CELEBRATE TEXAS - FRIENDS OF THE TCU LIBRARY ANNUAL BANQUET

By James Lutz, Mike Strom, and TCU Press

On March 19, 2008 the Friends of the TCU Library annual banquet was held at the Dee J. Kelly Alumni Center. Approximately eighty Friends, authors, and researchers attended the “Celebrate Texas” themed dinner. Authors from the recently published Going To Texas: Five Centuries of Texas Maps and Texas Legation Papers researchers were seated with diners to allow informed conversation about the early Texas maps and documents. Some in attendance were inspired and donned their best Texas duds.

Going to Texas illustrates the history of the Lone Star State through color plates of sixty-four historic Texas maps from the Marty and Yana Davis Map Collection, Sul Ross University, Alpine, and includes ten original essays written by noted historians. Going to Texas is a catalog that will accompany the exhibition of the Davis Map Collection to ten museums throughout the Southwest over a period of two years. The exhibition will begin in Dallas at the Hall of State with the Dallas Historical Society and conclude at the National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame in Fort Worth.

The maps range from the earliest sixteenth-century maps of New Spain to early settlement, the republic and statehood, and into the twenty-first century. These objects are not only historical documents but also served to promote settlement or another aspect of Texas, to chart transport lines, and for military use. The earliest maps demonstrate cartography as an art that only centuries later evolved into a science.

The Legation Papers consist of approximately 250 documents created and received by the officials who maintained the official Texas Legation (a type of embassy) at Washington, D.C. from December 1836 until December 1845 when Texas was annexed into the United States. The records comprising the collection cover primarily the years 1836 to 1839 and consist mainly of the dispatches that passed between the Texan Government and its commissioners and chargés d’affaires at Washington, and of the notes exchanged by that Government and the United States chargés in Texas. The papers are on loan to TCU from the Texas State Library and Archives Commission for a period of five years.
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE
By Kevin Kuenzli

Spring Greetings to you from the Friends of the TCU Library!

The Friends are most proud of two programs presented thus far this Spring. First, as a part of the Friends Annual Spring Banquet, was our program, titled “Celebrate Texas Night.” This program, aptly titled, featured two significant literary pieces: the Texas Legation Papers and Going to Texas: Five Centuries of Texas Maps, published recently by the TCU Press. TCU faculty and other local authors hosted table discussions enhancing in a most interesting and unique way our knowledge and appreciation of our rich Texas history.

Our next program was Jeff Guinn’s conversation with James Donovan, the author of his recently published book, A Terrible Glory: Custer and the Little Bighorn. This program offered was in collaboration with Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

Look ahead and stay tuned for future events, including our FacultySpeak program, which features current and emeritus faculty of TCU on a variety of topics.

With the input of the Dean of the Library, Dr. June Koelker, and her staff, the Friends also continues its financial support of the Mary Couts Burnett Library, whether by way of additions to Special Collections, purchases of research databases or in other important ways to benefit those who use and rely on the Library.

I encourage your continuing support and interest in the Mary Couts Burnett Library. For more information about the Friends or the Library, please call the Library administrative office at (817) 257-6109.

Best regards,
Kevin

DEAN’S MESSAGE
By June Koelker

I hope this issue of Windows finds you well and enjoying our beautiful spring weather (which means it is that time of year when we are not certain what weather tomorrow will bring!). I am particularly pleased with a recent development in the Library. For the first time in more than four years, we are fully staffed! I am excited about the highly qualified group of new people that are now part of the Mary Couts Burnett Library. We have had quite a number of retirements during these last few years. We won’t be able to rest on our laurels though, in that we have two more retirements coming up in late May.

Mary Couts Burnett Library staff and I are in the middle of a fairly unusual learning experience. Our project “23 Things” is a planned, focused exploration of Web 2.0 functions. Many TCU students are quite knowledgeable about blogs, wikis, Instant Messaging, Facebook, RSS, etc. Wanting to continue to explore innovative services to offer our student community, we planned a shared, self-paced learning program to familiarize ourselves with these things and 19 more! I don’t know if we will be cutting edge or not when we finish the project later this summer, but I’m certain we will be much more informed about Web 2.0 functions associated with the Internet.

We hope to see you in the Library in the months ahead. We have many best sellers, thousands of new journal issues, and a beautiful Gearhart Reading Room to enjoy. Please come by the Library Administrative Office and say hello.

Sincerely,
June Koelker, Ph.D.
Dean of the Library
A TERRIBLE GLORY
By Tracy Hull, Associate Dean of the Library

The Friends of the TCU Library hosted an interview style book talk featuring Jim Donovan, the author of A Terrible Glory: Custer and the Little Bighorn - the Last Great Battle of the American West and Jeff Guinn (former Book Editor for the Fort Worth Star-Telegram) on March 27th at the Dee J. Kelly Alumni Center. The event was a great success with approximately 125 in attendance. Custer history buffs enjoyed the relaxed conversational style of the interview and the opportunity to ask questions at the end.

LUXEMBOURG COLLECTION
By Roger Rainwater, Head of Special Collections

Did you know that TCU is one of only two universities in the United States that has a collection of publications from Luxembourg? TCU's collection includes hundreds of volumes in all subject areas, with a primary emphasis on History and Literature of Luxembourg including material written in Luxembourgish. Thanks to the generosity of Joyce Pate Capper and the A.M. Pate Jr. Charitable Trust, the Library received funding to establish this collection. The Library also owns the sculpture L'Entre-Deux Anneaux (Between Two Rings) by the Luxembourg artist, Bertrand Ney. It was presented to TCU by the Luxembourg Ambassador, Arlette Conzemius Paccoud in 2002. Further information about the collection is available from Roger Rainwater, Head of Special Collections for the Library.

"Founded in 963, Luxembourg became a grand duchy in 1815 and an independent state under the Netherlands. It lost more than half of its territory to Belgium in 1839, but gained a larger measure of autonomy. Full independence was attained in 1867. Overrun by Germany in both World Wars, it ended its neutrality in 1948 when it entered into the Benelux Customs Union and when it joined NATO the following year. In 1957, Luxembourg became one of the six founding countries of the European Economic Community (later the European Union), and in 1999 it joined the euro currency area."

DESCANT CELEBRATES 50 YEARS
By Susan Swain

The literary journal, descant, is celebrating its 50th year of publication. A product of the TCU English department, it is based on The Fugitive, a 1920s journal of Vanderbilt University. The Fugitive was published by a group of students who called themselves by the same name. A member of this group, Robert Penn Warren, won the Pulitzer Prize for both fiction and poetry and was the Poet Laureate of 1944-1945. He wrote the classic All the King’s Men.

The Fugitive Group: A Literary History by Louise Cowan is about these southern writers and students of literature. Mrs. Cowan and her husband were friends of Betsy Colquitt, professor of literature at TCU. The trio started descant, and Betsy Colquitt was its editor from 1956 to 1995. Descant continues to flourish under the careful oversight of several editors. In the last 50 years, descant has published the works of authors who are, were, or would become, literary greats, including William Barney, Charles Bukowski, Clyde Edgerton, Dave Hickey, Walter McDonald, Joyce Carol Oates, Carolyn Osborn, Anne Tyler, and Robert Penn Warren. “Nobody Listens When I Talk” by Annette Sanford is an example of the high caliber of writing the journal features, appearing in descant in 2000 and republished in The Best American Short Stories in 2001.

Descant offers prizes for each category in an issue: best short story, outstanding story, best poem, and outstanding poem. Though descant is not well known at TCU, it is known worldwide. Its contributors as well as its subscribers may be found everywhere.

TCU FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY STAFF AWARD
By Barbara Standlee

The eleventh Staff Award, sponsored by the TCU Friends of the Library, was awarded to Jennifer Terry. She first worked in the Bindery & Periodicals Department as a student and then in 2006 joined the staff as a part time library specialist while also continuing her education. Jennifer graduated this May and then in the fall will pursue her elementary education degree teaching English as a Second Language.

Nominees stated that she has always been cheerful and accepting of all challenges and also admired for her friendly attitude to both library patrons and staff members. Jennifer also demonstrated an uncanny ability to successfully balance between work and going to school full time…. An asset to our staff.
Front Row: Terri Chanlatte, Sallie Wilmoth, Linda Lee

TCU Recognition Awards for Service
April 30, 2008

10 Years
Terri Chanlatte
Linda Lee
Sallie Wilmoth

15 Years
Kay Edmondson

20 Years
Judy Castillo
Karen Weber
Louise VanTilburg
Lucille Keith

25 Years
Kerry Bouchard
Karen Tjarks

30 Years
Delories McGhee
Barbara Standlee

Retirements
Lucille Keith
Sandy Schrag

New Hires

Ammie Harrison was recently hired as our new Arts & Humanities Librarian. She is responsible for collection development, instruction, and in-depth reference in her assigned subject areas. Ammie’s library experience includes working as a Graduate Research Assistant at both the Wasserman Public Affairs Library and the Perry-Castaneda Library at University of Texas, Austin. Ammie holds both an M.A. and a B.A. in English Literature and her M.S. in Library and Information Science is from UT-Austin.

Kerri Menchaca has joined the Periodicals Department as a Library Specialist I where she will be assisting with electronic journals maintenance and binding of print titles. Kerri holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Art History and a Bachelor of Arts in Art (Painting) both from UT-Austin. She has worked as a Library Service Specialist at the Houston Public Library and, more recently, as Library Assistant in both Acquisitions and Reference at Houston’s Museum of Fine Arts - Hirsch Library.

Retirements

Lucille Keith
Lucille began her association with TCU when she earned a degree in Education in 1964. She spent 8 years working in the Faculty Center, then in 1988 transferred to the Library’s Cataloging Dept. Lucille has cheerfully adapted to never-ending changes in her job, including the transition to our very first automated library system. She’s been described as “one of the most dependable and joyful staff members in the Library” and we’ll certainly miss her phenomenal recall of Fort Worth, TCU and library events.

Sandy Schrag
Sandy began working with the Reference Department of the TCU Library in 1989 and since then she has played a key role in providing quality reference services for students, faculty and staff. Sandy has in-depth knowledge in many subject areas and she always takes a personal interest in library patrons and in helping to find just the right resources to answer their questions. Though no one in Texas can believe it, Sandy and her husband are retiring to Kansas!
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