

FOOTNOTES¹

A Transformational Gift



Libraries and Media Services is the beneficiary of a generous gift from the recently deceased Victoria C. T. Read and the late Dr. Gerald H. Read. Dr. Read had a

long affiliation with the University and was an Emeritus Professor of Education.

Cara Gilgenbach, Head of Special Collections and Archives, relates that the initial benefit of their gift will be the processing, housing, and sharing of the archival collection of the Comparative and International Education Society (CIES), which Dr. Read co-founded in 1956. CIES was founded "to foster cross-cultural understanding, scholarship, academic achievement and societal development through the international study of educational ideas, systems, and practices." Its membership is comprised of more than 1200 academics, practitioners, and students from around the world, plus approximately 1300 institutional members.

The total impact on Special Collections and Archives will extend across several key areas. The gift will establish the Gerald H. and Victoria C. T. Read Archival Assistantship--the first ever endowed graduate assistantship in Libraries and Media Services. This will provide future archivists with real-world training in the handling of these unique materials.

The gift will also make it possible to renovate the tenth floor of the Main Library to double the space available to Special Collections and Archives. This expansion is keenly needed to properly house collections. Since its founding in 1969, the Department of Special Collections and Archives has amassed nearly 100,000 volumes along with nearly 10,000 cubic feet of archival and manuscript materials. The need for additional space is already critical and can be expected to grow. This generous gift from the Read family addresses Special Collection's expansion needs for the next decade and beyond.

Plans for the 10th floor expansion will also provide for a much-needed instructional space. The instructional program in Special Collections and Archives provides students with hands-on exploration of rare books and archival materials. Having a dedicated instruction room will move this function from the main Reading Room to a space conducive to learning.

Preserving the University's History

University Archives is the unit charged with collecting, preserving, and making accessible the historically significant records of the University. This will take on special importance as the University reflects upon its past century of growth and change. Archives, a division of the Libraries' Special Collections and Archives department, is directed by Stephen Paschen, our new University Archivist who began this past July.

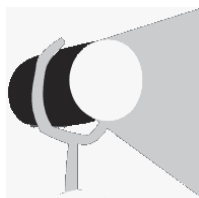
Do you have old files in your office that you would like to throw away, but are unsure of their legal or archival value? Stephen provides records advice in consultation with University Counsel and other offices. He is just a phone call or e-mail away (330-672-1639, spaschen@kent.edu). The official records retention schedules are available online at <http://imagine.kent.edu/recordsretention/>.

Thanks to the recent generous donation of funds by the late Victoria C.T. Read and Dr. Gerald H. Read, much needed archival storage and classroom space on the tenth floor of the library will be created in the coming months. Because of the disruption of storage areas during renovation of the tenth floor, along with existing storage space restrictions, Special Collections and Archives will not be physically accepting transfer of records from now until the renovations are complete. But departments and individuals are encouraged to contact the University Archivist with questions or requests for consultations regarding University records that might be transferred to Special Collections and Archives after construction has been completed.

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Resource Highlights



Spotlight on the Learning Express Library

The *Learning Express Library* (<http://www.learningexpresslibrary.com/>) is a unique resource offering online interactive practice tests. Included are practice tests for standard exams

such as the GED, GRE, GMAT, LSAT, MCAT, PPST Praxis I, TOEFL, and U.S. Citizenship. Also available are skill-building interactive courses in math, reading, and writing. Complete answer explanations accompany each response so that users understand why a particular answer is correct or incorrect.

All practice tests include instant diagnostic score reports that help patrons to target those skill areas that need the most attention. For example, to help students master the SAT and the recently added essay, instant score reports provide immediate feedback on how well they performed in each of five writing skill areas.

Learning Express Library can be accessed from any web-enabled computer in the library, computer lab, office, or home. To take a test, a user first sets up an individual account. If you are off-campus, first use OhioLINK remote authentication proxy or the Kent State proxy server to connect to LearningExpress, and then log into LearningExpress with your individual account.

Note: *Learning Express Library* is a collaborative purchase with INFOhio (k-12 consortium) and OPLIN (Ohio public library consortium), making it available through their respective institutions as well.

OhioLINK Electronic Reference Books Collection

Eight new e-books have been added to OhioLINK's Electronic Reference Books Collection, bringing the total number of e-books available in this collection to 490. These books are searchable and available at: <http://rave.ohiolink.edu/ebooks/reference/home>. The most recent additions to the Electronic Reference Books Collection are:

1. Gun Control in the United States: A Reference Handbook
2. Hip Hop Culture
3. History in the Media: Film and Television
4. Human Rights Worldwide: A Reference Handbook
5. The Rehnquist Court: Justices, Rulings, and Legacy
6. Revolutionary Movements: From 1750 to the Present
7. Women and War: A Historical Encyclopedia from Antiquity to the Present
8. World Population: A Reference Handbook



Factiva is a new online subscription of particular use for international business and company news. It includes full text news reports from more than 10,000 sources from 159 countries and in 22 different languages. *Factiva* also provides the option to set up an RSS feed to receive regular updates on any of 25 industries. It is available for Kent campus use only; off-campus access requires use of the Kent State proxy server.

THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

The *Chronicle of Higher Education* (<http://chronicle.com/>) is now available online for the entire University community. Funded by Libraries and Media Services, this online subscription provides access to the full text of the *Chronicle* from September 1989 to the present. Access from off-campus requires use of the Kent State proxy server. RSS news feeds are available for daily news, higher education news, wired campus articles, education technology news, and job postings.

Please note that the full-text for the *Chronicle* that is accessible through EBSCOhost is not as complete and that recent articles are embargoed for a one month period.



American Council of Learned Societies

HISTORY E-BOOK PROJECT

The College Art Association (CAA) is joining the American Council of Learned Societies' History E-Book Project (HEB). The collaboration will "explore many of the opportunities and challenges involved in bringing art history scholarship into the digital realm." CAA becomes the ninth ACLS constituent society to join the Project. One of the first releases is John Clarke's *Roman Black and White Figural Mosaics* (<http://historyebook.org>).

The HEB Project includes nearly 1,400 titles selected by scholars in the humanities. Approximately 350 titles are added each year. Each of these is fully searchable. The collection includes both in- and out-of-print titles ranging from 1885 to the present. A complete list can be found at: <http://www.historyebook.org/titlelist.html>.

Changes in KentLINK Display

The display of results from a title search now default to an extended two-line display which includes information on holding campus library and availability. It is no longer necessary to select an individual full record in order to get this key information. The following is an example:

Dinosaurs And Other Prehistoric Life 2006
Kent Campus; QE861.5 .H3695 2006 ; AVAILABLE

Library Updates

SMS is in the classroom too!

Many faculty and students are aware of the Student Multimedia Studio's (SMS) web, multimedia and digital video production lab in the Main Library and the personal, one-on-one support for students available there. But some faculty may not know of the ways in which the staff at the SMS can directly support them in the classroom.

An excellent example of how the SMS can take student support beyond the lab's walls can be seen in the support that it provides for the English department's Writing Initiative program. After recognizing that a significant number of students were having problems completing their multimodal composition assignments, a number of English faculty and SMS staff came together to solve the problem. Arrangements were made for the SMS to create on-line tutorials and present in-class demonstrations or workshops that enabled the students to learn to use the software and equipment, as well as understand the multimedia production process and workflow specific to their assignment.

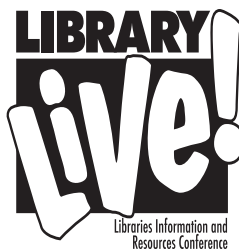
Since the SMS began working with the English faculty as a group, the level of student frustration with their multimodal projects has significantly decreased. The SMS is getting far fewer late night e-mails and phone calls asking for help and the number of students needing extensive help from the ground up has almost disappeared.

If you are a faculty member who is assigning web, multimedia, PowerPoint or digital video/audio presentations you are encouraged to contact the SMS, especially if your students have that "deer caught in the headlights" look when you're giving out an assignment. Better yet, if you're part of a faculty teaching team doing multimodal assignments, give us a call. We'll be more than happy to sit down with the whole group and work with you to make these assignments as easy as possible so you can focus on teaching your subject rather than teaching technology.

For more information contact: Gary Mote, SMS manager, gmote@kent.edu or visit the SMS website at: <http://www.library.kent.edu/sms>.

FACTOID

In October, the Ohio State University Libraries added the 10 millionth unique title to the OhioLINK Library Catalog. For Kent State users, this provides almost six times the number of unique titles over what is available locally. The students, faculty, and staff from OhioLINK's 86 participating libraries now have access to a total of 45.5 million copies of books and other materials.



Libraries Information and Resources Conference

Save the date! Mark your calendars! Plan to attend Library Live! - the Information and Resources Conference sponsored by Libraries and Media Services on Friday, February 16.

Discover resources and tools that will support your research and teaching. Engage in hands-on sessions that will let you become more comfortable with electronic resources. Learn about electronic books and databases, alerting services, audio reserves, "do-it-yourself video", and survey tools. Get the library spin on Wikipedia and Google. Hear from library faculty who work directly with your students at the reference desk and find out how students really approach research!

Where: KSU Main Library

Time: 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

What: A series of hands-on workshops and demonstrations.

What else: Refreshments, giveaways, and door prizes.

Who should attend: Faculty and graduate assistants.

Why attend: To find out what you have been missing.

Registration details and program schedule will be announced in January, but for now – save the date and tell your colleagues to do the same.

Statistical Software Update

Kent State University site-licensed copies of the following statistical software packages are now available at a modest charge (\$40) at the Audio Visual Services desk on the third floor of the Library.

- SPSS 14.0 (Base, Regression, Advanced Models)
- SAS 9.1.3
- SPSS for MAC 13.0 (not supported on Intel based hardware)
- SPSS Text Analysis for Surveys
- AMOS
- NVivo 7
- EQS
- LISREL

Questions about these products can be referred to Jan Winchell, Statistical Software Consultant, Libraries & Media Services at winchell@kent.edu or 330-672-8548.

Additional information on statistical software support services, license restrictions, and new software availability can be found at <http://www.library.kent.edu/statsoftware>.

More News



Flashlight Online

Kent State University has a subscription to *Flashlight™ Online*, a Web-based system for creating surveys, gathering responses, and analyzing data. The system was created through the TLT (Teaching, Learning, Technology) Group

(<http://www.tltgroup.org/about/>). All faculty, staff, and students affiliated with Kent State may use *Flashlight Online*.

How It Works

With *Flashlight Online* you can create a customized, Web survey. This can include drawing upon a 500-item bank of questions that are course-related, address teaching and learning, or address demographics. You can also create your own items using blank templates for scaled (3- to 7-response options), radio buttons, check boxes, and open text items. Once created, the system generates a unique URL that you share with your respondents. When the survey period ends, you close the session and receive result data in both a summary and downloadable format.

Other Features

- Capability to copy and paste text from elsewhere (e.g., word processor)
- No HTML or programming skills needed
- HTML customization available (limited)

Limitations

- Items presented vertically, one after the other
- Initial order of items: scaled, radio, check boxes, text
- Reordering of items done one by one
- Maximum 40 items per scaled item “block”
- Maximum 4 “blocks” per scaled set of items
- Maximum 8 response options per radio and check box items
- Raw data downloaded in initial order of items: scaled, radio, check boxes, text

Flashlight Online has been used on campus to query students as well as for external research projects.

If you would like more information about *Flashlight Online* or to request an account, please contact Julie Gedeon, jgedeon@kent.edu, 330-672-1886.



Point of Pride

For this year’s election, staff in Libraries and Media Services registered nearly 300 students to vote and delivered almost 100 absentee ballots to the Board of Elections on their behalf.

Enhancing Interlibrary Loan Service Across 8 Campuses

Faculty, students and staff across the 8-Campus KSU Library system can now use the ILLiad system to place and track interlibrary loan requests and to receive articles electronically. ILLiad is the Libraries’ interlibrary loan management system that tracks delivery preferences and request history, and allows you to check on the status of your request at any time. Articles that can be delivered electronically are posted to your ILLiad account in PDF format with notification sent to you by e-mail.

Kent Campus faculty and graduate assistants may also request articles from Kent-owned journals using InfoExpress, at the rate of \$3 per article. Regional campus faculty and students should use ILLiad to request articles from any journal not available in their home campus library, free of charge. For more information, please see <http://www.library.kent.edu/ill>

Hot Flash: New Efficiency in Placing ILL Requests

Now when using an OhioLINK database, identifying an item of interest, clicking on *Find a Copy*, and finding we cannot supply the article electronically or from our print collection, click on the link to *Interlibrary Loan*. You will be prompted to login to your ILLiad account and then--as if by magic--the interlibrary form will be automatically filled in with all the bibliographic data.



Obtaining Copyright Permissions from Student Authors

Students own the copyright for materials they produce for their courses. These materials can include term papers, poetry, fiction, Web sites, multimedia, choreography, or musical works, as well as theses and dissertations.

Faculty who would like to use a student author’s work for course reserve or in a course pack may do so the first semester under the “Fair Use” doctrine of the U.S. Copyright Law. Subsequent use requires permission from the student author. Likewise, faculty who would like to use a significant portion (beyond “Fair Use”) of a student’s work as part of a publication or other project should also obtain permission.

The Libraries provide permission forms for these purposes at <http://www.library.kent.edu/studentcopyright>.

Please contact Fran Burkert in Copyright Clearance Services at 330-672-1843 for more information.



A Note from the Dean Mark Weber, Dean of Libraries and Media Services mwweber@kent.edu

Some Thoughts on the Academic Novel

“Our most important task at the present moment is to build castles in the air.”
- Lewis Mumford, *The Story of Utopias*

I.

Several years ago, I began reading or, in some cases, rereading novels of 19th Century utopian experiments. Some of these experiments might include New Harmony, a secular community started in Indiana in 1825 by Robert Dale Owen; and the Oneida Community started by John Humphrey Noyes in 1841. Noyes started the community in Putney, Vermont, and then moved it to Oneida, New York. The group practiced a kind of religious communism mixed with science and spiritualism. A third effort was the anarchist community in Stelton, New Jersey. Paul Avrich's *The Modern School Movement* describes the innovative education that the community provided. Isadora Duncan was a graduate of the Modern School of the Stelton community. The community lasted until the 1950's when the pressures of McCarthyism and the building of a nearby military base forced the closing of the school and the community. Utopianism has spawned a number of novels such as *Looking Backward* by Edward Bellamy, *News From Nowhere* by William Morris, *The Oasis* by Mary McCarthy, and *Blithedale Romance* by Nathaniel Hawthorne. Well, what does all of this have to do with the academic novel?

II.

Well, when I began reading what we now call “academic novels,” they almost always seemed to be set in a cloistered small college town that stood apart from the more material concerns and enterprises of nearby cities. The environment in the academic enclaves within these small towns seemed, superficially at least, to be suffused with some higher purpose and with much more transcendent values. Some of these settings have a kind of utopian quality to them: small liberal arts college, small town, and faculty characters primarily in the liberal arts. These might be historians, faculty who teach literature, or writers-in-residence. In his entertaining essay, “Pictures of the Professoriate,” Mark Falcoff offers the following observation: “The academic novel is a strictly Anglo-American invention, probably because only in Britain and the United States do professors live in closed communities as asphyxiating as company towns.”¹ Falcoff goes on to counter pose what he sees as university life in other countries: “In Western Europe, Canada, and Latin America, universities are largely metropolitan affairs, and their faculty live alongside salesmen, doctors, plumbers, and other ordinary folk. They do not see their colleagues except during working hours. In contrast, many American colleges and universities are removed as far as possible from urban life; the result is a kind of hot-house atmosphere that provides abundant opportunities for unreality, intrigue, and conflict.”² One might feel

that a discussion of academic fiction is ephemeral to the issues that really cut ice in higher education. However, I disagree. Academic fiction is an indication of how writers (some of them faculty themselves) view university life and its official and unofficial folkways and mores. For example, two recent novels have attacked what the authors view as suffocating political correctness on campus. These novels are *Blue Angel* by Francine Prose (2000) and *Human Stain* by Philip Roth (2000). From an earlier era (1952), Mary McCarthy's *The Groves of Academe* offers an entertaining, but somewhat improbable tale, of a faculty member who is justifiably denied tenure. However, the ever-resourceful scholar outwits the administration by making himself a cause celebre due to his contention that he was terminated for being a Communist. It is interesting that McCarthy has written both a utopian novel and an academic novel. My personal favorite academic story is *A New Life* by Bernard Malamud. Here we have a Jewish scholar, born and bred in New York, who journeys west to take a position in an agricultural and technical college. The ensuing culture shock sets off a series of misadventures that one often associates with academic life.

III.

As one might expect, a librarian has provided one of the most useful overviews of the entire academic fiction scene. Mark Allan, Head of the Reference Department in the Angelo State University Library has compiled “Academic Novels: Selected Bibliography.”³ Allan lists two academic studies of academic fiction. These books are Kenneth Womack's 2002 study, *Postwar Academic Fiction: Satire, Ethics, Community* (Palgrave); and David Bevan's *University Fiction* (Rodopi, 1990). He then lists about forty academic novels. His list is a good one but he fails to list Randall Jarrell's 1954 “classic” *Pictures from an Institution*. So we conclude by admitting that we are tracing the evolution of a literary art-form. We saw the rise of the utopian novel in the 19th century, the academic novel in the 20th, and now . . . the academic LIBRARY novel in the 21st century. This new genre will feature a heroic library director fighting for more money for collections, struggling with censors, and tirelessly searching for that big donor who will solve the library's financial woes. Watch for this new sub-species of fiction . . . these novels will spotlight the new mandarins of academic power: your friendly, but introverted librarian.

¹ Mark Falcoff. “Pictures of the Professoriate,” *American Enterprise* (July-August, 2006) page 30.

² *Ibid.*

³ http://www.angelo.edu/services/library/librarians/mallan/academic_novels.htm

FRIENDS'

CORNER

From the Past...

The following quote from Malcolm Wyer, Librarian Emeritus of the Denver Public Library and founder of the University of Denver School of Librarianship, appeared in a KSU Library newsletter in January 1966:

By all means, libraries should accept and utilize all inventions and mechanics that increase efficiency of library operation. But they should remember that these are not the library but the framework for the real library, which is today, as always, the collections of books with staff members who know books, who like people, and who are given definite time for the function of bringing books and people together.

We would change a few words today, but the sentiment remains very much the same.

Photocopying circa 1960



Smithsonian Center for Education and Museum Studies
<http://www.smithsonianeducation.org/>

Now to take a look at how far we have come with copiers. In 1966, the Library ordered two of the new Xerox 914 machines. This model received acclaim for not using wet chemicals or expensive coated papers and for not requiring exposure adjustments. Regrettably, it did tend to scorch the paper. Presently, LMS has 22 publicly-deployed photocopiers, including two color copiers, that produced over 59,000 copies last year.


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Libraries and Media Services

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