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As many of you know I will be leaving USU to become Dean of the College of University Libraries & Learning Sciences at the University of New Mexico on July 1. The last six years here at USU have been just about the best years I have ever had. Together we have made terrific strides in moving the Library forward. The USU Libraries have a national reputation for providing leadership in a number of areas including instruction, digital content creation, the provision of electronic resources across multiple campuses and the curation of primary archival materials. It has been my pleasure and privilege to lead a dynamic and highly dedicated group of librarians and staff to achieve objectives usually associated with much larger libraries. We have much to be proud of and I know the USU Libraries will continue to focus on the needs of our users and deliver the resources and services a first-rate research university deserves.

Transitions are always hard as one goes on to new and exciting challenges, while at the same time leaving behind good friends and colleagues. If I am able to take any part of USU with me, it will be the forward-looking spirit of cooperation that exemplifies what is so special about the university community here. I have learned a great deal during my six years here at USU, especially about cultivating a culture of innovation and acceptance, and that experience will enable me to engage and hopefully succeed in a new venue. I have always believed in people being key to success. Certainly my experience here at USU has shown that to be correct. Thank you for six extraordinary years!

Richard W. Clement
Dean of Libraries

“Try to leave this world a little better than you found it.”

Robert Baden-Powell
(founder, Boy Scouts)
2014 May Swenson Poetry Award announced
17th annual award goes to Luisa A. Igloria of Norfolk, Virginia

Luisa A. Igloria of Norfolk, Virginia, is the winner of the 17th annual May Swenson Poetry Award presented by Utah State University Press and the Literary Estate of May Swenson. Igloria will receive a cash award of $1,000 and her winning collection of poems, “Ode to the Heart Smaller than a Pencil Eraser” will be published by USU Press in summer 2014.

Judge for the 2014 award was Mark Doty, American poet and memoirist. Doty selected Igloria’s work from among 30 finalists chosen by a panel of professional poets and university teachers of poetry from hundreds of entries from across the United States and several countries abroad.

Doty discussed Igloria’s work and her selection as the award recipient.

“When Luisa Igloria cites Epictetus — as soon as a thing has been seen, it is carried away, and another comes in its place — she introduces the crowded and contradictory world her poems portray: a realm of transience, yes, where the vulnerable come to harm and everything disappears, but also a scene of tremendous, unpredictable bounty, the gloriously hued density this poet loves to detail,” he said. “I was raised/to believe not only the beautiful can live on/Parnassus,’ she tells us, and she makes it true, by including in the cyclonic swirl of her poems practically everything: a gorgeous, troubling over-brimming universe.”

A well-published poet, Igloria is professor of creative writing and English and director of the MFA creative writing program at Old Dominion University. Beyond the 10 books she has previously published, her work has appeared or been accepted in numerous anthologies and journals, including “Poetry,” “Crab Orchard Review,” “The Missouri Review,” “Indiana Review,” “Poetry East,” “Umbrella,” “Sweet,” “qarrtsiluni, poemeleon,” “Smartish Pace,” “Rattle,” “The North American Review,” “Bellingham Review,” “Shearsman” (UK), “PRISM International” (Canada), “Poetry Salzburg Review” (Austria), “The Asian Pacific American Journal” and “TriQuarterly.”

Originally from Baguio City in the Philippines, Igloria has four daughters and now makes her home in Virginia with most of her family.

Doty is a National Book Award-winning poet and influential voice in American letters. Doty has published more than 12 volumes of poetry and prose, and he is professor/writer in residence at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey.

The May Swenson Poetry Award, an annual competition named for May Swenson, honors her as one of America’s most provocative and vital writers. During her long career, Swenson was loved and praised by writers from virtually every school of American poetry. She left a legacy of 50 years of writing when she died in 1989. She is buried in Logan, Utah, her hometown.

Utah State University Press, a division of USU’s University Libraries and imprint of the University Press of Colorado, is an award-winning scholarly publisher in several academic fields. USU Press proudly sponsors the annual May Swenson Poetry Award.

For more information on the Swenson Award, see the USU Press website (www.USUPress.org).

USU Press
The 19th Annual Leonard J. Arrington Mormon History Lecture took place September 19th, 2013, with Greg Prince as the speaker. The title of Mr. Prince’s lecture was “Faith and Doubt as Partners in Mormon History.” All area college students were invited to submit a 2,500 word essay related to the topic of the lecture. The essays are judged by a panel made up of USU faculty and staff and area history experts. All three winners will have their essays appear in the Merrill-Cazier Library Digital Commons.

1st place, $1,000.00 prize awarded to Scott Marianno, a graduate student in history at Utah State University for his paper: “Appropriating the Mormon Past: Faith, Intellect, and the Reformation of Mormon Identity.” Scott’s current research relates to race and marriage in Utah in the early twentieth century. He did his undergraduate work at Brigham Young University in history and Ancient Near Eastern Studies. Originally from Northern California, Scott is one of a set of triplets and an avid San Francisco Giants fan. He enjoys playing soccer and softball with his wife.

2nd place, $500.00 prize went to Chad Nielsen for his paper, “Leveraging Doubt: The Impact of Lester E. Bush, Jr.’s Mormonism’s Negro Doctrine: A Historical Overview on Mormon Thought.” A native of the Ogden area, Chad is studying biological engineering at Utah State University and working as an intern under Dr. Ron Sims in the USU Biofuel and Bioproducts Production from Microalgae project and the Biological Phosphorus Removal Combined with Bioenergy Production Research at the City of Logan Lagoons. Chad is a member of the Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society. He gardens, plays music and enjoys time with his wife, family & friends. Chad also maintains three blogs largely dedicated to Mormon history.

3rd place, $250.00 prize was awarded to Joshua Hortin for “How Doubt Built the Foundation of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.” An undergraduate at USU studying environmental engineering, Joshua was born and raised near West Haven, Utah and served an LDS mission in San Fernando, California. He has an interest in both Joseph Smith-era history and in following news surrounding the LDS church. Joshua runs a personal religious-themed blog with occasional commentary on current events, historical research and LDS culture. Interested in environmental issues, Joshua hopes to continue research and education with the goal of solving environmental tensions.

Leonard J. Arrington left behind a legacy of scholarship and mentoring that rightly earned him the title "Dean of Mormon History." Largely because of his leadership, Mormon historical studies in the second half of the twentieth century became a viable subject in the larger discipline of American history. His book *Great Basin Kingdom: An Economic History of the Latter-day Saints* is still considered to be one of the classic works of Mormon history. The Library’s Special Collections and Archives house the Arrington archives.
The Merrill Cazier Library awarded this year’s USU Library Faculty Award to Patricia Moyer-Packenham (Teacher Education and Leadership Department) at the Friends of the Library Spring Reception on February 27th, 2014. Her advocacy includes actively seeking out ways the library can assist her and her students. This includes bringing her students in regularly for library instruction sessions. She was one of the first in her department to collaborate with the library in regards to inputting her scholarship in our institutional repository, the Digital Commons. She also agreed to participate in a trial of an alternative metrics system which was presented at department retreats. She has been a vocal advocate of how these services can be helpful to her colleagues.

The Library also presented a Library Service Award to USU’s Composition Program for their continued collaboration in integrating library instruction into English 1010 and 2010 courses. The current and future Assistant Writing Directors, Trisha Haber, Brian Cook, Jill Bleazard, and Erin Sorensen accepted this award and plaque on behalf of the Composition Program. Their efforts include partnering over the summer to create the information literacy curriculum and continuous collaboration throughout the semester to implement and improve these efforts.

The Library also greatly benefited from Susanne Clement. Susanne directed the Quinney Library before moving into the Merrill-Cazier to become the Special Projects and Assessment Librarian. Susanne managed a successful LibQual survey and most recently took on the position of interim head of cataloging.

The library will miss the Clements and wish them the best of luck in New Mexico. As the old motto goes, “they left the place better than they found it.”

Associate Dean, John Elsweiler with Jill Bleazard, center, and Erin Sorensen.
Friends of Merrill-Cazier Library’s Spring Lecture featured USU history professor Leonard Rosenband on “Thinking about Cache Valley’s Social and Economic History: Thirty Years of Teaching based on the Merrill-Cazier Library’s Special Collections.” As the title implies, the multiple resources found in USU’s Special Collections and Archives were highlighted as teaching tools for USU students.

For the past 30 years Professor Rosenband has helped students analyze diaries, account books, employment records and many other documents from Cache Valley during the years 1870-1920 that record the area’s social and economic history. As his students evaluate and master the documents, he introduces them to the pioneering approaches of European social and economic history. Prof. Rosenband also introduces students to one of the preeminent books about Utah’s economic past and development, Leonard Arrington’s *Great Basin Kingdom*. Additionally, students have research opportunities with the Arrington Collection housed in Special Collection and Archives.

Over the years, upwards of 15 of Rosenband’s students have composed prize-winning essays and many others have written papers that they will proudly show their children, he said.

Rosenband is a professor in USU’s history department specializing in the industrial and French revolutions. He earned his doctorate from Princeton University in 1980 where he studied the methods of European social and economic history. His publications include *Papermaking in Eighteenth-Century France: Management, Labor and Revolution at the Montgolfier Mill, 1761-1800* and *Montgolfier Reconceptualizing the Industrial Revolution* (co-edited, 2010). Prof. Rosenband has taught at USU since 1983.
The Utah State University Office of Research and Graduate Studies (RGS) teamed up with the Merrill-Cazier Library to host a series of lectures, symposia, workshops and receptions that made up the university’s tenth annual Research Week. Research week celebrates the outstanding achievements of both faculty and students in the areas of research, scholarship and the creative arts. Approximately 2,000 members of the USU community are involved in Research Week through the Student Showcase, the Graduate Research Symposium, the Research Scholars Forum, numerous training/development sessions and a number of featured events.

One of the premier campus events of the year is the D. Wynne Thorne Lecture, a presentation given by the previous year’s D. Wynne Thorne Career Research Award winner. This award is given annually to one outstanding university faculty researcher and this year John Neeley, a ceramicist and professor in the Department of Art and Design, provided an illuminating discussion of the creative and technical processes used in designing wood-fired ceramics. Neeley’s design of the train kiln has been transformative for those in his field and is also much more environmentally friendly than traditional wood-fire methods.

The faculty-author book exhibition and lecture celebrated thirty-four works published in 2013 by members of the USU faculty. This year’s invited lecturers were Ravi Gupta, Charles Redd Chair of Religious Studies in the Department of History and author of The Bhagavata Purana: Sacred Text and Living Tradition; Deborah A. Fields, Assistant Professor in the Department of Instructional Technology and Learning Science and author of Connected Play: Tweens in a Virtual World; and Evelyn I. Funda, Associate Professor in the Department of English and author of Weeds: A Farm Daughter’s Lament. Gupta, Fields, and Funda each provided an engaging account of both their research as well as why it matters to them and to other scholars and readers. Following the annual reception, faculty-authored books are permanently housed in the Richard Schockmel Room on the second floor of the Library and are available for circulation.

Finally, the second annual Ignite has become one of the most anticipated events of the week. Ignite is a program of lightning talks by eight graduate and undergraduate students modeled on TED talks. Each participant has five minutes to discuss what has motivated him or her to pursue research and must speak to a series of slides that advance every 20 seconds. Hosted in the south atrium of the Library, Ignite capped off a successful Research Week partnership between the Merrill-Cazier Library and RGS. For more information about the events at this year’s Research Week see http://www.researchweek.usu.edu/2014/htm/rwabout.

Jennifer Duncan  
Head of Collection Development  
Merrill-Cazier Library
Cheryl Walters has been a part of the Merrill-Cazier Library for the past 19 years. Moving here from Florida was quite a shock for Cheryl, but in her good-natured way she took on the varied tasks asked of her by library administration. She began as a cataloger but soon proved her mettle and was asked to be the Head of Cataloging. Once she had mastered this endeavor, she took on a new role as Head of Digital Initiatives. This new position and title was built from the ground up by Cheryl as she worked to establish what digital initiatives entailed and how other aspects of librarianship fit into the scheme. Soon Cheryl had immersed herself in metadata, digital scanner specifications and the Institutional Repository. Her work in these areas has been a huge benefit to the library and to the entire USU community.

Cheryl retired at the end of May. Her quick wit and candor will be missed around the library. We wish Cheryl many happy trails as she leaves us for more exciting travels and adventures.

Vicki Read
Department Head
Circulation

Ann Buttars retires at the end of June after a forty year plus career working in the Merrill-Cazier Library’s Special Collections and Archives Division. During this time period Ann has performed almost every function in the Division. She started as a student worker, became the assistant to the department head, served as director and currently is the curator for Mormon and Western Americana books. Some of Ann’s accomplishments include developing the USU archives numbering system and donor and accession records, automating cataloging in the department by using the OCLC system, establishing ties to the Jack London Society, starting the Leonard Arrington Mormon History Lecture, navigating through the Leonard Arrington Collection donation, securing the S. George Ellsworth Collection, starting our cookbook collection and creating a digital component, mentoring hundreds of students and much much more.

Jack London historian, Earle Labor, commented that “Ann embodies all those qualities that make scholarly research a productive joy instead of a tedious chore: dedication, graciousness, patience and consideration. Now that I think of it, those same qualities characterize our most special friends and loved ones. Please accept my heartfelt thanks, Ann, with a warm, congratulatory hug!”

Favorite student Brad Hansen wrote that “If I were to describe Ann Buttars in one word it would be "kind." I worked closely with Ann for several years and was impressed by the kindness she showed me and others. Throughout my time at USU Ann showed genuine interest in my life and would frequently ask what my goals were. In sum, she was a mentor in all aspects of the word. I wish her the best in retirement and hope she’ll record some of her memories of working in Special Collections and Archives.”

Finally long time donor and Special Collections friend Bob Sorensen said that “Ann was a joy. She was our major connection to the library for years and was unfailingly helpful and friendly. I think of her and see faithful images of Milt Merrill and Moyle Q. Rice who made the library a fun and interesting place. Special best wishes to her family and friends.”

Ann will certainly be missed professionally, but maybe missed even more for her collegiality and friendship. Thank you for a long and wonderful tenure.

Brad Cole
Associate Dean,
Special Collections and Archives
presentations:


publications:


