Fall 2009

**Reflections - Fall 2009**

University Libraries--University of South Carolina

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University Libraries Receive Major Digitization Grant

University librarians Kate Boyd and Craig Keeney will lead efforts to digitize select S.C. newspapers published between 1860 and 1922 using a $350,000 two-year grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). The newspapers, now available only on microfilm, will be made accessible on the Internet through the University Libraries’ S.C. Digital Newspapers Project, a joint project of the University Libraries’ Digital Activities Center and the South Caroliniana Library.

The project will involve scanning about 100,000 pages of newspaper text and providing cataloging information to enhance access to information about the artistic, literary, religious, ethnic, cultural, economic, and political events in South Carolina during one of the most eventful periods of its history. The S.C. newspapers will be mounted on the Web site of “Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers” (http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov), which presently holds more than 1 million pages of historic American newspapers. The site is produced by the National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP), a program jointly sponsored by the NEH and the Library of Congress.

This project will capitalize on the Digital Activities Center staff members’ management and technical experience in digitizing such cultural heritage materials as maps, manuscripts, and original newspapers and on the South Caroliniana Library staff’s experience in identifying, cataloging, and microfilming newspapers. In addition, the project builds on previous collaboration between the University and NEH. In the 1980s, the University used a planning grant to inventory S.C. newspapers and to publish South Carolina Newspapers, an exhaustive county-by-county reference book, edited by Dr. John Hammond Moore. In the 1990s, the University Libraries cataloged 1,249 newspaper...

Renaissance Astronomy Books Given to University

Robert B. Ariail, a 1955 Carolina graduate, recently gave the University three important illustrated works of early astronomy. These are the first books in a planned new major collection, The Robert B. Ariail Collection of Historical Astronomy.

Included in the donation are Alessandro Piccolomini’s De la Sfera del Mondo (Venice, 1540), the first printed atlas of the stars, illustrated with 48 woodcut charts; Johann Bayer’s Uranometria, Omnium Asterismorum Continens Schemata (Augsburg, 1603), which added 12 new constellations and developed a new way...
FROM THE DEAN OF LIBRARIES:

ANOTHER FALL SEMESTER IS HERE, and the University Libraries are off and running. This fall we start the year with a return to 24/7 access to the Thomas Cooper Library. The students have responded in overwhelming numbers. We are delivering Interlibrary Loan books to faculty offices, and we are embarking on a major grant-funded effort to digitize 100,000 pages of historical South Carolina newspapers.

By far the most exciting news is that we are just months away from occupying the Ernest F. Hollings Special Collections Library. This beautiful building will become the new home to our South Carolina Political Collections and our Department of Rare Books and Special Collections. In addition, the re-creation of our computer lab into a collaborative computing center is now complete. This project took a bit longer than we thought, but the consensus is that it was well worth the wait.

We have renamed our Newfilm Library. It is now called the Moving Images Research Collections. Although our newfilm collections are central to this library, we are collecting in other moving image areas and wish to expand even further. It seemed a good time to broaden the name to reflect an exciting new direction.

Our budget woes are still upon us, but we have worked hard to refine our priorities and make our dollars work harder for us. The University administration has helped with monies to offset inflation and to allow us to continue building our collections. Our donors have remained faithful to us and have helped us in every way they are able.

I want to finish by thanking every individual working in our libraries for the effort they put forth each day. If Coach Spurrier had the team I have, we would win the SEC every year!

Tom McNally

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DIGITIZATION cont. from page 1

titles and filmed 990,332 pages with financial support from the NEH United States Newspaper Program (USNP).

Boyd, who heads the Digital Activities Center, said, “For over 200 years, librarians at this institution have acquired, collected, and preserved manuscripts and printed materials, and have made them accessible to users. I hope that this next step toward even more accessibility to South Carolina newspapers will capture people’s interest in South Carolina and American history from around the world. We are excited to bring these invaluable primary resources to the people through free access on the Web.”

Remarking on the timeliness of the project, Keeney who is cataloger for the Published Materials Division of South Caroliniana Library said, “The 150th anniversary of the start of the Civil War in 2011 offers our nation an opportunity to reexamine the war’s origins and impact.

“As South Carolinians played significant roles during and after the Civil War, it is crucially important that South Carolina newspapers spanning the years 1860 to 1922 be made available to researchers through the ‘Chronicling America’ online database.”

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DOUBLE PAGE HAND-COLORED ENGRAVED PLATES THAT DEALT WITH THE THEN-MODERN ASTROLOGICAL SYSTEMS OF SUCH GIANTS AS COPERNICUS, TYCHO, KEPLER, AND NEWTON.

ROBERT B. ARIAIL

Ariail, a longtime amateur astronomer, has built an extensive collection of more than 5,000 astronomy books to support his work in scientific observation, which involves correspondence with astronomers worldwide. The books, like his collection of modern and antique telescopes, have been essential tools in his ongoing research. These recent gifts to the University will enable Ariail to share these resources with a much larger group of researchers.

“These first gifts are books of great beauty and historical significance,” said Dr. Patrick Scott, director of special collections. “The Ariail collection will be of continuing importance both for teaching and research. The scheduled opening in spring 2010 of the Ernest F. Hollings Special Collections Library will provide improved facilities for ensuring large collections such as Mr. Ariail’s are well-housed and can be utilized fully.”

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RENAISSANCE cont. from page 1

of referencing the stars in each constellation using the letters of the Greek alphabet; and John Gabriel Doppelmayr’s Atlas Novus Cœlestis (Nuremberg, 1742), a comprehensive star atlas with 30 double-page hand-colored engraved plates that dealt with the then-modern astronomical systems of such giants as Copernicus, Tycho, Kepler, and Newton.
Since May 21, 1884, when Senator M.C. Butler designated the University of South Carolina Libraries as a depository for Congressional publications, the Government Printing Office (GPO) in Washington, D.C., has sent the libraries millions of federal documents to hold and make available to students, faculty, and the general public.

On Sept. 17, Robert C. Tapella, public printer of the United States and the head of GPO, visited Thomas Cooper Library to honor the University’s 125 years of service in the Federal Depository Library Program and to present a plaque commemorating the occasion. Tapella was greeted by Dean of Libraries Tom McNally, Head of Government Information Bill Sudduth, and Thomas Cooper Society President Bob Oakman.

Tapella, who is the 25th person to hold the position of public printer since its creation in 1860, commended the University for supporting the GPO’s goal of providing all citizens with free, open, and permanent access to government information through the Federal Depository Libraries program.

“While government documents were distributed to the depositories as printed materials for many years,” Tapella said, “the advance of technology has prompted the GPO to provide more and more documents in an electronic format—more than 50 percent now and probably as much as 70–80 percent in the future. Although it is impossible to predict the ways that communication will change in the next 125 years, I am confident that libraries and librarians will continue to do in the future what they have done in the past—adapt their services and procedures to best serve the needs of users.”

Tapella, together with an enthusiastic audience of University personnel and members of the Thomas Cooper Society, toured an exhibit, “Information to the People: Celebrating 125 Years as a Federal Depository Library,” which was mounted in the Thomas Cooper Library Mezzanine exhibit area for the occasion. The exhibit presented a variety of government publications, including several featuring the life and activities of people in South Carolina.

There are a total of 19 partial depositories in the state, but the University is the state’s only full depository.
Recipients of the University Libraries’ second annual Award for Undergraduate Research were named in April. Elizabeth Nyikos won the top prize, and Tom Benning received an award for outstanding achievement.

Music major Elizabeth Nyikos’ winning project was her senior thesis, “Medieval Voices: The Oldest Music in South Carolina.” She mounted an exhibit at the Music Library of medieval music manuscripts spanning a period of 400 years, created a brochure to accompany the exhibit, and gave a presentation about the exhibit materials, which included a performance of one of the works.

Nyikos credited a class with rare books and special collections director Dr. Patrick Scott for providing the inspiration for her research. “On one of the first days of class, Dr. Scott brought forth medieval manuscripts from the vault, including an illuminated page from a Bible and a Psalter leaf with plainchant notation. That day marked a change in my entire course of study, choice of graduate program, and, ultimately, career path. The direct experience with the manuscript resources of USC rare books and special collections led me to develop the honors thesis project.”

The project submitted by journalism major Tom Benning was his senior thesis, “Corrected Memory: A Study of South Carolina Historical Monuments and Markers.” He was motivated to explore how history is conveyed in public settings when members of the South Carolina General Assembly challenged the monument to Benjamin "Pitchfork" Tillman on the Statehouse grounds. His project entailed cataloging all the monuments and markers around the Statehouse, the University of South Carolina campus, and Columbia’s Memorial Park. Benning’s research made extensive use of materials in the South Caroliniana Library, South Carolina Political Collections, and Thomas Cooper Library, as well as the Richland County Public Library and the South Carolina Department of Archives and History.

In Memoriam

ROBERT F. SKINDER (1943–2009)

Robert Francis (Bob) Skinder, science librarian at Thomas Cooper Library from 1996 to 2008, died Sept. 5 at his home in Hopkins, S.C. He was the husband of Dr. Madilyn Fletcher, director of the University’s School of the Environment.

Bob is remembered fondly by his colleagues in the University Libraries and by students, faculty, and staff members who knew and worked with him over the years.
DR. G. ROSS ROY, Distinguished Professor Emeritus and curator of the University’s G. Ross Roy Collection of Burnsiana and Scottish Literature, recently received three outstanding honors.

In April, he was presented with South Carolina’s highest civilian honor, the Order of the Palmetto. In June, he was awarded the degree Doctor of Letters from the University of Glasgow at the Scottish university’s annual Commemoration Day. And, finally, to mark his 85th birthday, a festschrift is being prepared in his honor.

Roy received the Order of the Palmetto during a major Burns conference held at the University last spring where many Burns materials which Roy had presented to the University were on exhibit. The award was given to Roy for his service to the state in promoting Scottish literature, for his role in furthering the recognition of the University as a center for its study in the United States and abroad, for his own scholarship on Burns, for the Roy collection (www.sc.edu/library/spcoll/rarebook.html), and for his 45-year editorship of Studies in Scottish Literature, described in the citation as a publication “justifiably famous all over the English-speaking world.”

The Doctor of Letters degree recognizes Roy for his contributions to the understanding and advancement of Scottish literature. “Professor Roy is one of the greatest Burns scholars of the modern era,” said Dr. Gerard Carruthers, head of Glasgow’s Scottish literature department. After the award ceremony, the Scottish Arts Council announced that a new annual award, the Ross Roy Medal, will be given to a student enrolled at a Scottish university for the best essay in Scottish literature.

The festschrift honoring Dr. Roy’s work, edited by Dr. Patrick Scott and Dr. Kenneth Simpson of the University of Glasgow is titled Robert Burns and Friends. It contains essays by 15 scholars who have visited the University as W. Ormiston Roy Research Fellows, a tribute to Dr. Roy, and a list of his many publications.

Dr. and Mrs. Roy established the W. Ormiston Roy Research Fellowship in 1990 to honor Dr. Roy’s grandfather, who first introduced him to the poetry of Robert Burns.

EXHIBITS AT THE SOUTH CAROLINIANA LIBRARY

“LINTHEADS: LIFE IN THE SOUTH CAROLINA MILL VILLAGES” was exhibited in the Lumpkin Foyer in the summer. This exhibit examined the living and working conditions of South Carolina mill workers in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

“Highlights of Gamecock Football History” will be on display in the Lumpkin Foyer until Nov. 25. The exhibit, produced by the University Archives, highlights three exciting periods in Gamecock football history—the life of legendary running back Steve Wadiak, who died tragically in 1950; the 1969 ACC Championship season; and the 1984 Black Magic season.

“Winter in Midsummer’: Oscar Montgomery Lieber and the Eclipse Expedition of 1860” also will be mounted in the Lumpkin Foyer until Nov. 25. The exhibit focuses on South Carolinian Oscar Lieber’s trip to Labrador in 1860 as geologist for the United States Coastal Survey’s expedition to observe an eclipse. Lieber’s personally illustrated journal and edited manuscript on the expedition serve as the basis of the exhibit.
THE FLYNN T. HARRELL COLLECTION ON THE SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE ENDOWMENT FUND ANNOUNCED

The Flynn T. Harrell Collection on the Separation of Church and State Endowment Fund has been established to support the “Acquisition, Processing, Preservation of, and Research in Collections Specifically Related to Religious Liberty, and Its Corollary, the Separation of Church and State.”

FLYNN T. HARRELL

Flynn T. Harrell has been closely associated with University Libraries since his student days in the 1950s. He has been generous in sharing his expertise and time with staff and in his service to the University South Caroliniana Society, which he served as president from 1987 to 1990. Harrell began donating his personal papers to the South Caroliniana Library in the early 1980s. That collection documents his distinguished 11-year career as an executive assistant to Attorney General Travis Medlock and his previous volunteer service as chair of Gov. Richard Riley’s Task Force on Critical Human Needs and as a member of the State Ethics Commission.

In 2008, Harrell created a new collection at the University Libraries’ South Carolina Political Collections documenting his lifelong interest in the issue of the separation of church and state. Harrell also established the Flynn T. Harrell Collection on the Separation of Church and State Endowment Fund to support this important new collection.

In the following article, Harrell reflects on his association with the University Libraries, his motivation for establishing this collection, and his experiences in acquiring these materials, which document the history and debate over one of the key principals defining America’s government.

—Herb Hartsook, director, South Carolina Political Collections

FLYNN HARRELL TELLS HIS STORY

Early on I became enamored with the historic South Caroliniana Library and worked there as a student assistant during three summers and part-time during my junior and senior years. I was an accounting major, but my love for South Carolina and its history made this a growing and cherished experience. I boasted to a few friends that not every college student could say that he or she had worked in the oldest separate college library building in America.

The books, manuscripts, and other holdings, all pertaining to our state, were informative and impressive. I have admired the leadership and staff of the library, having worked under the legendary Dr. Robert L. Meriwether and observed his successor directors, Les Inabinet, Allen Stokes, and Herbert Hartsook. I am a longtime member of the University South Caroliniana Society, having served as president following the term of my friend and noted historian Walter Edgar. I knew this would be a humbling experience.

I have recognized the importance of special collections of the papers of numerous state leaders and citizens, from the early years forward, not only in politics and government but also in business, education, industry, arts, and science. These readily become repositories to document the history of South Carolina and its people. An understanding of the past is a prelude to working toward a more enlightened and just future for all.

—Flynn T. Harrell

Three book-cover designs by Margaret Armstrong

STUDENT BOOK COLLECTING AWARD WINNER NAMED

The 2009 Thomas Cooper Library Student Book Collecting Contest prize was presented to Ann Stewart Plein, a graduate student in the School of Library and Information Science (SLIS). Her collection, “Beautiful Bindings: The Designs of Margaret Armstrong,” showcases the work of one of the most notable book cover designers of the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

An exhibit of Plein’s collection was on display in Thomas Cooper Library in May.

Honorable mention in the contest went to Thomas Maluck, also an SLIS graduate student, for his collection of English-language manga by Osamu Tezuka.

The Thomas Cooper Library Student Book Collecting Award with a prize of $250 is offered annually to encourage and support students’ interest in forming book collections related to their academic or extracurricular interests. Award winners have the opportunity to display their collection in one of the library’s exhibition galleries.

—cont. on page 8
Cooper Named Interim Director
OF MOVING IMAGE RESEARCH COLLECTIONS

Film studies scholar Dr. Mark Cooper has joined the University Libraries as interim director of Moving Image Research Collections (MIRC). Cooper will focus his efforts on broadening the University’s archival film holdings and improving access to existing resources.

“Mark Cooper’s leadership will be invaluable as we work to expand our film resources,” said Tom McNally, dean of University Libraries. “With an interdisciplinary background in American studies and East Asian studies, as well as film and media studies, Cooper is well-suited to work with faculty members and students from a broad range of disciplines.

“Our collections of news film, feature films, and home movies are extensive. Dr. Cooper will be working on digitization and preservation of and access to these collections. In addition, he will develop the means to integrate film resources into teaching, research, and learning at the University.”

“I’m especially excited to help newcomers to moving-image research discover the treasures the collections hold for them, whether they are undergraduates or established scholars in other fields,” Cooper said.


For more information about MIRC, please see www.sc.edu/library/mirc.

EACH YEAR MIRC STAFF MEMBERS COLLABORATE ON MORE THAN 100 MEDIA PROJECTS WITH FILM AND DOCUMENTARY PRODUCERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD. A FEW EXAMPLES ARE:

Footage from Movietone Newsfilm was screened by the producers of Saving Private Ryan in order to create authentic post-invasion sets and costumes.

Movietone Newsfilm shot in Shanghai in 1932 was incorporated into the opening title credits of The Painted Veil.

Johnny Depp studied Movietone Newsfilm materials on John Dillinger to prepare for his role in Public Enemy.

SCETV’s documentary “Congaree Swamp” made extensive use of local television and regional film collections as well as the Movietone Newsfilm collection.

Michael Moore’s latest film, Capitalism: A Love Story, shows a Movietone Newsfilm clip of Franklin Delano Roosevelt proposing a second Bill of Rights under which a new basis of security and prosperity could be established for all regardless of station, race, or creed.

Two Movietone Newsfilm clips showing Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, the British writer who created super-sleuth Sherlock Holmes, will be shown this fall in Pordenone, Italy, at the Giornate del Cinema Muto, the world’s most important festival of silent film.
South Carolina Political Collections’ exhibit titled “Voices For Civil Rights: Modjeska Simkins, I. DeQuincey Newman, and the NAACP” will be on display in Thomas Cooper Library’s Main Level East Gallery through Nov. 30.

The exhibit celebrates the lives and achievements of two remarkable individuals who made heroic contributions to the civil rights movement in South Carolina—Modjeska Simkins and I. DeQuincey Newman. Both provided distinguished leadership for the South Carolina branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), which is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year.

The Simkins exhibit draws from files about the NAACP, which include correspondence, printed materials, budgetary information, fund drive materials, member lists, minutes of meetings, and press releases. The Simkins collection has been microfilmed in its entirety and is available in that format to interested parties worldwide.

The exhibit about The Reverend Newman draws from NAACP files in his collection, which include detailed monthly, annual, and special reports from his tenure as S.C. NAACP field director, 1961–1969. These reports cover, often in some detail, Newman’s work in organizing new branches of the NAACP, speaking appearances, etc. Also present is a lengthy transcript of more than 650 pages of testimony in a 1992 federal court case involving the NAACP and the city of Columbia. A significant segment of the Newman collection has been digitized and is available online.

On display through Dec. 31 in the Thomas Cooper Library’s Main Floor West Gallery is an exhibit titled “The Similitude of a Dream: John Bunyan’s Pilgrim’s Progress from the Robert J. Wickeheiser Collection.”

The exhibit features highlights from the full collection, which contains more than 900 separate editions of The Pilgrim’s Progress from This World to That Which Is to Come, Delivered under the Similitude of a Dream, first published in 1678, as well as early editions of many of Bunyan’s other works. It comes to the library with a generous gift element from Dr. and Mrs. Wickeheiser, who also built the library’s Milton collection.
EXHIBITS FROM
RARE BOOKS AND
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

The Department of Rare Books and Special Collections’ traveling exhibit “SOUTHERN NATURALISTS—AUDUBON IN CONTEXT” is currently showing at Hickory Hill House Museum in Thomson, Ga., owned by the Watson-Brown Foundation Inc. The exhibit, which is free and open to the public, will be on display until Dec. 12. Featured are works of pioneer 18th- and 19th-century naturalists including Mark Catesby and John James Audubon.

The traveling exhibit is part of the University Libraries’ outreach program designed to give a broader audience access to some of its treasures. This exhibit was previously on display at the Upcountry History Museum in Greenville and at USC Lancaster. In January, it will be on view at the Sandcastle on Kiawah Island.

The selected texts for the 2009 First-Year Reading Experience were Marjane Satrapi’s recent graphic novels Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood and Persepolis 2: The Story of a Return.

An exhibit at Thomas Cooper Library in the late summer provided context and historical material on Persia and Iran to enhance the students’ reading experience.

An exhibit of about 80 “RECENT GIFTS AND ACQUISITIONS, 2008–2009” was featured in Thomas Cooper Library’s Graniteville Room during the summer and early fall.

Included in the exhibit were an illuminated manuscript given by Frances Glazebrook, John Milton books donated by Professor John T. Shawcross, the Gibbes-Robinson Catesby, the first published description and illustration of a camellia (funded by the Ethelind Pope Brown Endowment), 18th-century books from Professor Edward Gregg and from the Taylor family, LeVailant’s illustrations of African birds (donated by Professor John Kenneth Adams), an important Darwin resource (funded by the Irvin Endowment), and Alfred Lord Tennyson proofs (funded by the Pope Rice/Rice Davis Library Treasures Endowment).

“RADICAL ERRORS: EDGAR ALLAN POE AT 200” was on display in Thomas Cooper Library in the summer.

The exhibit showcased the earliest of Poe’s works held by rare books and special collections, including many of his writings that first appeared in various contemporary periodicals.

ASSessment
Team Wants
Your Input

The librarians and staff members at the University Libraries want to serve you better.

The libraries’ Assessment Information Management (AIM) team was formed to meet this goal by asking you to evaluate whether or not current services, facilities, and collections meet your needs.

During the fall 2008 exam week, the team launched a pilot project at Thomas Cooper Library to evaluate building usage patterns and space preferences. As a result, additional power strips have been installed to facilitate the use of laptops and parts of the library have been designated as “quiet areas.”

This fall the team distributed a short “Welcome to Gamecock Nation” postcard survey asking students if they preferred to study in groups, alone, or both; their favorite time of day to study; how often they visited the libraries; etc.

Future plans include faculty and student focus groups to identify and discuss library issues and the use of new technologies to measure library usage and to qualify public service transactions automatically.

In addition, a new online survey system will enable librarians to further understand users’ learning and research needs.
Top left: Cover of *My Early Life: A Roving Commission* (1930) with red Morocco and gilt Cowsay-style binding and an insert miniature by Bayntun-Riviere

Above: Churchill’s painting “The Garden at Wilton,” ca. 1935, oil on canvas

Top right: An inscribed photograph of Churchill taken during the war years

Right: Shown at the reception honoring Dr. Conyers O’ Bryan’s gift of Churchill materials are Ms. Patricia Moore-Pastides, Tom McNally, University President Harris Pastides, Darla Moore, and Dr. O’ Bryan.
Libraries Receive Major Churchill Collection

A reception in September served to welcome to the University Libraries a major new gift, the Dr. E. Conyers O’Bryan Jr. Collection of Winston S. Churchill.

Dr. O’Bryan assembled this collection of the great British statesman’s writings, signed books, artwork, and memorabilia over several decades. In his remarks, he told a group of library supporters about his lifelong admiration for the person he characterized as “the man of the century” and how that admiration prompted his collecting efforts. “Wouldn’t it be wonderful,” he recalled thinking, “if hundreds of people could have the opportunity to see and use the things from this collection.”

Dean of Libraries Tom McNally, President of the University Harris Pastides, and University Trustee Darla Moore, expressed appreciation to O’Bryan for his generosity.

President Pastides reminded the audience about Churchill’s renown as a writer as well as a statesman, and that he had been named Time magazine’s “Man of the Year” three times in recognition of his multiple talents. Pastides also pointed out the research advantages of coupling this new collection with the 72 film clips about Churchill available in the University’s Movietone Newsfilm Collection. Several of these film clips ran on a film loop during the event.

Dr. Patrick Scott, head of the Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, described the collection as “a very significant addition to the University’s special collections in 20th-century world history, especially for the two world wars.”

The O’Bryan Collection includes more than 80 volumes of Winston S. Churchill’s (1874–1964) writings published during his lifetime, many of which are first editions. Among these are a rare copy of Churchill’s first book, The Story of the Malakand Field Force (1897), a true-life adventure story of British military activity on the Indian frontier; copies of Churchill’s only novel, Savrola (1899); several of his books on the Boer War in South Africa; signed presentation copies of his multivolume biography of his ancestor, the Duke of Marlborough; and his multivolume histories of the first and second world wars.

Also part of the collection are five volumes from Churchill’s library at Chartwell, which were passed down to his only son, Randolph, and bear the bookplates of both men. One is a presentation copy of a work on Danish history given to Churchill by the king of Denmark in 1950. There are several contemporary photographs of Churchill in the collection, including one signed portrait. There is also a gentleman’s silver pillbox with the initials “WSC” given to Churchill as a birthday gift by a friend.

Two highlights of the collection are artworks; an original oil painting by Churchill and a large limited-edition mezzotint portrait of him in front of the prime minister’s official residence at Number 10, Downing Street. The painting is an original landscape painted circa 1935, when Churchill was in the political wilderness, a lonely voice against the appeasement of Nazi Germany. It depicts the tranquil water garden at the Wilton estate, near Salisbury, in Wiltshire, England, the ancestral home of the earls of Pembroke. The painting has been initialed by Churchill and is included in the authoritative catalogue raisonnée of Churchill’s paintings authored by David Coombs.

Dr. Edward Conyers O’Bryan Jr

Conyers O’Bryan was born in Kingstree, S.C., and earned his BA from the University and his MD from the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC). He served as a medical officer in the United States Marines before returning to MUSC for his residency.

O’Bryan is now in private practice in cardiology in Florence, and he holds a full clinical professorship at MUSC. He has been a member of the MUSC Board of Trustees since 1976, serving as chair from 1994–98 and again in 2000. His civic activities include serving on the Board of Directors of the Kiwanis Club, the Big Brother Association, and the Family YMCA. In 1995, O’Bryan was awarded the Order of the Palmetto. He and his wife, Jennie, have one child.
The fall exhibit from rare books and special collections “‘A Use in Measured Language’: An Exhibition for the Bicentenary of Alfred Tennyson” marks the bicentenary of the English poet Alfred Tennyson. It will be on display in the Thomas Cooper Library’s Mezzanine Gallery through January 2010.

Commenting on Tennyson’s life and contributions, Dr. Patrick Scott, director of special collections, said, “Born in 1809 in the tiny village of Somersby, Tennyson was hailed while still a student in Cambridge as ‘the greatest poet of our generation, perhaps of our century.’ His longer works, such as his religious poem In Memoriam (1850) and his Arthurian epic Idylls of the King (published in stages over a 40-year period), soon established themselves among the central, canonical works of English literature. Many of his shorter poems, such as ‘The Brook,’ ‘The May-Queen,’ and ‘The Charge of the Light Brigade,’ entered popular culture as songs or recitation-pieces.

“Tennyson’s poetry has spoken to intellectuals, to aesthetes, and to more ordinary readers for more than 150 years. He was the first English poet ever given a peerage ‘for services to literature.’ He, more than any other British poet laureate, gave that oft-derided position a genuine literary distinction and, after his death in 1892, the laureateship was left vacant because any replacement was unimaginable. His was a unique career in the close interrelations it demonstrates between a highly individual creative artist and the culture of his age.”

The current exhibit covers the whole of Tennyson’s long career, from his first coauthored book, Poems by Two Brothers (1827) through to his last posthumously published volume, The Death of Enone (1892). Highlights include one of his school textbooks, a book on the philosophy of science that he annotated in the 1830s as he started writing In Memoriam, and two of the early proofs or “trial books” with which he tested readers’ reactions to his first Idylls of the King.

All the books on display are drawn from the Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, which has a comprehensive Tennyson collection, including a complete run of Tennyson’s many first editions as well as important illustrated editions, biographical works, and background material.
Dr. Peter Koblenzer and Dr. Caroline Koblenzer of Philadelphia have donated oil portraits of the 17th-century English poet John Milton and of his mother, Sara Milton, to the Department of Rare Books and Special Collections. The gift was announced and the portraits were unveiled at a Thomas Cooper Society reception during the recent Southeastern Renaissance Conference hosted by the Department of English Language and Literatures.

The John Milton portrait, depicting him as a 21-year-old Cambridge University student, was painted by Benjamin VanderGucht in 1792 from an earlier portrait by Cornelius Janssen, dated 1629. For nearly two centuries VanderGucht’s version was the only record of this image, as the whereabouts of the original Janssen portrait was lost till the 1960s. Commissioned by the Earl Harcourt, the VanderGucht portrait remained in his family until Dr. Koblenzer, who had been at school near the Harcourt family home, Sutton Courtenay, purchased it at auction in 1993.

The second painting, the only known portrait of Sara Milton, shows her in stern Puritan dress and dates from 1621. It also was probably painted by Cornelius Janssen, though a second artist, Robert Walker, who had strong Puritan connections, has also been proposed. The provenance of this painting, documented in detail from the mid-18th century forward, suggests that Arthur Onslow may have bought both it and Janssen’s portrait of John Milton from Milton’s widow.

NEW GIFT SUPPORTS EXISTING MILTON COLLECTION

The Koblenzers chose the University for this gift when they learned of the library’s Robert J. Wickenheiser Collection of John Milton, acquired in 2006 with the leading support of the William L. Richter Family Foundation. The portraits and selected items from the Wickenheiser Collection will be displayed together in the Richter Seminar Room in the new Ernest F. Hollings Special Collections Library, scheduled to open next spring.

“The Koblenzers’ generous gift brings into focus the significance of the Wickenheiser Collection, both for teaching and research,” said Dr. Patrick Scott, director of special collections. “The continuing display of these beautiful portraits will remind visitors and students that the library has a world-class collection of one of the world’s most influential poets.”

For more information, please see: www.sc.edu/library/speciall/milton/koblenzer.html.
Donations to the libraries’ Treasures Acquisition Program (TAP) have funded purchase of materials for a new research collection about the Victorian British poet Christina Rossetti (1830–1894). Unlike most other collections, this one has been built up book by book, rather than acquired ready-made from a collector.

Interest in Rossetti’s poetry has been increasing in recent years, but until now, the only Rossetti first edition in rare books and special collections was of her best-known book, *Goblin Market and Other Poems* (1862). With a gift from an anonymous donor, department staff were able to buy first editions of all but two of Rossetti’s books, as well as some of the magazines and anthologies to which she contributed poems.

Included in the purchases are four variants of her volume of children’s poems, *Sing-Song* (1872); the original magazine version of her poem “Up-Hill” (“And does the road wind uphill all the way?”); an issue of her brother Dante Gabriel Rossetti’s magazine *The Germ*, to which she contributed in 1850; the anthology *A Welcome*, produced by the women printers of Emily Faithfull’s Victoria Press; and one of only two known complete runs of a magazine written by young upper-class ladies anxious to showcase their talents, *The Bouquet from Marylebone Gardens* (five vols., 1851–54), for which Rossetti wrote a series of satiric letters.

**ROSSETTI’S RAREST BOOK**

A second gift to the TAP fund, from James P. Barrow ’62, allowed the purchase of Rossetti’s rarest book, *Verses* (1847), privately printed by her grandfather Gaetano Polidori when she was just 16. Only one other copy has been offered for sale in the past 10 years. The South Carolina copy is not just rare, but unique, because it includes a set of the unbound sheets of the book, which preserves both the first and second versions of a page that Rossetti revised and Polidori reprinted.

Barrow has supported a number of previous major acquisitions for the library (a Charles Darwin letter and the F. Scott Fitzgerald screenplays), and he has also given important items from his own collection, including a 1699 charter from the Lords Proprietors of Carolina and a 1778 muster roll signed by Francis Marion, the “Swamp Fox.”
**NEWS BRIEFS**

**The James Dickey Room.** Displaying portraits, memorabilia, and selected books, has been relocated with new furniture to the east side of the Thomas Cooper Library’s Mezzanine level. The Dickey room was established as a teaching and conference room in 1997, when the University acquired the poet’s extensive personal library.

The poet and novelist James Dickey (1925–1997) was poet-in-residence at the University, and later Carolina Professor, for nearly 30 years from 1970 till his death.

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The University’s Dean of Libraries Tom McNally was the recipient of the 2009 REMPEL AWARD. The award is presented each year to a faculty or staff member who shows particular concern for the welfare of the student body.

“I was very pleased to receive the award, as it is an honor I share with all the library staff at the University,” McNally said. “Every single individual in every one of our libraries works each day to make this a better library for our students. This is a wonderful form of recognition from our students to our library.”

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The University community has again benefited from an anonymous endowment gift which has supported a FALL FESTIVAL OF AUTHORS on campus for several years. The University Libraries and the Department of English Language and Literatures jointly conduct the festival, which is free and open to the public. Authors who presented readings during the October festival this year were Masha Hamilton, Billy Collins, and Kwame Dawes.

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The University Libraries have joined forces with the University of South Carolina Press to launch “ACCESSIBLE BOOKS.” The project republishes important out-of-print volumes of scholarship and regional history from the libraries’ collections. The volumes are available online via the libraries’ Web site (www.sc.edu/library) and in paperback editions from the press.

Available titles include A Brief History of Moscovia and Other Less-Known Countries Lying Eastward of Russia as far as Cathay, Gathered from the Writings of Several Eye-Witnesses by John Milton (1682); The City of the Jugglers; or, Free-Trade in Souls A Romance of the “Golden” Age by William North (1850); The Stranger in America; or, Letters to a Gentleman in Germany Comprising Sketches of the Manners, Society, and National Peculiarities of the United States by Francis Lieber (1835); Reminiscences of the South Carolina Confederate Cavalry, including “Some Reminiscences of a Confederate Soldier,” by Edwin Calhoun, and “Reminiscences of the Sixties,” by Charles Crosland (1910); and Letters Addressed to Clarinda, &c. by Robert Burns (1802).

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The latest addition to the University’s SPIESER & EASTERLING-HALLMAN COLLECTION OF ERNEST HEMINGWAY is the corrected typescript for a 1935 article about deep-sea fishing off Florida purchased with a gift from the Edward Hallman trustees. Titled “Key West Letter” when it was published that May in Esquire magazine, the article anticipates some of the themes of Hemingway’s last best seller, The Old Man and the Sea (1952).

The late Edward Hallman, ’50, was a leading donor for the Hemingway collection, which is the sole beneficiary of his estate.

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**Moving Image Research Collections Receives Chinese Film Collection**

A major new collection of fiction and documentary films and DVDs representing the history and culture of China was presented to the University’s Moving Image Research Collections (MIRC) in October. The Chinese Film Collection currently comprises more than 650 individual titles on 35 mm. and 16 mm. film as well as 1,500 DVDs of films created between 1949 and the present. More titles are expected.

“Half a century ago, China was closed to the rest of the world,” said University President Harris Pastides. “Now it is a global economic power, a destination for international tourists, and a hot spot for scholars and students. These films tell the story of this transformation.”

The 35 mm. and 16 mm. films were donated to the University by the embassy of the People’s Republic of China in Washington D.C. The DVDs were given by the Hanban, the international headquarters of the Confucius Institute in cooperation with the Chinese National Film Archive and the Beijing Film Academy.

These films will be available to all University researchers and will be particularly supportive of the University’s Confucius Institute in the teaching of Chinese culture and language.
This fall semester’s Welcome Week activities included two events that revolved around the University Libraries’ original card catalog and its thousands of now-outdated cards.

“GAME NIGHT”

“Game Night” on Aug. 19 gave students gathered on the Main Level of Thomas Cooper Library the opportunity to play card games with decks made from old catalog cards and to build houses and towers of the cards. Systems librarian Laurel Baker organized the event and special collections librarian Jeffrey Makala created the decks of cards with images from the Internet. Prize-winners included Emily Bowerman, Ian Conway, Philip Falls, Alejandro Gardy, Cesily Hardee, George Helman, Kuei-Lan Huang, Saswat Kabisatpathy, Desmond Lewis, Tee Mitchell, Ryan Monroe, Elizabeth Oliver, Chess Schmidt, and Shelby Sessler.

“CARD CATALOG BOAT RACE”

Two days later, the “Card Catalog Boat Race” was held on the library’s reflecting pool. It was coordinated by reference librarian Marilee Birchfield. Boats made from catalog cards were judged for creativity and seaworthiness. Gerri Corson, John Quirk, and Chess Schmidt won prizes for creativity while prizes for seaworthiness went to Michael Mins, James Weeks, and a group called “Jerry, Max, and the Gang.” The panel of judges included faculty members Greg Carbone (geography), Nancy Freeman (education), Andy Mills (theatre), and Wally Peters (mechanical engineering), who dressed like a pirate for the occasion.

The Welcome Week activities marked the beginning of a yearlong series of events honoring the card catalog and celebrating the generations of librarians who created the catalog, the authors who are represented in it, and the users who used it to search for information. To learn about these events and to see a featured card from the old catalog each day, please visit the libraries’ Web site at www.sc.edu/library/inthecards.html.

Top left: Chess Schmidt built the best house of cards.
Top right: “Alone, alone, all, all alone, alone on a wide, wide sea!”
Right middle: Queequeg to Capt. Ahab, “Moby Dick, Ho!”
Right middle: The judges (left to right) were Nancy Freeman, Greg Carbone, Wally Peters, and Andy Mills.
Right bottom: “They’re off!”
Most researchers who use the treasures found in the Department of Rare Books and Special Collections (RBSC) are the University’s own students and faculty, but the major collections also draw researchers from much further afield.

RESEARCHERS

In April, the Robert Burns conference had participants from Britain, Spain, and Canada as well as from many areas of the U.S. Arriving early to use the G. Ross Roy Collection were three graduate students from the University of Glasgow: Megan Coyer (researching Burns and phrenology), Jennifer Orr (on Ulster responses to Burns), and, on her third visit, Pauline Gray (on Burns and women).

June brought researchers from the University of Liverpool, also in the U.K., for a two-week stay: Stephen Powell (using the James Ellroy archive) and Diane Powell (on Elizabeth Sewell and Victorian women’s fiction).

In July, Dr. Mark Flair from Tennessee also worked on Ellroy, Michelle Fellow from the University of Utah worked in the Augusta Baker and historical children’s literature collections on children and race, Stuart Robinson from the University of Cincinnati worked with the antebellum natural history books, and a Carolina alumnus, Dr. Sidney Watson of Oklahoma Baptist University used the Matthew J. and Arlyn Bruccoli Collection to work on Fitzgerald and his publishers.

In August, Professor Tracy Daugherty came from Oregon State University to use the Joseph Heller archive, and Stephen Chonoles from California worked in the Hallman Collection on Maurice Speiser’s legal work for the sculptor Brancusi.

In September, two New York-based professional writers came in quick succession to work on F. Scott Fitzgerald. Stephen Darst used the Bruccoli Collection in preparation for a new biography, and Arthur Krystal worked in the Warner Bros. F. Scott Fitzgerald Screenplay Collection for an essay to be published in the New Yorker.

INTERNS

During the summer, three master’s degree students from the School of Library and Information Science worked as RBSC interns under the direction of Elizabeth Sudduth of RBSC and Kate Boyd and Santi Thompson of the libraries’ Digital Activities Department. Their projects were designed to provide an opportunity for experience in both special collections and digitization.

Amy Allen, whose interests relate to children’s librarianship, worked on a collection development project to build a desiderata list for The Augusta Baker Collection of African-American Children’s Literature and Folklore. She also digitized a rare turn-of-the-20th-century French children’s book, Anatole France’s Filles et garçons (illustrated by the painter Louis-Maurice Boutet de Monvel) that had been donated by Sarah Crawford Fox in 2003.

Kristin Florian, who majored in studio art as an undergraduate, received an introduction to cataloging and worked on the digitization of a British soldier’s sketchbook from World War I. She also digitized a collection of the World War I letters, photographs, and other documents of D. Claire Brandt, recently donated by Charline M. Brandt of Columbia.

Patricia Sasser worked at the RBSC reference desk and digitized a unique and substantial collection of civil war postal covers donated by Robert Chamberlain. Her project will become part of the South Carolina Digital Library’s Civil War Project.

These projects can be accessed at the University Libraries’ Digital Activities Page: http://sc.edu/library/digital/index.php.
The Charles Weasmer Collection of Secession Presbyterian Writings

Shortly before his recent death, Professor Charles Weasmer, emeritus professor of government, gave the University Libraries a unique collection of writings by Scottish Secession Presbyterians.

Beginning in 2002, Dr. Weasmer built a collection of more than 200 books and pamphlets from the period 1720–1830, including many items held in only two or three specialized libraries. His focus was on the separation of church and state, the issue that led the early seceders in Scotland to split from the established Presbyterian state church in the 1730s.

He collected not only the seceders’ own writings but also writings by those who debated with them. In later decades, the secession churches had a distinctive voice on other questions, such as responses to the French Revolution, slavery and the slave trade, and political reform.

Dr. Patrick Scott, director of special collections, worked with Dr. Weasmer as he built the collection. “He often brought new purchases to rare books to research them, so I knew he was finding very rare and interesting material,” said Dr. Scott. “We really didn’t expect the collection was coming here, but are very pleased it has done so; it makes a distinctive addition to earlier Scottish collections, particularly the James W. Oliver Collection of David Hume, and the G. Ross Roy Collection of Scottish Poetry.”

Exhibits from South Carolina Political Collections

“James F. Byrnes: A Celebration” was created to celebrate the life of James Francis Byrnes (1882–1972), one of South Carolina’s most important sons. The Charleston native’s distinguished career included service in the U.S. House of Representatives, 1911–1925, in the U.S. Senate, 1931–1941, as supreme court justice, 1941–1942, as U.S. secretary of state and mentor to President Harry S. Truman, 1945–1947, and as governor of South Carolina, 1951–1955.

The exhibit, mounted in June with assistance from McKissick Museum staff, recreated a portion of Byrnes’ study in his Columbia home. It commemorated the 60th anniversary of the founding of the James F. Byrnes Foundation, which has assisted more than 1,000 South Carolinians to obtain a college education.

“Memoir and Biography: Interpreting Political Lives” was presented in Thomas Cooper Library last summer. The exhibit featured biographies, memoirs, and other books by and about individuals whose papers are held by SCPC together with other materials from their collections. Among the books exhibited were Sen. Ernest “Fritz” Hollings’ books, The Case Against Hunger (1970) and Making Government Work (2008); Harriet Keyserling’s memoir, Against the Tide (1998); and Eugene “Nick” Zeigler’s memoir, When Conscience and Power Meet (2008).
CURRENT AND UPCOMING EXHIBITS AND EVENTS

SOUTH CAROLINIANA LIBRARY EXHIBITS AND EVENTS

“Highlights of Gamecock Football History”—Lumpkin Foyer through Nov. 25

“‘Winter in Midsummer’: Oscar Montgomery Lieber and the Eclipse Expedition of 1860” —Lumpkin Foyer through Nov. 25


SOUTH CAROLINA POLITICAL COLLECTIONS EXHIBITS IN THOMAS COOPER LIBRARY

“Voices for Civil Rights: Modjeska Simkins, I. DeQuincey Newman and the NAACP” —Main Floor, East Gallery, through Nov. 30.

“Christmas on the Potomac: Holiday Cards from the Holdings of South Carolina Political Collections” —Main Floor, East Gallery, through Jan. 15, 2010

DEPARTMENT OF RARE BOOKS AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS EXHIBITS AND EVENTS IN THOMAS COOPER LIBRARY

“The Similitude of a Dream: John Bunyan’s Pilgrim’s Progress from the Robert J. Wickenheiser Collection”—Main Floor West Gallery, through Dec. 31

“John Milton: Introducing the Koblenzer Portraits, with highlights from the Robert J. Wickenheiser Collection”—Graniteville Room through January 2010

“A Use in Measured Language’: An Exhibition for The Bicentenary of Alfred Tennyson” —Mezzanine Gallery through January 2010

Holiday Coffee and Book Signing for Jack Bass and Nathalie Dupree, Dec. 10 at 10:15 a.m., Graniteville Room

“Southern Naturalists—Audubon in Context” exhibit opening and reception—The Sandcastle on Kiawah Island, Jan. 22

“Christina Rossetti, 1830–1834” —Mezzanine Gallery, February–April 2010

ADVANCE NOTICE: The Department of Rare Books and Special Collections (RBSC) is scheduled to move into the new Ernest F. Hollings Special Collections Library early in 2010 and expects to be closed to researchers for several weeks in February and/or March 2010. Please inquire before planning research visits at or near that time. Updated information will be posted on the Web.

EX LIBRIS SOCIETY HEARS TALK BY ALEX SANDERS

AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES’ SUPPORT GROUP, the Ex Libris Society, in May, members were treated to an enthralling speech titled “Who We Are Is Who We Were” by The Honorable Alex Sanders.

The meeting was held on the Mezzanine area of the Thomas Cooper Library where the partially completed Ernest F. Hollings Special Collections Library could be observed.

Members were welcomed by the society’s president, Wilmot B. Irvin and by the Dean of Libraries Tom McNally.

Sanders’ speech focused on historical and philosophical aspects of the American character, concluding that today’s society draws its lessons and its strengths from its forebears. A printed edition of the speech will be made available to members later this year.

Library exhibits were on display from the Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, South Carolina Political Collections, Government Documents, the Newsfilm Library, and the Thomas Cooper Library Reference Department.