Art Department and Library Establish Digital Imaging Center

The Library is collaborating with the Art Department to develop a large-scale digital collection of fine arts and architecture images for teaching and research.

Last summer, a Digital Imaging Center was established within the Visual Resources Center in the Williams Center for the Arts to facilitate high-end digitization of a variety of media through copy photography, film capture, and flatbed scanning. Staff at the Digital Imaging Center are halfway toward completing the digital migration of 70,000 35mm slides that the Art Department has used for four decades. Heading the project is Eric Luhrs, Digital Initiatives Librarian. Paul Miller, Digital Image Collections Specialist, manages jobs at the Center from production through end-user access. On-site technical support and assistance with day-to-day operations is provided by Ernie “David” Anchondo, who was hired in April 2009 as a Digital Image Instructional Assistant. The cataloging database PiCtor, created by Princeton and Cornell Universities, is being used to provide metadata for the images, and Lafayette is now taking an active role in its continued development.

Conceived as a satellite of the Library, the Digital Imaging Center is at the heart of a two-year project to transition Art faculty to all-digital instructional materials. Toward that

ITS and Communications Team up for College Web Redesign

ITS and the Communications Division have begun a collaborative project to redesign the College web site. The goal is to have the new site up by mid-August. A web project team has been formed and is being led by John O’Keefe, Director of Academic Technology and Network Services. In January, a Request for Proposals was sent out to thirteen firms and Viget Labs was selected for the redesign. The new web presence will use WordPress as the content management system and will have a consistent look and feel that integrates with departmental web sites migrating from the current web platform to WordPress.

A project web site located at http://sites.lafayette.edu/nextweb/ provides updates for the community and displays works-in-progress. It includes a blog feature where members of the community can comment on the redesign. For more information or to volunteer to help with the project, contact John O’Keefe at ext. 5161 or okeefej@lafayette.edu.

Open Access Policies Gain Momentum

In November 2009, Oberlin College’s faculty joined Harvard University’s Faculty of Arts and Sciences and the faculties at Harvard Law School, MIT, University of Kansas, Trinity University, and others in adopting an open access policy that allows the school to make faculty-authored articles publicly available online in an institutional repository.

Open access policies demonstrate a collective commitment from faculty authors at those institutions to wide dissemination of their scholarship. As reported in the last issue of Bytes & Books (Vol. 23, No. 2), research shows that journal articles that are openly available on the Internet – such as in institutional repositories – are cited more frequently and have greater impact than those not freely available.

Since Lafayette launched its Digital Repository (available at http://dspace.lafayette.edu/), librarians have been contacting faculty individually to ask permission to include their newly-published scholarly articles. The majority of publishers have standard policies allowing authors to post versions of their articles in institutional repositories. If Lafayette faculty were to adopt an “opt-out” open access

- John O’Keefe
Hieroglyphics on WordPress: The Lafayette Papyrus Goes Digital

The College’s magnificent two-thousand-year-old papyrus, which has been called one of the best preserved papyri in America, now has its own WordPress site. Created during the fall semester by Special Collections/Art Department intern Emily Cushman ’10, the site pulls together information on all aspects of this fine example of the first Book of Breathings, which was traditionally placed in the hands of the deceased before burial. Included on the site are copies of translations and details on the history, provenance, and subject matter of the papyrus and its recent conservation. Numerous images are provided of the papyrus before, during, and after treatment. A small group of additional Egyptian objects owned by the College is featured—fragments of gospel books, drawings from the Book of the Dead, linen mummy wrappings, a coffin fragment—as well as a small slate tablet acquired at the same time as the papyrus that has since been identified as a 19th century fake. The Lafayette College Papyrus site is located at http://sites.lafayette.edu/papyrus/.

-Diane Shaw

Springer Titles Big Addition to E-Journal Collection

In January the library began providing electronic access to 1700 journals published by Springer, thanks to a two-year consortial offer to license the collection for essentially the same price we had been paying for 30 Springer print subscriptions. With this addition, Lafayette library users now have electronic access to nearly all journals from Springer and Elsevier, two of the largest publishers of scientific, technical, and medical journals.

This move was part of an ongoing effort to provide electronic access to periodicals—either by converting individual subscriptions from paper to electronic, licensing access to high quality electronic journal collections, or taking advantage of pay-per-view options as we are doing with Elsevier’s ScienceDirect. With our 2010 subscription renewals and the conversion of 39 more individual journal subscriptions from paper to electronic access, roughly two-thirds of the library’s individual subscriptions are now received electronically.

Information about all journals, magazines, and newspapers available from the library is in the Library Catalog, regardless of the format in which the periodicals are received. Simply do a journal title search for the name of a periodical to find coverage and format information, including links to electronic editions where available. If journals that you rely upon are not available electronically—or are not available at all—let your departmental library liaison know, and we’ll do our best to fill these gaps in 2011.

-Terese Heidenwolf

New Staff

ITS’s User Services group welcomes Erica Abramson as its new User Services Specialist. Erica is a 2004 graduate of Penn State University with a B.S. in Management Science & Information Systems. Following graduation she worked for Johnson & Johnson Pharmaceuticals, where she was most recently Senior Instructional Technologist. Erica also holds professional certifications in project management and training.

At Lafayette, Erica is responsible for installing, troubleshooting, and maintaining desktop and laptop systems, as well as integrating these systems with the campus network; consulting with faculty and staff on technology support issues; and responding to Help Desk tickets.
The Friends of Skillman Library and the Lafayette faculty have made possible the purchase of a first edition of A Narrative of the Life and Travels of Mrs. Nancy Prince (Boston, 1850). The acquisition honors the memory of Professor Emerita Susan Blake, who passed away early in the fall semester. Professor Blake, a member of the English Department from 1974 to 2006 and a long-time member of the Friends of Skillman Library, specialized in American, African-American, postcolonial, and travel literature. This fascinating narrative will become part of Skillman’s growing holdings on slavery and abolition available in Special Collections.

Nancy Prince was a free black woman from Massachusetts whose grandparents included a Native-American woman and an African veteran of the American Revolution. Upon her marriage in 1824 to Nero Prince, a black seaman, she traveled to Tsarist Russia, where her husband worked as a servant in the royal court. During her decade in St. Petersburg, Prince cared for young children and established a successful business making children’s clothing. Returning to the U.S. in 1833, she became active in the growing anti-slavery movement. In 1840, she travelled to Jamaica as a missionary, with a particular interest in the welfare of former slave women and children. After the publication of her narrative in 1850, Prince continued to be involved in abolitionist activities, making an appearance at the Fifth National Women’s Rights Convention in Philadelphia in 1854 to protest the treatment of slave women.

-Diane Shaw

2010 Information Literacy Grant Recipient

This year’s information literacy grant recipient is Carrie Rohman of the English Department. Professor Rohman will be incorporating two major information literacy projects into VAST 227, Creature: Humans and Other Animals in Contemporary Culture. The first will ask students to compare the representation of animal-related issues in the popular media with representations in academic writing, considering questions like “What do the popular articles focus on or leave out?” and “How do these writers appeal to the reader?” The second project will have a cross-discipline focus. Students will analyze a particular use of transgenic animals in science and technology or the representation of such practices in contemporary art. Throughout the semester, students will also be expected to write critical reflections on the research process.

ITS Safe and Secure Computing Resolutions

ITS’s Security Working Group, which identifies and aids in implementing proper security pertaining to digital information within the College, offers the following recommendations for keeping your Lafayette computer and identity safe and secure:

1. Don’t give your Network ID and password to anyone. Your identity is valuable to spammers and phishers and a compromised email account affects the functioning of the College.
2. Change your Network password using our strong password guidelines.
3. Set up a secure and difficult-to-guess challenge/response key for your Network ID.
4. Back-up important data.

For more, please see the Safe and Secure Computing home page at http://its.lafayette.edu/help/security-home.

Janemarie Berry

WordPress Workshops

In preparation for the complete migration of the College’s web presence from the current ww2 platform to WordPress by June 30, 2010, ITS continues to offer WordPress workshops geared to different audiences:

- Wed. Feb. 24, 9:30-11:30am: Academic/Administrative sites
- Thurs. Mar. 11, 9:30-11:30am: Academic/Administrative sites
- Wed. Mar. 24, 9:30-11:30am: Personal/Organizational sites
- Wed. Apr. 7, 9:30-11:30am: Academic/Administrative sites
- Wed. Apr. 22, 9:30-11:30am: Personal/Organizational sites

Please consult http://its.lafayette.edu/pages/calendar/ for more details and to register.
Spring Exhibitions

“Islam in Africa” Exhibit Opens in Honor of Black History Month

For three days each year, the population of Touba in Senegal swells from its normal 900,000 inhabitants to over four million. Mouride pilgrims from all over Senegal and beyond pour into Touba for the annual Islamic pilgrimage “Le Grand Magal de Touba.” The Mouride brotherhood was founded in Touba in 1883 by Cheikh Amadou Bamba, a Sufi mystic who taught the virtues of pacifism and hard work. Exiled by the French colonial government between 1895 and 1907 because of his growing influence, he was eventually embraced by the French and awarded the French Legion of Honor. Bamba died in 1927 and is buried in Touba’s Great Mosque. His descendants have continued to lead the movement, which is now one of the fastest-growing religious communities in Senegal. Mouride communities have also flourished in cities with large Senegalese immigrant populations, particularly New York and Paris.

The many faces of the Magal—teeming streets, overloaded trains, ecstatic celebrations, and contemplative moments—have been captured in “Islam in Africa: A Pilgrimage to Touba, Senegal,” an exhibition of color and black-and-white photographs by David Katzenstein on display in Skillman Library’s Lass Gallery through June. Katzenstein is a New York-based photographer who has traveled the world, either on assignment or on personal journeys. His extensive body of work includes magazine essays on “The Master Musicians of Jajouka in Morocco,” “The Music and Culture of Bali,” “President Aristide and the Future of Haiti,” and “Arabs in America and the Gulf War.” His photographs have been exhibited at galleries in New York City, as well as at Phillips Exeter Academy and Temple University.

Literary Broadsides on Display in Simon Room Beginning March 22

“The Poet’s Eye: Literary Broadsides from Special Collections” is the spring 2010 exhibit in the William E. Simon Room. Broadsides are one-sided, single-sheet publications, usually combining text and image. They are often quite beautiful, with letterpress printing, original artwork, and handmade paper. Literary figures represented in the exhibit include: William Blake, Lucille Clifton, Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Yusef Komunyakaa, Theodore Roethke, Jerome Rothenberg, W.D. Snodgrass, Wallace Stevens, Henry David Thoreau, and William Carlos Williams. The exhibit is in honor of National Poetry Month in April.

Electronic Records Working Group Launched to Grapple with Digital Archives

The College Archives has traditionally been the repository for inactive paper records of enduring historical or legal significance to Lafayette. Documents that show evidence of the operation of the College or information about its people, activities, and events have customarily been transferred to the Archives. As more of these records are generated in electronic form, there is a growing need to capture, organize, and preserve digitally-born records of long term value.

In response, the College Archives will convene an Electronic Records Working Group (ERWG) this spring to establish retention policies and facilitate discussions on preservation standards. Constituent groups such as administrative offices, the Board of Trustees, faculty, students, and alumni will be invited to meet and discuss the future of archiving electronic documents on campus.

College publications, email, Banner data, web sites, and blogs will be some of the initial records targeted by the ERWG. Currently the Lafayette Digital Repository (http://dspace.lafayette.edu/) includes administrative publications and the scholarly work of Lafayette faculty. The ERWG will make recommendations for future expansion of the Repository and will investigate other strategies for the storage of electronic records as they move to inactive status. Contact Associate College Archivist Elaine Stomber at ext. 5799 or stombere@lafayette.edu for more information on the ERWG.

-Diane Shaw

-Elaine Stomber
Moodle Hack/Doc Fest returns to Lafayette

Moodle Hack/Doc Fest returned to Skillman Library this January, two years after Lafayette hosted the initial event. Hack/Doc is a three day collaborative event held twice a year where programmers and instructional technologists from around the country gather to write code and documentation for Moodle, the open source learning management system.

During this Fest, collaborators finished the Assignment ZIP module (which lets faculty download all of an assignment’s files at once), the Single File Upload module (which makes it easier to add files to Moodle), and documentation on Banner/Moodle integration and migrating from Blackboard to Moodle.

Twenty-two people from the following sixteen institutions participated in the event: Colby, Hampshire, Kalamazoo, Kenyon, Lafayette, Luther, Millsaps, Reed, Smith, Vassar, and Wheaton Colleges; Colgate, Drew, Oakland, and Wesleyan Universities; and SUNY Delhi.

-Ken Newquist

Steve Tyler (Vassar College) and Sarah Ryder (Drew University) discuss documentation for moving from Blackboard to Moodle.

(continued from cover, Open Access)
**Archivision**  
40,000 high-quality digital art and architecture images are available for use in research, classroom presentations, and student projects, and can be accessed through ARTstor.

**Dictionary of Irish Biography**  
Covers the lives of Irish men and women who made a significant contribution in Ireland and abroad, as well as those born overseas who had noteworthy careers in Ireland.

**Grand Dictionnaire universel du 19e siècle**  
An important French reference work published from 1865-1890 that combines the features of a dictionary and encyclopedia.

**Parliament Rolls of Medieval England**  
Now included in British History Online, this series describes every parliament held between 1275 and 1504. Where the rolls survive, they have been fully transcribed and translated.

**SpringerLink**  
Electronic access to 1,700 journals from Springer, a major publisher of scientific, technical, and medical journals.

**TLS Historical Archive**  
Expanded online version of the Times Literary Supplement with a new interface. The TLS Historical Archive provides the full text of the TLS from its first issue in 1902 through 2005.

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**Elluminate: New Options for Long-Distance Collaboration**

Alumna Michelle Oswald may be doing her graduate studies at the University of Delaware, but many Thursday evenings you can see and sometimes hear her working with the Sustainable Solutions course (EGRS 480) in the Acopian Engineering Center. Oswald, who is working with the class this semester in preparation for an all-night design charrette, avoids a weekly drive to Pennsylvania by using a web-based conferencing product called Elluminate Live! to broadcast video presentations, display notes, and respond via chat to student questions.

Lafayette’s Elluminate Live! license is limited to ten concurrent computer connections, though opportunities for hosting larger groups can be accommodated. Once in the web-based video conferencing system, participants and moderators have access to a variety of communication and interactive tools including audio and video, group and private chat, a shared whiteboard, application sharing, guided web browsing, breakout rooms, quizzes and surveys, and the ability to transfer files between users. Sessions can also be recorded for online playback.

While it can be used with small groups and in a one-to-many situation, Elluminate meetings are most successful when individuals are on their own computer using a web cam and headset microphone. The only software required to use the cross-platform Elluminate is Java Web Start. Scheduling sessions as a meeting’s host or moderator and accessing the meeting space as a participant are both simple procedures.

Elluminate does not replace the video conferencing room in Kirby Hall, but it does offer a different opportunity for interaction. If you would like to use Elluminate with your classes, committees, or in your research, contact E.J. Hudock at ext. 5869 or hudocke@lafayette.edu.

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**Check it Out: Book News**

Skillman Library has been purchasing graphic adaptations of classic works to add to our growing collection of graphic novels. Recent additions include:

*The 9/11 Report: A Graphic Adaptation*  

*Charles Darwin’s On the Origin of Species: A Graphic Adaptation*  

*Studs Terkel’s Working: A Graphic Adaptation*  

*The United States Constitution: A Graphic Adaptation*  
Susan Averett...in the Spotlight

Susan Averett, Charles A. Dana Professor of Economics, talks with Bytes & Books about incorporating information literacy into her courses. The complete interview can be viewed online at http://library.lafayette.edu/instruction/interviews.

Q: You applied for an information literacy grant for Econ 365: Econometric Analysis in 2001. What motivated you to apply for the grant for a course that was already well-developed?

A: For years, Terese Heidenwolf helped students in both of my Econometrics courses locate data. After reading about the grant, I decided to add a literature review component. The students didn’t have a good understanding of scholarly literature and how it’s produced. They’d read about a study in their textbook without any sense of the history behind it, where the data came from, or what the shortcomings might be.

Q: You’ve seen a difference in student projects since you’ve been doing this?

A: Their projects are better. I can expect students to read and understand complex journal articles, do a cited reference search, and distinguish between different types of information. They’re more savvy consumers of economic information.

Q: Terese used to lead a session on where to find data. Now she goes into more depth about who produces it and the potential biases, right?

A: Students learn that research is ongoing and that the questions are nuanced. One of my students was collecting data on obesity and she was worried about seeming racist because she was breaking it down by blacks, whites, and Hispanics. That led to a whole conversation about why the data is collected by race. We talked about the Census 2000, which allowed people to pick more than one race.

Q: Do these information literacy assignments help students develop skills they can apply in graduate school or in jobs?

A: Yes. They’re going to have to analyze data and make sense of numbers and information in any job. They learn about databases like Web of Science, LexisNexis, and EconLit, and they apply research skills directly to their own topics. They also learn how to be resourceful. So if a boss says to them “We have a dollar figure on an average mortgage in 1950, can you find out what that would be today?”, they know how to find the statistics and put them in terms that somebody else wants.

Q: Are students better prepared to do an honors thesis after going through your course?

A: It’s perfect for them because my class is hands-on, sort of like a ‘mini-thesis.’ They have to identify an interesting topic. I always make students show me their topics are relevant and have been written about in the popular press. They have to find what’s been published, connect to the research, then gather the data. The projects in Econometrics often lead to theses or independent studies.

Q: Have you been able to adapt the information literacy components that you designed with Terese for Econ 365 to other courses?

A: I do the literature review assignment with my Women in the Economy class. It’s a writing course so I want to connect those students to the literature. And I bring them to the library.

Q: You teach FYS, too. Do you see any sort of information literacy progression?

A: I definitely see a progression with the students I teach multiple times. Students are technologically savvy but they need help identifying good information.

What’s interesting is the technological progression since I started doing this. We used to bring books to the library session. Now students can access articles and manipulate data online. Technology has enhanced the way we exchange information and ideas with students. In the future, I’d like my students to blog about the research process.

Q: You’ve been working with Terese for years. Are you ready for an overhaul again?

A: Going forward, I need to keep up with the technology and ideas, but I would never give up the collaboration. What I’ve enjoyed about working with Terese is that she has great ideas. I’ll say, here’s what I’m thinking about an assignment and she steers me in the right direction.
Upcoming Events

Thurs. Mar. 4, 4:30pm -
“Revolutionary America & the New Nation: Easton's Perspective on the Founding Era”

Liam Riordan, Associate Professor of History at the University of Maine, will speak about Easton during the American Revolution and the successful struggle of the city’s Pennsylvania German residents to create a central place for themselves in the new nation. Riordan’s lecture will be drawn from his book Many Identities, One Nation: The Revolution and Its Legacy in the Mid-Atlantic (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2007). In addition to Easton, Riordan examined two other communities along the Delaware River, exploring how the Revolution affected everyday life and brought new understandings of the importance of cultural diversity in post-Revolutionary America. Co-sponsored by the Friends of Skillman Library, the Easton Area Public Library, and the Northampton County Historical and Genealogical Society.

Location: Easton Area Public Library

Wed, Mar. 24, 4:10pm –
“Translation, Intercultural Contacts & the Feminine in Early Renaissance Europe: From the Ship of Fools (1494) to the Ship of Foolish Maidens (1501).”

Professor Olga Anna Duhl of the Foreign Languages and Literatures Department will look at the Ship of Fools (Basel, 1494), one of several adaptations of Sebastian Brant’s well-known satire of the moral decadence of the late 15th century. A poetic adaptation, the Ship of Foolish Maidens (Paris, 1501), by the noted humanist Jodocus Badius Ascensius, was further altered in a popular French translation by law clerk Johan Droyen. Droyen’s translation moves away from Badius’s classical ideals and infuses the work with an antifeminist ideology typical of the medieval period. The lecture explores this transformation and its implications for the reception of humanist culture. A Women’s History Month Event

Location: Gendebien Room, Skillman Library