Endowment Growth

The Milne Library Endowment is growing as a result of the current Campaign for the College at Oneonta. The fundraising campaign “Changing Lives Since 1889” has raised more than $6.24 million toward the goal of $10 million by June 2007. One of the designations for donations in this Campaign is the Milne Library Endowment, with a goal of raising $500,000.

During this semester, over 10,000 alumni, current and retired faculty and staff received an appeal asking them to make a gift to the Milne Library Endowment. In addition, several weeks were devoted to calling alumni via the Phonathon Program to ask for gifts for our Library. At the close of 2004, a total of $137,000 had been received for the Endowment. Gifts are still coming in. At the end of April, 2005, nearly $60,000 has been received this year, bringing us that much closer to our goal.

The college and the library staff are very grateful for the generosity of those who have made gifts. These gifts truly make a difference in the services and collections we can offer to students. The endowment provides an excellent avenue for those who want to help Milne Library achieve a higher standard of excellence. If you would like to make a gift, visit the library website at http://www.oneonta.edu/advancement/donors/milne2.asp or contact the Office of College Advancement at x2781 for more information.

Milne Living Room

“Libraries are now being designed to be living spaces for students, not simply places where storage is the primary purpose, and people are secondary. …Many students, including ones who may make little use of the research materials in a library, nevertheless prefer to study in libraries over any other place on campus. This study function...is in part a social phenomenon and in part recognition of the library’s tacit status as a quasi-religious center of intellectual life. Comfortable furnishings...increase student satisfaction and maximize the quality of their time in the library.”


Milne Library is planning a new comfortable “living room” for students and faculty. The proposal resulted from a contest that encouraged Milne Library staff members to develop ideas to improve the library’s physical environment. The winners, Mary Lynn Bensen and Margaret Monaco, both of the Reference Department, proposed the creation of a living room with comfortable sofas, and reading chairs, some individual study desks, floor and/or table lighting, end tables, plants, and a fireplace. The space is envisioned as a place where our users can sit and read comfortably, and enjoy an environment that promotes absorption and contemplation. In addition to use by individuals, the room would be designed with the flexibility to accommodate medium sized groups of people, such as would gather in a living room, for poetry readings, small panel discussion groups, and receptions. This new Milne Library Reading Room is slated for room 118, located in the southwest corner of the first floor. The renovations will be entirely funded through donations.
Where in the World?

The library has received two new atlases that were published in 2004 and 2005 and reviewed for Booklist by Christine Bulson. The publication of the 8th edition of the National Geographic Atlas of the World (Ref. G1201 .N38 2005) coincides with the 90th year of the Society. The heart of the atlas, the maps of continents and countries, show great cartography, the strength of NGS. As in previous editions the Americas are first proceeding eastward around the globe. The editors admit that North America is given additional coverage since the primary readership is from the US and Canada—22 maps for NA, 13 for Asia. The maps are not as colorful as other world atlases but the number of place names is impressive, rivaling the classic Times Atlas of the World. All maps are double-page spreads with the exception of four—Low Countries, Denmark, New Zealand, New Guinea—that each have a single page. Accompanying each map is current country information. Other material includes geographic comparisons that are updated, including Mt. Everest increasing in height. Airline distances and temperature and rainfall for major cities are in the metric system which is not as useful for US users. The index with 140,000 entries provides plate number and grid location with a descriptor for rivers, mountains, etc.

A website accompanies the atlas but requires a user ID and password found in the front of the atlas. The site has a useful update section that already has a printable patch for the new Great Sand Dunes National Park. Other possibilities on the web site are less useful, especially the arcglobe animations that are flashy but not particularly useful. World atlases never contain every town, lake or mountain that a user may want to find. This new atlas does have Oneonta and Cooperstown on the map, but not Worcester. However it is a major, comprehensive, current atlas that will be used by researchers.

The Oxford Atlas of North America (Ref. G1105 .A8 2005) was published last month and stretches the boundaries by including Mexico as well as Canada and the US. The first section contains physical, cultural, economic, political and geographic maps of the region. Interesting maps include one of women in state legislatures and land use by commodity—corn, hogs, soybeans, etc. Regional country maps are included as well as maps of the 50 states of the US, 13 provinces of Canada and 32 states of Mexico. The majority of the excellent cartography is by Phillips but MapQuest supplied a number of city maps. There are current center city maps including those of Boston, Chicago, New Orleans, New York, Washington, Montreal and Mexico City. There is a section for each country which has a page for the states and/or provinces giving encyclopedic information. There is also a box of economic and geographic statistics with a comparison to the country as a whole—persons with a disability, homeownership rate, minority-owned firms, persons per square mile, etc.

Although many of the Mexican maps have more than one state on a page, the maps are more detailed than those in a world atlas. Much of the encyclopedic and statistical information will not be found in usual reference sources. The Canadian provincial maps are large with Nunavut, Southern British Columbia and Southern Alberta each on a two-page spread. The inclusive index lists cities and physical features with a grid location.

Since the Internet still does not provide the clarity or depth of a good atlas, these two new reference sources will be in demand in the library.

2005 Academic Achievement Awards

April 12, 2005, was the ceremony for the College’s 17th annual Academic Achievement Awards. At a dinner for the recipients and their faculty nominators, students were recognized for “academic achievement and participation in department, campus and community service”.

To further honor the students, Milne Library purchases books with funds from alumni donations to commemorate the occasion and bookplates them with the student’s name. These books are currently on display in the Main Floor case until the end of the semester.

To quote James Milne, the first College president “I see possibilities full of promise: today we dedicate; tomorrow we change possibility into reality; the school of today—cold brick and stone—becomes the living heart of tomorrow”.

Recipients
Ms. Heather Sanford
Ms. Laura Demick
Ms. Sarah Woodward
Ms. Erin Schulz
Mr. Luther J. Mahoney
Ms. Erin Patrick
Mr. John Pentangelo
Ms. Sherry Pieringer
Mr. Luke Kitchen
Ms. Mackenzie Moschetti
Ms. Tricia Tietjen
Ms. Julia Baxter-McGregor
Ms. Justine LaMantia
Mr. Kenneth Blanchard
Ms. Jennifer Grombach
Ms. Andrea Braunius
Mr. Eric Schwarzenegger
Ms. Lori Cadden
Ms. Ashlee Robertson
Mr. Leo Smith
Mr. Bryan Schuff
Mr. John Finley
Mr. Dustin Winn
Mr. Tyler Obenauf
Ms. Jo Ellen Tarbox
Mr. Clarence LaFarr
Mr. Christopher Curch
Ms. Jennifer Doherty
New Reference Books

The Hispanic American Almanac

This is a much-needed reference tool for history and culture of Hispanics in the United States. The range goes from Spanish conquests up to the present. Covered in the book is history; significant documents such as treaties and NAFTA; social aspects such as discrimination, family life, women, and religion; legal information and rulings; business and labor; education; and all aspects of the arts. The historical studies cover three major Hispanic groups: Mexicans, Puerto Ricans, and Cubans. The documents section provides the students with the actual documents for research sources. A sizable section of brief biographies is also included. All material is well documented with each section of material having the contributor and numerous references.

For further research, a list of organizations including addresses and a summary of the histories of the organizations is given. An annotated chronology is given with many dates of importance. A sizable general bibliography gives the reader many materials for further study. A glossary of Spanish terms is provided. The index is detailed in its scope so that the researcher will find material within various sections.

The Oxford Dictionary of Islam

With all of the news and information coming to us, this dictionary provides help in sorting out Islamic history, politics and beliefs. 2000 entries focus on current information for use by the general reader. Included in the alphabetized book are the Taliban, Osama bin Laden, al-Qaida, the PLO and HAMAS. Islamic views on various issues including abortion, birth control, women's status and marriage are discussed. The book has a chronology of key events in the back.

The dictionary is for use as a quick reference for the general reader and is not scholarly in writing. Paragraphs are not given authorship and material is not cited. The book includes a list of contributors.

Encyclopedia of Modern American Extremists and Extremist Groups

Stephen E. Atkins, an academic librarian, has developed an alphabetically organized introduction to various extremist groups, people and movements. “Modern” refers to those extremists that have appeared since the 1950s. “Extremism” is defined as “the advocacy of extreme positions by movements, groups, and organizations” with “policies or practices outside the societal norm.” Although the 275 entries are not in-depth studies, the reader will find a good background as well as suggested readings for each entry.

The chilling information covers groups includes white extreme groups, violent activities of every political spectrum, individuals such Ted Kaczynski and groups such as Michigan Militia.

Cross-references are given for further information. The bibliographies include web sites as well as written material. A chronology is also included.

Encyclopedia of the Enlightenment

(4 volumes) by Alan Charles Kors

Highly recommended in library journals, this Oxford Press encyclopedia is a great resource for college students. The period covered extends beyond the usual European Enlightenment to include culture from the 1670s to the early 1800s. Included in the extremely informative 700 entries are articles about philosophies, social changes, countries, personalities, arts and politics in both Europe and America. Each article ranges in length from one page to fourteen pages, has an annotated bibliography and is signed by the contributor of the entry.

The index is detailed for refining use of the material. “See” and “See also” are useful additions for further reading. A table of contents in Volume 1 gives the entry topics, providing a good browsing tool for the reader.

Holocaust Literature

Edited by S. Lillian Kremer

Kremer, a professor at Kansas State University, has written several books about Jewish and Holocaust literature. Holocaust Literature is a comprehensive collection of essays about Holocaust writers. Each essay is from 2000 to 8000 words and packed with information about the author’s life with emphasis on the influences as they affect the writings, critical analysis of the writings and “assessments of literary representation of the Holocaust and its consequences” as stated in the introductory essay by the editor. Each essay has a bibliography of the subject's primary and secondary writings. All the contributing essay writers are lecturers or professors with strong professional ties to the subject covered. The essays are written for the college reader.

The appendices are very interesting for the student of the Holocaust literature. The “Genre” appendix selects topics then follows with lists the authors of the appropriate literature. A second appendix entitled “Literary themes” follows the same format listing such themes as aryization, collaboration, ghettos, guilt, hiding, and refugees. Another appendix describes the ghettos by name while another describes the concentration and extermination camps. Historical events and historical figures are each topics for an appendix. Finally, there is an excellent glossary. The index is detailed.

Encyclopedia of Hormones (3 vol.),

Edited by Helen L. Henry and Anthony W. Norman

As a highly recommended reference tool, this encyclopedia is a comprehensive study of the latest information about hormones in animals and plants. The 300 lengthy articles cover the biology and cellular physiology of 150 hormones at the cellular and subcellular sites. The material is best for students with a biological or chemical background.

Each article has a bibliography for further research. Many of the signed articles also include a glossary of terms for that article. There is a detailed index and a glossary in the third volume.
Staff news:

Richard M. Uttich joined the professional staff at Milne Library on March 1, 2005 in the position of Assistant Director for Reference and Access Services. Rick was formerly the Chief of Public Services at the City College of New York, a position he held for the past six years. Rick has been actively engaged in areas of librarianship focusing on copyright and fair use issues, serving as liaison between the ACRL Copyright Committee and the ALA/RUSA/STARS Interlibrary Loan Committee. Rick is also currently a member of the ALA/RUSA/STARS Legislation and Licensing Committee. His work at City College included web page design and implementation of the EZProxy server for off-campus access to electronic library resources. Rick received his BA in Sociology from St. Norbert College in DePere, Wisconsin and is originally from Wheaton, Illinois, west of Chicago. He received his MLS, with concentrations in business, law and automated library systems, from the Pratt Institute School of Information and Library Science where he later taught a course. His duties at Milne Library will include leading the public services librarians and support staff in Reference, Circulation, Reserves, and Interlibrary Loan.

In his spare time Rick enjoys outdoor activities such as hiking, camping, kayaking/canoeing and riding his motorcycle. This spring and summer Rick is looking forward to exploring the rural roads, rivers and trails around Oneonta, the upper Catskills, and the Adirondacks. Rick also enjoys reading philosophy, good novels, and social, cultural and political critique.

Library Hours: Spring and Summer 2005

Extended Finals Hours:
Monday, May 9 – Thursday, May 12 ......................................................... 8 AM–1 AM
Friday, May 13 ....................................................................................... 8 AM–midnight
Saturday, May 14 .................................................................................. 10 AM–midnight
Sunday, May 15 ..................................................................................... 12 noon–1 AM
Monday, May 16 – Tuesday, May 17 ....................................................... 8 AM–midnight
Wednesday, May 18 ............................................................................. 8 AM–8 PM

InterSession Hours: Thursday, May 19, 2005 – Monday, May 30, 2005
Monday - Friday .................................................................................... 8 AM–4:30 PM
Saturday & Sunday .............................................................................. Closed
Monday, May 30 (Memorial Day) ......................................................... Closed

Summer Session I: Tuesday, May 31, 2005 – Thursday, June 30, 2005
Monday – Wednesday ........................................................................... 8 AM–8 PM
Thursday & Friday ................................................................................ 8 AM–5 PM
Saturday ................................................................................................ Closed
Sunday ..................................................................................................... 4 PM–8 PM
Saturday, June 4 (Alumni Weekend – Tentative) .................................. 1 PM–4 PM

InterSession Hours: Friday, July 1, 2005 – Monday, July 4, 2005
Monday - Friday .................................................................................... 8 AM–4:30 PM
Saturday & Sunday .............................................................................. Closed
Monday, July 4 ....................................................................................... Closed

Summer Session II: Tuesday, July 5, 2005 – Thursday, August 4, 2005
Monday & Tuesday ............................................................................... 8 AM–8 PM
Wednesday - Friday .............................................................................. 8 AM–5 PM
Saturday & Sunday ............................................................................... Closed

InterSession Hours: Friday, August 5, 2005 – Tuesday, August 23, 2005
Monday - Friday .................................................................................... 8 AM–4:30 PM
Saturday & Sunday ............................................................................... Closed
Monday, August 23 ............................................................................... 8 AM–8 PM

Graduating Seniors

Congratulations to the following students who have worked in the Library and will be graduating this May:

Bibliographic Services:
Amanda Aloi
Isabelle Brundege

Circulation:
Brian Cobb
Audra Hendrickson
Monica Knapp
Bethanie Mason
Trish Nedball
Jason Serventi

InterLibrary Loan:
Rachel Antzak

Technician’s Office:
James O’Meara