

ACCESS

/ SPRING 2007

News from the University Libraries of Notre Dame

This Library Means Business: Investment in BIC's Assets Pays Off

If you think that libraries are too quaint or dowdy to be of interest in today's ultra-competitive corporate world, the Business Information Center (BIC) at Mendoza College of Business has some information for you.

The number of signed-in users of the Thomas Mahaffey, Jr. Business Information Center, which is one of the branches of the University Libraries, nearly doubled from 10,055 in the fall 2005 semester to 19,662 in the fall semester of this academic year. Considering usage over a full academic year, the BIC annual report for 2005-06 tallied 25,698 "unadjusted log-ins" during that year, up 84.6 percent from the previous period.

Actual usage is significantly higher than even these impressive numbers indicate, since many visitors work in groups and not all group members log in, says Christian Poehlmann, assistant business services librarian.

Why are so many business students—and students and faculty members interested in

business—using Mendoza's lower-level library in this age when it's so easy to find information about companies and commerce, Wall Street and world finance, on the Web, wherever you boot up your laptop?

Business success relies not only on having a wealth of information at your fingertips, but also on knowing where to find the really valuable data, being able to judge its accuracy and analyze its meaning, and using it wisely, says Poehlmann. For that, libraries and librarians are still crucial commodities.

"In popular culture, the stereotypical image of a librarian is of someone whose job it is to store books, but that's not even close to the truth," Poehlmann says. "Our core competency is to help users find, access, evaluate, and use information in any format." A student who can quickly locate and assess information "has a good competitive advantage—first, when he or she is looking for a job and secondly, when he or she lands the job."



Hayes (left) and Poehlmann at BIC, based at Mendoza.

The University Libraries spend over \$300,000 per year for business-related resources, and students are learning the importance of tapping into these resources, says Poehlmann, who runs the BIC branch under the direction of business services librarian Stephen Hayes.

This spring, Poehlmann and Hayes co-taught an intensive, one-week, one-credit course for MBA candidates, "Competitive Intelligence and Business Information Resources," for the third consecutive semester.

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A Librarian Who Makes House Calls

In this age of online information entrepreneurship, the need for in-depth, reliable research has not diminished, so this is no time for people to discount the library as a resource. Likewise, the emergence of the wired campus should not discount the value of space devoted to research, but rather it redefines more broadly the notion of "library as place," making this place become more mobile and flexible. The library's people, its expertise, and its integration into modern life can and should show up anywhere.

That's the idea behind a pilot program at the University Libraries called the "Mobile Librarian." The initiative, conducted this

spring, established outposts for offering impromptu service to students and faculty at O'Shaughnessy Hall and Coleman-Morse Center several times during each week. The range-rider who carried her laptop to these venues was Leslie Morgan, who has tackled a number of duties during her two years as a participant in the Libraries' Librarian-in-Residence Program.

"I basically take the library on the road," Morgan said of the Mobile Librarian venture, which she initiated with the support and coordination of Sherri Jones, head of Information, Research, and Instructional Services, and



Leslie Morgan (right) with student.

Cheryl Smith, coordinator of Instructional Services and reference librarian.

Morgan matched her hours to times of increased student need. She set up shop at Coleman-Morse from 3 pm to 11 pm on Sundays, for example. She said students started asking for various kinds of assistance, wondering how to find scholarly

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Cooperation Has Local, Global Impacts



Library cooperation is a well established tradition. I was reminded just how well when my Internet search on “library cooperation” retrieved over 53 million entries. These entries describe an impressive array of cooperative arrangements. Some arrangements are strictly local while others span the globe. Some create an exchange between two libraries while others involve hundreds of libraries in a single cooperative activity. All of these cooperative activities, however, start from the premise that each participating library will gain from the cooperation.

One article title caught my eye: “Making Stone Soup.” At the Annual Conference of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) in 2000, Lois Ann Colaiani, formerly of the National Library of Medicine, spoke on the dilemma of apportioning time and resources between those activities which served directly one’s own

clientele and those which served other constituencies. She introduced her remarks with a folk tale about making stone soup. A poor, hungry young woman invites the local villagers to help her make stone soup so they will all have something to eat. What begins as nothing more than stones and water in a pot becomes a hearty soup of vegetables and beef as each villager brings a carrot, a cabbage or a cube of beef for the soup pot. Colaiani underlines the theme: “when enough persons share resources, no matter how small each contribution, the result will benefit all.”

Notre Dame students and faculty benefit greatly from the cooperative activities of the University Libraries. Recently, the Libraries and the campus Office of Information Technologies (OIT) jointly introduced a new service called RefWorks, a web-based tool for organizing, storing and formatting citations. OIT is handling the software licensing and the University Libraries are providing the user support. The Libraries participate in an extended resource-sharing arrangement whereby students and faculty at any academic institution in Indiana can borrow materials on-site from any of the other Indiana institutions. We are one of numerous partners working with the Center for Research Libraries (CRL) to develop and preserve an international collection of endangered newspapers. We provide print issues of the Argentine newspaper *La Nación* to CRL which then microfilms the issues for long-term preservation and access.

The Libraries are involved in many cooperative activities on campus, in the state, nationally and internationally. We are compiling a comprehensive inventory that will describe the various activities as well as their costs, impact on library services and collections, and benefits to Notre Dame students and faculty. Our purpose is to gain a better understanding of how these activities enhance the user experience and to shape our role in the global network of research libraries in acquiring, cataloging, and preserving the record of scholarship for future generations.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jennifer A. Younger". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Jennifer A. Younger
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ACCESS

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DID YOU KNOW? The “KIC,” or, Knowledge Imaging Center, scans documents that can be sent to email and saved to your flash drive. It is self-service and easy to use.

Operational in the reference area of the Hesburgh Library since mid-January 2007, by mid-March it had made more than 12,000 scans.

Readers Applaud Our New Look; Reactions and Ideas Still Welcome

Thanks go out to Access readers who responded to last semester’s survey that asked for reactions to and recommendations for this newsletter. Anonymous reactions to the publication, which underwent a major redesign in 2005-06, included: “Very interesting and well-written articles”; “kudos on the new format of your publication”; “excellent layout—very impressive”; and “great improvement—keep up the good work.”

The kind words were much appreciated, but the Access Editorial Committee continues to invite both your critiques and your suggestions for future stories. Are there aspects of the rapidly changing information universe about which you would like to learn more? We have retained the questionnaire at the Libraries’ website. Make your comments known at <http://www.library.nd.edu/advancement/Access.shtml>.

When “Reference Desk” Meets Computer Center: A Link-Up at the Heart of New Connections

The reference area on the first floor of Hesburgh Library is taking on a new look that can be summed up in the word, “connections.”

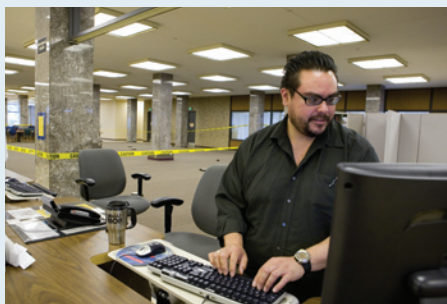
Literally speaking, the ambitious plan has called for sections of the big room to be roped off while holes were drilled in the floor for the wires that will connect new computers at new collaboration stations.

The stations are configured in different sizes and shapes, sure to generate feedback about which designs best encourage students to connect with each other on research projects.

The fact that this computer center is essentially moving from an earlier home on the second floor of Hesburgh Library to the main room on the main floor also symbolizes a new connection between technology and the reference desk—the recognition that so much of what students look up these days resides in a computer database.

The growing linkage between independent research and instruction about today’s tools for entrepreneurial scholarship is also reflected in the name change for the Reference Services Department of the Libraries. The new name is Information, Research, and Instructional Services, or IRIS for short.

To support the technological synergy envisioned for IRIS, the Office of Information Technologies will have staff at a new desk in the vicinity of the computer cluster, and there will be more synergy between the OIT staff



Reference librarian Hector Escobar staffs the service desk amid ongoing construction of the redesigned reference area.

and the IRIS staff.

“There will be some cross-training” of personnel, says Nigel Butterwick, associate director for User Services. The desk will remain a centralized “first stop” where people can ask almost any question. Reference librarians will be able to point students toward the databases they need, but both OIT and Libraries’ staff may be able to answer some technical computer questions or to advise on exporting database records with RefWorks software.

The “reference desk” itself is being redesigned to express and empower the staff’s improved connections with users. Bookshelves that separated the reference staff from patrons have been removed. A more semi-circular desk will permit staff members to

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Grad Students Get Room to Grow

The University Libraries, realizing their important role in the scholarship that leads to advanced degrees, have increased the amount of space that graduate students can call their own.

The room on the 10th floor of the Hesburgh Library that had been designated for advanced-degree candidates offered study desks and a traditional feel centered on quiet, independent work.

That room will remain a quiet place for study, but adjacent space has been carved out to offer a mix of casual chairs and work space, complete with white boards, more conducive to collaboration. The entire complex will offer state-of-the-art connectivity to the Internet and to electronic library resources.

As of this writing, the new room had received carpeting but still awaited new furniture. The new space in its entirety will be called the Graduate Study Center. **A**

House Calls *(continued from page 1)*

resources for papers they had to write, or how to search multiple scholarly databases simultaneously. “Students are surprised we have the research databases we have,” she said, noting that scholarship can benefit from the many alternatives to the customary search-engine results.

The outcomes of the experiment with mobile services will be reviewed as the Libraries consider continuation of the campus visitations. Stay tuned... **A**

Rapid Response to a Burst Pipe Minimizes Damage to Books

On February 5th, frigid temperatures and a heating and cooling system malfunction caused a frozen pipe to burst and release water into several areas of Hesburgh Library. From the moment the alarm sounded, staff from all units in the library mobilized and worked together to drape large sheets of plastic over threatened areas of the collection, protecting the books from the oncoming water. “Between the lucky timing of the leak and the fabulous teamwork of library staff, we got very lucky; only about 1,400 books got wet,” said associate librarian and conservator Liz Dube.

With the collections safely covered in plastic, library staff turned their attention to locating and drying hundreds of affected books. Because the books “didn’t get horribly wet,” explained Dube, the staff were able to employ “a fairly simple method of drying them out.”

The wet books were arranged, upright and fanned open, on large tables encircled by dozens of electric fans and industrial dehumidifiers. Books were monitored and repositioned as needed to facilitate drying. As they were “just about dry,” books were identified and shelved very tightly onto book trucks, creating a sort of “make-

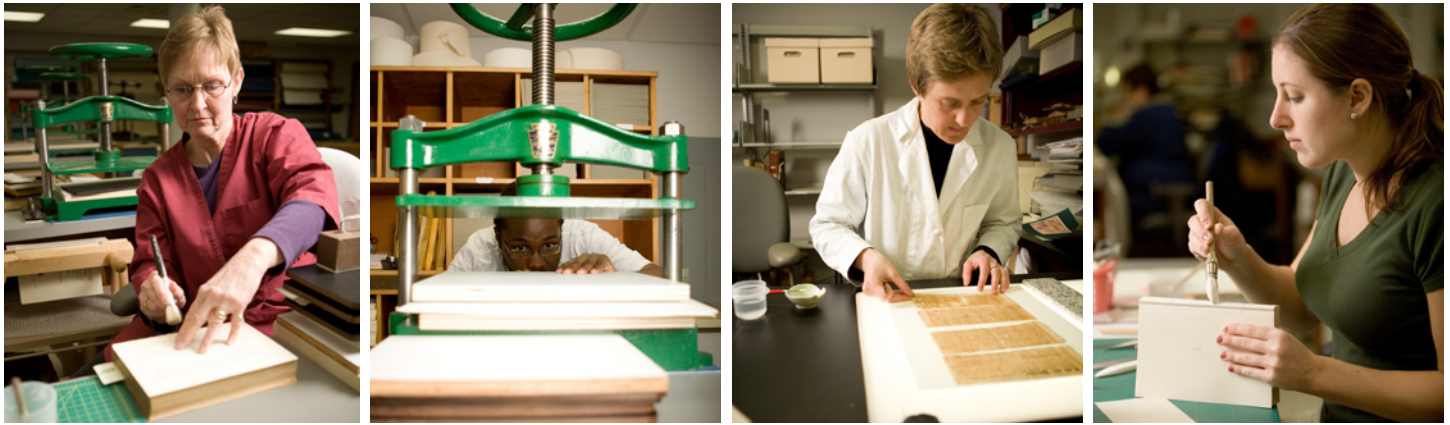
shift book press,” which helped insure the book pages dried flat and did not warp or cockle.

In a sense, the low external temperatures of February actually helped the response effort. With the building’s heating system working overtime, the relative humidity internally was quite low, hastening drying. “Mold was never an issue, thankfully, because the books dried so quickly,” said Dube.

Once dry, the books were sorted by preservation staff into categories based on the level of damage sustained. Of the 1,400 wet books, approximately 1,000 were deemed in good condi-

tion and were simply re-shelved. Another hundred or so sustained significant damage, but only to their covers, so as of this writing, these books were being rebound and returned to the shelves.

The nearly 300 “hardest hit” volumes were individually reviewed by the appropriate subject librarians. While a small handful of these could be withdrawn if it is determined they no longer hold value for teaching and research, by and large, the Libraries expect to seek out and purchase replacement copies for these significantly damaged items. *(See more about conservation, page 4.)* **A**



Conservation technician Marsha Meuleman (far left) repairs a stack of damaged books from the general collections; sophomore psychology major Gawain Patterson places a newly repaired book into a book press to dry; conservator Liz Dube carefully conserves a rare colonial American document; and junior biology major Colleen McCormick (far right) consolidates the spine of a book in preparation for rebinding.

Where Notre Dame's Books Go to Get Better: Conservation Facility Offers High-Tech First Aid

"This is not a novel to be tossed aside lightly," said witty American author Dorothy Parker in a critique. "It should be thrown with great force."

Well, no one should treat a book that way. But, if one were to find a mangled manuscript or a victimized volume, there would still be hope for it—if it were taken to an emergency room of sorts maintained by Notre Dame.

This enclave is the University Libraries' Conservation Labs, housed in the Reyniers Building, next door to the Notre Dame Federal Credit Union on Douglas Road. Here Liz Dube, associate librarian and conservator, heads a team of three full-time staff members and a cadre of student workers who breathe life into worn-out books and manuscripts.

This state-of-the-art conservation facility is part of the Libraries' comprehensive preservation program, which also includes library binding, shelf preparation, reformatting of brittle books, and mass deacidification. Led by Julie Arnott, the Preservation Department also spearheads key initiatives such as digital preservation and disaster preparedness and response.

The high-tech conservation facility contains several specialized labs for treating all types of book and paper collections, from recently published texts to rare books and manuscripts. The objective is to treat collections so they can be used both today and for generations to come, so repairs must preserve as much of the original as is feasible.

In conservation, "less is often more," explains Dube. In addition to learning the techniques, staff learn how to select the appropriate treatment for an item, considering factors such as the type of usage expected and the current/anticipated value of the item as an

artifact. In the end, conservation's approach "tends to err on the conservative side. Today's general collections are often the next generation's special collections."

A document that was recently being worked on in one of the basement enclave's laboratories offers an example of special collections conservation work.

An early American piece of commercial documentation, valuable for its embossed tax seal, first had to be removed from a poster-like backing to which it had been glued. Adhesive residue from that mounting had to be removed. Adhesive tape which had kept parts of the document together was removed, and the separate pieces were newly mended together. The document was then treated by spraying it with an alkaline substance to help chemically stabilize the paper. Finally, the document was placed in a see-through polyester sleeve for viewing.

There are several ways to remove adhesives and tapes, including using water, heat, solvents, or mechanical means. When the work is getting especially sticky, so to speak, "I'll work initially under the microscope," says Dube. "You can really see what is happening"—whether, for example, removing the adhesive is also taking up fibers of the paper as you go. The facility also has a suction device that can help to dissolve and remove adhesives from paper.

Some of the damage is intrinsic, says Dube. For instance, paper used in many books of the 19th and early 20th centuries was poorly processed from wood pulp and is high in acidic lignin, which over time can cause the pages to become brittle and prone to tear or crumble.

There is no way to add strength to paper that has already become embrittled, so various techniques are used to slow down the acid decay process. For example, the conservation lab has different methods for applying alkaline chemicals to pages to help counter their acidity.

If a circulating book has become so brittle that it can't withstand the repair process, often the best preservation solution is reformatting—creating a copy using microfilm, paper, or digital media. When reformatting is not feasible, or when the original book still holds value after reformatting, it can be stored in a custom-made package.

"We basically make a box for it," says Dube. This makes the book "backpack-proof" while keeping the whole contents together, and one hopes it also sends a kid-glove message to the patron: "It shows that the book is being cared for and encourages careful handling of its fragile contents."

Other common cases of damage are due to wear and tear, such as the breakdown of a book's binding and the separation of the pages from the cover. The conservation team regularly repairs or makes new covers for damaged circulating collections, applying batch techniques for efficiency and using a special linen-reinforced binding style with roots dating back to 18th-century Germany, Dube points out.

Occasionally, as with a tome that Dorothy Parker might have thrown, the damage done to a book is preventable. Over the years, notes Dube, patrons have been known to tear out pages with important information or a compelling photograph: "Pictures of Marilyn Monroe tend to be very scarce in libraries."

That problem isn't too prevalent at Notre Dame, Dube says, "but it is frustrating for staff when they have to repair that sort of damage." **A**

Caring for the Future...

Passing Along the Knowledge: Emerging Library Careers Find Notre Dame Mentors

If an academic department's mission is partly to educate the next generation of scholars who will increase and pass along the accumulated insights of a particular discipline, the University Libraries' mission is no different. A number of Notre Dame librarians have found ways to mentor new and aspiring professionals pursuing library careers, making Notre Dame—even though it offers no master's in library and information science degree—a potent place for teaching, research, learning, and expanding opportunity in this information-age profession.

For aspirants in the field of library science, getting that first professional job is “job one.” The terminal master's program that typically serves as the gateway into library careers is often obtained on a part-time basis, and complementing one's studies with paid work in a library offers a huge advantage in the post-graduation job market. Currently, there are three library staff members pursuing graduate studies in library science: Anastasia Guimaraes, supervisor, Catalog and Database Maintenance; Marcy Simons, supervisor, Reserve Book Room; and Mandy Havert. Havert, a technical support consultant based in the Hesburgh Library, has worked at the University Libraries since 1997, always in positions related to library staff interaction with computer systems and “making things work for people,” she says. She began library studies in 2005 and expects to receive her degree this August from Indiana University.

The Libraries have been supportive of Havert's interest in further study all along, she says. They have reimbursed textbook costs, allowed her to make flex time arrangements for attending morning classes at Indiana University South Bend, and offered her support in passing another hurdle that confronts aspiring librarians—the need to have one's independent research published. (Publication is important for the faculty of libraries just as it is for the faculty of colleges and schools on campus.) Besides her regular job, she occasionally “shadows” the personnel at the reference desk to

experience the kinds of real-life questions that arise. She's grateful for the help offered by University Libraries' administration and staff.

“It's a great resource to have someone who's taking an interest in where you are now and where you're going,” says Havert. She's also able to “give back” to Notre Dame by serving on the group that plans the Libraries' annual May Institute for professional development. Another committee she worked with sought to develop IT training programs. She finds that being a concurrent student in information science classes gives her ideas and allows her to “turn class projects into practical knowledge” that can benefit her Notre Dame colleagues.

The Libraries, like some of their peers on other college campuses around the country, also offer the Librarian-in-Residence Program—a post-graduate “residency” in which young librarians get a meaningful work experience that exposes them to a full range of library departments, committees, projects and professional activities. The two current librarians-in-residence are Felicia Smith, who graduated in 2004 with a master's degree in library and information science from Dominican University in River Forest, IL (see article, p. 7), and Leslie Morgan, (see article, p. 1) who graduated with her MLIS degree in 2005 from Wayne State University in Detroit. Both Smith and Morgan have been rotating through a number of different departments and functions as they approach the summer 2007 conclusion of



Patricia Loghry (far left) with her first writing group (left to right), Meleah Ladd, Mark Dehmlo, Anastasia Guimaraes, Marcy Simons (absent: Michael Bradford). The group has a forthcoming publication on the influence of electronic resources on library and information science education.

their two-year residencies.

The residency program, established in 2000, is part of a diversity initiative jointly undertaken by the University Libraries and the Kresge Law Library and is administered by the Diversity Committee chaired by librarian Laura Bayard, head of Documents Access and Database Management.

“During their two years with us, they develop in areas of professional service and in contributions to the profession,” says Bayard. She notes that the program supports one of Notre Dame's strategic goals—to hire more women and minority faculty.

A separate program, for which Bayard is principal investigator, aims to excite selected high school students about library and information careers and is supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). Notre Dame librarians act as informal mentors to the young people during summers.

There is indeed plenty of informal and individual-initiative mentoring that supplements the Libraries' more formal structures for cultivating the next generation of librarians.

Assistant librarian Patricia Loghry has become well known as a go-to person for master's degree candidates and “early” professionals as they begin their important career-threshold endeavors of program presentation and achieving their first publication. Based on years of experience as a mentor and aided by her familiarity with journals in the field, she helps the young faculty and staff members identify significant topics and then to do research, either individually or in groups, that journals might want to publish.

Loghry enjoys helping the up-and-coming staff members. “They're a lot of fun to work with, and it keeps you close to the edge of what's going on in the field,” she says.

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Laura Bayard



Joseph Holtermann

New Collections Span Disciplines, Continents, Centuries

The receipt of three collections in recent months will expand the Libraries' resources for scholars in theology, education, and Latin America.

Brigham Young University (BYU) donated nearly 7,000 books that it had obtained from a Benedictine monastery in France. The monastery's collection, with books published in the 18th through 20th centuries and mostly written in French, deals with Catholic Church history, biography, systematic theology, and liturgy.

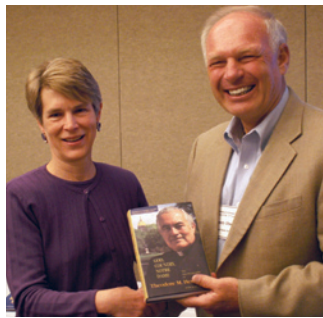
A recent acquisition of books and journals on Peruvian history and archaeology will serve to expand the José Durand Special Collection of rare books on Peru. The additions number some 800 titles, published in the mid-to late-1900s, with many devoted to Incan historical sites.

The estate of the late Michael Pressley donated some 15,000 volumes on educational psychology, sociology, and theology. Pressley, a member of the Notre Dame psychology faculty from 1997 to 2001, died last year.

The BYU collection of books aligns well with the research interests of Department of Theology faculty members, according to associate librarian Alan Krieger who oversees the theology and philosophy collection. The collection will also complement Notre Dame's substantial contributions to the Catholic Research Resources Initiative, a partnership of 12 Catholic universities for sharing hard-to-find documents that shed light on Catholic history and thought.

BYU's donation of the rare volumes can be traced back to a football game attended here by BYU library director Randy J. Olsen several years ago. "Even though BYU lost the game that day, I enjoyed my time at Notre Dame immensely and left with a strong positive impression of the school," Olsen said in a statement.

"It seemed to me that this collection [from the Benedictine monastery] would probably be of greater value to scholars in South Bend." Citing the importance of interlibrary cooperation, he continued, "Following some telephone conversations with my friend Jennifer Younger and her staff, the books were boxed and shipped on their way east." **A**



Library directors Jennifer Younger and Randy Olsen.

Letters from Latin America Draw Attention to Collection

The Libraries are stepping up efforts to familiarize the Notre Dame community with the diverse wealth of collections they own. In February, librarian Scott Van Jacob, head of the Libraries' Collection Development Department, offered a chance for visitors to browse through notable items in the Libraries' extensive Latin American collection.

On display in the Special Collections Exhibit Room were hundreds of documents, a number of them donated by Mary Jane and José E. Fernández, Sr., and Robert and Beverly O'Grady. They included letters written by former Argentinian first lady Eva Perón in the early 1950s; by José de San Martín, the 19th century liberator of Argentina, Chile and Peru; and by Julio Roca, twice president of Argentina.

The display also included examples of Latin American commerce and business transactions, including records of Argentinean ranching and textile production.

"The work Notre Dame is doing is very important," commented Purdue history professor Ariel de la Fuente, who was present to see the exhibit. Noting the continuing additions of materials from Argentina and Chile, he said Notre Dame has "the only active collection of Southern Cone material in the U.S." **A**



Visitor scans display while Van Jacob looks on.

Library Mentors (continued from page 5)

Librarian Katharina Blackstead, who also serves as advancement officer for the University Libraries, mentored Jaron Turner, whose internship at Notre Dame constituted her last course before earning the master's degree in library and information science from Indiana University. Turner's internship last fall reflected her interest in library administration, leading her to conduct focus groups with library users, to interview students and library staffers, prepare a promotional brochure, and develop communications with benefactors. "Library advancement was a fabulous niche for Jaron," says Blackstead.

The list of helpful guides for tomorrow's generation goes on and on.

Associate librarian Pascal Calarco, a Canadian citizen, offers guidance to library science students from his *alma mater*, Montreal's McGill University, who are exploring the U.S. job market for librarians. He has also been one of the mentors for local high school students through the IMLS-supported summer program.

Assistant librarian Joseph Holtermann has been serving since 1999 as a mentor for library students from his *alma mater*, the University of Illinois. One of their courses, "Technical Services Functions," matches up every student with an email correspondent who works in a technical services position at a library somewhere in the country.

Because the spectrum of technical services—including acquisition of materials, cataloging, preservation, serial collection, and more—embraces plenty of hands-on practice and is constantly evolving, students are encouraged by their professor to converse throughout their course with someone in-the-field whose knowledge goes beyond the theory.

"They ask great questions," Holtermann says. "It's rewarding for me. I feel like I'm giving something back, and I benefit because it leads me to think about current issues, to recall my own training."

Associate librarian Robert Kusmer also has helped to bring hands-on insight to students in the Indiana University School of Library and Information Science, located in Indianapolis. Last fall, he served as the "lab instructor" for the cataloging course at IU South Bend, where six students were participating in the course through distance learning.

"I'm sure the students appreciate having the local instructor," says Kusmer. They can become "much more in tune with the day-to-day world of cataloging." Kusmer hopes that he may be able to repeat his role next fall.

The various ways of offering service to the next generation of library practitioners are all in keeping with the mission of a university, especially in an academic library where librarians serve as faculty, says Holtermann. "As librarians, each of us is asked to contribute to professional service," he says. "That's an important part of our role." **A**

Kudos...

Felicia Smith Named an ALA “Emerging Leader”



Felicia Smith

Felicia Smith, librarian-in-residence at Notre Dame, became part of the first group of young library professionals from around the country to be selected for the American Library Association’s (ALA) Emerging Leaders Program. The

intent of the program is to encourage and prepare new librarians to pursue leadership roles in the ALA or one of its divisions or state chapters. The initial class of 100 emerging leaders, including Smith, began its year of special activities at ALA’s midwinter

meeting in Seattle in January.

Those activities generally include projects undertaken with one of the ALA committees. Smith says she is working with an Intellectual Freedom Round Table committee to examine privacy issues and the dialogue that librarians should have with “the MySpace generation” about information security.

As a member of that generation, Smith has proven her capabilities with technology in a number of ways. She maintains a personal website at nd.edu/~fsmith3 and a frequently updated “Librarian in Excellence” blog at librarianinexcellence.blogspot.com, offering plenty of information about her endeavors. Smith helped to write the script for a video posted on YouTube; the video, “Citation

Cops,” combines humor and insight to promote the conscientious use of RefWorks software.

Smith has taught a RefWorks workshop, as well as a class on chemistry databases. She says her term as librarian-in-residence, which ends this summer, has been a time of great learning and encouragement. The Libraries nominated her for the Emerging Leaders Program, and they supported her attendance at an intellectual freedom conference for African library leaders in Tanzania last summer. That experience led to an article which is among her multiple publications. Those are linked at her website.

“Notre Dame has challenged me, and they believe in me,” Smith says. **A**

Congratulations to our Colleagues



J. Douglas Archer, librarian, was appointed chair of the Indiana Library Federation’s Intellectual Freedom Committee.



Pascal Calarco, associate librarian, was appointed program chair, Ex Libris Users of North America (ELUNA), for the 2007 annual meeting set for June 4-8 in Spearfish, S.D.



J. Parker Ladwig, associate librarian, was recently elected chair-elect of the Physics-Astronomy-Mathematics Division of the Special Libraries Association.

IN REMEMBRANCE...



Abrams, Benefactor, Enhanced Judaica Collection

Edward M. Abrams ’50, who joined with family members to establish the Alfred R. and Lee Abrams Collection in Hebrew and Jewish Studies, died on February 22 following a long illness.

The collection, generously endowed by Edward along with his wife, Ann Uhry Abrams, and his brother, Bernard, was named to honor the two brothers’ parents. Their father, Alfred R. Abrams, was the first member of his family to attend a university. He had saved only enough money to complete one semester at Notre Dame, but the Congregation of Holy Cross made it possible for him to stay and to graduate in 1921 with a degree in civil engineering.

The collection named after him has vastly improved Notre Dame’s holdings in Judaica, especially in the fields of theology, philosophy, and history. Titles include the 18-volume

Archives of the Holocaust, which brings together many previously unpublished primary sources from important archival centers.

Edward Abrams served on the Arts and Letters Advisory Council at Notre Dame. He was chairman of the board and CEO of Abrams Industries, which his father founded in 1925. Dr. Ann Uhry Abrams is a specialist in 18th and 19th century American history paintings and serves on the University’s Advisory Council for the Snite Museum of Art.

Edward is survived by his wife, as well as three children, Alan, Laurie, and Andy ’83. In addition to making this leadership gift to the Libraries, Edward and Ann established a scholarship, a fellowship, an endowed professorship, and an Endowment for Excellence at the University. **A**

Abrams Collection Bookplate

(mailing label)

On Exhibit...

Botany is in Bloom This Summer

Late May through mid-August 2007
Hesburgh Library
Special Collections Exhibit Room

An exhibit at Hesburgh Library, commemorating the 300th anniversary of the birth of Swedish botanist Carl von Linné, will lay the groundwork for exploring Notre Dame's substantial resources on the history of botany. A range of special collections, including many books from the extensive donations of Edward L. Greene, will yield insights into the history of the study of plant life from the late 15th century to the mid-18th. Subjects will include medical uses of plants and the ancient precursors of botany.

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"Foreword" for Focus on Immigration

Spring 2007 through the
coming fall semester
Hesburgh Library Concourse

The third annual Notre Dame Forum, scheduled for the fall 2007 semester, will explore issues of immigration. The University Libraries will raise awareness of, and facilitate planning for, this important campus-wide conversation. Starting this spring, an exhibit using posters and other media will highlight the interdisciplinary range of resources on hand for exploring the economic, social, religious, and other aspects of immigration.

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Reference *(continued from page 3)*

head anywhere on any mission, perhaps to the computer cluster to demonstrate a database.

Library users will be happy to discover the connections between the Libraries' hundreds of databases and the thousands of electronic journal subscriptions available online, says Sherri Jones, head of IRIS. Patrons increasingly want to do their own research, and they can link directly using "Find Text" functionality.

"We're moving more in the direction of self-service, helping people to help themselves but always wanting to let people know we offer assistance as well," says Jones.

One more connection embodied in the Reference redesign is the linkage between the present and the future. The project, which will be completed this summer, anticipates more wide-ranging redesigns of library space in the years ahead. Experimenting now with different shapes and types of furniture, combinations of resources, and collaborations with OIT and other University units will yield better planning in endeavors yet to come.

Whether all these connections are visible or not, the remodeled reference section "will be part of a much more attractive area" on the first floor, says Butterwick. Meanwhile, both the patrons and the librarians will be learning a lot. It's "a taste of what's to come" at the Hesburgh Library. **A**

Business Information Center *(continued from page 1)*

It's the first time these librarians have taught a course for credit at Notre Dame, although they both have offered many kinds of library instruction, such as workshops, and Hayes has taught in the graduate program at Indiana University South Bend.

Impetus for the course came from Edward Conlon, an associate dean at Mendoza and the Edward Frederick Sorin Society Professor

of Management at the college. "He felt this would give the students a good grounding in how to do company and industry research, as well as a leg up with internships and consulting positions," says Poehlmann.

It was logical for the course to be taught by the librarians as "experts in locating and organizing information," even though the Mendoza faculty are the experts in analyzing that information. The class is held in the BIC's main section, while the small-group

room is set aside for other patrons.

There are other reasons why visits to the BIC have increased. More people, including students in such fields as economics and political science who need to track the world of business, have come to know about the branch's resources, which include a big-screen TV for monitoring business news and Bloomberg terminals specially designed for financial data.

Also, thanks to financial support from Thomas Mahaffey, Jr.,

the BIC was extensively remodeled last year. When it opened in 1995, it was designed primarily to offer lots of space for CD-ROMs and servers, and for library staff standing by to answer all sorts of questions. Now, with the explosion of Web resources and the emergence of more entrepreneurial research among students, "questions I used to get asked regularly—like the price of a stock—have dropped off the face of the earth,"

Poehlmann says. **A**