

CITATIONS



The Newsletter of the New Mexico State University Library

Vol. 13, No. 2 April 1998

Researchers at Work: An Interview With Dr. Larry Mays

by Mark Allan, Assistant Professor
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Dr. Larry Mays, a Criminal Justice professor who has been a faculty member at NMSU since 1981, was recently awarded the prestigious Carnegie Foundation Award for the Advancement of Teaching. Mays believes that research, and a strong library in which to undertake it, are essential to his academic career. He states that he has spent his career in trying to "disprove the adage that you can't be both an excellent teacher and researcher." Although the feedback derived from teaching is more immediate, Mays is equally enthusiastic about research and writing.

Mays finds that research allows him to bring new findings in his academic area to the classroom on an almost immediate basis. He is also able to offer Selected Topics courses every three to four semesters on his research topics, jails and juvenile justice. Interlibrary Loan is a particularly valuable tool for him. Despite the tight Library budget, he is able to receive timely information from expensive journals otherwise inaccessible.

Mays has some words of advice to faculty, administrators, and students on research and libraries. He points out that a strong library is indispensable. It is not enough to have the best library in Doña Ana County. "A first class library is essential for a first class university." Students need to know that "libraries are so much more than books." The NMSU Library makes available hundreds of thousands of government publications that are invaluable for research. Finally, Mays urges students to get in the habit of using the Library early, and using it often.



Budget Crisis Averted

by Charles T. Townley, Professor
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The Regents have approved a new budget for the University Library, which includes \$500,000 extra to maintain acquisitions and hours at current levels. Funds will come from student tuition (\$200,000) and from University funds (\$300,000). The tuition funds are a permanent addition, and University funds are a temporary addition to the budget.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the University community and administration for outstanding Library support this year. I look forward to working with all of you as we seek a long-term resolution to meeting scholarly information needs at NMSU. Work on this effort will begin immediately, and will include all elements of the University.

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Border Regional Library Association Launches Web Page

by Edward Erazo, Assistant Professor
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The Border Regional Library Association has launched its web page on the NMSU Library server. BRLA serves more than 100 librarians in Southern New Mexico, West Texas and Northern Chihuahua. What makes the web page unique is its monthly web column, "Border Bookshelf," with annotations of new books about our Southwest region by editor Mary Sarber, who is well known for her book reviews in the *El Paso Herald Post* and the *El Paso Times*. Here is the editor's description of the "Border Bookshelf" from the BRLA Web Page, URL: <http://lib.nmsu.edu/brla>:

"Welcome to the Border Bookshelf sponsored by the Border Regional Library Association. Emphasis will be on books about Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and northern Mexico, with particular attention to the El Paso-Las Cruces area. Books by authors living in the El Paso-Las Cruces area, regardless of geographic orientation, also will be included, as will other works of special interest to readers in this area. The listing will be changed on

approximately the 1st of each month. Review copies from publishers and authors are more than welcome, and can be sent to Mary A. Sarber, 1024 Oneida Drive, El Paso, TX 79912. Input from any source about books which might be listed is also solicited, either to the above address or by email to sarbm@aol.com. Please supply complete ordering information whenever possible, including ISBN. Annotations are also welcome, and when used will be credited to the originator. Books listed but not viewed by the compiler will be so noted. Any opinions expressed in the annotations are those of the compiler or annotator, not of BRLA."

Additionally, the BRLA Web Page has all the expected links for general membership information and specific executive board information, as well as area libraries and library associations. The webmasters are Anne Moore, Head Librarian at the NMSU - Alamogordo Campus, and Ed Erazo, Education Librarian at the NMSU Main Campus. The BRLA Web Page will be linked nationally and will make known the work of librarians and regional authors from the greater Southwest to the world via the Internet. These are indeed exciting times for the profession.

BRLA 1997 Southwest Book Awards



Amphibians and Reptiles of New Mexico
by William G. Gegenhardt, Charles W. Painter, and Andrew H. Price. Univ. of New Mexico Press, 1996. ISBN 0-8263-1695-6

Chihuahua: Pictures From the Edge, photographs by Virgil Hancock, essay by Charles Bowden. Univ. of New Mexico Press, 1996. ISBN 908263-1739-1

Colors on Desert Walls: The Murals of El Paso, text by Miguel Juarez, photographs by Cynthia Weber Farah. Texas Western Press, 1997. ISBN 0-87404-236-4

House of Houses by Pat Mora Beacon Press, 1997. ISBN 0-8070-7200-1
John Wesley Hardin, Dark Angel of Texas by Leon C. Metz. Mangan Books, 1996. ISBN 0-9302-0835-8

The Matachines Dance by Sylvia Rodriguez. Univ. of New Mexico Press, 1996. ISBN 0-8263-1677-8

Quest for the Pillar of Gold: The Mines and Miners of the Grand Canyon by George H. Billingsley, Earle E. Spamer, and Dove Menkes. Grand Canyon Association, 1997. ISBN 0-9382-1656-2

Separations by Oakley Hall. University of Nevada Press, 1997. ISBN 0-8741-7292-6

Spirit Ascendant: The Art and Life of Patrocino Barela by Edward Gonzales and David L. Witt. Red Crane Books, 1996. ISBN 1-8786-1046-5

Voices, Circles, Echoes by George B. Drennan. Printing Corner Press, 1996. ISBN 0-9651-1590-9

Where There is No Name for Art: The Art of Tewa Pueblo Children by Bruce Hucko. School of American Research Press, 1996. ISBN 0-9334-5244-6

A special award was also presented to Judith van Gieson for her series of detective novels featuring Albuquerque lawyer Neil Hamel.



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(left to right)
Barbara Ford,
ALA Pres.;
Eleanor Beddo,
BRLA Librarian
of the Year and
Librarian at Valley
Community Library
(Anthony, N.M.);
and Jesus Lau,
UACJ, at a recent
BRLA meeting.



Southwest Book Awards Bibliography Published

Mary Sarber and Wayne Daniel have just completed *Southwest Book Awards: The First Twenty-Five Years* (El Paso, TX: Border Regional Library Association, 1998), an annotated bibliography of the Southwest Book Award winners from 1970-71 through 1994-95, all 224 of them. The index of titles, authors and genres makes finding past winners easy. Sarber and Daniel, who both recently retired from the El Paso Public Library, have been the driving force behind the Southwest Book Awards presented annually at the BRLA Awards Spring Banquet. This year the 27th Annual BRLA Southwest Book Awards were held.

The New Bibliographic Services Department

by Gwen Gregory, Assistant Professor, Bibliographic Services
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In October 1997, the NMSU Library began a restructuring in order to better meet the goals of our strategic plan. Part of the result was the creation of the new Bibliographic Services Department. We are made up of parts of the old Technical Services Department, with one new staff member added. The mission of our department is to provide high quality catalog records and physical processing of library materials, and to maintain OLE, the Library's online catalog. We add records to OLE for all new items in the Library. We also update OLE to reflect which volumes and issues of serials we own. We constantly monitor OLE for mistakes and inaccuracies, and work with other library staff to improve access to library materials.

The Bibliographic Services Department contains two units. They are General Cataloging, headed by Assistant Professor Laura Chen, and Serials/Special Projects, headed by Associate Professor Bonnie Wetzel. The General Cataloging Unit catalogs new monographic materials received by the Library. They also handle location changes and withdrawals. The Serials/Special Projects Unit catalogs all serial items. They work with OLE as well as our Innopac computer system. Some functions in the department are supervised directly by the department head, Assistant Professor Gwen Gregory. These include authority control, book processing and labeling, and government documents cataloging. Staff in all areas participate in our retrospective conversion project, in which we add records for older library materials to OLE. In addition, we have formed department-wide work groups, which allow staff from different areas to meet and discuss aspects of their work. These work groups are: Copy Cataloging, Retrospective Conversion, Quality Control, and Original Cataloging.

Our new department looks forward to working closely with other library staff members to improve library services. We have many new projects underway. Several department staff members have recently begun working at the New Library reference desk, and find it to be an enriching experience. Since we have taken over responsibility for U.S. government documents cataloging, we hope to explore this special area, and provide cataloging for more of our federal documents collection. We are also working to provide better access to our electronic journals by adding records for electronic journals to OLE. When you look up a title in OLE, it will also tell you where a journal is available on the web.

Life, Literature, and Libraries in Northern Ireland

by Karen Stabler, Professor
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Twelve librarians and one archivist from the United States were selected by the British Council for a ten day study/tour of libraries in Northern Ireland. The British Council is an organization that promotes educational, cultural, and technical cooperation between Britain and other countries. The librarians visited public, special, and academic libraries in five of the six counties of Northern Ireland. Besides focusing on libraries, the program was carefully designed to give us a background on the history of Northern Ireland's political troubles. We also visited several historic places, and took a mini-literary tour.

Our itinerary included visiting the following sixteen libraries: the Queens University of Belfast; Queens University at Armagh; University at Ulster at Magee; University at Ulster at Coleraine; St Mary's College Library; the Linen Hall Library, a subscription library; Belfast Central Library; Armagh Public Library; the Derry Public Library; the Western Education and Library Board Library Headquarters in Omagh; and special libraries including the Library at the Ulster American Folk Park, the Public Records Office, the Ulster Folk and Transport Museum Archives, Armagh Observatory Library, the Library at the Springhill National Trust, and the Seamus Heaney Archives.

The U.S. delegation received a general overview of the libraries from the directors of each institution, and then met with all the librarians over tea, coffee, and scones. This gave each participant an opportunity to meet and discuss issues with their counterparts. We were also able to discuss potential joint projects. Libraries in both countries face similar problems in declining budgets and increased costs for collections and automation, with the high cost of serials as the most

talked about issue. Like here, the challenge is how to do more with less. The most dramatic situation is at Queens University, where their student body increased 50 percent and they received less government support when the conservative government came into power.

Because of the political situation in Northern Ireland, the local history and Irish collections are highly used, interesting, and well preserved. The Linen Hall Library has been collecting materials on the "Troubles" since the late 1960's. Their collection is the most extensive and is used by the different factions as their archives. The collection is sometimes described as "containing something to offend everyone." In collaboration with the Linen Hall Library, several other libraries are cooperating to digitize materials on the "Troubles." This project, known as the Cain Project, can be found at the following address: <http://cain.ulst.ac.uk>. The Cain Project also serves as the gateway to other resources on the ethnic conflict including INCORE (INitiation CONflict Resolution and Ethnicity).

Another interesting digitized project is Eurotext. The address is <http://eurotext.ulst.ac.uk/>. In this project, selected European Union documents are being digitized and made available for teaching purposes. Other areas of interest are the Special Collections located at the Belfast Central Library, the Armagh Public Library, founded in 1771, and the Springhill Trust Fund Library.

The archives of various museums are also of interest. The Transport Museum, for example, contains materials about the ship Titanic, including blueprints, over 60 photographs, and the BBC collection of oral history of the survivors. There were few photographs taken by the shipbuilders, Harland and Wolff, because the staterooms and other areas on the Titanic were identical to those of her sister ship, the Olympic. Thus the company had no need to duplicate photographs of the Titanic. The Public Records Office (<http://proni.nics.gov.uk>) and the



Karen Stabler enjoying the local color of Northern Ireland.

Ulster Folk Museum have excellent collections on genealogy including land, marriage, and shipping records of those who left Ireland for the United States, Canada, Australia, and other countries. It was amazing to see what these librarians have accomplished with their limited resources. When asked how they were able to be so successful, one librarian answered, "Like a duck, calm and serene on the top and paddling like hell underneath."

The trip included a little literary tour. We visited and had lunch at the Institute for Irish Studies, where we met with the fellows of the Institute and received a list of their publications. We visited the archives of Seamus Heaney, the Nobel Laureate poet (1995) at Bellaghy Bawn, and saw the school bag that inspired his poem by that same name. We visited the setting that inspired Jonathan Swift to write *Gulliver's Travels*. We also visited the boyhood home "New House" of C. S. Lewis, the author of *Surprised by Joy: The Shape of My Early Life*. First hand we could feel:

"I am a product of long corridors, empty sunlit rooms, upstairs, indoor silences, attics explored in solitude, distant noises of gurgling cisterns and pipes, and the noise of wind under the tiles. Also, of endless books. My father bought all the books he read and never got rid of any of them. There were books in the study, books in the drawing room, books in the cloakroom, books (two deep) in the great bookcase on the landings in a bedroom, books piled as high as my shoulder in the cistern attic...."

Another interesting event was an evening of storytelling with Billy Teare and Liz Weir. These Irish storytellers have made several trips to the United States, entertaining a variety of audiences. We all had fun listening and participating in such stories as the "Three Bear Rap" and "Chickenlicken."

Of course, all the participants were anxious to learn more about the "Troubles in Northern Ireland." To provide a background, we were given a bibliography of books to read before our trip. David McKittrick, the Ireland Correspondent for the *London Independent*, provided a lecture on the current situation as well as did Jonathan Bardon, a prolific writer on the topic. We toured Belfast where we were fascinated with west Belfast, the home of the Catholic and Protestant working class families. We easily crossed the Peace Line between the loyalists, those who want to remain British citizens and live on the Shankill, and the nationalists, those who want to join with the Republic of Ireland and live on Falls Road. The real attraction for many was the colorful political murals. We also saw Stormont, the Parliament buildings until 1972 when Parliament was dissolved. Some of the peace talks are taking place there now.

We also toured the city of Derry which was equally fascinating. The wall surrounding the city, built in the early 1600's, is the only complete surviving wall around a city in Britain and Ireland. From the wall one can view the Bogside, the Catholic area and two Protestant areas: one on the east bank of the Foyle and the other on the west side called the Fountain. It was at Free Derry Corner in the Bogside where Bloody Sunday took place 26 years ago. At a rally of the Northern Ireland Civil Rights Association March on January 30, 1972, some people threw rocks at the British soldiers. The soldiers shot and killed 13 men and injured 14 people in 30 minutes.

The participants were able to visit five of the six counties of Northern Ireland. On the Northern Causeway, we stopped at the Giant's Causeway and hiked around the more than 40,000 natural stone symmetrical columns, sometimes known as the eighth wonder of the world. We visited the country estate at Springhill National Trust, and had lunch at Ballyscullion, the home of Richard and Rosalind Mulholland, which was used by the Americans during World War II.

It was a wonderful opportunity for the thirteen U.S. participants who were provided with an insight into the life, literature, and libraries of Northern Ireland. Even though the press often paints a dark picture of life in Northern Ireland, the participants quickly learned that life goes on as usual and even thrives in these six troubled counties. Like Belfast's Albert Clock Tower, Northern Ireland has many faces. Many of us yearn for the time when we can go back and visit the area again.

How do you like *Citations*, the newsletter of the NMSU Library? What parts do you read? What do you enjoy? What suggestions do you have for improvement? Please direct your comments to Jeanette C. Smith at the address on the back of this newsletter or email jcsmith@lib.nmsu.edu.

NMSU Library Music Collections On the Web

by Gary W. Mayhood
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Are you interested in music resources in the NMSU Library? If you have access to the World Wide Web, just click on to the Library's web site at the URL: <http://lib.nmsu.edu>, then on to Services, then Services, Resources, and Collections, scroll down to Library Collections, and click on Music, or enter the URL: <http://lib.nmsu.edu/subject/music/musi/html>, and you will be at the *Carl Maria von Web site: Music Resources at the NMSU Library*.

Named in honor of the great pioneer composer of the early romantic movement in German music, our web site offers a number of bibliographies listing some of the unique resources in the Library's music collections. We also offer news concerning the Library's music collection and links to other music sites on the web.

There are six bibliographies connected to the site. These bibliographies all list works held in the Library: *Complete Works Editions Listed by Composer* is an alphabetical listing by composer of all of the complete works and partial works editions of scores found in the LC classification numbers M3 and M3.1. *Collected Sets of Music Scores* is a listing by LC classification number of all of the music sets found in M2 and M2.3 dealing with particular subjects such as the history of the symphony, or music of the French Renaissance. *Reference Sources* is an annotated listing by author of important music resources in the Library's reference collection.

Krakow on the Rio Grande: Music by Polish Composers is a bibliography of the library's collection of music written by Polish composers and representative of Polish music from the Middle Ages to the present day, with emphasis on the music of the twentieth century. This site also has links to various other Polish music sites of interest, including the Polish Music Resource Center at the University of Southern California. *The Cherry Blossom Special: Music by Contemporary Japanese Composers* is an alphabetical listing by composer of the scores published by the Japan Federation of Composers that are in our collection. There are also links to other sites of interest dealing with Japanese music. *Warner Hutchison Works* is a list of works of composer and emeritus NMSU music faculty professor, Warner Hutchison, consisting of published and manuscript copies of his musical compositions.

There is also a page dedicated to links to some meta music sites, through which the world of music on the web is just a click away. We are constantly adding links to interesting music sites of a general nature, such as music education materials and jazz history.

We hope to add the NMSU concert schedule to the web site in the early part of 1998. There you will be able to find a listing of all the upcoming concerts and recitals offered through the NMSU Music Department. If you have suggestions for additions to the site that would be helpful for those interested in the Library's music collections, please send me comments.

Come and explore the world of music at the NMSU Library and let us be your gateway to the wider world of music on the web.



CHECK IT OUT

at the NMSU Library!

Help Us Help Our Users

by Jeanette C. Smith, Professor
Grants/University Relations, jcsmith@lib.nmsu.edu

A great way to help the NMSU Library better serve NMSU's students, faculty, and the community is to become a member of the Library Associates. A gift of \$50 or more qualifies you to become a member of this organization, which is dedicated to ensuring that the Library remains a dynamic information center housing unique collections and state-of-the-art computer systems. We owe a big thank-you to the current loyal members of the Library Associates, and the welcome mat is out for potential new members!

As a member of the Library Associates you will receive invitations to lectures, receptions, and exhibits; a subscription to the Library newsletter; extended borrowing privileges; Library tours and special Library publications. In addition, you will receive membership in one of the following Library Associates Giving Clubs:

Library Dean's Circle	\$1,000+
Library Patrons	\$100 to \$999
Library Contributors	\$50 to \$99

Membership checks to the Library Associates should be made payable to The New Mexico State University Foundation/Library, and directed to Ann Palermo, Director of Annual Giving, NMSU Office of University Development, Box 3590, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88003-3590.

Funding Initiatives

The Library completed its strategic plan in 1997. The goals set forth in this plan, which complement the University's new strategic plan, include acquiring information resources, continuing to develop user-focused products and services, developing instructional programs, and providing the infrastructure for the management of scholarly information to support the University's mission. Major funding needs of the Library to fulfill these goals include:

- Developing the new Borderlands Collection and other unique collections
- Acquiring information resources in all formats to support the University's curricular and research needs
- Providing electronic classroom facilities for the library instruction program
- Installing a state-of-the-art integrated online catalog to enhance capacity and user accessibility
- Developing unique and specialized electronic resources such as digitization projects
- Obtaining a naming gift for the New Library

Planned Gifts

Perhaps you would like to make a major commitment to the Library. Planned gifts can take the form of outright gifts, such as cash or marketable securities, deferred gifts committed during your lifetime, or bequests made through a will. A planned gift can enable you to spread your gift over a period of years. For more information on planned gifts for the Library, please contact Ron Jordan, Assistant Vice President for University Advancement, NMSU Office of University Development, Box 3590, Las Cruces, NM 88003-3590.

Corporate Gift Matching

Gift matching is an important form of corporate support to higher education. More than 1,000 companies will now match employee contributions on at least a dollar-for-dollar basis. Some companies will double or triple match gifts. In addition, corporate matching may be used to qualify for Library Associates. Check with your personnel office for details and the appropriate form for gift matching.

All donations to the NMSU Library are tax deductible within the limit of the law. For more information on any aspect of giving to the Library, contact Charles Townley, Dean of the Library, Dept. 3475, Box 30006, Las Cruces, NM 88003-0006.

New Home for Interlibrary Loan and Document Delivery Service

by Cindy Watkins, Instructor
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On January 1, 1998, the Interlibrary Loan and Pegasus Document Delivery Offices officially relocated to the second floor of Branson Library. By bringing the two services together, we intend to increase the speed of processing requests and progressively cut down on the time it takes to deliver books and articles to you. We have made several changes for your convenience. You are now able to pick up Interlibrary Loan books and articles at the Branson Circulation Desk. The Circulation staff will assist you in checking out your Interlibrary Loan materials all hours the Library is open, including nights and weekends.

A second change is that faculty members may request to have Interlibrary Loan books delivered to departmental offices. To request this service, please reply to the email you receive when your book is available and tell us that you would like the book delivered to your department office. The email address is: ill@lib.nmsu.edu.

FirstSearch ILL/DDS Direct Link

Another new change is ILL/DDS Direct Link, located in most of the FirstSearch Databases. It is now possible for you to send a citation from the FirstSearch Database directly to ILL/DDS without having to type in the citation on our web form or write it out painstakingly on our request forms. The ILL/DDS Direct link automates the request process, reducing the time it takes us to process your order. You initiate the request; we will get the item for you from another library or from a commercial document delivery service.

To get to the FirstSearch Databases choose the **CAFE OLE** option from the University Library Home Page at the URL: <http://lib.nmsu.edu>. On the left side of the screen choose **FIRSTSEARCH** and then click on **CONNECT**.

Select your bibliographic citation from one of the FirstSearch Databases.

From the Search Results List, click on the highlighted title to get to the record.

Before linking to ILL from the Record page, please click on the **LIBRARIES WITH ITEM** button at the top of the record to see if the item is located at the NMSU Library.

If not available at NMSU, click on the **GET/DISPLAY** button at the top of the record.

Click on the **INTERLIBRARY LOAN** button.

Next, click on the **CONTINUE** button (or click the **CANCEL** button to return to the record without ordering.)

An order form is displayed. Please fill it out completely so that we are able to efficiently process your request. Next, choose the **ILL ITEM** button.

An order status screen is displayed. It either advises you of errors or lets you know your order request was sent successfully.

Now you can go back and repeat the process for other citations on your research list.

Did You Know...?

Top 10 Authors in the FirstSearch WorldCat Database

WorldCat contains more than 32 million records describing items owned by the NMSU Library and libraries around the world. It covers thousands of subjects and contains records that date from about 1000 A.D. to the present.

With over 31,000 representations of his works, William Shakespeare leads the list of the top 10 authors in WorldCat. This list is based on those writers whose published works, or manifestations of their works, occur most frequently in WorldCat.

Author	Items
1. Shakespeare, William, 1564-1616	31,187
2. Dickens, Charles, 1812-1870	14,118
3. Goethe, Johann Wolfgang von, 1749-1832	10,323
4. Scott, Walter, Sir, 1771-1832	9,733
5. Luther, Martin, 1483-1546	8,332
6. Cicero, Marcus Tullius	7,584
7. Twain, Mark, 1835-1910	7,387
8. Dumas Alexandre, 1802-1870	7,072
9. Kipling, Rudyard, 1865-1936	6,984
10. Stevenson, Robert Louis, 1850-1894	6,957

Agatha Christie ranks 25th on the top 100 list. She is highest among the five female authors on the top 100 list. The other women on this list are George Eliot, Jane Austen, Ellen G. White and Louisa May Alcott.

-- McClain, P., & Gabel, L., "Top 100 Authors in WorldCat," *OCLC Newsletter* (November/December 1997): 13.

"My mind is like a weapon, and when I go to the library, it's like I'm stocking up on ammunition."

**Dave Mustaine
Lead Singer, Megadeth**

Staff News

Recent Publications

Valerie J. Horton, formerly of the Library, **Library Dean Charles Townley**, and **Kenneth L. Hacker** and **Blaine Goss** of Communication Studies, co-authored an article entitled "Employee Attitudes Regarding Electronic Mail Policies: A Case Study," published in *Management Communication Quarterly* (Feb. 1998). Dean Townley thanks the library staff for their participation in the study.

Karen George of Branson Reference authored "Four Very Short Sketches Watching TV," published in the textbook *Progressions: Readings for Writers*, ed. Betsy Hilbert (New York: W.W. Norton, 1998).

Tim McKimmie of Branson Reference co-edited *Chihuahuan Desert Gardens: A Native Plant Selection Guide* (Santa Fe: The Native Plant Society of New Mexico, 1998). The co-editor is **Greg Magee**, a local landscape architect. **John Freyermuth** of Collection Services is one of 15 contributors. See related story on page 12.

Don Taylor joined the NMSU Library as the Physical Sciences and Engineering Librarian in Branson Library on March 4, 1998. A native of Vancouver, British Columbia, he has a Master's degree in Library and Information Studies from the University of British Columbia, where he previously worked as a reference librarian. He is married, and his hobbies are kayaking, piano, hockey, and cooking. Don is enjoying the New Mexican sunshine.



New librarian Don Taylor.

Did You Know...?

The word "cyberspace" was coined by William Gibson in his 1984 science fiction novel *Neuromancer*.



U.S. librarians visit Northern Ireland. **Karen Stabler** of Access Services is second from the right in the first row. See related story on pages 4-5.

Commentary:

Issues for Academic Libraries: 1998

by Tim McKimmie
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The past year has been one of challenge for the NMSU Library. A seemingly never-ending budget crunch led to another round of serials cancellations. A strategic planning process, in the works for nearly two years, was finalized and several changes made to the library organizational structure. We plan to put more effort into ensuring customer-satisfaction both at the user and employee level. Further, after a hiring freeze was lifted, badly needed positions were advertised and several new faculty and staff hired.

From time to time, it is useful to step back and compare our activities with those of other institutions. To that end, I reviewed the recent literature regarding academic libraries to see whether any patterns emerged. The bias of my method included noting primarily organizational issues and ignoring literature on "teaching methodology," "the Internet and web," and "how we do it" articles. I looked at those journals which are most representative of academic library forums such as *College & Research Libraries* and *Journal of Academic Librarianship*. And I looked only at those issues of the past year. What did I learn?

One of the major topics, as was expected, was serials (journals). The "serials cancellation crisis" has been a topic in library literature for many years but a solution is apparently still not in sight. While talk of consortia and resource sharing lends an optimistic bent to the problem, there also looms the cyclic spiral of cancellation:price increase, cancellation:price increase. This may result in the control or ownership of journals in the hands of a select few, an even more dangerous situation than we currently have. "Access v. Ownership" is still a topic being considered in library literature and yes, document delivery does promise to let us pay only for what we need. It does not necessarily follow, however, that costs will remain proportionate to today's costs if fewer and fewer (corporations?) actually "own" the materials. Further, in none of the literature was the issue of the quality of the delivered copy addressed. We've all received faxes we couldn't read, so I find it unusual that there seems to be no concern with giving up the crisp, glossy, "real" journal. A few articles appeared on collection management in general, but I found these less than enlightening. I was hoping for some easy fixes such as "core lists" that could make our job as collection managers a bit easier, but I was disappointed.

To my surprise, the largest group of articles dealt with organizational structure and leadership. Leadership and management issues are attracting a lot of attention. It would be interesting to compare this pattern with the literature of 5 or 10 years ago. Strategic planning, a related issue, is also popular. Group interaction, transformation, and structure (e.g. "the learning organization") were also popular topics. Quality of service, benchmarking, and the much maligned TQM also appeared.

Other topics important in the past year were personnel development, job satisfaction, and personnel selection and interviewing. The economics of higher education as relates to decreasing funding for academic libraries was also discussed. After all, the fate of libraries follows the fate of the parent institutions. It was apparent that we are not alone in facing issues such as shrinking budgets, quality of the workplace, organizational change, and service quality. Using our professional literature we can take the opportunity to learn from others who have gone through similar changes. By cultivating strong leaders, we can contribute to solutions to these perplexing and persistent problems.

New Book on Las Cruces Landscapes


NMSU Agriculture Librarian Tim McKimmie co-edited the recently released *Chihuahuan Desert Gardens: A Native Plant Selection Guide*. Published by The Native Plant Society of New Mexico, this is the first guide that is written primarily for the Chihuahuan Desert. Other landscaping books include larger geographic areas such as "the Southwest." The guide contains descriptions and color photographs of 75 native plants that are recommended for landscaping, including trees, shrubs, wildflowers, grasses, and succulents. All of the plants are native and will do well in Las Cruces. Most are also available from local nurseries. A list of sources of native plants and a guide to cultivation are also included. Greg Magee, a local landscape architect, co-edited the work. The guide also represents the efforts of more than 15 contributors, including John Freyermuth of the NMSU Library. Contributions included photographs, writing, and a GIS produced map of the Chihuahuan Desert. McKimmie is the editor of the *Native Plant Society of New Mexico Newsletter* and Freyermuth is the president of the Las Cruces Chapter of the Native Plant Society.

Intended for the novice home gardener, the work includes references to the best recent books on the subject. The society has kept the price low (\$7) in order to get it into the hands of as many people as possible. Free copies will be made available to school teachers with classes in botany, landscaping, horticulture, etc. The release of the book coincides with the city of Las Cruces' campaign to use more water-conserving plants. The book is available at Bowlin's Mesilla Book Center on the Mesilla Plaza and the Las Cruces Natural History Museum in the Mesilla Valley Mall. For more information, contact McKimmie at 646-7483.

CONIFEROUS TREES

Cupressus arizonica
Arizona Cypress

A handsome gray-green tree with very scale-like leaves and round ball like cones from southwest New Mexico, southeast Arizona and Mexico. Arizona Cypress has been planted extensively as an ornamental and for windbreaks. It grows naturally in canyons and along streams where it can find abundant water and is best grown at elevations from 3500-7000. Fast growing to form a pyramid 42 tall and half as wide. It is not a tree for small spaces but has many good qualities for southwestern landscapes that make it a winner: drought tolerance, good looks all year round and easy care. Its straight trunk, which may reach 2' in diameter, has shaggy, red-brown bark when mature. Some nurseries also sell a smooth, red trunked species, *Cupressus glabra*, as Arizona Cypress. The pollen from the tree, as with Junipers, can contribute to allergies.



Pinus cembroides
Mexican Piñon Pine, Piñon

Similar to other piñons of the dry southwest, 1-2' long needles that are generally in bundles of three distinguish the Mexican Piñon Pine. Found naturally at elevations of 4000-8000, the foliage of this pine is a deep blue-green. It produces nuts that are good food for animals and humans alike. Its usual height is about twenty feet, but one specimen is known to have reached a height of 48' with a 9" diameter trunk. Mexican Piñon is very similar to Colorado Piñon (*P. edulis*), the latter being more commonly found in the nursery trade. Both make excellent accent trees in the garden and can also be used as a screen. Though hard to find in the nursery trade additional pines that may be appropriate for the garden include Apache Pine (*P. engelmannii*) and Chihuahuan Pine (*P. leiophylla* var. *chihuahuensis*). Although their native habitat is the Sierra Madre mountains of Mexico and extreme southwest New Mexico and southeast Arizona, they are worthy of mention since they are our only large (50 feet tall or more) native pines that can tolerate the heat of the desert.



Juniperus deppeana
Aligator Juniper

The beautiful Aligator Juniper is the largest of all our native junipers - the largest one measures 57' tall and 29" in circumference. This evergreen with dark blue-green foliage more typically reaches a height of 20-25' with a similar spread. It grows throughout the southern mountains of New Mexico and west Texas. The Juniper is characterized by "aligator" bark, which breaks into a checkered pattern of small squares. Other native junipers for the garden include One-seed Juniper (*J. monosperma*) and Redberry Juniper (*J. pinifolia*). These species tend to be smaller and shrubbier in nature than Aligator Juniper. All of them have the remarkable ability to survive drought and extreme heat and cold. They also perform well in a broad range of soils, surviving without additional water once established. Junipers make a great screen or specimen plant. Its pollen contributes to allergies and female, non-pollen bearing cultivars are probably more suitable to the home garden.



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