



Fall 2009

Library News: English Literatures

Greetings from the Library, and a warm welcome to new faculty and students. We have had a busy summer, working on projects and preparing for Orientation events, and the fall is already off to a good start.

Please email me at sgwenzel@uchicago.edu with any questions you may have about the library's collections and services, or with any comments and suggestions about the content and design of this newsletter.

Upcoming Reference Collection Shift

As scholarship becomes increasingly interdisciplinary, and budgets have tightened, maintaining essentially four separate reference collections (in addition to the Area Studies, such as East Asian) in the Regenstein library has proven both inefficient for our readers and expensive as we bought duplicate copies of some titles. At some point in the future, combined with some changes to the way that the Library has configured its public spaces, the reference collections – excepting Area Studies and a 'Quick Reference' collection by the 1st-floor desk – will merge into one collection in the 2d- & 3d-floor Reading Rooms.

When the Mansueto Library opens (projected for 2011) and space opens up in the Regenstein, we will be able for the first time in many years to properly manage our reference collections, relocating outdated or extremely rarely-used materials to the general collection and adding new editions and titles.

In the course of working on these projects, we have noticed a large number of books in the Reference PE, PN, PR and PS sections are not in the collection where they belong. Could you please check your study or locker to see if you might have one, and if so, return it? This will help us greatly, and ensure that I do not use our funds to buy replacements for books that are not really lost. If you need to borrow one, please let me know. I am able to authorize the loan, and would be happy to do so.

If you are teaching a class that will require students to use a particular reference work, please place the work on Reserve (lib.uchicago.edu/e/using/reserve/). Reference books are frequently found in odd places in the Library, and placing a book on Reserve ensures that students will be able to use it when they need to.

We are working on both of these projects simultaneously and I wanted to alert you to the future changes so that you would have the chance to discuss them with me if you wish. You have plenty of time, since we will not begin to move anything until 2011.

College Librarians at the Commons

As part of the Harper Memorial Library Commons, a 24-hour study and group collaboration space, the Library is offering walk-up reference and workshops in the East Tower on weekdays from 2-5pm. For this academic year, I will be one of the Librarians there (usually on Tuesdays).

You can think of this as another resource for your undergraduate students (although we are happy to assist anyone who stops by!). Our primary goals are to help serve College students south of the Midway and to make connections with other academic support services in the Commons.

Service Improvement

Aeon : New Online Request System for SCRC

[Aeon](#), which the Special Collections Research Center (SCRC) implemented over the summer, allows you to submit requests online (through the catalogue) once you create an account. You may request material in advance of your visit, so that materials are available when you arrive. You may also work with the SCRC staff to set up requests for class visits and quarter-long courses.

Events for faculty sponsored by the Center for Research Libraries (CRL)

The Future of Primary Sources: a Series of Micro-Webcasts for Researchers

October 5, 6, 7

Faculty and other researchers are invited to participate in these brief (22.5-minute) Webcasts-- designed for busy schedules--that will explore challenges to the survival of electronic news, social science data, and chemical information. More information is available at www.crl.edu/acis/.

Introduction to CRL resources

October 14

This 90-minute 'Access and Collections' webinar will introduce librarians, library staff, and faculty to CRL resources. <http://www.crl.edu/content.asp?l1=1&l2=54>

Featured Resources

Brepolis Medieval Bibliographies ([International Medieval Bibliography](#) + [Bibliographie de civilisation médiévale](#))

The [Bibliographie de civilization médiévale](#) and the [International Medieval Bibliography](#) complement each other nicely and may now be searched together. The former indexes books and book reviews and the latter articles, forming an integrated interdisciplinary bibliography of the European Middle Ages (Europe, the Middle East and North Africa in the period 400-1500).

[Theater Subject Guide](#)

A collaborative effort of several bibliographers, the [Theater Subject Guide](#) provides a starting point for research dealing with theatre, from criticism to reviews to biography to definitions. For example, among the resources on this guide are the [Oxford Encyclopedia of Theatre and Performance](#) and a guide to finding DVDs of performances.

As an aside, I would be happy to make a guide tailored to a specific class or topic or to talk to students about effectively using library resources for research.

New Acquisitions

Online

In [ProjectMUSE](#):

[Studies in the Age of Chaucer](#)

[MELUS: Multi-Ethnic Literature of the U.S.](#)

Books

Browse new acquisitions online at <http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/newbooks/>. (See PN for general theory, PR for English literature, PS for American literature, etc.) Selected new items this month include:

[Crafting the witch : gendering magic in medieval and early modern England](#)

Breuer, Heidi. PN671 .B73 2009

[Writing the past, writing the future : time and narrative in gothic and sensation fiction](#)

Albright, Richard S. PR408.G68 A44 2009

[The seeds of things : theorizing sexuality and materiality in Renaissance representations](#)

Goldberg, Jonathan. PR428.S48 G65 2009

[Eighteenth-century British literature and postcolonial studies](#)

Kaul, Suvir. PR448.I52 K38 2009

[Darwin's plots : evolutionary narrative in Darwin, George Eliot and nineteenth-century fiction](#)

Beer, Gillian. PR878.E95 B43 2009

[John Donne and the line of wit : from metaphysical to modernist](#)

Stanwood, P. G. PR2248 .S73 2008

[Transnational Latina narratives in the twenty-first century : the politics of gender, race, and migrations](#)

Heredia, Juanita. PS153.H56 H47 2009

[A change in the weather : modernist imagination, African American imaginary](#)

Jacques, Geoffrey. PS310.M57 J33 2009

[Scars to prove it : the Civil War soldier and American fiction](#)

Warren, Craig A. PS374.C53 W37 2009

[In my power : letter writing and communications in early America](#)

Dierks, Konstantin. PS416 .D54 2009

Building and Renovation News

Special Collections Research Center closed 14 December 2009 – 4 January 2010

The Special Collections Research Center (SCRC) will close for a three-week period in December 2009 to allow for construction work in both public and collections storage spaces.

Excavation for Mansueto Library Nears Completion

Once the excavation is completed, waterproofing and a mud mat will be installed at the bottom of the hole. Rebar for the basement floor slab will be put in place; drains, sump pits, and other plumbing that will be in or below the slab will be installed; and some electrical and data conduit will be placed – all prior to the pouring of the floor slab. Structural steel beams will also be installed to support the main floor slab: these will span the concrete ring beam from east to west.

For information about the construction of the Mansueto Library, including anticipated work hours and noise levels, visit the Mansueto Web site's [This Month's Work](#) page. Photos of the construction are available through our [Mansueto Library Web site](#) and [Flickr](#).

Your Bibliographer: Sarah G. Wenzel

Questions about the library? Want to order a book?

I develop and maintain collections in English & Romance Literatures, as well as provide specialized reference service in those areas. I work with faculty & instructors to teach students about research and using the library.

Contact me at sgwenzel@uchicago.edu or 773.702.8448 – or stop by my office: Regenstein 363.

