



FRIENDS OF MERRILL-CAZIER LIBRARY 

a message from the director

This year we have been engaged in a process of strategic planning with the aim of setting a course for the future by aligning programs and services with the changing needs of our users. The process has been time-consuming and challenging as we hold up a mirror to our strengths and weaknesses and consider the unknown future and our place in it. To date, the process has resulted in a revised mission statement, the articulation of the Library's values, and a vision statement. We are excited to present those to you in this issue [see page three].

The mission statement is both simple and profound: to connect people with information. As this issue demonstrates, "connecting" takes on many forms. The Merrill-Cazier Library has a long tradition as a Regional Depository Library in connecting users with U. S. Government information. At the same time, we're building electronic links to digitally connect people worldwide with University resources such as the rare and unique items in the van der Pas history of science and technology collection. We also create resources that connect people with the heritage of Cache Valley as through the Latino/Latina project described on page two.

Our strategic planning process continues with two important steps also described in this issue. First, we are engaged in a survey of student and faculty perspectives on the quality of library services whose results will help us improve service quality where needed and develop new programs and services. Second, the Library announced its participation in the University's first-ever comprehensive campaign [see below]. Philanthropy is critical to the fulfillment of our mission of and vision for connecting the University community with the information it needs.

Future issues of this publication will share the results of these processes and continue to report on the people and programs through which we connect people with information. – *Linda Wolcott, Vice Provost for Libraries*



SECURING OUR future



On Founders' Day Utah State University launched its comprehensive campaign, "Honoring Tradition, Securing our Future." As an essential part of doing just that, the Merrill-Cazier Library has identified three fundraising priorities: top quality resources, prestigious collections, and innovation through technology. The first seeks to build the Library's acquisitions endowment to ensure the availability of high quality resources to support teaching, learning, and research. The second priority focuses on the need to fund acquisitions in Special Collections and Archives and on activities associated with preserving and processing primary source materials. The third priority addresses continued technological innovation, and includes such exciting projects as digitizing significant primary source materials and locally produced research, expanding the capacity of the automated storage and retrieval system, installing a "green roof," and enhancing the resources of the Information Commons. We hope you will join us in securing a bright future for the programs of the Merrill-Cazier Library. For more detailed information about the University's comprehensive campaign and how you can become involved, please log on to www.usu.edu/campaign.

inspired by the masters

PRESERVATION LIBRARIAN ALSO A FINE ARTIST

Noel A. Carmack, an artist and Preservation Librarian at USU's Merrill-Cazier Library, recently won Drawing magazine's 2006 Cover Competition. A draftsman with a strong affinity for presenting the human condition as expressed through the figure, Carmack earned an M.F.A degree in drawing from USU in 1997. He has studied with artists James Gucwa, Glen Edwards, Joseph Mugnaini, Adrian Van Suchtelen, Gregory Schulte, and Christopher Terry. Now, as a part-time drawing instructor at USU, he teaches his students to draw using classical form-building methods including accumulated lines, subtle value changes, heightened values and expressive line. At the Merrill-Cazier Library Mr. Carmack uses his art experience in the preservation, restoration, and conservation of books, photographs, and other materials in the Special Collections and Archives Department.

Whether he's working on a narrative piece or a portrait, Mr. Carmack finds the human element essential to his work. The cover portrait [at right] of a figure-drawing model, "Shannon," conveys a dignity and elegance in both the pose and Carmack's fine draftsmanship. The portrait was drawn with black colored pencil on Strathmore 400 Series Artagain Gotham Gray paper.

"I am indebted to my professors and instructors for instilling in me a creative ethic based on sound principles. My work has also benefitted from looking to the masters for inspiration; this includes Rembrandt, Leonardo, Rubens, Michelangelo, and Goya. I have a profound respect and admiration for the work of more contemporary artists: Paul Cadmus, Käthe Kollwitz, Hyman Bloom, Nicolai Fechin, Rico Lebrun, Ted Seth Jacobs, Claudio Bravo, and Sigmund Abeles," said Carmack.



Preservation Librarian, Noel Carmack at work. His winning cover drawing (below).



Latino voices project



Special Collections and Archives, a division of the Merrill-Cazier Library, has been involved in several successful oral history projects. The Latino Voices Project joins Northern Utah Speaks, an umbrella collection that includes oral histories from the intermountain west. The collection is an ongoing effort by Special Collections staff and volunteers to include the voices of all northern Utah communities. "This continued oral history work is important as a means to bring history to life," said Brad Cole, Associate Director for Special Collections. "These oral histories allow us to more fully understand and acknowledge the local, state and national story for both present and future researchers."

"This is a community that is not well represented in our archives," Randy Williams, project leader, said. "It is estimated that 10 percent of Utah's population is drawn from the Latino community. Their voices certainly do not make up 10 percent of the archives. We want to change that. Oral histories should tell the story of a place and the stories should represent all those in the community. We are excited to begin the project." Williams said the project will hire a bilingual community project assistant. It will also train and pay bilingual community members to conduct the oral history interviews. The project begins in May.

"As pastor of St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic church, I have had the privilege to listen to many stories from our Latino community," said the Rev. Clarence J. Sandoval, a member of the Latino Voices Project advisory board. "The project will give these families a sense of honor, knowing that their stories will be recorded and preserved for generations. It will also give the larger community the opportunity to see the human face of our Latino community."

The collected oral histories of Latino men and women will be transcribed and translated into English and Spanish and made available through USU's Special Collections and Archives as well as USU's online Digital Library. The original recordings will be retained in the language of the interview.

Rubi Rodriguez is among the fieldworkers already collecting histories. "I'm so excited to be a part of this project in Cache Valley," said Rodriguez, a USU linguistics student. "It will be something that generations of the Latino community, including myself, will have access to and be enriched by."

The project has many local partners: Multicultural Center of Cache Valley, St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church, the Mountain West Center for Regional Studies, Grace Huerta, an Associate Professor in USU's secondary education department, and USU's Folklore Program. Also, a grant from the Utah Humanities Council, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Utah Division of State History, makes collection efforts possible. Anyone interested in participating in the Latino Voices Project or providing financial support should contact Randy Williams at (435) 797-3493.

— Patrick Williams, Senior Writer, USU Public Relations & Marketing

merrill-cazier library strategic plan

mission

The Merrill-Cazier Library connects people with information. Serving the University community, the Library is dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge. We support inquiry, discovery, and engagement by providing access to quality resources, and by facilitating the use of information in teaching, learning, and research.

vision

The Merrill-Cazier Library is the intellectual center of Utah State University. As both a physical and virtual destination, we create collaborative, engaging environments for learning and scholarship. We embrace innovation and continually adapt to changing user needs. Applying our expertise in collecting, organizing, managing, preserving and providing access to human knowledge, we are an integral partner in the academic enterprise.

values

Universal access –We view collections broadly and strive to provide the greatest possible access to information resources. We remove barriers and provide equal access to information regardless of format or location.

Intellectual Freedom –We value the expression and exploration of ideas and seek to represent diversity within our collections.

We respect the individual's right to privacy and their freedom to obtain and use information from all points of view without restriction.

Lifelong Learning –The Library plays a vital role in formal and informal learning. We empower individuals to pursue intellectual development and to engage in scholarship throughout their lives.

Service –Helping people is our highest goal. We anticipate and respond to the needs of our varied communities by providing quality information services. We treat all our users with respect.

Collaboration/teamwork –We value collaboration to enhance productivity, solve problems, and stimulate individual growth and organizational development. We show respect toward staff and patrons, operating with integrity and encouraging open communication.

Creativity –Balancing respect for tradition with opportunities arising from change, we strive to support an environment where creativity thrives. We encourage critical thinking in the pursuit of knowledge, and we value resourceful, innovative thinking in carrying out the functions expected of the Library.

the van der pas collection and digital library project

Peter van der Pas had a master's degree in physics. Born and raised in the Netherlands, he moved to California after World War II while working for Shell Oil Company. In 1977 he retired with his wife, Pricilla, to Grass Valley, California. Here the accomplished scientist, historian, and scholar founded and operated the Pacific Library of History, Science and Technology comprised of his lifetime assemblage of books, more than 18,000 volumes. When Mr. van der Pas died in December 2003 at the age of 88, he had already made thoughtful plans for his vast personal library.

In 1998 Mr. van der Pas, who had no previous connection to the university, wrote Richard Schockmel, then Collection Development Librarian, to ask if the library would be interested in taking any part of his extensive collections upon his death. Mr. Schockmel wrote back immediately saying that Utah State University would be very interested in the science history and the West Coast history collections and arranged a visit. Mr. & Mrs. van der Pas toured USU campus, met with faculty and librarians, and the decision was made to leave the science history books to the university. The library received the collection from the van der Pas estate in 2004. According to Rose Milovich, Art and Book Arts Curator in Special Collections, the rare book portion of the collection has 1245 individual volumes and approximately 480 titles.

The library recently received a grant of \$25,000 towards purchasing digital lab equipment for creating a History of Science Digital Collection. According to Cheryl Walters, Head of the Digital Library, this collection will create and offer full-color digital facsimiles of Utah State University's most significant and rare scientific works to users worldwide. Focusing on 17th, 18th and 19th century materials, the digital collection will include the rarest, most exquisitely illustrated books from the Peter van der Pas collection including works by such major figures in the history of scientific inquiry as Otto Brunfels, Charles Darwin, Erasmus Darwin, Carolus Linnaeus, Antony van Leeuwenhoek, Jan Swammerdam, James Sowerby and Andreas Vesalius.

Peter van der Pas treated his collection, with its many beautiful examples of the art of printing and bookmaking, as living books – he was interested in their content, not simply as precious relics. The rarest materials in the collection will be tended and preserved in the Book Arts collection in Special Collections and Archives, while digitizing selections from the collection offers new possibilities of access to countless scholars.



After 15 years of employment at Utah State University and five years serving as vice provost for libraries, Linda L. Wolcott has announced her retirement effective June 30, 2007. Linda will be missed by the Library staff as well as the faculty and students of Utah State University.

Linda Wolcott graduated with honors from the University of Georgia, Athens, where she earned a doctorate of Education and instructional technology. Other degrees she has earned include an educational specialist in instructional technology from USU and a master of library science and a bachelor of science in education from the University of Maine. Linda joined the faculty at Utah State in 1991 as an assistant professor in the department of Instructional Technology. She later served as interim department head and then assistant dean for Information and Learning Resources before coming to the Library.

Most people would agree that the crowning achievement of Linda's tenure as vice provost for libraries was the construction of the Merrill-Cazier Library to replace the old Merrill Library. She worked tirelessly to obtain funding from the Utah State Legislature and then in the planning and construction phases of the building. Her goal to design and build a library that would be an inviting and comfortable space for students was met and surpassed. The campus and university community are grateful to Linda for her work in making the new Library a reality.

With her many hobbies and interests there is no worry that she will become bored in her retirement. Linda plans to spend her time traveling, hiking and backpacking, sea kayaking, and skiing. Her other interests include gardening and sewing. Perhaps with more free time she will be able to return to figure skating classes.

A retirement reception was held April 24. Utah State University and the Merrill-Cazier Library staff extend their congratulations to Linda Wolcott and wish her all the best in her next adventure.

— Trina Shelton
Administrators Assistant

**“twenty years
from now you will
be more
disappointed by the
things that you
didn't do than by
the ones you did
do. so throw off
the bowlines. sail
away from the safe
harbor. catch the
trade winds in
your sails.
explore. dream.
discover.”**

- Mark Twain



“we make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give.”

SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL

From **Jan Alm**: *“Linda came to us in the most difficult of times, the infancy of a major building project. Thanks to her sure and confident leadership, we all lived to tell the tale and enjoy the fruits of the travails. Thank you, Linda! You will be missed.”*

From **Liz Kline**: *“Linda Wolcott is a wonderful combination of professional ability and warm personal traits. She has the ‘right stuff’ professionally and yet she knows the name of every single person working in the Library and can extend them a kind word.”*

From **Cheryl Walters**: *“The Library is a better place for Linda’s directorship. Among other accomplishments, she bequeaths to us two tangible achievements we will be grateful for in the years to come: a new and thriving participatory management structure and a beautiful, well-functioning library building.”*

From **Maure Lyn Smith**: (Graduate Student Senate President): *“Vice Provost Linda Wolcott has been an active and delightfully feisty advocate for Utah State University’s Merrill-Cazier library. I personally have had the pleasure of working with Linda on numerous occasions as a member of the Library Advisory Council and the University Student Fee Board.*

Linda has the unique ability to make everyone who works with her feel valued; she always remembers to thank her staff and faculty, as well as the administrators and students who work both with her and for her.

As we both move on in our educational pursuits, I will miss the opportunity I’ve had to work with Linda, in part because she made me feel especially valued as a colleague, but also because I will miss the close association of our working relationship. I will miss her as a great friend of the library, but I will also miss her as a great friend to me.”

From **Lisa M. Berreau** (Associate Professor/Associate Dean, College of Science): *“Students and faculty at USU will benefit for many years from Linda’s efforts in making the new Merrill-Cazier library an outstanding facility.”*

From **Blythe Ahlstrom**, President, Friends of the Merrill-Cazier Library: *“It has been a pleasure to work with Linda, both in her academic department and as Director of the Merrill-Cazier Library. She is cool and competent and is always friendly and helpful. She has been a great supporter of the Friends Organization.”*

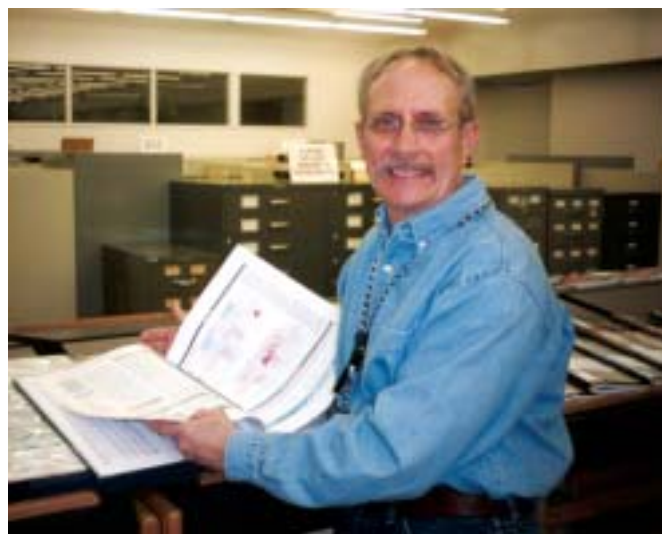
“Dear Linda, I am sending my heartfelt congratulations and best wishes upon your retirement. Your contributions to Utah State over the years are considerable and I hope you can look back with pride at the wonderful legacy you have helped to build. It has been a great pleasure working with you and I will always remember your warmth, enthusiasm and generosity of spirit. Enjoy your retirement. Warm regards,” **Joyce Albrecht**.

From **USU President Stan Albrecht**: *“Linda Wolcott has made many significant contributions to Utah State University over the course of her 15-year career. She has excelled in the classroom, as a scholar, and as an administrator. She will be best remembered for her outstanding leadership in helping us complete the new Merrill-Cazier Library. This new 21st-century library has become the true epicenter of our campus, both physically and intellectually. Linda’s unflinching commitment to excellence in the design and construction of this project will be a lasting tribute to her service here.”*

old librarians don't retire, they just get de-classified.

Stephen C. Weiss retires from Utah State University after serving for 28 years. Steve is known widely among students and teachers for his expertise working with Government Documents as well as his research skills as a Reference Librarian. He has been particularly skillful at providing legal reference assistance. Steve has been instrumental in developing the rich historical collections of the U.S. government documents collection, particularly the map collection, one of the jewels of the Merrill-Cazier Library.

Steve always has cheerfully served as mentor to younger and less experienced colleagues. He has been our elder statesman and will not be replaced easily. Steve will be missed but not forgotten. We thank Steve for so many years of valuable service, and wish him and his dog, Blue Moon, safe passage as they travel into many new adventures that await them.




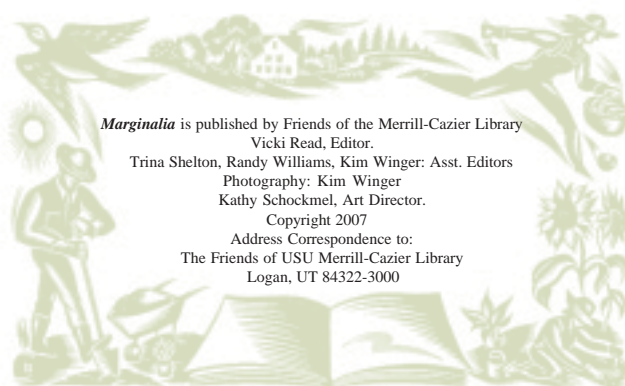
a centennial celebration

On March 1, 1907, under the provisions of the Nelson Amendment to the First and Second Morrill Acts, 43 land grant colleges, including Utah State University, entered the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP.) This marked the largest group of libraries ever to enter the program in a single year. For the past century, these 43 libraries, like the Merrill-Cazier Library, have not only provided citizens with free access to Federal Government information resources, but also with expert reference services to students, faculty, and the general public.

To honor this century-long participation in the FDLP, the Merrill-Cazier Library's Government Documents and Maps Department was recently honored with a commemorative plaque that will be displayed in the department. "For one hundred years the U.S. government has favored our library with the public records of its policy makers and entrusted us with important sci-

entific studies conducted by such stars in the federal constellation as the Geological Survey and Smithsonian Institution," remarked John Walters, Head of Documents and Maps. "These documents now constitute rich historical collections of primary source material which continue to ably serve our academic community as well as a much larger constituency beyond Utah State University." The Merrill-Cazier Library hosted a reception in April to celebrate 100 years of participation in the program.


The Morrill Act did more than change how our nation viewed education. It changed how our nation viewed itself.



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friends spring lecture q & a with richard turley

In this, the 150th year anniversary of the worst event in Mormon and Utah history, there is renewed interest in the Mountain Meadows Massacre. At perhaps one of the best attended Friends lectures in years, Richard Turley, noted author and historian, discussed the tragic event including material from his many years of research that will be published in his forthcoming book. Turley, managing director of the Family and Church History Department of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, spoke to a crowd of nearly 90 guests on the evening of March 29 at the Merrill-Cazier Library. Following the dynamic and emotionally-charged lecture, Turley continued to answer numerous questions while guests enjoyed refreshments. *Tragedy at Mountain Meadows* will be published by Oxford University Press. Turley is co-author of the book with Glen Leonard and Ronald W. Walker.



So, what do U {Think}?

libqual survey seeks input

For three weeks this spring, we have been asking students and faculty to “tell us what you think.” The Library is participating, along with 240 other colleges and universities, in an online survey to assess the quality of library services. LibQUAL+®, administered by the Association of Research Libraries, collects data on user expectations, desires, and perceptions of library services. Results from the survey will help us identify library service strengths and those areas that need improvement. In addition, we will be able to compare our results with those of the other institutions conducting the survey this semester.

So far, many students and faculty members have responded. Their comments are very positive. Final results will be available later this spring and reported in the fall issue of *Marginalia*. We’ll let you know what they think!

yes! i would like to join friends of utah state merrill-cazier library

category

yearly dues

application

- Student Member
included in student fees, upon application
- Associate Member \$25.00
- Book-of-the-Year Club \$50.00
- Semester Book Club \$150.00
- Book-of-the-Month Club \$500.00
- Benefactor \$750.00

- Yes, I (or my spouse) work for a matching-gift company.
If yes, please enclose matching-gift form.
(Or inquire about alternate USU employee payment plan)

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friends' generosity recognized in new books reading lounge

In appreciation for the generosity of the Friends of Merrill-Cazier Library a plaque now hangs in the New Books Reading Lounge listing the name of each donor who contributed to this special space. The Library is grateful to these donors and extends an invitation to everyone to visit and enjoy the beautiful area and collection of newly acquired books and best sellers that are housed in the Reading Lounge.

"we cannot hold
a torch to light
another's path
without
brightening
our own."

— Ben Sweetland



