University of Maryland’s Libraries and Nonprint Media Services has received a $100,000 grant for the “Acquisition of Digital Video Distribution Rights for High Demand Video Programs.” The libraries will negotiate with video vendors for the rights to place approximately 300 of its highest demand educational and documentary video programs on the Films@UM Web site, where they may be viewed online on demand, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Indiana University (IU) has received a $2.38 million grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to develop software created specifically for the management of print and electronic collections for academic and research libraries around the world. IU will lead the Kuali OLE (Open Library Environment) project, a partnership of research libraries dedicated to managing increasingly digital resources and collections. Together, these libraries will develop “community source” software that will be made available to libraries worldwide.

The Linda Hall Library of Science, Engineering, and Technology in Kansas City, Missouri, has received a $50,000 grant from the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Railroad to establish a full-text database that will provide digital access to a significant collection of approximately 150,000 pages of 19th-century railroad periodicals describing the history of railroads in the United States and the technology involved in building them. The anchoring theme of the project will be the “History of the Transcontinental Railroad.” Among the railroad journals to be digitized are American Railroad Journal (1832– ), Mechanics Magazine (1822–1835), and 19th-century issues of Scientific American.

Acquisitions

The archive of David Foster Wallace (1962–2008) has been acquired by the Harry Ransom Center at the University of Texas-Austin. Wallace (1962–2008) is the author of Infinite Jest (1996), The Broom of the System (1987), Girl with Curious Hair (1988), and numerous collections of stories and essays. The archive contains manuscript materials for Wallace’s books, stories, and essays; research materials; Wallace’s college and graduate school writings; juvenilia, including poems, stories, and letters; teaching materials and books. Highlights include handwritten notes and drafts of his critically acclaimed Infinite Jest, the earliest appearance of his signature “David Foster Wallace” on “Viking Poem,” written when he was 6 or 7 years old, a copy of his dictionary with words circled throughout and his heavily annotated books by Don DeLillo, Cormac McCarthy, John Updike, and more than 40 other authors. Materials for Wallace’s posthumous novel The Pale King are included in the archive but will remain with Little, Brown and Company until the book’s publication, scheduled for April 2011. The Wallace materials are being processed and organized and will be available to researchers and the public in fall 2010.

Billy Porterfield, Texas journalist and award-winning author of several books, has donated his major archive to the Wittliff Collections at Texas State University-San Marcos. As a reporter for the Houston Chronicle in the early 1960s, Porterfield won the Ernie Pyle Memorial Award. In 1967, after stops at the Detroit Free Press and the Chicago Daily News, he became the first writer selected for the Dobie-Paisano Fellowship, a writer’s retreat at the former ranch of J. Frank Dobie southwest of Austin. In 1969 he joined Jim Lehrer at KERA-TV in Dallas as a commentator on Lehrer’s nightly news program, later taking over for Lehrer as executive producer. He also produced and narrated several prize-
Porterfield’s writings have appeared in a number of publications, including *The Saturday Evening Post, Texas Monthly, The New Braunfels Zeitung, the Malakoff News,* and *The Chautauquan.* Porterfield’s archives comprise approximately 35 boxes and include clippings, correspondence, manuscripts for all of his major books, numerous photographs, and other memorabilia.

**A first American edition of H. G. Wells**

*The Time Machine* has been acquired by the Eaton Collection at the University of California-Riverside, becoming one of only 25 repositories in the world to own a copy. The purchase was made possible with a $10,000 grant from the B. H. Breslauer Foundation. When English novelist H.G. Wells completed his manuscript of *The Time Machine,* he submitted copies to publishers in New York and London. Both publishing houses—Henry Holt in New York and Heinemann in London—produced separate editions, the Holt version appearing a few weeks before the better-known Heinemann edition in 1895. Because the London edition was the source of all subsequent printings, fewer copies of the American edition survive. The book is regarded as Wells’ finest work and is credited with popularizing the concept of time travel and with introducing the term “time machine” into the English language. Many scholars consider it the first work of science fiction that is informed by scientific facts, or “hard science.” The Holt edition of *The Time Machine* differs from the Heinemann edition in important ways, including significant passages that are added or omitted. For example, the opening of the book includes a discussion of the scientific and metaphysical aspects of time travel, which is missing from the London edition. Holt also introduced some minor editorial changes, like Americanization of the language. The American first edition also mis-spells the author’s name—H. S. Wells—said Gwido Zlatkes, associate librarian, who found a science fiction book dealer with a copy of the book for sale.

**The Michalak Collection, a collection of broadsides and rare volumes highlighting satire and caricature in 19th-century Britain,** has been acquired by Loyola University-Chicago Libraries. Thomas J. Michalak (Loyola class of 1963) assembled this collection featuring the work of illustrators George Cruikshank, Robert Cruikshank, Hablot K. Browne (Phiz), Thomas Rowlandson, and John Leech in works by William Harrison Ainsworth, William Combe, George Cruikshank, Charles Dickens, Pierce Egan, Charles Lever, and Robert Smith Surtees. The collection includes first editions of *Dombey and Son* (1848, in parts) and *Sketches by Boz* (1839, extra illustrated) by Dickens; *A Man Made of Money* (1849, in parts) by Douglas Jerrold; *Tom Burke of “Ours”* (1843-1844, in parts) by Lever; and *Mr. Romford’s Hounds* (1864-1865, in parts) by Robert Smith Surtees. In addition, the collection includes runs of *Ainsworth’s Magazine* (1842–46), *Bentley’s Miscellany* (1837–39), *Douglas Jerrold’s Shilling Magazine* (1846–48), and *The Illuminated Magazine* (1843–45). The broadsides highlight the work of George Cruikshank, including several of his famous Napoleonic caricatures, Isaac Cruikshank, and James Gillray. Thomas and Jo-Ann Michalak have also established an endowment for the Loyola University Chicago Libraries Special Collections as part of their gift.