



ACCESS

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES AT NOTRE DAME

Number 50

September 1992

Bob Havlik Retires

by Joanne Bessler

On June 30, 1992, Robert Havlik retired from his position as the University engineering librarian. Bob joined the library faculty in 1973 as an experienced librarian. He earned his master's degree in library science from the University of Illinois in 1951. His first professional position was at Iowa State College where he served as the exchange librarian in the Acquisitions Department. Between 1953 and 1973, he worked in a broad range of library positions -- each emphasizing a different aspect of librarianship.

He experienced life at a large university library when he worked as the reference/documents librarian at Purdue University. He learned the strengths of special librarianship while working at the Linde Division of Union Carbide, the U.S. Office of Education's Library Service Bureau and at Nova University as library director.

Bob has served the University Libraries of Notre Dame in a number of roles: first as the assistant director for technical services; later as the University engineering librarian, with responsibilities for the Engineering and Architecture libraries; and throughout the years as a master space planner, exhibit creator and storyteller extraordinaire.

Bob's valuable experience with researchers in both the academic and the corporate setting enabled him to offer leadership during a period of tremendous change for the University Libraries. He encouraged the automating of the Libraries' technical services -- including both the implementation of OCLC (Online Computer Library Center), which has tied Notre Dame to libraries around the world, and the introduction of ACQUIS, which generates computer-assisted accounting for the acquisitions system.

As the engineering librarian, Bob helped plan the current Engineering library, masterminded the original move into that building and managed innumerable collection shifts, transfers and rescue missions for both the Engineering and the Architecture libraries. Bob's training as a chemical engineer and as a librarian, along with his enthusiasm for both disciplines, has enabled him to offer patrons superior reference service. Using online sources, obscure printed documents and personal contacts, he has answered thousands of questions on topics such as wind tunnel testing, patents existing for collapsible flotation devices, costs of chemicals and responses to lab accidents.

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Another Treasure Donated

by Laura Fuderer

The University Libraries are much indebted to Dr. Astrik L. Gabriel, past director of the Medieval Institute, for yet another donation of a pre-1501 book. Bringing the collection of incunabula to 82 in number is *Sermones discipuli de tempore et de sanctis cum promptuario exemplorum...* by Johannes Herolt. This work was printed in Strassburg by Georg Husner in 1483. Husner has also been identified as the printer of Jordan von Quedlinburg's *Opus postillarum et sermonum de tempore*.

Johannes Herolt (ca. 1380-1468) was a member and later prior of the Convent of Dominicans at Nürnberg. According to Canon Gabriel, "Herolt called himself *Discipulus*, 'Disciple,' because he did not write about 'subtle' matters like a Magister or Doctor, but collected useful things like a Disciple." The *Sermones* includes sermons for Saints' Days and other occasions, "exempla," i.e. short stories, and legends of the Virgin Mary.

The marginal notes written by contemporary and later readers are of considerable interest. One note in Gothic cursive refers to a passage on Herod the Great, who ordered the killing of the infants: "Herodes tres fuerunt; *continued on page 6*

NEH Preservation Grant Update

by *Sophia K. Jordan*

On July 27, 1992, the University Libraries celebrated the first anniversary of a National Endowment for the Humanities preservation grant award. The grant provides needed funds for microfilming a portion of the Medieval Institute's collection which is deteriorating from acidic paper. With the three year project well underway, it is time to review the progress of the grant and preservation efforts at the University Libraries of Notre Dame.

For centuries words, ideas and images have been transmitted to us through books. Understandably, there is an unspoken belief that the books we read are as eternal as the ideas they contain. But the life of ideas is intimately dependent upon the materials of transmission and these materials are corruptible.

While the academic community may be aware of the types of damage a book can sustain from use or abuse, it may be less aware of the destruction occurring silently within. This internal destruction is tied directly to the quality of materials used and to the history of their manufacture. From the 16th century, when paper almost entirely replaced vellum, through the 17th and 18th centuries, book design and manufacture remained relatively unchanged and produced a durable product. However, in the last century two shifts in the manufacture of paper changed the future life of the book.

With the mechanization of the paper-making process, manufacturers intensified their search to replace linen and cotton rags, the traditional raw materials of paper since the 15th century. The search for ever cheaper paper led in the 1860s to the manufacture of paper from ground wood pulp. By the end of the 19th century commercial paper consisted of 80-85 percent mechanical wood pulp. Within 50 years such paper deteriorates into the familiar fragments of the embrittled page. It is evident that the consequences for academic libraries are significant.

In 1989 the University Libraries established a preservation unit to deal with its aging and deteriorating collections. For the past three years that unit has been engaged in training a small staff in general collections conservation as well as informing the academic community about the relative health of the University's collections. In November 1990 a major exhibit was mounted in the concourse of the Hesburgh Library. Entitled "The Book: Its History, Its Manufacture, and Its Preservation," the exhibit alerted the scholarly community to the issues of book deterioration by bringing the brutal facts to light. In September of 1991 the Friends of the Library sponsored "A Night to Preserve." This three-tiered presentation discussed the preservation issues of paper, photographs and paintings and the types of deterioration found in private collections. It was hoped that these two very different efforts would stir all the right emotions and bring about an alliance between the

library and the academic community that would result in a sense of urgency and a call to action.

In 1990 the reality of embrittled collections struck a chord among medievalists. On March 25-26, 1990, the Medieval Academy of America and the Medieval Institute at Notre Dame hosted a colloquium on preservation issues in medieval studies. Supported by a grant from the Commission on Preservation and Access and the University's Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, the colloquium managed to organize both teaching and library faculty.

There is a special threat to the literature of medieval studies. This interdisciplinary field was constituted as an academic discipline just in the years that saw the first printing of books on highly perishable paper and books. Although most vellum medieval manuscripts remain in remarkably good condition, the loss of the field's critical editions and interpretive texts published between 1800 and 1950 is appalling.

The colloquium's success and the commitment on the part of the academic community was enough to convince the National Endowment for the Humanities to recognize and support another collection at risk. The University Libraries of Notre Dame was successful in its grant application to NEH and was awarded a three year grant to microfilm approximately 13,000 volumes in the Medieval Institute Library. In less than seven months of active microfilming, the project has saved the intellectual content of over 2,500 volumes, or the equivalent 600,000 pages of words, ideas and images. Over 100 service copies of microfilm have been produced to date.

Although all volumes printed between 1800 and 1950 regardless of their intellectual content are in danger of deterioration, our project has targeted those titles in the B, C and D classifications because they represent the largest portion of the volumes at risk. Under the rubric of "medieval," topics such as logic and philosophy, doctrinal theology, diplomatics and numismatics, heraldry and the history of Europe are included.

So, how is the intellectual content preserved? Once a book becomes brittle, there is nothing that can be done to reverse the effects. In order to preserve the intellectual content, the volume must be microfilmed. While there are inconveniences to the user, microfilm will last from 300 to 500 years. Its other virtue is that it can be utilized to generate other formats, i.e., printed copies, CD-ROM products and additional microfilms. It is a versatile medium.

For every volume preserved three copies or generations of film are produced. The first generation, called the master negative, is stored in an underground vault at Iron Mountain, New York. The second generation, called the print master, is used to make other microfilm copies such as the service copy. The third generation, the service copy, will be housed in the

Microtext Reading Room of the Hesburgh Library to be used by patrons now or later when the paper and the book finally vanish.

If ideas are to be saved for the next generation of scholars, the intellectual content of books and periodicals must be preserved on microfilm. We have a sentimental attachment to books, as well we should. But we are forced now to separate the ideas from the medium, so that we can ensure the transmission of the text, not only for medievalists, but for all scholars.

Canadian Library Support Program

by Lorenzo A. Zeugner, Jr.

In September 1988, the Canadian government initiated the Library Support Program to provide funds to institutions world-wide to purchase materials relating to the study of Canada. The grants are administered through the International Council for Canadian Studies in Ottawa and made available to American libraries at the discretion of the various consulates general throughout the United States. These grants provide matching funds, permitting an institution to purchase materials up to a maximum of \$5,000 per annum and to be reimbursed up to a maximum of \$2,500. Last year this program distributed \$80,000 to American libraries.

For the past three years the University Libraries of Notre Dame has been a recipient of the program through the Canadian Consulate General in Detroit. Working with the Public Affairs Officer at the Consulate, we began with the modest amount of \$400 in 1990 and in successive years have been able to increase the amount to \$1,000 and finally to \$1,500 for fiscal 1992-93. These funds have been used to supplement the Canadian university press publications received on our North American Approval Plan and to strengthen the Libraries' holdings in Canadiana to support teaching and research in Canadian studies.

The program operates with considerable flexibility, giving wide interpretation to the term "Canadian studies," with the social sciences and the humanities being the major beneficiaries of the program. Business, economics, law, international relations, history, politics, sociology, geography, arts, architecture, literature in English and French, linguistics and education may qualify for grant funds.

A good source for Canadianists to begin their research is *Canada: A Readers Guide* by Andre Senecal. Acquired through this program, this volume (Ref. Z 1365 .S464 1991) is designed to meet the initial research needs of those individuals interested in Canadian studies. Bilingual in format, this selective, annotated bibliography identifies important reference materials and titles in the major

disciplines in Canadian studies. It is organized by discipline, with author and title indexes and detailed cross-references.

As order requests are received in the Acquisitions Department from professors or librarians interested in Canadian studies, they are photocopied and sent for approval to the Public Affairs Officer at the Consulate General in Detroit. When the approved orders are returned to the Acquisitions Department, they are ordered through Coutts Library Service of Lewiston, New York, a book dealer specializing in Canadian publications. The advantage of using Coutts is that they maintain a separate account for the billing of Canadian materials. As the shipments arrive, a copy of each relevant invoice is retained for submission to the Consulate in Detroit. Upon receipt of the invoices, confirming the approved purchases, funds from the grant are released to the University Libraries.

While we are aware of at least three Notre Dame faculty members with an interest in Canada, we encourage anyone interested in Canadian studies to make their interest known to us, and we will do our best to provide the necessary materials.

We have been advised that there are research grants available to faculty interested in Canadian studies. Applications and inquiries for these grants should be made directly to the Canadian Consulate in Detroit, but the University Libraries would be pleased to assist in arranging an introduction.

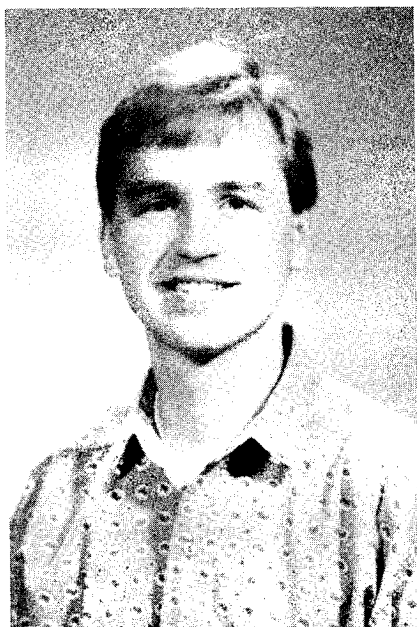
The Library Support Program has been a significant benefit to the University Libraries in building and strengthening its collections in Canadiana. We sincerely thank the Canadian government for the opportunity to participate in this program and for providing the financial support to purchase materials about their country.

Please help us protect our
collections and equipment by
observing the University
Libraries' Food and Drink
Policy.

New Physical Sciences/ Mathematics Librarian

by Melodie G. Eiteljorge

August 1 marked the arrival of the University Libraries' newest faculty member. Thurston Miller was attracted to the position of physical sciences/mathematics librarian at the University of Notre Dame because of its emphasis on creating patron-focused branch library service. In his former position as engineering/physical sciences librarian at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Miller concentrated on developing opportunities to work directly with faculty and students in the departments. He worked with a committee of instructors to offer an advanced course on chemistry research, providing students with instruction on computer database searching.



B. Hartman

Miller received a bachelor of arts degree in mathematics in 1987 and a master of library science degree in 1989 from the University of Washington, Seattle. As both an undergraduate and a graduate student, he worked as a campus tour guide. While obtaining his library degree, he held a variety of library/computing positions at the university, gaining valuable experience.

An active library professional, Miller is a member of the American Library Association and has affiliations with the Nevada Library Association, the American Society of Engineering Educators and the Western Association of Map Librarians. In addition he served as president and was founder of the Las Vegas Orienteering Club.

In keeping with his strong commitment to service and outreach, Miller encourages new faculty members to contact him for personal library orientation, and welcomes graduate students with special projects to seek his advice. He invites them to "drop by for a visit," adding: "We can

discuss the weather, football, the Olympics, gambling, or Yellow Pine, Idaho, along with any library problems or science related topics." He is available for consultation at the Chemistry/Physics or Mathematics libraries, or at extension 7203.

Bob Havlik *continued from page 1*

Under his guidance, the collections in the Engineering and Architecture libraries have been developed to match the needs of Notre Dame's particular programs. A man of broad interests, Bob has also been involved with collection development in the areas of mathematics, computer science, chemistry, physics, the history of science and technology and military science.

The broad scope of Bob's interests is visible in his outstanding exhibits and in his prolific array of publications. His exhibits, in both the Hesburgh Library and the Fitzpatrick Hall of Engineering, have focused on themes as far-ranging as the Chicago World Fairs, Engineering families, Darwin's voyage, Halley's Comet and extraterrestrial life. Bob's writings and lectures also cover a broad range of topics. He wrote the biographical sketches of Abraham Lincoln, Mary Lincoln, the Wright Brothers, Thomas Edison and Stanford White in the *St. James Guide to Biography* and the biographical sketch of Thomas P. Jones for the *American National Biography*. An active contributor to *American Reference Books Annual*, *Science Books and Choice*, he has contributed major chapters to *Magazines for Libraries*, *Books for College Libraries* and *Magazines for Young People*. He has also published a number of articles on topics ranging from aerospace literature ("Aerospace Education and Technical Literature" in *The International Journal of Applied Engineering Education*, 7:4, 1991) to his favorite topic -- Abraham Lincoln ("Walt Whitman, Abraham Lincoln, and Bram Stoker" in *Walt Whitman Quarterly Review*, Winter, 1986).

Creating exhibits, writing or talking -- Bob Havlik is a man of many ideas. His creativity and good humor have been a boon to the Libraries. Bob has always encouraged the Libraries to look at old problems in new ways. His insights and planning skills have helped in system-wide space planning, program implementation and development activities. His optimism and infinite supply of tales and anecdotes have encouraged staff and patrons and have brightened many a tedious meeting. His kind personality and sincere interest in his patrons and his staff have endeared him to many throughout the Notre Dame community.

Although Bob has officially retired, he has agreed to act as library exhibits coordinator. In the months ahead, he will use the Hesburgh Library exhibit cases to continue to enlighten and entertain us.

Applause, applause!

The University Libraries once again took center stage last spring as two of its most dedicated were honored at successive Presidential dinners on May 18 and 19. Their awards read as follows:

1992 Special Presidential Award

Over the past seventeen years this administrator has led her staff in feats which would rival those of Hercules. One of these projects was the Library's Great Barcode Project -- which prepared the Library's collections for the on-line circulation system. She rallied staff support through months of work and unpredictable disruptions. Through her successful management of this task, she has been invited to advise libraries throughout the state as they begin their own barcoding and circulation projects.

By example and coaching, she inspires her staff to assist patrons in a cheerful, sensitive and competent manner. She imbues her department with a sense of community by her example.

For all that she brings to Notre Dame, we recognize

Sue A. Dietl



Sue Dietl and Father Malloy

B. Harlan

Bob Havlik receiving Foik Award from Father Malloy as wife, Dorothy, looks on. The award is given annually to a library faculty member who has contributed significantly to library service, to the Notre Dame community or to the library profession through personal scholarship or involvement in professional associations.

1992 Rev. Paul J. Foik, C.S.C., Award

The recipient of the 1992 Foik Award is an energetic librarian committed to improving resources for Notre Dame's faculty and students. By training and interest an expert in technical and scientific fields, he anticipates the needs of those he serves. Planner of effective exhibits and manipulator of scarce space, he also publishes reviews which guide his colleagues in selection of up-to-date technical literature. His professional expertise is further enhanced through interests which betray his longstanding Midwestern attachments: studies of Lincoln and the Chicago World's Fair.

Robert J. Havlik



B. Harlan

Another *continued from page 1*

ASCOLONITA qui occidit infantes // AGRIPPA sub quo
Christus passus est // ANTIPAS qui Johannem Baptistam
decollavit. //" Apparently at least some readers knew him as
"Ascolonita," from his birthplace of Ascolon.

This and any of the other incunabula in the Rare
Book Collection may be consulted in the Reading Room of
the Department of Special Collections, Room 102, Hesburgh
Library, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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