

CHECK IT OUT

WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

February 2006

STUDENT ACADEMIC RESOURCES NETWORK (SARN)

THE NEWEST service for students available in the Information Commons in Olin Library is the Student Academic Resources Network (SARN). SARN, with its own desk in the Commons, is an association of university programs engaged in the academic support and intellectual enrichment of Wesleyan students. Peer advisors are available in the Commons to answer questions about and to refer students to offices and programs within the network. The following Wesleyan offices and services participate in this program:

- Class Deans
- Dean's Tutoring Program
- Career Resource Center
- Health Professions Partnership Initiative (HPPI)
- Information Commons
- Language Resource Center
- Life Sciences Mentored Study Groups
- Math Workshop
- Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship (MMUF)
- Writing Programs

To learn more about the services offered by SARN or to find out how to get more out of your academic experience at Wesleyan, please contact the SARN desk in the Olin Information Commons in person or by telephone at extension 3536, or visit their Web site at www.wesleyan.edu/sarn. At times when advisors are unavailable at the SARN desk, students may send messages to sarnadvisor@wesleyan.edu. The peer advisors will respond to e-mail inquiries Sunday through Thursday, and they will respond on Sunday to messages sent to them either on Friday or Saturday.

— PAT TULLY, ASSOCIATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN

WESLEYAN
UNIVERSITY

From the University Librarian

LIBRARIES “ENGAGED WITH THE WORLD”

Last summer I participated in a conference at Oslo's Nobel Institute entitled “Documenting Censorship: Libraries Linking Past and Present, and Preparing for the Future.” In my international library work, I am always impressed with the title of Wesleyan's Strategic Plan, “Engaged with the World.” Libraries and librarians, by their very nature, are always very much a part of the wider world. Scholarly communication crosses national borders more than ever before. There are still significant barriers such as poverty, lack of bandwidth, destruction of libraries in wars, and lack of computer access. Internationally there is a will to collaborate and to expand access to information, and countries in the developing world consider information access issues to be a measurable criterion of economic growth.

Censorship is clearly a barrier to information sharing, and it is a culturally based phenomenon that impedes the flow of information across international borders. In 2004, Norway approved a constitutional article to strengthen freedom of expression. The language in the Constitution did not, however, fully remove the language concerning blasphemy, indicating that Lutheranism, the official state religion, is still a powerful force there. *The Life of Brian*, a Monty Python film, was, until recently, banned in Norway because it was considered sacrilegious, while, at the same time, Norwegian media displayed sexually explicit materials that would be offensive to many Americans.

The Oslo Conference featured much debate about the “food first, then speech” belief held by many social activists. Should developing nations be expected to promote freedom of expression when they need to focus on such basic human needs as food, shelter, and health care? Andrew Puddephatt, executive director of a London-based freedom of expression organization sponsored by an independent NGO (nongovernmental organization), asserted that “Famine occurs only in countries with censorship.” Most conference participants consider freedom of expression as a basic human right that cannot be considered in isolation from other issues. Newly democratized countries need libraries during the early and crucial

stage of their political development. Many African librarians, however, pointed out that censorship of Internet content is essentially a moot issue when their university libraries have only one computer with Internet access for four hours a day.

I was especially moved by the work of Archie Dick, a librarian at the University of Pretoria in South Africa who believes that collecting the South African archival history of censorship is an act of “documentary defiance.” The present South African government strongly supports the documentation of former apartheid practices. Mr. Dick has collected archival materials that describe book burnings that had been authorized by highly placed librarians during the apartheid period, essentially exposing the activities of his own colleagues during the time of the apartheid government. Other librarians in Chile and Argentina hid books and card catalogs from government officials during periods of repressive dictatorships. These librarians have clearly acted with truly incredible personal courage.

Wesleyan students who study abroad will likely encounter some form of censorship when they study in certain countries. From speaking with students in Buenos Aires, it is clear to me that they lack services such as individual research sessions with librarians that are routinely offered at Wesleyan. Personal Research Sessions at Wesleyan are one-on-one between student and librarian that are conducted with complete respect for student privacy and their personal beliefs. Students in the United States find that libraries are easy to use, generally without need for special letters of introduction. While Wesleyan will soon celebrate 100 years as a U.S. government document depository, some countries do not provide any government information to their citizens. The ease of access to information in the United States should never be taken for granted by anyone since it is clearly not the international norm.

I believe that resentments towards American delegates at international library conferences are not necessarily about perceived “cultural imperialism.” Some librarians abroad are deeply concerned because they believe that they are no longer able to cite the United States as a model for freedom

continued on next page



JSTOR JOURNAL REVIEW PROJECT

The increasing number of academic journals available to libraries electronically has dramatically changed the ways in which collection development is performed in university libraries. Librarians must now continually evaluate and strike a balance between electronic collections and physical collections. Wesleyan University Library now has online access to literally thousands of journals, many of which are duplicated in hard copy that occupy large amounts of premium stack space. With limited space available for collection growth going forward, we have been analyzing our available space to determine how it can best be used to serve the needs of our users.

The result of our space evaluation has resulted in three projects, the first of which has already been completed, while the second and third will be completed later this year.

1. During the fall of 2005, library subject specialists completed a de-accessioning of extra copies of selected titles for which the library owned three or more copies.
2. Beginning in the summer of 2006 we will be installing compact shelving facilities in the basement of the Science Library which will house approximately 260,000 lesser-used library volumes.
3. The third phase, currently in the planning stages, addresses the issue of the removal of several thousand linear feet of paper bound journals that are available in digital format in the JSTOR (Journal Storage) database. JSTOR is a multidisciplinary archive of journals, many of which date back to the latter part of the 19th century. Titles in the JSTOR archive are at least five years old, and each year the "moving wall" of archived issues moves forward by one year of additional lapsed time. Since the vast majority of JSTOR titles are duplicated in paper format in the library stacks, they occupy space that is crucial to our growing monograph collections. Wesleyan has signed on as a participant in the 5-College Library Depository, a climate-controlled storage facility in Massachusetts. As a participant in this remote storage project, we will rely primarily on the JSTOR electronic database to access these journals, while retaining the ability to obtain the hard copies with a 48-hour turnaround time from the Library Depository if they are required by our library users for whatever reason.

The library has developed a complex series of guidelines to determine how to evaluate electronic access-only to journal collections as opposed to retention of the physical volumes. Stability and reliability of electronic access is, of course, crucial. JSTOR has proven over the last several years to provide both of these qualities so that our users may view, save, and print articles as well as make them available for electronic reserves. JSTOR has achieved this without significant reduction in quality. We believe, therefore, that we will be able to rely on JSTOR for these materials as long as we have hard copy backup available on call from the storage facility. Library subject specialists working closely, with faculty members, will assess whether a specific title is a candidate for removal from the stacks based on the following criteria:

- The printed volumes removed from the Wesleyan stacks will be readily available from the 5-College Library Depository through the retrieval procedure.
- Does the content and use of the journal rely to a substantial degree on the quality of illustrative data such as tables, graphs, photographs, illustrations or other scripts? If the quality of this type of material is not available in the digitized version, the title would be a candidate for hard copy retention.

If, after these and some other technical issues have been considered, JSTOR titles are designated for removal from the library stacks, they will be offered to the Depository if they are needed to complete their holdings of a specific title. Those volumes not needed for the Depository collection will be offered to other institutions for their collections, or sold to used-book dealers who specialize in the purchase and resale of discarded library materials. More specific information regarding this project is available on the library home page at www.wesleyan.edu/libr in the "Of Note" section.

Our purpose is to continue to provide Wesleyan library users with a deep and rich collection of both virtual as well as physical resources, while also making available attractive and useful spaces for study and collection growth in future years.

— DIANE KLARE, REFERENCE LIBRARIAN

of expression in light of the library provisions of the Patriot Act. If American librarians can work with the United States Congress to alter these provisions, it will directly affect similar legislation from London to Bombay. It is important for the academic community to "engage with the world," so that we understand the potential we have in order to effect change.

— BARBARA JONES, UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN

NEW DATABASES

The library recently acquired access to three first-rate new databases that are now available for use from the Indexes and Databases page at the Library's Web site. These databases will be of great interest to library users in the fields of English and American history, English literature, theater, and business and economics:

- **Eighteenth-Century Collections Online** is described by its publisher as the "single most ambitious digitization project ever undertaken." When it is completed during the next two years, it will contain about 150,000 English language titles and editions published between 1701 and 1800. Every significant English-language and foreign-language work published in the United Kingdom in the 18th century, along with thousands of works published in the Americas during that time will be available with full-text searching capabilities. This collection is based on *The English Short Title Catalogue (ESTC)*, the machine-readable list of the holdings of the British Library and collections at more than 1,500 university, private, and public libraries around the world. This truly monumental collection coincides with the Enlightenment and the Industrial Revolution along with a period of rising literacy in Great Britain which in turn led to a vast outpouring of printed materials in social and economic theory as well as theoretical literature about the nature of man and society. The variety of publications in this database ranges from books to broadsides, Bibles, sermons, and other printed materials written by both the most well-known as well as the most obscure author 18th-century scholars and students, both to locate and to study primary materials in ways that were not possible before digitization. Students of English literature will be able to make textual comparisons between different editions of the same work, while history students will have at their finger tips all the English primary literature on the Industrial and the French Revolutions as well as legal, scientific, religious, and the medical and technical publications of this important historical period. Fine arts students will find treatises on music, painting, theater, prints, drawings, and architecture. Together with our subscription to **Early English Books Online**, which offers digitized and searchable editions of English printed works from 1475 through 1700, Wesleyan students and scholars now have easy access to all English language printed works from the Renaissance to the begin-

ning of the 19th century. Only a few short years ago such easy access to this vast scholarly collection would have been considered to be within the realm of science fiction.

- **Value Line Investment Survey** is the premier database for company and industry research, and is the most trusted and prestigious name in the investment field. This database is divided into three major sections: *The Ratings & Reports* section offers one-page reports on about 1,700 companies within more than 90 industries. Each of these reports contains a wide range of financial statistics about the company, as well as Value Line's Timeliness, Safety and Technical rankings along with stock price and growth forecasts for the next three to five years along with an analyst's commentary on each company. *The Summary & Index* has an index of all stocks in Value Line's universe with timely statistics to keep investors abreast of the most current company results. It also has a wide variety of stock "screens" to assist investors to identify companies with various characteristics. *The Selection & Opinion* section has Value Line's latest economic and market forecasts, one page commentaries about interesting and attractive stocks, model portfolios, and other financial and market related statistics. The Value Line Investment Survey is updated weekly in order to provide the most current information for investors, economists, and students of business.

- **North American Theatre Online** is an electronic resource that offers data on all aspects of American and Canadian theater. Included in this source are about 40,000 pages of material with information about 25,000 plays, 28,000 theater-related personalities, 12,500 productions, and about 1,500 production companies. The database offers an intuitive search engine that will quickly locate information under the search headings of "People," "Plays," "Scenes," "Characters," "Theaters," and "Productions." It also includes about 5,000 images, playbills, postcards, and other theater resources.

Persons interested in further information about the use of these and all of our Indexes and Databases should visit the Reference Department on the first floor of Olin Library (x3873) or sign up for a Personal Research Session with a librarian who is a subject specialist in their field.

— ALAN J. NATHANSON,
BIBLIOPHAGER/REFERENCE LIBRARIAN

SMITHSONIAN GLOBAL SOUND

The availability of free music on the Internet has grown rapidly through peer-to-peer file sharing, often to the irritation of the recording industry. Many in the industry, however, recognize that the future of musical recording

RECENT DVD ACQUISITIONS

THE FOLLOWING are some of the recent DVD additions to the Library's video collection:

1. *Crumb*, Columbia TriStar Home Video, 1998. Directed by Terry Zwigoff. This film biography of cartoonist R. Crumb is "a wild ride through the mind of Crumb—creator of Zap Comix, Mr. Natural and Fritz the Cat"—DVD container notes.
2. *Joyce's Ulysses*, Teaching Company, 2002. This set of four DVDs contains 24 lectures presented by James A. W. Heffernan which analyze and interpret James Joyce's famous novel. Two course guidebooks accompany the videodiscs.
3. *Millions*, 20th Century Fox Home Entertainment, 2005. Directed by Danny Boyle (*Trainspotting*), the United Kingdom's decision to convert to the Euro in seven days provides the context for this heist-gone-wrong comedy. When an enormous bag of money falls from the sky, brothers Damian and Anthony discover that their differing ideas on how to spend the money causes lots of problems.
4. *The Corporation*, Zeitgeist Films, 2005. Based on *The Corporation: The Pathological Pursuit of Profit and Power* by Joel Bakan, this film "charts the spectacular rise of the corporation as a dramatic, pervasive presence in our everyday lives. Mixing humor, visual panache and seriousness, this documentary is a timely, entertaining critique of global conglomerates." — adapted from the catalog record summary note.
5. *Manito*, Film Movement, 2003. Winner of the Special Grand Jury Prize, Sundance Film Festival. Featuring Franky G. (who recently starred in the 2005 Fox Network series *Jonny Zero*), this film "portrays 48 tense hours in the lives of a Latino family in the Washington Heights section of New York City, especially the relationship between two second-generation Dominican brothers."—from the catalog record summary note. *Manito* is just one of a number of films recently added to the Library's collection from the eclectic Film Movement Series.

— JODY SCHENKER, LIBRARY ASSISTANT



distribution must include the Internet, and have looked for ways of promoting it in a systematic and legal way. The once rogue Napster has become a major partner, now offering downloads for a fee, joined by other services such as iTunes and Ruckus. The need for sound recordings in academia is essential to support a music curriculum, and it has produced a variety of subscription services to libraries. Wesleyan has had access to Naxos Music Library for the past two years, and last fall we initiated a subscription to Smithsonian Global Sound, yet another database of musical recordings.

While Naxos is strong in the standard repertoire of European classical music, Smithsonian Global Sound is the first database devoted to historic recordings of world and folk music. It contains not only all the recordings from the Folkways and Smithsonian-Folkways labels, but also from several smaller labels that document music and sounds from around the world such as Cook, Dyer-Bennett, Paredon, Monitor, and the International Library of African Music. They feature recordings from almost every continent, with particularly

strong coverage of American folk music. Collectors such as Alan Lomax, for example, documented large amounts of music from the American South in the mid-20th century, and many of these recordings became available on the Folkways label, later acquired by the Smithsonian Institution. Among the 35,000 separate recorded tracks available here are the sounds of trains, birdsongs, children's songs and games, and the voices of such widely varying personalities as Fidel Castro, Buckminster Fuller, and Sir Edmund Hillary.

Searching the Smithsonian Global Sound database is enhanced by options to either browse or to search by country, artist or ensemble name, ethnic group, musical instrument, or musical genre. Users may quickly establish how many recorded tracks are from Mali, how many feature a nose flute, how many are by Leadbelly, or how many are by French-Canadians. Full-color liner notes from the original album, in the form of PDF files, accompany many of the recordings. Playing the tracks requires Windows Media Player and Javascript, both of which are generally available by default on most computers. Individual users may create their own accounts and keep personal playlists, while instructors can create public playlists for class reserves. Like most subscription-based online music services, the recordings are streamed, and they cannot be downloaded and transferred for free to a portable listening device. Individual users, however, may purchase downloadable versions of any of the sound tracks.

— ALEC MCLANE, MUSIC LIBRARIAN



LIBRARY BOOK SALE SCHEDULED FOR MAY 13

MY HOMETOWN library holds a book sale at the same time every year; it is a greatly anticipated and festive event. Hundreds of community members pour over thousands of books displayed on tables stretched across the front lawn of the library. The experience satisfies the bargain-hunting, book-loving, community-building sides in many of us and fills the coffers of the library Friends. This, in turn, provides funds for many wonderful programs and services at the library.

This coming spring, the Wesleyan University Library will open its doors and host a public book sale, its first in many years. Please mark Saturday, May 13, on your calendar and join us in the lobby of the Exley Science Center (rain or shine) for bargain-book browsing, and please feel free to join us as a volunteer. An event of this magnitude requires many hands and strong backs to run smoothly. To volunteer, contact Christina Trier, chair of the Book Sale Committee, at ctrier@wesleyan.edu.

The new year has brought significant change to my career at Wesleyan. It was with a mixture of excitement for my new position as university coordinator of events and sadness for leaving my coworkers at Olin Library that I moved across campus to the Russell House. Barbara Jones, university librarian, will soon appoint a new coordinator of the Friends of the Wesleyan Library from among the library staff. It has been a privilege to serve as coordinator for the past two years. I look forward to continuing on the Board and to helping the Friends move forward on its current productive path.

— CHERYL HAGNER,
UNIVERSITY COORDINATOR OF EVENTS

VALERIE GILLISPIE JOINS LIBRARY STAFF

Wesleyan has a new assistant university archivist, Valerie Gillispie, who joined the staff of Special Collections and Archives on January 24, 2006. A recent graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC-CH) with a M.S. in library science, Valerie also holds a M.A. degree in public history from North Carolina State University (NCSSU). She graduated *cum laude* from Macalester College with a B.A. in history. While in graduate school, Valerie gained a wide range of archival experience through internships at the Special Collections Research Center at NCSU, the North Carolina State Archives, the Duke University Archives, and the Southern Historical Collection at UNC-CH. As an undergraduate, she worked in reference and interlibrary loan.

Even as a graduate student, Valerie has been active professionally, including serving as a member of the Standards Working Group of the North Carolina Encoded Archival Description Project and as president of the (UNC) Student Chapter of the Society of American Archivists. In her spare time, she is dedicated to animal rescue, and she is an accomplished knitter. Valerie is a very welcome addition to the staff of Wesleyan's Special Collections and Archives, where she will play leading roles in developing a university records management program and in digitization projects. Valerie also has responsibilities in all aspects of archival work, from processing to reference to digitization to exhibits.

As we welcome Valerie, we also say farewell to Patty Stark, interim assistant university archivist, and to Cheryl Hagner, Special Collections and Archives assistant and coordinator of the Friends of Wesleyan Library. Cheryl is now the university coordinator of events, based in Russell House. We wish both of them well in their new endeavors. Their excellent work in SC&A will be greatly missed.

— SUZY TARABA, UNIVERSITY ARCHIVIST
AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS LIBRARIAN



LIBRARY DEPARTMENTAL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

OLIN LIBRARY, FRONT DESK	685-2660
REFERENCE AND RESEARCH	685-3873
CIRCULATION DEPARTMENT	685-3877
RESERVE OFFICE	685-3852
INTERLIBRARY LOAN.....	685-3876
ACQUISITIONS DEPARTMENT	685-3834
CATALOGING DEPARTMENT	685-3476
SERIALS DEPARTMENT	685-3888
ART LIBRARY	685-3327
PSYCHOLOGY LIBRARY	685-2770
PRESERVATION DEPARTMENT	685-3875
SCIENCE LIBRARY	685-2860
SCORES AND RECORDINGS	685-3898
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS/ARCHIVES.....	685-3864
WORLD MUSIC ARCHIVES.....	685-3826



FUNDING FOR CHECK IT OUT IS PROVIDED BY THE FRIENDS OF THE WESLEYAN LIBRARY

Check It Out is a publication of the Wesleyan University Libraries that has been published three to four times annually since 1998. Its purpose is to offer timely information to students, faculty, and staff of recent developments in library technologies and resources available at Wesleyan that will assist them in using the libraries in the most effective ways possible.

Articles are contributed by library staff members, and the publication is edited by Alan J. Nathanson, bibliographer/reference librarian, anathanson@wesleyan.edu, (860) 685-3869.