

Friends Forum



a newsletter for the Friends of the Geisel Library

October, 2002

From the Librarian

By Joseph W. Constance, Jr.

September has once again come to our beautiful New Hampshire campus and with it the arrival of over five hundred new freshmen to Saint Anselm. This year, the arrival of so many new faces was particularly special for our Library staff as it marked the second stage of an educational initiative begun last year. Last year as you may recall, the Library became an integral part of freshmen orientation with nearly all of our incoming students taking part in a basic tour of our facilities. This year, our program was improved dramatically with the addition of an instructional session on ANSELM, our online library catalog. ANSELM, of course, is the basic tool for all library research providing author, title and subject information not only to our book collection, but also to our vast periodical holdings and the Web. Albeit brief, this introduction was successful in conveying to students the versatility of ANSELM as well as its fundamental importance to each and every one of their academic careers. The date of orientation itself was moved to coincide with the opening of the new school year, a change that has greatly aided our efforts to acclimate freshmen to their new surroundings.

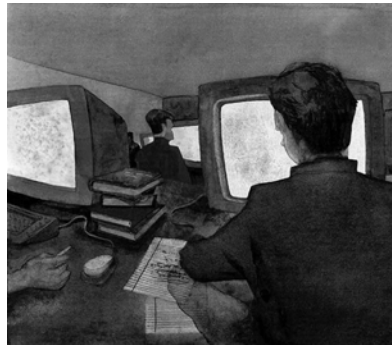
Library instruction is going to be a primary focus for our Library staff this year as our new Head of the Reference Department, Judy Romein, leads a crucial effort to construct an integrated instructional curriculum for our students. Judy returns to the Library after a brief retirement, a time where she underwent a shoulder replacement surgery that has given her superhuman strength. Barely able to lift a coffee cup a few years ago, recent days have witnessed her lifting an entire range of shelving with one arm, and a small automobile in the other. Judy will need all this strength in building our curriculum, an effort that she describes in a full article within this Newsletter. Needless to say, we are all glad to have Judy back, and we will give you regular updates on both her weightlifting and library feats.

Along with Judy, I would like to welcome Ms. Felicity Walsh to the Library as our Head Cataloger. Felicity, who we
(From the Librarian, continued on page 4)

Library Instruction Initiative Plan

By Judy Romein, Head of Reference

First year students are the focus of much attention at college and university libraries across the country during the autumn months. This is very true at the Geisel Library as we begin our academic year. As the new Head of Reference, I was asked to develop an innovative program to insure all students at the college acquire information management skills to support their academic careers and beyond. Over the summer, we reviewed all aspects of library instruction, and then forged a new and complete curriculum for bibliographic instruction. Known as the Library Instruction Initiative, it is intended to follow our students from their freshmen year through to their senior thesis.



Freshman Orientation is the first opportunity librarians have to interact with the incoming students. Our first presentation is designed to convey a positive first impression about the collections, staff and facility. One hundred students at a time came to the library for a fifteen-minute introduction to the library's homepage during this year's freshmen orientation. After an energizing morning of six sessions both the students and librarians were looking forward to the upcoming semester. Part one was complete, on to part two.

As our next step we worked with Professor Meaghan Cronin, Freshman English coordinator, to bring all twenty-seven EN03 classes to a library workshop. The objective was to introduce all students to the library's collections and the many ways to retrieve the information from our collections. In other words, a jazzy library tour. Half of the classes have been completed and we believe we have attained all our most important goals connected to our initiative. In addition, a new
(Library Instruction Initiative Plan, continued on page 3)

Betsy's Book Shelf

by Elizabeth Holmes, Collections/User Services Librarian

"Benedict saw the entire world in a single ray of light."
--- Dialogs of Saint Gregory

Working with folks who donate books to the library is one of the great pleasures of my position as Collection Development librarian. This past year has been a particularly bounteous one for the Geisel Library. When books are given as gifts they are evaluated title by title to determine their most appropriate disposition. Whenever possible books are added to the library's collections, but at times they duplicate current holdings or are not appropriate to the collecting mission. These books are then donated to another recipient, including Trinity High School, the Saint Anselm College Center for Volunteers, the new prison library in Berlin, NH, or the library book sale.



This spring we received a particularly valuable donation from the estate of Msgr. James Burke of Manchester. Msgr. Burke's library included a tremendous collection of liturgical and theological texts, many of which were already held in the Saint Anselm Clericcate library. I was very pleased to be able to forward many of these holdings to AIM-USA—The Alliance for International Monasticism, based in Erie, Pennsylvania. AIM is an organization composed of 168 communities of women and men in the United States and Canada who follow the Rule of Benedict, and over 250 English speaking monasteries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. AIM-USA provides spiritual, educational, formation and building assistance to monasteries in developing countries.

Included in this mission is the AIM-USA Book and Periodical donation program. Books donated to AIM-USA have been forwarded to a variety of sites worldwide, including the Cistercian monks of the Lamanabi Monastery in Indonesia, and in support of an education program for 200 Benedictine sisters in Tanzania who need basic high school training. Msgr. Burke's books were particularly appreciated as up-to-date liturgical materials that were sent on to many locations in Africa and Asia.

If you are interested in learning more about AIM-USA, or would like to make a book or magazine donation, I encourage you to view their website at <http://www.aim-usa.org>. And as always, the Geisel Library appreciates your book donations as well! Feel free to contact me at 603-641-7166 or eholmes@anselm.edu if I can assist you with donation questions/dispositions. ☺

Quotes...

"Books are the quietest and most constant of friends; they are the most accessible and wisest of counsellors, and the most patient of teachers."

Charles W. Eliot, 1834-1926

Prof. Bert Hornback Presents Charles Dickens

By Denise Labore, Friends of the Library Secretary

On Tuesday, November 12, 2002, at 7:30 p.m., in the DeCicco Current Periodicals room, the Friends of the Library in conjunction with the Saint Anselm College Honors Program, will be pleased to welcome Prof. Bert Hornback, well-known for his re-creation of the readings of author, Charles Dickens.

Prof. Hornback is currently a professor of English at Bellarmine College in Louisville, Kentucky. Prior to Bellarmine College, he was a faculty member at the University of Michigan for 28 years. He has written four books on Dickens, one of which, *Noah's Arkitecture* (1972), is housed in the Geisel Library. Other titles include, *The Hero of my Life* (1981), *Our Mutual Friend: An Annotated Bibliography* (with Joel J. Brattin, 1984), and *Great Expectations: A Novel of Friendship* (1986). He has also authored seven plays and hosted a ten-part television series (1973) *The Dickens World*.

Since 1976, he has presented his Dickens readings all over the United States, delighting audiences everywhere. In addition to his re-creation of Dicken's famous reading of *A Christmas Carol*, his repertoire also includes *Great Expectations*, *Hard Times*, *Martin Chuzzlewit*, *Bleak House* and *Nicholas Nickleby*.

Like Dickens, Prof. Hornback travels with his reading stand, his only prop, a replica of a specially designed reading desk, covered in red velvet, which Dickens always used. The mood is set and a host of wonderful characters come to life.

A special note of thanks goes to Dr. Mark Cronin, the Chairman of the College Honors Program, who was instrumental in scheduling Prof. Hornback. Dr. Cronin's assistance is greatly appreciated.

Invitations will be mailed out to our Friends members shortly. This promises to be a very special evening and I look forward to seeing you as we step back to another place and time, the world of Charles Dickens. ☺

Geisel Library Encourages Student Membership

By Joseph W. Constance, Jr., Librarian

This year we are beginning a new initiative to encourage membership among our student community. With the assistance of Dr. Mark Cronin, Director of the Honors Program, we are now working to develop programs that will encourage our very best students to become involved with the Friends, and thus strengthen our membership.

If you have any suggestions for this effort, please do not hesitate to call or write our office. ☺

Happenings in Technical Services

By John Dillon, Head of Technical Services and Systems Administrator

What to choose to talk about? There's always so much going on and not enough time to do it all. This issue's article highlights some of the current happenings or "project in the works" in Geisel Technical Services.



Library wins support for book conservation efforts. For many months the Library has been making strides to realize a more advanced in-house book repair operation, and to control the attendant costs of such efforts. One reason has been that staff have witnessed ongoing deterioration to the book collection, due mostly to the normal wear and tear stresses of borrowers, and general book aging. Likewise though, Library staff documented the increased need for book repairs when they manually shifted the entire 200,000-volume book collection into a more spacious shelf arrangement. Since then both factors have been motivation to draw up plans for a more extensive in-house repair program.

The good news is that the Library has recently won the financial support for this work to go forward. The first crucial commitment came from William V. Guerin, Trustee of the College and brother of long-time academic dean Fr. Peter Guerin, who no doubt shares Father's protective instinct when it comes to preserving scholarly works. With this generous support in place, the Library was awarded a matching grant from the Knapp Foundation. Grateful for both commitments, the Library is now actively shopping for the planned equipment, which includes heavy-duty book presses, a boxboard cutter, a creaser, and possibly a text cutter. We hope to have these pieces in place in the coming months, and consequently extending the life of many of our books.

Wireless coming to Library? Well, suffice it say, Geisel staff are interested in the potentials of wireless computing in the Library. By "wireless" we mean the ability for people to use electronic Library services from any place in the building, not just at reference workstations. Typically, this would be done from mobile computing equipment, such as laptops and handheld personal digital assistants (PDAs). In this scenario, transmitter/receiver units are installed which can transmit data using radio waves instead of requiring networked outlets in the wall.

The major benefits would be ones of convenience and flexibility. It would mean people could use a mobile device to search the catalog or Internet from any place in the Library. That information, once downloaded, can then easily be taken with them, to the stacks to get those items or back to their dorm rooms. Wireless networking would also give Library instructors more options for where a group can assemble and do group searching. But bringing "wireless" to Library users would only be part of a larger effort by Information Technology staff as they make this a campus-wide development. Typically, cost, speed and security are major hurdles to address, but the Library remains hopeful as a preliminary tour is scheduled for the coming weeks.

Videos now "browser-friendlier". And that's "browser" in the good old fashion (and perhaps best) sense, people going to the shelves to see what grabs their interest. Thanks to a handful of Library staff, Geisel videos have now been organized and shelved by subjects. This means that all videos, which are housed in the Gitto Audio-Visual room on the Lower Level, are now shelved by Library of Congress call numbers. Staff is now using this method to shelve videos of similar topic and/or genre closer to each other (for example, feature length films or documentaries). During this project, staff also added more complete database descriptions for videos (while preserving the original dust jackets) and also added new protective cases for all 1200 videos. But, as you might imagine, reclassifying and "end-processing" so many pieces of an active collection took a good deal of coordination and planning. It's not something that could be done overnight! Special thanks go in particular to Felicity Walsh, Laura Gricius-West, Kathy Carignan and Sue Pichette for helping make Library videos easier to locate and manage. Though the video collection is mostly academic in nature, it does include many award-winning films, past and present. These videos are also available for use by Friends who become special borrowing patrons of the library. 📖

(Library Instruction Initiative Plan, continued from page 1)

tutorial has been linked to the library's homepage called TILT. This tutorial consists of four different sections that explain the research process in depth and offers interactive games and quizzes. Try it: <http://www.anselm.edu/library/guides.html>.

Part three of our Initiative is still being developed. Now that the students know the basics, we want to offer them more specific courses of instruction.

As there are many databases available to our community; the choices can sometimes be confusing. A user therefore must develop a clear understanding of what makes for good search strategy and critical decision making. It is our goal to develop these essential lifelong skills in all of our students, skills we hope they will use for a lifetime. ☺

Book Review

Reviewed by Felicity Walsh, Head Cataloger and Reference Librarian

Rankin, Ian *Resurrection Men* Published by Orion, (London) 2001, 440 pp.

Due to be published in the US in February, 2003

“I was too young and very stupid when I came up with the character of John Rebus. I didn't know the crime genre still existed; all I knew about police work and legal machinations was learned from films, TV, other novels (all of them American); and I gave my hero a really stupid name.” – Ian Rankin



Ian Rankin is one of the best modern mystery writers of our day. His detective Rebus series is set in Scotland, mainly in Edinburgh. The series spans detective John Rebus' career from the 1980's where we meet the newly ex-SAS soldier who has spent harrowing time in Northern Ireland, through to the present day where we follow Rebus as he combats crime for the Scottish police. Over the course of the series the reader watches Rebus' often stormy relationships with coworkers, his daughter and estranged wife, as well as his growing battles with alcoholism and depression. Rebus' character mellows and broadens throughout the series, and set against the appropriately noir backdrop of Edinburgh, these books are thoroughly engaging both for their plots and their characters.

At the start of *Resurrection Men*, we find Rebus has been sent back to school, having blown up at his recently appointed superior, Detective Chief Superintendent Gill Templar, in the middle of a briefing. In this case, school means the Scottish Police College, situated on the edge of a village in central Scotland. Billed as “retraining”, this school is a last chance for officers who, like Rebus, have displayed difficulty at being a team player. In an apparently empty exercise, Rebus and his classmates are given an old, unsolved case on which to work, to help show them the benefits of teamwork and allow their instructors the chance to evaluate these “old dogs”. But their dead case turns out to be quite a live one after all and when Detective Sergeant Siobhan Clarke discovers that her investigation of an art dealer's murder is tied to Rebus's inquiry, the two join forces. Soon they find themselves in the midst of an even bigger scandal than they had imagined, a plot involving the Scottish Crime Squad and east coast's biggest gangster, 'Big Ger' Cafferty. Cafferty and Rebus also have a long history, and find themselves working together more often than anyone could possibly imagine.

The detective Rebus series include *Knots and Crosses*, *Hide and Seek*, *Strip Jack*, *A Good Hanging*, *The Black Book*, *Mortal Causes*, *Let it Bleed*, *Black and Blue*, *Death is Not the End*, *Hanging Garden*, *Tooth and Nail*, *Dead Souls*, *Set in Darkness*, *the Falls*, and the upcoming *Beggar's Banquet*. ☺

(From the Librarian, continued from page 1)

know as “Flip”, has been a wonderful addition to our staff and has already become legendary for her precise and exacting work. She will introduce herself to you in this Newsletter via a most interesting book review. Any comments or questions regarding the review may be addressed to Flip at fwalsh@anselm.edu.

As we plan our Friends events for the season, I would again like to thank all of you who have renewed their membership and remind you to please forward any suggestions for speakers or programs to me directly. Our mailing address is listed in the Newsletter and my e-mail is jconstan@anselm.edu. This year we are hoping to present to you at least one New Hampshire author and several other functions.

In order to stimulate interest in the Friends among our student body, I have also contacted the esteemed Dr. Mark Cronin, Director of the College's honors program, to help us design and offer programs that would more actively involve our best students in the development of the Library. Many of these students use the Library most extensively and we hope to encourage their support in building our programs and collections in the long term. In the near future, I am scheduled to meet with a representative of the Honors Council to discuss

✉ Contact Us....

To notify us of a change in address or for information on making a donation to the Geisel Library Book Fund, please contact the Geisel Library, Saint Anselm College, 100 Saint Anselm Drive, P.O. Box 1746, Manchester, New Hampshire, 03102. Or telephone Denise Labore, Geisel Library Secretary at (603) 641-7301 or e-mail dlabore@anselm.edu.

✓ Membership Forms Available Online

New or renewing members of the Friends of the Geisel Library can now obtain membership application forms on the Saint Anselm College website. Student applications may also be found at the site:

<http://www.anselm.edu/library/friends.html>.

Applications can be printed out and sent to Denise Labore, Geisel Library, at the address shown above.

Adult membership is \$15 annually per person, and student membership is \$5 annually.

