

March, 2007

## Message from the Dean

As I write this, Albany is in the midst of a blizzard. It's been a cold winter, so it's with great pleasure that we are preparing to welcome spring. It's been a good year for Albany's Libraries.

We had a number of events to welcome new and continuing students, we hosted a



successful symposium of scholarly communication, we expanded many of our services for students and faculty. This past fall, we began operating 24 hours a day during finals week. During that time, use of the University Library soared 30%. We anticipate the same or greater use in the spring. This initiative was supported by Student Government as well as by the Provost's office.

Fall semester was another record-breaker in terms of the number of students who took informational literacy courses from seven members of the Library's faculty, who work collaboratively with professors in academic disciplines to create courses that are targeted towards actual course work. Our Library faculty is outstanding, creating new courses as well as books used by other institutions that teach informational literacy. The Libraries have also secured a grant for preservation activities, added a new web-based system providing additional services for interlibrary loan users, and opened a new Information Commons in the Science Library.

Other collaborative events are coming this spring. We'll be working with Rockefeller College and with various departments throughout the university to showcase our growing collection, *The New York State Modern Political Archive*. We've added the papers of recently retired U.S. Congressman Sherwood Boehlert (R-24<sup>th</sup> District). We will hold an event in June for members of the Class of 1957, whose 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary class gift will go to support the Libraries' endowment fund, *Honoring Our Professors*.

The Libraries have opened two new endowed funds, one in the Social Sciences, and the other in support of materials for the School of Education. Faculty and alumni in these fields will help achieve the goals for these Funds.

We continue to add to our special collections, and we encourage alumni and friends to contact us regarding supporting and augmenting these collections.

The year has been one of shared successes, and we thank all of you who have supported the Libraries' annual fund as well as our endowments. We know we can count on you to work with us in all our endeavors. Thanks to you, we remain one of the top 100 research libraries in the United States.

Frank D'Andraia

## Coming Events

### Greatest Generation Fund Contributors Celebrate

On May 8, the campaign committee and all supporters for *The Greatest Generation Fund for the Libraries* will gather in the Standish Room, UAlbany's Science Library, to celebrate the completion of the Fund's goal of \$200,000. More than 100 individuals from classes 1940-49 have contributed to the Fund, and many have indicated additional support through bequests.



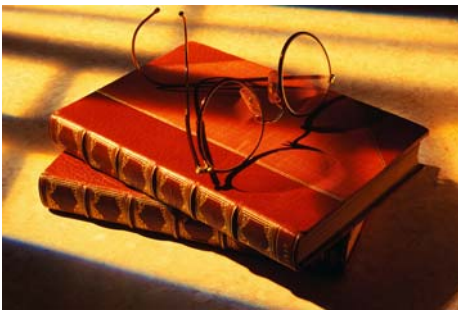
Hal Gould '47 and Lea Shampanier Gould

The event will also mark the acquisition of the papers of noted actor Harold Gould '47, who will be present for the celebration. Mr. Gould and others will work with Geoffrey Williams, University Historian, to augment the oral history of the University's own "Greatest Generation" alumni.

Hosted by Arthur Collins '48, Emeritus Professor, Department of English, the event will also feature exhibits from Mr. Gould's personal memorabilia, other materials from classes 1940-49, and a display of art work from Marcia Brown '40.

### Book Lovers' Road Show Comes to UAlbany for Reunion 2007

Like the PBS series, "Antiques Road Show?" That's good, because you obviously like books, too, since you support UAlbany's Libraries. On Friday, June 1, "The Book Lovers' Road Show" will come to Albany. The program will be presented by John J. Walsdorf, a noted bibliophile, bookseller, and appraiser. Mr. Walsdorf's program will include a brief talk on book collecting, and evaluating individual books themselves. The "road show" portion of the program will allow audience members to bring books forward for discussion and appraisal.



Jack Walsdorf earned a Master's degree in Library Science from the University of Wisconsin. He has worked as a librarian in the US and in Great Britain. He worked in the Oxford-based bookselling company of B.H. Blackwell, and he is currently a consultant with Alibris, the online search service for out-of-print and hard-to-find books. His own book collections have been exhibited at the University of Iowa, the

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and George Washington University.

"The Book Lovers' Road Show" will be open for all UAlbany alumni to enjoy on Friday, June 1. Go online for Reunion Events for updated information, or go directly to the Libraries: <http://library.albany.edu>.