When students staged a sit-in in the Library back in 2009 to protest a plan for remote storage of library materials, it was clear that long-term, near-campus access to the Library’s collections was a value shared by faculty and students alike. I am pleased to announce that the new Syracuse University Library Facility (SULF) on Jamesville Avenue was completed recently, and the Library took occupancy of the facility in October.

The 20,000-square-foot building is designed for efficient storage of 1.2 million volumes, along with a processing area and conference room. To maximize storage density, materials are organized by size rather than by call number. The storage vault maintains ideal, consistent environmental conditions of 50 degrees and 35 percent relative humidity that will significantly extend the useful life of the materials.

Planning for off-site storage has been in the works for several years. The project was approved by the Board of Trustees in May 2011 and was officially launched at a groundbreaking ceremony last October. It is a foundational element in the Library's space plan, as we reached full capacity for housing collections some time ago and began relocating materials to the Hawkins Building and to the Warehouse downtown. Collections in these locations will be consolidated in the new facility.

Perhaps most importantly, the facility will enable the Library to support the long-term research needs of the faculty by providing space for collections growth in campus libraries, in addition to keeping our collections close at hand. It will also allow the Library to move forward with other renovation projects.

Online access to e-journals and databases from on- and off-campus locations has dramatically reduced use of print journals. For this reason, most print journals will be transferred to the facility. Selected microfiche and microfilm collections will also be transferred and will be among the first collections loaded. Special collections will occupy a significant portion of the facility, and SCRC staff have prepared more than 1,600 boxes from its manuscript collections for transfer.

For most materials, the Classic Catalog will indicate when an item is located at the facility and provide an online form for users to request delivery. The Library to Go service offers same- or next-day delivery to faculty offices or campus libraries; articles will be delivered electronically. Those needing to consult a number of items will be able to use the on-site conference room.

I will keep you informed as we fill the facility and look forward to hearing how it is working for you.
At the initiative of the vice chancellor and provost and the dean of libraries, Syracuse University has undertaken its first external review of the Library. Conducted by a visiting team of leaders in the field of academic librarianship and technology, the review is a formal assessment of the Library’s effectiveness as a partner in the teaching and research mission of Syracuse University. The review is intended to identify directions that will help to formulate a common agenda for the future, especially in light of the transformational change occurring in libraries and higher education.

Team members are James Neal, vice president for information services and University librarian at Columbia University (chair); Jeffrey Horrell, dean of libraries and librarian of the College, Dartmouth College; Joan Lippincott, associate executive director, Coalition for Networked Information; Sara Lowman, vice provost and University librarian, Rice University; and William D. Walker, dean and University librarian, Miami University.

During their site visit on October 14–17, the team met with numerous stakeholders across the University—faculty, deans and department chairs, university administrators, librarians and library staff, students, and members of the community—to gather information, data, and feedback about the Library’s overall program. Issues under consideration were the extent, level, and accessibility of library services to students and faculty, the adequacy of the library budget in light of its mission, and the quality of the Library’s activities in administration, planning, public services, technical services, facilities, and information technology.

The review will identify key factors affecting the Library, suggest specific actions to address any issues that emerge, and help to position it for the future. The team will also suggest new measures for assessing the Library’s impact in supporting contemporary modes of scholarship, teaching, and learning.
This summer, Syracuse University Library unveiled a revolutionary new library search engine called SUMMON to replace Discover. SUMMON provides a familiar, Google-like searching experience that simplifies the process of finding information in the Library. SUMMON covers books and e-books, scholarly journals and e-journals, newspaper articles, dissertations, conference proceedings, and much more. Because SUMMON combines many types of resources in a single search, it’s a great place to start a general or multi-disciplinary search.

“SUMMON should be especially useful to our undergraduate students, who may be less familiar with the tools and methods for locating the scholarly information required for their academic success,” said Suzanne E. Thorin, dean of libraries & University librarian at Syracuse University.

SUMMON combines searching the SU Library catalog, SU digital collections, and the SURface repository, plus nearly 80,000 electronic journals, over 500 research databases, newspapers, images, government documents, digital audio and video, and digital repositories from colleges, universities, and other open-access archives on the web. This massive index is a work in progress and new resources are being added continuously.

Also debuting with SUMMON was a new Library homepage highlighting the new resource. Researchers can enter terms in the single search box or use the advanced search option to specify words in a title, publication title, author names(s), dates, and more.

SUMMON search results are delivered in a relevancy-ranked list. To target more specific results, searches can be limited to items available online, items from scholarly, peer-reviewed journals, items from the library catalog, or items from outside the Library. Users can narrow searches further by using the content type, subject, date, library location, or language facets to the left of the results list.

Saved results can be formatted in a specific citation style (APA, MLA, etc.) and emailed, printed, or exported to citation management software including RefWorks, EndNote, or BibTex.

The Library is very interested in hearing from users about their experiences using Sumon. Send questions or comments using the Feedback link in the upper-right corner of the search results page. For more information, click the About Sumon link under the search box or email libcom@syr.edu.

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Library users now have the opportunity to browse library shelves right from their desktops using the Browse This Shelf feature of the Classic Catalog.

Browse This Shelf was designed by Polk Library at the University of Wisconsin to be a “visually engaging presence to mimic the real-world effect of browsing.” It gives library users the opportunity to easily browse back and forth among other similar items on the Library’s shelves, in addition to items that are part of our digital collections. It is especially useful in the case of subjects that may be housed in multiple libraries on campus.

While viewing an item record in the Classic Catalog, users may:

» Browse the cover images at the end of the record. When the books become less relevant, try moving in the opposite direction;

» Mouse over a cover to view summary information, and;

» Click on a cover to view full information about that title.

For an overview of this feature, see: http://y2u.be/sFdAdDtd8w.
Disabled Patrons Use Audio to Access the Internet,” sponsored by the Universal Accessibility Interest Group at the ALA 2012 annual conference in June. She was also appointed as ACRL representative to the ALA Accessibility Assembly charged with facilitating communication about accessibility among all ALA units.

AMBER MOORE, William Safire project archivist, had an article on the Safire archive published in the summer 2012 issue of Fine Books & Collections magazine.

LUCY MULRONEY, curator in the Special Collections Research Center, was invited to present her paper, “Andy Warhol and the American Photobook,” during the 2012-13 Newberry Seminar in American Art and Visual Culture next March in Chicago.

JOHN OLSON, librarian for government documents, geography, earth science, geographic information, and maps, won the 2012 DttP: Documents to the People cover contest, sponsored by ALA’s Government Documents Round Table. Olson’s photo of a hiker on the south shore of Lake Erie holding a U.S. Geological Survey topographic map of the area became the cover photo for the spring 2012 issue of DttP.

SHANNON PRITTING, Access Services librarian, talked about the Information Delivery Services (IDS) Project at the New York State Higher Education Initiative annual meeting in June. This presentation focused on IDS Search, a resource sharing-focused catalog, and Article License Information Availability Service, a licensing database that helps facilitate sharing of e-journals via interlibrary loan. Syracuse University has been using IDS tools since it joined the project in 2009. Pritting also chaired the IDS Project executive director search committee and serves on the IDS Project Technology Development Team.


FANTASIA THORNE, Learning Commons librarian, contributed a chapter, “Technology Skills for the 21st-Century Librarian,” to the new book, The 21st-Century Black Librarian in America: Issues and Challenges, published by Scarecrow Press. In July, Thorne began a one-year term as chair of the advisory committee of the ALA Office for Literacy and Outreach Services. She participated in the panel session “Grownups Just Want to Have Fun! Programming for College Students of All Ages” during ALA’s annual conference in June. At the Joint Conference of Librarians of Color in September, Thorne presented the poster session “Youth Programming at a Research Library.”

PETER VERHEYEN’s article on binding in vellum (Guild of Book Workers Journal, 2004) has been translated into Dutch by Marlene Hoogeveen for Handboekbinden (journal of the Stichting Handboekbinden in the Netherlands), Volume 3, 2012, pages 72-80.

**NEWS LIBRARY PUBLISHING COALITION**

Syracuse University Library has joined the newly-formed Library Publishing Coalition (LPC) as a founding member. LPC is an exploratory project dedicated to advancing the emerging field of library publishing, defined here as the set of activities undertaken by college and university libraries to support the creation and dissemination of scholarly works.

As demonstrated through the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)-funded Library Publishing Services: Strategies for Success project, in which Syracuse University Library participated, over 55 percent of academic libraries are either implementing or developing publishing services (Mullins et al., 2012, http://wp.sparc.arl.org/lps). Seeing campus demand for these services increase, libraries are formalizing activities that they previously undertook as either grant-based projects with seed funding from operations budgets, or in conjunction with a university press.

With initial support from the Educopia Institute and participating institutions, the LPC project will engage practitioners in designing a collaborative network that addresses and supports an evolving, distributed, and diverse range of library production and publishing practices. The project group will study, document, and evaluate how best to structure this community-led initiative (e.g., its mission, goals, governance, membership, and initial research/project directions) in order to promote collaboration and knowledge sharing for this field. 

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Remember the pit in the center of the ground floor of Carnegie Library? It is no more. The area was filled with foam and covered by a new concrete floor to prepare for construction of three new classrooms. The renovation of the ornamental scagliola panels and columns in the reading room is currently underway. Scagliola, a composite substance made from selenite, glue, and natural pigments that resembles marble, is used to produce stucco columns, sculptures, and other architectural elements. The technique, used to beautiful effect in Carnegie, came into fashion in 17th-century Italy. Installation of the new parquet floor will follow the scagliola work, and ADA-compliant ramps will be installed in the front of the building over winter break.

FACILITIES PROJECT UPDATES

CARNegie LIBRARY RENOVATION

SYRacuse UniVerSity LiBrary is a partner in teaching, research, and learning for global initiatives within the Maxwell School’s Executive Education (Exec Ed) programs. Maxwell’s Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Program brings accomplished mid-career professionals from developing nations and emerging democracies to the United States for academic study, professional experience, and cultural exchange. The program is sponsored and funded by the U.S. Department of State and administered by the Institute of International Education. Humphrey Fellowships are more fully described at www.maxwell.syr.edu/exed/sites/About_Humphrey.

Maxwell has hosted two Humphrey Fellows with both public policy research interests and experience as librarians: Sania Battalova (2011–12) from Kyrgyzstan and Madeleine Sialou (2012–13) from Cote d’Ivoire.

This past spring, SU Librarian Lydia Wasylenko, arranged for Battalova to speak on the topic of libraries and library cooperation in her home country of Kyrgyzstan at a Librarians Affinity Group meeting. Sialou worked with Michael Pasqualoni, subject librarian for public administration, to arrange cross-departmental interviews about academic libraries and library careers for her coursework at SU’s iSchool.

Exec Ed leadership, including Director Steve Lux, Associate Director Catherine Gerard, and Assistant Director Margaret Lane (who is also the director of the Humphrey Fellowship Program) ensures that experiential learning about the 21st-century U.S. research library is a key component of the program. Fellows take part in Library orientation sessions offered by Pasqualoni, and also are introduced to SU’s open access database, SURface (http://surface.syr.edu), which is available to fellows as a platform for deposit and preservation of the publications and presentations they create while at Syracuse University. SU’s Social Sciences & Area Studies Bibliographer Marty Hanson, herself an Exec Ed grad (MPA, 2005), hosted a Humphrey Fellow during the student’s residency in Syracuse.

In addition to the Humphrey Fellows, other Exec Ed international programs are notable. Leading examples where Library partnership has been common and long standing include:

» Post Graduate Program in Public Policy in Management (India): Equips mid-career civil servants
EXHIBIT BREUER EXHIBITION

Syracuse University Library’s fall exhibition Assembly-line Architecture: Repetition and Innovation in the Work of Marcel Breuer opened with a reception in September in the Special Collections Research Center gallery on Bird Library’s sixth floor. Curated by Teresa Harris, architectural historian and project coordinator for the Marcel Breuer Digital Archive, the exhibit showcases original drawings, photographs, and documents from Breuer’s long career.

Like many modern architects, Marcel Breuer found inspiration in the repetition which is characteristic of industrial processes, often relying on modular units or a standard kit of parts to create his buildings and interiors. The limits imposed by these systems stimulated subtle formal and spatial innovation so that no two designs were exactly alike, despite common components.

According to Harris, “Breuer conceived of standardization and experimentation as the two necessary polarities of design that must be balanced in any given project.” The exhibition is arranged thematically, highlighting the interplay of those polarities in Breuer’s modular furniture, his palette of colors and materials, his designs for prefabricated dwellings, and his later reliance on precast concrete panel facades.

The exhibition, which is free and open to the public, runs through January 11, 2013.

continued from previous page

PARTNERSHIPS HUMPHREY FELLOWS & MAXWELL SCHOOL EXEC ED GLOBAL PROGRAMS

with the concepts, skills, and techniques to formulate public policy and strategic management of public systems.

Leaders for Democracy Fellows: Promotes democratic change and civil society involvement for young leaders in the Middle East and North Africa.

Civic Education and Leadership Fellows: Promotes civic education in research and teaching at institutions of higher learning in the Middle East and North Africa.
Syracuse University Library Information & Technology Services, in partnership with Syracuse University Press, is collaborating with SU faculty members to publish two new open access journals using the Open Journal Systems (OJS) software platform, an open source journal management and refereed publishing system developed by the Public Knowledge Project.

Public: A Journal of Imagining America, a project of the national consortium Imagining America: Artists and Scholars in Public Life, is a peer-reviewed, multimedia e-journal that will promote vivid description and analysis, evaluation, inquiry, and critique of projects and partnerships incorporating humanities, arts, and design in public life. Public, edited by University Professor Jan Cohen-Cruz and co-conceived with SU associate professor of architecture Brian Lonsway and Kathleen Brandt, Department of Design assistant professor, will begin accepting submissions in early 2013.

The Journal of Diverse Sexualities, edited by SU associate professor of English Roger Hallas, is an open-access, peer-reviewed journal dedicated to publishing scholarship, criticism, and commentary on all matters related to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, MSM, WSW, and queer sex and sexualities. The journal aims to foster a transnational and interdisciplinary exchange of knowledge between researchers, teachers, artists, and activists.

“We chose the free, open-access format to permit a wider readership and address those people with little or no access to traditional scholarly journals—that is, people outside the academy,” said Hallas. “Working with SU Press and Suzanne Preate, Digital Initiatives librarian, continues to be a wonderfully enriching experience as we build this new journal, and will hopefully inspire more collaborations on campus between faculty and the Press.”

“I’m thrilled at the partnership between SU and Imagining America that is bringing this e-journal into being,” says Cohen-Cruz. “It gives us an opportunity to manifest what we mean by ‘scholarship in action,’ with an emphasis on arts, humanities, and design integrated in multi-sector initiatives.”

SU Press editor-in-chief Suzanne Guiod added: “Working with the Library staff and faculty editors to generate a new forum for scholars to publish their work has been an outstanding opportunity. This unique collaboration between SU Press, the Library, and SU faculty represents open access publishing at its best.”

More about open access at www.arl.org/sparc/openaccess

Open Access

SU PRESS NEWS NEW OPEN ACCESS JOURNALS

COLLECTIONS NEW JOURNALS

ACS Catalysis
ACS Medicinal Chemistry Letters
ACS Synthetic Biology
ChemMedChem
ChemSusChem
Journal of Ethnographic & Qualitative Research
Macromolecules
Oncogene
The Interlibrary Loan (ILL) department has developed a number of new services aimed at making interlibrary loan more efficient and user-friendly. To supplement its traditional resource-sharing efforts, ILL will now purchase requested journal articles through suppliers such as the Get It Now service from the Copyright Clearance Center. Get It Now delivers high-quality PDFs in less than two hours, often at a lower cost than the Library would pay to borrow or acquire it another way. In addition, ILL is collaborating with bibliographers and Acquisitions staff to purchase books for Library collections that were originally requested through interlibrary loan. The items are checked out to the original requestor when they arrive and added to the collection when they are returned. Another collaborative effort is ILL’s new process of connecting requestors with subject librarians for additional assistance when ILL is unable to obtain or cannot get needed materials quickly.

ILL has systematically and strategically worked to improve service to both SU patrons and to other libraries. For example, patron requests are now processed within one day—two days faster than in 2009. In addition, successfully completed requests have improved by five percent in the past six months, and the average fulfillment time to other libraries has dropped from about three and a half days to 10 hours.

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The Learning Commons’ summer activities planning group had their hands full this summer! High school students from Summer College visited the Library twice for evening events. Fantasia Thorne and Abby Kasowitz-Scheer worked closely with Binh Huynh, director of Summer College, to plan both game nights and create two new games for these events.

SummerStart students also visited the Library for a game night, with students teaming up to answer questions using library materials. Students participated in library instruction sessions the day before the evening event, and were able to put their knowledge to the test.

The Syracuse University Library has launched a redesigned and expanded website devoted to its extensive Plastics Collection. The site, http://plastics.syr.edu, now offers approximately 3,000 objects with high-quality photographs, information about plastic materials and processes, and twice the previous number of biographies and company histories. Of particular note, viewers can now submit additional information about objects, people, and companies through the website.

The Plastics Collection supports research in the study and understanding of plastics in modern society, including its role in chemistry, technology, industry, marketing, health, art, design, and other fields. According to Sean M. Quimby, senior director of Special Collections, “the website makes available to a wide public instantaneously a complete listing of all the Library plastics resources.” Rich metadata allows for easy searching. High-quality, zoomable images permit even small details to be examined, while biographies and company histories provide context for the individual objects.

A team from the Special Collections Research Center and Library Information & Technology Services worked collaboratively to develop the new website, which began as a joint project of the SU Library and the Plastics History & Artifacts Committee (PHAC) of the Plastics Pioneers Association. Continuing support has been provided by SU alumnus Harry Greenwald and the Greenwald-Haupt Charitable Foundation.

Jeffrey Meikle, Stiles Professor in American Studies at the University of Texas at Austin and author of the authoritative book American Plastics, says that “while it’s an entry point and guide to the collection, the new website is also a superb introduction to the history of plastics in general. Through the growing collection and the website, Syracuse has become the center of plastics history.”

The Library maintains an active acquisitions program for all areas of the Plastics Collection. Donors can support the SU Library Plastics Collection by making a gift to the Collection Development Fund or helping sponsor the new “version 2” website. To learn more about how to make a gift of support or give an artifact, see http://plastics.syr.edu/give. For more information about how to support the SU Library Plastics Collection, please contact Assistant Dean Ron Thiele at rlthiele@syr.edu.
Librarians also hosted students from the Bristol-Myers Squibb Science Horizons program. During the week-long Science Adventure hosted by University College, middle school students from Onondaga County area schools explored various fields, including ecology, biology, zoology, and chemistry. While at the Library, students were introduced to the Plastics Collection, learned how to critically evaluate websites, and conducted a scavenger hunt for science-related materials.

The generosity and commitment of donors to the Syracuse University Library is—in a word—remarkable!

We are grateful to all of our donors—associates, parents, staff, faculty, students, and alumni—who support our vision and purpose. Every gift to the Library is a gift to all of Syracuse University, to the community, and to everyone visiting the Library on-site or online.

Dramatic changes are taking place in academic libraries across the country as barrier-free access to information becomes the standard of excellence. Syracuse University’s 21st-century students are pushing the digital, wireless, and social media envelope here at the Library. The resulting revolutionized environment is a complex mix of computers, versatile high-tech study rooms, quiet areas, books, a thriving café, and students with smart phones, laptops and earbuds. Librarians and students communicate using texts and tweets. The speed of change is breathtaking and full of opportunity.

Donors help the SU Library keep pace with the world and effect these revolutionary changes, including increased network capacity, expansive accessibility, and renovated spaces for new services and scholarship. A better Library will emerge to help propel SU to the next level of quality.

Dean Thorin reminds us that the Library’s existence began nearly 125 years ago with a gift of the personal library of historian Leopold von Ranke, works that are used and exhibited to this day. Gifts of world-class special collections continued to be nurtured, especially by Chancellor Tolley, making it no surprise that the Library is well known for a first-class collection of manuscripts, rare books, and artifacts, as well as its sound recordings in the nationally-recognized Belfer Audio Archive.

The SU Library is distinguished nationally, something made possible by those early and formative gifts that established the Library’s path as one of exceptional scholarship and access to the breadth of human knowledge. Gifts will continue to set the Library apart from its peers, but only if the critically needed upgrades in infrastructure and spaces can be accomplished.

The Library invites you to visit the new Giving web pages, http://library.syr.edu/about/make_gift/give, in particular the Ways to Give section for ideas on how to make an impact. For help with estate plans, bequests, and planned gifts that provide a lasting impact, contact Ronald Thiele, assistant dean for Advancement at rlthiele@syr.edu or 315.560.9419.
OPENING RECEPTION
Thursday, January 17, 6 p.m.
Special Collections Research Center
Sixth Floor Gallery, Bird Library
222 Waverly Avenue
Syracuse, NY

Strange Victories: Grove Press, 1951-1985 is the first major exhibition on the notorious American publisher Grove Press. Founded by Barney Rosset in 1951, Grove Press became one of the twentieth century’s great avant-garde publishing houses. What began as a small independent publisher on Grove Street in New York City’s Greenwich Village grew into a multimillion-dollar publishing company that has been credited with introducing important authors from around the world to American readers during the postwar period.

Strange Victories traces Grove’s history and evolution, telling the complicated story of Grove’s many literary and political achievements, from its role at the center of national censorship trials over the first American editions of Lady Chatterley’s Lover and Tropic of Cancer, to its publication of politically-engaged works including The Wretched of the Earth, Red Star over China, and The Autobiography of Malcolm X, to its scandalous and very profitable, Victorian Library.

This exhibition reveals the tremendous wealth of this newly-available collection, and includes a series of public programs organized in conjunction with students and faculty from across the Syracuse University campus.

For more information, contact Lucy Mulroney at ldmulron@syr.edu or 315.443.8538.