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## Founders Keepers Newsletter 2015-03-15

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# Founders Keepers

## Upcoming Events

- March 28 Friends Book Signing and Q&A
- April 1 Spring Recognition Party

## Spring Recognition Party

*FCA will recognize staff for years of service from April 2014 - April 2015.*

*Also being recognized are staff and faculty who have published or received honors.*

*(Remember to give a copy of your publications or awards to Rosanne Cordell!)*

*When: April 1, 2015*

*Where: Staff Lounge*

*Time: 1:30-2:30 pm*

## A Home for Library Awards



Founders Memorial Library has won the "Best Place to Study" designation on the NIU campus for the third time! There are several (and a growing number) of awards that the

Founders or University Libraries has won, and since the Public Relations award in FO 55 needs to find a new home, it might be time to think of a good place to display these awards

together. Do you have any ideas for where we might display them? Send your ideas to Rosanne Cordell at [rcordell@niu.edu](mailto:rcordell@niu.edu).

## Sarah McHone-Chase Named Synergy Participant

Sarah-McHone Chase is among thirty Illinois librarians who have been selected to participate in the tenth year of "Synergy: the Illinois Library Leadership Initiative," a unique yearlong program designed to develop future leaders in the library profession and in the Illinois community.

The group of 30 librarians will attend three sessions over a six-month period and will work in a leadership environment with other emerging leaders, experienced Illinois library leaders and nationally recognized speakers. The goal of the program is for each individual to

develop leadership skills that can be applied in local, state and global arenas. Congratulations, Sarah!



## Promotions in IDS and Technical Services

Catina Maxwell has been promoted to the Head of IDS position. She has worked in IDS for University Libraries for 17 years.

cialist and is now in charge of end-processing in Technical Services. Sandar has worked in Technical Services for 9 years.

Sandar Wynn has been promoted to Library Spe-

Congratulations to both of you!



## Book Signing and Q&A, by Lynne Thomas

### Upcoming Friends of the NIU Libraries event:

Join Hugo Award winner Elizabeth Bear and World Fantasy Award Nominee Scott Lynch for an afternoon of shenanigans and signing books on Saturday, March 28, 2015 (likely 2-4 pm), at the Ellwood House Hearthside Room, Visitor Center. Copies of *Karen Memory* and *The Republic of Thieves* will be available for sale. Scott and Elizabeth will also happily autograph copies of their work that you already have. More details coming!

**This event is free and open to the public.**

## University Council Meeting Highlights, by Jana Brubaker

University Council met on February 25.

President Baker spoke extensively about the FY 2016 budget proposal from Governor Rauner's office. Rauner is proposing a 31% reduction in state funding for universities. To put this in perspective, the state has reduced funding to universities by 25% over the last decade. Rauner is proposing that the state implement a 31% reduction in one year! Baker pointed out that this proposed budget has to be approved by the legislature and it is highly unlikely that it will pass with no changes. Baker will be testifying in the House and Senate on March 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> and will be explaining the impact of a \$30 million reduction to the university. He will be taking some students with him to Springfield. Nevertheless, NIU needs to do some contingency planning, taking care to follow appropriate governance processes. Slides of President Baker's presentation can be found here: <C:\Users\c60jpb1\Desktop\Baker-Budget-Presentation-UC-02-25-15.pdf>. On slide 7, the libraries are considered to be part of Academic Affairs.

The 2024-25 academic calendar was approved by the University Council.

Students have asked for, and will be given a larger role in the program prioritization process. Two students, one undergraduate and one graduate, will be on the coordinating committee for the prioritization process, and a student panel will be assembled to review the recommendations of the prioritization task forces.

## Cambodian American Heritage Museum Staff Visit the Southeast Asia Collection, by Hao Phan

Two staff of the Cambodian American Heritage Museum & Killing Fields Memorial, Ms. Kaoru Watanabe and Ms. Tola Ros, visited NIU on February 23. Established in 2004 by the Cambodian Association of Illinois, the Cambodian American Heritage Museum & Killing Fields Memorial is a small museum located in Chicago that "preserves Cambodian culture, facilitate the general public's understanding on genocide

and human rights and to heal and bring Cambodian-Americans together to move beyond survival to self-sufficiency." On their visit, Ms. Watanabe and Ms. Ros discussed with the Southeast Curator possibilities for collaboration on grants and sharing resources. The two visitors were impressed with the extensive Cambodia collection held at NIU Libraries, including the collection of films made by the late king

Sihanouk and the publications from his office. Ms. Watanabe and Ms. Ros also visited the NIU Center for Southeast Asian Studies and the NIU Anthropology Museum while on campus.

Information for visiting the Cambodian American Heritage Museum & Killing Fields Memorial is available on the museum's website: <http://www.cambodianmemorialmuseum.org/>



Photo: Ms. Kaoru Watanabe (left), and Ms. Tola Ros

## Digital Initiatives Update, by Stacey Erdman

Work continues on multiple fronts in the Digital Initiatives unit. Brian and his student employees are continuing to scan materials from RBSC's dime novel collections, as well as theses from the University

Archives. Stacey and Matt have been continuing their extensive work to fully migrate the historical digital collections and websites that were developed under the direction of Drew Vandecreek over a period of

15 years. Although some work remains, the websites are being launched and will be enriched as we are able. We welcome you to visit the following websites and to provide feedback as we move forward.



Lincoln/Net: <http://lincoln.lib.niu.edu>

Mark Twain's Mississippi: <http://twain.lib.niu.edu>

Illinois in the Gilded Age: <http://gilded.lib.niu.edu>

Illinois During the Civil War: <http://civil.lib.niu.edu>

Prairiefire: The Illinois Country Before 1818: <http://prairiefire.lib.niu.edu>

Dime Novels: <http://dimenovels.lib.niu.edu>

Southeast Asia Digital Library: <http://sea.lib.niu.edu>

American Archives: <http://amarch.lib.niu.edu>

Systems staff have been spending a lot of time recently working on a major software upgrade to DSpace, which is the software that runs our institutional repository, Huskie Commons. We will be moving from version 1.7 to 5.1. Systems staff have installed version 5, but are currently testing how to migrate our data. Jaime, Matt and Stacey are working on refining a set of formal policies that will make using Huskie Commons more clear and transparent to members of the campus community. Jaime continues to reach out to campus offices and departments to educate them on

open access issues and how to use Huskie Commons. She also continues work with Brian, Stacey, and Matt to ingest materials related to the Honors program, Office of Student Engagement and Experiential Learning, and the Graduate school and in setting up procedures for archiving student Capstones, Student Artistry Day posters, and theses and dissertations.

Stacey has also been working with Lynne in Rare Books and Special Collections and Cindy in the Regional History Center to develop policies, procedures, and plans for dealing with

born digital archival records. Both the RBSC and RHC are increasingly being offered digital materials for their collections, and have been wanting to set up a formalized environment for dealing with their preservation and access for some time now. One result of her efforts is the purchasing of a "clean machine," which is essentially just a desktop computer that is fitted with a number of peripherals that will enable us to extract digital files from various media sources (floppy drives, CD-ROMs, etc.).

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## Digital Initiatives Update, continued

The machine will also be fitted with a write-blocker, which is a hard disk controller made for the purpose of gaining read-only access to computer files without the risk of damaging the drive's contents. This allows us to safely transfer files from media without altering them, thus ensuring we have authentic copies of all materials. The computer will also run the open source BitCurator envi-

ronment, which provides tools for digital forensics activities such as disk imaging, file analysis and reporting, data triage, and the ability to find and redact sensitive information.

Additionally, University Libraries, under the direction of Stacey, has recently completed a trial of the Internet Archive's "Archive-It" web-archive service. Both the RBSC and RHC/University Archives have

increasingly been accepting collections which have a web component, and have been searching for the best way to preserve them. Archive-It is a subscription service that allows you to specify web addresses you would like to crawl and to archive. The trial has been successful, and the team is hoping we can implement this service later in 2015. Archive-It will assist both the RBSC and RHC/University Archives.



## The Last Word

"Getting to know you, getting to know all about you..." That lyric from *The King and I* came to mind when a suggestion was made that the newsletter publish an item that highlights one of our employees. There are almost eighty of us spread out over five floors in Founders and

Music and Faraday Libraries. That is quite a few people to keep track of! To help us get to know each other and help newcomers get to know us, I'll be sending a short list of questions to one of you each month. You can choose which questions pertain to you,

and we'll include your profile (with a favorite photo) in the next Founders Keepers issue. Will any of you volunteer to be the subject of a newsletter profile? Let me know!

