



Library Friends

Spring 1999
Volume 3, Number 1

The University Libraries

The University Libraries began in 1872 with the founding of the college that was to become Virginia Tech. Composed of Newman Library and its four branches—Art and Architecture, Geosciences, Veterinary Medicine, and the Northern Virginia Graduate Center—University Libraries house vast resources both traditional and high-tech.

Library Friends, the official newsletter of the Virginia Tech University Libraries, promotes the programs and interests of the University Libraries, chronicles activities of the libraries and the Friends of the Library, recognizes individual achievement, and records the generosity of library supporters. Please direct comments and suggestions to the Dean's Office, University Libraries, P.O. Box 90001, Blacksburg, VA 24962. Call (540) 231-5595.

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Audubon Gift to University Libraries

Clifton Garvin, Jr., distinguished alumnus of Virginia Tech's College of Engineering (chemical engineering '43, M.S.), donated a special limited edition facsimile of John James Audubon's *Birds of America* to the University Libraries.

The edition, published in 1985, is one of only 350 copies printed by Abbeville Press, the noted art-book publisher, in cooperation with the National Audubon Society. The set consists of 11 volumes: 4 volumes of plates; Audubon's text to accompany the plates in 5 volumes; Roger Tory Peterson and Virginia Peterson's *Ornithological Biography*, and Waldemar Fries' *The double elephant folio: the story of Audubon's Birds of America*. With the receipt of this significant gift the Virginia Tech Libraries joins a

select group of only seven academic research libraries known to hold this publication.

The illustrated volumes, each weighing 60 pounds, are richly bound in green leather. Along with a display case, the publication was a gift to Mr. Garvin from the Exxon Corporation on the occasion of his retirement as Exxon's chairman of the board and chief executive officer in 1986. Both Clifton Garvin and his wife Thelma have a keen interest in bird watching and ornithology. They have donated the volumes to the Libraries so that a wider community of users can enjoy the special work as much as they have.

The gift is housed in a special display in the Special Collections unit in Newman Library.



Thelma and Clifton Garvin, Jr. stand before a page from Audubon's Birds, illustrating a very early rendition of the "Hokie bird."



Thanks to the devotion of a dedicated group of "Friends of the Library", the Library Friends newsletter, initially published in 1995, has served the Library and Friends well. With the assignment of a university development person to assist the library, it was agreed to place responsibility for the newsletter with that position. Friends will continue to provide voluntary assistance toward the publication of the newsletter, but primary responsibility will be shifted to the development officer. A major focus of the newsletter will be to highlight the rapidly evolving technology that is constantly changing access to information and knowledge. It will inform patrons of development of library facilities, programs, holdings, special collections, and user services. It will seek to keep patrons up to date on current developments, describe future development plans, and promote private philanthropy toward the Library. Library Friends is distributed to donors, friends and faculty. Copies are also available at each of the university Libraries.

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Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
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From the Dean of the University Libraries



Earlier this year the reporting line for the University Libraries was transferred to the Senior Vice President and Provost, Peggy Meszaros. Before this change the library was part of the Information Systems division.

These changes might prompt a question about whether it matters where libraries appear on a university organization chart.

I'd say, "Yes. It does."

Technologies and systems are incredibly important for libraries, but they are simply enabling mechanisms for doing what the University Libraries have always aspired to do, i.e.,

- to provide knowledgeable and helpful staff, supporting technologies, and a comfortable environment for the discovery, exchange and advancement of ideas;
- to provide organized access to the information resources needed by VT's students, faculty, and staff for learning, teaching, research and public service;
- to provide opportunities for the VT user community to learn about and effectively use resources relevant to living in an information based society, and
- to practice selective preservation of information resources for local and global scholars, favoring resources unique to Virginia Tech and those that are not widely held or otherwise easily accessible.

Our values and the resulting services we offer to the university community are, and will continue to be, fundamentally academic in nature. I believe that it will be most helpful for us to be more immediately associated with supporting the goals of the academic division.

Speaking about the reorganization, Vice President Meszaros has noted that it will more directly link the library with the university's academic enterprise. She sees the new organizational configuration as one which recognizes the close and continuing ties that exist between library goals and the academic mission of the university, expands the opportunities for joint projects in support of research and teaching between the colleges and the library, and is supportive of the essentially academic nature at the core of library activities. Erv Blythe, Vice President for Information Systems, has called the organizational change a natural progression from the introduction of the College Librarian program several years ago. The College Librarian program, unique to Virginia Tech, locates one or more librarians in each of the colleges to more closely integrate library resources and services into college activities.

I am pleased with the change. In making the move to the new reporting structure we will continue to maintain the important relationships we have already established with our good colleagues in the Information Systems division. At the same time we expect to benefit from expanded opportunities to assure that the entire university community has access to the information resources and services essential to carrying out the work of a leading land-grant university in the next millennium.

International Archive of Women in Architecture

The International Archive of Women in Architecture (IAWA) was established in 1985 in order to document the history of women's involvement in architecture. It is the only one of its kind in the world and is a joint program of the college of Architecture and Urban Studies and the University Libraries.

Milka Bliznakov, PhD., a professor emeritus of architecture at Virginia Tech, led the efforts to establish the IAWA.

The archive is housed in the Special Collections Department in Newman Library. It currently consists of over 165 collections from women and organizations from 28 countries around the world. It also includes the work of women landscape architects, designers, architectural historians, critics, and urban planners. The initial focus of the IAWA was the collection of papers by women architects who practiced before the 1950's when there were few women in the field. Preserving the work of women who were not granted professional status or partnerships was also highlighted.

The work of relatively young women

architects now in the field is currently sought. The archive also acts as a clearinghouse of books, biographical information, and published materials on past and present women architects.

Last March, Anna Marshall-Baker and Jeanette Bowker, professors of interior design, and Humberto Rodriquez-Camilloni, professor of architecture history co-curated an exhibition *Lois Gottlieb: Continuing the Legacy of Frank Lloyd Wright*. Lois Gottlieb, a residential designer in San Francisco, donated her work in 1997 to the IAWA.

The International Union of Women Architects (UIFA), founded in 1963 by IAWA's Board of Advisors member Solange d'Herbez de la Tour, convened its 12th Congress in Tokyo, Japan this past September. Two hundred ninety-two architects from 31 countries attended, the largest gathering of architecture professionals in the UIFA's history.

Both active and retired women architects are encouraged to save and donate their papers or consider placing them with the IAWA at a later date.



Sample work of Han Schroeder, one of many women architects represented in the archive.

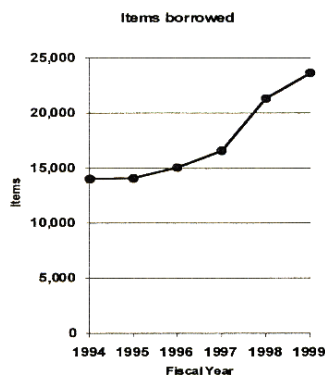
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ILLiad: Interlibrary Loan Program a Success

You must have heard the rumors by now, how everything's on the Web, how Internet technology has made libraries obsolete. At times like these lovers of libraries need to remember that history is replete with claims about technology. Technologies seldom do what they promise. People seldom respond to technology in ways predicted by technologists. Far from making libraries obsolete, technology is what makes libraries possible. This could not be more evident than in the University Libraries' Interlibrary Loan Department. Interlibrary loan (ILL) is perhaps the libraries' fastest growing public service. In 1999, ILL will borrow about 70% more items from other libraries than it did just four years ago. During the 1999 fiscal year, about 3,000 Virginia Tech researchers will use ILL to borrow 8,300 books and obtain about 15,300 photocopied articles from nearly 1,400 libraries in North America and beyond. Some will obtain up to 200 articles and/or books, while others may need only a



few articles or a dissertation from another institution. Many areas of research at Tech would not be possible without easy access to the resources of other libraries. By 1996 it was clear that at least two trends would lead to increased dependence on ILL services. First, the quantity of published literature would continue to expand beyond the capabilities of any library or group of libraries to acquire and store.

Second, the Internet would enable

researchers to become more aware of a greater range of published material. Thus, in mid-1996, the library began developing ILLiad™, and interlibrary borrowing system based on relational database technology and the world wide web. ILLiad was put into production on March 17, 1997. The new, automated system eliminated all pa-

researchers and extended campus students. More efficient handling of all aspects of the interlibrary loan service will make it possible for the University Libraries to handle the increasing demand for materials held by other libraries. ILLiad is even generating a modest income for the library. In early March, Dean Hitchingham ac-



Dean Hitchingham accepts the first ILLiad royalty check from Len Peters, President of VTIP, as Provost Peggy Meszaros and head of ILL Harry Kriz look on.

perwork associated with the borrowing process, thereby eliminating the processing and filing of several tens of thousands of pieces of paper each year. ILLiad reduced by several days the turn-around time for items requested through interlibrary loan. From its earliest design stages, ILLiad was developed with commercialization in mind. Thanks to advice, encouragement, and support from Virginia Tech Intellectual Properties, Inc. (VTIP), ILLiad is now licensed to major academic and government libraries, including California Institute of Technology, University of South Carolina, and NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center. Libraries in Virginia, including Radford University and Mary Washington College have licensed the system at deeply discounted prices. Benefits of commercialization are many. For example, needs identified at other institutions are extending ILLiad's capabilities into areas that will become useful to Tech

cepted the library's first royalty check from the licensing of ILLiad. The public face of ILLiad and the University Libraries' interlibrary loan service can be seen on the Web at <http://www.ill.vt.edu/>. While visiting the site, take a look at the ILLiad Reports pages, where the library has pioneered the idea that the public we serve should be able to generate their own real-time reports about our performance using our own transaction database. Of special interest is the report listing the nearly 1,400 libraries on which Tech researchers depended for books and journal articles over the past 2 years. Note in particular that UVA's Alderman Library and Health Sciences Library together supply about 23% of all the items obtained through ILL. No more dramatic demonstration is possible of the value of cooperation among the libraries of the Commonwealth.

Awards and Recognitions

Mary Hansbrough and Richard Sapon-White have published an article in *Library Resources & Technical Services* (v. 42, no. 4) titled "The Impact of Subject Heading Assignment on Circulation of Dissertations at Virginia Tech."

Harry Kriz presented "ILLiad: The Strategic Solution for Automated Interlibrary Borrowing," at SEFLIN (Southeast Florida Library Information Network) ILL Vendor Showcase Series, Barry University, Miami, Florida, October 9, 1998.

Harry Kriz also presented "ILLiad: A Library Strategic Information System with Customer In-Reach," at EDUCOM '98, Orlando, Florida, October 13-16, 1998.

Nancy Seamans in Media Services received a grant for her work as a co-investigator in "Early Modern Science: A Collaborative Research and Information Retrieval Proposal" from the ASPIRES program.

VT library faculty had a strong presence in Detroit as program speakers and panelists at the 1999 Conference of the Association of College and Research Libraries (American Library Association).

- Gail McMillan, Head of the Libraries' Scholarly Communications Project and Special Collections Department, gave an invitational presentation, "(Digital) Libraries Support (Distributed) Education," which was then addressed by a distinguished reactor panel.
- Jane Schillie, College Librarian for A&S, Social Sciences, Margaret Merrill, College Librarian for Agriculture and Life Sciences, and Ginger Young, College Librarian for Human Resources, were part of a well received program called "Extending the Services of the University Libraries: The College Librarian Programs at Virginia Tech and Western Washington Universities."
- Nan Seamans, Director of University Libraries' Media Services, interacted with more than 200 conference attendees as part of her poster session *New Media and Libraries*.

Special thanks to our library colleagues who are being recognized for their significant years of contributions to the work of the university. Participating in the University's service recognition awards this year are:

- **10 YEARS:** Sara Jones, Ron Smith
- **15 YEARS:** Carol Dallman, Susan Fritz, Irene Glennon, Linda Richardson
- **20 YEARS:** Ed Brooks, Jana Doyle, Sharon Gotkiewicz,
Debra McAlexander, Paul Metz, Brenda Pratt
- **25 YEARS:** Pat Caldwell, Gail Dalton, Alice Moody

Thank You



Dr. Herbert E. Agnor, Jr.
Dr. Robert S. Fulghum
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Addison and 2,000,000th Barcode Item Celebrated



From left to right: T. Berescik, M. Smart, E. Hitchingham, T. Hamilton, P. Wagner

At the Libraries' **Addison** celebration to introduce the newly named library catalog with its multifunctional web interface, students Paul Wagner (President, Graduate Student Association), Tara Berescik (Chief of Staff, Student Government Association), and Melissa Smarr (Associate Justice, Honor System) attached the library system's 2,000,000th barcode to the American Century, a history book by Harold Evans for its inclusion in the collection. **Addison** is named after William Addison Caldwell, Virginia Tech's first student, to honor both him and all Virginia Tech students. Other **Addison** events included a welcome by Eileen Hitchingham, dean of libraries, an historical account of William Addison Caldwell by Clara B. Cox, manager of public service communications for University Relations, and a presentation by Dr. William E. Lavery, president emeritus, on "Virginia Tech as a Land-Grant University."



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Thank You



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