Caroline Stras Endowment Created

In November 2005, Edward, Jo Ann and Judith Sears created the Caroline Stras Endowed Fund for the New Mexico State University Library. The endowment will support the acquisition and preservation of Library collections in women’s studies in honor of the achievements of Stras. Caroline Stras is the daughter of Jouett Fall Elliott and Brant Elliott and the granddaughter of Albert B. Fall.

A lifelong resident of El Paso, Texas, Stras was the first woman vice president of a bank in that city, beginning in the late 1950s. In many ways, she broke down gender barriers in the banking industry. She retired in 1978 as Senior Vice President of Operations at the Bank of El Paso.

The Elliott and the Fall families also donated documents and other materials. Donated photographs, correspondence and personal papers will remain in the Archives & Special Collections Department, while artifacts will be held by the NMSU Museum. These include a number of clothing and other personal articles which date from the 1890s and early 1900s. For more information, please contact Connie Loyd at (505) 646-3642 or clouloyd@lib.nmsu.edu.

Writing Center Now Providing Service at Library

NMSU’s Writing Center and the Library are coming together to offer a new service this spring, writing consulting services. Students are invited to come to Zuhl Library during scheduled evening and weekend hours to receive one-on-one help with all their writing challenges.

Consultants will work with students on any writing assignment at any stage in the process, from brainstorming to revising. The service will be on a drop-in basis (see hours at right). For more information, please call the Writing Center at (505) 646-5297.

Writing Center Hours at Zuhl Library

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>7-9 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>6-9 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>2-4 p.m.</td>
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– Mardi Mahaffy, Reference & Research Services
Apodaca Endowment to Preserve Family History

The Library announces the creation of the Reymundo and Elisa Apodaca Endowed Fund for Family Collections in the Rio Grande Historical Collections. The endowment, established by Rudy S. Apodaca and Nancy Apodaca of Las Cruces, will support the preservation, processing and promotion of family history collections held by the Library.

Rudy Apodaca’s parents, Reymundo and Elisa Apodaca, lived their entire lives in Las Cruces. They were an important part of eight generations of a family that played a role in this area’s history. Long-term residents of Las Cruces will remember them as the owners of the original Dairy Queen in Las Cruces that provided first jobs for many youngsters. Reymundo was a popular employee at the original J C Penney store on Main Street, and he and Elisa were asked to lead hundreds of marches at weddings, quinceañeras and other social events in the Las Cruces Mexican-American community. Reymundo passed away in 1998, and Elisa in 2002.

A trial lawyer in Las Cruces for twenty-two years, Rudy also spent thirteen years as a judge on the New Mexico Court of Appeals. Since his retirement from the court, he has divided his time between mediation and arbitration work and writing. His novel Pursuit was published in 2003. The Library holds the Rudy S. Apodaca Papers, 1957-2003. Among Rudy’s siblings are Raymond, a former bank president, and Jerry, a legislator and former governor of New Mexico. “Families are the core of society,” said Rudy. “How can a complete study of our history take place without considering the families that were very much a part of what has taken place in our region?” For more information on the endowment, please contact Connie Loyd at (505) 646-3642 or clouloyd@lib.nmsu.edu.

Doing What Counts

The Library invites you to participate in Doing What Counts, the Campaign for New Mexico State University. We celebrate the partnership of donors who strengthen and sustain the Library. Your support is needed to establish endowments for journal subscriptions and increasing the book collection, with a goal of increasing the book collection to two million volumes by 2010.

The Library seeks gifts to support the preservation and processing of unpublished borderland and Southwest manuscripts, photographs and university records. It also seeks to revitalize the Library as place to enhance instruction through naming gifts for specialized research areas, group study clusters and Library classrooms.

A gift to the Library is seed money for every fresh idea and exciting project on campus. It is the Library that helps the student master a difficult concept, write an excellent paper or enter a whole new world of knowledge. The Library celebrates what it is and what it aspires to be. Please join us in this effort. For more information on the Doing What Counts campaign, please contact the Library’s development officer, Connie Loyd, at (505) 646-3642 or clouloyd@lib.nmsu.edu. – Jeanette Smith, Library Administration

RGHC Society to Meet in April

The annual meeting of the Library’s Rio Grande Historical Collections Society is scheduled to be held on Monday, April 24, 2006, at the Farm and Ranch Museum in Las Cruces. The meeting will begin at 9 a.m. and end at 1 p.m., following lunch. For more information, please call the Archives staff at (505) 646-3839.
RGHC Provides Valuable Historical Images

The value of the Library’s Rio Grande Historical Collections (RGHC) as a treasure-trove of historical images was highlighted recently when RGHC photographs appeared in three significant articles and a book.

A photo from the RGHC’s Carol and Dwight Myers Papers illustrates an Associated Press article, “Close to Home: Mine Disaster Memories” by Melanie Dabovich (January 11, 2006). The image depicts the February 1923 mine disaster at Dawson, a town in northeastern New Mexico. The explosion, one of the worst mining disasters in U.S. history, killed 120 men. The news article can be located at http://asap.ap.org/stories/289139.s.

The February 2006 issue of Astronomy Magazine features fifteen photographs from the RGHC’s Clyde Tombaugh Papers. The photos accompanied a six-page article by Dan Falk, “More Than a One-hit Wonder,” on Dr. Clyde Tombaugh, former NMSU astronomy professor and discoverer of the planet Pluto. The article, which can be viewed at http://www.astronomy.com under “Back issues,” commemorates the one hundredth anniversary of Tombaugh’s birth on February 4, 1906.


The RGHC provided the cover photo, depicting revolutionaries pointing their guns at the camera, for the book Ringside Seat to a Revolution by David Dorado Romo (El Paso: Cinco Puntos Press, 2005). The book is an illustrated underground cultural history of El Paso and Juárez, Mexico, from 1893 to 1923.

For more information, please contact the Archives staff at (505) 646-3839.
– Jeanette Smith, Library Administration
Library Improves Access to Media Collection

User access to the Library’s extensive media collection is improving significantly. Approximately 7,000 DVDs, videos and audio-cassettes are being moved from behind the circulation desks at Branson and Zuhl libraries and integrated into custom-designed media cabinets on the first floor of Branson Library.

The decision to consolidate the media was based on the Library’s ongoing efforts to enhance access to collections and resources. Prior to the relocation, anyone interested in browsing the media collection was required to ask Library staff for permission to go behind the desk to see what was available.

In recent years, user demand for media materials has increased, and the Library responded by acquiring more and more materials in media format, from music CDs to instructional and/or subject-oriented DVDs and videos. As the media collection continued to grow, space constraints and access issues arose, and it was determined that the best solution for Library staff and users alike was to move the media collection out from behind the desks.

As is done in most retail stores and operations that handle media, each piece will be secured by staff prior to being placed in a public environment. Accompanying materials, such as guides or booklets, are being shelved in receding cabinets located above the corresponding drawers. Supporting media equipment, such as headphones, PCs, DVD and video playback units are available within close proximity. Users should find this unique and extensive media collection appealing and best of all, easily accessible! For more information, contact Norice Lee at (505) 646-5091. – Norice Lee, Access Services

PRISMA Provides Full-Text Latin American and Border Information

The PRISMA database is now available on the Library web site. PRISMA provides access to full-text scholarly journals in the social sciences and humanities for the study of Latin America, the Caribbean, Latinos in the United States and other topics in the interdisciplinary field of Latin American and Border Studies. Articles in PRISMA cover all aspects of Hispanic studies, including history, anthropology, economics, politics and society. The PRISMA database includes the full-text of articles in English, Spanish and Portuguese. Searching in PRISMA is facilitated by the detailed indexing of the Hispanic American Periodical Index, also available through the Library’s Find Articles page at http://lib.nmsu.edu/article.shtml.

Access to full-text journal articles via PRISMA will greatly expand the availability of authoritative scholarly information from and about Latin America for NMSU researchers. For more information about PRISMA and other information sources for the study of Latin America, Mexico and the border region, please contact Molly Molloy, Latin American and Border Specialist, at (505) 646-6931 or mmolloy@nmsu.edu. – Molly Molloy, Reference & Research Services

Latin American Microforms Available

The Library recently joined the Latin American Microform Project (LAMP) of the Center for Research Libraries. For more than thirty years, LAMP has acquired, preserved and maintained microform collections of unique, scarce or rare Latin American materials. The project was established in major North American libraries to promote better access to materials from the region that were difficult to obtain or at risk of being lost if not preserved.

LAMP originally concentrated on preserving newspapers and other ephemeral publications. Other collections focus on government documents, theological and religious periodicals, human rights documentation and materials to support other areas of academic research. One project supported microfilming nineteenth-century Mexican newspapers held by the University of Texas and other research libraries to produce reels of primary source material documenting the independence period of Mexican history.

For a complete listing of LAMP collections, please see the guide available at http://www.crl.edu/areastudies/LAMP/collections/lampguide.htm.

One of the privileges of NMSU’s LAMP membership is access to interlibrary loan of the materials from the Center for Research Libraries. The Library may also purchase copies of microfilm from LAMP at discounted prices for addition to our local collections. In addition, Molly Molloy, the Library’s Latin American and Border Specialist, will participate in regular LAMP meetings.

The LAMP web site provides extensive information on the hundreds of collections available. Visit http://www.crl.edu/areastudies/LAMP/ – Molly Molloy, Reference & Research Services
“Ritual, Desire and Death,” a photography exhibit at NMSU’s University Art Gallery, features thirty-seven photographs by Library employee Dennis Daily. Some of Daily’s photos are shown at left and below. The exhibit, which also includes the work of Mary Wolf and Dick George, is displayed free to the public at NMSU’s Williams Hall through February 26.

While the work of each artist differs in subject matter, each provides commentary on social themes in the Hispanic community. Daily’s work, an ongoing documentary about the Virgin of Guadalupe processions in the Durango, Mexico, area effectively combines a soundscape of field recordings and some video footage as well as photographs.

In interviews with KVIA-TV and the Round Up, Daily said that working on the project has given him a deeper appreciation for the culture of Durango, Mexico, as well as Mexico in general. "It has been striking to me how important community ritual is to the people," he said. "These traditions illustrate Mexico’s history as a metaphor to the Spanish and indigenous culture."

A professional photographer, Daily is the manager of archival reprographics for the Library’s Archives & Special Collections Department. He lived in Durango while working on the Library’s Durango Microfilming Project. For more information on the exhibit, contact Daily at (505) 646-4727.

– Jeanette Smith, Library Administration
Library Adds New Electronic Resources

The Library has recently added or upgraded a number of important electronic resources available on networked computers on campus and to authorized users connecting from off-campus.

Anthropology Plus combines Anthropological Literature from Harvard University with the Anthropological Index from the Royal Anthropological Institute in the United Kingdom. It provides worldwide indexing of journal articles, reports, commentaries, edited works and obituaries in the fields of social, cultural, physical, biological and linguistic anthropology, ethnology, archaeology, folklore, material culture and interdisciplinary studies. The index offers coverage of all core periodicals in the field in addition to local and lesser-known journals.

BIOSIS contains abstracts from journals and conferences in the biological sciences. Coverage spans 1985 to the present. This database is now available via ISI's Web of Science interface. (See box at right).

CINAHL Plus indexes 3,001 journals from the fields of nursing and allied health, with coverage as far back as 1937. It covers nursing, biomedicine, health sciences librarianship, alternative/complementary medicine, consumer health and seventeen allied health disciplines. In addition, CINAHL Plus offers access to health care books, nursing dissertations, selected conference proceedings, standards of practice, educational software, audiovisuals and book chapters, as well as Evidence-Based Care Sheets. Its full-text material includes more than seventy journals plus legal cases, clinical innovations, critical paths, drug records, research instruments and clinical trials.

Gale Virtual Reference Library is a collection of full-text electronic reference books, including Americans at War: Society, Culture & the Homefront; Countries and Their Cultures; Crime and Punishment in America; Dictionary of American History; Early Civilizations in the Americas; Encyclopedia of Bioethics; Encyclopedia of Crime and Justice; Encyclopedia of Drugs, Alcohol & Addictive Behavior; Encyclopedia of Education; Encyclopedia of Public Health; Encyclopedia of Science Technology and Ethics; Gale Encyclopedia of Neurological Disorders; Gale Encyclopedia of Cancer; Gale Encyclopedia of Alternative Medicine; Gale Encyclopedia of Children's Health; Gale Encyclopedia of Multicultural America; Major Acts of Congress; US Immigration & Migration Reference Library. Additional titles may be added in the future.

FSTA (Food Science and Technology Abstracts) is a bibliographic database that provides worldwide coverage of all scientific and technological aspects of the processing and manufacturing of human food products. In addition to bibliographic information, its records contain indexing information and, in most cases, an abstract.

OED (Oxford English Dictionary) Online. The accepted authority on the evolution of the English language over the last millennium, the OED is an unsurpassed guide to the meaning, history and pronunciation of more than half a million words. It traces the usage of words through 2.5 million quotations, covering words from across the English-speaking world. The OED Online contains the complete text of the twenty-volume Second Edition, first published in 1989, together with its three-volume Additions Series, published in 1993 (volumes 1 and 2) and 1997 (volume 3). The OED is currently being revised, with the aim of producing a completely updated third edition by the year 2010.

Please send questions or suggestions about any of these resources to your Library subject specialist or to Cindy Pierard at (505) 646-7010 or email cpierard@lib.nmsu.edu. – Cindy Pierard, Reference & Research Services

Birds of North America is an online resource of detailed biosystematic, ecological, population and distribution information on all 716 species of birds that nest in the United States and Canada. It includes photo galleries and sound recordings of most species.

PRISMA (Publicaciones y Revistas Sociales y Humanísticas) offers full-text scholarly journals in the social sciences and humanities for the interdisciplinary academic study of Hispanic and Latin America and the Caribbean Basin (see related article on page 4.)

PsycARTICLES contains more than 35,000 full-text articles from forty-one journals published by the American Psychological Association and allied organizations. Coverage includes general psychology and specialized basic, applied, clinical and theoretical research in psychology from 1988 to the present.

Zoological Record covers animal science including the areas of taxonomy, new geological and fossil records, conservation and environmental science, marine and freshwater biology, veterinary sciences, parasitology and new techniques. Its real strength is natural history and taxonomy, and it is an excellent source for regional zoological information.

ISI's Web of Science Interface (trial access) provides an additional access point to the popular citation databases Science Citation Index and Social Science Citation Index. Currently, the Library has access to these databases through the SearchPlus interface offered by Los Alamos National Laboratory. The trial runs throughout Spring Semester. In addition, the Library is offering access to the BIOSIS and Zoological Record databases via Web of Science.
What is open access?

Today the term “open access” refers to any full-text scholarly information that is freely available via the World Wide Web. The relatively recent technological development of the Internet has made the dissemination of scholarly information more widely available to a broader audience than in the past. In 2002, the Budapest Open Access Initiative (BOAI) defined open access as the “world-wide electronic distribution of the peer-reviewed journal literature, completely free and unrestricted access to it by all scientists, scholars, teachers, students, and other curious minds.”

Types of open access

BOAI suggests two methods to achieve open access: self archiving and open access journals. These two methods are often referred to in the literature as BOAI-I and BOAI-II. In the BOAI-I scenario, or self archiving, authors deposit their articles in either author-created web sites or in disciplinary archives such as arXiv, or in institutional archives or repositories. DSpace at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology is a good example of an institutional repository.

In the second open access scenario, BOAI-II, authors publish their articles in peer-reviewed open access journals. These journals are primarily electronic-only and are freely available on the Internet. In contrast to the traditional scholarly communication model where access is limited to those who pay subscription fees for journals (“closed access”), open access journals allow unlimited access for all. Anyone with Internet access can read, use, copy and distribute open access articles. Whereas traditional journal publishers almost always require that authors relinquish most, if not all, copyright upon publication, open access journals allow authors to maintain copyright to their creative work – a situation many authors find very attractive.

Scholarly works are typically produced by researchers without an expectation of payment; thus, it follows that in the world of open access no costs are passed on to the user. However, open access does not mean free. Someone has to pay for the availability and dissemination of information. And the authors most often shoulder the cost. Also known as the “author pays” model, the production and distribution of open access journals are supported by a variety of funding strategies: direct author fees, institutional memberships, payments from funding agencies, private or publicly funded grants to open access publishers and institutional support for staff salaries.

How and why did open access begin?

The open access movement has its origins in recent technological innovations ranging from the Internet to e-print servers such as arXiv to disciplinary archives such as PubMed Central (http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov). These innovations – as well as many others that are too numerous to mention here –
Holly Reynolds Retires

Holly Reynolds retired at the end of October. She served the Library in many capacities for thirty-two years, from student worker to member of the classified staff to professional staff member.

Reynolds began working at the Library in 1973 as a student in the Serials Department, and she took a position as a full-time employee in Interlibrary Loan in 1976. In 1987, she was promoted to the position of Circulation Coordinator, and in 2001, she moved to Systems to work with web development and Voyager support. Holly looks forward to having more time to read, sleep late and drink coffee.

Library News Briefs

• The Wagner Workstation, an assistive PC in Zuhl Library for users with disabilities, has been upgraded with new software. The PC is attached to a scanner and printer. The operating system has been upgraded to XP, which offers options such as a magnifier. For more information on Library services and resources for users with disabilities, please call Reference & Research Services at (505) 646-5792 or request help online at http://lib.nmsu.edu/webref/index.html.

• As part of the newly declared Constitution Day, September 17, 2005, a Library LSC 311 information literacy class taught by Tim McKimme of Reference & Research Services discussed the U.S. Constitution and the significance of the day. James Laws, a student in the class, won NMSU's campuswide Constitution Day essay contest. The essay is online at http://constitutionday.nmsu.edu/EssayFIN.pdf. Constitution Day legislation requires that all educational institutions that receive federal funds implement educational programs relating to the United States Constitution on September 17 of each year. With no specific curriculum or interpretation of the United States Constitution provided, academic institutions are free to provide a wide array of programming.

• The Library recently purchased two new Minolta MS 6000 MK digital microform machines for public use. Unlike its analog predecessor, the MS 6000 provides powerful digital capabilities like image enhancement and high-resolution laser printer output capabilities. The Access Services staff is pleased to offer these new machines to the Library's many microfilm and microfiche users, as copy quality, particularly copies made from old microfilmed newspapers or other poor-quality originals, is substantially improved through the digital technology. The new machines are located on the first floor of Branson Library and are available to the public any time the library is open.

Library Staff News

Beverly Cano of Technical Services recently was awarded her master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction from NMSU.

Susan Beck of Reference & Research Services is on sabbatical. Beck emailed her article “Open Access Provides Approach to Scholarly Communication” (see page 7) from an Internet café in a tiny town in Guatemala.

Norice Lee of Access Services and Susan Metcalf of Reference & Research Services presented “In the Right Place at the Right Time: Delivering Library Resources and Services to Enhance Student Learning” on February 3 as part of NMSU’s College of Extended Learning Speaker Series. Susan Beck of Reference & Research Services also contributed content for the presentation.

In Memoriam: Jeanne Culbertson

Jeanne Culbertson, a Las Cruces journalist and volunteer known as a "born traveler, born teacher and born learner" passed away on November 30, 2005. Culbertson, who received a Ph. D. in education at NMSU, was an avid supporter of many University programs, including the Library, KRWG-FM, and NMSU’s Academy for Learning in Retirement.

A strong advocate for senior citizens, she was active in the Senior Olympics. Culbertson was always willing to include information on Library resources and services for senior citizens in her column in the Las Cruces Sun-News, “Senior Living.”
Publications/Papers


Caufield, James, “Where did Google Get Its Value?” *Portal: Libraries and the Academy* 5 (October 2004): 555-572, online at http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/portal_libraries_and_the_academy/v005/5.4caufield.html


James Caufield presented “The Myth of Automated Meaning” in October 2005 at the conference on the Ethics of Electronic Information in the 21st Century. For more information, visit http://exlibris.memphis.edu/ethics21/present.html

Molly Molloy Provides Information on Border Issues

Molly Molloy, the Library’s Latin American and Border Specialist, was recently interviewed by Richard Baron of El Paso. The interview appeared as a feature story, “Frontier Justice,” in *Newspaper Tree* (January 23, 2006): 1 at http://newspapertree.com/. Click on “Frontier Justice.” On the next page, click on “Molly Molloy.”

In the article, Molloy discusses her experience working with immigrants’ rights, her path to librarianship and her commitment to informing people on border issues. “I went to Los Angeles and worked for some Central American refugee projects for a couple of years, and then I went back to graduate school.”

“In 1992, I was hired at the New Mexico State University Library in Las Cruces where it’s my job to acquire whatever materials are necessary for the students and faculty who study Latin America.”

While Molloy is not officially involved with immigration rights now, unofficially she has given herself the job of disseminating information to people who are interested in border issues, and much of it is immigration related. She maintains an email list with approximately one hundred or more people on it nationwide, and she forwards them interesting news stories on border issues that she finds. Those who want to get on the list can write to Molloy at mollymolloy@gmail.com. Quotes reprinted with permission from *Newspaper Tree.*

Lorena Ramos is the new Administrative Secretary II in the Library Administration. She comes to the Library from the Facilities Support Division at the Doña Ana Branch Community College where she worked for the last ten years.

Ramos is working on a bachelor’s degree in Family and Child Science at NMSU. Away from the Library, she likes to read, work on jigsaw puzzles and spend time with her family.
Reference Statistics Project:  
When Does it Get Cold In Las Cruces?  

Who asks reference questions?  When and where are questions asked and what subject areas do they typically involve?  These were among the many topics Library staff sought to explore during its reference statistics sample week last October.

Preliminary analysis of the data indicates that staff recorded just over seven hundred questions during the week, the majority of which were asked at the reference desk in Zuhl Library.  61% of all questions were asked by NMSU undergraduates, followed by NMSU graduate students (13%), and others (10%, including community members and researchers from other universities).  Monday was the busiest day for reference services and Saturday was the quietest.

The overwhelming majority of questions (82%) took fewer than five minutes to address, but roughly 3% required more than 20 minutes.  Approximately 13% of all questions involved requests for assistance with equipment and/or software training and assistance.  The most popular subject areas were English, psychology, history and business.  Notable topics included:

- Statistics on physician shortages
- Information about uranium contamination of groundwater
- Locations of “hot zones” (wireless zones) in the libraries
- Scholarly articles on interfaith marriage
- Information on organic agriculture
- Information about the bracero program in New Mexico

The Library will continue to collect and analyze reference questions during the Spring Semester and the summer sessions.  Through this project, it hopes to identify patterns in question traffic that can help in better planning of services and support staff training.  If you have any questions, please contact Cindy Pierard, Reference & Research Services Department Head, at (505) 646-7010 or cpierard@lib.nmsu.edu. – Cindy Pierard, Reference & Research Services

Border Health Guide Published

The Border Health Information and Education Network (BIEN!) announces a new publication, Border Health Information Resources: A Bilingual Guide for Promotoras, Librarians, Health Educators, the Public, Students and Researchers (Las Cruces; Border Health Information and Education Network, 2005).

The bilingual guide is being distributed to promotoras, area libraries and local health agencies and researchers in the border region.  It is especially helpful in assisting community health workers (promotoras) in finding relevant health information resources.

The guide was completed by a team consisting of two graduate students in NMSU’s public health program: Ishah Palsis and Alma M. Torres, and three NMSU librarians: project director Sylvia Ortiz, Norice Lee and Cindy Watkins.  The project was funded by a $5,000 grant award from the American Library Association’s Carnegie-Whitney Grant Program.

An electronic version of the guide is scheduled to be posted on the BIEN! web site, http://www.bienhealth.org.  – Norice Lee, Access Services

Exhibit Features the Art of Geology

The current exhibit in the lobby of Zuhl Library is “The Art of Geology.”  The exhibit was prepared by geologist Dr. Marilyn Huff, the curator of the Zuhl Geological Collection in the Zuhl Museum and Zuhl Library.

In addition to their scientific value, rocks, minerals and fossils have long been used by man as objects of art.  While some pieces are beautiful just as they are, others are cut or carved, shaped and polished until they can stand alone or be fashioned into jewelry.  Petrified wood is appreciated for its colors and unusual shapes, which can be highlighted by slicing and polishing it.  Minerals and rocks, beautiful on their own, are sometimes cut into other shapes.  Fossils are admired for their forms or intricate shadings or patterns.  The exhibit may be viewed free to the public all hours that the Library is open.  For Library hours, call (505) 646-4749.
The business was initially launched as an enterprise that traded furs and pelts throughout the Southwest. The brothers eventually opened a men’s retail clothing outlet in downtown Las Vegas in 1915.

By 1938, the Taichert brothers opened a ladies’ ready-to-wear store, the Sorority Shoppe, which was located next door on Douglas Avenue in Las Vegas. They later opened another establishment in Santa Fe on San Francisco Street, just west of the Plaza. Milton remained involved with the operation of the store after his brother’s death, but changing retail trends and the steady decline of population in the Las Vegas area led to the sale of the business in the early 1980s.

The family business was noteworthy, as it retained the wholesale fur and pelt business well into the 1960s along with the retail operation. In keeping with documenting rural New Mexico history, its records contain several folders of correspondence with various private fur trappers, located mostly in the central part of the state. This is significant because the fur and pelt trade has all but vanished from the rural economy of New Mexico in recent decades, as have other wholesale stock raising businesses. This contrasts with other business records that detail exchanges with fur storage houses in New York City and Boston.

The records of the Joseph A. Taichert Company of Las Vegas, New Mexico, were recently processed for researcher use, and they are available in the Library’s Rio Grande Historical Collections.

The Taichert Company records offer interesting insight to Jewish history in New Mexico through their record of mercantile operations in a changing world in the twentieth century.

Joseph A. Taichert (1882-1955) founded the company after he arrived in Las Vegas in the 1900s. Taichert later took on his younger brother Milton (1892-1989) as a partner in the business after its establishment.

By 1938, the Taichert brothers opened a ladies’ ready-to-wear store, the Sorority Shoppe, which was located next door on Douglas Avenue in Las Vegas. They later opened another establishment in Santa Fe on San Francisco Street, just west of the Plaza. Milton remained involved with the operation of the store after his brother’s death, but changing retail trends and the steady decline of population in the Las Vegas area led to the sale of the business in the early 1980s.

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For more information on this collection, please contact Bill Boehm at (505) 646-1551 or wboehm@lib.nmsu.edu. – Bill Boehm, Archives & Special Collections

Cinco Puntos Press of El Paso, Texas, donated a collection of archival materials valued by an independent appraiser at $37,500. The collection contains thirty-five linear feet of records and other materials related to its publishing business.

Longtime Library donor Barbara Myers has given an additional $2,000 to the Special Assistants Project in the Archives & Special Collections Department to support the progress being made in processing donated collections, past and current.

Steve Hussman of the Archives & Special Collections Department was awarded a $1,000 fellowship by the New Mexico Office of the State Historian’s Scholars Program. It will support Hussman’s travel to Santa Fe to conduct a research project on Hiram Hadley, NMSU’s first president, at the State Records Center and Archives.

Steve Hussman of the Archives & Special Collections Department was awarded a $1,000 fellowship by the New Mexico Office of the State Historian’s Scholars Program. It will support Hussman’s travel to Santa Fe to conduct a research project on Hiram Hadley, NMSU’s first president, at the State Records Center and Archives.

Correspondence between the Taichert Company and a sheepherder, 1952. Joseph A. Taichert Company records, Archives & Special Collections.
have provided researchers with rapid and relatively cheap methods to keep abreast of their subject areas.

The movement also owes its development to what is frequently termed “the crisis in scholarly communication.” This “crisis” is partially due to the growing influence of commercial scholarly publishing companies, especially the scholarly publishing companies dedicated to science, technology and the social sciences. For the past two decades, the prices of scholarly publications, and especially those of serials, have increased at a rate far above inflation and much more rapidly than increases in library budgets. Most researchers today rely on their institutions’ libraries to bear the cost of much needed journal subscriptions. The days of researchers’ maintaining their own personal subscriptions are a thing of the past. ²

The dramatic increases in serials costs are troubling. The Association of Research Libraries reports that between 1986 and 2003 the average serial subscription costs at academic libraries increased by 215%. In contrast, during the same time period the Consumer Price Index grew by a modest 68% while the average book price increased by 82%. Perhaps an even more disturbing statistic is that throughout roughly those same two decades, academic libraries experienced a 5% decrease in their serial subscriptions. ³ In the past five years EBSCO reports an average 38.4% increase in all journal prices, both U.S. and non-U.S., for college and university libraries. Moreover, during each year of that five year period, spanning 2001 to 2005, overall serials subscription costs have increased anywhere from 7 to 9% per year. ⁴ The result of these rising costs is that academic libraries can now only provide their users with access to an increasingly smaller portion of the total needed scholarly information. This, in turn, affects access and services not just in the sciences and technology but in all subject areas.

What are the benefits and drawbacks of open access?

To open access devotees, the benefits to the scholarly community as a whole are huge. Rather than waiting for a year or more for publication in a traditionally published journal, open access research articles are shared widely within a matter of seconds via the Internet. According to the BOAI, the removal of access barriers such as expensive subscription costs and the resulting decrease in subscriptions “will accelerate research, enrich education, share the learning of the rich with the poor and the poor with the rich...” resulting in a “...literature as useful as it can be, and lay[ing] the foundation for uniting humanity in a common intellectual conversation and quest for knowledge.” ⁵ These are lofty goals, to be sure. Nevertheless, because the primary aims of scholarship are not inherently commercial, it is logical to assume most researchers would quickly embrace a non-profit scholarly communication model that is rapid and reaches the broadest audience possible. And many are doing just that.

Copyright retention for authors is another major benefit of the open access model. If their articles are published in traditional journals, authors are frequently forbidden from posting the same articles on their own web site or a disciplinary archive. They cannot freely copy and distribute these articles to...
Visiting Mexican Scholar Award Opportunity Announced

The New Mexico State University Library announces four (4) awards for Mexican scholars from the border region to explore resources for historical, literary and other humanities research that are not available in their home institutions. The successful applicant will receive a grant of $500 to defray the costs of travel to and lodging in Las Cruces, New Mexico, and other related expenses of the research period. The Library will provide office space and the use of a computer during the research period.

Description of Library resources: The Library contains a wealth of unique information on the history and culture of the southwestern border region. Important named collections of published materials are listed in the box at left.

In addition to collections of published materials, visiting Mexican scholars will have access to the unique archival materials in the Rio Grande Historical Collections (RGHC). Nearly 200 manuscript collections now have detailed records in the Library’s online catalog and finding aids available through the Online Archive of New Mexico. Many more collections are accessible on site at the Library and through finding aids that have not been converted to an online format. The RGHC photograph collections contain more than 500,000 historical photographs of which approximately 15,000 have been digitized and made available via a web-accessible database.

The oral history collections in the RGHC help to preserve or supplement the history of New Mexico and the Spanish Borderlands, and they often contain information that may not be available in paper documents. One significant collection, Los archivos históricos del arzobispado de Durango, (MS0355) contains 731 microfilm reels and a continually expanding descriptive guide that numbers more than 1,200 pages. This collection provides a wealth of primary source material covering more than two centuries and pertains to the Mexican states of Durango, Chihuahua, Coahuila and the U.S. states of New Mexico, Texas and parts of other states in the border region.

Application

Applicants should submit a letter/proposal of 2-4 pages describing the research project. The letter should be accompanied by a current CV. Preference will be given to those applicants indicating the use of a specific collection or other Library resource(s) pertinent to Latin America, the Southwest and/or the U.S.-Mexico border region. More information about Library resources can be obtained from its web site at http://lib.nmsu.edu, the Library catalog at http://libcat.nmsu.edu/, and the web pages of the Archives and Special Collections at http://archives.nmsu.edu/. Online finding aids for the Rio Grande Historical Collections are available at http://elibrary.unm.edu/oanm/index_NmLeU.html.

Successful applicants must schedule their research trips between January 12, 2006, and June 30, 2006. At the end of the project, the awardee will present the results of the “research-in-progress” at a public lecture at the New Mexico State University Library or the New Mexico State University Center for Latin American and Border Studies. Research presentations may be given in Spanish or English. Applicants must be in a valid visa status to be present on the New Mexico State University campus.

Please submit letters of application via mail, fax or email attachment to: Molly Molloy, Latin American and Border Specialist New Mexico State University Library, MSC 3475, P.O. Box 30006 Las Cruces, New Mexico 88003 Email: mmolloy@nmsu.edu FAX: (505) 646-3390 Phone: (505) 646-6931

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Library Collections in SW/Border Humanities

(See announcement at right)

Southwestern Children’s Book Collection is a growing collection of more than 1300 titles covering more than 100 years of children’s literature from and about New Mexico, the West, Native Americans and Mexico; includes many titles in Spanish and bilingual editions.

Borderland Literature Collection is a growing collection purchased through a previous Southwest and Border Cultures Institute grant; includes new and retrospective works by authors of the border region and others representative of the Hispanic diaspora in the United States.

Mariachi and Hispanic Folk Music Collections contains books, recordings and scores on Mexican and border musical styles such as mariachi, norteño, Tejano-conjunto, Nuevo Mexicano and more.

John Randall Chicano/Latino Literature Collection includes first editions of many works of poetry, fiction and personal testimony by important Chicano/Latino authors purchased through gift funds in 1999 and as a benefit to the Border Book Festival; more than 300 titles in the collection.

Schulman/Garfield Latin American Collection includes more than 2,500 titles in Latin American literary history and philosophy purchased in 1994 from Ivan Schulman, a renowned scholar of Latin American culture and literature.

The Library’s Visiting Mexican Scholar Award program was made possible by funding from New Mexico State University’s Southwest and Border Cultures Institute.
students in their classes. In many cases authors cannot use their articles as the basis for future articles or other creative works. They cannot grant permission to others at their university or at any other institution to use their article. All of these rights rest solely with the journal publisher.

Many government funding agencies, such as the National Institute of Health, and research universities who fund research projects, are championing the efforts of the open access movement. Their support is primarily due to the desire to see that the results of their funded research are shared widely within the scholarly community. Some funding agencies are requiring that research conducted with their funds either be published in open access journals or made accessible in other open access venues.

Not all believe that open access is a viable form of scholarly communication. Some feel that the "author pays" model negates the rigorous quality control standards (i.e., peer review) employed in traditional scholarly publications. Nevertheless, sloppy research, plagiarism and falsifying research data all exist in traditionally published peer reviewed journals as well within the larger world of research. There is small likelihood that these unhappy practices are more prevalent in open access journals than in conventional publications. Another qualm is that open access journals may not carry the same prestige factors as traditionally published journals. Preliminary research, however, casts doubt on this fear, suggesting that the impact factors for open access journals may be just as strong as those of traditionally published journals.

What is in the future for the open access movement?

The concept and evolving practices of open access are now firmly established within the scholarly community. What is still being debated is whether open access will totally replace the traditional "closed access" scholarly communication model. It is highly likely that in the future both models will coexist. One will not vanquish the other. The traditional model has a long history and has many players – commercial journal publishers, learned societies, journal editors, researchers themselves – all with a vested interest in its continuation. By the same token, open access venues provide scholars with greater freedoms and more incentives to either self publish or to pay for publication.

Academic libraries have a role to play in the open access movement. They can assist in wider dissemination of open access journals by including them within their online catalogs. Librarians can screen, evaluate and alert scholars to new, potentially useful open access journals. Academic libraries can also form partnerships with campus computing, research centers and academic departments in the development and maintenance of institutional repositories. Overall, open access has a somewhat positive future. It offers alternatives to those frustrated by the limitations of the ages old conventional scholarly publishing model. It makes research rapidly and widely available via the Internet to an ever-growing audience. It helps to break up the monopoly that wealthy commercial publishing houses such as Elsevier, Wiley and Springer have held in traditional scholarly journal publishing. And it allows authors more freedoms and rights to their own creative work. – Susan Beck, Reference & Research Services

Notes

5. Budapest Open Access Initiative
Jeanette Smith Named Molesworth Institute Fellow

Jeanette Smith of the Library Administration was named a Fellow of the Molesworth Institute in November. The honor was bestowed by Dr. Norman Stevens, Emeritus Director of University Libraries of the University of Connecticut and Director of the Institute, in recognition of Smith's ongoing research and other accomplishments in the field of library humor.

Proceedings of Institute symposia are published in respectable library journals such as *Wilson Library Bulletin*, *Library Journal* and *The Serials Librarian*. The latest Molesworth production, a tongue-in-cheek article entitled "The Fully Electronic Academic Library" was published in the January 2006 issue of *College & Research Libraries* (pp. 5-14). Smith has been invited to participate in the next electronic symposium on April 1.

The eighty-one Fellows of the Institute include such library notables as current American Library Association president Michael Gorman, library activist Sanford Berman and library humorists Will Manley and Edmund Lester Pearson.

Smith and 100-year-old Swedish Fellow Bengt Hjelmqvist have both received the Institute's Edmund Lester Pearson Award for Library Humor. Smith received the award for a cautionary essay published in 1999 that speaks to the hazards of reading and driving at the same time. For more information, contact Smith at (505) 646-7492.