Dean Mark Weber Retiring

Mark Weber will retire on June 30 as only the fifth head of the Libraries at Kent State. His tenure as Dean extended from 2001 to 2010. During that time he oversaw a period of significant growth in digital collections and the electronic delivery of services. Recognizing the need for library facilities to meet changing needs for student learning, he supported both renovation and collaboration with other campus units to partner within the library. He was an advocate for the library’s role in developing information literate students, and during his tenure the Libraries’ first for-credit course was offered.

Mark has been a tireless voice for civil liberties and civic responsibility, intellectual and academic freedom, and the importance of a core liberal arts curriculum. We are aware that his recurring column in Footnotes is a regular read for many. The faculty and staff of University Libraries thank Mark for his many contributions and wish him a long and satisfying retirement.

Roger Baldwin Honors College Scholarship for Civic Literacy

This scholarship acknowledges the service of Mark Weber as Dean of University Libraries (2001-2010). It is named for Roger Baldwin (1894-1981), one of the founders of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU). Mark is a long-time member of the Cleveland ACLU and a member of its Board.

Contributions to this fund will assist students in the Honors College who have chosen to write an honors thesis on American history or government as the capstone academic project of their Kent State experience.

Checks should be made out to the KSU Foundation and sent to Christine Isenberg, Director of Advancement, 131 Moulton Hall, Kent State University. (For more information, contact Christine at 330-672-2767; cisember@kent.edu).

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Plans for Summer Renovation

Beginning May 17, 2010, exciting changes will take shape on the first floor of the Main Library. Since the building was built in 1970, the first floor has utilized the original circulation desk and entry area with minimal upgrades to data, power, HVAC, and lighting. To address the needs of ever-changing technology and energy efficiency, the project will update 9,300 gross square feet—including the circulation desk, main entry space, and main traffic areas.

The renovated area will be provided with new finishes, furnishings, lighting, mechanical, plumbing, fire protection, and security systems that affect thousands of students and faculty utilizing the building daily. A new canopy and extended vestibule will provide a welcoming point of entry to an existing camouflaged front door. The new design will also meet the University’s sustainability goals and coincide with the Risman Plaza Renovation currently under construction continuing throughout the summer. Work is scheduled to be completed before the Fall semester.
Hindawi Open Access Support

University Libraries has started an annual institutional membership with Hindawi Publishing Corporation (http://www.hindawi.com/), publisher of 200+ Open Access journals in science, technology and medicine. See their complete title list here: http://www.hindawi.com/journals/.

Open access journals like those at Biomed Central and Hindawi are typically free to the reader, but are financed by individual article processing charges per published article which must be paid by the scholar or her/his institution. This institutional membership paid for by University Libraries will relieve the individual, the department, or the college from having to pay the article processing charges for each published article contributed by Kent State scholars.

This page http://www.hindawi.com/institutions/kent.edu/ shows current publishing, editorial, and review work by Kent State scholars in and for Hindawi journals. We hope that this membership removes the article cost barrier and encourages even more Kent State scholars to publish their work in open access journals.

MEDLINE Extends its Reach Back to 1947

MEDLINE/PubMed is the premier tool for accessing the biomedical literature. Even though there is great reliance on the current literature within medicine, events have shown that access to the older material can be of great importance as well. So the news that coverage has been extended back to 1947 has been well received.

“Some contemporary medical questions can only be answered by consulting the older literature,” observed NLM Director Dr. Donald A.B. Lindberg. “NLM is working to make the journal citations in older printed indexes electronically searchable, and our goal is to go back at least as far as World War II.” With the addition of the 1947 citations, the MEDLINE/PubMed subset now contains over 20 million citations produced during 63 years of indexing of the biomedical literature.

Users are reminded that accessing PubMed through the Libraries’ link (http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed?holding=ohiolinklib_fft.ndik&tool=ohiolink) will provide you with direct links to online journals available through OhioLINK and KSU.

Copyright FACTOID

For Spring 2010, the Libraries’ Reserve Services obtained copyright permission for nearly 1,900 items needed in 147 different courses. This included book chapters, journal articles, videos, and Web links. Other items were placed on reserve for the semester under the Fair Use provision of copyright law.
The Student Multimedia Studio’s 5 Tips for Sharing PowerPoint (PPT) Presentations with Multimedia

The single most troublesome problem that occurs with PowerPoint (PPT) presentations that include multimedia components is that they aren’t distributed easily.

1. Options for Distributing / Sharing Multimedia PPT Presentations:
   - Use PPT Package for CD feature.
   - Convert the PPT to a video using Debut Screen Capture software.
   - Use the free Author Share plug-in for PPT to upload the PPT to the Author Share website.
   - Use the free iSpring Free plug-in for PPT to convert the PPT into a Flash Video or even a webpage with the PPT embedded on the page.

   Tutorials and links for the above are on the SMS’ Tutorials website at: http://www.library.kent.edu/sms
tutorials
   Click on the PPT Tutorials link.

2. Try using KSU Drop Box and KSU Tube for Distribution and Sharing
   These sites allow students to upload & download large multimedia, video and other types of files easily. You might want to tell students what to name their files, like using their last name AND the name of their project so they can be found. Links and instructions for using KSU Drop Box and KSU Tube for faculty and students are located at the bottom of the SMS’ Tutorials page at: http://www.library.kent.edu/sms
tutorials

3. Google Sites and Docs
   Google Sites and Docs are also good choices for sharing PPT presentations or videos created from PPT presentations. It’s easy and there are Google Site and Google Docs Tutorials on the SMS’ website at: http://www.library.kent.edu/smsweb

4. Don’t use PPT for creating e-Portfolios that you want to put on the web. You can save a PPT as a website but more often than not it won’t work correctly when it includes multimedia components like video, audio or linked files.

5. Consider other options if you really need a video for posting on a website.
   If the end result is a video then you should just consider using software specifically made to create videos. Some options include Microsoft’s PhotoStory, Windows Movie Maker (PC) or i-Movie (MAC). The tutorials for these options are available on the SMS’ Video Production Tutorials page at: http://www.library.kent.edu/page/13683

For more information about the SMS or help deciding which PPT option to use, contact Gary Mote, SMS Manager, at: gmote@kent.edu or visit the SMS website at: http://www.library.kent.edu/sms

Watch for more “5 Tips” articles next year or send your suggestions for articles to the SMS manager.

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New Service in the Writing Commons

The Writing Commons is piloting online chat sessions that allow students to work on their papers with Writing Commons tutors remotely from their own home or dorm room. An added advantage over the Online Writing Lab (OWL) appointments is that it offers students a real-time conversation with a tutor. This is a more personable experience and provides a chance for the student to ask more questions and receive more focused feedback.

Once this pilot has been reviewed, students will be able to sign up for these chat appointments. Students will be asked to upload and share their drafts through Google Docs and to begin their chat sessions by inviting and sending messages to the Writing Commons email, writing@kent.edu. Then students will have an online chat session similar to a face-to-face session.

This program will provide support to students in distance learning courses and to those who frequently have scheduling conflicts that make attending a face-to-face session difficult.

Summer session tutoring will be available June 21 - July 29. The hours are Monday through Wednesday, 11 am to 4 pm, and Thursday, noon to 3 pm.

Library Services for Faculty

Just a reminder that information specific to faculty instruction, research, and services is available at: http://www.library.kent.edu/faculty.
Updates

Plagiarism Education: New Study Finds Value
A recent study by Dee and Jacob (2010) found that students who completed a brief tutorial on plagiarism were less likely to plagiarize. The study looked at a large cohort of students at an unnamed institution of higher education. About half the students completed a brief module about academic integrity and plagiarism, while the others received no special instruction on plagiarism. The study found that students who received plagiarism education, especially those with low SAT scores, plagiarized at a lower rate than the control group. The researchers used Turnitin software and other methods to detect plagiarism. At the conclusion of the study, all participants completed a questionnaire about plagiarism, and those who viewed the plagiarism module scored higher and reported higher confidence in their knowledge of plagiarism.

The web tutorial used in the study defined plagiarism, showed examples of correct and incorrect ways to use sources in student writing, and shared strategies for avoiding plagiarism. After completing the module, students were asked to complete a short quiz that reinforced the content of the tutorial.

For the last few years, University Libraries has offered a similar plagiarism tutorial called Avoiding Plagiarism (available at: http://www.library.kent.edu/skill_modules). A short quiz is also available that can be dropped into Vista course sections as an assignment for students. In addition to this module the library has a plagiarism resource page (www.library.kent.edu/plagiarism) which links to resources for students and faculty. To assign our plagiarism module to your students or to talk about other options for plagiarism education, contact your Subject Librarian or Ken Burhanna, Head of Instructional Services, kburhann@kent.edu.

To view the study described in this article, follow the URL at the end of this citation:

Notes from the Dean, continued from p. 5
or drastically reduced the chances that freshmen will have a common body of knowledge to learn and to debate. Now the “diversity model” tells us that all political or religious questions are merely complementary and thus simply expressions of different perspectives. How can this be? Surely, some issues are not complementary, but are instead contradictory. As the university, to justify itself to business leaders and politicians, emphasizes that its goal is now vocational, it forfeits another more important goal--to turn out literate young people who can function effectively as citizens in a democracy. This latter goal involves critical thinking, writing, knowledge of the American civil tradition, and the conversational arts (including debate). This is not possible in an academic environment which embraces the soft tyranny that comes from defining genuine differences of opinion out of existence. Diversity and identity politics have replaced a fine liberal tradition of fighting for the underclass. Where is Gene Debs when we really need him?

This is my last “Note from the Dean” in Footnotes. Perhaps there are one or two readers who couldn’t eat lunch until they had read the latest “Notes from the Dean.” There are likely many more who could not eat lunch after they had read it.

Kent State, May 4th, and Student Protest in America
This film by producer, writer, and director Daniel Miller debuted at this year’s Cleveland International Film Festival. It chronicles the decade of events that led up to the May 4th shootings and provides first-hand accounts from students who were at Kent State at that time. The issues of poverty, racism, and war are presented as being interconnected.

The Libraries’ Special Collections department provided extended, complex, and deep research support to the film-maker for over a decade. This work is prominently acknowledged in the film’s credits.

“Fire in the Heartland” will be shown on campus on Saturday, May 1, at 7:30 pm in the Kiva. The showing will be free and open to the public.

Summer Relocation for Reserves Office
Due to construction on the 1st floor over summer, the Reserves Office will be temporarily relocated to the 2nd floor next to the Interlibrary Loan Office.
I. In 1971, I discarded my television and I didn’t get another one for twelve years. One of the television events I missed was the program “Night Gallery.” One of my favorite episodes of “Night Gallery” was “When the Messiah Came to Mott Street,” written by Gene R. Kearney and Rod Serling. It was based, in part, on the short story, “The Painted Mirror,” by Donald Wandrei. The television episode starred Zsa Zsa Gabor and Edward G. Robinson. Mott Street is on New York’s Lower East Side, which was the point of arrival and home to the Robinson. The television episode starred Zsa Zsa Gabor and Edward G. Robinson. Mott Street is on New York’s Lower East Side, which was the point of arrival and home to the first generation Jewish Immigrants from the Pale of Settlement and other parts of Eastern Europe. So, would The Messiah come to Mott Street?

Yehuda Glick is a 44 year-old activist in Jerusalem who is raising money for the building of a third temple which will happen with the coming of The Messiah in Jerusalem. You will, of course remember that the first temple was destroyed in about 586 BCE, and the second temple was destroyed in 70 CE. Well, with all due respect to the fans of “Night Gallery” and to Mr. Glick and the many hopefuls like him, I would like to speculate what might happen if The Messiah took a pass on both Mott Street and Jerusalem and instead chose to make an initial appearance at Harvard University in general and a meeting of the Harvard University Diversity and Inclusion Committee (HUDIC) in particular. First, we must admit that The Messiah would not come in robe and sandals. Instead, he would sport a vaguely tweedy look with a jacket from Harrod’s, loafers from Allen Edmonds, and a sleek shoulder bag from, say, Orvis. All in all, this is a very nice look. The appearance of The Messiah before HUDIC took the committee and its chair, famed eco/anarcho-feminist Connie Sciousness by complete surprise. “Well, what’s on your collective minds,” boomed The Messiah, who had recently brushed up on his group presentation skills. Distinguished Professor Sciousness replied in a shaky voice: “Well, we’ve all been granted ‘load lifts’ from our pesky teaching assignments in order to issue a report on just how America is a deeply racist society. Here….um….I think I have an extra copy for you.” “Save it! Don’t you have a one-page executive summary? Power Point perhaps? Just give me a short summary! I’ve got to get to a meeting with The Boss! Good Bye!” The Messiah then stalks the back of the room. “Excuse me sir….um….this is a closed meeting. What is your department and your discipline?” The elderly man sits up, yawns and says: “My what? Name’s Debs. Eugene Victor Debs. The Messiah has just kicked me out of heaven for drinking, swearing, and for trying to organize a union!” The Distinguished Professor Sciousness is almost (but not quite) at a loss for words: “Debs….um…the socialist?” “The old man laughs: “So, you’ve heard of me! Well, just what are you folks trying to do?” Professor Sciousness tells Debs of the visit to the committee by The Messiah and that now African Americans are now represented among the richest and the poorest sectors of American society exactly according to their percentage of the population as a whole. “Isn’t this wonderful!” chirps the professor. Debs is unable to contain his rage: “You thanked the Messiah for this! Our country is no more just now than it was before! He has simply changed the skin color of many of America’s poor and of some of its wealthy. The same economic divisions and disparities of wealth still exist. The divisions between the top and bottom remain.” Hurt by the insensitivity of this elderly radical, Professor Sciousness summons campus police and has the ragged socialist ejected. After all, she reasons to herself, it’s not like he was a member of the Harvard faculty. He doesn’t seem to understand the basics of civil discourse. Two weeks later, as the HUDIC hold a celebratory reception announcing the end of the committee (its work is done), The Messiah drops by for fruit juice and the vegan buffet.

Spotting Professor Sciousness, The Messiah calls out: “Say! I heard you had a visit from that rabble rouser Debs. I hope you ignored his crazy ideas!” “Well,” says Professor Sciousness and several other HUDIC members, “He did have a point. We’ve dealt with skin color and identity but not with actual economic inequality.” His face darkening with anger, The Messiah yells: “Just what I figured from the beginning, you’re all a bunch of socialists like him! Changing the basic class structure of America will never fly with The Boss! Good Bye!” The Messiah then stalks out never to return.

II. This, then, is the central fallacy of what passes for “liberalism” in America and on most college campuses. Obsessed with questions of identity: race, gender, sexual preference, etc., the academic left abandons the issue of inequality. Fixing identity issues is easier since it poses no economic threat to the status quo. Therefore, corporations join in and “diversity training” has become a growth industry not only on campus but also in the boardrooms. When I worked at the University of Cincinnati in the 1980’s, a diversity trainer informed a group of faculty and administrators that the “diversity model” also extended to politics and religion! Here is the gist of this soothing view: all thoughts are of equal value. No thought or opinion is any better or any worse than any other. Genuine political or religious differences are turned into merely differences in perspective! In the name of “tolerance,” we deliver yet another blow to the values of reasoned debate and rational discussion. Such discourse, which should be an important part of an undergraduate’s education, gently starved. However, universities, with a smorgasbord approach to serious liberal arts education have eliminated
May 4: 40th Anniversary Events

University Libraries is offering the following events in commemoration of May 4.

May 4 Exhibition in Special Collections and Archives

“40 Years of the May 4 Collection,” featured in the 12th floor Special Collections and Archives reading room, traces the development of the May 4 Collection through posters, artifacts, photographs, publications, and narrative. The exhibit is open to the public Monday-Friday 1:00-5:00 pm or by appointment (call 330-672-1639). The exhibit runs from February 24, 2010 through September 1, 2010.


University Libraries will sponsor an address by Todd Gitlin, author of numerous books, including “The Sixties: Years of Hope, Days of Rage.” As an activist with Students for a Democratic Society, he helped organize the first national demonstration against the Vietnam War. Gitlin is currently a professor of journalism and sociology and chair of the PhD program in Communications at Columbia University.

WHEN: Thursday, May 6, 4 pm
WHERE: Read Special Collections Classroom, 1018 Library

This event is free and open to the public.

Special Collections and Archives: May 4 Collection
http://www.library.kent.edu/may4

University Libraries administers the largest collection of archival materials related to the Kent State shootings and their aftermath. The department also continues to conduct an oral history program that records and provides access to oral history accounts pertaining to this historical event.

The following sites provide additional information about commemoration activities.

40th May 4 Commemoration Site
http://www.kent.edu/about/may4commemoration

This site includes a detailed list of events and links to additional resources.

May 4 Task Force
http://www.m4tf.org/

The Task Force, a student organization, has coordinated the traditional annual commemorative events since 1971. This site offers links to events information, including the planned National Student Activism Conference that will take place at KSU, May 1-2, 2010.

May 4 Online Newsroom
http://may4newsroom.kent.edu/

This site, created by Kent State University Communications and Marketing provides links to numerous information resources, press releases, and other news items related to the 40th Anniversary.