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Founders Keepers Newsletter 2013-11-15

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Founders Keepers

Upcoming Events

Maps Open House Nov. 18

FLA Holiday Party Dec. 18

And the winner is...

By a wide margin, you, the readers of the NIU Libraries Newsletter, have chosen *Founders Keepers* as its name. The name is not meant to suggest that the Newsletter is only for the employees of Founders Library; rather, it is a cute play on the name of one of our libraries, and the fact that we “keep” knowledge and information, local and regional history, special and rare items, and access to it all for our patrons. The newsletter keeps us in touch with each other, as well.

To continue making this *YOUR* newsletter, please add the deadline for submissions to your calendar for every month: the 7th! Of course, if the 7th falls on a weekend, the following Monday would be fine.



Illinois Archives Month, by Danielle Spalenka

The Regional History Center celebrated Illinois Archives Month in October by showcasing suffrage related material in the regional and University Archives collections. On June 26, 1913, Illinois became the first

state east of the Mississippi where women won the right to vote in local and presidential elections. To commemorate this historic event, the Illinois State Archives chose “Celebrating 100 Years of

Women’s Suffrage” as the theme for Archives Month 2013. By showcasing suffrage material from the Center’s collections, the Regional History Center demonstrated how women’s voting rights impacted

Illinois Archives Month, continued

Northern Illinois University and the surrounding region.

We created a Flickr gallery to highlight pins, postcards, photographs, pamphlets, and other material found within the collections related to women's suffrage in Illinois. We found some interesting items like political cartoons as well as a pamphlet that opposed women's suffrage. We found an Official Sample Women's Ballot for the general election in November 1914.

In addition to our Flickr gallery, we engaged with our Facebook community by posting specific materials on the Center's page. Each week we focused on a different theme to help provide a narrative. Every Tuesday, we posted trivia questions related to women's suffrage that allowed some interaction for the month-long celebration.

Thanks to everyone who "liked" our material and visited our sites throughout the month. Special thanks to Annie Oelschlager and Katie Sutrina who helped find

materials and create content on our social media pages. You can still check out the content we created throughout the month by visiting our Facebook and Flickr pages:

<https://www.facebook.com/NIUarchives>

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/niuarchives/>

Editor's Note: My apologies for inadvertently omitting the original article about Illinois Archives Month in the October issue.

Information You Can Use from Technical Services!

Recent headings changes in Voyager

Koran **changed to** Qur'an

Abnormal Children **changed to** Exceptional children

Handicapped **changed to** People with disabilities

Physically handicapped **changed to** People with disabilities

Disabled persons **changed to** People with disabilities

Disabled **changed to** People with disabilities

Handicapped and the arts **changed to** People with disabilities and the arts

Handicapped college students **changed to** College students with disabilities

Handicapped youth **changed to** Youth with disabilities

Handicapped teachers **changed to** Teachers with disabilities

Handicapped teenagers **changed to** Teenagers with disabilities

Nestor Osorio Named to ACRL Task Force

Nestor Osorio has been selected as co-chair of the ACRL STS Research Agenda Task Force.

The Task Force is in charge of creating a plan for the utilization of research methods applicable to the STS community.



UNIV 105 Grant, by Nestor Osorio

The Office of Student Engagement and Experimental Learning has recognized the Reference and Research Dept. with a Course Transformation Project (CTP) Lite grant for UNIV 105. The grant proposal was produced by Nestor

Osorio and Wendell Johnson. The purpose of this grant is to develop a blended version of the course; Wendell Johnson, Meredith Ayers and graduate student Daniel Carlson are working on this project and instructors can also contribute to its development.

To Autumn, by John Keats (1795-1821), submitted by Cherie Hauptman

1.

SEASON of mists and mellow fruitfulness,
 Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun;
 Conspiring with him how to load and bless
 With fruit the vines that round the thatch-eves run;
 To bend with apples the moss'd cottage-trees,
 And fill all fruit with ripeness to the core;
 To swell the gourd, and plump the hazel shells
 With a sweet kernel; to set budding more,
 And still more, later flowers for the bees,
 Until they think warm days will never cease,
 For Summer has o'er-brimm'd their clammy cells.

2.

Who hath not seen thee oft amid thy store?
 Sometimes whoever seeks abroad may find
 Thee sitting careless on a granary floor,
 Thy hair soft-lifted by the winnowing wind;
 Or on a half-reap'd furrow sound asleep,
 Drows'd with the fume of poppies, while thy hook
 Spares the next swath and all its twined flowers:
 And sometimes like a gleaner thou dost keep
 Steady thy laden head across a brook;
 Or by a cyder-press, with patient look,
 Thou watchest the last oozings hours by hours.

3.

Where are the songs of Spring? Ay, where are they?
 Think not of them, thou hast thy music too,—
 While barred clouds bloom the soft-dying day,
 And touch the stubble plains with rosy hue;
 Then in a wailful choir the small gnats mourn
 Among the river sallows, borne aloft
 Or sinking as the light wind lives or dies;
 And full-grown lambs loud bleat from hilly bourn;
 Hedge-crickets sing; and now with treble soft
 The red-breast whistles from a garden-croft;
 And gathering swallows twitter in the skies.



Sandwich Program, by Hao Phan

For the past few years, a program funded by the government of Indonesia has brought university lecturers, most of whom are also Ph.D. candidates, from Indonesia to NIU for three months of research. Informally known as the “sandwich program,” because these scholars’ activities at NIU are “sandwiched” in between their regular academic programs at their home institutions, the program provides the visiting scholars an op-

portunity to conduct research for their dissertations under the mentoring of NIU faculty, using sources available in the SEA Collection and the NIU Libraries. For this year, eight scholars from universities in Makassar (Sulawesi Island), Indonesia, have arrived at NIU in October and were provided a library orientation session by Hao Phan, Curator of the SEA Collection. Hao and Joanna Kulma, Library Assistant of the SEA

Collection, will assist the visiting scholars with their library needs over the course of their stay at NIU.



Five of the eight visiting researchers from Indonesia as part of the “sandwich program” this year

International Education Week, by Hao Phan

For the International Education Week 2013 (November 11-15) at NIU, the SEA Collection has worked with the Division of International Programs to display

some of the SEA materials in the glass case in front of the Blackhawk Food Court, HSC, to help promote international studies at NIU.



Exhibit for the International Education Week 2013, HSC

Thai Studies Conference, by Hao Phan

The Thai studies conference -- Council on Thai Studies Annual Meeting (COTS) -- took place at NIU on the 18th and the 19th of October. As part of the conference, an exhibit on the Tai, a minority group of people in Thailand, was displayed in Gallery Lounge, HSC,

organized by Prof. Catherine Raymond, Director of the NIU Center for Burma Studies. The exhibit includes a number of ancient maps and rare manuscripts from the SEA Collection. All staff of the SEA Collection attended the conference.

Technical Services, or What Do They Do Down There?, by Jana Brubaker

Technical Services is not quite the right name for the relatively new department on the lower level of the library. It may bring to mind functions that really don't apply. I've fielded phone calls from students who want help with their Wi-Fi connections, or who seek my advice on how to rid their computer of the virus that's infecting it. Unfortunately, they've dialed the wrong number! The three primary functions of Technical Services do not include computer assistance or repair. Instead, we're all about making resources available to library users. We acquire materials, make materials accessible through the online catalog and the libraries' webpage, and preserve materials. Each of these functions is complex and interesting, and I thought the newsletter would be a good place to tell you about what we do.

This month we'll start with the acquisitions of monographs (in all formats). It's pretty much what it sounds like. Subject specialists select materials that they want to add to the collection and the Tech Services

people buy them. Simple, right? Not so much. I'll let Pat Arne, the Monographs Acquisitions Unit coordinator, tell us what happens:

When subject specialists make requests (we call them requests until they are actually placed as orders), we retrieve them from Gobi, Choice forms, etc. Elizabeth Pottenger then cuts apart the requests and batches them. Margie Little searches for duplicates and added volumes on Voyager and OCLC. Debbie Evans and I assist her. I then sort the requests based on how they'll be ordered and we place the orders with vendors around the world. The orders can be placed either by electronic data transfer or with purchase orders that are submitted via email or online to individual vendors. We also have to determine if the vendor will bill us or if we have to pay with a credit card. If the vendor has to be paid in a foreign currency, that presents additional complications. We try to order the item within 24 hours of receiving the request. When we get a lot of

requests in one day that can be a challenge.

Then we wait for the items to arrive. Debbie Evans and Elizabeth Pottenger unbox the materials and check for damaged items that need to be returned. They also process the items, adding barcodes, tattle tape, property stamps, and location flags. The items are marked "received" in Voyager and the appropriate bibliographic records are printed to pass along to cataloging personnel. The trucks with new materials are then placed in the reviewing area for subject specialists to view. After the items have been reviewed, the trucks are distributed to the appropriate people in the cataloging area. That's the gist of it anyway. Of course, there are many variations and nuances to the whole process.

Keep in mind that this is just the procedure for monographs. Serials are a whole different thing, and we'll tell you about that procedure another time.



Map Collection to Hold Open House, by Robert Ridinger

In conjunction with the programming of the Department of Geography planned as part of the observance of Geography Awareness Week from November 17-23, 2013, the Maps Collection on the second floor of Founders will host an open house on Monday, November 18, 2013, from 1 to 3 PM. Among the resources of this collection (in existence since 1966) to be showcased will be samples of all the major cartographic sets produced by the U.S. Geological Survey, newly acquired globes of Mars, Venus and the Moon, and the LIBGUIDE page for mapping and cartographic data online (<http://libguides.niu.edu/Maps>). Copies of the

article “Colors of the World : Exploring Founders’ Maps Collection” published in the Fall 2013 issue of *Founder’s Type* will also be available. Geography Awareness Week is a project of the National Geographic Society’s Network of Alliances for Geographic Education and is intended to promote geographic literacy. As the Network’s website states: “It is part of the National Geographic Society’s work to ensure that our nation’s youth are Geoliterate—that they understand how Earth’s interconnected human, ecological, and geophysical systems function, and

have the ability to apply that understanding to decision-making and problem solving. This year’s theme of “declaring your interdependence” promotes geo-literacy and explores the idea that one is constantly making connections all over the world through the things they buy, the foods they eat, and the decisions they make.”



Customer Service Workshops, Discussion Point 1

Customer Service Workshops were presented on Nov. 7 & 8 by Rosanne Cordell and Sarah McHone-Chase. Participants shared their ideas and experiences in providing customer service. Some of the first points considered were, "Who are our customers and what needs to they bring to the library?" Among the user groups listed were...

Students
Staff
Faculty
Community
Alumni and Retirees
Visitors
International Visitors
Remote users/internet users
Anyone using WorldCat ILL (World-wide)
Anyone we interact with
Anyone who comes in to use our services
Next-generation Users
We ourselves—internal users

The needs they present are as varied as "Do everything" to "Don't do anything unless I ask." They need materials, space, information, preservation, internet access, instruction, directions, human interaction, quiet...Anticipating the needs of our users is difficult when they ask so much of libraries, but that is what we do when we develop policies and procedures with their needs and convenience in mind.

Forty-three participants shared their ideas and experience in the Customer Service Workshops.

The Last Word

A big issue in libraries today is the treatment of libraries by publishers of e-books. Although public libraries have had the spotlight in discussions of the high costs for a relatively low number of circulations that the major popular publishers were charging for titles that libraries didn't get to keep permanently (if the publishers would "sell" to libraries at all!), this is an issue that academic libraries face, as well. When we are able to buy permanent or perpetual access to an e-book title, we can cata-

log it and depend on access to it. However, when we buy packages of e-books, particular titles or a publisher's entire list can be removed from the package at any time. This makes for confusing and tedious cataloging work, with deleting or correcting e-book records almost continually. Then, of course, subject specialists might have to purchase a title that we had previously owned as an e-book or find a suitable replacement. And, to paraphrase Jana Brubaker, keep in mind that

this is just for monographs. Serials are another issue...

Well, let's be thankful for the times in which we live, and the opportunities we have for working to improve libraries and library services for future generations.

