



Library Instruction Awards Information Literacy Grants

“One goal of the program is to create model approaches to information literacy integration that can be used in other Undergraduate Studies courses.”

In a pilot program made possible by a grant from the Libraries, Library Instruction Services has presented awards to eight members of university faculty for creative incorporation of information literacy into the classroom.

The Information Literacy Course Enhancement Program (ILCEP) provides Signature Course faculty in the School of Undergraduate Studies the opportunity to apply for small block grants to enhance efforts at building standard teaching and coursework to emphasize information literacy as a necessary component of learning.

“One goal of the program is to create model approaches to information literacy integration that can be used in other Undergraduate Studies courses,” says Michele Ostrow, head of Library Instruction Services. “For that reason, we have a mix of smaller format courses capped at 18 and larger format courses which can have up to 350 students to ensure we create materials and approaches that will be applicable to the full range of Undergraduate Studies courses offered.”

In this issue:

- C** Information Literacy Grants
- 1** Dr. David O. Nilsson
- 3** Fine Arts Rolls out the Red Carpet
- 4** Rivals Working Together
- 5** Taiwan's National Central Library
- 6** Literary Longhorns
- 8** Libraries Launch New Search Tool
- 8** Staff Highlighter: Gina Giovannone
- 9** Kristen Hogan Recommends
- B** Vice Provost's Thoughts



Dr. David O. Nilsson

Dr. David O. Nilsson is a scholar, educator and philanthropist whose interests and support span the breadth of the University of Texas. He holds three degrees from UT and spent his teaching career here as a special instructor in mathematics.

Dr. Nilsson's recent decision to create the first student scholarship for student workers in the Libraries is the latest of his many contributions to the university. He established the David O. Nilsson Endowment and Lecture Series for Excellence in Contemporary Drama and Literature, committed funds to the Nettie Lee Benson Latin American Collection, created an Endowed Presidential Scholarship in the College of Fine Arts, donated a rare photograph to the Harry Ransom Center and established a scholarship through the International Office for Mexican students at The University of Texas at Austin.

We recently sat down with Dr. Nilsson to talk about his relationship with the Libraries.

Tell us why you decided to give this gift to the Libraries for the student scholarship and what you hope to accomplish?

David O. Nilsson: Well, there's a sign that says, "Make a Gift," so I did.

You're very suggestible. There are so many opportunities you could support, what made you choose the Libraries' student scholarship?

DON: Well, because they're students, as opposed to researchers or something like that. And, I guess I don't know any researchers anymore. But the other part of it is, that the librarians have been so wonderful to me in so many different ways. I thought, 'Well, this is a way I can say thank you.'

You're giving back to the Libraries in a way that will help the people who have helped you.

DON: Yes. Indeed. That's a good way to put it.

You didn't have those sorts of relationships here at the Libraries until after you had already contributed, so what brought you to the Libraries in the first place as a donor?

DON: I placed out of both semesters of freshmen English. My first English was sophomore World Literature, and I was so fascinated with Henrik Ibsen and Thomas Mann and others, and someone was giving a lecture on campus — I don't remember who it might have been — but I said to myself, 'Well, why don't we do that on Ibsen or other modern drama?' So, it started from my sophomore English course, and was prompted by a sign somewhere.

What did you hope to accomplish with the scholarship other than paying it forward to the librarians that have helped you? How do you hope the students benefit from it?

DON: I don't seem to have any other way to help students. I tutored at Austin High School for ten years — I used to go there every day — and found great joy in helping the students. So I thought this was another way I could help the students.

You feel compelled to help.

DON: As it was with my career in the Boy Scouts. I was a Scoutmaster for 24 years, 1972-1996.

When did you teach at UT?

DON: '69 to '81, with four years out — two years for army, and two years for OU. I went into the army in '65, and in the spring of '66, I was about to exit the army, and somewhere I saw an advertisement that OU had a new doctoral program in teaching mathematics. So I thought, "Well, that's fine. I'll go to OU and get it there, then I'll come back here and be a professor." So, fall '66 and spring '67, fall '67, spring '68, I was at OU for four semesters.

So, that's 24 years here. And I kept teaching at ACC until 1996, so it was a total of 35 years teaching.

So what are your next steps? Where do you go from here?

DON: Just keep going. And I'm writing the math book. Strangely enough, it has something to do with the courses I was taking at OU. Since I didn't learn it there, and I didn't learn it here. One of the librarians happened to find a research paper for me from 1951, and it was interesting, so I looked up more of the references in that paper. David Gilson (Sr. Library Specialist at the Physics-Mathematics-Astronomy Library) found me some books on the subject, but none of those books include anything in that paper. So nobody ever followed up on what that guy did in 1951; the book is unparalleled in developing what this guy did 60 years ago.

How far along are you in the book?

DON: I'm on chapter three of seven chapters, and chapter three has 357 pages. It really is a book within a book. It's important that it will eventually end up in the UT Digital Repository, because everything is cross-referenced with links. I've been waiting, but I may go ahead and put up the first two chapters, but as I work on chapter 3, I realize that I need to go back to earlier chapters and add things. I work on it every day. And have a glass of sherry before bed.

What have you thought of the installations of the Nilsson Lecture In Contemporary Drama & Literature thus far? Do you have a favorite?

DON: I've enjoyed all of them. They're not quite what I expected...I expected something more akin to graduate student lectures. But they're drawing such nice crowds, and everyone is enjoying them — and I'm enjoying them.

Information Literacy Grants : continued from Cover

In this pilot of ILCEP, Library Instruction Services (LIS) received 23 applications for the eight available awards.

Faculty-submitted applications were evaluated by a selection committee composed of representatives from LIS and Undergraduate Studies. Awardees received notification in the Fall 2012 semester for courses occurring in the Spring and Fall 2013 semesters.

Faculty members begin with a workshop on backward design presented by the Center for Teaching and Learning, after which they are paired with an LIS librarian and, as needed, the Undergraduate Studies Writing Coordinator to develop assignments integrating information literacy into their courses. Assessments are constructed to determine the effectiveness of the methods, the outcomes of which will be shared with Signature Course faculty for future use in creating courses.

ILCEP was made possible by an Imagination & Innovation Grant — a program that provides Libraries staff the opportunity to develop novel initiatives or projects central to the work of their units, while advancing Libraries priorities.

The recipients of ILCEP grants for 2013 are:

Spring 2013

David Beaver, Philosophy & Linguistics, UGS 303:

Minds and Machines

Pascale Bos, Germanic Studies, UGS 302: *Reel Horror*

Guy Raffa, French & Italian, UGS 303:

Dante's Hell and Its Afterlife

Michael Webber, Mechanical Engineering, UGS 302:

Energy and Infrastructure Systems Field Laboratory

Fall 2013

Cory Reed, Spanish & Portuguese, UGS 302:

Cultures in Contact: Spain, Mexico, and the American Southwest

Jonathan Kaplan, Middle Eastern Studies, UGS 303: *Jerusalem*

Leticia Marteleto, Sociology, UGS 302:

Social Inequality and Education in Latin America

Deborah Paredez, English, UGS 303: *Performing America*



THE TYPE WRITER IN THE 21ST CENTURY

A film about a machine and the people who love, use and repair it.

<http://typewritermovie.com>

DIRECTED BY
Christopher Lockett

PRODUCED BY
Gary Nicholson

Fine Arts Rolls Out the Red Carpet

The Fine Arts Library undertook a first-of-its-kind event in April with the Texas premiere of a documentary about a machine and the people who use, love and repair it.

“The Typewriter in the 21st Century” — by filmmakers Christopher Lockett and Gary Nicholson — documents 30+ interviews with authors, collectors, journalists, professors, bloggers, students, artists, inventors and repairmen (and women) who meet for “Type-In” gatherings to both celebrate and use their decidedly low-tech typewriters in a plugged-in world.

The film features authors Robert Caro and David McCullough, combined winners of 4 Pulitzer Prizes, 3 National Book Awards and a Presidential Medal of Freedom, and both avid typewriter users. They provide fundamental commentary about process and the value of slowing down, writing actual drafts and revising in a world of instant, draft-less editing.

The film was inspired by a May 2010 article in Wired magazine called “Meet The Last Generation of Typewriter Repairman.” Director Lockett and producer Nicholson discussed the importance of the typewriter in 20th century literature, their conclusion being that every great novel of the 20th century was written on one, and if typewriters are in their final days, they deserved to be celebrated one last time.

The screening was followed by a Q&A featuring producer Gary Nicholson and John Payton, owner of a typewriter “museum” in Taylor, Texas.

Accompanying the event was an exhibit of historic typewriters that includes machines used by Walter Cronkite and Andy Rooney — both on loan from the Briscoe Center for American History — and former theater professor Oscar Brockett, as well as examples of typewriter art, authentic instruction materials and typewriter scholarship.

Unique events such as this documentary screening are made possible by the philanthropic support of our alumni and friends.

Rivals Working Together

The University of Texas and Texas A&M University systems celebrated the opening of the Joint Library Facility on Friday, May 24, at Texas A&M's Riverside Campus located west of Bryan, Texas.

The \$6.3 million, 18,000-square-foot library facility will house about 1 million books culled from the general and reference collections of the state's preeminent universities and make them available for use by other academic or medical institutions.

Previously, the two institutions have partnered on a high-density library storage facility located at The University of Texas at Austin's J. J. Pickle Research Campus that required stricter environmental controls for the preservation of sensitive materials including special collections.

"We are delighted to participate in this innovative venture with Texas A&M," said Bill Powers, president of The University of Texas at Austin. "As the state's flagship research institutions, our library holdings help address today's needs while providing a foundation for Texans of tomorrow. The joint library storage facility will provide for the preservation of this vital cultural record, while ensuring that the books and documents remain available for study and research for students and scholars."

The new facility will help alleviate pressures as campus research libraries continue to add volumes and related resources. The facility will keep the burden of storage costs off the individual campuses in both systems.

"At a time when academic libraries face twin challenges of limited space and diminishing financial resources, this collabora-



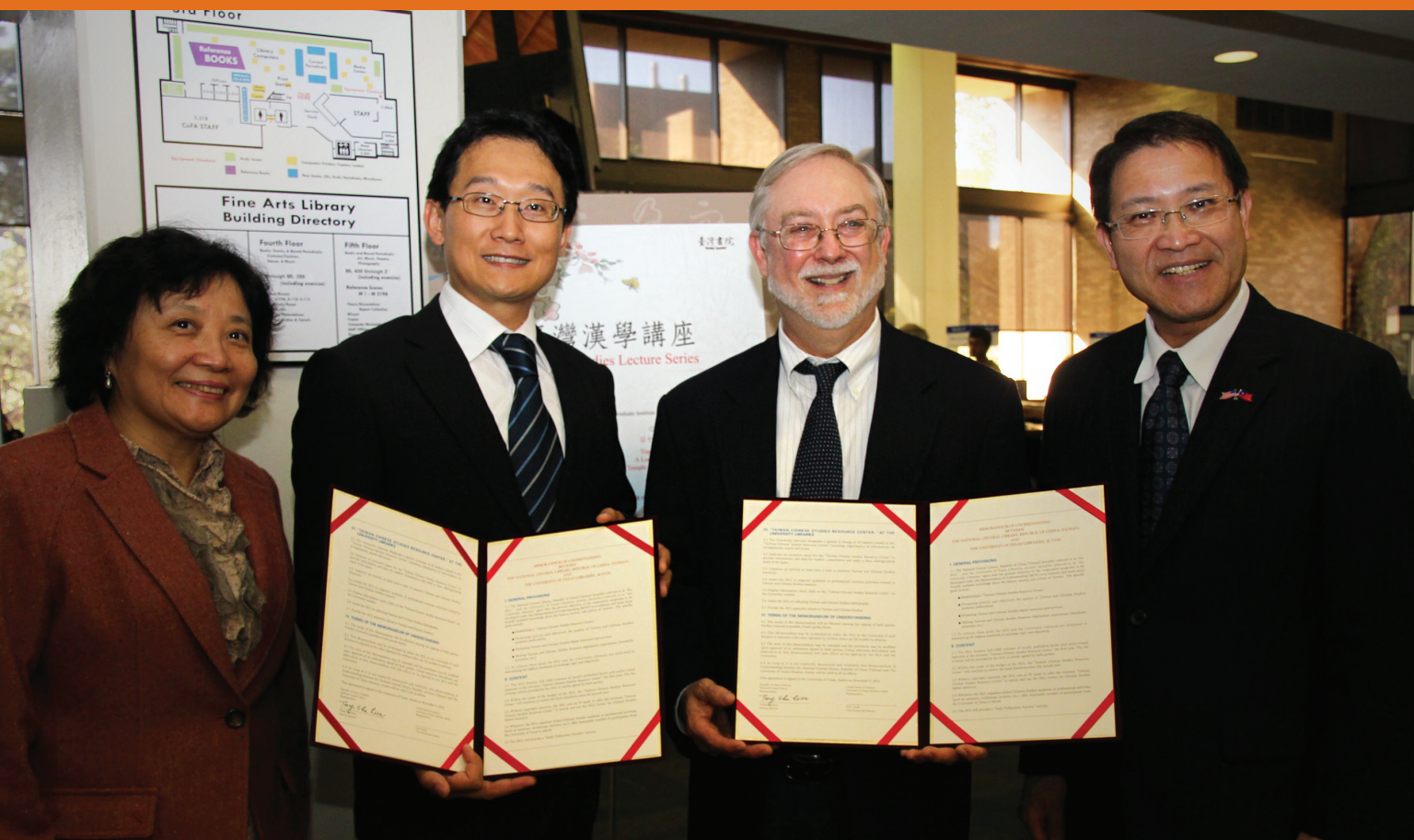
tive solution is a model for how unified efforts can result in positive outcomes for all involved," said Fred Heath, director of University of Texas Libraries. "While we maintain a competitive rivalry that constantly challenges our respective institutions to reach ever higher, we also recognize that we share common goals that benefit from working together. The success of this project is another example of that collaborative spirit."

"As we rely increasingly on digital technologies for access to information, this facility allows us to protect the vital legacy of print materials and provide timely access to the originals," said David Carlson, dean of Texas A&M University Libraries.

To further streamline collections at involved institutions, the partners have developed a novel process through which the participants can "share" a single copy of dupli-

cated holdings in storage. This eliminates redundancy in individual collections while preserving a collective copy that can be recalled for use in research and study among users at multiple institutions.

The efforts to jointly implement new approaches to preservation aren't limited to physical resources; the two systems have found virtual ways to collaborate in the field of storage, as well. A partnership between The University of Texas at Austin and Texas A&M resulted in the establishment of the Texas Digital Library—an online repository for electronic theses and dissertations that today includes more than a dozen regional members, including many schools from the University of Texas and Texas A&M University systems.



Dr. Leo N. S. Lin (center left) of the National Central Library of Taiwan and Doug Barnett (center right) of the Libraries flanked by representatives of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office (TECO).

Libraries Join Taiwan's National Central Library in Endeavor

The University of Texas Libraries have partnered with the National Central Library of Taiwan to establish the first-ever Taiwan Chinese Studies Resource Center (TCSRC) as part of its permanent collections.

The National Central Library exchanged a memorandum of understanding with the University Library on November 5, 2012, at a launch event at the Fine Arts Library at The University of Texas at Austin.

The TCSRC will be the platform for Taiwan to promote and share its both Taiwan and China studies with the faculty, scholars and students of the university.

Known for its collection of more than 12,000 volumes of rare books from the pre-modern period of Chinese history, the National Central Library is making its collection available to readers around the world. Through a collaborative initiative between the Libraries and the National Central Library, three dozen prime examples from the rare book collection of NCL, represented in high-quality replicas, were included in an exhibition that accompanied the opening of the TCSRC

and became the permanent foundation for the resources provided to the Libraries.

The initial collection encompasses four major areas: Literati leisure, dramatic literature, health and medicine, and nature. The volumes, which are rich in text and illustrations, serve as windows into the life and mind of an ancient world surprisingly similar to our own.

The opening included a lecture by Dr. Fang-Mei Chen Professor, Graduate Institute of Art History at National Taiwan University for a Taiwanese Chinese Studies Lecture on how the cultural significance of Temples in Taiwan have, in recent years, become a research focus for scholars, especially those in the social anthropology and architectural history fields.

Dignitaries from the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office (TECO) in Houston who helped facilitate the agreement that brought the resources to the Libraries were in attendance to celebrate the opening.

Literary Longhorns

Recently, three of our donors decided to increase their giving to become Literary Longhorns, UT Libraries' premier donor group.

JD Torian, grew up in Houston, but knew Austin was the place for him within his first 24 hours here. Now, he is the owner of Austin's Pizza (his favorite pizza topping is pepperoni) and has begun a wonderful partnership with the Libraries. JD became interested in the Libraries because they are "the physical presence of knowledge. Everything that separates us from the animals seems to be in them somewhere. Or at least, I hope it's all there. It's the foundation of the University."

Q: What did you want to be when you grew up?

A: I wanted to be Sting from The Police.

Q: JD, I know your degree is in English, but what did you want to do after college?

A: Disappear into the Texas Hill Country and teach high school.

Q: Favorite book?

A: *David Copperfield*. Funny, heartbreaking and heartwarming. I've never read anything that's come close, and I don't expect to. It's Dickens, after all.

Q: What about when you were a kid, what was your favorite book?

A: *The Giving Tree* by Shel Silverstein. I can't read it to my boys without losing it. My older sister saved my copy and gave it to them recently. Now, I really can't read it.

Q: How does your philanthropy reflect your values?

A: I think it instructs them. The more I work with the Libraries, the more I read. The more I read, the more I encourage my kids and those around me to read, get involved, or do something.

Q: What is on your nightstand now?

A: *Wolf Hall* by Mantel; *The Virginian* by Wister; *All the Pretty Horses* by McCarthy

Q: What is the last thing you DVR'd on television?

A: DVR is full of Jimmy Fallon, and embarrassingly enough, "Downton Abby."

Q: Who was the person who most influenced you?

A: Depends on what I'm doing, really. Stephen King talks about his muse, and I think I have a few different ones. Would so-and-so be proud or happy if I did this? What would this guy do? It depends on the activity, I guess. My parents are very philanthropic, so for citizenship it's my folks.



J.D. Torian

Q: Do you have a personal mission statement, slogan, etc.?

A: EB White said it best:

"I arise in the morning torn between a desire to improve the world and a desire to enjoy the world. This makes it hard to plan the day."

Thank you for your support JD, as a donor and Advisory Council member.

Two consistent donors, Libraries staff member, **Linda Abbey**, and her husband and UT faculty member, **Dr. Mark Hayward**, also made the decision to generously support the Libraries.

Mark, a Navy brat, grew up all over the US, and Linda, a West Coast native, met in Seattle, fell in love, and moved across the country to State College, PA, but are now quite settled in Austin, and squarely set on Austin being home for the long haul.

Q: What is your favorite book?

A: (Mark) I like mystery novels set in different countries. I love *Out* by Natsuo Kirono. To me, it captures the essence of everyday Japanese life and culture. I also really love *Smilla's Sense of Snow* by Peter Hoeg. It's a mystery novel set in Denmark.

(Linda) Wallace Stegner's *Angle of Repose*. Actually anything by Stegner. His writing is luminous and I love his depictions of the American west.

Q: What about as children – favorite books?

A: (Mark) *The Hobbit*

(Linda) *A Wrinkle in Time*

Q: Why are the Libraries important to you?

A: (Linda) I work here by choice — because the Libraries are so central to everything at the university – everyone is an alumnus of the library. Being at the center of it all is exhilarating.

(Mark) They preserve and disseminate the capstone parts of our culture.

Q: How does your philanthropy reflect your values?

Q: What about your DVR?

A: (Mark) Probably NCIS.

(Linda) Mark's got this one!

Q: Who was the person who most influenced you?

A: (Linda) My Nana—my dad's mom. She always stayed current on music and pop culture, even into her 80's she was living proof that staying engaged and involved in the world makes for an interesting life.

(Mark) It is hard to pick out any one person. I've had a wealth of people influence me over my life. I had some superb teachers throughout school — and parents who really supported my teachers' efforts. I think it takes a village.

Q: What is your favorite think to drink with pizza?

A: (Mark & Linda) If we answer anything other than beer, are we drummed out of the corps? Beer! BUT! We are not a hop-heads. Preference: Belgium-style triples and quads.

Q: Do you have a personal mission statement, slogan, saying?

A: (Mark) Work hard — and play hard too! They're complementary activities.

(Linda) Don't overthink anything. Generally your first instinct is the right one.

Thank you Linda and Mark! We appreciate all of the support you give, individually and as a household, to the Libraries.

Literary Longhorns is a distinguished group of donors whose contributions directly support the growth of the UT Libraries through exclusive involvement in the acquisition and preservation of rare books, manuscripts, and other special items, as well as facilities renovations and library programs. The members of Literary Longhorns, including individuals, corporations and foundations, are donors who have cumulatively given or pledged to give at least \$25,000. Pledges are payable over five years.

If you are interested in joining JD, Linda and Mark, please contact our Chief Development Officer, Gregory Perrin at: perring@austin.utexas.edu.



Linda Abbey and Mark Hayward

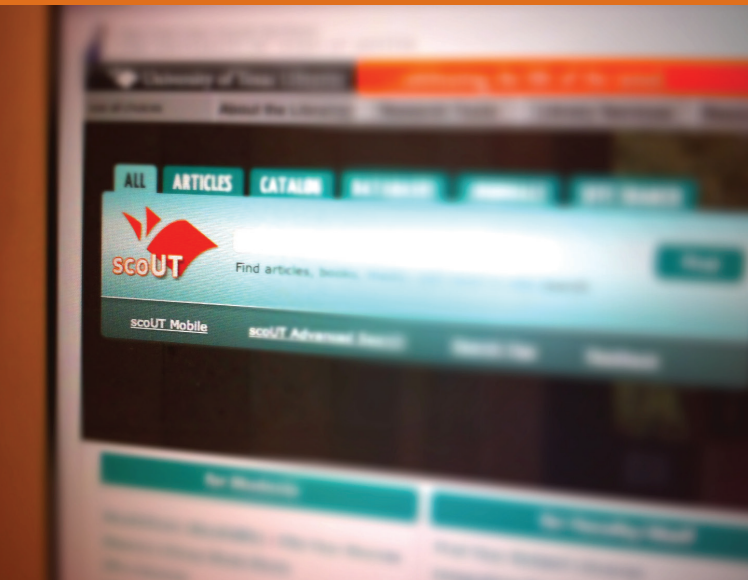
A: (Linda) I could never ask someone to support the Libraries if I didn't believe in them enough to support them myself. It's pretty simple.

(Mark) I think contributing to the Libraries is a lot like a meme. It helps spread ideas to all sorts of people.

Q: What is on your nightstand right now?

A: (Mark) Sheetrock dust. We're remodeling the master bathroom. But, I've been re-reading the Robert Sapolsky books about biosocial behavior.

(Linda) On my Kindle! I just finished up *Ghost Story* by Jim Butcher. On my nightstand to read is Justin Cronin's newest book, *The Twelve*.



Libraries Launch New Search Tool

The Libraries have centralized access to over a billion resources with the launch of a new comprehensive search tool.

The web discovery tool scoUT (Search Content Online at the University of Texas) employs a unified interface to search the combined resources provided by the Libraries.

Visitors to the Libraries home page can now 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.

scoUT is the new comprehensive starting point for research, primarily intended for students who need to find information about a topic, but who don't need to do a comprehensive literature search, or those users not already familiar with discipline-specific databases and journals.

The system — powered by Summon from Serials Solutions — will continue to offer easy access to the library catalog, specialized database and lists of journals, but now search returns will be augmented with content drawn from external online sources. Users of scoUT broadly search resources for general information, or use the tool's advance search functions to delimit for more focused results.

Staff Highlighter: Gina Giovannone

What's your job? I am a library supervisor in the Classics Library (ancient Greek and Roman history) at UT.

Age? I'll be 51 next month.

Hometown? I was born in a coal mining town called Tonypandy in South Wales, UK.

How long have you worked at the Libraries? I've worked in libraries for 23 years, love it.

Favorite book? That's a hard one. Maybe Wilkie Collins *The Woman in White* or Sir Walter Scott's *Ivanhoe*.

What's your most memorable story from the Classics Library? I think it has to be when a student called Aaron proposed to another student called Tracy. He made me keep her occupied while he left a treasure hunt type trail of clues in Latin poem books. When she solved the clues, which lead her to our closed stacks, he was in there on one knee and asked her to marry him. They've been happily married for about 5 years now.

You've been recently involved in some international intrigue. Care to elaborate? I'll refer you to the link: <http://goo.gl/2c15g>. All I can really think to say is that this is one of the joys of working in libraries, you never know what you're going to be asked next!

Dogs or cats? As a cat rescuer I think you can guess my answer.

This is the crystal ball question: where are you in ten years? On a beach in the Bahamas sipping a strawberry mojito after winning the lottery.





Kristen Hogan Recommends

Kristen Hogan: English Literature and Women's and Gender Studies Librarian

I want to share with you some of the books which have helped me learn how to become myself and that this becoming, as Aimee Carillo Rowe describes it, is ever in process. These are the heart stories, and I hope some of them are yours, too. Happy reading!

A Tale for the Time Being / *A Novel by Ruth Ozeki (Viking, 2013)*

This is a book meant for reading aloud. That is, it is two books in one, one read in the other. Picking up a Hello Kitty lunchbox washed ashore in a plastic bag along the Pacific coast, character Ruth (some relation to the

author?) finds inside Nao Yasutani's diary of her young life in Japan and her aspirations to write the memoir of her great-grandmother, a feminist novelist, activist, and Buddhist nun. Distracted (happily?) from her own memoir of her mother, recently lost to Alzheimer's, Ruth reads the diary aloud to her partner Oliver. Feeling the weight of both memory and time as being itself, Ozeki thoughtfully kneads the time of her readers into the pulse of her characters, which is to say, of each other: the ticking of the Kamikaze pilot watch that arrived with the diary, the timing of the arrival of the lunchbox on shore perhaps too soon to be drift from the devastating Tsunami, the sections of the writing broken up into numbered sections because Ruth wanted to read the diary as if in real time, Nao's choice of a craft notebook created of a recycled cover of Marcel

Proust's *In Search of Lost Time*. My partner and I have read this book aloud to each other, and our own time has seemed to grow deeper with each syllable. Both Ruth and Nao breathe deeply Zen Master Dogen's premise that, "in essence, everything in the entire universe is intimately linked with each other as moments in time, continuous and separate."

Power Lines: On the Subject of Feminist Alliances / *By Aimee Carillo Rowe (Duke University Press, 2008)*

It will be difficult, Aimee Carillo Rowe acknowledges, but we have no other choice: "Belonging precedes being." This project began when Rowe was a graduate student interviewing faculty members who identified as feminist about their relationships with other feminist allies across racialized difference. Rowe takes us into offices, lovingly holds painful moments of missed or damaged connection. Rowe reflects on how her narrators' readings of her identity influences their relationship with her, grounds these relationships in her own family history. She urges us to work towards transracial fluency by paying attention to our own identities and learning about histories and vocabularies that are not our own, but she warns that this necessary transracial fluency does not erase differences in unearned privilege. And it is a challenging, non-appropriative love, Rowe insists, that invites women of color to become allies with each other or for (in my case) white women to become allies with women of color. Rowe reminds us, "Alliances are the interface between intimacy and institutionality." In order to build more just institutions, we must be able to talk with – to love – each other. If we can see institutionalized power in our own loves, our own belongings, Rowe asks, how might we change ourselves and our institutions (our libraries!) if we were accountable to "the needs and demands, struggles and joys, of those whose lives and loves are excluded from the realm of our affective economies?"

Feminist, Queer, Crip / By Alison Kafer
(Indiana University Press, 2013)

Because this redefining book will change readers, this is not simply a loving description of my friend's book (though I hope it is, at least in part, that, too). I say this book changes readers because in it Kafer maps out how the futures we encounter in popular culture often erase disability, and she asks us to reimagine different futures with each other. In the tradition of marking the unmarked to make it visible, she points out that those who consider themselves "able-bodied" are, in fact, temporarily able-bodied, or TAB. And this doesn't let us off the hook for making change. This recognition of the fluidity "between disabled and able-bodied/able-minded," Kafer urges, "requires more attention to how different bodies/minds are treated differently, not less." Kafer recognizes that "bodies" are always specific bodies, marked by privileges and oppressions of gender, race, class, and sexuality; she works to describe how disability has been used to shore up these systems of power. Crip, by contrast, is a movement word, one that refuses to allow disability to seem depoliticized. Disability is political: when diabetes occurs in disproportionate levels among communities of color in the U.S., when asthma manifests at higher rates around industrial pollution within working class communities, when reproductive testing encourages prospective parents to select for a future without disability, when disability is something for individuals to overcome rather than something institutions participate in constructing. Disability activists continue to disrupt these assumed "truths," and Kafer calls for more coalition building between queer, feminist, and crip scholarly and community-based work. Building an affinity with queer time, Kafer uses crip time to take apart Western (near-sci-fi) stories of the future as a place without disability, without difference. The rich present work of disability activists makes possible this provocative possibility of "crip coalition as accessible futures."

Part personal/relational narrative, part savvy cultural analysis, part call to action, this book urges readers into crip coalition.

Erzulie's Skirt / By Ana Maurine Lara
(RedBone Press, 2006)

I am drawn in by the ways that small independent presses can make visible the reflection, theorizing, skillfull weaving of authors usually excluded from larger mainstream houses. Though she is now an activist publisher out of Washington, D.C., Lisa C. Moore founded RedBone Press, publisher of books by Black queer authors, right here in Austin. Ana Maurine Lara lived in Austin when this book came out, when she released this story of imagining how two women could make a life together in the Dominican Republic, where Lara was born. Lara deftly weaves an African diasporic spiritual cosmology, a life force enacted in intentional ritual, calling on the presence of ancestors to more clearly understand the systems at work in the present. From the racial segregation and vast gap in socioeconomic class in Haiti and the Dominican Republic, the U.S. is not a promised escape but has supported continuing inequity. Through Miriam and Micaela, their dialogues about Haitian and Dominican identities, their places in globalization, their love of themselves and each other, Lara fantasizes a new economy based on community connection. Teaching this book in my WGS301: Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies classes always invited students to experience hope that small changes would eventually topple huge systems.

Sister Outsider: Essays and Speeches
/ By Audre Lorde (Crossing Press, 1984)

Imagine squeezing into the last seat in a Chicago hotel conference room in 1977 for the "Lesbian and Literature Panel" at the annual meeting of the Modern Language Association;

Audre Lorde breathes in, eyes the room, and delivers her paper "Transformation of Silence into Language and Action." These silences perform "the mockeries of separations," Lorde calls them, "that have been imposed upon us and which so often we accept as our own. For instance, 'I can't possibly teach Black women's writing – their experience is so different from mine.' Yet how many years have you spent teaching Plato and Shakespeare and Proust? Or another, 'She's a white woman and what could she possibly have to say to me?' Or, 'She's a lesbian, what would my husband say, or my chairman?' Or again, 'This woman writes of her sons and I have no children.' And all the other endless ways in which we rob ourselves of ourselves and each other." Imagining being in that room with Audre Lorde never fails to give me goosebumps. We must learn from these differences through story in order to end injustice. This book of collected essays, then, documents Lorde's presence in and interruption of some of the most canonical spaces, and it also charts her deep involvement with Black lesbian feminist publishing: essays have been published in *Black Scholar*, in *Essence*, in *Conditions*, and the book itself appeared as part of *The Crossing Press's Feminist Series*, edited by Nancy K. Bereano, who went on to start the lesbian feminist Firebrand Books. Lorde herself had by this time been instrumental in founding *Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press*. For her, writing, publishing, and distribution were part of the vital work of seeing each other and changing ourselves. "Change means growth, and growth can be painful," Lorde acknowledges. "But we sharpen self-definition by exposing the self in work and struggle together with those whom we define as different from ourselves, although sharing the same goals." If I had been in that conference room, I hope I would have had the courage to make my way through the crowd to thank her.



From the Director

Traditionally, summer has represented something of a lull in the pace of academic libraries. Not quite so this year. This summer we are actively refurbishing buildings, implementing changes to our technologies, and readying our programs for the full-scale support of

teaching and research in the Fall. Still, summer is the time to reflect on accomplishments of the past year and consider opportunities for the next academic term. Looking over the stories in this issue, I can't help but marvel at the continued dynamism and evolution of our libraries, one of our university's most valuable assets.

Our libraries connect students and scholars with the best of information resources. And here you will read of two very different ways that connection has occurred. You will learn of our relationship with the National Central Library of Taiwan, and of a very generous gift of facsimile rare book editions from our partner. I think you will also enjoy learning about scoUT, a new comprehensive search tool that vastly expands the universe of resources that can be located by students. So, yes, the traditional book endures as a persistent teaching and research resource even as the volume of electronic resources increases exponentially. In

fact, the venerable printed book is the central character in an almost incredible news story: the University of Texas System and the Texas A&M University System have joined together to build a shared library facility that will increase our ability to preserve the printed record of human culture into the future.

Amidst the excitement accompanying the arrival of new books, new technology, and new buildings I am reminded anew that it is the human element that drives our mission in support of teaching and research. And in service to that worthy pursuit, the expertise and dedication of library professionals and staff is essential. Our sustained involvement with the crossroads of information and learning remain central to the University mission – whether it be as partners in teaching the skills of a digital age, collaborators in remembering accomplishments of the past such as the typewriter, or guides to the information that might shape our future. All of this is possible only because friends and supporters worldwide — like the Literary Longhorns included in this issue — share our enthusiasm and commitment to the mission. I hope that you will find all the following stories as interesting and encouraging as do I.

Spilhaus