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Wayne State University Library System

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FALL 06 OUTLOOK

A NEWSLETTER FROM THE WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY SYSTEM



MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Wayne State University prides itself on the ability to provide world-class education in a real world setting and the University Libraries share this vision. This visualization can only be achieved by building relationships—not just within the university, but also with the community and other academic libraries throughout the world. Some of our most successful activities and projects performed at the Library System are the result of excellent relationships that we've formed with other organizations.

Our success with the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) grants has led us to develop close working relationships with institutions such as the Henry Ford, Detroit Public Library, Detroit Historical Museums and others. Our most recent IMLS grant will partner us with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Michigan Opera Theater and Detroit Institute of Arts. Our membership in the Detroit Area Library Network (DALNET) continues to keep us close to other libraries in southeastern Michigan, and we are pleased to continue the long-standing relationships that DALNET has provided.

This year we will be expanding our faculty and student relationships as the librarians enhance their liaison roles. As liaisons to specific departments and programs, librarians join the students and faculty in those subject areas as collaborators in teaching and learning. They help select and promote the best resources for study and teaching, and provide expertise in finding and using the resources that best meet the needs of the students and faculty. In the liaison roles, they will be supplying just in time, just for you service to those who need it.

The Student Council Task Force that formed to focus on the issues surrounding the Undergraduate Library is an excellent example of what we can do by working together. I asked the Student Council to appoint a task force to determine what we

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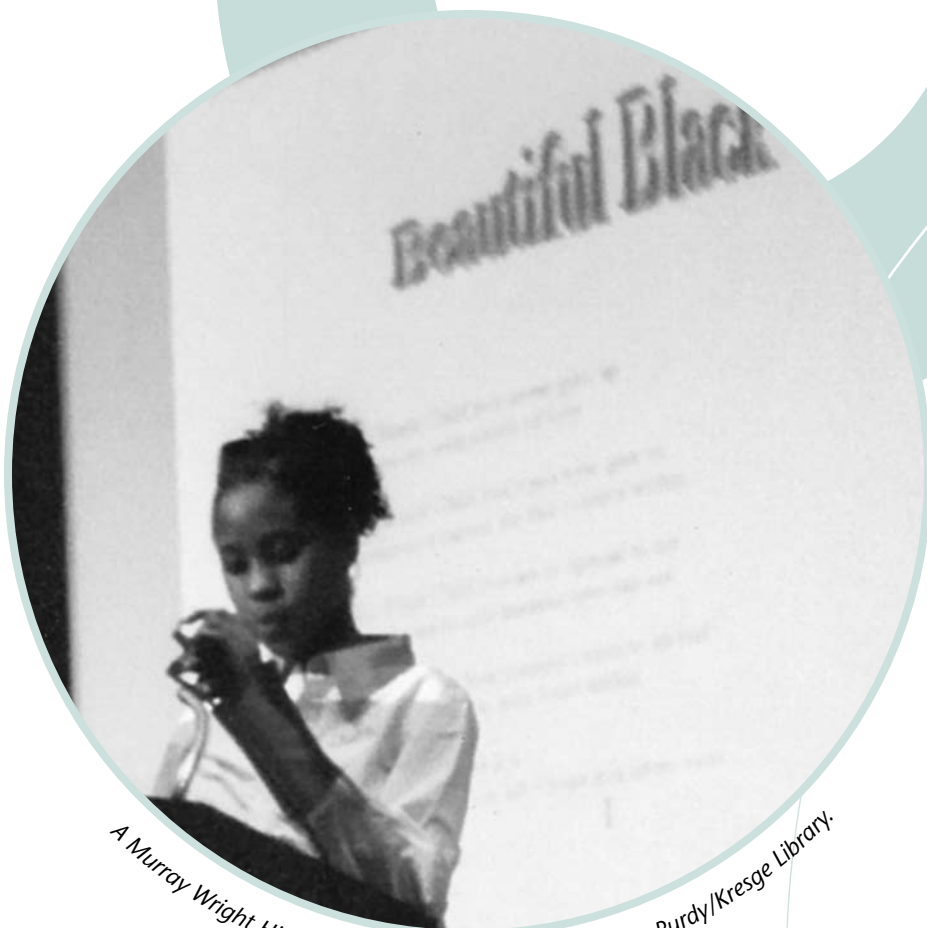
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might do to create an environment on the third floor of the UGL that was more conducive to study. With the help of outstanding ideas from the Student Council Task Force members, we were able to quickly enact changes that have resulted in a dramatic difference in the third floor noise levels. The students are pleased with the results of our actions and continue to suggest other ways to enhance the academic environment of the library.

Finally, some of our librarians have formed a special relationship with the Murray Wright High School in Detroit. Lothar Spang and other librarians have encouraged the students of Murray Wright to write poetry and to share it with others around the world through the use of the Library System's Digital Commons, an institutional repository that brings the university's research under one umbrella with an aim to preserve and provide access to that research. In doing so, they learned about using computers and technology in new and different ways, and we have built lasting relationships with those students and their teachers. As part of this program, we also hosted a Student Poetry Slam at the Purdy/Kresge Library, where the students read their work out loud in a public forum.

We look forward to building more relationships with other organizations so that we can continue to provide new and innovative projects and services to our users. We're always working to enhance our libraries—just for you!



A Murray Wright High School student reads poetry at the Purdy/Kresge Library.

HIGH SCHOOL POETRY SLAMS INTO THE WAYNE STATE LIBRARIES

Librarians worked with Detroit Public Schools to put on a student poetry slam last March at the Purdy/Kresge Library, featuring the poetry of students from Murray Wright High School.

Called "The Chapbook Project," this endeavor was based on the tradition of chapbooks dating back to the 1500s, when peddlers known as "chapmen" sold poetry and stories in the streets. This modern version uses the Digital Commons software available through ProQuest. Wayne State librarians invited the students to write poetry to be hosted on the Library System Web site and provided laptops to the students at the school so that they could work on the poetry. The poems are now available for viewing at <http://digitalcommons.wayne.edu/mwright/>

LIBRARY SYSTEM RECEIVES IMLS GRANT TO RECRUIT FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS LIBRARIANS

For the fourth time in five years, the Library System received a "Recruiting and Educating the 21st Century Librarian" grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The newest award will dedicate \$851,018 to establish a Detroit-based collaborative to educate new librarians about fine and performing arts librarianship.

The grants are designed to help offset a current shortage of school library media specialists, library school faculty and librarians working in under-served communities, as well as a looming shortage of library directors and other senior librarians, many of whom are expected to retire in the next 20 years. "Libraries in all their forms, whether public, school, specialized or academic, play a vital role in building a nation of learners," said Anne-Imelda M. Radice, director of the IMLS. "Without well-trained and educated librarians, library service suffers."

Partners in the Detroit collaborative will include the Detroit Institute of Arts, the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and the Michigan Opera Theater. Stipends will be used to attract 12 individuals, with an emphasis on underrepresented groups, and place them in mentor relationships with senior librarians. In addition to earning master's degrees in library and information science from Wayne State University, the recruits will receive

practical training from mentors in building and organizing a new library; managing an orchestra library; providing services in a well-established library; and providing services to faculty in an academic environment.

LAW LIBRARY INTRODUCES TRAINING MODULE FOR USERS

Earlier this year, the Arthur Neef Law Library piloted a Westlaw training module to instruct public patrons on using the database and how to do their own legal research. The program introduced the public patrons to the Westlaw Public Access legal research database that is offered on three of the public terminals in the law library. Until spring 2005, it had not been available to anyone other than law students and faculty. The program puts the public in direct contact with law trained library staff in an instructional setting, allowing them to gain insight into not only Westlaw but other library resources.

Since the inception of the program, the Law Library has held five sessions and instructed approximately 30 public patrons. An electronic training module will be added to the Law Library Web site (www.lib.wayne.edu/lawlibrary) so that users will be able to follow the tutorial online. There are also plans to expand the public patron training modules in the future to include instruction in the location and use of government documents.



Librarian Michael Tillman-Davis assists a patron with the Westlaw database.

LIBRARY SYSTEM ENHANCES SAFETY EFFORTS

Responding to the needs of students living on and off campus, the Library System has begun a series of safety enhancements throughout the libraries. "It's very important to us to provide a high level of comfort to our users," said Mary Beth Lock, manager of the Public Services department at the libraries. "When they're here, we want them to focus on their research and studies and not have to worry about security."

Earlier this year, in cooperation with Dean Sandra Yee, the Wayne State Student Council formed a Library Task Force to determine means by which to solve the problems of food and noise at the Undergraduate Library. Working with the dean, the task force works to make recommendations to solve the problems facing the library. "As students we feel privileged to be a part of the effort to solve these important issues affecting the university community," said Marcus Lee, Task Force member.

In response to the Task Force's recommendations, a third floor monitor was hired to maintain a silent study environment on the third floor of the UGL. "It's made an incredible difference in the atmosphere on the third floor," said Dean Yee. "We're seeing a lot of different students coming in now, knowing that they'll be able to study in a quiet environment without disruptions." While the third floor monitor only maintains order on that floor, the Library System employs five other security monitors that move throughout the UGL, Purdy/Kresge Library and the Science and Engineering Library throughout the day and evening hours. Serving as the eyes and ears for public safety, these monitors patrol the buildings, keeping an eye out for suspicious or inappropriate activity, resolving problems when possible, or contacting Wayne State University Public Safety. Though library users can contact Public Safety at anytime on their own by dialing 7-2222 from any campus phone, the library monitors can also call for patrons if necessary, whether it is to report a problem or to obtain an escort to the parking structures.

University Public Safety took an active role in the Library Monitor program, including assisting in the interview and hiring process to ensure the quality of the applicants. "The monitors not only respond to our needs, but they're also recognized by Public Safety as qualified professionals," said Lock. All of the libraries have installed identification checking stations at the entrances of each of the buildings that are staffed from 6 p.m. to close each day. Library users must show their Wayne State OneCard or picture identification to enter the library. This measure allows for better oversight of the patrons without the need for additional staffing.

New security cameras have been installed in the Purdy/Kresge Library and the cameras in the UGL have been redeployed and all now have the ability to record digitally. Lock explained that now the information from the cameras can be accessed remotely from a computer. The data can be pulled off and burned to a CD if needed. "It's very easy for us to capture video now and quickly provide copies to Public Safety in case they need information quickly to detain someone who has committed an infraction," said Lock.



THE DUDLEY RANDALL COLLECTION AT WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

From his early days as a student, to his progression into librarianship, teaching, poetry and publishing as the creator of the Broadside Press, Wayne State donor and alumnus Dudley Randall's life is perhaps best illustrated by the materials that make up his personal library. Randall's extensive collection offers students, scholars and members of the greater community access to materials with rich literary and cultural significance. Many of these items are first editions and are signed, often very generously by authors to their publisher, Dudley Randall. The Dudley Randall Collection serves as the core of the newly developing African American Literature Special Collection at the Wayne State University Library System.

The portion of the Randall Collection that emphasizes literature is the most important part of this extensive gift. It includes over 1,000 unique titles dating back to Randall's boyhood days and continues through his life as a publisher and teacher. Those who published with Broadside Press are well represented in the collection and include such notable writers as Alvin Aubert, Gwendolyn Brooks, Margaret Danner, James Emanuel, Nikki Giovanni, Etheridge Knight, Don Lee, Arthur Pfister, Sonia Sanchez and Margaret Walker.

The Dudley Randall Collection is now part of Wayne State University thanks to the thoughtfulness and commitment of Wayne State University Distinguished Professor of Africana Studies, Melba Joyce

Boyd. Boyd serves as the literary executor of the Randall estate and it was she who determined that the best possible place for the Dudley Randall Collection was Wayne State University.

The David Adamany Undergraduate Library is currently hosting a display of selected items from the Dudley Randall Collection. Located on the 3rd floor of the library in the Special Collections Room, this display will be available for public viewing Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. through 4:00 p.m. until November 15, 2006. Evening hours can be arranged by calling 313-577-4373.



Dudley Randall

COLLECTION GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

Substantial collection endowments are a way to support the Library System in developing dedicated resources in Arts, Humanities, Science, Business and Applied Science. These collection endowments greatly improve the depth and scope of current library collections and permit the Library System to add new materials that support the university's expanding curriculum. Improved library collections and resources directly enhance the quality of learning and the potential for research by students and faculty. Collection endowments will ensure that the Wayne State community has superior resources far into the future.

If you would like to consider donating your collection to the Library System, please contact Barton Lessin at (313) 577-4373 or e-mail at aa3327@wayne.edu

DETROIT AREA LIBRARY NETWORK MAKES VETERAN'S HOSPITAL ARCHIVES AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC

In June, the Detroit Area Library Network (DALNET) launched the Allen Park Veterans Administration (VA) Hospital Archives, a new digital project that showcases the history of the Allen Park VA Hospital through photographs, newspaper articles and audio recordings.

The Archives can be accessed through the DALNET Web site (www.dalnet.lib.mi.us/gateways/) and offer a highlights of the history of the Allen Park VA Hospital-- from TV legend Lucille Ball's visit in the 1940s, to visits from Chuck Norris

in his acting role as the Chairman of the National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans, in 1986 and 1988.

"We have been able to accomplish this with the help and support we have received from the DALNET staff," said Karen Tubolino, Chief of John D. Dingell VA Medical Center's Information and Media Section.

Henry and Clara Ford donated the 38 acre plot, for the purpose of building a hospital on March 24, 1937. The hospital became eligible for the National Register of

Historic Places in January of 1981, but was demolished in 2004. In 2005, a granite monument and memories were all that were left of the original Allen Park VA Hospital. Now, in 2006, we welcome this historical database.

DALNET includes hospitals, private academic libraries, community colleges, special libraries such as the Detroit Institute of Arts and The Henry Ford, the Detroit Public Library system and Wayne State University Libraries. DALNET members collectively serve a region of four million people.



Lucille Ball with a soldier in the 1940s



Chuck Norris visits a veteran in the 1980s



The original VA Hospital

MICHIGAN GO LOCAL

When someone is facing a health problem, information about services close to home is important to families and friends so they know where to turn when their loved one needs health care. Shiffman Medical Library has partnered with the National Library of Medicine (NLM) to develop Michigan Go Local, a directory of health services for Michigan residents. Michigan Go Local will provide rapid, no charge online access to health services based on locations throughout Michigan's cities and counties.

The project is led by Project Director Annette Healy while Wayne State Library and Information Science Program graduates, Jill Turner and Suzanne Van Pelt, are identifying and entering health services into the database. Selection guidelines are used to determine whether a health service should be added to the database. Information entered for each health service includes address, phone number, URL (if available), and a brief description. All health services in the database are then indexed by geographic service area, types of services offered and associated health topics. To date, the database contains 5,000 records including all public health departments in the state, more than 400 nursing homes and more than 900 pharmacies. Currently all hospitals and associated outpatient clinics in Michigan's 83 counties are being added to the database.

The National Library of Medicine (NLM) is partnering with libraries and library consortia across the country to develop directories of healthcare programs and services that serve specific geographic regions. Service organizations and governmental agencies

spend countless time and money maintaining and distributing directories and lists of health-related services and resources. Michigan Go Local demonstrates that a statewide approach using library staff skills and collaboration improves access to care while lowering costs. There are currently 15 Go Local projects online (<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/golocal/index.html>) and eight projects under development. All Go Local projects will be linked to MedlinePlus (<http://medlineplus.gov/>), the nation's preeminent resource for consumer health information. Go Local links on MedlinePlus health topic pages, which cover diseases, conditions and treatments, take users to information about relevant health services in their community including hospitals, clinics, nursing homes and support groups. Project staff anticipates that the database will become available to the public in January 2007. Before becoming public, the database will be reviewed and approved by NLM. After launch, staff will continue to add health services to the database so that it becomes a comprehensive resource for all residents of Michigan. Other post-launch responsibilities include reviewing records annually for accuracy and currency and statewide promotional activities. More information about the project can be found at www.lib.wayne.edu/shiffman/migolocal and a Web log (www.migolocal.blogspot.com/) has been developed to provide updates on database development and promotional activities.



EXPERIENCE A NEW WEB PAGE JUST FOR NEW STUDENTS



Following in the “Just for You” theme of the Wayne State University Library System, a new Web page is making its debut this fall designed just for first year students. The “WSU Libraries: the First Year Experience” page was created by a team of librarians with input from first year students. It provides a “one-stop shopping” environment for beginning students by bringing together library information and resources with university-wide services.

A few of the resources the students can see at a glance include the current day’s hours for the Undergraduate Library and the 24-Hour Extended Study Center; the Assignment Planner, a time management tool for helping students generate a list of deadlines for a paper or project; a “Find Books and Movies” Wayne State catalog search to locate materials in the library; and a “Find articles” search generates a list of articles available online from full-text library databases.

A section of the page called “Campus Connections” links to university services such as advising, the schedule of classes, tutoring, places to eat and other essentials. For fun, students can read “Weird News” from the RSS feeds generated by Reuters or learn unusual facts (“Did You Know?”) from a family of librarian avatars. Renewing books, getting personalized help from a librarian via e-mail or chat, or finding out where to get access to a computer are additional features of the page. Check out the “First Year Experience” features at: <http://www.lib.wayne.edu/fye>

WAYNE STATE
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LIBRARY SYSTEM

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