Preserving the Library’s Collections

Sherry Byrne
Preservation Librarian

Worn bindings, Torn pages, Brittle paper!

Caring for the Library’s more than 7 million books, 30 million manuscripts and archival items, 420,000 maps and photographs, and thousands of materials in other formats is a huge job. Fortunately the Library has recently taken several steps to strengthen its capacity to meet this challenge.

The Preservation Department, established in 1985, is dedicated to ensuring the long-term availability and access to all the Library’s information resources. We manage a library-wide program and provide services to meet the diverse preservation needs typical of large research collections. These include library binding, conservation treatment and repair, brittle book replacement activities, digital reformatting of library collections for preservation, disaster preparedness and response, and consultation on a wide range of preservation issues and concerns including rehousing and repair to extend the longevity of whole collections.

This year, the Library has made great strides to develop and expand preservation capabilities in two important areas: conservation treatment and digital reformatting. Thanks to an Andrew W. Mellon Foundation challenge grant, and generous contributions from individuals including faculty to meet the match, a Preservation Endowment has been established. The Fund provides new resources and ongoing support for the Library’s conservation program to treat individual items, both general and special materials, to keep them useable in their original form.

The first phase of our expanded conservation program began with the appointment of Christine McCarthy as Head of Conservation (see Introducing… elsewhere in this issue). Ms. McCarthy will develop our conservation treatment program for all collections and shape our vision for an in-house conservation laboratory to be located in the new Library Addition.

At the same time as we are increasing our traditional conservation activity, we have improved our capabilities to preserve materials with digital technology. Digitization, the conversion of library items to digital form, improves access dramatically. It is also increasingly being accepted as a preservation option, and, for the Library, this is now our primary reformatting choice. Our digitization efforts began more than 10 years ago with a research and demonstration grant; they have now grown into regular and ongoing initiatives with both general and special collections.

In January, the Library installed a new high-resolution digital camera continued on page 2

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Libra (Library Reports and Announcements) is a newsletter from the University of Chicago Library, written for the faculty and University community. If you have questions or comments about this issue of Libra, please contact Sandra Levy at 773-702-8463 or libra@lib.uchicago.edu.
Photographing and scanning of materials minimizes damage to often requested information.

workstation. This new equipment significantly adds to our ability to scan a variety of difficult materials including bound volumes, fragile and rare items, and oversize items—many types of materials we were not able to reproduce or provide access to previously. Our first project with this new camera will be the grant-funded project to digitize the Goodspeed Manuscript Collection located in the Special Collections Research Center.

In 2009, the Preservation Department will have newly designed and expanded facilities in the new Regenstein Addition that will include a conservation lab and a digitization lab. As the Library moves ahead to enhance and expand our capabilities, we look forward to new opportunities to preserve our valuable resources in both physical and digital form.

Academic Honesty and the Library

Rebecca Starkey
Reference Librarian/Instruction Specialist

One of the many ways in which the Library supports the educational mission of the University is by helping students learn how to think critically about information. Due to the increasing availability of online resources, it is easier than ever for students to locate information on a particular topic. However, it is not enough for students to know how to find information; they must also evaluate their sources and determine how to use them fairly and accurately within their own research. This requires an understanding of why, when, and how resources must be cited. Since academic honesty is a key part of the research process, the Library provides several services to assist students and faculty.

Library Instruction Sessions

Library education programs need not focus solely on searching the Library Catalog and bibliographic databases. Librarians can work with faculty to develop Library instruction sessions that emphasize skills related to academic honesty. Our programs can stress the importance of organization in research, as well as instruction on the use of citation manuals and style guides. Contact a reference librarian or the bibliographer for your area of study for more information.

Bibliographic Management Software

RefWorks is a web-based bibliographic management tool that makes citing resources and creating bibliographies quick and easy. While using RefWorks cannot stop deliberate cheating, it can help prevent plagiarism resulting from inattention, procrastination, and sloppiness.

One of the main advantages of RefWorks is that it can help students become better organized. Students can download citations directly from the Library’s bibliographic resources into their own personal RefWorks database. These citations can then be enhanced by adding quotes, keywords, or other notes, which can then be placed in a system of folders for quick retrieval.

RefWorks also encourages students to integrate citations into the writing process. When students are ready to cite, they can use RefWorks’ Write-N-Cite feature to quickly locate an accurate citation from their database. These citations can be formatted into a specific style, such as MLA or Chicago, with just a few clicks. Since it is so easy to cite while composing a paper, students are less likely to leave the footnotes and bibliographies until the end of the writing process when mistakes are more likely to be made.

The Library holds RefWorks workshops throughout the academic year. In addition, RefWorks training can also be incorporated into course-specific instruction upon request. Training sessions for EndNote, another citation management program, are also available.

Library Help Guides

The Library web site includes tutorials and guides that can help students learn about academic honesty, the research process, and proper citation styles. Selecting the “How do I Find…?” and “Help” tabs on the Library web site will direct users to a variety of guides to assist them with their research, including instruction on using citation manuals. Students can also take advantage of the study tips and help guides listed on their Class Librarian’s web site at: http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/classpages.

Detecting Plagiarism

An increasing number of Library resources are now available online in full-text. While these full-text resources offer many advantages for research, they also make it much easier to plagiarize.

Should you suspect a passage in a research paper has been copied from an online resource, you may be able to search and locate the source. Many of the Library’s full-text databases provide some sort of phrase searching. Since search features can vary from database to database, be sure to check the advanced search features or the help screens for guidance on how to construct your search.

Librarians can assist faculty by confirming citations, identifying possible full-text resources, or suggesting search techniques for detecting suspected passages. If you are interested in using this service, please contact Rebecca Starkey at rstarkey@uchicago.edu or call 773-702-4484.
David Larsen, Head of Access Services, University of Chicago Library

David assumed the newly created professional position of Head of Access Services, University of Chicago Library, January 1. This position is responsible for leadership and planning for library-wide access services, which include Circulation, Reserve Processing, Interlibrary loan, the I.D. & Privileges Office and Regenstein Current Periodicals and Microforms.

David has worked in access services in the University Library since 1984, when he entered the College and began work as a student circulation counter worker at Crerar. After graduating from the College, David accepted the position of Evening/Week-end Supervisor-in-Charge at Crerar. Shortly thereafter, he began graduate studies at the Divinity School, while continuing to work in the Library. He assumed an access services supervisory position in Regenstein in 2000. After completing his Ph.D. in religious studies in December 2001, David began part-time study towards a master’s degree in library and information science at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign. He was awarded this degree in August 2004.

Christine McCarthy, Head of Conservation

Christine McCarthy has joined the staff as Head of the Library’s Conservation Program. She is responsible for developing and expanding the physical treatment program for both the Library’s circulating collections and for the rare books, archives and other special materials in the collection. Christine’s appointment follows on the Library’s successful completion of the Andrew W. Mellon challenge, completed in 2005, that established a $2M endowment to support the expansion of the Library’s conservation efforts.

Christine received her BFA in Illustration & Graphic Design from the University of the Arts in Philadelphia and earned her MLIS and Certificate in Advanced Study in Library and Archives Conservation from the Preservation and Conservation Studies Program at the University of Texas at Austin. She has worked at Brandeis, the University of Maryland, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology where she spent the last three years as Rare Books and Special Collections Conservator implementing a new conservation program and executing complex treatments for book and paper collections.

Christine can be reached at cmccarthy@uchicago.edu and 773-702-1681 as well as in the Preservation Department, Regenstein 150.
New Electronic Resources

Sem C. Sutter
Assistant Director for Humanities & Social Sciences
Collection Development Officer

As new electronic resources are published, the Library’s bibliographers and reference librarians evaluate them and, subject to available funding, add the most useful databases to the collections by purchase or subscription. (Members of the University community are invited to participate in trials of online products on the Library website at http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/db/maroon/onlinetrials.html) The following are among the most notable additions since Spring 2005. They exemplify the subject and genre range of resources available electronically as well as the ways in which online sources complement and extend the paper collections.

CHICAGO DEFENDER provides searchable full text and page images of the historically Black newspaper which was distributed nationwide. Coverage: 1905-1975.

DESIGN AND APPLIED ARTS INDEX contains over 130,000 annotated references from some 500 design and craft journals and newspapers published since 1973 and data on over 50,000 designers, craftpeople, studios, workshops, and firms.

DIGITALE BIBLIOTHEK DEUTSCHER KLASSIKER is the online version of the Bibliothek Deutscher Klassiker’s authoritative editions of over thirty literary, philosophical and historical authors.

EARLY AMERICAN IMPRINTS: SERIES II, SHAW-SHOEMAKER provides full-text access to the 36,000 American books, pamphlets and broadsides published 1801-1819, based on the authoritative bibliography by Ralph Shaw and Richard Shoemaker. It continues Early American Imprints: Series I, Evans, 1639-1800.

EARLY AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS: SERIES I: 1690-1876 offers searchable full text and page images of hundreds of historic newspapers, concentrating primarily on those that began before 1820, based on the holdings of the American Antiquarian Society.

GALE READY REFERENCE SHELF provides integrated access to 355,000 entries from fourteen of Gale’s most popular reference directories and encyclopedias.

HOUSE OF COMMONS PARLIAMENTARY PAPERS represents full text for the 19th century’s 79,000+ British parliamentary papers accompanied by a subject catalog.

MAKING OF MODERN LAW: U.S. SUPREME COURT RECORDS AND BRIEFS, 1832-1978, is a fully searchable database of approximately 11 million pages and more than 550,000 separate documents, comprising over 150,000 cases.

MAKING OF THE MODERN ECONOMY is a full-text database drawn from holdings of the Kress Library (Harvard) and Goldsmiths’ Library (University of London). It is a comprehensive collection of economics literature in the widest sense, including political science, history, sociology, and special collections on banking, finance, transportation and manufacturing with more than 61,000 books from the period 1460-1850, and 466 pre-1906 serials.

NEW PAULY ONLINE. Brill’s New Pauly is a standard reference work for scholars of the ancient world. Now the complete original Der Neue Pauly is offered online together with Brill’s New Pauly, updated as new volumes appear.

POIESIS offers searchable access to the full text of 46 philosophy journals.

PSYCBOOKS is a full-text database with PDF images of some 700 scholarly books and 12,200 chapters of books published by the American Psychological Association including the electronic version of the 8-volume Encyclopedia of Psychology. It also includes a selection of classic texts from additional publishers, some dating to the 19th century.

SABIN AMERICANA COLLECTION: 1500-1926 is a 26,000-volume database of digitized books on “American” history published throughout the world from 1500 to the early 1900’s. It includes considerable material for Latin America, particularly for the earlier years.

SMITHSONIAN GLOBAL SOUND is a database of streaming audio of archival collections from Folkways, Smithsonian/Folkways, Cook, Paredon and other labels.

SPRINGER ONLINE JOURNAL ARCHIVES comprises historical backfiles of all Springer-Verlag and Kluwer Academic Publishers journal titles from Volume 1, number 1 of each title through 1996.

Regenstein Exhibits

The Legacy of Virdung: Rare Books on Music from the Collection of Frederick R. Selch

Special Collections Research Center, Main Gallery. Through June 15

Books, musical instruments, prints and other objects drawn from the private collection of the prominent scholar, writer and musician, Frederick R. Selch (1930-2002), are on view in this traveling loan exhibit. The exhibition includes 16th-century works on musical instruments, 17th-century theoretical treatises, as well as books on specific instruments by Jean-Jacques Rousseau and Benjamin Franklin.

Wooden Churches of Eastern Europe

Second Floor Reading Room Through June 30

Enjoy this small display of books highlighting wooden churches in Russia and Eastern Europe.

Enrico Fermi: The Life of a Scientist

Crerar Atrium Through September 8

Fermi’s life unfolds in images and documents, offering insights into this Nobel Prize winning scientist’s childhood and youth in Rome, his university studies in Pisa, his love for mountains and sport, and his life as a scientist and teacher in Rome, New York, and Chicago.

This exhibit was adapted from the display created by the Associazione per la diffusione della cultura scientifica e tecnologica ‘la Limonaia’, Dipartimento di Fisica dell’Università di Pisa

Ongoing Exhibits:

Paleontological Display (dinosaur bones from Paul Sereno)

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Crystara
From Core to More: Creating the Library of the Future

Judith Nadler
Library Director

On May 11, 2005, the University’s Board of Trustees approved funding for an addition to the west of the Joseph Regenstein Library to accommodate growth of the print collections over the next 22 years. A high-density shelving automated system will store and service the collection, and share its space with reading rooms and consultation areas and with the new Library Conservation and Preservation Lab.

The approval from the Board of Trustees to build the addition to the Library affirms the importance of maintaining this superb core facility and improving it for its multiple constituencies.

The prominent location on campus, the relation to the existing Regenstein, and the challenge of incorporating a massive automated system into a new high-profile building make this a complex and fascinating architectural challenge. National and international architects competed for the recommendation for Murphy/Jahn, a Chicago-based architectural firm of international renown and the winner of the 2005 American Institute of Architects’ Architecture Firm Award. On February 2, 2006, the Trustee Campus Planning and Facilities Committee approved Murphy/Jahn by acclamation.

In presenting his vision to the Architect Selection Group, Helmut Jahn advanced the following perspective: “Design is always a marriage between Vision and Realities, but without vision there cannot be excellence. Though the building is essentially a storage facility for books, its impact on the campus and the users has to go far beyond the pragmatic purpose. The vision for the University of Chicago Regenstein Library Addition is to make the building an integral part of the existing library and the campus, but also give it and its spaces a unique and iconic character. Through an integrated approach of architecture and engineering we believe that the Regenstein Library Addition can celebrate the integrated study and research of the University of Chicago. In a place with this much history, real newness cannot just be physically new, but needs to be so spiritually. We believe that this can be achieved through an innovative attitude and ideas about advanced technology and sensibility towards energy and ecology. The result can be the Library of the Future.”

The Regenstein and its Addition are parts of one whole. The new space gives us the freedom to rethink existing spaces and thus is first and foremost a catalyst for library change. To realize the benefits of the Addition to its fullest we must capture this powerful potential to create an even richer and more welcoming core function on campus that enables research, study, and teaching and facilitates synergies between users and those who serve them. If we do this right, the future library will be the Library of the Future.
Planning for the Addition to the Regenstein: Project News

Jim Vaughan
Assistant Director for Access & Facilities Services

Central Procurement is negotiating a contract for an interim storage site where the Library will house material between June and the opening of the Addition. After Spring Quarter graduation, approximately 250,000 volumes will be moved from the D’Angelo Law Library to this storage facility, where the material will remain until the new Addition opens.

The Library Shelving Advisory Committee, composed of faculty and library staff, has begun meeting to identify the categories of material that will be housed in the automated storage and retrieval system in the Addition. The faculty serving on the Committee are Michael Geyer, the Samuel N. Harper Professor, Dept. History and the College; David Martinez, Associate Professor, Dept. Classics, Divinity School, and the College; Christina von Nolcken, Associate Professor, Dept. Eng. Lang. & Lit., Cmte. Medieval Studies, and the College; and Mark Webster, Assistant Professor, Dept. Geophysical Sci., Cmte. Evol. Biol., and the College.

Work has begun on the processing of the 21,000 elephant folios volumes that will be shelved in the high-density shelving system.

The Addition to Regenstein web site (http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/reg/addition/) continues to be developed.

University Facilities Services has issued a Request for Proposal for a consultant to work with the University to select the automated storage and retrieval system for the Addition.

Gifts & Grants Highlights

Life Income Gifts

Mary Philippides-Vlantikas, AM ’70 Graduate Library School Alumna

1. In support of classics and modern Greek collections

Estate Gifts

Estate of Robert G. Ettelson, AB ’42, MBA ’46

1. The Shirley L. Ettelson Fund to benefit the Library

Estate of Jane Browne Petersen

1. The Margaret Browne Book Fund supporting the Humanities collections

Estate of Martin S. Stanford, AB ’47

1. Library Fund for Books

Estate of Olga Titelbaum, AB ’37, PhD ’67

1. The Sidney & Olga Titelbaum Library Fund supporting Information Resources

Current Giving

Helen M. Harrison Foundation

1. The Library Society Fund and special Library projects

Thomas A. Kooymijian Family Foundation

1. The Thomas A. Kooymijian Family Foundation Book Fund supporting Armenian studies

Emily Rosenthal and John T. Buckley, MBA ’78

1. In support of the Special Collections Research Center.

Joel Wachs, AB ’92

1. The Sigmund and Lottie Wachs Endowed Book Fund supporting Jewish Studies

The Korean Foundation

1. In support of Korean collections

Foundations

The Korean Foundation

1. In support of Korean collections

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http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/libra/