



LIBRARY LETTERS

University of Northern Colorado Libraries

UNIVERSITY of
NORTHERN COLORADO
www.library.unco.edu

JAMES A. MICHENER LIBRARY • HOWARD M. SKINNER MUSIC LIBRARY

Helen Reed Appointed Dean

After a national search Helen Reed has been appointed Dean of University Libraries. Helen has 20 years of experience in various positions in the University Libraries, most recently as Interim Dean. Prior to coming to UNC, Helen worked at Duke University and Northwestern University. In addition, Helen has held numerous leadership positions in regional and national organizations, including the Association for Library Collections & Technical Services, a division of the American Library Association.

In her announcement of the appointment, Provost Robbyn Wacker described Helen as a person who “brings to the position a broad vision as well as breadth and depth of experience. She has a keen understanding of the current and emerging programs and initiatives of the Libraries both within the university and in the context of higher education in Colorado. Further, she has an in-depth knowledge of emerging trends in the realms of the library, archival administration, publishing, scholarly communication, and technology industries. Her leadership style is collaborative and one that seeks to foster open communication and input from faculty and staff as well as between the Libraries and other campus constituencies and institutions in the region.”



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The Amazing Race



UNC Resident Assistants went on an Amazing Race around Michener Library in August learning about library services and programs in order to help promote the library to incoming freshmen.

James A. Michener Special Collections Update



The Archival Services Department faculty and staff are working with the James A. Michener Art Museum in Doylestown, PA to transfer several paintings to the James A. Michener Special Collections. The art work includes portraits of James and Mari

Michener painted by Rod Goebel and several works created by artist and matador John Fulton, who was a significant source for Michener’s book *Iberia*. The art will be housed in the temperature and humidity controlled archival storage areas and will be brought out periodically for display within Michener Library.

The finding aids for the Michener Special Collections are being updated using recently implemented software called Archon. Archon is a web-based management system that will make it much easier for researchers to find information contained within the Michener Special Collections. The new Archon interface will be made available to the public in the near future.

Work is progressing on digitizing all of Robert Vavra’s photographic images of Michener. Over 250 items have been scanned by a graduate student working with Archival Services. As the negatives are digitized, information is being gathered to identify the people and places visible in the images. All of the material will be uploaded into Digital UNC, the University’s digital repository, to allow researchers from around the world access to the information.

Researchers from around the globe continue to access the collections. Research topics have included the pen name used by Michener when he first submitted *Tales of the South Pacific* to Macmillan, a deep exploration of Michener’s research process undertaken for the novel *Space* and an examination of the parallels between Michener’s unpublished story *Jefferson* and the novel *Centennial*.

Additional items were added to the collections from a variety of donors, including Jon Krupnick and Susan Dillon.



Look for us!

See photos from current events on Flickr and find out what’s new on Facebook.



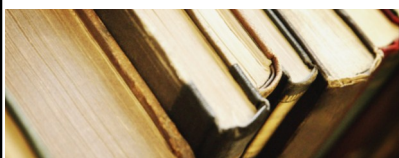
Holiday Service Project

As this year's holiday service project, the University Libraries raised funds to sponsor a class to attend the Greeley Stampede Troupe's presentation of *Charlotte's Web*. The Troupe's Educational Outreach Program provided a copy of the E.B. White novel to each student attending the performance. Majorie Felt, a computer assistant at the Michener Library Reference Desk played the lead role.

Book Sale Dates

February 1, 2012
March 7, 2012
April 4, 2012

9:00 a.m. to
5:00 p.m.
Michener Library



Contact the Friends of the University of Northern Colorado Libraries

Phone: 970-351-2601

Visit their website:

library.unco.edu/friends/index.htm

Want to give to the Libraries?

Visit:

library.unco.edu/about/giving.htm

We welcome your comments, complaints and compliments.

Contact the Libraries' Administration via email, telephone, or postal mail, with your ideas for *Library Letters*. See below for contact details.

Thank you!

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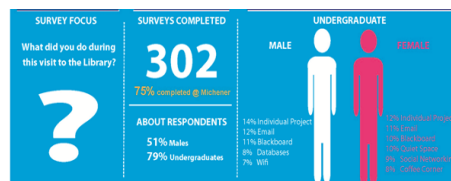
If the Shoebox Fits: Libraries & Community Service

The Libraries enthusiastically participated in two service projects during the fall semester: Cans to Candelaria and Operation Shoebox. Cans to Candelaria benefits the Weld Food Bank, and the Libraries contributed 70.2 pounds of food and \$88.00. With each dollar representing six pounds of food, the total donation was 598.2 pounds.



Operation Shoebox was founded in 2003 in an effort to send support, books, snacks, and personal care items to troops deployed outside of the United States. Items were collected across campus with the Libraries contributing several boxes of items plus money to help with postage costs. On October 5th members of the Classified Staff Council packed the items for shipment. Twenty large flat rate boxes were assembled and sent to troops overseas. Some boxes went to Sgt. Bryce Kinzer and his unit in Iraq. Bryce's mom, Deb, works at Michener Library.

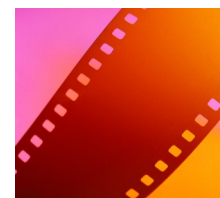
Valuing the Library As Place



The University Libraries Assessment Committee annually measures how well the Libraries meets the needs and expectations of patrons: students, faculty, staff, and community members. Recent projects focused on online resources and services; in 2011 the Committee chose to explore the role of the library as place. In a world where online connectivity is pervasive, what is the role of the physical place known as a "library" in the academic setting? The Committee conducted a survey to determine how patrons use Michener and Skinner Libraries. Departing library patrons were asked "What did you do during this visit to the library?" Not surprisingly, the top answer for all types of respondents was: "worked on a class project" either individually or in a group. Visit tinyurl.com/73pvevh to see the full report.

Documentaries on Display

Documentaries aren't just for home viewing on PBS anymore, as



demonstrated by the commercial success of films like Michael Moore's *Fahrenheit 9/11* and Morgan Spurlock's *Super Size Me*. But less sensational documentaries often have greater educational value and warrant attention as well. This is the genesis of the idea behind the Michener Library Film Series organized by librarians Lyda Ellis and Annie Epperson. They see the Film Series as a promotional venue to increase the visibility of the film collection, much in the same way that books are traditionally promoted by the creation of thematic book displays in the Michener Reference Area. Twelve documentary films were screened in the News Room on the main floor of Michener Library each Wednesday afternoon during the Fall 2011 semester. The Film Series revolved around three multidisciplinary themes: Education, Political/Social Science, and Business/Economics. Titles in the series included: *Back to School: The Ongoing Struggle to Educate the World's Children*, *The Most Dangerous Man in America: Daniel Ellsberg and the Pentagon Papers*, *Maid in America*, *Arms for the Poor*, *The Cartel*, and *SuperFreakonomics*. To browse the growing documentary film collection, please visit the DVD area on the second floor of Michener Library.

Library Letters Going Green



This will be the last print-only issue of *Library Letters* as part of the Libraries' effort to be greener and save resources. Watch for an announcement about the new format.

To be sure your email address is on file at the University of Northern Colorado Foundation, please send an email message to data@unco.alumni.org or call the Foundation at 1-800-568-5213 to request that your email address be included in your contact information.