Scholarly Communications Symposium a Success

By Elizabeth Brown

On April 7, 2011, over 65 attendees gathered at the University Downtown Center to attend Publishing, Promoting, and Preserving Scholarship @ SUNY, a symposium funded by an award from the 2010-2011 SUNY Conversations in the Disciplines Program. The group hailed from 16 campuses and represented over 17 academic departments. In all, nine speakers presented throughout the day on the future of scholarship and how best to incorporate emerging library technology and publishing tools in their research and teaching.

Keynote speaker Todd Carpenter, Managing Director of the National Information Standards Organization (NISO), provided an insightful start to the program with an overview of issues involved in scholarship and publishing. Specifically, he spoke about the current limitations of machines and machine reading of content—as well as new standards needed to differentiate between authors, material formats, and types of data. As the focus shifted to future concerns, Carpenter spoke on the need to incorporate new standards for research data, expand and mash up media formats, and utilize new devices and applications to view and transmit information.

This presentation set the stage for the morning panel discussion, which featured Andrew White, Ph.D., Interim Dean and Director of Libraries at SUNY Stony Brook; Jason Phillips, Director for Outreach and Participation Services for Ithaca; and Patricia Renfro, Deputy Librarian at SPARC. Each demonstrated how current and emerging tools are affecting libraries, publishers, and non-profit advocacy groups, respectively.

The afternoon panel discussions were devoted to scholarship in practice, with an emphasis on new online research and networking tools. In the first session, Donna Dixon, Co-Director Director of SUNY Press, described developments in her organization; Moshe Pritsker, Ph.D., discussed the creation and growth of the Journal of Visualized Experiments (JoVE), an online publication which he co-founded; and Jessica Mezei, Community Liaison and user of Mendeley, demonstrated the power of social networks to connect research articles, informal literature, datasets, and conversations.

The final session concerned the development of comprehensive digital environments and collections. Dave Stout demonstrated Digital Commons from BEPress, which incorporates traditional peer-reviewed publishing materials into a digital interface, and Ellen Cramer, Ph.D., Research Associate at Cornell University Library, explained the potential of VIVO, a comprehensive, localized online research database created from publicly mined data sets.

For more information about scholarly communications and future events at the Libraries, please visit http://library.binghamton.edu/services/scholarly/.

Planet Library

By Dave Vose

In the fall of 2009, the Libraries were awarded a student intern for the 2010-2011 academic year by the Faculty-Student Internship Program to “help internationalize the library experience.” Robyn Anderson, a senior majoring in Political Science and Arabic Studies and minoring in Global Studies and Spanish Translation, was selected as the intern. With the guidance of an advisory committee, Ms. Anderson will conduct usability testing and focus groups and create an action plan. The project, a.k.a. “Planet Library,” will contribute to the continuing development of the Libraries’ website while supporting our core value of providing “excellence in service to the University community and beyond with open access to outstanding collections that support the diverse needs of all our patrons.” It will also support the University’s goals of providing students with a “distinctly global educational experience” and “fostering an inclusive campus community that infuses all aspects of college life with an international perspective.”

Ms. Anderson will gain awareness of the needs of global learners and at the same time learn more about our libraries, thus strengthening her ability to conduct effective research. Through interactions with library patrons, faculty, staff, and other interested offices, she will also strengthen her communication and presentation skills. Students, both international and domestic, will gain a richer academic experience through enhanced access to our relevant resources and services.
Reaching Out to Overseas Colleagues in China

By Julie Wang

In Spring 2010, with support from the Lois B. DeFleur International Innovation Fund, a joint delegation from the Libraries and the Theatre Department visited several universities in China. Representing the Libraries were John M. Meador, Jr., Dean of Libraries, and Julie Wang, Asian and Asian American Studies Librarian.

Before arriving in Beijing, Dean Meador visited two university libraries in Hong Kong, and on May 24, 2010, gave a presentation titled Current Trends in Academic Librarianship at the University of Hong Kong. Between May 26 and June 3, the delegation visited five libraries (Beijing Normal University Library, National Academy of Chinese Theater Arts, Peking University Library, Tsinghua University Library, and the National Library of China); two vendors (Beijing Chinese Book Trading Co. and China International Book Trading Corporation); and the largest bookstore in Beijing (Xidan Book Store).

There were many highlights of the trip, including a visit to Beijing Normal University (BNU) Library. The Libraries’ collaboration with BNU began with the creation of the book exchange project in 2009 following a visit the previous fall. The project, which is currently in its pilot phase, allows librarians from both BU and BNU to select titles of interest for exchange. This partnership has enabled BU to acquire Asian language materials and BNU to supplement its English language library collections. During the visit, the delegation observed the book cataloging process for exchanged titles and inspected books designated for future shipment. Dean Meador gave another presentation titled The Evolution of American University Libraries Over the Past Thirty Years: Current Challenges and Predictions for Their Future. In addition, the delegation held formal discussions with BNU’s Library Director, Dr. Songbai Liu, and the four deputy directors on a variety of topics. During these meetings, the group reached an agreement to continue the book exchange project with some modifications and to explore each of the following: exchanging librarians between BNU and BU; sharing collections expertise between subject librarians and collaborating on library research projects; and co-hosting a future international workshop or conference.

The relationship between our Libraries and BNU Library has continued to grow and will continue to help build our international collections. The relationship between Binghamton University and the National Academy of Chinese Theater Arts (NACTA) will provide opportunities for collaboration: grant projects, fund-raising efforts, and free distribution of titles via the "China Window." These partnerships create positive experiences that result in unique opportunities, expanding the number, quality, and scope of future projects and programs and enhancing the University’s global profile.
Online Journal of Rural Nursing and Health Care

In Summer 2010, Dr. Pamela Stewart Fahs, Professor and Decker Endowed Chair of Rural Health Nursing, approached the Libraries with a unique and exciting proposal. The Decker School of Nursing was planning to assume publication of the Online Journal of Rural Nursing and Health Care and Dr. Fahs wanted to know if the Libraries would be interested in assisting with the editorial and managerial process. The Online Journal of Rural Nursing and Health Care, an open access, peer-reviewed publication, is the official journal of the Rural Nurse Organization and is a valuable resource to nurses and other disciplines providing health care services to populations in rural areas.

Many research libraries support alternative publication models through membership in organizations such as SPARC (Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition) and through scholarly communications programs. Few libraries, however, actively collaborate with university departments and scholarly societies to publish these types of journals. The Libraries’ participation in this project creates a unique opportunity to innovate and explore a new model of service traditionally not offered by libraries. While the model of library as publisher presents new challenges, it aligns closely with the Libraries’ mission to support teaching and research of the university through innovative thinking, open inquiry, and collaborative partnerships.

The Decker School of Nursing plans to publish its first issue of the journal in late spring. Erin Rushton, Web Services Librarian and Subject Librarian for Nursing, has been named Managing Editor. Rushton will help support the publishing system and will be responsible for editing the PDF articles for publication and adding LinkOuts to PubMed. Long term, the Libraries hope to offer additional service by conducting bibliometric studies, supporting data management and permanently preserving the journal in Rosetta, the Libraries’ digital preservation system.

The Libraries are excited to begin this new collaboration with Dr. Fahs and look forward to developing similar collaborations with faculty and departments in the future.
Libraries Partner with Student Group to Address Environmental Issue

By Hyo J. Kim

Every year, the number of pages printed in the Binghamton University (BU) public computing areas, including the Bartle and Science Libraries’ Information Commons, increases by ten percent. From August 2009 to December 2010, BU students printed more than 11,000,000 pages. Academic Computing Services contacted several campus environmental student groups and the Engineers Without Borders student chapter to help resolve this growing environmental problem on campus.

Partnering with the Libraries, the New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG) environmental sector decided to create an exhibit for their project. On display in the Science Library during the 2010 fall semester, a nine-foot tree composed of recycled poster board and cardboard represented the 55,000 trees in the BU Nature Preserve, chosen as a familiar reference for students. Every week, the total number of pages printed on campus was converted into the equivalent of the number of trees cut down for the paper. A representative area of the tree was removed from the display to simulate the destruction of the preserve.

The project’s main goal was to give students a dramatic visual representation of how much has been printed and demonstrate the detrimental effects of their actions on the environment. A written record of the number of pages printed weekly was located next to the display. A Science Library exhibit featuring library materials about the nature preserve and the printing process was also on display.

Libraries’ Mobile Website

By Erin Rushton and Sarah Maximiek

According to a recent survey conducted by Pipe Dream, 99 percent of BU students own a cell phone. A quick walk around campus confirms that students depend on their phones for communication, entertainment, and information. Given the ubiquity of mobile phones, the Libraries felt it was important to develop a site that would provide quick and easy access to services and resources on a mobile platform.

In summer 2009, the Libraries launched a mobile-friendly website: http://library.binghamton.edu/m. The site can be wirelessly accessed on any phone or mobile device that supports web browsing. Users can connect to research assistance, access mobile-friendly databases and research tools, and view hours and contact information. In addition, there is information about loan periods, fines, book locations, and directions. Users can also find links to stay connected to the Libraries through blogs and social networking sites.
New: Print-On-Demand Service
By Angelique Jenks-Brown

The Libraries recently purchased a large format printer/scanner. This purchase was spurred by the United States Geological Survey’s (USGS) decision to produce all future topographic maps in electronic format only.

USGS topographic maps are the most highly used maps by faculty and students. The new HP T1200 plotter can print in color or black and white onto a roll of paper that is 42 inches by 100 feet. In addition, the Libraries can accommodate requests for printing poster presentations and other large images. Unlike other printers available in the Libraries, which are self-service, print requests are fulfilled by library personnel. It is one of three places on campus for large-format printing, and the only place that can accept BUC$ for payment.

The large-format scanner is a roller LED scanner that can accommodate wide materials. Maps or documents can be scanned and saved as a TIFF files or printed. To scan delicate or brittle documents, there is a transparency folder.

For more information please visit the Science Library Plotter web page:
http://library.binghamton.edu/about/policy/plotter.html

Collaborative Partnerships in Research
By John M. Meador, Jr.

We segment both our physical and virtual libraries with an array of niche services and customizable tools to meet the specialized interests, learning styles, and generational expectations found within our academic community. This is made possible only through collaborative partnerships in applied research with commercial firms in the information industry. They provide us access to their software developers and cutting-edge technology that otherwise would be beyond our financial reach. We are indebted to Jerry Kline, Founder and Chairman of Innovative Interfaces, Inc., and Matti Shem Tov, President and CEO of the Ex Libris Group, who are spirited competitors in the marketplace but valued collaborators and supporters of Binghamton University Libraries.
In May 2010, Lin Yi, Director of the Center for International Cultural Exchange at the National Academy of Chinese Theatre Arts in Beijing, presented Dean Meador with an autographed copy of her latest book.

Gift of Dr. Lin Yi:

Our Libraries recently were given the John K. McLaughlin Popular Culture Collection. John K. McLaughlin was a graduate of Union-Endicott High School and founder of Book Sail of Orange, California, which specialized in Americana and movie memorabilia and ephemera. The collection is primarily composed of books, artwork, and other materials related to cinema, television, and radio. Included in the collection are lobby cards (which are similar to movie posters, only smaller) for such films as “The Daltons Ride Again” and “The Incredible Shrinking Man” and movie posters for the films “Kiss Me Deadly,” “Man from Planet X,” and others. The collection also includes movie, radio, and television scripts; movie star contracts; photographs; and other materials for such stars as Abbot and Costello, Greer Garson, and Charles Laughton. Featured among the materials are an early poster from a stage production of Uncle Tom’s Cabin, measuring 7 ½ x 13 ½ feet, and an early Flea Circus (a circus sideshow attraction) wall panel. The Libraries are grateful to the McLaughlin family for its donation of this rich collection, which adds to our growing number of performing arts collections.

Gift of the McLaughlin Family:

Gift of Dr. Lin Yi:

In May 2010, Lin Yi, Director of the Center for International Cultural Exchange at the National Academy of Chinese Theatre Arts in Beijing, presented Dean Meador with an autographed copy of her latest book.
In January 2011, Mr. and Mrs. Ito donated over 150 volumes of Japanese materials to the Libraries. The books—which include the noteworthy title *Gendai Nihon bungaku zenshū* (現代日本文学全集, a collection of modern Japanese literature)—are in honor of Mrs. Ito’s father, Mr. Tadao Sakurai.

In February 2011, Don Boros, Associate Professor in the Theatre Department, donated an autographed copy of the *Stage Art in Yueju Opera* (越劇舞台美术). Written in both Chinese and English, the book will be the only copy owned by an American library.

The Libraries received a large gift of books from Aldo S. and Reta A. Bernardo in December 2010. The volumes come from the personal library of Aldo Bernardo, Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus, Romance Languages & Comparative Literature. One of the few remaining original faculty members of Harpur College, Dr. Bernardo joined the faculty in 1949 (then Triple Cities College) and retired in 1987 after 38 years of teaching, research, and service to the University. Among other accomplishments, Dr. Bernardo founded the Center for Medieval and Early Renaissance Studies. He was the first of the original faculty to receive the Order of Merit from a foreign government (the equivalent of knighthood from the Republic of Italy), was responsible for adding the performance dimension to the University’s Fine Arts program, and was the first to initiate a multi-nation study abroad program for undergraduates (a Mediterranean studies program in Venice, Malta, and Tunisia).

Dr. and Mrs. Bernardo’s generous donation greatly enhances the Libraries’ collection of Medieval and Renaissance resources. Notable titles include: Machiavelli’s 1540 *Discorsi di Niccolo Machiavelli sopra la prima deca di Tito Livio*; Giovanni Battista de Castiglione’s 1532 *I Luoghi difficili del Petrarca nuovamente dichiarati, da M. Giovambatista da Chastiglione*; and Augustin Calment and Giovan Domenico Mansi’s 1726 *Dictionarium historicum, criticum, chronologicum, geographicum, et lietrale Sacrae Scripturae*. 
Coming Soon: *Primo Discovery and Delivery* and *Rosetta*

By Bern Mulligan

In the next few months, patrons of the Libraries will notice two new electronic products added to our already impressive array of resources: **Primo Discovery and Delivery** and **Rosetta**. Both from **Ex Libris**, a leader in library systems technology, they will integrate seamlessly with our library catalog and federated search (also from Ex Libris) and products from other vendors as well.

**Primo and the Primo Central Index**

Primo is a customizable engine/interface that searches for local and remote resources such as books, journal articles, and digital objects and presents the results in a single, relevance-ranked list from which users can access items of interest. The Primo Central index is a “mega-aggregation” of hundreds of millions of resources from different content providers from which selected items can be rapidly retrieved. Together they form a dynamic “one-stop” discovery and delivery service.

**Rosetta**

Named after the ancient Egyptian bilingually-inscribed stone, Rosetta is a highly scalable, secure, and easily managed digital preservation system that will help the Libraries proactively ensure that past, current, and future scholarship as well as digitized special collections will continue to be accessible. We will be the first university library in North America to implement Rosetta.

Digital preservation sounds simple (“It’s already digital, so just save it”), but storage space, security, and accessibility issues complicate matters immensely. For example, one area for concern is digital file corruption, often called “bit-rot.” Bit rot refers to a degradation process in which small parts of stored files become corrupted even without being used. If bit rot occurs at a critical location in a file, it can alter it significantly or even make it completely irretrievable. Rosetta will monitor the fidelity of files by use of check sums, and if a discrepancy is found, it will allow us to replace the corrupted file with an uncorrupted version from backup media.

The Libraries plan to begin utilizing this powerful preservation tool for such digitized special collections as the Binghamton University Archives, the Edwin A. Link, Jr. Digital Archives, and The Max Reinhardt Collection. We also plan to work with University faculty members to preserve their scholarly activities, including papers, research notes, data sets, and correspondence. Formats that can be included are text, image, audio, and video files.

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**BookExpo America**

Dave Vose and Ben Andrus were among a contingent of nine BU librarians attending BEA 2011 in New York City. They are standing beside the Espresso Book Machine by Xerox that can download and print a 300 page paperback book in three minutes.

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