2008

William H. Hannon Library Year in Review 2007 - 2008

William H. Hannon Library

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Greetings from the Von der Ahe Library! The William H. Hannon Library, scheduled to open atop Loyola Marymount University’s bluff in summer 2009, had its official groundbreaking ceremony Monday, Oct. 1, 2007. This event was the kickoff to a whirlwind academic year for all of us at the library. We planned for the new building — shelving, furniture, computer and audiovisual equipment, and more — at the same time we continued to acquire library materials for our users, update our Web site, improve existing services, and develop new ones. On the following pages, you will see what we accomplished in the 2007–08 year and learn more about our upcoming plans. As we complete our final academic year (2008-09) in the Von der Ahe Library, we assure you that we are focused on our users and their needs, working in the present as we plan for the future.

To follow progress on the construction of the William H. Hannon Library, I invite you to visit our new library blog at www.lmu.edu/hannonblog. The librarians and other staff contribute frequent updates to the blog, including videos; you may also watch the construction live via two LionCams, one on Rains Hall and one on Drollinger Parking Plaza.

But don’t wait to visit us in the new library. Find out what’s happening now at the Von der Ahe Library on www.lmu.edu/library and stop by soon!
What’s New in LINUS?
The library’s online catalog, LINUS (http://linus.lmu.edu), remains the best way to find out what’s in our collections. And this year, we made changes in LINUS to improve its usefulness.

Search for a newly published book in LINUS and the retrieved record will not only give the bibliographic information and call number location, but also a book cover image on the right side of the screen.

It’s now easier and faster to search and group similar materials in LINUS. Search by form/genre for materials in categories of theme, style or physical format. For example, you can find “periodicals,” “comedy films,” “sound recordings” or “poetry.”

Or try the academic subject search. These are broad headings for the various disciplines and
The LMU reference librarians have a reputation for providing a high level of service and research help for everyone who walks into the library. This year, we explored and implemented the following new, innovative ways of extending service to our users who prefer to access the library online:

**CHAT REFERENCE**

For several years, we have offered 24/7 online reference help through our affiliation with the Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities virtual reference consortium. In 2008, we added another way for users to get help from a reference librarian: instant messaging chat. Using a simple “widget” on our website, users can get help from a reference librarian via instant messaging chat.

**LMU Library 2.0**

The LMU Library 2.0 is a new and improved website designed to provide easier access to library services and resources. The website features a new search engine that allows users to search for books, media, and other resources by academic subject. Academic departments at LMU (i.e., chemistry, philosophy, dance, etc.) and many interdisciplinary studies as well. Type one of these new headings in the academic subject search field or click on one of them on the Academic Subject Search page. Users can then limit the list of results by format (such as DVD or book) and location (such as media or book stacks) and sort by date with the newest books in that academic subject first. These same academic subject headings are also used in our monthly New Books List, found at www.lmu.edu/library under “Collections.”

**What’s New in LINUS? CONTINUED**

What’s New in LINUS?

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Library Help Web page, users can quickly chat with any reference librarian who is available at the time.

LIBGUIDES [HTTP://LIBGUIDES.LMU.EDU]
Academic libraries usually provide subject-specific library guides to help users find resources for a particular course or discipline. These guides are typically distributed in paper form to students in class or handed out at the reference desk. The Reference Department now offers customized subject-based research support, strategies and sources through an online tool called LibGuides. Through LibGuides, a user can connect to online research material, interact with a librarian via instant messaging chat and access tutorials.

ONESEARCH!
The library subscribes to more than 170 unique research databases, which can make it difficult for a user to discern which ones to use. OneSearch! helps with that. It enables users to search a number of databases and LINUS at one time through a single, easy-to-use interface. Choose between a general, multidisciplinary search or a subject-specific search. Not only does this resource increase the likelihood of finding more materials on the subject, but it also fosters discovery and interdisciplinary exploration of library resources.

WEB 2.0
In 2008, the library expanded its Web presence. Find us on MySpace (www.myspace.com/linulibraries) and in Facebook (www.facebook.com, do a search for “LMU Library” and become a fan). Find library imagery on Flickr (www.flickr.com/photos/linulibrary) or follow construction updates on the William H. Hannon Library blog (www.lmu.edu/hannonblog).
Undergraduate Research Awards

The three winners of the 2008 Undergraduate Research Awards for excellence in library research were honored at a reception in the Von der Ahe Library on April 8, 2008. Andrea Ryken, a senior majoring in history and English, won first prize, a cash award of $750. She was nominated by Professor Carla Bittel for her paper “Polio in Twentieth-Century America: A Children’s Disease in a Child-Centered Culture.” The two runners up received $250 each. Stephen Blair, a freshman majoring in classics, won for his paper “Homer, Daedalus, and the Petronian Narrative,” nominated by Assistant Professor Ethan Adams. Joseph Spaniol, a sophomore majoring in biology, won for his paper “The Advent of Electronic Music and its Impact on the Career of Edgar Varèse,” nominated by Professor Virginia Saya. Congratulations to the winners!

Services for Alumni

Click on the library’s Web page for alumni at www.lmu.edu/library-alumni and see the services available. Are you a recent LMU graduate missing your online access to library databases? Or an older alum wondering whether these online resources could be useful to you? Join the Friends of the Library or renew an expired annual membership at the $100 level or above and get free one-year access to two databases: EBSOO Academic Search Alumni Edition and Business Search Alumni Edition. Designed for the post-college professional, these alumni versions contain most of the same magazines, newspapers and journals found in our regular subscriptions — more than 3,600 in all.

YEAR IN REVIEW 2008
Loyola Marymount University is represented in the Online Archive of California (www.oac.cdlib.org/institutions/) with nine finding aids and one digital collection. The digital collection is the result of a grant that the library's Department of Archives and Special Collections received from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services to digitize 200 postcards from the Werner von Boltenstern Postcard Collection. These 200 images have been integrated into the 140 images created as part of our pilot project to begin digitizing postcards. Visit our digital collections web site at http://digitalcollections.lmu.edu to see historic postcards and the J.D. Black papers from the Thomas and Dorothy Leavey Center for the Study of Los Angeles Research Collection.

TOP: J.D. Black, ca. 1890. Approximately two years of age with mining tools.

BOTTOM: Motorcyclists and bicyclists, Bishop, California, ca. 1915. Photograph from the J.D. Black Papers recording the Owens Valley from 1875 to 1930. Leavey Center for the Study of Los Angeles Research Collection.
The Department of Archives and Special Collections and the Department of Art and Art History presented “Side by Side: Images of a Changing Los Angeles,” a collaborative exhibition featuring early 20th century postcards of Los Angeles juxtaposed with contemporary photographs taken by students enrolled in ART 481: Color Photography.

Students taking the course in spring and summer semesters of 2007 selected images of historic landmarks and other vintage L.A. locales from the Werner von Boltenstern Postcard Collection. Using these postcards as clues, they journeyed into the city to find and re-photograph the same sites. The exhibition documented their discoveries of cultural and architectural heritage both preserved and lost. The December 2007 issue of Los Angeles Magazine featured some of the postcards and photographs from the exhibition in an article by Ann Herold titled "Greetings from L.A." Two special events accompanied “Side by Side.” On Sept. 30, 2007, Los Angeles preservationist and author Chris Nichols lectured on the leisure architecture of Wayne McAllister, famed early 20th century architect. Nichols’ writings have been

“...there really was no particular reason to pick [the Chungking Court, except] for the adventure of finding this place. Oftentimes when I go to Chinatown, I pass by these places without really looking at them. But now that I specifically found the place from the original postcard, I... feel a connection with this place. It was an exciting adventure to search for this place without knowing the exact address.” -- Francis Youn
Thanks to continued generous support from the Jesuit Community of LMU, the Department of Archives and Special Collections has purchased several more titles for its growing Jesuit Collection, including the first English edition of “History of the Preacher Friar Gerund de Campazas” (1772) by Jose Francisco Isla, S.J., and the theological treatise “Antidote or Treatise of Thirty Controversies” (1622) by English recusant Sylvester Norris, S.J.

Among its recent purchases of rare books, the library is proud to have acquired a splendid English Renaissance edition of Sebastian Brant’s masterpiece “Stultifera Navis: The Ship of Fooles” (Cawood, 1570). The original “Narrenschiff,” a 15th-century didactic poem.
describing the variety of society’s “fools” voyaging to fictional Narragonia, was influential in the evolution of European literature. When translating the work into English, Alexander Barclay did not merely set down a line-by-line translation. He reworked and added to Brant’s verses, commenting upon recognizably English “fools” of his day and producing an essentially new literary effort. The beautiful 1570 edition is filled with numerous woodcut illustrations and displays a range of Renaissance fonts. It is a superb example of 16th-century English printing.
Meet Our New Librarians

TOBEYLYNN BIRCH leads the Acquisitions and Serials Department in the acquisition of books and the management of subscriptions for periodicals and electronic resources. She came to us in December 2007 from Alliant International University where she was director of library services for that multicampus system. Tobey’s M.A. in librarianship is from the University of Denver. Tobey is a member of the editorial board of the journal Behavioral & Social Sciences Librarian and a member of the Psychology/Psychiatry Committee of the Association of College and Research Libraries. As principal investigator, she has received grants including a technology implementation grant from the Gerald M. Kline Family Foundation and awards such as the Amigos Library Services fellowship.

CARMEN MITCHELL was hired for the new position of digital projects librarian in August 2008. Carmen’s M.S. in library and information science is from Simmons College, Boston. Prior to coming to LMU, Carmen was a digital processing librarian in the Harvard University Library. Before her library career, Carmen spent seven years in the publishing industry, working in publicity and editing. At LMU, Carmen will create an online library of unique library materials that have been digitized from our print, media and archival collections. She will also contribute to shared digital projects with the Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities libraries and the California Digital Library.

CHRISTINE MEGOWAN began work as special collections librarian in September 2007. Christine has her M.L.I.S. from UCLA’s Graduate School of Education and Information Studies. During her graduate program, Christine worked at the UCLA Library Conservation Center. Christine’s previous position was in special collections at the University of California, San Diego. Her duties at LMU include cataloging rare books and other special collections and developing metadata for digital collections.
The Von der Ahe Library has been acquiring electronic journals for more than a decade. Ten years ago, the library generally received the electronic version free with its subscription to a print journal. As time went by, many publishers began charging extra for “print + online” subscriptions, due to the cost of maintaining production and distribution infrastructure for two distinct formats. In most cases, we chose to pay the additional cost to support the growing preference for online access to journals and still receive print copies for archival purposes. Online access is often limited to the current subscription year or a rolling period of the most recent few years, and access to all earlier content is terminated upon cancellation of a subscription. When offered, we take advantage of publisher e-journal packages, in which online access is provided to “backfiles” of volumes dating to the mid- or late-1990s and “perpetual access” to subscribed content is guaranteed.

As confidence in guaranteed perpetual access has grown — through increased reliability of publisher delivery platforms and the development of nonprofit, third-party archiving initiatives — the library has begun to question the value of maintaining dual-format subscriptions where we have electronic versions that meet the instruction and research needs of the campus and the collection preservation standards of the library. Good stewardship of the university’s resources — financial, physical and human — obliges us to avoid unnecessary redundancy. And so, in spring 2008, Glenn Johnson-Grau, head of collection development, and Tobeylynn Birch, head of acquisitions and serials, began meeting with various faculty groups to explain the concepts of e-only subscriptions and perpetual access and to assure faculty members that the library’s commitment to maintaining an electronic collection of high-quality scholarly journals is based on a careful assessment of the library’s needs and the realities of scholarly publishing.
that the library would maintain necessary print subscriptions, as determined in consultation with faculty.

In the next few years, we hope to decrease print subscriptions by 10 percent each year while increasing access to online journal literature. This benefits our space planning for the new William H. Hannon Library. The current periodicals area on the upper level will house print journals in special display shelving to facilitate browsing. By reducing print subscriptions where electronic is preferred, we can optimize the display of journals for which print is preferred.

The E-Journal Tipping Point

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PHYSICAL COLLECTION

Books .................................... 428,075
Bound periodicals ........................... 96,490
CDs, DVDs and other media ............. 42,839
Archives in linear feet .................... 3,957
Current paper periodical subscriptions 3,184
Postcards .................................. 1,028,150

ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

E-books .................................... 41,493
E-periodical subscriptions ............... 17,229
E-reference databases .................... 178

SERVICES

Check-outs and in-library use .... 103,125
E-reserves document “hits” .............. 171,903
Reference questions ....................... 7,665
Patron turnstile count .................... 239,587
Students receiving library instruction 4,249
The generous financial assistance of the Von der Ahe and Rosecrans family foundations made it possible to build the Charles Von der Ahe Library, which opened its doors in November 1959 and expanded with a renovation in 1978. It remained for 50 years as the home of the Loyola Marymount University library. Three generations of students retain fond memories of this building -- studying, reading, writing, sleeping, sneaking pizza, making friends, meeting spouses -- and of the librarians who helped them along the way. As we prepare to move to the new William H. Hannon Library, we take one final look at the iconic view of the library's atrium fountain and those much used, 1970s-era blue lounge chairs.