

Access

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY
LIBRARIES OF NOTRE DAME

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Recapping Two Million and 30 Reasons to Celebrate

Our year of celebration, commemorating the University Libraries' growth and showcasing the changing aspects of librarianship and information and their potential effects on the profession and the community of scholars, has come to an end. Underwritten in part by the Advisory Council for University Libraries and supported by the Friends of the Library at Notre Dame, its social, religious and scholarly events presented a unique opportunity for their planners, who hope that the University Libraries, their function, challenges and place in the academy are clearer to the University community as a consequence.

A Lasting Legacy

What better way to celebrate a library's two-millionth volume and the thirtieth anniversary of its building than to discover anew the events and people that brought it to this point in its history? One valuable legacy of the University Libraries' year of celebration is *What is Written Remains: Historical Essays on the Libraries of Notre Dame*, published by the University of Notre Dame Press in April 1994.

The story of the Libraries has received scant attention in the published histories of Notre Dame. Therefore, this new volume contains the first systematic account of certain facets of our development, as well as long-forgotten episodes illuminating the past, not only of the Libraries, but of the University. The distinct personalities of Notre Dame's first two library directors -- Edwards, the collector, and Foik, the organizer -- emerge clearly. Edwards' initiative launched our extensive collection of Catholic Americana and Foik's insistence on the highest standards of library architecture carried out by the premier library architect of the era, resulted in the 1917 building that is now the School of Architecture. Another essay portrays Father Sorin himself, involved in delicate maneuvers with Schuyler Colfax, local congressman and later Vice President, to obtain a set of congressional documents for Notre Dame's fledgling collection. Two essays are devoted to Father Zahm's enormous contributions to the scholarly resources of the Library; one is a fascinating account of the formation of the outstanding Dante collection he donated to Notre Dame and the other describes the Latin American books he gave to the University in pursuit of his ambition to make Notre Dame a center for Latin American studies.

Since libraries in the early days were, to a large extent, their collections, several essays trace the formation of collections here. The financial fortunes of the University are often reflected in pace of collection growth, and the choices made by librarians in allocating the budget and in deciding on collection building strategies in lean times illuminate the path to the two-millionth volume. The origins and building of collections of rare books, of medieval sources and of sports help to explain the nature of some of the current collections.

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The year officially began on April 23, 1993 with the presentation of the Libraries' two-millionth and two-millionth-and-first volumes at a Friends of the Library "kick-off" dinner (see insert to Access number 54, September 1993). On Tuesday, September 28 the 1993-94 academic year commenced with a reception in the Hesburgh Library President's Lounge, where the University's faculties joined to wish the Libraries well and to launch a memorable year, featuring the following special events.

Renaissance Dante at Notre Dame (1472 - 1629)

On Wednesday, October 13 Theodore J. Cachey, Jr., associate professor of romance languages and literatures at Notre Dame, and Louis E. Jordan, associate librarian, University Libraries of Notre Dame, gave a presentation entitled "Renaissance Dante at Notre Dame (1472-1629)" in conjunction with the opening of the exhibit of the same name in the Department of Special Collections in the Hesburgh Library. They traced the fascinating history of how Rev. John A. Zahm, C.S.C., built up one of the premier American collections of Dante which includes many 15th-century and most 16th-century editions of the *Divina Commedia*. They outlined the significance of these Renaissance editions for illuminating both the history of Dante reception during this period and the evolution of the printed book. Excerpts from Zahm's correspondence, read by the presenters, documented the acquisition of the core of the collection from Giulio Acquaticci, an Italian Dantophile, while providing amusing glimpses into the mind of the tenacious, but always frugal Zahm. The Dante exhibit was also the site of a reception on October 29, hosted by the Friends of the Library, for those attending the Notre Dame conference "Dante Now: Current Trends in Dante Studies." The exhibit remained open at Notre Dame until December 15 and then travelled to the Newberry Library in Chicago where it was on display from April 15 to June 15, 1994. The Zahm Dante Collection was also the subject of a contribution by Cachey, Jordan and Christian Dupont to *What is Written Remains: Historical Essays on the Libraries of Notre Dame*, published earlier this year.

Transitions in Scholarly Communication

On Wednesday, November 17 a symposium was held in the Hesburgh Library Faculty Lounge on the topic "Transitions in Scholarly Communication." It focused on three 'revolutions' representing significant material changes in the history of the book: the shift from ancient roll to medieval manuscript or codex, the change from handwritten manuscript to printed book and, finally, the switch from printed book to electronic media.

The first speaker was James J. O'Donnell, Professor of Classical Studies and Coordinator of the Center for Computer Analysis of Texts at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. He noted that there were two distinct revolutions in the transmission of scholarly communication during the late antique period. First and less important was the gradual shift, starting in the first century of the Christian era, from papyrus, used for rolls, to animal skin or parchment, used for manuscript codices. The second was the advent of the manuscript codex. In itself it did not dramatically transform methods of transmitting scholarly research. However, as a new Catholic world view gradually became dominant, new questions were asked and a new corpus of knowledge was compiled, various scholars developed novel ways of presenting information using the new codex format and in this way the modern book gradually took shape.

The next lecturer was Dr. Paul Saenger, the George A. Poole III Curator of Rare Books at the Newberry Library, Chicago. He focused on the 15th and 16th centuries, when manuscripts were gradually replaced by printed books. Saenger cautioned that, whereas we view manuscripts and printed books as quite distinct entities, this was not the case in the 15th century when printing first appeared. During the incunable period both forms coexisted. Printed books were made to look like manuscripts and manuscripts were made to look like printed books. Changes then were gradual rather than immediate and reading habits were refined over a period of several generations.

The final speaker was Prof. Mark Jordan of the Medieval Institute here at Notre Dame, who discussed modern database projects and the problems of moving from print to electronic media. Jordan is the chief editor of a project to create a database of the 217-volume *Patrologia Latina* (PL), containing all of the writings of the Church Fathers up to 1215. At first glance the creation of the PLD (*Patrologia Latina Database*) may appear to be a rather straightforward project. However, simply scanning digitized images into a computer would not allow for tagging or text markup, thus rendering the texts unsearchable. For anything more than a mere picture of the page all the material had to be keyed in and then painstakingly proofread for errors. Jordan concluded that, in the humanities, electronic products such as his PLD imitate printed books. Scholars know the book format and have not yet been able to redefine their research methodology to use electronic technology to its fullest potential.

The three lecturers had a similar theme. Change in research methodology is a gradual process that occurs from a shift in one's philosophy and vision of research rather than

from the introduction of a new format. Apparently the development of software always lags behind advances in hardware. The codex was developed in the first century but its true potential as a research handbook was not exploited until the sixth. The shift from manuscript to print was also a gradual process. Many of the refinements standardized in the printed book can be traced back to developments in the manuscript tradition that appear to go back to the origins of scholasticism in the 12th century. And now, during this first decade of the proliferation of new electronic media, it appears most databases, whether indexes or full text, are still firmly rooted in printed texts.

Lecture Series

As part of our year-long celebration, the University Libraries, with the support of the Friends and the Advisory Council, organized a series of lectures by three distinguished members of the library profession. On Tuesday, December 7, Barbara E. Markuson, executive director of the Indiana Cooperative Library Services Authority (INCOLSA), spoke on "Library Networking: Today and Tomorrow." She offered an overview of the developments and progress made in cooperative efforts among libraries and speculated on where networking would lead us in the future. James G. Neal, dean of University Libraries, Indiana University, Bloomington, and past president of the Library Administration and Management Association, returned to his old home at Notre Dame on Tuesday, January 18 and gave the presentation "Reinventing the Research Library: Organizational Models in Cyberspace." Neal cited the need for large academic libraries to reassess the relevance of traditional organizational structures in meeting the expectations of today's user. On Tuesday, March 8 the series concluded with "Academic Library Costing Models: Elements and Uses," presented by Robert M. Hayes, professor emeritus, UCLA Graduate School of Library and Information Science. Hayes demonstrated a software package he has developed which enables academic library administrators to better identify where funds are being spent and to aid them in sound fiscal planning.

Although on the surface these appear to be vastly different topics, a common theme emerged of the increasing need for academic libraries to meet head-on the challenges posed by developments in technology, shrinking budgets and growing user expectations with innovative approaches to resource sharing, organizational structure, and fiscal planning and management. It was a theme that would emerge again during our half-day colloquium in April, "Libraries in Transition: the Human Element."

Libraries in Transition: the Human Element

On Monday, April 18 the University Libraries hosted a half-day colloquium entitled "Libraries in Transition: The Human Element," an event which attracted information specialists from both the Notre Dame community and the greater Michiana region. Norman D. Stevens, director, University of Connecticut Library, opened the afternoon by challenging librarians to question, experiment and take chances. The profession needs creative people who will question why we do things and who will be able to identify those things that don't really need to be done. Precision and accuracy will always be important, but we need to focus more on the end result, not on the means we use to get there.

The keynote speaker was Sheila D. Creth, university librarian, University of Iowa Libraries. She presented her views of what the roles and responsibilities of library professionals must include in order to meet the challenges of providing information today and in the future. New kinds of knowledge, skills and attitudes will be needed. Libraries must make use of cost-benefit analysis to make informed decisions and choices based on hard data. Client-centered, team-based approaches to organization design can lead to more flexible, responsive environments. Partnerships, which take advantage of technological innovation, can facilitate sharing of services and operations. Human resource and organizational issues are critical to the future of libraries.

David Kaser, distinguished professor emeritus, Indiana University, Bloomington, was the first to respond from a panel of three notable librarians. He also emphasized the importance of a client-centered approach, of considering the user's perspective in library decision-making. Emily R. Mobley, dean of libraries, Purdue University, recognized the need for new skills and explored the possibilities of roles for non-librarian professionals, such as lawyers and fundraisers, in libraries. Susan K. Martin, director, Georgetown University Library, detailed the advantages of certification for librarians, including the communication of a certain level of expertise, the provision of more clearly defined expectations for new professionals and the promotion of lifelong learning and professional development. As the newly elected president of the Association of College and Research Libraries, Martin has established a task force to examine certification or similar mechanisms for library and information professionals.

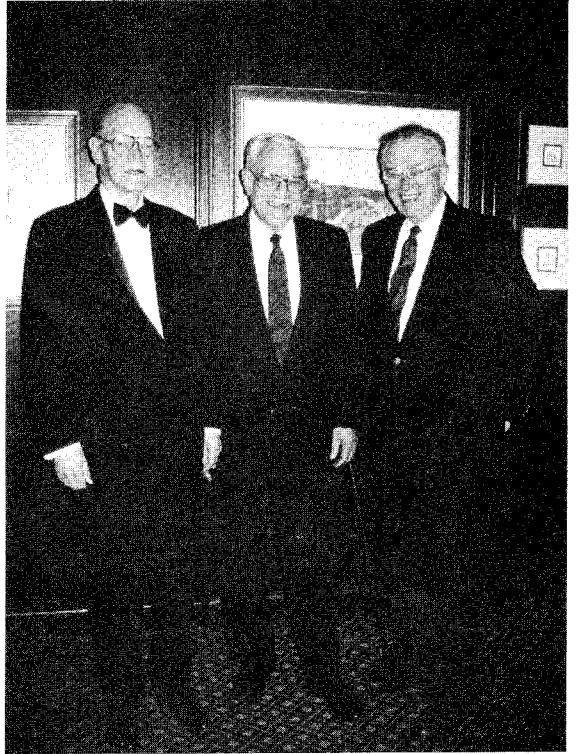
To meet the information needs of their users, libraries must meet the professional development needs of their personnel. Administrators must foster flexible environments, value innovation and creativity, demonstrate leadership through sound decision making and explore new organizational models. Librarians must take responsibility for self-development through continuing education opportunities to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary for librarianship in the next century.

Birthday Party

In recent years faculty and staff of the University Libraries have established a March tradition of escaping the mundane routine, banishing the inevitable ice and snow of a northern Indiana winter, and launching into spring with a library-wide party. Because 1993-94 marked the 30th year of the Hesburgh Library, the Library Advancement Team concluded that the conventional March party should be expanded into a grander, more festive affair.

Volunteers began planning the March 11 gala months ahead of time. Pat Karpinski of the library staff was appointed chair and she immediately recruited a full party committee. A hall was leased, a disc jockey was hired, door prizes were solicited and a full dinner menu was chosen. In addition, the committee commissioned campus food services to construct a massive cake model of the Hesburgh Library building, complete with the "Word of Life" mural.

Attendees of the spring party included library faculty and staff, retirees, spouses and guests. The food was exceptional, the entertainment lively and the company delightful. Thanks to the hard work and creativity of many individuals, the Hesburgh Library's 30th birthday party was a complete success.



P. Karpinski

Director of Libraries Robert C. Miller (center), with former directors Victor A. Schaefer (left) and David E. Sparks (right)



P. Karpinski

Featured speaker Lou Holtz

Lou Holtz Highlights Celebration's Closing Event

The Friends of the Library end-of-celebration dinner on May 5, 1994, chaired by Dorene and Jerry Hammes, was an evening the University Libraries will long remember. After a welcome by Jim Carroll, president of the Friends, and an invocation by Father Hesburgh, Friends and other supporters of the Libraries dined together. Afterward, the group was treated to a warm and upbeat speech by dinner speaker Lou Holtz, who emphasized the importance and centrality of the Libraries to the scholarly mission of the University. With two former library directors in attendance, Bob Miller next officially introduced to the audience the book, *What Is Written Remains: Historical Essays on the Libraries of Notre Dame*, and once again thanked, as do all of us associated with the Libraries, the many people without whom the celebration, the book, and this kind of special support for the University Libraries would not have been possible.

A Homily Preached by Timothy O'Meara, Provost of the University of Notre Dame, at the Mass of Thanksgiving in honor of Saint Catherine of Alexandria, Patron Saint of Librarians and Libraries, Monday, November 22, 1993

My Dear Friends,

I recently attended the installation of the new president of Columbia University, George Rupp. In his inaugural address he referred to the challenges facing Columbia as polarities. For example, he spoke of a polarity between academic excellence and cultural diversity; another, between professional schools and other liberal education; yet another, between Columbia's local role as a university in New York City and its global role as an international university. Further, as I recall, he went on to make the point that these polarities are not problems to be solved, nor things to be eliminated, but rather sources of enrichment and opportunities to be grasped. They can be compared with polarities in science -- such as the polarities that are bonded within the atom and are capable of releasing enormous energy either in a destructive way or a constructive one.

Of course, polarities are not peculiar to Columbia, nor to universities, nor to science. They occur in all walks of life. There are tensions in our relationships with our families and our friends which can be sources of frustration or sources of enrichment or both. There are polarities in being faithful to a religious tradition while being actively engaged in the modern world. There are polarities in being a university and being Catholic, polarities which, with the grace of God, can be an enormous source of enrichment. And, in the course of this Thanksgiving week, we will be reminded of polarities in our Jewish, Catholic and Protestant heritage that serve to enrich us as individuals, as scholars, as creative people and also as a university.

For example, in today's reading we are reminded how Daniel and his three Jewish companions, living in exile in Babylon, faced the same tensions then as we do today: to please the king and to succeed in secular society on the one hand; and on the other hand to remain faithful to their Jewish identity (in the episode recounted today by rejecting the royal food that was not kosher). In the words of the reading itself,

So the guard continued to withdraw their royal rations and the wine they were to drink, and gave them vegetables. ...To these four young men God gave knowledge and skill in every aspect of literature and wisdom. ...In every matter of wisdom and understanding concerning which the king inquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and enchanters in his own kingdom.

Our reading from the book of Daniel is from the Mass of the day. But this is also the Feast of Saint Cecilia. Cecilia was martyred in Rome in the third century when it was discovered that she was a Christian. She has been a source of inspiration to musicians throughout all ages and is, in fact, the patroness of music and musicians. Indeed, this evening in this basilica, Alexander Blachly, Craig Cramer and the Notre Dame Chorale will be remembering her feast day with a concert of choral works in her honor.

Then on Thursday we remember Saint Catherine of Alexandria, convert to Christianity, martyred in the early fourth century. Catherine overwhelmed 50 philosophers who were ordered by the Emperor Maxentius to challenge her in debate on her Christian beliefs. All 50 were converted to Christianity and subsequently executed for losing to Catherine. Ultimately Catherine herself was practically put to death on a spiked wheel (a Catherine wheel) and then beheaded.

Catherine lived on in the popular imagination, and the legends associated with her had a powerful influence on Christianity for a thousand years. For example, she is said to have been a source of strength and inspiration to Joan of Arc, especially in her defense against the theologians of the Church Court. Catherine is the patroness of many groups including philosophers, women students, wheelwrights, and -- thanks to her learning and association with the celebrated libraries of Alexandria -- librarians. Both Catherine and Cecilia are remembered in the stained glass windows of the Basilica.

In the last resort we are commemorating these individuals as saints and not as scholars, and if we turn to today's Gospel we might find there some clue why this is so. Recall that Jesus, perhaps sitting on the steps of the Temple reflecting on the passing scene, observed how the rich ceremoniously gave of their wealth but not of themselves, while the widow gave all that she had. The widow has much in common with Daniel, with Cecilia and with Catherine: all showed great generosity of the spirit; they were totally committed and dedicated; their faith was so strong that they were sure that God was on their side and that they were doing God's work; they were not self-protective and they were not concerned about the consequences of their actions on themselves.

We, too, can hold their ideals before us in our lives, in our work at the University, in deriving strength from our own polarities and in building the Kingdom of God. In particular, during this season we can remember that Thanksgiving, in addition to being a special day of ceremony and thanks to God for all the blessings of our lives, is also a time to remind ourselves that every day is to be lived to the fullest, with a spirit of generosity to all and thanksgiving to God. Jesus, through his observations on the steps of the Temple, assures us in turn that God's grace will be given to us as abundantly as it was given to Daniel and his companions as well as to the patroness of our library, Saint Catherine of Alexandria.

Legacy *continued from page 1*

The enthusiasm of the contributors to the volume, mostly library and teaching and research faculty members, grew as they discovered the institution's history through annual reports, letters and other documents. Unexpected connections emerged. For instance, one essay reveals Notre Dame library contributions to the extended national debate on the representation of knowledge through library classification systems for religion and philosophy. The editors experienced the exhilarating, if demanding, task of transforming the words of 17 authors into a well-designed, attractive volume in a matter of months, with the indispensable assistance of the University of Notre Dame Press personnel and the page editor.

The final essay in the book, which traces the ever-accelerating progress of automation in the Libraries, reminds us that we have a future as well as a past, while *What Is Written Remains* assures us of the permanence of the legacy. All in the University Libraries are grateful to the Advisory Council whose support made this documentation of our history possible.

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