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Muntz Library Musings

Robert R. Muntz Library

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Muntz Library Musings

Spring 2007
Volume 2, Issue 2

Jeanne R. Pyle, Library Director
Joanne Buendtner, Editor
Vandy Dubre, Assistant Editor



*"Your Doorway to
Scholarly Research"*

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From the Director ...

Almost all of us use the Google Search Engine...to the extent that "google" is now a part of our everyday language..."I'll just google that new restaurant."

So it's tempting to go to the search engine for everything... and Google is working hard to meet our information needs in all areas. Through Google Scholar (<http://scholar.google.com>) a researcher is able to search diverse resources from one convenient place. Google Scholar is designed to find scholarly materials such as peer-reviewed papers, theses, books, technical reports, and scholarly websites. However, it's important to remember a few very important things. First, Google itself recognizes that there's still work to be done and Google Scholar is still in "Beta" testing. Secondly, many of the resources found with Google Scholar are only available through licensed resources. In other words, you might find out that there's the perfect article available but you won't be able to get direct access to it without paying for delivery. The good news is that Google and your Library are working together to make sure that you can get access to the resources already available online to you through the Robert R. Muntz Library.

If you decide to use Google Scholar, be sure to go to "Scholar Preferences" and set at least one of your "library links" to the University of Texas at Tyler. Remember, however, that this product is still in beta, so here are the caveats: 1) Not everything found is going to indicate the Robert R. Muntz Library has it online. 2) If you're searching from off campus, the online resource won't direct you through the Library's proxy unless you've set your library links to UT Tyler so that you can get to it through our proxy. As long as we have the fulltext you should be able to find it.

There are solutions to these problems. First, always check the Library's resources directly from the Robert R. Muntz Library's webpage. (<http://library.uttyler.edu>). And if you're off-campus, going through the Library's website will direct you through the Library's proxy server. And ALWAYS remember that the Librarians are willing to help you navigate the many resources available to you.

Contact the Librarians at library@mail.uttyl.edu or call 903-566-7343 for assistance in selecting and using any of the library's resources.

University Archives News ...by Deirdre Joyce

Recent & Upcoming Events

- ◆ Poetry Read-Out
- ◆ Student Poetry Contest
- ◆ Women's History Exhibit & Brown Bag Lecture
- ◆ Texas Poet Laureate Visit

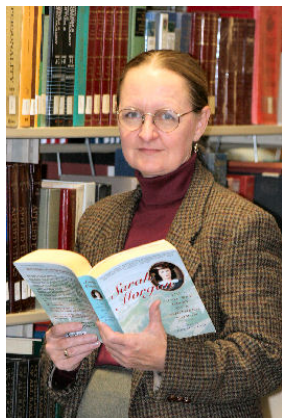
The department of Archives and Special Collections is pleased to announce a new exhibit that documents the history of The University of Texas at Tyler, entitled "Growing a University." The exhibit traces the development of the campus from a small, two-year state college to the full-scale university that it is today, offering a range of baccalaureate, masters and doctoral degrees. Featuring a blend of archival

materials and university memorabilia, the exhibit was curated and mounted by Library Assistant Ricky Ashby under the supervision of the University Archivist.

"Growing a University" is located on the first floor of the Robert R. Muntz Library in the hallway leading to the archival reading room and the library break room (Rooms 107 and 105). This exhibit will remain on display indefinitely.

Spotlight on... ..by Joanne Buendtner

*Join us March 22nd
at Noon for a
Women's History
Presentation by*



Vicki Betts, MLS

With this article, we begin a series of "spotlights" on our librarians. It is only fitting that we begin with the librarian who has served the Robert R. Muntz Library the longest, and that would be Vicki Betts, who began working here in 1977 when we were still Texas Eastern University.

Vicki was born and raised right here in Tyler, Texas. She attended Tyler public schools, and graduated from Robert E. Lee High School, with the class of 1972. Her college degrees include an A. A. from Tyler Junior College, 1974, a B. A. with majors in History and English from East Texas State University, 1976, and an M.L.S. from North Texas State University, 1977.

She is proudly owned by two adoring cats, a niece and twin nephews. Her special interests include gardening, particularly heritage varieties of plants. She's an accomplished fisherwoman who loves the outdoors. And, as one might expect, she has become quite an expert in Smith County history. She is the author of a Smith County Historical Society book entitled, Smith County, Texas in the Civil War. She is also interested in the Civil War homefront (particularly in women's roles), Civil War era newspapers, and mid-19th century women's clothing.

Her interests and talents have led her to be invited to make presentations across the country. She has spoken on mid-nineteenth century homespun dresses to groups in Alabama, Texas, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and Virginia. She has given two presentations to the Texas State Historical Association and a variety of presentations to the Smith County Historical Society, United Daughters of the Confederacy, Sons of the Confederacy, as well as others. Her next program for the Smith County Historical Society will be April 3, 2007-- "The Tyler Tornado of April 26, 1957." She is also the Muntz Library's brown bag lecturer for Women's History Month. Please plan to come listen at noon on March 22nd.

Within the library Vicki Betts is the Cataloger...but her passion is helping faculty and students with historical research. She acts as the faculty liaison to the History department. She created and maintains a website devoted to excerpts from Civil War era newspapers, local history, and Civil War era women's clothing. It has become a popular source of information and documentation throughout the history-seeking community. Take the time to visit her site at <http://www.uttyl.edu/vbetts>.

Referring to Reference ...by Vandy Dubre

As you walk into the library this semester you may notice not much has changed. That is until you try to use a student computer. Though it may seem like a cruel joke done to frustrate you and waste your time, we really are trying to make your life a little easier. The library is now using the Patriots log in to access student PCs. This is the same user name and password you use to access the ACC computer lab machines and your student email. If you did not use your student email last semester or just can't remember what you set as your password, then stop by the ACC (computer lab) in the business building

and they will reset your password. The long term goal is for you to only have one username and password as a student. With that said, please remember to LOG OUT of your student account before you leave the computer. If you do not, someone else could come in and perform an illegal function which traces back to you. If you happen to sit down at a computer that is already open, log out of that student account and then log into your own. We don't want any lost work due to computer account shut down. Have a wonderful semester and remember: when in doubt ...ask a librarian!!!!

Muntz Library Musings

Circulation/Interlibrary Services ...by Penny Reynolds

Welcome to a New Staff

Library Assistant II, Judy McCarty, recently joined the Circ/Interlibrary Services team! Judy is our new 3:00pm to Midnight Supervisor, working Sunday thru Thursdays. She will also work in interlibrary services, learning the new ILLiad system.

Judy and her husband Jerry (who is currently serving in Iraq) have two children; Amanda, who is in the Air Force and Amber, who will be graduating from high school this year. Judy has taken several classes at LeTourneau University in the legal field and worked in law enforcement for the Tatum Police Dept (reserves) and as a police officer for the Kilgore College PD. For the past several years, Judy has worked in the banking industry for Spring Hill State Bank in Longview, Texas and for Regent Bank in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Her hobbies include flower gardening, reading, exercising and caring for her pets.

Student Assistant Amanda M. began employment with the Library, at the beginning of the Spring semester. Amanda works at the Circulation desk along with fellow students Tonya, Candace, Tera, Kristle, Christy, Bobby and Amber. Welcome Amanda!

Food for Fines

This was the Library's third year to participate in the University wide food drive, sponsored by the Alpha Phi Omega Interest Group, benefiting the East Texas Food Bank.

For each overdue library item, students, faculty & staff turned in 5 canned goods to the Circulation desk, which not only benefited the E.T.F.B., but it also wiped away their overdue fines! This year 478 canned goods were collected and overdue library fines totaling \$710.50 were forgiven! Several who donated canned goods, did not even have any library fines. They just wanted to donate to the E.T.F.B.! Thank you to all who participated.

Overdue?

Check your U.T. Tyler email!

To better serve you and to HELP YOU REMEMBER that you have fines and/or books and media items checked out that are passed due, the Circulation Dept is now automatically sending you courtesy overdue and fine notices to your U.T. Tyler email addresses.

For those of you who have overdue interlibrary loan materials, you will receive a courtesy email every day the interlibrary loan material is late. The Fine for overdue ILL material is \$2.00 per item, per day for faculty, staff, and students.



*Judy McCarty
(The New Face
in Circulation)*

New Student Email Addresses ...by Penny Reynolds

Out with the old; in with the new!

If you are a current U. T. Tyler student and you do not know about your new student email address, please visit <http://ccs.utt Tyler.edu/email> and follow the directions there to activate your new address.

All fines, bill notices and correspondence from the Library Circulation and Interlibrary Loan Departments are sent to you at your student email address. If you have problems with activation, please contact the Campus Computing Center in Room 101 of the Business Building.

"You know you've read a good book when you turn the last page and feel a little as if you have lost a friend." - Paul Sweeney

Entering the Race ...by Joanne Buendtner

Jeanne Pyle, Muntz Library Director, has been nominated by a group of her peers to run for the presidency of the Texas Library Association (TLA). Established in 1902, TLA offers a wide range of services for ALL types of libraries in the state, including an annual conference, a leadership development program, legislative advocacy, and publications. The nomination in itself is an honor, as TLA now has over 7200 members and is the largest state library association in the country. If elected, Jeanne will serve as President-elect from April 07-08 and then President, April 08-09.

When asked about her platform, Jeanne provided the following statement:

"Today's younger generation adopts new technologies at an amazing pace- so must we. Educational institutions are partnering with corporations to take collections "digital" and a recent headline proclaims, "books are so 20th century". As information professionals, we must protect the treasures of our Texas collections while adapting to society's evolving information seeking behaviors. We must be proactive in defining for and advocating to legislators, educators, and community officials the role of libraries and librarians in helping individuals develop life-long information and communication technology skills for the 21st century Texas workforce. Libraries remain a bridge for those on the other side of the digital divide. In a world of sound-bytes, multitasking, and instant messaging, libraries are more vital than ever to an informed and democratic society."

Recent & Upcoming Events

Brown Bag Lecture Series

In conjunction with 3 scheduled exhibits from Humanities Texas, 3 interesting speakers agreed to present lunchtime talks in the Library's 2nd floor lounge area. The 1st of these, "The Serious Business of Cartoons" was given in November by Dr. Alexander Mendoza. The next talk, by our own Vicki Betts, is scheduled for March 22. The final presentation will be by Dr. Catherine Ross, (date TBA).

National Black History Month

In celebration of Black History Month, we will house an exhibit created by Tamara Brown in the 3rd floor display cases & various posters will be on display throughout the building.

National Women's History Month

March is Women's History Month. We have scheduled a Humanities Texas exhibit on Rural Texas Women and Vicki Betts' Brown Bag Lecture will follow the Women's History theme.

National Library Week

The week of April 15 – 21 has been designated as this year's National Library Week. The theme is "Come Together @ Your Library." We sincerely hope you will make a point of visiting us during that week.

National Poetry Month Activities

April is National Poetry Month and we have special events planned to celebrate:

March 12 – April 13: entries will be accepted in our **STUDENT POETRY CONTEST**. (Watch our Webpage for contest details).

April 18: Annual **POETRY READ-OUT** – an all day event open to students, faculty and staff. Readers sign up information will be on our Webpage & at the Circulation Desk beginning April 3rd but you can call Joanne Buendtner at 903 566-7174 to volunteer, too.

April 19: The **POETRY CONTEST AWARDS CEREMONY** will be preceded by a **BOOK-SIGNING & RECEPTION** as well as a **POETRY READING BY ALAN BIRKELBACH, THE 2006 TEXAS POET LAUREATE**. Mr. Birkelbach's presence is made possible, in part, by a grant from the University of Texas at Tyler Friends of the Arts. Members of the Friends will be serving as hostesses for the reception. Poetry Contest Winners will receive their awards on stage from the former Poet Laureate.

Further details about these events will be forthcoming. We hope that you will make plans to join us in celebrating the inspirational genre.