Renovation of E.S. Bird Library’s First Floor to Begin This Summer

At either entrance of E.S. Bird Library you may have noticed signs that say, “The Library is currently undergoing a renovation project to better serve you.” These signs foreshadow the transformation of the first floor to create a more welcoming, aesthetically pleasing, comfortable environment where members of campus and community can gather to explore and exchange ideas.

Funded through a combination of private gifts and Syracuse University budgets, the following renovations are scheduled to begin this summer:

 a café with adjacent soft-seating area named for the Class of 1916
 renovation of the current Class of 1916 Room
 removal of the 3,000-square-foot glass partition
 repositioning of the entrance and exit gates closer to the actual entranceways to open up the entire floor.

Future renovations include the creation of the Joseph Spector Learning Laboratory, a reconfigured services area, several group and individual study areas, and, potentially, an exhibits gallery.

“Renovations to our first floor this summer will be among the first visible examples of our revitalized commitment to our users on campus and in the community,” said Interim University Librarian Denise Stephens. “We are so thankful to our benefactors who have helped to jumpstart these renovations with their support.”

Large Lecture and Meeting Space to Be Renamed in Memory of Peter Graham

In memory of Peter S. Graham, University Librarian from 1998 to 2004, Syracuse University Library, in conjunction with the Graham family, will renovate and rename the Class of 1916 Room on the first floor of E.S. Bird Library. Renovation will begin this summer, and the room will be called the Peter Graham Scholarly Commons.

This project is part of a University-backed effort to renovate the entire first floor of E.S. Bird Library over the next several years. The Peter Graham Scholarly Commons will serve as the Library’s largest and most visible multipurpose space. The room will accommodate and promote educational interaction between students, faculty, staff, and the local community. It will be ideal for large lectures, such as History of the Book and Library Associates lectures, as well as for smaller gatherings.

SU Library has already raised more than $70,000 towards a goal of
New Stimulation Brewing at SUL

Coffee. In The Rape of the Lock, Alexander Pope called it the thing that “makes politicians wise” by allowing them to “see through all things with half-shut eyes.” In “Old Age,” Emerson classified it as a toxin, comparable to tobacco, alcohol, hashish, and strychnine, but recommended Time, to those interested, as “the surest poison.” In her poem, “A Lamentation,” Denise Levertov found morning grief “washed away” by it, made to “crumble to a dozen errands between busy fingers.” Frank Sinatra sang—and most agronomists and economists would agree—they’ve got an awful lot of it in Brazil.*

A keyword search on SUMMIT will yield more than a thousand hits on the subject of coffee in the collections of Syracuse University Library. While these may help quench any thirst for knowledge of the perky, myth-laden, and sometimes controversial bean, Library patrons seeking to satiate more visceral cravings have been forced, until recently, to limit their searches to a narrow bank of vending machines near the Waverly Avenue entrance. With the opening of the Library Café in fall 2005, those days have gone the way of the paper catalog. Expanded access takes on yet another meaning in the 21st-century library.

“The café is an appropriate addition to the Library, given our growing role as a place for intellectual and social encounter,” says Denise Stephens, Interim University Librarian. “While many research tasks are now done from home on the Internet, the nature of academic work is becoming more interdisciplinary and collaborative. The Library is a logical place for people to meet, and the café is a good way to accommodate that need.”

Located near the south entrance of Bird in space where interlibrary loans were once arranged, the café will share the Library’s hours, but have a style of interior furnishings that is distinctly its own. In addition to coffee—regular, decaf, hot, cold, frothing, calm, flavored, and otherwise—the bill of fare, catered by SU Food Services, will include teas, juices, soft drinks, sandwiches, soups, and other light fare. No Scrabble tournaments, chess matches, or poetry readings have yet been scheduled.

—David Marc

*Syracuse University Library is proud to announce plans to establish a new learning facility in memory of Joseph Spector, former University Trustee and Library benefactor. The Joseph Spector Learning Laboratory on the first floor of E.S. Bird Library will be funded by the Spector family through the Solomon Spector Foundation.

“The Spector Learning Laboratory will give librarians the flexibility needed to provide a variety of hands-on learning opportunities to help students develop their research skills,” said Abby Kasowitz-Scheer, head of Instructional Services. “This room will support the Library’s emerging information literacy program, which aims not only to familiarize students with library resources, but to prepare them to find, use, and evaluate information effectively.”

Working with teaching faculty from across the University, librarians will use the laboratory as a high-tech electronic classroom for course-specific or discipline-specific teaching in the use of technology-based research tools. It will be equipped with 15 to 30 individual computer workstations and an instructor’s station, along with modular furnishings, sound buffering, environmental controls, a network and electrical infrastructure, and high-quality projection and printing. It will offer access to standard desktop applications, Internet searching, file management (transfer), and printing capabilities. In addition, the room will include multiple learning spaces, so that presentations and discussions can occur away from computers when

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necessary in order to reinforce important concepts relating to research.

The Spector family has a long history of giving to the SU Library. Solomon Spector gave $50,000 in 1962 for the creation of a meeting room in the E.S. Bird Library. Joe and his wife Elaine funded important additions to the Library’s Leopold von Ranke, Rudyard Kipling, Stephen Crane, and Albert Schweitzer collections in the Special Collections Research Center; they refurbished several exhibition cases in E.S. Bird Library, upgraded the Solomon Spector Room, and provided seed money for renovations to the first floor of E.S. Bird Library.

Joe and Elaine’s outstanding generosity to the Library were recognized in 1988 when they received the prestigious Post-Standard Award for Distinguished Service to Syracuse University Library. They became members of the Library Associates in 1962.

Funding for the learning laboratory was initiated by Joe’s family: his wife, Elaine ’47, son Andrew ’66, and daughter Suzanne Josef. Andy said of the gift, “My father instilled in us the importance of giving back. He felt strongly that giving should be thoughtful and done at the highest level of integrity for the areas that we believed could most benefit from our support. My father’s passion was Syracuse University and, in particular, the Library and other academic areas of campus. We are so pleased to be able to honor his memory with this transformative gift to the SU Library.”

Peter Graham Fund Created in Special Collections

In recognition of Peter Graham’s lifelong engagement with socialist theory and social activism, Peter’s father, Harold Graham, and Harold’s wife, Alaine Krim, created a fund in the Special Collections Research Center (SCRC) for the purchase of books and other primary source materials pertaining to the expression of radical political thought in art and literature. The fund will help to strengthen SCRC’s already important collections in this area, and will provide support for exhibitions, lectures, and other events.

During the 1960s Peter Graham was an active member of the Young People’s Socialist League in Chicago and New York City. In 1963 he worked as an assistant to Bayard Rustin, executive director of the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, managing the national office in Harlem for four months. Throughout his subsequent career in academic librarianship, Peter continued his involvements with social change organizations. In 2002 he and his wife, Lewraine Graham, were awarded the NAACP President’s Award for service to the Syracuse/Onondaga County branch.

At Syracuse, Peter became familiar with SCRC’s archival collections relating to social and literary radicalism, including the papers of Arna Bontemps, Granville Hicks, Lillian Gilkes, John Spivak, Horace Gregory, Harry Roskolenko, and the records of Grove Press. Peter encouraged the acquisition of books and ephemera documenting the ways in which leftist political ideologies were manifested in literature and art.

Thanks to Peter’s insight and efforts, together with those of SCRC curator of manuscripts and archives Kathleen Manwaring, Syracuse is increasingly recognized as a major—and in many ways unique—center for the study of 20th-century radicalism. Whereas other libraries and archives, such as the Tamiment Institute at New York University, the Wisconsin Historical Society, and Cornell University, focus on the history of labor unions and socialist ideologies, SCRC’s resources are ideally suited to support the study of the literary and artistic manifestations of radical movements, including novels, poetry, dramatic works, cartoons, posters and other graphic art, the WPA federal art and writers’ projects, and American artists’ and writers’ congresses.

The Peter Graham Fund for Radicalism in Literature and Art will bring further development and recognition to these resources while honoring his personal commitment to the social and intellectual causes they represent.

—Christian Dupont
The Library Connection

From the Campus to the World: Belfer Audio Laboratory and Archive Pursues Creative Partnerships

Did you know that Syracuse University Library includes a premier audio archive and laboratory? Half hidden in the hill just east of E.S. Bird Library, the Belfer Audio Laboratory and Archive was the first facility of its kind in the world built specifically to preserve an audio collection. More and more faculty and students are discovering that its door opens upon a world of possibilities:

- Belfer contains 340,000 audio recordings in a variety of formats;
- a recording studio with two control rooms, both for studio recording and preservation mastering activities;
- a public research reading room;
- and a classroom/phonograph display gallery.

Syracuse University Library began its audio archive in 1963 with the acquisition of the Joseph and Max Bell Collection of some 150,000 sound recordings. The archive and a laboratory were housed in the off-campus Continental Can Company building until, with support from Diane and Arthur B. Belfer and the John Ben Snow Memorial Trust, the Belfer Audio Laboratory and Archive facility opened in 1982.

From the 1970s to the early 1990s, Belfer was a leader in the development of international standards for preservation and dissemination of sound recordings, and in research on sound recording and production methods. Sadly, budget cuts made it necessary to scale back the operation, which went into “maintenance mode,” with a full-time curator, Susan Stinson, assisted by a part-time cataloger and work-study students.

Nevertheless, since 1993 students in the College of Visual and Performing Arts (CVPA) Music Industry Program, have been getting hands-on experience in Belfer’s laboratory. Sound engineering professor James Abbott teaches music recording by conducting sessions in Belfer’s studio. More advanced students use the studio for independent study projects.

Students of David Rezak, faculty advisor and instructor for Syracuse University Recordings, a student-run label, have used many cuts from Belfer (for example, a 1980 recording of Dizzy Gillespie with the SU Jazz Ensemble) in their CD releases.

Students also helped create a historic compilation of sounds from the University’s world-famous Holtkamp organ, which is located in Setnor Auditorium. The resulting CD continues to bring recognition to the performers, the instrument, the archive, the Setnor School of Music, and the student label.

The laboratory part of Belfer received a boost in 1999, when the Institute of Museum and Library Services, a federal agency, funded the Radius Project, which revived a project that had languished since 1985: to develop a laser cylinder playback system that could reproduce historically accurate (sonically correct) sound in a non-destructive, flexible, and cost-effective manner. With additional development, the Radius laser reader could be used to play back Belfer’s distinguished collection of cylinders for preservation, teaching, and research purposes without damaging the often-fragile cylinders themselves.

“The Archive: A Snapshot

The Belfer collection is large, with 22,000 cylinders, 200,000 78s, 51,000 LPs, 40,000 45s, 20,000 tape reels and cassettes, and numerous digital audio tapes, wires (a magnetic medium used in the 1940s), and compact discs.

Since 1963 the collection has grown mostly through donations. L. Brevoort Odell’s 1993 gift of 10,000 cylinders and 8,000 discs brought the archive’s cylinder count to 22,000, making it the largest such collection held by a private institution on this continent. More recent gifts include LPs, original discs, and master tapes under the Club 99 Label; several thousand Toscanini discs, tapes, and broadcasts; and some 27,000 discs from a private source. The archive also holds tapes of School of Music concerts and recitals from 1960 on, as well as recordings from the Library’s Special Collections Research Center manuscript collections.

Today the archive is strong in late 19th- and early 20th-century recordings in the commercial classical, popular, and jazz genres, as well as radio broadcasts and spoken-word recordings by such notable persons as Noël Coward, Amelia Earhart, Thomas Edison, Albert Einstein, Vladimir Lenin, Carl Sandburg, Albert Schweitzer, and Leo Tolstoy.

All of the commercially released cylinder recordings and 167,000 of the 78s are cataloged in SUMMIT, the Library’s online catalog.

“When students come into Belfer they see displays of historical audio formats and phonographs—an instant education in the 100-plus-year history of sound recording.”

—Susan Stinson
A New Vitality

Belfer acquired a full-time engineer, Robert Hodge, in December 2003, which reflects the Library’s renewed commitment to Belfer. The position is partly supported by the Fleming Educational Unitrust, directed by Fine Arts Professor Emeritus Frank Macomber.

Recently, the influx of students from CVPA, as well as other schools and colleges, has increased. For example, Belfer hosted 10 Freshman Forum classes in 2004–2005. According to curator Susan Stinson, “When students come into Belfer they see displays of historical audio formats and phonographs—an instant education in the 100-plus-year history of sound recording.”

Faculty in the Colleges of Arts and Sciences (CAS) and of Engineering and Computing Science have been using the laboratory to remaster Belfer recordings and to transfer their own LPs to compact disc for classroom use. Fine Arts faculty members plan to showcase Belfer when they host the American Musicalological Society’s annual meeting in April 2006.

Revitalized interest in Belfer among campus partners has encouraged the Library’s associate university librarian for Collection Services and manager of Belfer, Peter McDonald, to pursue large-scale plans for Belfer, which involve partnerships among music industry leaders and sound archive professionals. Such plans are in concert with Chancellor Nancy Cantor’s vision for building a creative campus that is engaged in the community and in the world.

According to McDonald, “Belfer is poised to serve as a center of digital excellence. The archive could play a leading role nationally in the creation, management, and dissemination of digital sound content, which would also tie in with CVPA’s Music Industry Program and its digital rights management work.”

There are myriad opportunities for campus collaborations. McDonald continued, “The archive will become a magnet for graduate scholarship and internships—a veritable digital laboratory for theses and dissertations—with programs in CVPA, the School of Information Studies, the College of Arts and Sciences, and the Newhouse School of Public Communications. Furthermore, as the material in Belfer is digitized, it will grow in utility for students working on documentaries, news clips, movies, and other media formats.”

The Belfer Audio Laboratory and Archive is poised for an exciting future. Not only will it continue to serve a growing constituency on campus with expertise and world-class collections, but it is equally rising to a national leadership position in the areas of music copyright, digital recorded-sound repositories, and public access to the world’s heritage in sound.

—Gregory Griffin and David Rezak
The Library Welcomes Two New Librarians

Nicolette A. Schneider joined the Special Collections Research Center (SCRC) as Reference and Access Services Librarian in November 2004, succeeding Carolyn Davis, who retired after more than 33 years of service to the Library. Nicolette’s responsibilities include managing the increasingly active Reading Room and providing reference and research services to a worldwide clientele.

Prior to her appointment at Syracuse, Nicolette

S. Ann Skiold became Fine Arts Librarian on February 1, 2005. She is responsible for reference and instruction, as well as collection development in fine arts, applied and decorative arts, film, and photography. She also serves as faculty liaison to the College of Visual and Performing Arts and to the Department of Fine Arts in the College of Arts and Sciences.

A native of Sweden, where she studied law and English, Ann moved to California, earning a B.A. in English literature from the University of California at Santa Barbara. She later acquired an M.F.A. in painting from Bradley University in Illinois and an M.L.I.S. in library and information science from San Jose State University. She pursued doctoral studies in comparative literature at the University of Athens in Ohio and for a year studied art at Flinders University in Australia.

In addition to her work as a librarian—most recently at Westmont College in Santa Barbara—Ann is a poet and a painter with numerous solo and group exhibitions to her credit and considerable experience teaching studio and art history classes. She is fluent in Swedish, Danish, Norwegian, French, and Spanish.

Ann enjoys the stimulating environment of academe. She says, “It is truly a privilege and a challenge to be part of such an excellent university library team and university.”

Mary Hatch Marshall Essay Award Endowment Reaches $10,000

In 1948 Mary Hatch Marshall was the first woman to become a full professor of English at Syracuse University. In 1953 she cofounded the Syracuse University Library Associates. “The library,” she said, “was at the center of university life and the center of my life. I was horrified at the limitations of its usefulness when I arrived at SU and saw the need to increase its budget. I got on the library committee because I was vocal. . . . Chancellor Tolley said I harassed him until he built a new library.”

When Mary died in September 2000, the Library Associates wanted to acknowledge her deep commitment to the organization since its founding. The 100th anniversary of Mary’s birth and the 50th anniversary of Library Associates in 2003 provided the opportunity to establish the Mary Hatch Marshall Essay Award as a permanent memorial that would connect her passions for literature and for the Library.

Thanks to the support of Mary’s friends, pledges amounting to $5,000 made it possible to establish a permanent endowment. The first annual prize for the best essay written by a graduate student in the humanities was awarded at the Library Associates Spring Luncheon in May 2004. Continuing efforts to build the endowment have resulted in a new total of $10,000, providing for an annual award of $500.

A faculty panel reviewed this year’s essay submissions and the winner, Jonathan Singleton, of the English and Textual Studies Department, was announced at the Library Associates Spring Luncheon on May 13, 2005.

—Dorothea P. Nelson
2004 MARKED THE FIRST FULL YEAR of formalized fund raising for the Syracuse University Library in its long history. Thanks to the support of hundreds of donors, the Library raised close to $800,000 in new commitments (cash and pledges) to support capital projects, collection development, adaptive technologies, events and exhibitions, Library Associates activities, and the annual fund.

On behalf of Syracuse University Library, I thank you, our donors, patrons, and volunteers.

Sincerely,

Gregory J. Griffin, Senior Director
Library Development and External Relations

LIBRARY GIFT ACCOUNT
Library donors include alumni, parents, and friends who make an unrestricted annual gift to the Library. At the discretion of the University Librarian, these gifts are put to immediate use in the areas of greatest need, including support for collection development, technology, special events and exhibits, and staff enrichment. We value each gift from our many Library supporters. Listed are all Library donors who made an unrestricted gift to our Library between January 1 and December 31, 2004.

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—Joan and William Brodsky

Library Associates
Library Associates consists of friends of the Library—local community members and leaders, alumni, faculty, and lovers of books and libraries from all walks of life—who support the Library’s educational and cultural mission. Membership contributions support the Library Associates lecture series, acquisitions of rare books and manuscripts, publication of the Courant and the Library Connection, an annual holiday reception, and a spring luncheon, among other programs and initiatives.

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The SU Library system has been built on the shoulders of alumni, parents, and friends who have made major gifts to construct Library spaces to study, meet, interact, conduct research, view exhibits, and attend lectures. We are pleased to acknowledge those donors who have helped to create the scholarly environment that is enjoyed by our campus and Greater Syracuse University communities of users.

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Defining Your Legacy
Making a bequest to the Syracuse University Library through your will or living trust is the ideal way to make a lasting impression on future generations. Your contributions through these and other planned gifts further the progress of the Library and inspire today’s students to follow your example.

You can direct your bequest to be used for a specific purpose or allow the Library to use your gift as needed.

If you are considering a planned gift or want more information, please contact Greg Griffin, senior director of development, at 315-443-2537 or ggriffin@syr.edu.
Eric W. Lawson Sr. died December 15, 2004, after a brief illness. In honoring his memory, the Library wishes to express particular gratitude for his recent generous gift, which, having been augmented by his family, now stands as the Eric W. Lawson Family Endowment for New York State Documentary Heritage.

Eric W. Lawson Sr. taught at Syracuse University from 1947 until he retired in 1979 as professor emeritus of finance. He was a long-time member of Library Associates and a scholar of local and regional history, with special interest in the Erie Canal and Central New York architecture.

Gifts to the Library in Eric Lawson’s memory can be made online at giving@syr.edu; or call the Library’s senior director of development, Gregory Griffin, at 315-443-2537.

Listed below are contributors to the Eric W. Lawson Family Endowed Fund for New York State Documentary Heritage:

- Mr. and Mrs. Eric W. Lawson Jr.
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Bela and Catherine Schick Foundation Gift Supports New Library Technology for People with Disabilities

A grant from the Bela and Catherine Schick Foundation, combined with a matching gift from the Syracuse University Office of Student Services and Syracuse University Library, will support members of the campus community with disabilities—including students, faculty, staff, and local citizens—by providing new adaptive technologies for E.S. Bird Library and the Science and Technology Library.

The gift, initiated by Mark Kalik P’94 (Schick Foundation board member) and his son Robert Kalik ’94, has enabled the Library to provide open captioning of videos for Library users with documented disabilities. In March the Library launched a pilot program to transform the first of at least a dozen video transcripts into open-caption media files.

The grant will also fund the purchase of four handicap-accessible workstations with adjustable computer tables, two for E.S. Bird Library and two for the Science and Technology Library in the Carnegie Building. These workstations will be equipped with Dragon Dictate software, the leading voice recognition software, as well as enabling technology for users with hearing or sight impairment.

“We are very grateful for this wonderful gift from the Schick Foundation,” said George Abbott, adaptive technologies coordinator for the Library. “For SU Library and for Syracuse University, this gift enriches as well as reinforces our commitment to students, faculty, staff, and the greater SU community with disabilities, ensuring fair and equal opportunities for all. . .”

—George Abbott

“ . . . this gift enriches as well as reinforces our commitment to students, faculty, staff, and the greater SU community with disabilities, ensuring fair and equal opportunities for all . . .”
For more than a half-century, Boris Drucker has earned a livelihood—and a national reputation—as a cartoonist working in a variety of media. His drawing style and humor are familiar to generations of readers of such diverse magazines as the Saturday Evening Post, Playboy, Family Circle, and the New Yorker. Throughout his career, Drucker has also worked as a commercial artist for corporate clients in advertising and industry, winning awards for his contributions to Bell Telephone’s “call by number” advertisements in the 1950s and other campaigns.

Drawing on the extensive archives Drucker has donated to the Library over the years, the Special Collections Research Center created a major retrospective exhibition that documents the full span of Drucker’s career as a graphic artist, including art school drawings, World War II sketchbooks from India, early advertising assignments, and many published and unpublished cartoons. The exhibition, titled “Don’t pay any attention to him. He’s 90% water.”: The Cartooning Career of Boris Drucker,” after the gag line from one of his earliest published cartoons, was on display in the Louise and Bernard Palitz Gallery at the Syracuse University Joseph I. Lubin House in New York City from 21 March through 29 April. More than 170 family members, former colleagues, friends, and University alumni attended the 23 March opening reception to honor Drucker as he approached his 85th birthday.

The exhibition was complemented by a 56-page illustrated catalog featuring a biographical essay by Johanna Drucker, the artist’s daughter, a noted book artist, scholar, and critic. Copies of the catalog may be obtained by calling Syracuse University Library at (315) 443-9763.

A Sampling of Recent Gifts to the Library

- With a gift from SU alumna and nationally renowned ceramicist Hope Barkan ’61, the Library purchased more than 150 new titles in the field of ceramics.
- Alumna Renee Robbins ’49 funded the purchase of eight out-of-print and rare monographs, now part of the Library’s collection of Holocaust and Judaica resources.
- A gift initiated by Kathy Kivelson Hecht ’79 through the Kivelson Family Foundation has funded the purchase of four permanent exhibition cases for Library use in the Joseph I. Lubin House, New York City.
- Continued support from the Charles P. Dana Foundation, initiated by William Safre ’51, will renew support for a Dana Teaching Fellowship in the Special Collections Research Center.
- A living trust by alumnus Richard Hudson G’51 will endow a permanent music-related acquisitions fund.
- Campus support from the College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Visual and Performing Arts, Hendricks Chapel, the Goldstein Alumni and Faculty Center, Institutional Advancement, and the Chancellor’s Office augmented Library programs designed to explore the concept of soul.
- A gift from alumnus Walter Wakefield ’34 supported the purchase of dozens of new Library resources to support the History Department.
- An operating gift from Trustee Alex Nason ’81 helped to purchase a mat cutter and flat file storage for the Conservation Laboratory in the Special Collections Research Center.
Library Exhibits Work of William Gropper

The work of 20th-century American cartoonist, painter, lithographer, and muralist William Gropper is featured in an exhibition organized by the Special Collections Research Center (SCRC) at Syracuse University Library. The exhibition, titled “People Are My Landscape: Social Struggle in the Art of William Gropper,” is on display from 27 May through 16 September on the sixth floor of E.S. Bird Library. Access is free and open to the public weekdays, with the exception of holidays, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

William Gropper (1897–1977) was best known for his satirical portrayals of the elite and powerful and the effects of capitalism and war on American life. Often associated with the artistic movement known as social realism, Gropper depicted social injustice as it played out in the everyday life of the working classes. His cartoons and other illustrations appeared in both mainstream magazines and leftist publications. He was blacklisted and lost many commissions after refusing to testify during his 1953 appearance before Senator Joseph McCarthy’s Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations.

The exhibition includes examples of Gropper’s cartoons; magazine, book, and pamphlet illustrations; American folklore lithographs; original sketches; and assorted memorabilia. On loan from the Syracuse University Art Collection are selections from Gropper’s series of lithographs *The Capriccios*, in which he expresses his disdain for the ideological culture of the McCarthy era. Also on display are 12 prints from *The Shtetl*, a series of color lithographs portraying Jewish village life that were recently purchased for SCRC with funds from the Peter Graham Fund for Radicalism in Literature and Art.

Text and images from the exhibition can be viewed online at scrc.syr.edu. For more information, or for class or group tours, call (315) 443-9752.

—Christian Dupont and Debra Olson

Exhibition Places *Grapes of Wrath* in Historical Context

This spring the Special Collections Research Center (SCRC) mounted an exhibition titled “Steinbeck’s *The Grapes of Wrath*: Bitter Fruit of the Depression.” It explores the critical reception of John Steinbeck’s poignant 1939 novel about a family of Dust Bowl farmers in the context of other Depression-era literary, dramatic, and graphical works. *The Grapes of Wrath*, Steinbeck’s masterpiece, sold half a million copies in its first six months.

The exhibition features a broad selection of novels by such authors as Robert Cantwell, Edward Dahlberg, and Grace Lumpkin; cartoons by Hugo Gellert and Otto Soglow; and numerous dramatic theater works. Commentaries on each of the items are drawn from period reviews and unpublished correspondence from the Granville Hicks Papers and other radicalism collections held by the SCRC.

Supported by the Peter Graham Fund for Radicalism, the exhibition complements the 2004-2005 “Central New York Reads” initiative and the Syracuse Stage production of Frank Galati’s adaptation of *The Grapes of Wrath*. It is on display on the sixth floor of E.S. Bird Library through May 27, and can also be seen online at scrc.syr.edu.

—Kathleen Manwaring
Letterio Calapai

Letterio Calapai (1902–93), the Italian-American painter and printmaker, donated his papers to what is now the Special Collections Research Center between 1968 and 1978. These holdings include correspondence from various museums and from fellow artists John Taylor Arms, Charles Burchfield, and Lynd Ward; exhibition-related materials; and 82 original prints that are now part of the University Art Collection.

More recently, 13 items of ephemera (including exhibition announcements, catalogs, prints, and four illustrated books) were purchased as supplements to this collection. Of particular interest are two rarely seen Rockwell Kent catalogs produced at the Workshop Gallery of Letterio Calapai in Glencoe, Illinois, for exhibitions in 1974 and 1982. A dramatic print from one of these catalogs, reproduced here, depicts Rockwell Kent’s studio in Au Sable Forks, New York. Calapai’s work is also represented in the Art Institute of Chicago, the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris, the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, and the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston.

—William La Moy

The SIAM Electronic Journal Archive

The Library recently purchased LOCUS, the SIAM electronic archive. SIAM (Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics) publishes journals in applied mathematics and computational sciences. The SIAM archive makes all articles published from 1952 to 1996 available in full-text electronic format. Each article is available as a searchable PDF. The SIAM archive may be viewed at locus.siam.org.

The Library currently receives both the print and electronic editions of all SIAM journals. Current electronic holdings are linked from SUMMIT.

The full-text articles and references are linked from the MathSciNet (Mathematical Reviews) database. SIAM journals are also indexed by Compendex (Engineering Index, Inspec & NTIS, combined database).

—Mary DeCarlo

The Rockwell Kent Studio at Au Sable Forks, N.Y., by Letterio Calapai. Sally Kent Gorton, Rockwell Kent’s widow, had this remark about the image by Calapai: “Your marvelous wood engraving of Rockwell’s studio is fantastically beautiful—so true in every detail of vegetation, architecture and sky that to see it is as good as being there.”
Oxford Dictionary of National Biography
Online

The Oxford Dictionary of National Biography contains more than 50,000 biographies of people from, or associated with, the British Isles from the earliest times to the current decade.

Its precursor, the Dictionary of National Biography, was begun in 1882 under the editorship of Sir Leslie Stephen and completed in 1901. Many decades and supplements later, the University of Oxford took over the project, which is funded by the British Academy and Oxford University Press.

Drawing on the work of 10,000 contributors and advisors, the Oxford DNB is the largest cooperative research project ever undertaken in the humanities. In September 2004 it was published simultaneously in 60 print volumes and in an easily searchable online version comprising more than 100,000 web pages.

The Library offers print and online versions. Search for the print version by title in SUMMIT, the online catalog. The Oxford DNB Online is accessible from the Databases Main Menu on the Library’s web site: library.syr.edu.

The online version offers notable extra features such as the following:
- Advanced search options
- The ability to browse alphabetically or by date
- Links to the National Register of Archives and the National Portrait Gallery
- Online help and 24-hour support
- Regular updates
- Reference lists of notable figures, award winners, leaders, etc.
- Topics of historical interest related to the lives of dictionary subjects.

—MBH

People of India

SU Library’s Asian Studies Unit recently acquired the first 22 volumes of the projected 43-volume People of India series, a monumental work compiled under the auspices of the Anthropological Survey of India. As the first comprehensive anthropological survey of all the communities, states, and territories of India, the series will be immensely useful to students, researchers, teachers, social activists, administrators, and political scientists. The remaining volumes will be available by the end of 2005.

—Gurnek Singh

UN Commodities Trade Data

Responding to requests from students and faculty in the Maxwell School, SU Library has added full subscription access to UNCOMTRADE. This United Nations database is a platform for exploring detailed commodity statistics pertaining to the economics of global trade.

Produced by the statistics division of the UN, the UNCOMTRADE database each year captures merchandise trade statistics as reported by more than 130 countries. Although international trade statistics are commonly available in a variety of sources, this database is particularly unique because of its level of specificity relevant to specific commodity classifications.

Its data are arranged according to five central variables: country, commodity category (referenced by both the “Harmonized System” and the “Standard International Trade Classification”), trading partner country, year (ranging from the late 1960s through the current period), and trade flow (import, export, or re-export). All reported values are converted into US dollars.

While the UN allows guest users some free content from UNCOMTRADE, the new SU Library subscription will allow SU affiliated students, faculty, and staff unlimited downloads. A link to this database appears on the SU Library web site Databases Main Menu. Access it from the alphabetical list of databases or, alternatively, under specific database subject categories such as “Economics” and “International Relations.”

—Michael Pasqualoni

Columbia Guide to Digital Publishing

The Columbia Guide to Digital Publishing, an e-book edited by William E. Kasdorf, is the definitive reference to digital publishing and includes concise information on all aspects of the digital publishing process. Comprehensive and clear, the guide covers the entire range of activities involved in creating, processing, producing, protecting, and preserving content in digital form, whether that content is ultimately delivered as print, as an e-book, or on the web. Search for this resource in SUMMIT, the online catalog. In the Brief Record, click on the “Electronic resource” link.

—Pamela McLaughlin
Library Associates Assumes Leadership of CNY Reads

This April the Syracuse University Library Associates Board of Trustees voted to assume administrative leadership of the “If All of Central New York Reads” program, designed to encourage all Central New Yorkers to read the same book or author. The last selection was John Steinbeck’s *The Grapes of Wrath*. Related activities included 22 presentations, workshops, book loan programs, readings, and exhibitions. “CNY Reads,” as it is now called, began in 2001 with Heidi Holtz of Syracuse Stage leading a small planning group of representatives from educational and cultural institutions around Syracuse. Now the CNY Reads Consortium has close to 50 representatives of Central New York institutions, including high schools, universities, museums, theater companies, libraries, and social service organizations. When Heidi Holtz left Syracuse Stage to join the Gifford Foundation, Library Associates embraced the opportunity to lead the CNY Reads program.

The library has created a new Office of Development and External Relations, which brings together development programs, such as major gift, annual giving, and grant coordination, and external relations programs, including publications, special events, community outreach, and media and public relations. The office consists of Gregory Griffin, senior director, Mary Beth Hinton, associate director, and Terry Belzak, administrative specialist.

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The *Library Connection* provides the University community with information about collections, services, and activities of the Syracuse University Library.

*Denise Stephens* Executive Director and Interim University Librarian

*Mary Beth Hinton* Editor and Designer

Past issues of the *Library Connection* and an accompanying index (1994–2004) can be viewed online at library.syr.edu/information/libassoc.

Send comments or requests related to the *Library Connection* to Mary Beth Hinton at:

213 E.S. Bird Library
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Syracuse, NY 13244-2010

Telephone: 315-443-2130

E-mail: mbhinton@syr.edu

Please contact Terry Belzak (315-443-9763; tabelzak@syr.edu) if you wish to be added to our mailing list, or to receive information about Library Associates.

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