Marginalia no. 7

Merrill-Cazier Library
Utah State University

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In The Future Edge, Joel A. Barker says, "You can and should shape your own future. Because, if you don't, someone else surely will...the future is where you are going to spend the rest of your life. And since that is true, wouldn't it be useful to be able to get to know more about the neighborhood before you move in?" Since beginning my new journey on March 1, 1999 as Dean, I've spent a great deal of time listening, exploring, learning, and observing my new "neighborhood." Listening for issues, needs, and actions that staff anticipate in the future; looking out for innovative ideas that will help provide solutions. Central to all that exploration has been a focus on the level of quality and customer service in all areas we support, and the products resulting from those services.

Some of you may not be aware of the recent changes within the university-wide information and educational technical service component known as Information & Learning Resources (ILR) of which the University Libraries are a key component. Let me bring you up-to-date focusing on the Learning Resources Programs which include the University Libraries; Computer Services; Multimedia & Distance Learning Services; Publication Design and Production; and Photography Services.

A common theme evident throughout these units was mentioned in a previous volume of MARGINALIA featuring President Emert and his comments regarding a vision for USU Libraries. He talked about the demand for ease of access to information through computerization. This need has added a new layer of infrastructure with communication lines, technical equipment, support staff, and new instructional requirements. For the Learning Resources Programs, issues surrounding access and those mentioned by our President, provide a common thread as we look at a more integrated approach to the management and delivery of information and educational support services for USU students and faculty.

In support of the integration of these services, several changes within ILR are underway. The Office of the Dean will move from the back of the Library's fourth floor to the third floor of Merrill Library. This move will take place late September and will provide greater access by students, faculty, and the administration to the Office of the Dean, Chief Information Officer, and ILR management personnel. Other renovations now underway to better accommodate student needs include the recent relocation of the Reference Desk to the first floor of the Merrill Library. Fall semester plans include renovating the Circulation Desk and security upgrades.

Let me acknowledge the efforts by many of the library personnel who are making significant contributions on behalf of the institution and the library.

--Dean, continued page 2

"Big things come in small packages" on Proverbs, Power and Books

A rolling stone gathers no moss. An apple a day keeps the doctor away. Advice should not be viewed from in front but from behind. These tidy statements with power are proverbs! Proverbial sayings are used around the world to teach children family and societal values and taboos, to punctuate a point in a discussion, to educate people about weather patterns, aging, marriage, etc., to distill wise observations about life and human nature, to express ethical or philosophical truths, and much more. Proverbs are often used to solve disagreements, as in the rhetorical proverb "People who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones." Proverbs are concise, traditional statements passed along in everyday conversation in a fixed form. A proverb is usually a single sentence consisting of two balanced parts: "Waste not, want not." Many proverbs utilize metaphor: "I see, said the blind man as he picked up his hammer and saw." As well, proverbs employ poetic devices, such as rhyme: "A stitch in time saves nine" and alliteration: "The more, the merrier." If proverbs sound old it is because they often embody the wisdom of the ages, not just insights of the moment. In fact, some proverbs date back as far as 3000 B.C., where proverb texts carved on Sumerian cuneiform tablets have been found.

--Proverbs, continued page 5
In summary, my comments target significant changes impacting both the mission and the scope of the program areas. The Directors of ILR are actively engaged in an assessment of role, scope, and mission of the individual units, and continue to explore the instances where collaboration and integration of efforts results in "value added" to the institution. We are taking seriously the changes in the workforce, diversity and special needs; the aging of the population; and the need for "engaged" communities in which new strategies for interacting through outreach and inreach efforts are available. Recognizing that by the year 2006, people who were born during the first wave of personal computing in the 1980's will be forming their own households, and the fact that the youngest householders at the end of the first decade of the new millennium will have no recollection of a world without PCs, impacts significantly our plans for providing access to knowledge, information and education through a wide array of services.

From the Office of the Dean, and the Chief Information Officer, I see a variety of challenges, none of which are insurmountable but require a team effort. Recognizing the move from an information age to a knowledge age, Information and Learning Resources programs must reflect a technological society focused on what it means to disseminate, access, and transmit information and education. As a newly reorganized and integral component of Utah State University, our challenges include: 1) development of clearly articulated statements of mission, role, and scope; 2) strategic planning for short and long term comprehensive development opportunities, with particular emphasis on the University Libraries; and 3) celebrating each other's successes and accomplishments. The commitment, enthusiasm, and interest demonstrated by my Information & Learning Resources colleagues and friends are to be commended, and will make the challenges we face in moving into the 21st century easier to navigate. This is truly a wonderful "neighborhood" to be a part of.

—Barbara White
Dean of Information & Learning Resources,
Chief Information Officer

Instruction: 'It takes sharp wits to wander through the world' —Viking Proverb

Instruction Services offers support to students and faculty in a variety of formats: course-related instruction, one-on-one instruction, and informational guides.

Course-related Library Instruction:
University Libraries provide course-related classes on library use and on the techniques of locating information resources. This involves a session in our Hands-on Lab in the Cazier SciTech Library, Room 104. The room has 24 computer stations and seats up to 30 participants. Faculty are invited to bring classes to the library where students can learn search techniques for the following: Library Gateway—the Library's computerized "card catalog"; Index and Abstract searching; Full Text database searching; print sources or other resources related to a specific discipline.

To schedule a class, call the Coordinator of Library Instruction, Betty Dance, at 797-2681.

One-on-One Instruction
Reference librarians are available to help students writing research papers to find resources on their topic. The following librarians can be contacted to arrange times for individual help in these areas:

Business
Shaun Spiegel shaada@cc.usu.edu x1478
Warren Babcock warbab@cc.usu.edu x2678
Family Life
Tam Hoskisson tamhos@cc.usu.edu x 0731
Carol Kochan carkoc@cc.usu.edu x 2676
HASS
John Elsweiler johels@cc.usu.edu x 2807
John Walters johwal@cc.usu.edu x 2683
Education
Betty Dance betdan@cc.usu.edu x 2681
Delewyn Wentz delwen@cc.usu.edu x 1479
Natural Resources
Steve Weiss steweii@cc.usu.edu x 3611
Agriculture
Anne Hedrich annhed@cc.usu.edu x 2165
Betty Rozum betroz@cc.usu.edu x 3961
Engineering
Sandra Weingart sanwei@cc.usu.edu x0739
Rob Morrison robmorr@cc.usu.edu x 1477
Science
Judy Johnson judjoh@cc.usu.edu x 3331
Kevin Brewer kevbri@cc.usu.edu x 0737

Informational Guides
Guides are available at the Reference Desk in both Merrill Library and the SciTech Library. Information can be found on the following topics: Library information, searching indices and abstracts, and maps of both libraries.

—Betty Dance
Reference Librarian
The Merrill Library is undergoing renovations this Fall Semester that will fulfill long term goals and growth concerns at USU. In 1988, the State-appointed consultant firm Brixen & Christopher Architects recommended that a new Science and Technology Library be built to address the space and collection needs for Utah State University. The consultants were charged with reviewing all Utah academic libraries within higher education for building recommendations. Their final report specified that USU’s science collections and Audio/Visual Services should be moved to the recommended new library. The report also cited numerous recommendations for the space and collections within the Merrill Library to take place after the completion of the Sci/Tech Library.

One recommendation was moving Merrill Library Reference Desk Services from the 2nd floor, to the 1st floor. The Reference Department believes that because of its function within the Library as the facilitator of research information and the collection, it should be as visible and accessible to the user as possible. Relocating to the 1st floor situates the Reference service in one of the most visible locations of the Library, a positive impact for the user and Library.

Along with the Reference Desk move we plan a repositioning of the Circulation Desk. The Circulation Desk will be located on the south wall of the Merrill Library first floor, opposite the current entrance. The main entrance will remain the same but the user will have a more direct avenue for entering and exiting the Library. This will greatly improve daily traffic flow and eliminate confusion between the entrance and exits of the Library.

The Current Periodicals/Microforms unit will move from the 1st floor to the 2nd floor to occupy the space vacated by Reference Services—another recommendation from the consultant’s report. With the bound periodicals already occupying most of the 2nd floor, placing current issues and microforms on the same floor allows patrons easier access to the complete journals collection.

Another change planned for the 1st floor is the addition of a hands-on classroom for library instruction. Technology has strengthened the library users’ ability to do research but the bounty of available information is often overwhelming. Library instruction teaches patrons how to successfully use research technology. During FY 98/99, the Reference Department conducted 545 classes reaching 12,368 users. This was primarily accomplished through the use of one classroom located in the Cazier Sci/Tech Library. Scheduling conflicts often occurred, frustrating both instructors and classes. This new classroom will significantly relieve the pressure and considerably facilitate the education of the library user.

The 3rd & 4th floors of the Merrill Library have been included in the renovations. There will be new office space on the 3rd floor for the Dean of Information Resources Program; making the Dean’s Office and programs more accessible to USU patrons. The 4th floor has been recarpeted and painted over the summer months.

The focus of all of these changes is to improve the users access to services. What the changes do not address is the serious need for collection space. The consultant’s final report indicates that the Merrill Library would need 150,508 assignable square feet in 1999, while there is only 150,774 assignable square feet estimated for the existing building. Merrill Library is quickly reaching its capacity. Presently, the Merrill Library collections grow by 24,000 volumes annually—a 2 to 1 ratio when compared to the Sci/Tech Library which adds about 12,000 volumes per year. In total collections, the Merrill Library stands at roughly 880,000 volumes while the Sci/Tech Library holds approximately 375,000. This summer, in order to address overcrowded shelves, the Merrill Library staff removed the faculty study carrels that were located on the west end of the 3rd floor to build four more shelf ranges. Such efforts only alleviate existing shelf crowding and do not address the challenge of overall collection growth. During the last decade, the Merrill Library has continually been forced to remove user study space in order to accommodate the growing collection. This dramatically jeopardizes one of the core functions of a library: to serve as a space where students and faculty can gather for study and research. The collection growth is nearing critical status and, if not addressed soon, the Merrill Library will exceed its capacity shortly after the new millennium begins.

—John Eisweiler
Head, Reference Department

"necessity skips, necessity dances, necessity sings songs."
—Russian Proverb
To welcome the holiday season, the Utah State University Libraries will present the first of four exhibitions scheduled for the 1999-2000 academic year. "True to Form: Journal Drawings, Writing and Related Sculpture by Larry E. Elsner" will be on view November 15 through December 30 in the foyer of the Milton R. Merrill Library.

Larry Elsner was an artist and professor of art at Utah State University from 1960 until his death in 1990. A gifted mentor, draftsman, and sculptor, Larry cultivated the visual arts through his teaching and participation in numerous exhibitions throughout the United States and Japan. Perhaps the best-known examples of his artworks are elegantly-shaped sculpture and vessels crafted in stone, metal, clay and wood. "True To Form" is centered on a less familiar but extremely significant aspect of Larry Elsner's work contained in a series of seventy drawing journals the artist developed during the last three decades of his career. Filled with hundreds of exquisitely-drawn studies and manuscript notations, the drawing journals provide insight into the evolution of Larry Elsner's three-dimensional artworks and his immersion in the progressive ideas of twentieth century art and art history. The exhibition will present fifty-four images from thirty of the artist's drawing journals along with a selection of thirty-eight sculpture, ceramic vessels, and jewelry forms inspired by the studies.

In conjunction with "True to Form: Journal Drawings, Writing and Related Sculpture by Larry E. Elsner," the Libraries and the Larry E. Elsner Art Foundation will sponsor a silent auction on December 3 to benefit the programs and activities of the Utah State University Libraries. The Larry E. Elsner Art Foundation which holds the Larry E. Elsner art collection has made a portion of its holdings available for purchase during the auction. Among the artworks to be auctioned are stunning examples from Larry's ceramic horse series, tea bowls, floor vessels and miniature bronze cats. Larry Elsner's works are represented in numerous public and private collections including the Archie Bray Foundation, collection of Marion Anderson, Arizona State University, Nora Eccles Harrison Museum of Art, Utah Museum of Fine Arts, Saks Fifth Avenue, collection of Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Wolfe and our own Milton R. Merrill Library. The silent auction provides a unique opportunity to contribute to "the heart" of Utah State University—its Libraries—and to purchase an original artwork by one of the Intermountain region's most gifted sculptors.

—Rose M. Milovich, Art & Book Arts Curator
Exhibition Program Director

To participate in the auction and for more information: (435) 797-0893

The exhibition is funded in part by grants from the Larry Elsner Art Foundation, the Utah Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts, Washington, D.C.
Because proverbs are used the world over and carry the compacted wisdom of the groups that use them, scholars study proverbs as a way to gain insights into lifeways and belief systems. For example, Wolfgang Mieder, the premier proverb scholar in the United States, notes that "the worldview of the colonial period and the early years of this nation was expressed in the many proverbs that Benjamin Franklin included in his Poor Richard's Almanacks published between 1733 and 1758, such as 'Industry pays debts while despair increases them,' and 'There will be sleeping enough in the grave.'" This spring Dr. Mieder donated 34 copies of his vast published works to the Fife Folklore Archives in USU's Special Collections and Archives in honor of the excellent folklore graduate students at USU. His donation was used to create the Wolfgang Mieder Proverb Collection. Now patrons of the Archives will have a rich resource for studying the small but powerful proverb. To learn more about proverbs, visit the Fife Folklore Archives, USU Merrill Library, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

— Randy Williams

Director, Fife Folklore Archives

"a small seed sometimes produces a large tree."
—Vermont Proverb

the stanford o. cazier science and technology library

On May 4, 1998, the Science and Technology Library was named for Stanford O. Cazier, twelfth president of Utah State University. The naming of the Science and Technology Library for an historian is appropriate. Dr. Cazier is a believer in the impact of ideas. His support of science and technology is evident if one examines a 1979 map of the USU campus and compares it to the 1992 campus map. Those years of the Cazier administration saw the construction of seven units focusing on science and technology, in addition to other projects. President Cazier’s name on the SciTech Library is symbolic of all those who seek scientific truths while exploring collections of scholarly publications.

The University has established the Stanford O. and Shirley Cazier Library Endowment. Proceeds from the endowment will support the purchase of library resources. Donations made to the Cazier Endowment qualify as deductible contributions. For those interested in participating, contact the Library Office, (435) 797-2631.

—Max P. Peterson
Library Director
Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedia
The Cumulative Index to Nursing & Allied Health Literature (CINAHL) - A database listing citations and abstracts to more than 650,000 English language nursing and allied health journals.

Congressional Universe - U.S. legislative information including bills, laws, and regulations, congressional members' committees, and many other services.

Conference Abstracts - Contains abstracts of articles published in 45 professional journals in communications.

Contemporary Authors - A bio-bibliographical guide to more than 100,000 current writers in fiction, non-fiction, poetry, journalism, drama, motion pictures, and a wide range of other fields.

Biography & Genealogy Master Index - An index to individuals both living and deceased for every field of activity and from all areas of the world.

Associations Unlimited - An encyclopedia of associations, professional societies, & organizations worldwide.

Encyclopedia Americana - An online encyclopedia database of text and images.


Exceptional Child Abstracts
Expanded Academic SearchBank - Current and backfile full text journals with subject coverage in general science, law, humanities, communication, history, and current events.

General Reference Center SearchBank - A general interest database accessing newspapers, reference resources, and popular periodicals.

Health Reference Center SearchBank - A database of journal articles, newsletters, and other publications focusing on health related issues.

Super Tom - A database of current events full text articles directed primarily to K-12.

Institute of Physics Publishing: 33 Full text journals published by the Institute of Physics Publishing.

Project Muse - Access to 40 full text scholarly journals in humanities, social science, and mathematics.

JSTOR - A digitized collection of back issues of more than 87 academic journals. The number of full text journals included in this database is growing yearly. The database covers a wide range of subject interests ranging from anthropology to mathematics to geology.


Books In Print Plus Reviews - Offers the entire Books in Print family, plus full text reviews from 13 leading book reviewers. The database combines valuable reviews with access to over 50,000 publishers, wholesalers, and distributor profiles; and lists 77,000 subject headings.

Criminal Justice Abstracts - This index/abstract contains comprehensive coverage of international journals, books, reports, dissertations, and unpublished papers on criminology and related disciplines.

Exceptional Child Education Resources - This database is the leading source of references in the study of exceptionalities in children. It covers literature from over 200 journals and non-print media.

Alt-HealthWatch - A full text and image database focusing on the many perspectives of complementary, holistic, and integrative approaches to healthcare and wellness. Provides access to articles from journals.

GenderWatch - This full text database is comprised of periodicals and other publications that focus on the impact of gender across a broad spectrum of subject areas. Subject areas include: culture and the arts, business and finance, education, health.

Ethnic NewsWatch - A full text collection of ethnic newspapers and journals. Contains articles, editorials, columns, and reviews, providing a broad diversity of perspectives and viewpoints.

Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC) This database provides access to educational resources, articles, lesson plans, and other related educational documents.

ProQuest Newstand - Newspaper Index and Full Text to more than 150 national and international newspapers. ABU INFO/Global - Index & Full Text access to approximately 1500 business related journals. To access go to www.ualc.net/Services2.html. Click Pioneer.

II. Utah Article Document Delivery Service: Fund Allocation: $100,000.00

This new service is an extension of traditional Interlibrary Loan Services. The Utah Article Delivery Service (UTAD) provides the opportunity for library patrons to initiate their own order(s) for journal articles not owned by their home library and directly receive those requests to a designated fax machine. A second part of this program includes the addition of a daily carrier service to deliver requested books between the college and university libraries in the State. The intent of UTAD is to significantly increase the availability of needed information and reduce the amount of time required to deliver this information. At the present time there is no charge to the patron to request and receive materials through this service.

III. Digital Library Projects: Fund Allocation: $200,000.00

Funds have been appropriated to assist in digitizing special collection materials in order to provide greater access through the use of computers to rare, fragile, and/or unique materials. Placing rare materials in a digital format will also aid in the preservation of the original item(s). The first statewide project is to digitize personal diaries, journals, maps, photographs, and other original documents held in UALC Special Collections relating to the pioneer migration to Utah and other westward destinations between 1830 and 1870.

Funding for these three initiatives totals approximately $1,038,654.00. This dollar amount represents about a 20% discount from the price for the same services and resources, had each library subscribed to or contributed to them individually—a savings of nearly $259,664.00.

As a result of its accomplishments, UALC is receiving both state and national attention in the consortium arena—serving as a successful model for others. Of particular interest, is not only UALC's longevity and success in its cooperative projects, but also that the Consortium's work is carried out entirely by each library volunteering staff time.

Utah State University Libraries plays key leadership within the UALC organization and its many programs and projects. Additionally, UALC's success is significantly enhanced due to the support offered by USU's President and Provost and their commitment and leadership in advancing the need for continued improvement of academic library resources and services.

Utah State University, as well as all institutions of higher education in Utah, is fortunate to have the benefits and contributions of an academic partnership such as the Utah Academic Library Consortium working toward the common goals of providing excellence in library services and collections.

—Robert Murdock
Deputy Director, USU Libraries
My association and love for libraries began early in life. My mother would often take me to the Second Street Branch Library in Tulsa, Oklahoma. This was a beautiful "Williamsburg style" building that commanded a hilltop. We were a family without much extra income, and the library's collection represented adventurous entertainment for my mother and me.

I remember our first visit quite vividly. The long flagstone walkway to the big double doors. The white cupola with copper roof and lightning rod seemed so tall. Inside, the floors were also flagstone that made a slight clicking sound as people walked among the stacks. The windows were arched from floor to high ceiling, allowing natural light from the north to enter.

I can still recall the librarian sitting at her raised desk of darkly stained oak. She was very imposing to a pre-school child. I was impressed with the serene quiet inside. I asked my mother, "why is it so quiet here?" In her wisdom, she put it into a context that I would understand when she told me, "Because libraries are holy places."

Although her words were to make a child understand, I think she created for me a special relationship with libraries that has been a special part of my life. My wife shares this, and we've tried to ensure that our family has the same reverence for libraries as "holy places."

Professor Gay is the recipient of the 1999 Faculty Friend Award from USU Libraries.

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**Yes! I would like to join Friends of Utah State University Libraries!**

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Friends of Utah State University Libraries
3000 Old Main Hill
Logan UT 84322-3000

Thank you for your support!
welcome home

Every door has its own key—African Proverb

In August, the University Libraries introduced the new Library Home Page. While the Internet address (URL) is the same, http://www.usu.edu/~library, the home page appearance has changed considerably. First, the use of the Old Main icon atop the page acts as a reminder to visitors that we are part of the USU community. Eventually, we plan to use a miniature version of the icon as a navigational aid on all of the library home pages. By using the icon we can create a sense of place on the web and enable visitors to navigate the home page in a more efficient manner.

Designing the new home page also allowed us to reorganize the arrangement of library resources into logical groupings. Ultimately, the better organized site enables users to identify, locate, and use library resources. One of the most frustrating problems library patrons experience is the jargon used to identify resources. Most library patrons know what a card catalog is but what do librarians mean by Library Gateway or Online Catalog or how about the differences between a full text database and an index. Hopefully, the new library home page will make the subtle differences between these library resources more evident by employing logical groupings that make the access to these resources easier.

The new home page has been developed to act as a portal to the expanding network of online resources available through the library. The design aspect of the layout makes it easier to maintain the library home page with a flexible arrangement incorporating columns that can grow and shrink as new resources are identified and made available. Increasingly, library resources are created specifically for remote access through networked environments where the user’s location isn’t important but how we provide access is.

—Kevin Brewer
Reference Librarian & WebMaster