Brandeis University has been awarded a $150,000 grant from the Hewlett Foundation to enhance its general education program by strengthening interdisciplinary teaching. The Hewlett Foundation will provide the grant for a three-year period with matching support from Brandeis. The grant will support a series of faculty workshops designed to stimulate discussion on campus of teaching specific topics or issues across the disciplines. Funding will also support innovative faculty projects that are multidisciplinary and teach students to question information from a variety of sources.

Texas A&M University has been awarded a $500,000 grant from the Ford Motor Company to support the development and operation of the Texas A&M Digital Library (TAMUDL) project—a joint project with Silicon Graphics, Inc. (SGI). TAMUDL is dedicated to the preservation of rare and fragile collections. Anchored by the SGI Origin 2000 server, the library will provide members of the university community with a highly accessible, comprehensive, and shared resource that will address their individual digitization needs.

University of South Carolina faculty members—Bob Skinder, Caroline Eastman, Rich Showman, and David Wethey—have received a Bell South Grant for $4,930. The grant will fund the project “Automated Collection and Exploitation of Internet-based Databases.” This project will use intelligent search agents to target the numerous biological databases on the Internet. The biologists will then analyze the databases according to their scope, variety, and other variables. Finally, the databases will be placed on the TCL Electronic Science Library page, where they will be integrated for classroom and laboratory use.

The University of Maryland was awarded $477,000 to support the preservation of the Gordon W. Prange Collection. Funds will be earmarked for the newspaper microfilming project, which has been in progress for several years. The Prange Newspaper Collection includes 16,000 newspaper and newsletter titles published in Japan during the years immediately following World War II (1945–49).

Indiana University Libraries have received a $1 million bequest from Johanna Lenz Mendel to create the Mendel Visiting Fellowship at the Lilly Library. The program will provide support for visiting scholars whose research will benefit from access to the Mendel Collection. The collection includes materials from the European presence in the Americas, the Spanish colonial empire, the independence movements in Latin America, music, and German history and literature. Mendel, an accomplished singer, emigrated from Austria with her husband (book collector Bernardo Mendel) to Bogota, Colombia in 1928. Bernardo’s purchase of the antiquarian book firm Lathrop C. Harper, Inc., obliged the Mendels to move to the United States in the 1950s.

The University of Pennsylvania has received a $77,720 grant, which includes a $15,000 matching requirement that the library must raise, from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The grant will catalog and preserve the papers, recordings, and personal memorabilia of the London-born conductor Leopold Stokowski. Stokowski helped to lead the Philadelphia Orchestra to international prominence during his tenure as conductor from 1912 to 1941. He is most widely remembered as the musical inspiration behind the 1940 Disney classic “Fantasia,” and as the orchestrator of some of J. S. Bach’s greatest organ works. A multimedia exhibition, “Leopold Stokowski: Making Music Matter,” is located on the Web at http://www.library.upenn.edu/special/gallery/stokowski.

The University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) has received a $64,910 Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant for a project...
to add catalog records for 35,500 medical monographs in its collection to the university’s online catalog (UICCAT), ILLINET Online, and OCLC’s WorldCat database. The award will enable the UIC library to complete the transfer of records from the card catalog to UICCAT and to other online databases. UICCAT currently includes approximately 1.4 million records for books, journals, newspapers, microforms, documents, theses, and AV resources.

The University of Georgia (UG) has received a $40,000 gift from the Thomas M. Kirbo and Irene B. Kirbo Charitable Trust to assist in the preservation of home movies that span three decades of life in southwestern Georgia. The movies, filmed by the late Andrew Avery Sr., an educator from Bainbridge, capture educational, social, agricultural, business, and religious history from the 1930s through the 1950s. The 25 rolls were donated by the Avery family in 1996 to the UG Libraries’ Media Archives.

Acquisitions

First and early editions of Mozart and Beethoven have been acquired by Washington University, formerly the property of British musicologist Alan Tyson. Tyson is known for his studies of music from the classical period, especially the compositional practices of Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, and Clementi. The collection is cataloged and is part of the Gaylord Special Collections. While the 168 Mozart editions are all posthumous, many of them are first editions, since much of his music was still unpublished at his death. The 100 Beethoven editions contain many first editions as well, especially of the orchestral works and string quartets. The collection also provides valuable material for the study of music printing at the time. To view the catalog, visit http://library.wustl.edu/Catalog and search “Tyson, Alan Former Owner” as an author.

Twenty-one volumes of 17th- and 18th-century astronomy books have been acquired by the Milton S. Eisenhower Library at Johns Hopkins University. Put on deposit in the Special Collections Department by Ethan T. Vishniac, professor of Physics and Astronomy, and Ilene Busch-Vishniac, dean of the School of Engineering, the collection includes Peter Apian’s 1540 Cosmographia replete with volvelles—movable paper circles used to calculate planetary activities. Another volume is Nicolaus Copernicus’s 1566 second edition of De Revolutionibus Orbium Coelestium, in which he mathematically resolves planetary orbits and shifts understanding of the rotation of the universe from the Earth to the sun. Also included in the collection are books by Brahe, Gassendi, Huygens, Galileo, Ptolemy, and Sacro Bosco.

John Gay’s Beggar’s Opera was donated to the Illinois Wesleyan University Library. The gift was the working collection of Professor William Eben Schultz, author of Gay’s Beggar’s Opera: Its Content, History and Influence, and given to the university by his daughter June E. Schultz. The collection consists of virtually every printing of the Beggar’s Opera through 1960, first editions of many of Gay’s other works, and first editions of the works of other important authors for the British Theatre in the 18th century.

General William Westmoreland, who served in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam, has left the bulk of his lifetime papers to the University of South Carolina. The papers, dated from 1917 to the present, include letters to the general from four U.S. presidents, books about the wars he participated in, a draft of his autobiography, communications from soldiers who served under his command, and legal documents concerning his libel suit against the Columbia Broadcasting System. Only the general’s Vietnam papers are missing, as these were previously donated to the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library in Austin, Texas.

Correction

In the June 1999 “About the cover” (p. 433), a painting of “The Louisiana Statehouse in 1882,” we stated that the painting: “... attracted the derision of Mark Twain, who condemned it as a ‘sham castle’ inspired by the medieval romances of Sir Walter Raleigh.” It should have been the romances of Sir Walter Scott. The editors regret the error.
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