



# Library Letters

University of Northern Colorado Libraries  
On the Web: [library.unco.edu](http://library.unco.edu)

## University Libraries participate in Fall Bizarre & Homecoming

The University Libraries has a new banner, acquired just in time for the Fall Bizarre, a campus-wide activity designed to welcome students to campus. Held in late August, the Bizarre is a chance for students to get to know on- and off-campus organizations, including the Libraries. Designed to promote the Libraries' new website, the banner features a photo of students in front of Michener Library and graphics that mimic the website.

Pencils, pens and highlighters with the new URL



Photo: Annie Epperson

were passed out at the Bizarre and eight weeks later at the Homecoming Parade. The simple float incorporated a staff-member's vehicle, the banner, library furniture and books, and a couple of staff "acting like students" - using a laptop and sleeping next to a pile of books. Parade watchers responded favorably to the float. One shouted "Look, it's the Library! I'll see you Sunday!" as the float rolled by.

Pictured at left: Diana Gunnells (L) and Annie Epperson at the Bizarre, with the banner. Above, L to R: Jennifer Leffler, Diana Algiene-Henry and Michele Dezelick in the Homecoming Parade.

## UL Archival Services Plans for the Future, Looks to the Past

The University Libraries' Archival Services Department is headed by Kacy Guill, Certified Archivist. Kacy and her staff manage existing collections, receive additions, and share archival resources with interested users, both on- and off-campus. Three projects are of particular interest this fall: planning for a 2007 centennial celebration of James A. Michener, providing a home for recently donated artwork, and publication of a book whose author used unique archival resources.

### Celebration of Michener

Beginning early February 2007 and running until October, the centennial celebration of benefactor James A. Michener includes a planned display within Michener Library, two online exhibits, and a documentary of Michener's life and influence on American fiction, to be produced as a collaborative effort with Ken Womble, professor in the School of Theater Arts & Dance. The gallery exhibit will be permanently housed in the newly remodeled mezzanine, providing student seating and reading space as well as display space for some of the Michener collections' most interesting pieces. Keep an eye on [library.unco.edu](http://library.unco.edu) for the grand opening of the Michener Exhibit in October 2007.

### Potato Brumbaugh Comes to Campus

A fictional character in Michener's *Centennial*, Potato Brumbaugh embodied the hardworking farmer facing hardships on the American frontier - the agricultural backbone of today's Colorado. This popular figure also was the namesake for a Greeley restaurant owned and operated by Rob Haimson from 1981 to 2006. Upon the restaurant's closing, Haimson generously donated a stained glass representation of the fictional fellow to UL Archival Services (at right).



### New Book on Terrorism and Al-Qaeda

Lawrence Wright's *The Looming Tower: Al-Qaeda and the road to 9/11* (Knopf, 2006) examines the events and social conditions contributing to the rise of Islamic fundamentalism. Wright's extensive research took him around the globe, including UL Archival Services, to learn more about Sayyid Qutb, author and Islamic theorist, also 1950 alumnus of UNC.

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### Let's Talk About It: Jewish Literature

Sponsored by the American Library Association and Nextbook, *Let's Talk About It: Jewish Literature* is a program of themed reading and scholarly discussion of selected texts. University Libraries' Professor Greg Heald is partnering with English Professor Jeraldine Kraver to coordinate discussion of five books over the fall and early spring semesters. Among the titles are *Teveye the Dairyman* by Sholem Aleichem and *Bee Season* by Myla Goldberg. See [library.unco.edu](http://library.unco.edu) for more information.

### Innovations in Instruction

Lyda Ellis, our newest Instruction Librarian, is an advocate for using social software as a means to reach UNC students. Those enrolled in Ellis' LIB 150 course routinely communicated with her using instant messaging software, and class assignments included interactions on a blog established by Ellis.

Ellis also created a *MySpace* presence, with which the Libraries can communicate directly with UNC students who use this incredibly popular social software. This online community allows Ellis to send out bulletins updating students on library activities and services, such as extended hours during December Finals Week.

### Insurance settlement

The University Libraries has been reimbursed for the periodicals damaged by the water leak in Michener Library in late December 2005. The amount received from the university's insurance company is \$47,764. The funds cover the cost of replacing unsalvageable volumes, rebinding those that require only rebinding, and staff costs associated with processing the volumes. The Libraries' bibliographers reviewed the damaged volumes, determining which merited retention, replacement or repair within their subject areas. It will take several months to complete the process.



Skinner Library, Summer 2006

### Contact the Friends of the University of Northern Colorado Libraries

Phone: 970-491-2601

Visit the website:

[library.unco.edu/friends/index.htm](http://library.unco.edu/friends/index.htm)

Want to give to the Libraries? Visit:

[library.unco.edu/about/giving.htm](http://library.unco.edu/about/giving.htm)

### We welcome your comments, suggestions, feedback, and input!

Contact editor Annie Epperson via email, telephone, or postal mail, with your ideas for Library Letters. See below for contact details.

*Thank you!*

Library Letters is published each semester by the University of Northern Colorado Libraries, Greeley, CO 80639.

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### Library Personnel Forging Bonds with UNC Faculty Community

Public services librarians are members of the Reference or Instructional Services departments. They serve the public at the reference desk, in the classroom, and by selecting materials for assigned subject areas.

Given the annual influx of students, faculty turnover, and shifting organizational structure of recent years, connecting with our various "publics" can be an intriguing challenge. Clearly this created an opportunity for dedicated librarians to build relationships with the UNC community.

The Fall 2006 semester started on a high note, with the faculty-oriented *Cheese & Chat*. This event showcased information on UNC Libraries' services offered for new and returning faculty. The gathering brought together Libraries' personnel who support scholarship, reserves,

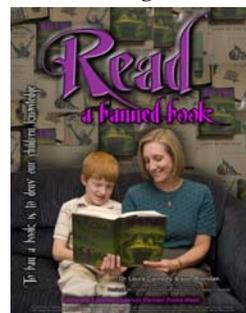
interlibrary loan, and instruction, with those teaching faculty that make use of our resources.

Campus personnel also participated in the Reference Department's late September observance of Banned Books Week by reading aloud from books listed by the American Libraries Association as among the 100 most frequently banned or challenged texts. See [www.ala.org](http://www.ala.org) for more on this topic.



Photo: Ebbie Sanchez

Science Librarian Jayati Chaudhuri chats with Dan Bedgood, visiting scientist, during *Cheese & Chat* (above). At right, Professor Laura Connolly lent her image to the READ poster promoting Banned Books Week.



### Friends of the University of Northern Colorado Libraries is an Organization that Benefits Many with Art Shows and Book Sales

The Friends of the University of Northern Colorado Libraries was founded in 1973. The organization has contributed to the financial welfare of the Libraries, encouraged area artists to exhibit their talents, sponsored receptions for visiting artists and speakers, and organized fundraising projects. One of the more popular and ongoing projects that the Friends undertook is the creation, and curation, of the Mari Michener Art Gallery. The Gallery, located in the southeast corner of the main floor of Michener Library, was dedicated October 13, 1995 to honor Mrs. Michener's lifelong interest in the fine arts. This gallery has been the setting for both displays of art and book sales for years.

The gallery has featured the work of internationally-known artists such as Amado Pena and Veloy Vigil. The sculptural pieces of long-time UNC faculty member Gene Hoffman were presented in 2005. November 2006 saw the mounting of *From Within: Art by UNC Libraries Personnel*. Co-curated by Leah Bookman from the Technical Services Department and Colette Pitcher of the Friends, this show features a wide variety of artistic forms.

Staff contributed photographs, sculpture, video diaries, porcelain and fabric dolls, embroidery, and drawings. Some staff shared the work of their talented children. Contributing personnel are pictured in front of the work of quilter Stephanie Wiegand.



Photo: Linda McCammon-Whalen

The Friends also host book sales, which for years were an annual event. These sales serve as a major fund-raising activity for the Friends and depend on library staff as well as Friends' volunteers. This year the Friends is trying a new model for the book sale, holding monthly sales the first Wednesday of every month. Monthly sales make materials available more often while distributing the efforts of both Friends' volunteers and library staff throughout the year.

Mark your calendar for the first Wednesday of the month from February through May, and watch for announcements in Michener Library and on the website.

