



# No Time to Waste

It's a reasonable perception that summertime on the university campus consists of a somewhat quiet workaday atmosphere where the buzz of the academic year proper gives way to a diminished student population, offices temporarily vacated by faculty abroad on research tours and staff making use of much deserved (and needed) vacation time.

The breadth of the project load taken on over the summer by the Libraries should begin to disabuse such an impression.

Across the branches, staff worked fastidiously to move truckloads of books, reconfigure spaces, upgrade technologies, introduce new services and implement new tools. And the work that went into making it all happen will likely go almost completely unnoticed by the users who will benefit the most.

One enhancement that probably won't go unnoticed because of its prominence is the new web discovery tool scoUT (Search Content Online at The University of Texas), now gracing the Libraries homepage. Because scoUT employs a single interface to search the combined resources provided by the Libraries, users will now be able to use scoUT to find books, articles, music, videos and images and to search the institutional repository utilizing an index compiled from over 7,000 publishers and content providers, covering almost 90% of the university's electronic journal subscriptions. The new home page search box will continue to offer easy access to the library catalog, specialized databases and lists of journals, but now search returns will be augmented with content drawn from external online sources.

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Summer Break : continued from Cover

The literal heavy-lifting of the summer, though, took the form of some considerable shifting of materials. Take for instance the Kuehne Physics-Mathematics-Astronomy Library (PMA) residing on the ground floor of Robert Lee Moore Hall on the north end of campus. Staff were able to swap materials (a whopping 77,500 books and journals) on first and second floor stacks to improve access and respond to changing usage patterns. The McKinney Engineering Library completed some involved preparations on an extremely short timeline for a potential temporary move to space in the Perry-Castañeda Library (PCL) ahead of a looming construction project at the School of Engineering. The groundwork included transferring large chunks of the collections to offsite storage, while planning for contingency access at other locations proximal to the school, though the project start has been delayed. And beginning in May, staff at PCL managed to review, assess and transfer over 137,000 volumes to offsite storage in order to expand physical study space for users.

The conversion of austere group study spaces into technology hubs for students has become an order of the day in many cases. Already several group studies at PCL have been retrofitted with large flat panel monitors or projectors for student use; another was added over the summer and several more are forthcoming. Other branches have joined in: PMA staff converted a periodicals room into a presentation/practice space with technology additions, and the Fine Arts Library (FAL) has converted a study room into a media center.

Beyond creating new areas for study, facilities staff ensured that existing spaces stayed up to date, as well. Additional outlets and electrical upgrades were made to PCL and the Life Science Library, and both spaces received new and additional furniture to accommodate growth in use. New and additional PCs were dispatched to all branches in an attempt to keep up with the ever-changing landscape of technology, along with faster scanning computers, and staff installed Knowledge Imaging Centers — walk-up color digitization scanning system for excerpts from books and other materials — in five branch libraries, providing users the most efficient institutional tool for capturing physical information in a digital format.

The Libraries' station as a focal service point and foundational resource for teaching, learning and research at The University of Texas at Austin necessitates a certain amount of improvements and transformation over regular intervals. In spite of budgetary travails that have resulted in significantly diminished human resources, staff have shouldered the additional weight with aplomb and continue to make certain that all of the Libraries' resources — even those that might be overlooked — are here to serve the needs of our community.



## Libraries Launch READ Literacy Campaign

This fall, the University of Texas Libraries unveiled a quartet of posters featuring icons from The University of Texas at Austin with a goal of getting kids of all ages to pick up a book (or e-reader).

Taking part in the American Library Association's READ promotion, the Libraries worked with University Marketing and Creative Services to produce a series of four posters featuring the "Hook 'em" mascot and Bevo reading in unexpected places.

A first run of the poster sets was distributed to all 655 schools in the Texas Education Agency's Region XIII area, which includes Austin and Independent School Districts in the surrounding counties.

The Libraries hopes this initial experiment is successful enough to expand the project's reach to a greater audience in the future.

The campaign is meant to encourage reading at an early age in order to improve core competencies in literacy, which would have a likely outcome of increasing incoming student preparedness for potential future University of Texas undergraduates.

The READ promotional campaign began in 1985, with the first poster featuring comedian Bill Cosby. Since then, over 150 notable personalities have provided their portrait as endorsement of the program to inspire readers.

The poster sets are now available for purchase online in the Libraries TxShop at <http://ow.ly/eG9nN>. Proceeds will go to expanding the campaign's reach to even more classrooms to encourage reading and literacy in the next generation of Longhorns.

# Student Government Brings 24/5 to PCL



*SG President Thor Lund and VP Wills Brown get horns up for success. Photo by Emilie Algenio.*

Representatives from Student Government at The University of Texas at Austin spent their summer vacation working with administration at the University of Texas Libraries to make good on a campaign promise.

Student Body President Thor Lund and Student Body Vice President Wills Brown, with support from Student Government staff, secured funding for 24-hour service at the Perry-Castañeda Library (PCL) in a pilot period for the current 2012-13 academic calendar year.

The PCL opened for 24-hour service on October 14 to coincide with the mid-term exam period and continue through the end of final exams for the fall 2012 semester. Extended hours will return in the week preceding spring 2013 midterms and will continue through the conclusion of the semester.

24-hour, 5-day weekly service occurs beginning with the Libraries' normal Sunday noon opening and ends with the regular 11 p.m. Friday closure, with Saturday hours remaining at 9 a.m. — 11 p.m.

Student government representatives were able to obtain commitments from the Office of the Provost, the Vice President for Student Affairs and the Texas Exes to make 24-hour service a reality at the university's central library branch.

"We are happy to help bring tangible results to campus that reflect the needs of the students," says a statement from Lund and Brown. "Students will now have a 24-hour safe, secure, and centrally located study space on campus. This is a big win for Longhorns."

The student government representatives continue to investigate funding sources to make the extended hours permanent after the pilot period ends.

"These student leaders spent their annual respite from academic rigor ensuring that fellow members of the university community would have enhanced access to the PCL upon their return from the summer break," says Heath. "They should be commended for exemplifying the leadership qualities that The University of Texas at Austin strives to foster and promote."

On October 15, nearly 400 happy studiers attended a launch party at PCL to kick off the service, and gate counts in the overnight hours have significantly increased since the service began.





# Fine Arts Receives Library of Vodou Scholar



The University of Texas at Austin has received a collection of materials from a noted scholar and academician in the arts and culture of Haitian Vodou.

Approximately 1,200 books and catalogues constituted the personal library of Marilyn Houlberg, Professor Emeritus of Art History, Theory and Criticism at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. They served as a resource for her research in the arts and anthropology of West Africa and Haiti, as well as related studies of popular culture in the United States. They will become part of the collections at the Fine Arts Library.

Houlberg and John Yancey, John D. Murchison Professor in Art at the university, were colleagues at the Art Institute and lifelong friends. It's through that relation-

ship that Yancey was able to bring the collection to the university. Houlberg's influence in the field could not be overstated, he said.

The gift of the Marilyn Houlberg collection is significant as its arrival supports the growing body of research and teaching in the areas of African, African American and African Diasporic arts and scholarship at the university. With the recent establishment of the new African and Africa Diaspora Studies Department in the College of Liberal Arts, the increasing prominence of the John L. Warfield Center for African and African American Studies and the establishment of the Center for Art of Africa and its Diasporas in the College of Fine Arts, the gift of books and catalogues are expected to have a beneficial impact on important areas of scholarship and teaching at the university.

"She unveiled the complexity, power and wonder of art and culture of Africa and the African diaspora," said Yancey. "Her non-conformist aesthetics opened doors of perception for scholars, collectors and most importantly, for the artists themselves."

Through her prolific travels to Haiti and Africa, Houlberg amassed more than 10,000 slides to create an archive of art documentation that is currently being catalogued for the Elisofon Library, National Museum of African Art at the Smithsonian Institution.

# The Benson Fêtes a Tejano Legend

The Benson Latin American Collection welcomed Corpus Christi-based musician, author, radio host and artist Oscar Martinez on October 4 for an event showcasing his life and work.

"El Tejano Enamorado: An Evening of Music and Art with Oscar Martinez" featured a Q&A with the Tejano icon conducted by legend in his own right, Austin musician Larry Lange. The interview was followed by a performance with Martinez backed by Lange and his band, His Lonely Knights, and attendees had the opportunity to peruse a gallery hung with Martinez's unique and colorful artwork depicting other notables in the world of Tejano music.

Considered to be one of the last of the pioneers of Tejano music, Martinez is perhaps best known for his songs, "El Tejano Enamorado" — which has been recorded by over

40 artists — and "El Gallo Copetón." Martinez began playing the trumpet professionally at age 17, later performing with the renowned Isidro López Orchestra before forming his own band in 1958. The Oscar Martinez Orchestra performed at hundreds of dances and other events in Corpus Christi and traveled throughout the state of Texas playing weekends in dancehalls in Victoria, Houston, Dallas, Fort Worth and the Lower Rio Grande Valley.

With his signature dark glasses and pompadour hairstyle, Oscar Martinez is one of Corpus Christi's most prominent living cultural icons, and one of his recent recordings, "The Corpus Christi Rose," pays homage to his beloved hometown.

Martinez was inducted into the Tejano Music Hall of Fame in 1998 and into the Tejano Roots Hall of Fame in 2003.





## Dancing About Libraries

Any prevailing notion about the library being a place of monastic silence should be dispelled now.

In an effort to reach out to new and current members of the campus student community during the first week of school, the Libraries hosted a dance party on the plaza in front of the Perry-Castañeda Library.

The Libraries collaborated with UT Student Government and the Student Events Center Film Committee to present “Make Some Noise: Dance Party@PCL.”

The event was highlighted by a unique screening of the long-form music video “Girl Walk // All Day” — set to Girl Talk’s mashup masterwork “All Day” — which was projected onto the 5-story limestone façade of the library.

For the DIYers, the event provided a maker break booth where revelers created wearable LED throwie pins, and music was spun by the DJs from student-run KVRX 91.7 to keep the roughly 500 attendees dancing well into the first Friday evening of the new academic year.

## Libraries Announce Materials Retrieval

In August, the University of Texas Libraries launched a new Materials Retrieval service in all campus branches. This service allows patrons to use the online Library Catalog to request that books be retrieved from the shelf and delivered to the UT Libraries checkout desk of their choice for pickup.

Prior to this service being launched, patrons were required to visit the owning library to locate books on the shelves; now, they may request online that this be done for them, and may also choose the most convenient library branch for delivery. Requested items are held for the patron at their chosen branch for eight days, allowing plenty of time for pickup, even for patrons who only visit campus once per week.



This time-saving service has become very popular in a short time, with nearly five thousand items requested in September alone. Estimated October retrievals are on track for nearly double that number. Staff expect the volume of requests to continue to grow as we move into the 2012-2013 academic year, and look forward to serving even more patrons as news of the service spreads around campus. A promotional campaign is set to begin in early November.

Materials Retrieval joins the Fine Arts Library’s AV Retrieval Service in offering a new level of convenience for Libraries patrons. In addition, we hope this service will inspire patrons to view our library resources with new eyes as physical access to our collections is enhanced. We invite you to explore the Library Catalog anew!

*- Melissa Nelson*



# Librarians Bike the Baltics

University of Texas Librarians Karen Holt and April Kessler were two of only seven Americans participating in the second annual Cycling for Libraries 2012 tour in the Baltic States in August. This unique format combined library discussions and 360+ miles of cycling from Lithuania, through Latvia, and ending in Estonia.

The Cycling for Libraries unconference is organized by a group of eight library professionals from Finnish Libraries who planned everything from funding to room and board. According to the founders of the conference, “Cycling for libraries supports grassroots networking, and internationalism, physical and mental well-being of library professionals, and — last but not least — the crucial role of libraries for the society and for the intellectual and scientific education in general.”

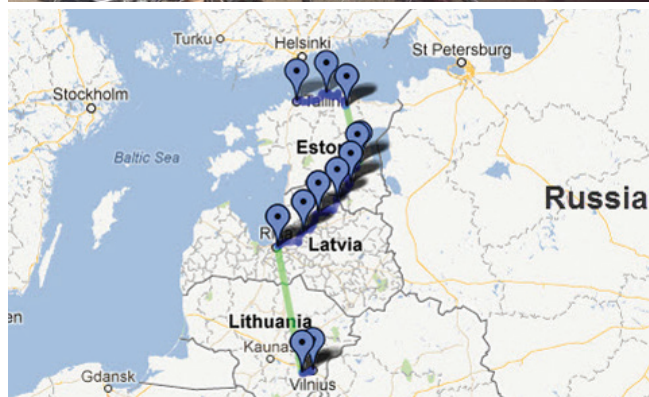
The untraditional conference offered a week and a half of library tours, workshops, and debates with over 100 librarians from 26 countries. Karen and April toured 15 libraries and through discussions on the road and in the classroom learned how much US Libraries have in common with and how different we are from our international counterparts.

Each participant was required to select a library issue that they wanted to solve during the event. Karen and April examined opportunities for entrepreneurship in libraries, and public and academic library partnerships. They also promoted the UT Human Rights Documentation Initiative and presented on the topic of library marketing.

Cycling for Libraries received tremendous press coverage in all three Baltic countries during the ride, and subsequently in library trade publications throughout the world including American Libraries and Library Journal. This conference brings attention to libraries in the host countries while providing a space for international cooperation of librarians.

Karen and April made life-long connections to globally-minded librarians and look forward to participating in this program next year. The location is yet to be determined, but potential locations include Africa or the U.K.

- April Kessler





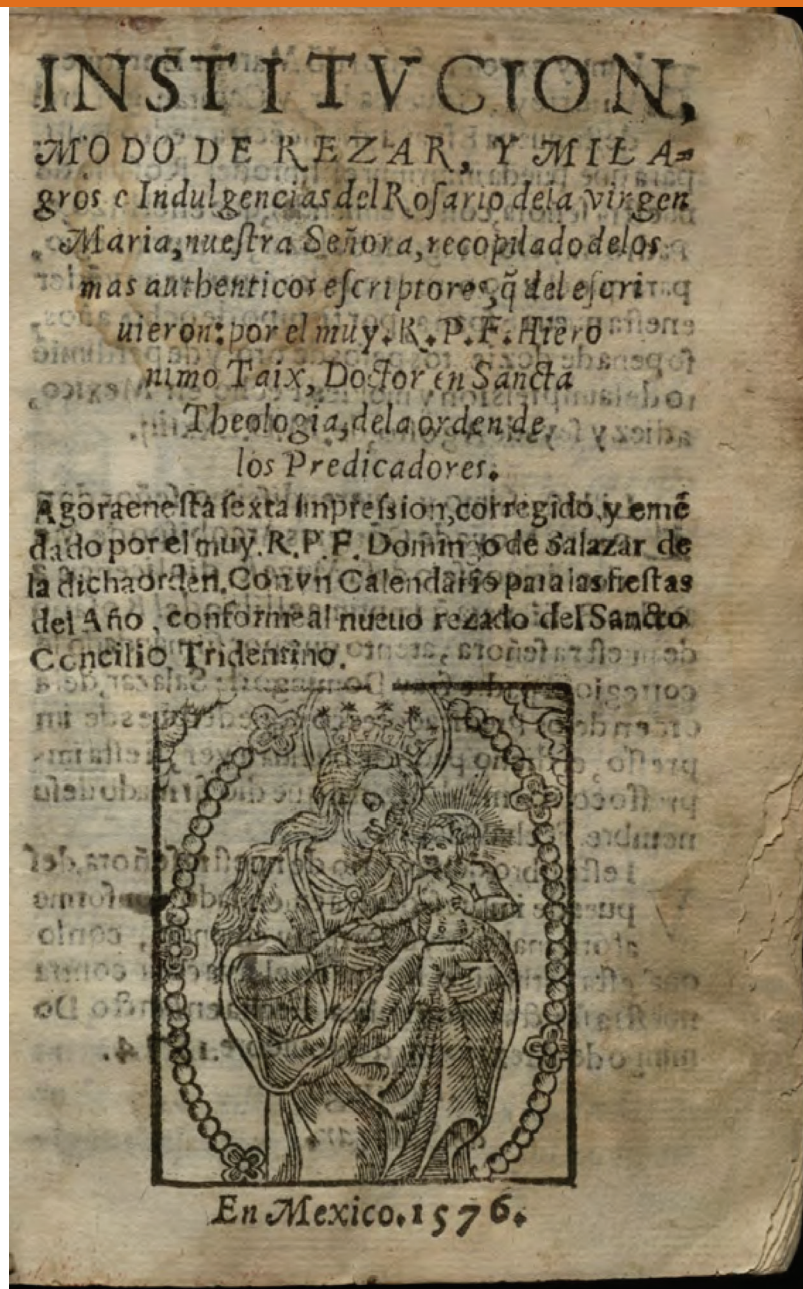
## Primeros Libros Project Adds New Partners

In July, the Primeros Libros project announced the incorporation of two new partner institutions: the Biblioteca General Histórica at Spain's prestigious University of Salamanca, and Mexico's Biblioteca Francisco de Burgoa at the Beinto Juárez Autonomous University of Oaxaca. These two new additions bring the total number of Primeros Libros partner institutions to 17.

The Primeros Libros project, of which the University of Texas Libraries and Benson Latin American Collection are founding members, seeks to digitize the first books published in the Americas, focusing initially on works published in Mexico in the 16th century. Each participating member library is entitled to a full set of the digitized exemplars of all partners as part of the project's innovative preservation and access strategy. The project inventory currently includes 248 exemplars.

The University of Salamanca brings 11 exemplars to the project, including five titles not previously covered by the project. One of these is the *Sumario Compendioso de las Cuentas de Plata y Oro que en los reinos del Perú son necesarias a los mercaderes y a todo género de tratantes*. Published in Mexico City in 1556, the *Sumario Compendioso* is the first non-religious text produced in the Americas and the first scientific text published outside of Europe. It was written primarily for merchants and miners involved in the silver and gold trade out of Mexico and Peru as a practical guide to help them manage their transactions, a sort of early precursor to the calculator. The *Sumario* contains tables that made it easier for merchants to get numerical values without having to do extensive calculations by hand, but there are also sections on algebra and quadratic equations.

The addition of the University of Salamanca's digitized version of the *Sumario Compendioso* to the Primeros Libros project is also important in terms of the repatriation of cultural patrimony to Mexico, one of the key goals of the project, since there are only three known surviving copies of the book in the world, none of which is in



*Institución, modo de rezar, y milagros e indulgencias del Rosario de la Virgen María (1576)*  
from the collections of Biblioteca Francisco de Burgoa.

Mexico (the Salamanca copy, one at the British Library, and one at the Huntington Library in Los Angeles). All seven Primeros Libros partner institutions in Mexico will now be able to feature this digital copy of the *Sumario Compendioso* as part of their local collections.

The Biblioteca Burgoa brings nine additional exemplars to the project. One of these, the *Institución, modo de rezar y milagros e indulgencias del Rosario de la Virgen María*, represents the only copy of this work in the project to date.

- Kent Norsworthy



## From the Director

Student life slows down a bit over the summer at the University, but work at the Libraries doesn't miss a beat — if anything it picks up. Traditionally, universities use the summer sessions to take care of infrastructure projects and to prepare

new programs and facilities for the coming academic year. That is still the case, but in our increasingly digital environment, we find that the accelerating pace of research and information seeking continues unabated year round. The work of the research university library follows apace, as is evidence in these pages.

Summer activities at the University of Texas Libraries reflect the entire spectrum of mission activities, from the installation of new furniture and expanded seating at several libraries, to the installation of new electronic equipment and technologies designed to better serve students and researchers. One of our key strategic investments is a new web discovery tool we have named scoUT (Search Content Online at the University of Texas), information about which is included in the lead story. It's yet another example of how we're adapting to the evolving nature of electronic research.

Meeting these many needs in times of accelerating technological change amidst trying economic circumstances requires disciplined focus. The Libraries' management team keeps a close eye on priorities to insure that all initiatives address core organizational purposes: teaching and learning, research, support for the university's community of scholars and students, and continued development of the expertise that makes our unique collection of intellectual resources available to this dynamic community.

So, while we're highlighting the plans already put into effect, we continue planning for the next transformations of library resources. Just as with research and teaching, strategic planning has evolved into a continuous process — assessment, planning, and evaluation followed by further assessment — that continues unabated from year to year. The pace of innovation insures that new opportunities are always just around the corner and fiscal constraints require that we move as nimbly as possible to address them.

It's an exciting age for research university libraries. I hope this brief newsletter gives you an opportunity to share in that excitement with us.