

SUSQUEHANNA UNIVERSITY

Blough- Weis Library Newsletter

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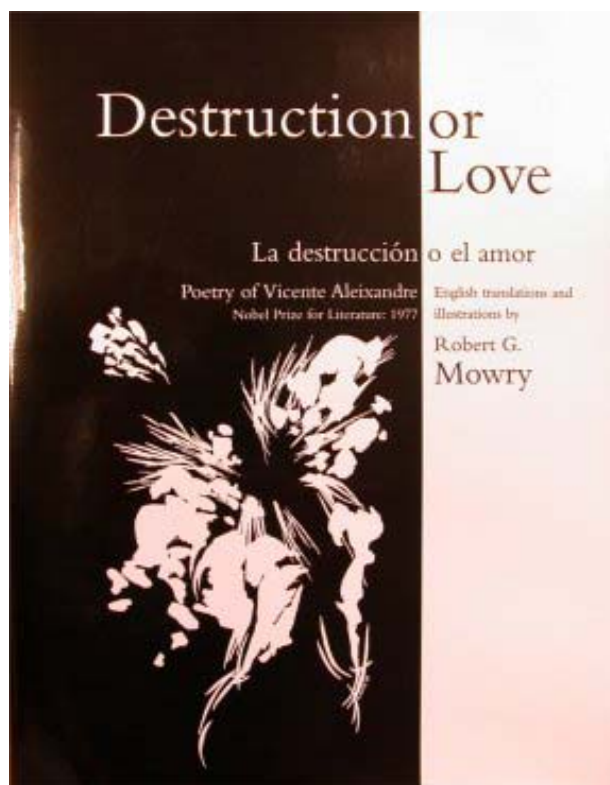
April 2003

MOWRY EXHIBIT ON DISPLAY

The Library is very pleased to have on exhibit the brush-and-ink drawings of Dr. Robert Mowry, Associate Professor of Spanish at Susquehanna University. The exhibit of 16 drawings and corresponding poems in both English and Spanish, entitled *Illustrations for Poetry of Vicente Aleixandre*, will be on display in the lounge area of the Blough-Weis Library April 1 through Commencement. Aleixandre, a recipient of the 1977 Nobel Prize for Literature, was a prominent figure on the Spanish literary scene from the late 1920s through the early 1980s.

The 16 illustrations constitute a partial set of drawings originally done to accompany Dr. Mowry's translation, *Destruction or Love*, of a major work by Aleixandre. Dr. Mowry's book, published in 2000 by the Susquehanna University Press, is a stunning creation in black and white. The poems are reproduced in the original Spanish version as written by Aleixandre, preceded by Dr. Mowry's English translation.

According to Dr. Mowry, "a corresponding abstract artistic piece, formed in the imagination upon reading the poem, accompanies each entry".



Dr. Mowry's Book

Although similar in conception and in technique to the fifty-four illustrations used in the published volume (one for each of the poems), the exhibited drawings are selections from a prior, unfinished series intended by Professor Mowry for the same purpose. "A close comparison of these sixteen with the corresponding drawings in the full, published set may prompt the viewer to search for suggestive differences and similarities in composition and in rendering between the two versions".

More Mowry Exhibit on Pages 4-5

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PURCHASE OF RARE DARWIN WORKS

The Biology Department, the Library, and President Jay Lemons have jointly funded the purchase of mostly first editions of a set of 13 works in 17 volumes by **Charles Darwin**. These *Works*, written between 1839-1881, were published in London by John Murray. The set is uniformly bound in modern 3/4 dark green morocco with marbled boards, top edges gilt; compartmented spines gilt decorated, with burgundy and brown title labels. Contents include:

*Animals and plants; British and foreign orchids; Climbing plants; Cross & Self-fertilisation; Descent of Man; Different forms of flows; Emotions in man & animals; Geological observations; Insectivorous plants; Journal of researches (Voyage of the Beagle); Origin of species**; *Vegetable mould; Life and letters of Charles Darwin.*

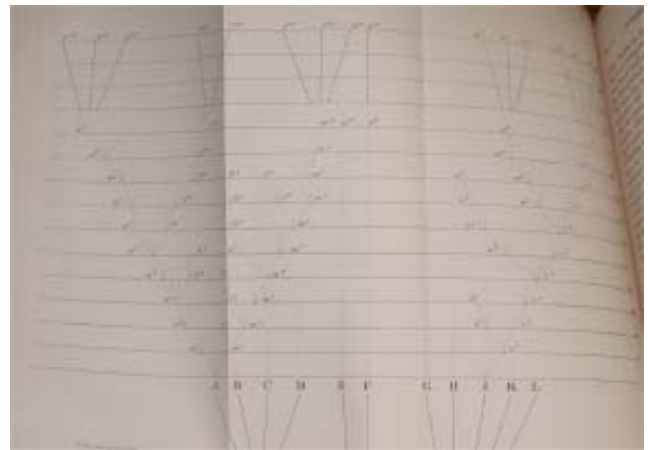
*The *Origin of the Species* volume is a 3rd edition copy. A 1st edition is priced at \$150,000!



Professors Jack Holt and Dave Richard

Professors of Biology Dave Richard and Jack Holt are responsible for the acquisition. The idea began to germinate in Montreal when Dr. Richard thought, as a biologist, that “it would be really nice to have a Darwin letter.” He shared the idea with the Biology

Department and after some discussion and a little research, Dr. Holt located this set for sale, coincidentally in Montreal. He negotiated with a Rare Books dealer to secure it for the price of \$13,000. These texts represent a cornerstone of readings from which to generate lectures, discussions, and class papers. In addition to the incredible work done by Darwin, “the symbolic nature of the text is of primary value”, says Dr. Richard.



The Sole Drawing by Darwin in Origin of the Species

The purchase has generated a great deal of enthusiasm. One easily gets caught up in the excitement listening to these faculty members expounding on Darwin's talents. “Darwin was a genius. He worked alone! We have his correspondence and letters – they're mostly questions – wanting to know about things! He devised the vision of biology alone -- unusual for the way we do science. Any collaboration was done in his correspondence. All books that have followed “*Origin of the Species*” are about natural selection and its implications. His last book, of all the things he could have written about, is on earthworms – a marvelous book.” Dr. Holt's admiration of Darwin's work is clearly evident.



Dr. Holt and Dr. Richard

(Darwin Books, continued from previous page)

Looking to the future, Dr. Richard envisions the set in a secure, glass display case in a new Science Building, currently on the architect's drawing board, so "these books will give the viewer clear knowledge as to who we are and why; to face and embrace the controversy between evolution and creationism and to deal with it." Although contentious, "we can hold up to the students as a department that teaching evolution is a unifying principle of biology," rejoins Dr. Holt; not for the purpose of being perverse, "but to show that this is the core of what biology has become: the principle that all living things are interrelated."

The volumes are housed in the Library's Jane Conrad Apple Rare Books Room, and are presently available for use by the Biology Department. Faculty members in the Department will be able to check out the volumes for class presentations or for special events. These are not reading copies. The Library will obtain a reading copy of the set. Access to the *Works* must be obtained by consulting a library staff member.

--Dr. Rebecca Wilson, with Drs. Holt & Richard

INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY CENTER

Technology is changing so rapidly that with just a blink of the eye, new inventions are out in the market. Susquehanna began to recognize this and last October, **Michelle Chan**, Instructional Technology / Media Coordinator was hired to address this issue.

With funding from the Office of Information Technology (OIT), the Blough-Weis Library has now begun Phase I of a new **Instructional Technology Center** (ITC), located right next to the Media Center in Room 02, in the lower level of the library.

When you walk into this new facility, you will see an iMac, an HP scanner with slides and negative scanning capabilities, and a Dell with a Dazzle audio/video capture device attached to it. These units are primarily used to provide technology development to faculty on campus. When faculty want or need to learn about a specific software and/or hardware application, the Instructional Technology Center is the place to visit.

The iMac will allow the capturing of audio and video via firewire connection to the output device, for instance, a DV camera. The iMac also has Adobe

Photoshop and Macromedia Studio MX installed in it, and it is also able to connect to the scanner via a USB port. Macromedia Studio MX consists of Dreamweaver, Freehand, Flash, and Fireworks. With this package, faculty are able to use these software applications to develop high end, interactive web pages. The iMac also comes with iMovie video editing software and a DVD-R burner so faculty can burn their final product onto either CDs or DVDs. Last but not least, this iMac also comes with MS Word, MS Excel, and MS Power Point.



New Blough-Weis Library Instructional Technology Center

For those who are PC die hard fans, the new Dell will provide a lot of capabilities. Since the Dell is connected with a Dazzle unit, faculty are able to capture audio/video clips and insert them as part of their web pages or in class presentation, such as with the use of Power Point. Again, this PC also has a Macromedia Studio MX package, Adobe Design Collection package (which includes Photoshop), InDesign, Illustrator, and Acrobat Writer.

On addition to this, there is also screen capture software, called SnagIt. Those who would like to capture on-screen animated activities, there is software called Camtasia. This software when used in conjunction with the Real Producer Plus, will enable faculty to create animated on-screen instructions. Since this PC also comes with a DVD+R burner, faculty are able to burn multiple copies of their final products and distribute them to students to be used as supplementary course material. Again, this PC is also able to connect to the HP scanner via a USB port.

Please look for information soon regarding an open house for this facility at the end of the semester. Anyone who is interested in using this facility can get in contact with Michelle Chan at chan@susqu.edu. It is anticipated that there will be some workshops scheduled at the beginning of the summer for faculty who are interested in participating in hands-on instruction sessions.

--Michelle Chan

Mowry Exhibit, continued from page 1

Dr. Mowry is not known for staying long in one place, so Kathleen Gunning and Becky Wilson caught Bob on the run, and invited him to speak about how the book and the art came to be.



Dr. Robert Mowry with one of his drawings

Dr. Mowry confessed that it took 10 years for the whole process – translations and art – to all come together. His goal was to combine in some fashion art work with verbal play – the “verbal” being his life’s work and forte. He had been aware of a concept of this idea for over 30 years; it dawned on him that it was appropriate to illustrate this particular poet. His poems resonated with Bob and it occurred to him to do the art.



Symphonic Night



The Sea's Daughter

THE SEA'S DAUGHTER

*Girl, heart or smile,
warm knot of daytime presence,
Irresponsible beauty unaware of itself,
Glowing alarmingly blue eyes.*

*Your innocence like a sea you live in—
what trouble to reach you, lonely island still untouched;
your dazzling breast, beloved beach or sand
slipping formless still between my fingers.*

*Bounteous presence of a girl to love,
felled or reclining body or beach exposed to a gentle wind,
to temperate eyes watching you,
freshening a nude submissive to their touch.*

*Never speak untruth, preserve forever
your harmonious passive compliant fever,
seashore or golden body, girl on the beach
forever a shell left behind by waves.*

*Live, live like the very murmur you were born from;
listen to your despotic mother's sound;
become the foam remaining after love ends,
after the shore, water or mother, recedes.*

--Poem by V. Aleixandre; Transl. by Dr. Mowry

Mowry, continued

When asked why all the works are in black and white, Bob says he “uses ‘Brush and Ink’ because he does not see color and has always done drawing, shapes and textures, and relationships – abstract expressionism (the style) - but inspired by the content of each of these poems. Each piece of art resonates with a particular poem and is a stimulus for the illustration.

Dr. Mowry did the translations first, and he “kept on perfecting them as he went along. Most of it was done before doing the drawings. It was a real challenge – to do the translations. The drawings were pure pleasure”. Bob notes that it is interesting to hear the comments one gets on these from literary people. They understand the translations but not the drawings. The challenge sometimes is to make sense of the connection. It is important to stress that he is not analyzing the poem in a literary sense but is trying to re-create it in two different media. So he does not expect professional critics of poetry to know what to do with the drawings.

Bob confesses that he would not want to translate poetry again. In forming the work, he did not want traditional structured poetry. He prefers “a loose and unconventional kind of poetry that permits a free translation - not a tight fit to the poetic form itself. Poetry is a free verse; not a strict kind of meter – more like free verse in a controlled way.” He came up with devices in English to produce an effect that he thought was similar to the effects created by the original language, but the way he did this was “not to imitate the original structure syntactically; instead of connecting phrases with the word ‘that’ in English, which would be necessary for direct translation, he converted 95% of that kind of structure into a gerund phrase in English, which produces a flowing, dynamic syntax in English in a way that the original Spanish did not do. Spanish has its own dynamism, but to achieve that in English would be very dull”.

As he concluded the interview and stood up to leave, Dr. Mowry made us promise to include this:

“My thanks to Susan Musser in mounting the works, without whose help this exhibit would not have been possible”. --Dr. Robert Mowry

Please visit the Library during regular hours to enjoy this wonderful exhibit, on display through May 12.

PERIODICALS LIST ONLINE

The Blough-Weis Library’s *Periodicals List* is now available online. In the past few years, the Library’s periodicals holdings have grown considerably. Much of this growth can be attributed to an increase in the availability of online periodicals.

Access to these online periodicals is an important aspect of our service to the University community. Our goal was to enable a Library patron to readily determine what we have in our periodicals collection and also to make those online resources available either onsite or remotely.

The solution is a searchable database compiled with information from nine different vendors, plus holdings data maintained by Blough-Weis Library staff. The database may be searched by title keyword/phrase or by initial title word/phrase. A title keyword may appear anywhere in the title, while the “Begins with” option must appear at the beginning of the title.



Search the Blough-Weis Library full-text periodicals list.

Detail of the Blough-Weis Library Web Site

After you have performed a search, those periodicals that are available online will have a web link in the title that will take you directly to the desired journal. Also indicated are the holdings information for the journal and the vendor of the periodical subscription. Our print holdings are included in the list, though naturally users will need to visit the Library in person to retrieve any desired articles in print format.

The *Periodicals List* can be accessed from the Library’s Web Page, under “Resources”, as shown above.

--Bob Gessner

FIRSTSEARCH WORKSHOP

Kathy Dalton and Chris Praul conducted an hour-long workshop at the "FirstSearch Friday" event last week in the Library. The workshop was intended to provide an overview of the Library's databases, and focused on the best methods for searching OCLC First Search. The invitation promised that faculty would "learn how to select the best database(s) for a topic; how to search multiple databases simultaneously; which databases cite books, videos, recordings, articles, dissertations, government documents; how to choose search terms; how to determine SU's holdings; and how to order material through interlibrary loan." Faculty were pleased with the session. Additional sessions will be planned in the future to cover other databases. Thanks to all who were able to participate.

--Kathy Dalton



The Blough-Weis Library's FirstSearch Friday

GIFT BOOKS PROCESSED

*The Library continues to be the happy recipient of various book collections. Thanks to the indefatigable **Sheila Fisher**, we have cataloged several gift collections in the past few months. Included were gifts from Professors Emeritus Murray Hunt and David Wiley (primarily philosophy and religion), the late Sachiko Presser, and a large number of Civil War books from Mary Dawson in memory of her mother, Gwendolyn C. Cramer, Class of 1937. We have also made considerable progress in cataloging the music books and scores received from Luther Dittmer. Thanks to all of you who generously contributed books to enrich the Library's collections.*

--Pat Fishbein

PROPOSED POLICY ON VIDEO LOANS

The Library Committee has reviewed a draft of a pilot program for 2003-04 that would allow faculty, staff and students to borrow videos and DVDs for personal use if not imminently needed for classroom viewing.

The primary purpose of the media collections is to support the curriculum. Due to intensive development of the collection by faculty, we now have more than 4300 films. Many of our peer institutions have a lending policy for these items and we are planning to try it as a pilot program for next year. At year end, we would review the policy to see how it worked.

The Proposed policy might look like this:

For Faculty and Staff

- ❖ A video or DVD will circulate for the period of 72 hours.
- ❖ Please reserve a video or DVD needed for class at least 5 days in advance to give the Media staff adequate time to recall the video if it is checked out.
- ❖ If the video is on the shelf, Media staff will put a note on the video to make sure that no one can check it out during the 5 days prior to the reservation date. However, during this period, a video can be viewed in-house.
- ❖ Please remember to call the Media Center in the event that you wish to keep the video or DVD for a longer time so Media staff can either extend the loan period for you, or notify you if another faculty member has reserved the film for class use and is counting on its availability.

For Students

- ❖ Videos and DVDs can be borrowed for the period of 48 hours.
- ❖ Please remember to call the Media Center if you are unable to return it by due date. Media Center staff can either extend the loan period for you, or notify you if a faculty member has reserved the video for class use and is counting on its availability.

Note: Since our collection is to support academic use in the SU community, we DO NOT circulate our video/DVD collection to the community.

--Michelle Chan & Kathleen Gunning

SECURITY SYSTEM INSTALLED

On March 17th, CheckPoint Systems installed a new security system in the Library. As part of this new system, oak antennas and a wood railing, built by Weaver's Woodworking, were installed to match the existing décor of the circulation area. The new antennas constantly monitor the environment searching for security measures embedded in library owned materials, so that those materials not checked out cannot be handed, thrown, kicked or carried through the sensors without alerting library personnel.

Through the use of desensitizing technology, this system deactivates the security measures in material that has been properly checked out by library staff. It can then be taken from the library without setting off the security sensors, thus allowing patrons with properly checked out materials to enter and exit the library without setting off the alarms.



New Blough-Weis Library Security Gate

In the near future a new book drop will be incorporated into the existing circulation desk near the main entrance, so library patrons will have another area to drop off used materials without coming all the way into the Library.

This, along with the new security system, should help improve the flow of patron traffic and protect library materials.

--Chris Praul

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

It is difficult to believe that another academic year is coming to an end and along with that graduation. It is with mixed emotions of happiness and regret that I bid farewell to **Dana Lasch**, **Shawn Lowery**, and **Karen Stefaniak**, graduating seniors. In August of 1998, a few days into my job as library secretary, I was told that I would have student workers. It was at that time that I met Dana. We "freshmen" learned our duties together. I watch her using a computer now and cannot believe it is the same person who said, "I hate computers".

The following year Shawn was added as one of my assistants. I'm sure there were times when he felt outnumbered by the females in the office but he smiled and continued on for two more years. (I need to add that he did go abroad for a semester, I think it was because he needed a break.)

In January of this year, Dana began her student teaching and I realized how much I missed her assistance. Lady Luck was with me in the form of Chris Praul, who told me, he had this "wonderful student worker" looking for a few hours; did I need someone in my office? So with that came my introduction to Karen, a perfect fit in an, at times, not so perfect office.



Susan and Her Students: Karen, Shawn and Dana

It has been my privilege to know these wonderful students and to see them grow from frightened, overwhelmed, freshmen into self-confident adults. What an honor it has been to work with these amazing people. Congratulations to all of them and may the future bless them with success and happiness.

--Susan Musser

NEW DVDs & VIDEOS AVAILABLE

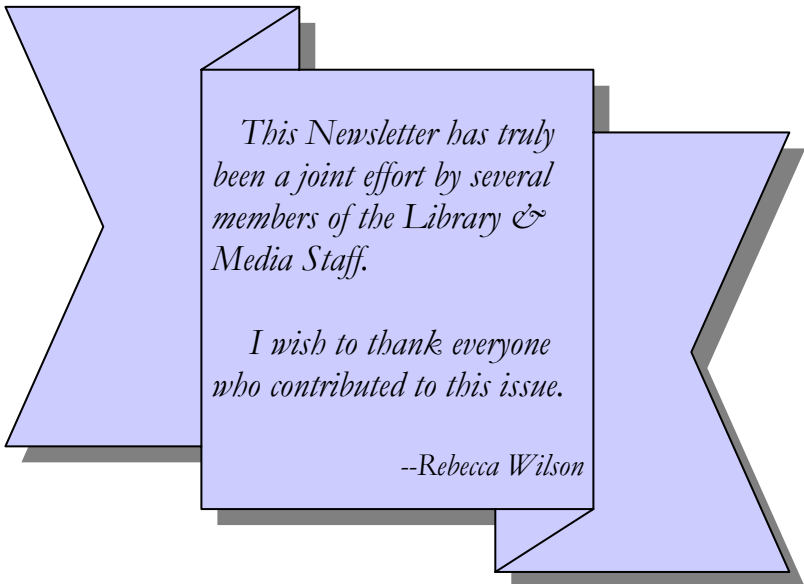
DVDs:

Anna and the King
Art of War
Badlands
Bamboozled
Barbershop
Bonnie And Clyde
Boys On the Side
Bustin' Loose
Carmen Jones
Cite Des Enfants Perd[Us] = City of Lost Children
Double Indemnity
Finding Forrester
First Knight
Francis Bacon
Freshest Kids: A History of the B-Boy
I Dreamed of Africa
In the Time of the Butterflies
Jasper Johns: Ideas in Paint
JFK
Kissing Jessica Stein
Last of the Mohicans
Minority Report
Natural Born Killers
Placard = the Closet
Roseaux Sauvages = Wild Reeds
Rules of Engagement
School Daze
Scratch
Together Forever: Greatest Hits 1983-2000
[Run Dmc]
Unbreakable
Va Savoir = Who Knows?
Vagina Monologues
Vie Revee Des Anges = Dreamlife of Angels
White Man's Burden
With Honors
Y Tu Mama Tambien

VHS:

Alice Neel (1900-1984).
Art 21: Art in the Twenty-First Century
Back From Madness: the Struggle For Sanity
Beautiful Thing
Chuck Close: A Portrait in Progress
Cooperation, Compassion And Civility in the Classroom
Gender Nation X
Gung Ho
Hip Hop
Dem Khazn's Zindl = Cantor's Son
Legacy
Let's Do It Again
Man Without A Face
Mind of A Killer
Motivation: Dream It, Walk It, Believe It
Out of the Past
Paris, Texas
Rabbit in the Moon
Robert Rauschenberg: Inventive Genius
Strangers in A Familiar Land: Encounters
With Asperger's Syndrome
Voices in Exile: Immigrants And the First Amendment

--Pat Fishbein



This Newsletter has truly been a joint effort by several members of the Library & Media Staff.

I wish to thank everyone who contributed to this issue.

--Rebecca Wilson

Rebecca A. Wilson, Editor
Robert Gessner, Graphics Editor

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