



A crane lifts a 60-foot-long rebar cage that now forms part of the Mansueto Library's foundation wall. (Photo courtesy of Barton Malow)

Completed Mansueto Library Foundation Wall Extends 60 Feet Below Ground

Construction of the first of three major components of the Joe and Rika Mansueto Library—the slurry wall—was completed on March 26. This foundation wall extends roughly 60 feet below ground at its deepest point and is part of the system that will support the Library's glass dome and protect the collection that will be stored below ground.

The other two major components of the building, the glass dome that will top the Library's main floor and the automated storage and retrieval system (ASRS), are scheduled for completion in August 2010 and November 2010, respectively.

Excavation is scheduled to begin in July 2009. Approximately 53,000 cubic yards of earth will be

removed to create space for the ASRS, which can house and deliver the equivalent of 3.5 million volumes.

Substantial completion of the building is scheduled for November 2010, at which time Library staff will begin to load the ASRS with selected periodicals, books, rare and archival materials, and other resources. The Mansueto Library is scheduled to open to the University community in February 2011.

Updates on ongoing construction and its current impact on users are available on the Mansueto Library Web site at <http://mansueto.lib.uchicago.edu/thismonth.html>. Photos of the construction process have been posted to the University of Chicago Library's photostream on Flickr.

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Libra (Library Reports and Announcements) is a newsletter from the University of Chicago Library, written for the faculty and the University community. If you have questions or comments about this issue of *Libra*, please contact Rachel Rosenberg, director of communications, at 773-834-1519 or libra@lib.uchicago.edu.

Construction in Special Collections Research Center Begins in September

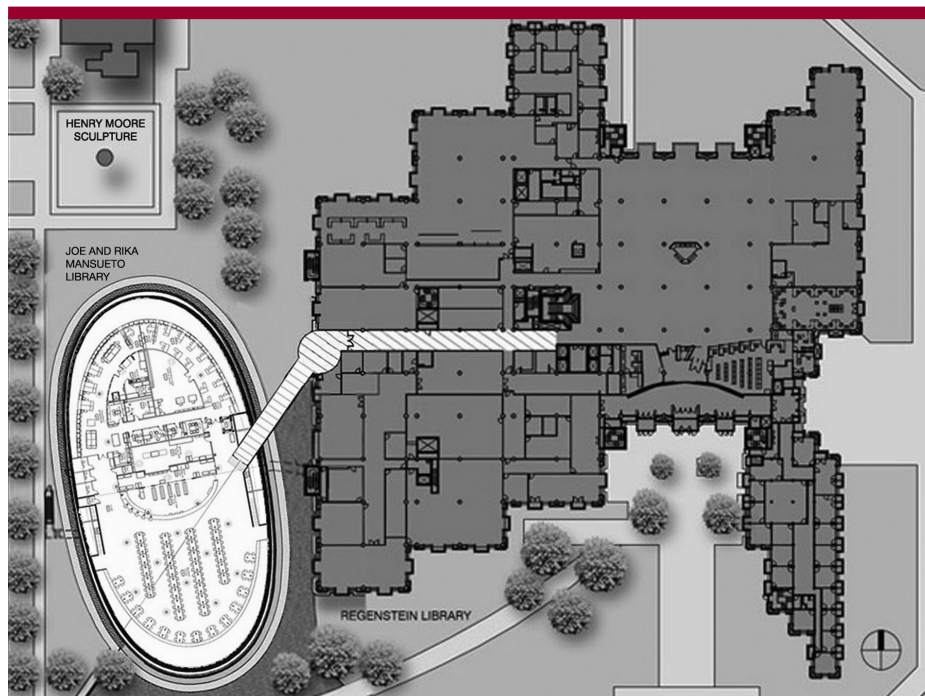
Construction of the Mansueto Library includes the creation of a new entrance hallway across the first floor of Regenstein Library, which will affect public service areas and several offices in the Special Collections Research Center.

Preparations for construction begin in September and will affect access to Special Collections classrooms and services throughout the 2009-10 academic year. Service disruptions may last until the opening of the Mansueto Library in early 2011.

During this period, Special Collections will sometimes need to reduce its hours and available seating in the Reading Room. The Rosenthal Seminar Room will remain open and available for classes using Special Collections material but may have limited hours. Some collections may not be available during this period. Please check the construction information page at <http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/spl/scrconstruction.html> for more information.

Researchers should contact staff via <http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/ask/SCRC.html> prior to their visit to check on the hours, procedures, and availability

of collections, which will vary depending on the phase of construction.



The pathway and bridge that will connect the Regenstein and Mansueto libraries are indicated with diagonal lines. (Architect Helmut Jahn)

At Your Fingertips: Selected Online Resources

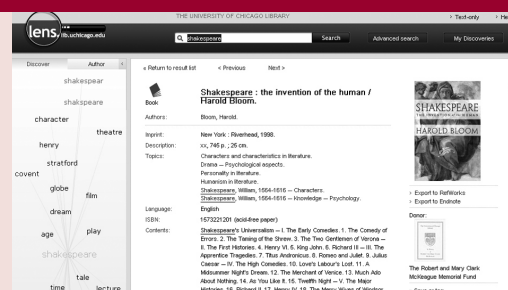
Lens Upgrades Include Interactive Features, Digital Photos, Bookplates, and Links to Full Text

New features and content have been added to Lens since it was rolled out in Winter 2008. Highlights include these:

- Interactive features allow you to make lists, tag, and rate or review items. Your lists can be made private or public; in contrast, tags, ratings, and reviews are social features that are automatically shared with other users. To get started, click the “My Discoveries” box found on the right side of the maroon-colored banner at the top of any Lens page. Click “Help” for more information and

directions, or register immediately to create an account and try these tools.

- American Environmental Photographs and many more images from the University’s Archival Photographic Files can now be discovered via Lens. Thumbnails of the images are displayed with bibliographic information. Try sample searches such as “bog photograph” or “Laird Bell Law Quadrangle” to view such results.
- Specific records in Lens now include links to full text or other available information via Google Book Search and the HathiTrust Digital Library. Icons indicating their availability are displayed in the right



column. To see an example, enter “Insurgent Mexico Greenwood” in the Lens search box and click on the first result.

- Bookplates recognizing the support of endowed funds are now displayed in the right column of Lens entries.

Send any questions or comments about these new features via the Feedback link at the bottom of any Lens search results page.

New Head of Conservation Will Preserve Collections in Mansueto Library Laboratory

The Library's new head of conservation, Ann Lindsey, has an M.L.I.S. and Certificate of Advanced Study in Conservation from the University of Texas at Austin. She has extensive experience with preservation issues related to library construction, including the building of a conservation lab at the new Munger Building at the Huntington Library; construction of the C. V. Starr East Asian Library at the University of California at Berkeley, and the renovation of the Bancroft Library at Berkeley.

By Ann Lindsey, Head of Conservation

In a library, “preservation” is the set of activities designed to maintain collections for long-term use. The components of the University of Chicago Library’s preservation program are conservation, or physical treatment; binding and shelf-preparation; and digitization. The Mansueto Library will greatly expand our preservation capacity.

The University of Chicago Library has a long history of preservation efforts, but, until recently, thanks to a successful challenge grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, it did not have a full-time, professional conservator to lead the program. I joined the Library in January as the head of conservation and am now in the process of developing our conservation program.

The Mansueto Library will feature a 6,000-square-foot preservation department designed to our specifications, including both a digital technology laboratory and a conservation laboratory. By more than tripling our available space for conservation, this new laboratory will allow us to install equipment such as a suction table, a fume hood, and a paper washing sink, enabling us to perform complex treatments that we have never pursued on-site before.

For example, the deterioration of brittle paper often can be slowed by washing it to remove degradation products; our new laboratory will allow us to wash items such as maps, prints and entire books. We will also be able to remove stains, to line fragile or brittle items with Japanese tissue, and to treat books and manuscripts made of leather and parchment. Having our own staff perform conservation work on-site will allow us to tailor our treatments, keeping the needs of materials and use patterns in mind.

Currently, we can treat many of the items from our circulating collections here, but Special Collections typically has had to send its items to private conservators. I am now in the process of training the Library’s conservation staff to repair Special Collections items, and I look forward to teaching them additional techniques when the Mansueto Library conservation laboratory opens. I also look forward to the widespread interest that this laboratory will hold for national and international conservation experts, with whom we expect to exchange techniques and experiences as we host internships and visits to our new facility.



Head of Conservation Ann Lindsey (left) evaluates a map with staff members Nora Davis (center) and Jenny Kim (right).

(Photo by Michael Kenny)

Harper Library Renovation Update

Although the time frame for renovating Harper Library has changed in light of the current economic environment, the College and the Library are taking advantage of the planning that has been completed thus far to begin implementing programmatic changes at Harper. The process of planning the architectural renovation that will fully support these programs—as envisioned by the architecture firm Studio Gang in collaboration with students, faculty and staff—continues apace.

The first steps in the transformation process will begin in June:

- Books, periodicals and other materials that make up the Harper Library collection will be moved to Regenstein in June, after Spring Quarter finals. Initially, the collection will be kept together on the A-Level. When the Mansueto Library is completed, items in the Harper collection will be integrated with like materials in Regenstein and other libraries in the system.
- Both the Harper and Stuart Reading Rooms will be closed this summer, at which time minor improvements will be made: additional electrical outlets will be installed in the Harper Reading Room and a new student-run café will be added to the space where the Harper circulation desk is currently located.
- The Harper Library will reopen as the Harper Memorial Library College Learning Center next September in time for the new academic year and will serve as a 24-hour study and group collaboration space from Sundays to Fridays.
- Although the physical collections will have been removed from Harper, librarians will be available on site in the Stuart Reading Room to connect College students with all of the resources offered by the complete University Library system.

For further explanation of the Library’s plans for offering services at Harper when renovations are complete, see Rebecca Starkey’s article in the Fall 2008 issue of *Libra*. To obtain updated information about Library services offered at Harper as plans evolve, visit <http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/harper/>

Symposium Explores Small-Scale, High-Impact Library Renovations

Universities have undergone a dramatic transformation in the use of technologically equipped research and learning spaces since the “smart” classrooms and computer labs of a decade ago. According to Chad Kainz, Senior Director of NSIT Academic Technologies, we used to think that we could “simply add technology to a space and that would transform learning. What we didn’t fully understand was that technology and space work together in concert with the individuals who use an environment. One spring day in 1998 a student walked into a computer lab at the University of Chicago with a piece of pizza, and that triggered a paradigm shift that would forever change learning environments on campus.”

Kainz was one of the presenters at the University of Chicago Library’s inaugural Kathleen A. Zar Symposium, “Small-Scale, High-Impact Renovations: Redesigning Library Spaces on a Budget.” The day-long gathering on May 8 explored ways that libraries are meeting the evolving needs of faculty and students as technology changes and budgets shrink. The timely topic drew presentations by academic librarians and their collaborators from New York to Florida to California.

The symposium was held in the John Crerar Library’s Kathleen A. Zar Room, a local example of a small-scale library renovation project that takes a modular approach to incorporating state-of-the-art technology in a flexible, comfortable, high-tech library work space. The room can be easily reconfigured for training programs, lectures, seminars, classes, and informal gatherings.

Presentations at the symposium were videotaped and will be made available online (visit [http://](http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/crerar/kazsymposium.html)



The Kathleen A. Zar Room, the site for this symposium, can be reconfigured easily for large lectures, break-out sessions, conferences, training sessions, and informal gatherings. (Photo by Lloyd DeGrane)

www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/crerar/kazsymposium.html for more information). Topics included:

- Keynote Address: Keeping an Eye on the Prize: Guiding Incremental Change towards a Future Vision, *Shirley Dugdale, DEGW*
- Slice of Pizza and a Turnstile: Catalysts for Change, *Chad Kainz, University of Chicago*
- Hi-Tech Spaces at Michigan State University Libraries, *Emily Alford and Kara Rawlins, Michigan State University Libraries*
- Open Wide, Say AHHHHH!; 4 Years of Reconfiguring the UC San Diego Science & Engineering Library, *Mary Linn Bergstrom, University of California, San Diego*
- Academic Library Redesign Literally on Less Than a Dime, *Charlet Key, Black Hawk College Library*
- Spinning Straw into Gold: A Twenty-First Century Library Transformation, *Devin McKay, Jeanne Galvin, and Sheila Beck, Queensborough Community College*
- Where the Sidewalk SHOULD Have Been: Following the Paths of Library Clients, *T. Derek Halling, Christine Foster, Robin Sewell, and Esther Carrigan, Texas A&M University*

- Guerrilla Redesign: Use of Visitor Navigation and Focus Group Research to Assess and Redesign a Mid-Sized Academic Library, *Patricia Pettijohn, Marcy Carrel, and Kaya van Beynen, University of South Florida*
- User-Initiated Repurposing of Library Space, *James Brucker and Kurt Munson, Galter Health Sciences Library, Northwestern University*

The symposium series is made possible through the generous support of Howard Zar.

“It’s exciting to host a national forum where academic librarians and their collaborators can exchange ideas that will—quite literally—shape the libraries of tomorrow,” said Andrea Twiss-Brooks, Co-Director of the John Crerar Library and organizer of the symposium. “We are deeply indebted to Howard Zar for making that possible.”

Mr. Zar made the gift in memory of Kathleen A. Zar, who began her tenure with the University of Chicago Library in 1967 and served as the University of Chicago Library’s Science Librarian and Assistant Director for the Science Libraries from 1994 until 2006. Her innumerable professional contributions led to significant growth and diversification of the Library’s programs and services for the sciences.



Randal C. Picker, *Chair; Paul H. & Theo Leffmann Professor of Commercial Law, Law School*

Clifford Ando, *Professor, Classics and the College*

Rachel Fulton, *Associate Professor, Department of History and the College*

Susan Gal, *Mae & Sidney G. Metzl Distinguished Service Professor, Departments of Anthropology, Linguistics, Social Sciences, and the College*

Michael E. Geyer, *Samuel N. Harper Professor, Department of History and the College*

Lenore Grenoble, *Carl Darling Buck Professor in Slavic Linguistics, Departments of Slavic Language & Literature and Linguistics and the College*

Philip E. Lloyd, *Associate Professor, Department of Neurobiology, Pharmacology and Physiology; Committee on Cell Physiology; Committee on Neurobiology*

Armando Maggi, *Professor, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, Committee on History of Culture, and the College*

Patchen Markell, *Associate Professor, Department of Political Science and the College*

William Novak, *Associate Professor, Department of History and the College*

Anne W. Robertson, *Claire Dux Swift Distinguished Service Professor, Department of Music*

Christian Wedemeyer, *Assistant Professor, Divinity School*

Ex officio

Robert J. Zimmer, *President and Trustee of the University; Professor, Department of Mathematics and Physical Sciences Collegiate Division*

Thomas F. Rosenbaum, *Provost of the University; John T. Wilson Distinguished Service Professor, Department of Physics, James Franck Institute, and the College*

Keith Moffat, *Deputy Provost for Research; Louis Block Professor, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology*

Gregory Jackson, *Vice-President and Chief Information Officer of the University*

Garrett Kiely, *Director, University of Chicago Press*

Judith Nadler, *Director and University Librarian*

Susan Kastendiek, *Secretary of the Faculties*

Managing for Today, Building for the Future

By Judith Nadler, Director and University Librarian

The current economic downturn presents an unprecedented dilemma for a profession that has reached a historic crossroads. The next several years are expected to bring great challenges and opportunities inspired by technological change, yet a lack of resources threatens to stifle creativity and choke investments in innovation. Difficult choices will have to be made.

In an effort to achieve efficiencies, the Library is taking a systematic approach to reducing both short- and long-term expenditures. Reduction in materials handling, consolidation of services, automation of still manual processes, and selective cancellation of resources that are duplicative in content or form are just a few examples of reductions that make current practices more efficient and result in immediate and sustainable budget relief.

However, as we develop an economic roadmap for the long-term, we cannot curtail the investment in research and development that drives the future. Investments in this future will have to be made, even in the midst of this reduction drive.

Technological developments facilitate changes in study, teaching, and research that stretch the boundaries of the Library's traditional role to collect, preserve, and serve. These developments open up new roles for librarians in the creation and management of content, as is illustrated by the Library's growing digital

collections. New types of content call for new tools and services for their management and dissemination—Lens, Google Book Search, and HathiTrust are relevant examples here. New library systems are being developed that integrate analog and digital material, taking into account the new collaborative environment of the information age—the Open Library Environment Project (OLE) is one such example. And increasingly, the Library has opportunities to establish new types of partnerships with faculty, IT staff, and others that anticipate, explore, and promote solutions that advance research, teaching, and learning—the Sloan Digital Sky Survey and Project Bamboo represent such collaborations.

As a premier library at the heart of a premier university we have much to offer and much to gain from such partnerships.

Managing for today and building for the future go hand in hand. We must balance our reductions and investments with an eye to future priorities of the Library and the larger institution we serve. We intend to undertake this challenge strategically, so that we will emerge a stronger, more forward-looking organization, and one that is well equipped to lead and to succeed.



“On Equal Terms”

Educating Women at the University of Chicago



Special Collections Research Center

Main Gallery

Through July 14, 2009

Since the University welcomed its first students in the fall of 1892, women have had very different stories to tell about experiments in co-education and faculty diversification; the experience of the classroom, the laboratory, the dorm, and the streets of Hyde Park; the issues of mentorship, intellectual community, and career advancement; and the opportunities for political action and community involvement, for friendship, romance, and sexual experimentation. The exhibition draws from the rich University archives located in Special Collections and includes audio recordings of oral histories conducted by the Center for Gender Studies.

Judith Nadler, Library Director
Rachel Rosenberg, Editor

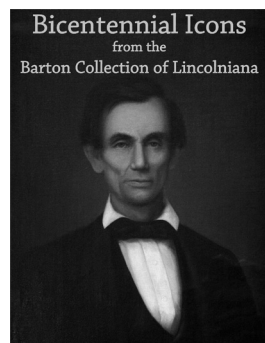
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Our Lincoln

Bicentennial Icons from the Barton Collection of Lincolniana



Special Collections Research Center

Alcoves Gallery

Through June 26, 2009

Marking the 200th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, this exhibition presents selected documents and artifacts from the Library's William E. Barton Collection of Lincolniana. Included are a handwritten page from the young Lincoln's "Sum Book"; one of the few surviving letters written by Lincoln to his wife; bronze casts of sculptor Leonard Volk's 1860 life mask and hands of Lincoln; a letter written from a Chicago hotel by the Lincolns' young son, Willie; a little known oil portrait of the unbearded Lincoln; and a bloodstained piece of curtain from Ford's Theater.

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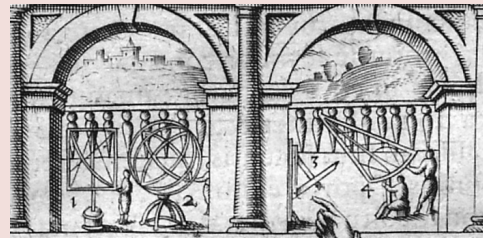
Visions of Heaven

Astronomical Observation through the Ages

The John Crerar Library

Atrium

Through October 2, 2009



From ancient times to the modern day, humans have charted the sky and stars. View a history of the tools they used, from the earliest observatories and instruments to recent innovations in telescope technology. This Crerar Library exhibit is in conjunction with the celebration of the International Year of Astronomy 2009, the 400th anniversary of Galileo's use of the telescope.

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