

7-15-2014

Founders Keepers Newsletter 2014-07-15

NIU Libraries

Follow this and additional works at: <https://huskiecommons.lib.niu.edu/ua-library>

Recommended Citation

NIU Libraries, "Founders Keepers Newsletter 2014-07-15" (2014). *University Libraries Archive*. 30.
<https://huskiecommons.lib.niu.edu/ua-library/30>

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the Teaching & Learning Archives at Huskie Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in University Libraries Archive by an authorized administrator of Huskie Commons. For more information, please contact jschumacher@niu.edu.

Founders Keepers

Upcoming Events

- July 23 Conference Brown Bag
- August 10 Summer Session ends
- August 25 Fall semester begins
- September 1 Labor Day (University closed)

Service Awards

The Operating Staff Council has announced the following anniversaries:

April

5 years—Annie Oelschlager

May

25 years—Ken Kamm

Congratulations to Annie and Ken, and many thanks for your dedication to NIU and University Libraries.

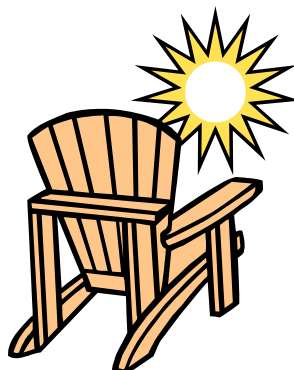
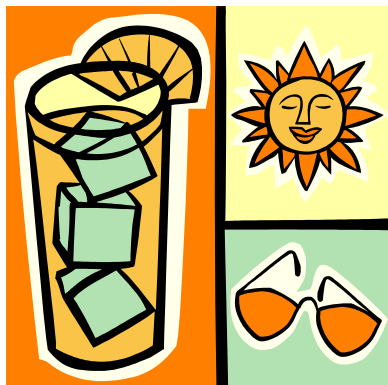


Conference Sharing Brown Bag

Besides tchotchkes and sore feet, we often come back from conferences or workshops with ideas that and discussion topics we heard that might apply to University Libraries or give a sense of the direction

academic libraries are headed. This year we are inviting everyone to share in an informal discussion of the ideas about which we learned. On Wednesday, July 23, 12-1pm in the Staff Lounge, all employees

are invited to bring their lunch and hear what we have learned and how this might apply to University Libraries.



News from the SEA Collection, by Hao Phan

From June 28th to July 9th NIU Libraries hosted four visiting librarians from Myanmar (Burma). La Pye Win Htun, Ni Ni Naing, Sanda Oo, and Yin Yin Aye came to NIU to continue their library training after being trained at the University of Washington and Arizona State University. Their visit was made possible partly by the May Kyi Win endowment, which was established in 2002 for the purpose of training librarians from Myanmar. Financial support for the program was also provided by the Center for Southeast Asian Studies.

During their training, the librarians participated in workshops conducted by Danielle Spalenka, Lynne Thomas, and Hao Phan. Michael Duffy gave an informative tour of the Music Library to the visitors. Sandar Wynn helped with cataloging training and literally took care of our guests during their stay at NIU. In addition to the workshops, the librarians visited the Newberry Library, the library of the University of Chicago, and the Elgin Public Library.

Aside from library training, the librarians had a chance to enjoy the lo-

cal surroundings. On July 4th they took part in the festivities and fireworks at Hopkins Park. They tried many different foods, including Mexican and Thai cuisine from local restaurants. A highlight for all four librarians was a daylong sightseeing trip to Chicago which they took with Sandar Wynn. Two more librarians will be coming to NIU this Fall to participate in a similar training program. This is the first group of librarians from Myanmar coming to the United States for job training after decades of political turmoil in Myanmar.



Ni Ni Naing, La Pye Htun, Sanda Oo, and Yin Yin Aye with Sherry Patterson and Michael Smith in the Music Library.

News from the SEA Collection , continued



Yin Yin Aye, La Pye Htun, Ni Ni Naing, and Sanda Oo watch as Danielle Spalenka demonstrates preservation techniques.



Yin Yin Aye, La Pye Htun, Ni Ni Naing, Sanda Oo help identify Burmese manuscripts in the SEA Collection.

Volunteers Needed

The NIU staff newsletter asked for volunteers to help with Opening Day on August 22 when students move into residence halls for the Fall semester. Heavy lifting could be involved. If you are interested, call 815-753-7462 or email esherrill1@niu.edu.



New Librarian Starts July 16

Larissa Garcia starts July 16 as the Information Literacy and Social Sciences/ Humanities librarian. Her office is 145C,

and her email is lkessler@niu.edu. Please join me in welcoming Larissa!

The Last Word

Conference colleagues—those people you only see at conferences but get to know well over the years—will vent with each other over the frustrations at work. We don't work together and rarely know anyone at another's workplace, so venting at conference is safer than some other venues. One complaint I often hear is how long it takes to do anything in academia. My standard

reply is that academia moves at a glacial pace, but glaciers move mountains. When budgets are flat and donations are at a trickle, the pace of change can seem especially slow. However, looking back over a few years, you can see how much has been accomplished despite financial straits. Not everything takes great amounts of money, and even that which does might be

accomplished one step at a time. Look around: what has changed for the better, and what needs to be changed? Can it be accomplished incrementally if not all at once? How do we start? What is the next step? Where are we headed? Our observations, reflections, and discussions can help University Libraries move forward, even when resources are scarce.

