



UNIVERSITY  
AT ALBANY

State University of New York

# Library Update

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES NEWSLETTER

## Message from the Dean



Greetings from Albany! As we move into spring, we are working to make the Libraries more attuned to the needs of Albany's students and researchers.

**New Endowment:** We opened a new endowment in January 2008. Over the next 12 months, we fully expect to raise \$100,000 from alumni and friends in support of University Libraries Endowment for Materials in Humanities. This new endowment brings our current endowment initiatives to eleven. Together, these endowments enable the Libraries to leverage state dollars in an environment where our mix

of information costs (for print and electronic materials) is rising at 7.5% per year.

**New computers and ergonomic furnishings:** The Libraries are in the midst of an up-grading program valued at over \$100,000. With new computers, we now provide students with more powerful technology by which they can access information worldwide. Ergonomic furnishings allow students a comfortable environment in which they can undertake electronic searches, write reports, or read traditional print materials. In 2008, we will also be repurposing more space within all three libraries—Dewey, Science, and University Library—to allow for more study space, increase the general aesthetic appeal of the libraries, and expand spaces dedicated to our growing special collections.

**New collections:** Throughout the new year, we also will be acquiring unique collections. The first to arrive in 2008 are new death penalty materials acquired from the personal library of Watt Espy. Mr. Espy, who resides in Alabama, has been collecting materials on the death penalty for more than 40 years. Mr. Espy's collection documents executions in the U.S. dating back to Colonial times. This highly regarded collection will benefit UA's nationally ranked Criminal Justice program. The collection includes a variety of primary and secondary sources. The acquisition of the Espy collection adds considerable depth and breadth to our existing National Death Penalty Archives.

We know that in 2008, the competition for new students and star faculty will continue to be intense. Whether they be in the School of Nanotechnology or the College of Arts and Sciences, our students and researchers remain our focus. The University Libraries are committed to providing unique print collections and global electronic access to information, as well as user-focused services supported by the best team of professional information specialists in higher education. Our success is made possible because of the generous donations the Libraries receives from donors and friends like you. On behalf of all of us at the University Libraries, thank you for your interest and support in past years and through the New Year.

— Frank D'Andraia

## Cape Cod Event for Library Supporters May 6

On May 6, UA Library supporters and alumni will meet on Cape Cod for lunch and a presentation by Dean Frank D'Andraia. The event is sponsored by the Library Development Committee, and co-hosted by Committee members Maureen Andrews '62 and Edith Quake '63.

The group will have lunch together, learn more about Albany's Libraries, and converse about the future of the University Libraries. Each alumna/alumnus may bring a guest. Please contact Linda Reeves for further information, directions to the restaurant, and a reservation (518-442-3568 or [Lreeves@uamail.albany.edu](mailto:Lreeves@uamail.albany.edu)). Seating is limited.

## ARL Executive Director Speaks at UA Albany February 28

Duane Webster, Executive Director, Association of Research Libraries (ARL), spoke to the Library Faculty and invited guests. His talk, "Shaping the Future of Research Libraries: Challenges and Questions," was on February 28.

ARL is a nonprofit organization of 123 research libraries at comprehensive, research-extensive institutions in the US and Canada that share similar research missions, aspirations, and achievements. ARL member libraries make up a large portion of the academic and research library marketplace, spending more than \$1 billion every year on library materials. UA was invited to join ARL in 1975.

Mr. Webster's address was in the Life Sciences Building on Albany's uptown campus, followed by a reception.



## Library Development Committee Will Engage Reunion Classes

The Library Development Committee will work with key reunion classes to advance endowment initiatives for Albany's Libraries. Matt Ostoyich '57 will work with the Class of '58, issuing a "challenge" from the Class of '57, which successfully raised more than \$50,000 in class gifts for the 50th reunion for the "Honoring Our Professors Fund for the Libraries."

Elaine Brody '68 will work with her class to mark their 40th anniversary with a gift to a fund for the Libraries. She will be aided by Fran Shepherd '62, Phil Shepherd '60, and others from the 1960s to work towards a goal. Committee members Carla Craft and Georgiana Panton will work with class councilors and others involved with their respective daughters' classes (Dr. Diane Panton '83 and Cheryl Craft '03) to advance support for a Library endowment.

The Class of '48, the initiators of "The Greatest Generation Fund for the Libraries" (GGF) will mark their 60th reunion with another gift for the Fund. Their campaign has been kicked off this year by a generous gift from classmate Wilma Diehl, who has contributed from the outset of the GGF campaign, in 2003.

For more information on reunion gifts for endowments, to honor a classmate or a relative, through cash gifts or planned giving, contact Roberta Armstrong (562-594-8995 or [Armst13@aol.com](mailto:Armst13@aol.com)).