Dear Friends,

Thank you for the warm reception that has been extended to me on my return to Ohio State as Director of University Libraries. I wanted to share my impressions about the Libraries with you.

So many things are going well at the OSU Libraries. We have an extremely hard-working, dedicated, and innovative faculty and staff who are committed to the success of our students and faculty. The renovation of the Thompson Library is stunning and has been validated by student response to and use of its services and facilities. Our number of visitors is four times what it was when compared to the data prior to the renovation. The opening of the new Ohio Union in late March has had no impact on our number of visitors – in fact the number continues to grow. In addition, the Science and Engineering Library has seen no reduction in traffic with the opening of the Thompson Library. The library as place is thriving.

Our LibQUAL survey results – a national library survey which measures library success along four areas – are impressive. We are at or above the average for all Association for Research Libraries (the top 125 research libraries in the US and Canada). These survey results were collected before the opening of the Thompson Library so I expect our next iteration will reflect user satisfaction with the renovated space.

As we look to build on these successes, we are creating a new strategic plan focused around four strategic themes:

**Services** – develop and refine user-centered services which integrate libraries and library faculty and staff into environments where users work and interact

**Collections** – Manage the evolution of the Libraries’ information resources to match the needs and behaviors of users, and to reflect changing technologies and practices in publishing, research and teaching

**Library as place** – Enhance the Libraries’ place as a cultural, social and intellectual magnet – a gathering place for cultivating intellectual inquiry and the development of critical thinking skills, promoting academic discourse, and fostering lifelong learning and knowledge enhancement

**Infrastructure** including human resources – Foster a supportive, respectful and diverse work environment that utilizes and develops the best talents of the Libraries’ faculty and staff

These themes will result in specific strategies and initiatives that will guide our efforts for the next 12 to 24 months.

My final first impression involves the strong support we enjoy from you – our donors and friends. So much of our success rests on your help and investment. Given the state of the economy and public funding, your support has never been more important than it is today. We know that OSU Libraries’ faculty and staff make a difference in the lives of our students, our faculty and the citizens of Ohio. But we cannot maintain this important work without you! Your generosity and continued support is always greatly appreciated but has become even more important in these difficult financial times.

Carol Pitts Diedrichs, Director of University Libraries
The 10th triennial Festival of Cartoon Art will take place at The Ohio State University October 14-17, 2010. The Festival is a unique celebration of cartoons and comics, and their creators. This year’s presenters include:

Steve Breen
Roz Chast
Tony Cochran
Jan Eliot
Matt Groening & Tom Gammill
Dave Kellett
Paul Levitz
Dan Piraro
Jen Sorensen
James Sturm
Michael Tisserand
Gene Luen Yang

The Festival will feature a special tribute panel to Jay Kennedy, late editor in chief of King Features Syndicate. Kennedy was a comics collector and scholar who bequeathed his extraordinary collection of underground comics to the library. Panelists include Brendan Burford, Bill Griffith, Matt Groening and Patrick McDonnell.

In addition, a special event with Art Spiegelman will take place on Sunday, October 17, as part of his residency at the Wexner Center for the Arts.

Two cartoon exhibitions will be on display during the Festival. A retrospective of the work of Billy Ireland, Columbus Dispatch cartoonist from 1898-1935, will be held in the Exhibition Gallery of the Thompson Library. Scenes of “My Infint-hood: Celebrating the Birth of Krazy Kat” will be exhibited in the Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum Reading Room Gallery.

The Festival will once again include an academic pre-conference, co-sponsored by Project Narrative of The Ohio State University Department of English and the Popular Culture Program of the College of Arts and Sciences. The pre-conference will take place on Thursday, October 14 at the Ohio Union. That evening, all Festival participants are invited to celebrate the 100th birthday of Krazy Kat at a special exhibition reception and birthday party. The reception will be co-sponsored by the Great Lakes Chapter of the National Cartoonists Society.

The Festival is limited to 275 participants. Registration, available online for the first time, will be $125. Members of the National Cartoonists Society and the Association of American Editorial Cartoonists will be able to register at the reduced rate of $100. The registration fee for students and seniors citizens aged 65 and over will be $25 (ID will be required). The registration fee includes admission to the academic pre-conference, all Festival of Cartoon Art Forum presentations, receptions and special events, complimentary copies of the catalogues for the Billy Ireland and Krazy Kat exhibitions, morning refreshments on both Forum days, and a souvenir tote bag.

The Festival will be co-sponsored by the Wexner Center for the Arts. It is also made possible by the generous support of the National Cartoonists Society Foundation, King Features Syndicate, Milton Caniff Endowment, Mark J. Cohen and Rose Marie McDaniel Endowment, and Mary F. Gau and Kevin Wolf.

George Herriman. Krazy Kat, February 11, 1970. Los Angeles Examiner. San Francisco Academy of Comic Art Collection, The Ohio State University Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum (for the exhibition Scenes of My Infint-hood: Celebrating the Birth of Krazy Kat curated by Jenny Robb and Jared Gardner)

Additional information is available on the 2010 Festival of Cartoon Art website, cartoons.osu.edu/fca2010/
The Friends of the OSU Libraries has pledged $400,000 toward the new home of the Billy Ireland Cartoon Library and Museum.

The Friends’ Board made the pledge at its July meeting. The pledge came in response to a challenge from Jean Schulz, widow of “Peanuts” creator Charles M. Schulz.

Mrs. Schulz has given $1 million to support the renovation of Sullivant Hall, the future location of the Billy Ireland Cartoon Library and Museum. She also issued a challenge; she will provide a matching gift of $2.5 million if Ohio State raises the same amount from other sources, making the total impact of her gift $6 million.

In remarks at the Friends’ Board of Directors meeting, University Libraries Director Carol Diedrichs said that the project was her top fundraising priority. She encouraged the Friends to take advantage of the Schulz Challenge to double their donation to the project. Thanks to the challenge, the Friends gift of $400,000 will grow to an $800,000 contribution.

“By helping to underwrite a state-of-the-art facility for the University’s renowned Billy Ireland Cartoon Library and Museum, Jean Schulz advances the work of students, faculty, and scholars and deepens our understanding of the importance of the genre,” said Ohio State President E. Gordon Gee. “Her gift is an especially fitting way to honor the remarkable creative legacy of her late husband.”

The challenge continues through March 9, 2014. To join the Schulz Challenge, go to cartoons.osu.edu/schulz challenge or use the envelope included with this newsletter.

We are very grateful to Jean Schulz for her generous gift, and for her challenge which will encourage everyone who cares about cartoon art to become involved in our project,” said Cartoon Library and Museum Curator Lucy Shelton Caswell. “The new Cartoon Museum and Library will be a place of learning and enjoyment for the public and scholars alike.”

Located at a highly visible location along High Street and adjacent to the Wexner Center for the Arts, the historic Sullivant Hall is in dire need of repair. The planned renovation will provide 40,000 gross square feet of space for the new Cartoon Library and Museum that will include a spacious reading room for researchers, three museum-quality galleries, and expanded storage with state-of-the-art environmental and security controls. A dedicated ground-level entry will allow for easy access to the new facility. The addition of exhibition galleries dedicated to cartoon art will facilitate public display of the Library’s extraordinary collection.

“The new Cartoon Museum and Library will be a place of learning and enjoyment for the public and scholars alike.”

The Billy Ireland Cartoon Library and Museum at Ohio State is one of the most admired and sought-after caretakers of legacy collections. Thousands of donors have contributed to the collection. In 1992, the Robert Roy Metz Collection of 83,034 original cartoons by 113 cartoonists was donated by United Media, and in 2007, the entire collection of the International Museum of Cartoon Art (IMCA), numbering more than 200,000 originals, was transferred to the Cartoon Library and Museum. With the addition of the IMCA’s collection, the Cartoon Library and Museum now houses more than 400,000 works of original cartoon and comics art, 35,000 books, 51,000 serial titles, 2,800 linear feet of manuscript materials, and 2.5 million comic strip clippings and newspaper pages.

The challenge continues through March 9, 2014. To learn more about the Billy Ireland Cartoon Library and Museum, go to cartoons.osu.edu. To join the Schulz Challenge, go to give.to.osu.edu/schulz challenge or use the envelope included with this newsletter.

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Thompson Library featured in American Libraries

The renovation of the Thompson Library continues to draw recognition to both the facility and Ohio State.

The project was highlighted in three online features of the American Library Association’s magazine, American Libraries. The issues, which focused on architectural and design elements of several library construction projects across the U.S., made note of the Thompson Library’s historic style in the restoration of the Grand Reading Room and the use of natural light throughout the facility.

In addition, a third series highlighted the elegant beauty of the Thompson Library at night.

Let There Be Light

Library patrons Thom and Pat Robinson, pictured here with Libraries Director Carol Pitts Diedrichs, were honored for their generous philanthropy to Ohio State at a recent dinner at Ohio Stadium. The Robisons have made generous recent commitments not only to the Thompson Library and the Schulz Challenge, but to Athletics, the Band, Ophthalmology and the Medical Center.
Joseph (Yossi) Galron-Goldschlaeger, Head of the Hebraica and Jewish Studies Library at the Thompson Library of The Ohio State University Libraries, has received a “Body of Work” award in recognition of his life-long contributions to the field of Hebrew bibliography.

The Judaica Bibliography award, from The Research Libraries, Archives, and Special Collections Division of the Association of Jewish Libraries (AJL), was funded by Eric Chaim Kline of Los Angeles to encourage the publication of outstanding Judaica bibliographies.

Mr. Galron-Goldschlaeger has been active in this field since the 1980’s, with published print bibliographies for the writings of prominent figures in the history of Modern Hebrew literature, including Yisrael Yeshayahu, Dov Sadan, Yeshayahu Avrekh, Nurit Govrin, Dan Miron, and Nathan Rotenshtraikh.

In 2004, he established Modern Hebrew Literature - a Bio-Bibliographical Lexicon, an online database of 2,000 entries available at hebrewlit.notlong.com. This invaluable one-person project, freely available on the Internet, is heavily used by librarians, researchers, students, and the general public.

The Association of Jewish Libraries promotes Jewish literacy through enhancement of libraries and library resources and through leadership for the profession and practitioners of Judaica librarianship. The Association fosters access to information, learning, teaching and research relating to Jews, Judaism, the Jewish experience and Israel.

To learn more about Joseph’s work and University Libraries’ resources on Hebraica and Jewish studies, see the Libraries’ website: library.osu.edu/about/departments/jewish-studies

Magda El-Sherbini, Associate Professor at the Ohio State University Libraries, has been awarded a Lecturing/Research Grant by the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board for 2010-2011.

The Fulbright Scholar Program is the U.S. government’s leading academic exchange program. It is administered by the Council for the International Exchange of Scholars for the U.S. Department of State.

Ms. El-Sherbini will conduct research at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina from November, 2010 to August, 2011 where she will study and evaluate the Arabic name authority file union catalog that the library is developing. She will also conduct a series of seminars on key topics in librarianship in an effort to share expertise and knowledge of current trends in international librarianship with colleagues in Alexandria.

The city of Alexandria was founded by Alexander the Great in 331 B.C. and once housed the Library of Alexandria, widely recognized as the first and greatest library. The New Bibliotheca Alexandrina is dedicated to recapture the spirit of openness and scholarship of the original Bibliotheca Alexandrina. The complex which was officially opened in 2002 houses specialized libraries, a conference center, four museums, art galleries, a planetarium and permanent exhibitions.
Thanks to a unique collaboration, high school teachers can now utilize the resources of the Byrd Polar Research Center with a series of lesson plans built around the Center’s collection.

Dave Staley of the OSU History Department and the Center’s Laura Kissel brainstormed ways to use various items in the Byrd collection to address the state of Ohio standards for high school education. Dave brought in his colleague, Stuart Hobbs of the History Teaching Institute, and the trio came up with five potential themes from which detailed lesson plans could be developed.

Several teachers were then brought in for a one-week workshop to go through the Byrd Center’s archival materials and come up with the lesson plans. The teachers were paid for their time and received continuing education credits for their work through a grant provided by the Kane Lodge Foundation, which also paid for the development of the web site for the project.

After the teachers selected the actual archival materials and wrote the lesson plans, the Center scanned the relevant items and provided the images to Staley, who managed the development of the project website. The website lets teachers choose from among five lesson plans to give their students hands on activities in social studies skills and methods. A variety of sources—including photos, letters, diaries, reports, and memoirs—are represented and the lessons take a variety of approaches.

The Byrd Polar Research Center is recognized internationally as a leader in polar and alpine research. The Center is named in honor of Admiral Richard E. Byrd, America’s most famous polar explorer. The History Teaching Institute is the P-16 portal of The Harvey Goldberg Program for Excellence in Teaching, providing professional development in history to teachers and making standards-based, teacher-created, primary source lessons available on the web.

Special thanks to the Kane Lodge Foundation, Inc., for their generous support of the Byrd Polar Research Center Archival Program. Their continued support has made Cold Cases possible.

Learn more about the project, including the five completed lesson plans, at hti.osu.edu/byrd.

Cold Cases:
Lessons in Historical Skills and Methods
Libraries Announce
Teaching Award Winners

Three University Libraries faculty members were the recipients of two separate awards presented by the Libraries’ Teaching and Learning Committee.


The two collaborated over several quarters to plan the curriculum, develop course assignments and assessments, and teach the course. They also used the course development process as a jumping off point for scholarly research.

Conteh-Morgan and Donovan presented papers at the International Research Conference on Global Citizenship for the 21st Century in November 2009.

The “Virginia Tiefel Achievement in Teaching Award 2009” was given to Karen Diaz, eLearning Librarian.

This award recognizes contributions to instruction in the Libraries over many years and is chosen from a group of peer nominations. The committee recognized Diaz’s significant contributions to the development and management of several large eLearning programs offered by the Libraries. These included “Make the Leap,” for freshman survey classes and the online credit courses offered through Arts & Sciences, as well as her leadership, with Anne Fields, English, of the university’s Digital Storytelling initiative.

Fields, in her letter of nomination, notes that “Karen’s vision, time, and talents have led the way in making connections with faculty from diverse departments and colleges...” Professor Joy Reilly, a participant in a Digital Storytelling workshop conducted by Diaz and Fields, writes in her letter of support that she was impressed by Karen’s sense of humor and ability to put learners at ease and hopes that her ability “to engage a very varied group of people from across the university and infuse them with such enthusiasm and passion for new learning, as well as new methods and ideas, can be recognized with this award.”
OSU Head Football Coach Jim Tressel's book, *The Winners Manual: For the Game of Life*, spent eight weeks on the New York Times bestsellers list when it was released in 2008. For the myriad Ohio State Buckeyes' fans throughout the country, as well as football fans in general, The Winners Manual provides a rare glimpse into the mind of one of the most respected coaches in college football history and into the huddle of one of the most successful football programs of all time.

Coach Tressel shares never-before-published anecdotes about players and games from throughout his storied coaching career at Ohio State and Youngstown State, as well as fundamental lessons he has been imparting to his players and coaching staffs for the past 20 years.

Proceeds from the sale of *The Winners Manual* continue to benefit The Ohio State University Libraries. Autographed hardback copies of the book are available from the Libraries for $40; autographed paperback copies can be purchased for $25.

Books can be ordered online from the Libraries' web site, library.osu.edu (click the “Tressel Book” tab on the home page), or from the Libraries’ business office at (614) 292-2400.

**Additional information is available on the Libraries’ website, library.osu.edu**

The Friends of the OSU Libraries accept donations of gently used books, which ultimately benefit the patrons who use the system's resources and University Libraries.

Donated books are reviewed by the University Libraries’ collection managers. Hundreds of books are added to the Libraries' collections, enriching the magnitude of the resources available to students, faculty and the community.

Books that cannot be utilized in the Libraries' collections are sold by the Friends through several online sites in cooperation with Better World Books. Proceeds from the sale of these books support various library projects.

It's easy to make a book donation to the Friends of the OSU Libraries. (Please note that the Friends cannot accept journals, magazines or Reader's Digest.)

You can drop off your books at the Ackerman Tech Center, 600 Ackerman Road, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday-Friday. Ring the bell at the loading dock door.

If you live in the greater Columbus area and have a sizeable number of books to donate, use the convenient online form at http://library.osu.edu/about/partners/friends-of-the-libraries/book-donations or call the Friends office at (614) 292-3387 to schedule a pick up. A tax receipt for your donation is available upon request.
Adam Conway is the Vice President of Superior Hardwoods of Ohio, Inc. based out of Wellston, Ohio. He is a 1995 OSU Graduate with a Bachelors degree in Economics. Adam shared this story about the unique history of some of the wood used in the renovation of the Thompson Library.

The week before Christmas in 2004, a severe ice storm blanketed central Ohio. Thousands of trees were lost as tops collapsed under the weight of the ice. That winter, a local Licking County farmer decided to salvage the damaged timber he had on his farm and hired a local logging company to select cut his trees. I was called to buy the harvested white oak, walnut, red oak, cherry and poplar.

We annually process thousands of White Oak logs in our Ohio Sawmills. That cold, snow covered day, I walked up to the most perfect White Oak log I had ever seen. The texture was soft and even, the color was light pink under a fresh cut, the heart was centered on both ends and it would be 43 feet to the first limb. We would later determine that the White Oak had been a sapling in the year 1680. A cross section cut of the piece showed 324 years of Ohio's history in its growth rings.

It was a two foot long, half finished piece of quarter sawn lumber from this tree that I would find myself holding in the office of Architect George Acock two years later. I'll never forget his expression as he looked at the piece of wood now on his table. Acock asked of its origin and invited me to look at a project they were proposing. As the illustrations began to unroll, it was immediately apparent that he was working on the Thompson Library and had sketched his vision of what would become the Grand Reading Room. Hearing his passion for the project was one of the most inspiring conversations I've ever experienced.

Ohio State has always worked closely with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR). From the beginning, we knew the Library deserved to have its panels and solids cut from trees grown on lands managed in our Ohio State Forest system. These are tracts of timber I had walked or heard stories about all of my life.

We purchased a bid tract of timber in the Zaleski State Forest from the ODNR in 2007. This was a tract of timber my grandfather would have cruised and inventoried more than 60 years prior. The timber would be perfect for the Library project as most of the white oak in this tract grew on the northern slopes of the hillside. More than 60,000 board feet of logs would be hand-picked to produce material for the solid trim and molding. The first cuts from the quarters of the largest logs would later become the eight inch wide components of the 15 foot long tables in the Grand Reading Room.

The 11th floor was the first set of drawings we received. The room’s 360 degree views south to downtown Columbus, east across the Oval, west and north to the Horseshoe and campus almost draw you outward in anticipation to one of the bay windows as you exit the elevator. The best veneer from two of our highest quality logs were used to complete the paneling in what would become known as the Campus Reading Room.

Floor by floor, we would receive the drawings and select the veneer from logs yielding the most consistent balance for the room or corridor. Logs were sliced with different techniques to yield different effects in the appearance of the veneer. Room 202 respects the historic original design of the library with quarter sliced veneer and quarter sawn solids for molding and trim. Other areas reflect more modern design with clean lines of slip matched rift cut veneer on curved panels. Ironically, one of the final corridors completed now serves a backdrop for the Hall of Presidents.

The countless historians, architects, designers, contractors, state foresters, millwork companies, dry kiln operators, veneer manufacturers, custom plywood manufacturers, timber crew operators and every employee of Superior Hardwoods of Ohio, Inc. walked a little taller those days we used our skills for the new library. We all seemed to have some reason to give of ourselves, not to an individual, but to something more profound. To pay respect to this larger shadow that, for many of us, had once stood tall over our shoulder as we passed through those most critical few years of discovery. We knew the results of our work would remain long after we had passed and that maybe students and alumni walking its corridors would find some inspiration and irreversible pride that comes from forever being an Ohio State Buckeye.
Central Ohio author Diana Britt Franklin discussed the craft of writing nonfiction so that it reads like fiction at the Libraries’ final “ReadAloud” program of the 2009-2010 academic year. Franklin shared examples from two of her books on crime, The Goodbye Door and Gold Medal Killer.

Gold Medal Killer reviews the details of what has been described as one of the most sordid murder trials ever staged in an American courtroom, unfolding in Columbus, Ohio. The case against Ohio State University professor Dr. James Howard Snook during the summer of 1929 scandalized a nation still reveling in the waning era of bathtub gin, flappers and machine gun-wielding mobsters.

The ReadAloud program provides a venue for students, faculty, staff and friends of The Ohio State University to share passages from their favorite books. The free programs are offered on Thursdays at 3 p.m. in the Thompson Library, 1858 Neil Avenue.

The series begins again September 30 at 3 p.m. at the Thompson Library. The first session, with our partners from the Ohioana Library, will feature excerpts from two award-winning historical books from the 2011 Choose to Read Ohio program.

To learn more, see the ReadAloud blog at http://library.osu.edu/blogs/read aloud/
Buy OSU Libraries Gently Used Books Online

You can buy used books at bargain prices and support the OSU Friends of the Libraries by purchasing the Libraries discarded materials through the website of Better World Books. Just use the “Sidewalk Sale” option to select and view books no longer needed by the OSU Libraries. A portion of the proceeds goes to the Friends of the OSU Libraries, enabling the Friends to support special Libraries programs and initiatives.

- Go to www.betterworldbooks.com
- Select the “Browse our Sidewalk Sales” option and type in the OSU Libraries zip code: 43210
- Find the Ohio State University “University Libraries” link and click the “browse” button

What is Better World Books?

The Friends of The Ohio State University Libraries use the services of Better World Books in order to repurpose books no longer needed in the Libraries’ collection, and to generate income for the Friends.

Better World Books (BWB) is a self-sustaining, for-profit social venture whose mission is to capitalize on the value of the book to fund literacy initiatives locally, nationally and around the world. BWB partners with nearly 1,400 libraries and over 1,800 college campuses across the U.S. and Canada, collecting unwanted textbooks and library discards in support of non-profit literacy programs.

Social ventures operate under a for-profit business model in which success is measured by the positive impact a company makes in addressing a specific social issue. In the case of BWB, that issue is literacy.

By operating as a social venture, BWB provides its non-profit partners with a consistent and stable source of unrestricted funding. This, in turn, allows the organizations to focus on implementing effective programs in literacy and education — instead of spending an inordinate amount of time raising funds. BWB finds the best possible use for each book collected in support of its mission to promote literacy. Books are sold to raise money for non-profit literacy programs, sent to one of our non-profit partners for use in their programs, or recycled if unsuitable for sale or partner use.

The Friends of the OSU Libraries receive a percentage of the profit for each book BWB sells through its online sites. The Friends have selected “Books for Africa” (BFA) as its designated charity. BFA collects, sorts, ships and distributes books to children in Africa. The goal: to end the book famine in Africa. Since 1988, Books for Africa has shipped more than 20 million books. These books are now on once empty library shelves, in the classrooms of rural schools, and in the hands of children who have never held a book before.

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Welcome to folio

Welcome to premier issue of folio—the newsletter of The Ohio State University Libraries. Each issue will provide you with information on the people, collections, services and exhibits that comprise one of the best academic library systems in the country.

Each issue of folio will include the latest news on programs, initiatives and acquisitions of University Libraries. Combined with the Libraries web site—library.osu.edu—folio will keep you up to date on the wide variety of offerings available from the Ohio State’s libraries.

Thanks to the Friends of the OSU Libraries for their generous support in bringing folio to you. If you have suggestions on stories you’d like to see, just let us know. Send an email to allen.916@osu.edu.