Illinois State University has been awarded $42,900 by the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) through the Illinois State Library's "Dream Again" grant program to establish a Center for Preservation and Conservation. The center will provide services ranging from basic to advanced book repair to full conservation treatment, deacidification, and conservation training. Four workshops on basic book repair and disaster preparedness and recovery will be offered in the state during the grant cycle. A second LSTA grant was received for $15,400 for Illinois State University to take the lead in a feasibility study for a multi-institutional initiative in creating a shared storage facility for academic and community college libraries in Illinois. Partners in the grant include Western Illinois University, North Central College, Center for Research Libraries, and Black Hawk Community College.

The University of Pittsburgh has received a $50,000 grant from the Henry Luce Foundation to support a three-week institute focused on Chinese librarianship and library management this summer. The institute will implement a vigorous program designed to provide training for mid-career Chinese librarians. The curriculum will cover major aspects of East Asian librarianship in general and Chinese librarianship in particular, including trends in research and publication in East Asian studies, bibliography and the book trade, digital technology and resources in the East Asian vernacular scripts, CJK cataloging and preservation, public services and bibliographic instruction, fundraising, library management, and creative leadership. The institute will also organize a visit of the participants to libraries in China following the summer program.

Acquisitions

The W. Ormiston Roy Collection of John Burroughs has been acquired by the University of South Carolina. The collection of materials pertaining to American nature writer John Burroughs (1837–1921), which includes over 100 volumes by Burroughs as well as original photographs and memorabilia, was presented to the library by G. Ross Roy and named in honor of Roy's grandfather. The elder Roy knew Burroughs and served as a consultant on the landscaping of Burrough's estate in the Catskills. Many of the books carry inscriptions to Ormiston Roy from Burroughs or from his literary executor Clara Barrus. Burroughs is increasingly recognized as a pioneer in raising consciousness of conservation issues. As a follower of Ralph Waldo Emerson and Henry David Thoreau, and a friend of Walt Whitman, he also has a significant role in American literary history.

The papers of Walter Kohn, winner of the 1998 Nobel Prize in Chemistry, will be preserved at the University of California (UC)-Santa Barbara for use by students and scholars nationwide. Kohn, a condensed matter theoretician, donated his extensive collection of notes, articles, manuscripts, research documents, and correspondence to Special Collections in Davidson Library. The collection documents the working life of a physicist and includes materials related to Kohn's opposition to UC's peacetime nuclear weapons research and development and his work with organizations dedicated to international peace and the advancement of human rights.

Texaco and Arthur Andersen Library research materials have been acquired by the New York Public Library's Science, Industry and Business Library (SIBL). The Texaco material includes a complete set of research reports compiled by the American Petroleum Association, including research on the development of new petroleum products. The gift also enabled the library to complete its set of the Journal of Polymer Science and added hydrocarbon processing periodicals to the library's collections. Arthur Andersen closed its New York City library and donated titles dealing with the accounting and consulting industries from its collection to SIBL.
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