

Grinnell College Libraries

Annual Report: July 1, 2006, through June 30, 2007

Spaces and Places

Science Library: After 15 years of planning, the Kistle Science Library opened for limited service at the beginning of June. The 10,553 square-foot facility, designed by Peter Landon of Chicago, includes fixed and moveable shelving for 100,000 volumes (expandable to 150,000), study spaces for 78 students, and 4 group-study rooms. When construction is complete, it will feature a stunning view of the Rosenfield Center through floor-to-ceiling windows under a vaulted ceiling. The past year was much occupied with identifying the collections that would move to Science, those that would be moved to offsite storage, and those that would stay in Burling; and with planning the physical move of collections, which was completed on the weekend of June 2 by Hallett Library Movers of Illinois. We also developed plans for staffing and scheduling the new facility. We inaugurated the new Library with a reception on the Friday of Alumni Reunion Weekend, complemented by an exhibition of materials from Archives & Special Collections on the history of science education at Grinnell.

Burling Level 1: We planned and started implementation of a reconfiguration of the computer workstations, reference desk, and reference collection areas on Level 1 of Burling Library. First conceived several years ago, the plan intends to encourage students to use all information formats – print and electronic alike – in their research and to work closely with reference librarians. We will create a new computer commons area adjacent to the reference collection and situated within the northeast alcove to take advantage of the window light and project a greater sense of liveliness to the outside, and move the reference desk closer to the new commons.

Burling Collection Arrangement: With the move of science materials to the new Science Library, Burling has more space to accommodate humanities and social science materials. The current arrangement with language and literature collections – “P” class – on Level 1 tends to confuse new students and faculty, and the “P’s” are now too large to fit on Level 1. In the new arrangement, collections will start with “A” on Level 1 and proceed alphabetically to Level 3. Level 4 will house journals and documents. Shifting will proceed through the summer of 2007.

Accessibility in Burling: Construction has also begun on features intended to make Burling more physically accessible to our community. Automatic door openers are being added to the main entrance, an accessible restroom is being constructed near the central elevator on Level 1, and lighting on the north side of Level 1 is being upgraded (many respondents to this spring’s LibQUAL survey expressed concern about the dim lighting).

Listening Room and AV Center Collection Consolidation: In July 2006, the Libraries assumed collection-management responsibility for all the media materials housed in the AV Center in ARH. We have cataloged all original recordings in the main library catalog, and made good progress on an ambitious 2-year project to purchase replacements for copies whose origin is uncertain and might represent a copyright violation. We initiated and cosponsored with ITS and Student Government a “Favorite Films Festival,” featuring films voted by 486 students in the categories

Comedy (*Dr. Strangelove*), Drama (*The Shawshank Redemption*), and Romance (*The Princess Bride*).

Facilitating Inquiry-based Learning

How We Teach and What We Teach: The librarians continue to collaborate with classroom faculty in the first-year tutorial program, assisting in the design of assignments and providing one or two sessions of focused instruction in the basic concepts of information structure and database searching and in effective use of libraries. We developed clearer goals for tutorial and other class-based instruction, and will be increasing our efforts to offer course-specific instruction in library research and information concepts to upper-level students. We also submitted and were approved to teach in the Spring of 2008 an experimental special topics course – “How Disciplines Construct Knowledge” – in collaboration with the Writing Lab. Students in this course will analyze how academic communities use genres to construct, validate, communicate, and preserve knowledge.

Primary Evidence and the EKI: Focus Groups with Faculty: We organized – in collaboration with Curricular Technology and the Faulconer Gallery and with the sponsorship of the Office of Interdisciplinary Studies – two lunch-time focus groups with faculty on the theme “Teaching from the Source: Using Digital Methods to Interrogate Primary Sources.” The aim of the first lunch was to explore the potential of digitization for increasing the interdisciplinary uses of primary evidence in teaching. The emergence of a more common set of standards and methods for describing and gaining access to digital versions of these types of collections may enhance interdisciplinary teaching and learning at Grinnell and lead students and faculty to ask new kinds of questions. The first lunch attracted 24 participants from 16 departments in addition to the six organizers. Each

comments, questions, and concerns; each posting receives a response from the Librarian of the College. Also at the students' request, we created an area for jigsaw puzzles and other quiet recreations, to encourage moments of relaxation during intensive study. The Student Outreach Committee will be merged with an expanded SEPC starting in Fall 2007, and the focus on hearing from and communicating with students will continue.

Donor Reception: In April, we collaborated with the Office of Alumni Relations and Development in hosting a reception in Burling Library to honor Mrs. Mary-Elizabeth Debicki and her family for their gift of the Andrew P. Debicki collection. Forty guests joined us for brief tributes from librarian Rebecca Stuhr and professor of Spanish Dennis Perri.

The *Concerned Black Students* group organized a commemoration of the black student takeover of Burling Library in 1971 which led to – among other changes – establishment of the Black Library.

Other Events: In addition to providing spaces, collections, and assistance for research and study, libraries host events of various kinds as contributions to their communities' ongoing intellectual life. Two such events are noted above – the reception for the Debicki family and the commemoration of the Black Student takeover of Burling Library in 1971. In addition, we hosted a poetry reading that attracted 11 student readers and two dozen listeners, in what we hope will become an annual tradition; and six “milk-and-cookies” study breaks during fall and spring finals weeks, featuring faculty and student musicians, singers, and performers. Whether serious, joyous, or just fun, events like these contribute to a holistic education of mind and emotion that we hope will leave our students with a lasting sense of the value and meaning of libraries in contemporary life.

Technology in Service of Education

Creative Computing Lab and Faculty Workshops: The Libraries and ITS continued jointly to plan the development of facilities and support for faculty and students in the use of technology. We opened the Creative Computing Lab in October, and hosted several faculty workshops on digital images (PDID and ARTStor), GIS and spatial data, and other technologies.

Digitization Projects: We continued work started 2 years ago on digitizing historic postcards of Iowa towns and cities. This year we digitized 2569 cards, and now have 3530 cards publicly available through PDID, Grinnell's Pioneer Digital Image Database (see <http://pdid.grinnell.edu/forlipetrysi1i400.5i>)

material and will establish a few small “demonstration” collections during the summer to facilitate

Librarian and Staff Activities, 2006-2007

Librarians

Katie Dunn

Professional Service

Member, Conference Planning Committee and Co-coordinator, Local Arrangements Committee, Iowa Library Association / Association of College and Research Libraries Spring Conference, March 23, 2007, Grinnell, IA

Community Service

Member, Grinnell Parks Board

Kevin Engel

Professional Service

Consortial Purchasing Coordinator, Iowa Private Academic Libraries

College Service

Member, Science Phase II Building Committee

Richard Fyffe

Publications

Fyffe, R. and A. Emmet. 2007. "Library Records," *Encyclopedia of Privacy*. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press: 327-330

Presentations

"The Quest for Balance in Providing Digital Materials for Teaching and Learning at Grinnell College," NITLE Copyright and Digital Materials Symposium, 9 January 2007, Claremont Colleges. With Gail Bonath

"Institutional Repositories: Scholarly Sharing and the Liberal Arts Community," NITLE DSpace Service Community Meeting, 15 June 2007, Hartford, Conn.

"Digital Preservation: Roles and Opportunities for Libraries," Portico Participants Meeting, American Library Association Annual Conference, 23 June 2007, Washington, D.C.

Professional Service

Chair, Center for Research Libraries, Liberal Arts Colleges Interest Group
 Member, Center for Research Libraries, Collections and Services Advisory Council
 Manuscript reviewer, *Bioscience* (American Institute of Biological Sciences)
 Advisory Board, NITLE DSpace Community
 Member, Association of College and Research Libraries Scholarly Communications Committee
 Member, Review Board, Association of Research Libraries/Association of College and Research Libraries Scholarly Communications Institute
 Participant, ARTstor Community Advisory Forum

College Service

Member, Copyright Policy Drafting Group
 Member, Copyright Task Force

College Service

Museum Assessment Program team, Faulconer Gallery.

Rebecca Stuhr

Publications

Rod, Catherine and Rebecca Stuhr, "Using Web-based Instruction Guides to Teach Information Literacy Concepts to First-Year Students at Grinnell College" in *The Role of the Library in the First College Year*. Larry L. Hardesty, editor. Columbia, SC: National Resource Center for The First-Year Experience & Students in Transition, University of South Carolina, 2007

Music for Flute and Guitar. Jorge Torres, Guitar and Rebecca Stuhr, flute. Baton Rouge, LA: Centaur Records, June 2007

Book Reviews:

From *Library Journal*:

Mixed: An Anthology of Short Fiction on the Multi-Racial Experience. Norton. Aug. 2006. 6/15/2006, Vol. 131, Issue 11

Moore, Lisa. *Alligator*. Black Cat/Grove, 2006. 7/1/2006, Vol. 131 Issue 12, p. 68

Forna, Aminatta. *Ancestor Stones*. Atlantic Monthly Press, 2006. 10/1/2006, Vol. 131 Issue 16, p57

Vaite, Celestina. *Breadfruit*. Little Brown, 2006. 9/1/2006, Vol. 131 Issue 14, p139

From *CHOICE Magazine*:

Writing African American Women: An Encyclopedia of Literature by and About Women of Color. Greenwood Press, 2006. Published November 2006

Performances

August 21, 2006 with cellist Mary Pshonik, Senator Grassley's National Women's Conference, Des Moines

October 17, 2006 with cellist Mary Pshonik, World Food Prize Dinner, Des Moines

April 18, 2007, "Satie for Two." with guitarist Jorge Torres, Lafayette College

May 24, 2007, with Mary Pshonik, cellist, Grinnell Coffee Company.

Presentations

"It Takes a College: Collaborating for Writing and Information Literacy," Poster presentation, American Library Association, 24 June 2006

"African American Autobiography: Illuminating History," Joint Conference for Librarians of Color, 13 October 2006, Dallas, Texas

Professional Service

Maintain Web page for Iowa Conservation and Preservation Consortium (ICPC)

Implementing HRDP grant (from the State of Iowa). Working with others to plan programs for ICPC "Preservation 102" program supported by the HRDP grant that I am directing. Completed this project in December of 2006.

President/Past-President, Iowa chapter of the Association of College and Research Libraries

Chair, Awards Committee, Iowa chapter of the Association of College and Research Libraries

Mentor, ACRL Dr. E. J. Josey Spectrum Scholar Mentoring Program.

Member, Paul Banks and Carolyn Harris Preservation Award Jury, Association of Library Collections and Technical Services

Member, Management Committee of the Preservation and Reformatting Section, Association of Library Collections and Technical Services

Secretary, Ethnic Materials Information and Exchange Round Table (EMIERT), American Library Association

Community Service

Music in the Park, July 26, 2007

College Service

Member, Convocation Committee

Member, Cultural Film Committee

Staff

Sheryl Bissen

Professional Service

President, Iowa Library Association

Beth Bohstedt

College Service

Chair, Support Staff Relations Committee

Randy Jones

Presentations

Panelist, "Developing Collaboration in the Preservation of the Negro Spiritual" 27 July 2006, National Association of Negro Musicians 87th Annual Conference, Norfolk, Virginia

Performances

"The Art of the Negro Spiritual," 11 November 2006, Grinnell College

"Encore! An Evening of Favorite Songs and Arias," 8 May 2007, Grinnell College

Cheryl Neubert

Community Service

Grinnell Renaissance Board (City Commission)

College Service

Grinnell College Mini Grants Committee

Librarians and Staff, 2006-2007

Lisa Adkins, Library Assistant

Sheryl Bissen, Library Systems Support Technician

Beth Bohstedt, Library Assistant (Acquisitions & Government Documents)

Gail Bonath, Associate Librarian of the College

Nancy Cadmus, Library Assistant (Serials)

Sharon Clayton, Administrative Assistant to the Librarian of the College

Katie Dunn, Reference & Instruction Librarian

Kevin Engel, Science Librarian

Richard Fyffe, Rosenthal Librarian of the College

Leslie Gardner, Library Assistant (Document Delivery)

Chris Gaunt, Desk Supervisor (Evenings/Weekends)

Kim Gilbert, Library Assistant (Acquisitions)

Donna Hoeksema, Library Assistant (Cataloging)

Phil Jones, Reader Services Librarian

Randy Jones, Library Assistant (Listening Room)

R. Cecilia Knight, Catalog Librarian

Christopher McKee, Senior Faculty Status

Brian Mitchell, Desk Supervisor (Evenings/Weekends)

Duane Murray, Desk Supervisor (Evenings/Weekends)

Cheryl Neubert, Library Assistant (Library Administration and Special Collections)

Kathy Peterson, Library Assistant (Serials)

Jean Reavis, Library Assistant (Cataloging)

Catherine Rod, Associate Librarian and Archivist of the College

Doris Selix, Library Assistant (Serials)

Sherry Shults, Desk Supervisor (Days)

Shealey Sieck, Library Assistant (Cataloging)

Rebecca Stuhr, Collection Development & Preservation Librarian