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Spring 2015

Marginalia no. 36

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Marginalia

Friends of Merrill - Cazier Library - Spring 2015

That "Voilà" Moment

I am continually impressed with our wonderful library, but especially with our amazing staff. Looking back after six months as Interim Dean I recall our annual staff day in July, one of my favorite events. We spent the day doing mini tours of the different library departments. Everyone came away learning something new, meeting someone they did not know and gaining extra appreciation for what we all do and how our daily activities are so intertwined.

This intersection of our work becomes evident each day, but especially when using the internet or any number of our electronic library resources. Almost daily, most all of us experience an "aha" moment when we enter a topic into Google or search the library catalog for an article. "Voilà!" What we want usually appears, instantly. We have come to take such experiences for granted; at least I have, never stopping to consider the complexities of our new digital-age. It was sobering, therefore, when in September one of our library vendors which managed thousands of print and electronic journal subscriptions went into bankruptcy. This sent all of us scrambling, not only to deal with the financial consequences, but more importantly to maintain those "aha" moments for our library patrons. While silver linings are often hard to see on such cloudy days, this setback, although financially painful, allowed me to learn much more about the process that is necessary to make these "voilà" moments happen.

It was both eye opening and fascinating, because I never totally understood what a subscription vendor did. We all have had the experience of our favorite magazine or newspaper not arriving and have had to call the publisher to track down our copy, an inconvenient, but not impossible task for home subscriptions. Now imagine if you had to do that for thousands of subscriptions, thus the value of a subscription vendor. Basically, these vendors help manage the library's thousands of journals, both electronic and paper, so that we do not have to have a legion of librarians tracking all of this material.

Even with the convenience of subscription vendors, continuation of these "aha" moments still requires the skill and hard

work of library staff and faculty. In order to make all of our materials available, our acquisitions and collection development librarians must review numerous contract licenses with different companies, negotiate prices and then tediously enter the information into our acquisition system.

Eventually, the hard work of catalogers creating sophisticated records and descriptive terminology allow us, the users, to find the material on the internet or in the online catalog. Then print books and journals, have to be properly labeled before they finally make it to the shelf. Similarly, electronic items must be painstakingly monitored by librarians to make sure they are always properly working.

Our Digital Initiatives Department performs this same type of conscientious work for the materials that make up our digital collections and materials deposited in our Digital Commons.

So the next time you find that book, journal article or digital resource you want, please remember that many great and wonderful Merrill-Cazier Library employees made your "voilà" moment possible.

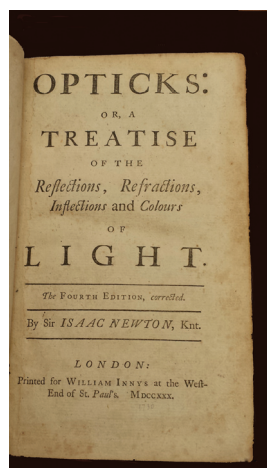
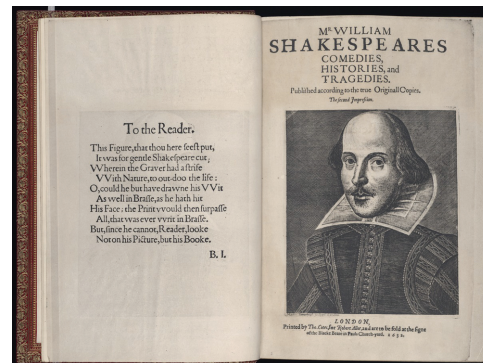
Brad Cole
Interim Dean
Merrill-Cazier Library



Any Sufficiently Advanced Technology is Indistinguishable from Magic. Arthur C. Clarke

New & Notable Acquisitions

The University Libraries Special Collections and Archives recently acquired four plays from the second edition folio of *Mr. William Shakespeares Comedies, Histories and Tragedies Published according to the true Originall Copies*. The partial folio was purchased through the Stanford and Shirley Cazier Endowment. This group of plays includes *The Tragedie of Troilus and Cressida*, *The Tragedy of Coriolanus*, *The Lamentable Tragedy of Titus Andronicus*, and *The Tragedie of Romeo and Juliet*. The second folio was published nine years after the First Folio appeared in print and is almost identical to the first printing.



Another recent acquisition is a fourth edition *Optiks* by Sir Isaac Newton. This volume was the final edition which Newton revised and is regarded as one of the great classics of optics. This volume was purchased in honor of our friend and benefactor Eastman Hatch who passed away in the fall of 2013.

We are excited to be able to add both of these volumes to our rare book collection. The Library has worked hard to add classic rare books to the collection in order to enable faculty and students to view these original works.

Brad Cole
Interim Dean
Merrill-Cazier Library

“You are an alchemist; make gold of that.”

William Shakespeare *Timon of Athens Act 5, Scene 1*

Sir Isaac Newton, the famous seventeenth-century mathematician and scientist, though not commonly known as an alchemist, practiced the art with a passion. Although he wrote over a million words on the subject, after his death in 1727 the Royal Society deemed these particular papers nonscientific and hence “not fit to be printed.” It wasn’t until the 1930s when Sotheby’s auctioned off over 300 of Newton’s manuscripts that scholars were stunned to find the content of over 100 of them was clearly alchemical. When the noted economist John Maynard Keynes acquired a number of these papers he was astonished to discover that Newton’s interest in alchemy was quite plainly his life’s work and actually provided templates for the theory of gravity and laws of light. This Newton “was not the first of the age of reason,” Keynes concluded. “He was the last of the magicians ...”

Newton also designed Pink Floyd’s iconic *Dark Side of the Moon* album cover (at right).



More information on
Isaac Newton &
Alchemy

The Chymistry of Isaac Newton

www.dlib.indiana.edu/collections/newton

Prof. William Newman’s site at Indiana University provides a look inside the secret science of Isaac Newton. Read transcripts of original alchemical notes, learn how to decode their cryptic symbols, and find additional Web resources on Newton’s alchemy.

The Newton Project

www.newtonproject.ic.ac.uk/index.html
The Centre for History of Science, Technology and Medicine at Imperial College London hosts The Newton Project, an impressive online resource that makes the scientist’s personal papers available digitally. Search a comprehensive catalog of Newton’s “nonscientific” works, read transcribed manuscripts, and view scans of the original documents.

Chad Nielsen wins 2014 Arrington Lecture Award

Chad Nielsen received a \$1,000 cash prize for his essay “Hero Worship and Persecution: Zerah Pulsipher and the Utah War.” His win was announced at the Friends of Merrill-Cazier Library spring lecture on March 5. Nielsen received a \$1,000 cash prize.



This year’s lecture was held in fall 2014 and featured Ronald Walker, whose lecture was titled “Heroes and Hero Worship: Brigham Young and the Utah War.”

The Arrington

Writing Award stipulates that entry essays must respond to and expand upon the featured lecture.

Nielsen studies biological engineering at USU with minors in chemistry and crop biotechnology. He works with Prof. Ron Sims as a research assistant intern. Nielsen also is a member of the Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society and has contributed to work published in the academic journal “Algae Research.”

Outside his interest in science and engineering, his hobbies include ringing with the Westminster English Handbell Choir in Logan, spending time with his wife, family and friends, gardening, and reading about LDS history and theology. With his research and writing interests, Nielsen maintains three blogs largely dedicated to Mormon history and doctrine, and a website dedicated to one of his pioneer ancestors. He also pursues freelance research projects.

Nielsen’s winning essay will be available on the University Libraries Digital Commons site. It, along with previous winning essays, can be found by searching “Arrington” from the University Library’s Digital Commons tab (<https://library.usu.edu/>).

Friends Lecture 2015 The Curious Case of the Connection between Sherlock Holmes and the Mormons ...

Attorney Michael W. Homer from Salt Lake City presented the spring 2015 Friends of Merrill-Cazier Library lecture. The title of Homer’s lecture was “*The Greatest Man Who Never Lived: Sherlock Holmes and the Utah Connection.*”

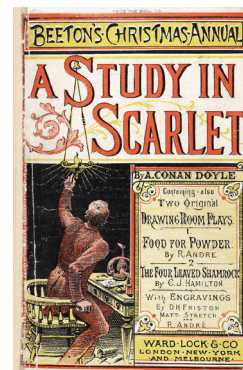
“Sir Arthur Conan Doyle’s most famous creation — who is much more famous than his creator — is Sherlock Holmes,” Homer said.

Sherlock, now known as “the greatest man who never lived and will never die,” first appeared in *A Study in Scarlet* in 1887 and, according to Homer, the story was more about Mormonism than Sherlock and was really a classic “shilling shocker.” [see illustration, right.]

During his lecture, Homer discussed Doyle’s own motivation for writing *A Study in Scarlet*, including his brief flirtation with Mormonism, and the public and LDS reaction to the story. He also discussed Doyle’s observations about Utah and the Mormons, his 1923 visit to Salt Lake City, and his eventual comparison of Mormonism and Spiritualism — something Doyle subsequently embraced.



Guest Lecturer Michael W. Homer (left) is greeted by Blythe Ahlstrom, President of Friends of Merrill-Cazier Library.



Doyle’s first story featuring Sherlock Holmes

Among Homer’s recent books is *On the Way to Somewhere Else* published by the Arthur H. Clark Company and republished by the University of Utah Press and *Joseph’s Temples: The Dynamic Relationship Between Freemasonry and Mormonism* published by the University of Utah Press.

Patrick Williams
Writer & Coordinator
USU Public Relations and Marketing

2014 Arrington Lecture Drew Large Crowd

The Annual Leonard J. Arrington Mormon History Lecture, an event coordinated by Special Collections & Archives, a division of University Libraries at Utah State University, took place October 2, 2014. Ronald W. Walker, an emeritus history professor from Brigham Young University and noted Mormon history expert, delivered the 20th Annual Arrington Lecture.

Mr. Walker’s lecture was titled “Heroes and Hero Worship: Brigham Young and the Utah War.” Walker was an especially fitting speaker for this milestone lecture as he was one of the first professional historians hired by Mormon historian Leonard Arrington to work at the LDS Church Archives.

College students who attended this lecture were able to submit an essay, based on Walker’s presentation, to compete for cash prizes totaling \$1,750. The awards were given out at the Friends of the Library spring lecture. The lecture and essay contest are in keeping with Leonard Arrington’s passion for promoting scholarship in Mormon history as well as Western economic history. Arrington donated his professional and personal papers to Special Collections & Archives which is open to the public for viewing and research purposes.



Well Done!

Articles:

Lundstrom, K. Fagerheim, B.A. and Benson, E., (2014). *Librarians and instructors developing student learning outcomes: Using frameworks to lead the process*, Reference Services Review, Vol. 42 Is: 3, pp.484 – 498.

Pumphrey, D. (2014). *One of ACORN'S First Battles: Fighting the Freeway in Little Rock, Arkansas*. Social Policy, Vol. 44 No 3.

Book Chapter:

Duncan, J. (2014) "Essential Periodical Reference Tools," in *Essential Guide to Reference*, Jo Bell Whitlatch and Susan E. Searing editors. ALA Editions.

Presentations:

Davis, D. (2014). *Are Digital Exhibits "Serious Scholarship?"* Conference of Intermountain Archivists Annual Meeting. Reno, Nevada, May 15, 2014.

Davis, D. (2014). *Man Bites Dog: Promoting Archives in the Media*. Conference of Intermountain Archivists Annual Meeting, Reno, Nevada. May 16, 2014.

Davis, D. (2014). *CIMA 2.0, About the Future of CIMA*. Conference of Intermountain Archivists Fall Caucus, Ogden, Utah. October 10, 2014.

Duncan, J., McKee, A, et. al. (2014). *Real Leaders in a Virtual World*. ALA/ALCTS Virtual Leadership Program at the Annual Meeting of the American Library Association, Las Vegas, Nevada, June 28, 2014.

Heaton, R. (2014). *eResource Licensing: Who Cares?* Utah Library Association Conference, Sandy, Utah, May 2, 2014.

Williams, R. (2014). *Folklore Holdings: Privacy & Confidentiality Issues*. Fall Caucus, Conference of Intermountain Archivists, Ogden, UT. October 10, 2014.

Williams, R. (2014). *Chasing Water*. Utah State History Conference. Salt Lake City, UT. September 26, 2014.

Presentations (cont.)

Williams, R. (2014). *Hosting a Library of Congress Field School*. Conference of Intermountain Archivists. Carson City, NV. May 15, 2014.

Williams, R., Jones, W. and Daines, G. (2014). *Demystifying Publishing: Tips and Tricks to Getting Published*. Conference of Intermountain Archivists. Carson City, NV. May 15, 2014.

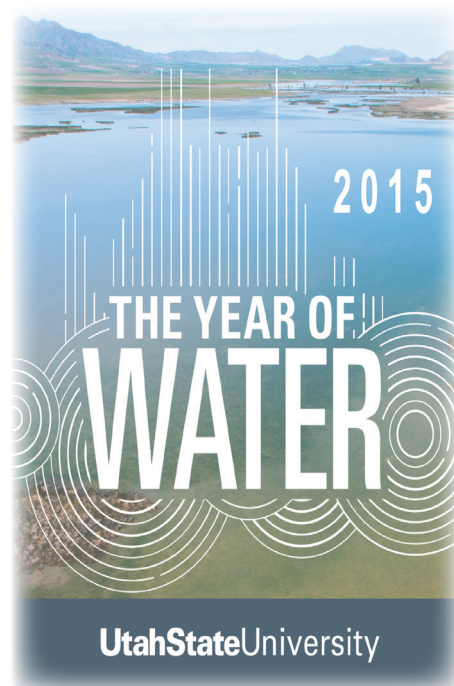
Williams, R, Pumphrey, C. and Ault, N. (2014). Panel Discussion. *Folklore, Archives, and the Voices of Community*. Western States Folklore Society Conference. Logan, UT. April 12, 2014.

Williams, R. (2014). *Fieldwork: Cultural Sensitivity and Ethics*. Folklore Fieldwork class. Logan, UT. March 20, 2014.

Woolcott, L., Neatrour, A., McIntyre, S., and Wittman, R. *Best Practices in Geospatial Metadata*. Digital Library Federation Forum, Atlanta, Georgia, October 28, 2014. Available at: <https://sites.google.com/site/dlfigeospatial/home>

Woolcott, L. and Pumphrey, C. (2014). *Responsive Workflow Design*. American Library Association Annual Conference, Las Vegas, Nevada, June 28, 2014. Available at: <http://prezi.com/plwkgpcwbi9t/responsive-workflow-design/>

Woolcott, L. (2014). *Cross-departmental strategies for eliminating backlogs*. American Library Association Annual Conference, Las Vegas, Nevada, June 29, 2014.

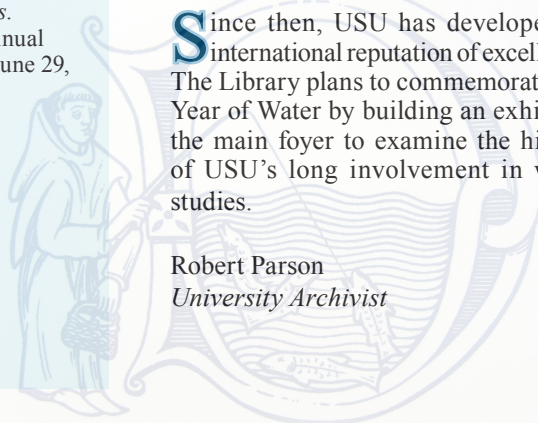


Year of Water

In 1965, USU established the Utah Water Research Laboratory, making 2015 its fifty year anniversary. Water, particularly the science of irrigation, became of foremost importance when the territory established the Agricultural College of Utah (USU) in 1888.

Since then, USU has developed an international reputation of excellence. The Library plans to commemorate this Year of Water by building an exhibit in the main foyer to examine the history of USU's long involvement in water studies.

Robert Parson
University Archivist



introducing ...introducing ... introducing

Robert Heaton came to work for the library two years ago while completing a master's degree in library science through the University of North Texas. He also holds a master's degree in English from USU and a bachelor's in English Literature and Spanish Translation

from BYU. As the new **Electronic Collections Librarian**, Robert's main job is to make sure the library's users have access to the right e-books, electronic journals and other online information sources. He also serves as subject librarian for the Applied Economics and Political Science departments. Robert is originally from Elgin, Illinois, but was happy to see his youngest sister come to Utah State as a transfer student this fall, becoming the last of his siblings to migrate west. Robert plays volleyball for the USU men's (club) team and also plays tuba for the Cache Symphony Orchestra.



Alex Sundt was born and raised in Indianapolis, Indiana. He graduated from Butler University with a BA in English and received his MLS from Indiana University -Indianapolis. Prior to joining the Library's System Department as **Web Services Librarian**,

Alex worked for Evanced Solutions, a library software provider, doing everything from customer service to marketing to product design and development work. As the liaison to the Management, Econ and Finance, and Accountancy departments, Alex enjoys working closely with students and faculty to meet their research and learning needs. As the Web Services Librarian, he works to improve the Library's web presence by learning more about users and their needs and is always looking for opportunities to incorporate technology to improve library practice. In his free time, Alex enjoys reading, hiking the Wasatch range, and relaxing with his wife and their collection of pets (too many to list here).



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

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<input type="checkbox"/> Associate Member	\$25	Address <input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Book-of-the-Year Club	\$50	Phone <input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Semester Book Club	\$100	Select one category and send check and this form to:
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Thank you for your support!





In September of 2014, Special Collections and Archives developed an exhibit that spotlighted the growth and development of media in Cache Valley. The exhibit, “The Broadcasting Bullens: One Family’s Contribution to Cache Valley Newspaper, Radio and Television,” opened September 2 in the atrium of the Merrill-Cazier Library on the Utah State University Logan campus and closed October 15. It was curated by USU’s Special Collections staff with USU history major Elisabeth Cropper, whose proposal for the exhibit earned her a scholarship from the Cache Valley Historical Society in the Spring of 2014.

The Bullen family, which settled in Richmond in the 1860s, figured prominently in Cache Valley business and politics through much of the twentieth century. Through the examination of three generations of Bullens (Herschel, Reed, and Jonathan), the exhibit offered a peek into the pre-Internet media age, including newspaper, radio and television communications, and illustrated the significant progress that has been made in local print and broadcast media. In addition to a timeline that showed how technology has changed over the years, it included examples of the “Logan Republican,” the newspaper established by Herschel Bullen, photos from the Reed Bullen’s radio work with KVNU as well as images from the Cable Company, later headed by Jonathan Bullen.

Cropper’s involvement is an example of the hands-on experience and opportunities offered to many of USU’s undergraduate students. A history professor, Susan Cogen, suggested that Cropper approach Special Collections and Archives about a possible internship, and before she knew it, she was working as the student assistant to SCA’s manuscript curator Clint Pumphrey. Among her early assignments was organizing the 50 feet of materials from the Bullen family which took nine months. Originally, plans called for a small display on the basement level of Merrill-Cazier Library, but with the scope of the Bullen papers, plans changed and a larger exhibit was scheduled for the library’s main-floor atrium and Cropper was to be the curator.

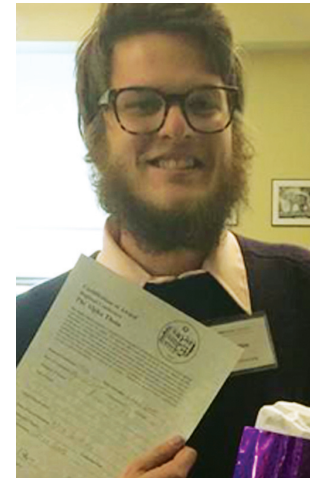
“The exhibit was a lot of fun and also a lot of hard work in areas that I had never experienced before,” said Cropper. “Not only did I choose the materials to be displayed, but I learned about different ways that exhibits can be displayed with limited resources. I did all of the research used in the exhibit text and got to experiment with ways to make the information more applicable and interesting to the public. It was a huge learning experience for me.”

Missed this? A digital edition of the exhibition is published online and can be accessed at:

<http://usudigital.lib.usu.edu/exhibits/show/broadcasting-bullens>



Nick Gittins has worked in the Merrill-Cazier Library Circulation Department since 2011 in various positions. He became night supervisor in 2013 and at the end of 2014 he moved into his current position as Coordinator of Course Reserve. He is a senior at Utah State University studying History with minors in both Latin and Greek.



On April 11, 2015, Nick is receiving the Michael Nicholls Writing Award for his paper, “The Political Inveictive of Gaius Valerius Catullus: An Outsider’s Perspective on an Insider’s World” at Utah State University’s Spring 2015 History Capstone Conference. Nick’s work was also honored at the 2015 regional meeting of the Phi Alpha Theta History Honors Society, where it won the award of Best Undergraduate History Paper. Well Done, Nick!

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Vicki Read, Editor.
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Kathy Schockmel, Art Director.

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Merrill-Cazier Library
Logan, UT 84322-3000

Marginalia: Talking Back to Books



Some people read with pen in hand – hovering intently over each page. Inscriptions in the margins: of books, newspapers, nearly anything with words – is marginalia: an active voice and physical engagement with reading. Marginalia can turn up anywhere – even the casual “duh” penciled by the obvious observation. It’s the work of a shadow reader romping through a text, peering over the author’s shoulder with a pen filled with comments, complaint, and questions – clever or withering. And yet marginalia, despite its rich literary tradition, has an unclear fate in a digitalized world.

Centuries old, marginalia appear to have existed since the beginning of written records. Medieval marginalia was created by monks hand-copying books in the scriptoriums. Along with often Boschian (see Hieronymus) doodles, the weary monks also took to the margins to log remarks and grievances: “Writing is excessive drudgery. It crooks your back, it dims your sight, twists your stomach and your sides.” Or this: “Oh, my hand.”

In Elizabethan times marginalia were encouraged, at times even overwhelming the original text. These days “making your mark” anything is frowned upon; the prohibition on graffiti – even literary graffiti – is equal parts orderliness and ownership. But marginalia are sub-rosa: secret and intimate. If it’s a library book the writer is committing a small indiscretion, but there’s a good (even thrilling) possibility that someone will come along and read your insertion.

Marginalia is studious: textbooks are rampant with it. Marginalia is argumentative: casually disputing the book’s facts and opinions. Our personal marginalia in books we read long ago can be self-enlightening as we glimpse the person we were then; even our underlining can be an epiphany.

Association copies – books from an author’s personal library – are prized by literary historians when marginalia are discovered in a noted writer’s hand. Famous book violators include Kurt Vonnegut, William Blake, Walt Whitman, and Mark Twain.

In the age of the e-book how will marginalia survive? Perhaps electronic texts will create some useful function to allow a digital marginalia in the future. Currently there is a ‘comment thread’ but it is obviously quite public; and it eventually expires.

Still, there’s a growing awareness of the digital books impact on marginalia. Amazon (the Kindle creator) recently launched <http://thepagesproject.com> which collects and electronically preserves selected marginalia from scanned book pages. Another, <http://www.booktraces.org> is a crowd-sourced web project with the goal of gathering digitized copies of marginalia (and inserts, like pressed flowers) in 19th and 20th century library books before the physical collections are digitized away. However, these types of gatherings comprise single, isolated pages. Without the context of the entire text the active reader will miss the serendipity of discovering a lively interjection; or the temptation to join in the exchange.

Kathy Schockmel
Manager, Art Book Collections
Merrill-Cazier Library

*One glance at
a Book and you
hear the voice of
another person,
perhaps someone
dead for 1,000
years. To read
is to voyage
through time.*

Carl Sagan

Above, 2009 *Marginalia* from Alaskan exhibit. Poster designed by Craig Updegrove. It depicts Saint Francis making a hand-shadow rabbit.



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SCARED OF THE DARK - A CULTURE OF MONSTERS



The last 2014 exhibit in the Merrill-Cazier Library atrium was open for viewing from October 28 until December 12, 2014. This exhibit focused on the culture, history and evolution of vampires, werewolves, zombies and the monster from the book *Frankenstein* written by Mary Shelley in 1818. *Frankenstein: the Modern Prometheus* was last year's common literature experience. Divided into four sections to resemble an old fashioned spook alley, the exhibit explored the inception of monsters and why they continue to inhabit human minds and how they have continued to be used in mainstream media.

The opening of the exhibit was a fireside chat by Dr. Brian McCuskey from the English Department. He focused his remarks on the enduring nature of monsters in what many would term a sophisticated society. Why do vampires and werewolves continue to thrive in a culture now based upon technology and electronic gadgets. Why are monsters still such a huge part of the human experience? Dr. McCuskey discussed the power struggle of the human mind and how monsters allow us as humans to act out and explore the dark parts of the human psyche.

The exhibit was curated by Catherine Bunn, Cullen Duncan, Rose Milovich, Vicki Read and Kathy Schockmel.

Vicki Read, *Head of Circulation*
Merrill-Cazier Library

OH
MONSTERS
ARE SCARED

THATS WHY
THEY ARE
MONSTERS

Neil Gaiman

