom or would just like to get to know him better, you can contact him at (541) 737-0847 or send him a welcome back to OSU email at Tom.McLennan@oregonstate.edu.
Commemorating 100 Years of Baseball

by Elizabeth Nielsen, Senior Staff Archivist

Varsity baseball began at Oregon State University (then Oregon Agricultural College) in 1907 with a game against Salem High and completed its first one hundred years with a win over the University of North Carolina on June 26, 2006 at the College World Series to win the National Championship.

Oregon State Baseball: 100 Years to a National Championship, 1907–2006, the Libraries’ newest digital collection, commemorates this centennial: http://osulibrary.oregonstate.edu/digitalcollections/baseball/

This is a collaborative project of the University Libraries and Intercollegiate Athletics and includes materials from the OSU Archives, OSU Sports Information, and the Libraries’ Special Collections.

Initial planning for the project began in the spring of 2005 before the OSU baseball team made its first trip to the College World Series in more than fifty years (since 1952). The 2006 team’s run to the National Championship provided new energy for the project. The project staff knew that OSU baseball, as the reigning National Champions, would receive significant attention from fans and the media in 2007.

The Archives’ baseball-related photographs are scattered in many different collections and had been poorly described or un-identified. This project brings the images together in one “virtual” collection and provides enhanced descriptions. OSU Sports Information has provided more recent images (especially of the 2005 and 2006 teams) and other images that are not part of the Archives’ collections.

In the course of the project, more than fifteen hundred baseball images were identified in the Archives’ collections, almost double the number expected.

This project includes several features not previously used in OSU Archives’ digital collections:

• Narrative content is provided through a blog allowing users to add comments.
• Streaming video of several films of OSU baseball is available from within both the media and narrative components of the site.
• Extensive descriptions are provided for many of the images on the site.

One visitor to the site contributed the following comment about the video of a 1983 doubleheader against Washington State University:

“Thanks for the great entry about the 1983 season ending double header against WSU. Had the privilege of seeing both these games in person and it is one of my favorite memories from my OSU days. Had only planned to watch the first few innings of Game 1 on my way to class. Never did make it to any classes that day but watched two excellent baseball games!”

Many OSU Libraries staff contributed to this project: Linda Kathman, Sue Kunda, Larry Landis, Elizabeth Nielsen, Reid Parham, Terry Reese, and scores of student assistants who scanned photographs and other items.

Kip Carlson in OSU Sports Information provided images and text for the site and supported the project from its inception as a way to honor the rich history of OSU baseball.

The OSU Archives and OSU Sports Information especially acknowledge the yeoman service of Paul Andresen as a volunteer on this project. Paul’s extensive knowledge of and enthusiasm for OSU baseball history and his tenacity in tracking down all manner of details about players, teams, and games are reflected in the detailed descriptions he prepared to accompany many of the images and the essays about various aspects of OSU baseball history which he wrote for the site.
This year the OSU Libraries and Library Advisory Council (LAC) introduced the first annual Undergraduate Library Research Award. The award recognizes and rewards undergraduate students who, through the comprehensive use of the OSU Libraries, demonstrate outstanding research, scholarship, and originality in writing a paper or completing a project.

An award ceremony was held to celebrate this year’s winners on the afternoon of May 8, in Special Collections, followed by a short reception. Matthew Bradley, Carmen Halstead and Luke Peterson were each awarded $1000 and a plaque for their efforts using the library resources for their research papers. All gave heartfelt thanks to the library for the resources offered, to the LAC for the support of the award, and to their nominators for the recognition of their efforts.

**Lower Division Award**

Matthew Bradley is a first-year student at Oregon State University and wrote the essay, “Meat for Thought: Factory Farming at its Worst” as part of his Writing 121 curriculum. Every Writing 121 class incorporates an introduction to information literacy concepts and skills with each student getting the opportunity to work directly with librarians while researching. In her nomination of Matthew, Sarah Gallup, described how she was “thrilled to see how Matthew’s research led to a well-crafted essay.” Matthew’s application is a classic description of what librarians hope students gain from an information literacy workshop. He discussed how his assumptions changed and evolved as he went through the research process and described how he came to realize that a diversity of sources helped him “improve my writing technique and style.”

To read Matthew’s essay, visit: http://ir.library.oregonstate.edu/dspace/handle/1957/4577

**Upper Division Awardees**

Carmen Halstead is a junior in English who discovered D. H. Lawrence while studying at community college. She elaborated on her admiration for Lawrence in a major research paper for Dr. Neil Davidson’s English 438/538 class, Studies in Modernism, during fall term, 2006. In her paper, “D. H. Lawrence and Ursula Brangwen v. Feminist Readings,” Halstead challenges commonly held views regarding Lawrence’s opinions on women. Dr. Davidson describes her work as “a tour-de-force of research at both the primary and secondary levels.” Although she described her month spent researching Lawrence as “physically grueling and mentally exhausting,” she admitted that she was “too excited to realize how much work (she) was actually doing.” In her application essay, Ms. Halstead described spending time in The Valley Library from opening until closing. Upon hitting an obstacle she thought insurmountable she decided to call in her “reinforcements,” the reference librarians, to carry on with her research.

To read Carmen’s essay, visit: http://ir.library.oregonstate.edu/dspace/handle/1957/4576

Luke Peterson is a senior double majoring in Art and German. He wrote his paper for Dr. Kirsi Pelto-Mäki’s ART 470: Methods of Art History class during the winter term, 2006. Luke’s essay, “The Birth of German Art: Italia and Germany,” made effective use of material at OSU Libraries and took advantage of the Libraries’ interlibrary loan service to attain material from distant libraries. In her nomination letter for Luke, Dr. Peltonäki wrote that Luke’s essay, “demonstrated his ability to synthesize information culled from distinctive national traditions in art history, and place the methodological sources in their historical context.” Luke mentioned how helpful Loretta Rielly’s class session on library resources was for writing his paper.

To read Luke’s essay, visit: http://ir.library.oregonstate.edu/dspace/handle/1957/4578
How did the award come about?

LAC Members Georgeann Casey and Joan Griffis were both key in planning the award. They developed criteria, gathered information on similar awards at other institutions and wrote the guidelines for applications. During the Fall LAC meeting the plan was approved and members generously donated personal funds for the award.

The award was advertised in The Barometer, the student newspaper, OSU This Week, the campus faculty, staff newsletter and with posters in the library entrance. By the deadline there had been ten applications received consisting of faculty nomination letters, original research papers, as well as an essay from each student describing how they used library resources. Eight applications were received from upper division students and two from lower division students. Since this was the first year for the award, the committee was very encouraged by the number of applications.

The evaluation committee consisted of President Emeritus Dr. John Byrne and Joan Griffis from the LAC, Anne-Marie Deitering and John Pollitz represented the OSU Libraries and Michael Witbeck served as the Faculty Senate Library Committee (FSLC) representative. The process for evaluating the submissions was long but rewarding, as all the students had written about such interesting and varied subjects. When the evaluation team came together to make their final decision on which papers should receive the awards, they found choosing just one winner in the upper division too difficult. The evaluation committee decided to present two awards in the upper division category as well as the one for lower division.

To read each phenomenal student’s papers you can go online to OSU Libraries Scholars Archive at the links listed at the end of each student’s paper description or you can contact Kerrie Cook at 541-737-4633 for a copy to be mailed to you.

Everyone at OSU Libraries’ is looking forward to next year’s ceremony and we will continue to share what your support has done for our students.

If you are interested in an invitation to next year’s ceremony or future involvement on the Library Advisory Council please call Kerrie Cook at 541-737-4633 or email Kerrie.Cook@oregonstate.edu.

Other Award News

The OSU Libraries Advisory Council was proud to learn that LAC member Jean Roth received a Senior First Citizen award at the Celebrate Corvallis ceremony this past January. Jean is a wonderful supporter of OSU Libraries and all of Oregon State University.
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