Encouraging the Warrior Scholar:
The History of the California State University, Stanislaus Warrior Book Collection Contest

What do King Ashurbanipal, Frederick the Great, Miyamoto Musashi, Salah-al-Din, General George S. Patton, the Ming Emperor Yongle, Colonel T.E. Lawrence, and Queen Zenobia of Palmyra all have in common? They were great warriors who were equally fervent about books and learning.

The CSU Stanislaus Warrior Book Collection Contest has its origin in the Mascot Design Competition of 2004 when ASI President Cesar Rumayor and the students organized a grassroots movement to choose a mascot by vote. The AVP for Development & University Relations agreed and offered prize money - provided faculty, staff, and alumni could both make submissions and vote. Cesar asked me to re-submit a version of my design that won the 1998 vote and this won again in 2004. Of course, I was very pleased at winning and began to think that the $1,000 prize money now provided an opportunity to initiate an idea that had been floating around in my head for some time.

When I was an undergraduate at UC Santa Cruz in 1986, I won their Book Collection Contest (sponsored by the Friends of the Library) and the $200 prize went a long way towards helping me buy books and pay for registration fees – not to mention encouraging my book collection mania. The Warrior Mascot prize money could fund a similar contest here for three years – with the hope of securing future donations to perpetuate the contest and perhaps even increase the prizes. An account was set up for this purpose and a “literary” version of the winning mascot was created for the first contest in the spring of 2005. The judges were Dr. Armin Schulz (Teacher Education), Amy Andres (Library) and myself. John Brandt of the Library built a web page with the contest details (http://www.library.csustan.edu/bookcontest.html). The very first winner was José García for The Call for Radical Democracy.

Our contest was mentioned in the Sept/Oct. 2005 edition of Fine Books and Collections Magazine (http://finebooksmagazine.com/issue/0305/collectors-1.phtml) and later in the year, the editor told me about their plans to hold a national Book Collection Contest Championship with very generous prizes (http://finebooksmagazine.com/contes/). The chance for our local winner to enter the national contest would be a great incentive to our students.

The 2006 judges were Dr. Scott Davis (English) and Priscilla Peters (Library) and yours truly again, and the Warrior Book Collection Contest had its first tie for First Place Creative Monastic Women in Medieval Times by Patricia Eshagh and Howard Phillips Lovecraft: A Man beyond Stories by John Bultena – both of whom were eligible to enter the National Contest but, regrettably, their essays did not make it to the finals.

It is my fondest hope that the contest can continue to encourage and reward our Warrior bibliophiles and I hope you will join with me in spreading the word for the 2007 Book Collection Contest.

~Brian Duggan
From the Dean

Welcome to Vox, the new newsletter of the University Library. We hope you will find our new look appealing, and I am sure you will still find lots of interesting content. This issue features the Warrior Book Collection Contest, which was inaugurated in 2005 through the inspiration and generosity of Brian Duggan of the campus Faculty Multimedia Lab. On the front page of this issue, Brian describes the origins of the contest. With the desire of institutionalizing and insuring that the contest will continue in perpetuity at CSU Stanislaus, Brian has asked that the University Library assume full responsibility for coordinating and carrying out the contest each academic year. Thus, I am pleased to announce the inauguration of this year’s contest. Consonant with both University and University Library strategic goals in support of student learning, the purpose of the contest will remain as originally established, that is, to reward and encourage the appreciation of books, scholarly research and student writing skills. Winners of this year’s 2007 contest will receive a cash award of $300 for 1st place, $200 for 2nd place and $100 for 3rd place.

~Carl Bengston

Warrior Book Contest Rules

1. The competition is open to all regularly enrolled undergraduate and graduate students at CSU Stanislaus.
2. Collections shall consist of at least 25 titles owned and collected by the student.
3. Collections do not need to consist of rare books or hardbacks. The substance of the collection and its meaning to the owner will be of chief importance.
4. Entries will be judged on the qualities outlined above and must include:
   a. An essay which describes how and why the collection was assembled and its personal significance to the owner. The essay should be single-spaced and no longer than three pages in length. Name, major, address, email, telephone number, and student ID # must be included in the title page of the entry. [A sample essay is available online at http://library.csustan.edu/images/Contest-sample-essay.pdf]
   b. An annotated bibliography of at least 25 titles, each numbered. Annotations should be 50-100 words each and describe the significance of the item to the collection. Annotations should not include plot summaries. [Contestants can view the Library’s guide to annotated bibliographies at http://library.csustan.edu/guides/Annotated_Bibliographies.pdf, and they can view a sample annotated bibliography from the 2005 competition at http://library.csustan.edu/bookcontest/book-contest-2005.pdf]
   c. A wish list bibliography with annotations of at least ten titles that would enhance the collection.
5. Entries must be submitted to the Dean of Library Services, L105, by the contest deadline. Email entries are not acceptable. Contestants may consult with the Dean (667-3232) prior to the closing date if they have questions about the eligibility of their collections. The Library Administration will be responsible for making copies for each of the judges.
6. Each of the three finalists will be notified in advance of the awards ceremony and asked to submit 10 representative books for an exhibit lasting approximately one month in the University Library.
7. The complete entry (essay and bibliographies) will be kept by the University Library.
8. Responsibility for the Warrior Book Contest will rest with the Dean of Library Services.

2007 Timeline

Friday, April 6 at 5:00 p.m. .......... Deadline for submissions
Early May. ................. Awards ceremony and library display
In his introduction to Books and Book-Collectors (Cleveland: World Pub. Co., 1957), John Carter describes three ways in which book collecting can appeal to collectors: through the eye, based on their printing, illustrations or binding; through the intellect, based on the “power, influence, or significance” of their content; or through the imagination, drawing on some sense already present in the collector.

The three winning entrants from the 2006 Warrior Book Contest were notable not only for the passion they displayed as collectors, but also for the variety exhibited by their collections. John B. Logan, an undergraduate majoring in English, garnered third place with his collection of books on military history related to World Wars I and II. In the essay accompanying his submission, “Two Events That Define the Human Race and Usher in the Post Modern World: World War One and Two,” Logan describes the quest that has driven him since childhood to understand the moral dilemma inherent in mankind’s expenditure of “labor, money and human flesh in his effort to destroy his fellow man.” His approach to this dilemma is to empower himself through knowledge, and he employs book collecting to foster that knowledge.

Tying for first place were the collections of two graduate students whose collections represent a personal interest that blossomed to form the basis for a graduate program in Interdisciplinary Studies. John Bultena’s collection of works by and about Howard Phillips Lovecraft grew out of his youthful interest in gaming. In his accompanying essay, which he titled “Howard Phillips Lovecraft: A Man Beyond Stories,” Bultena describes how the books in his collection bring him into dialogue with Lovecraft. He writes, “[i]n this book collection… I have found a friend, someone whom I can relate to, whom I can understand. It is my goal to bring this friend out into the world and give him more of the academic recognition that he deserves.” Bultena’s graduate program explores the interplay between creative writing and philosophy, using Lovecraft as the focal point.

By contrast, the spark for Patricia Eshagh’s collection, “Creative Monastic Women in Medieval Times,” was struck during a lecture on illuminated manuscripts in an undergraduate course on medieval art in Spring 2002. “Nuns illuminating manuscripts?… What nuns and why hadn’t I heard of this before?” That spark led to a research quest for information on medieval women and in particular, medieval women illustrators, and subsequently to a graduate program in Interdisciplinary Studies. Eshagh writes, “It has been four years since I had the epiphany in a medieval art history class. Rather than diminish over the years as often interests do; my passion and drive to uncover information about the illumination of manuscripts by medieval nuns has remained constant and unrelenting. Suffice it to say, this project has become my life’s work.”

~Priscilla Peters

Warrior Book Contest Winners

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~Priscilla Peters
Book Jackets Promote Library Collections


Librarians are killing two birds with one stone by displaying new book jackets around the library. They both beautify the library and advertise new acquisitions.

“We were throwing these book jackets away when we processed the new titles,” explains reference librarian Tim Held. “But they are an important way to hook the curious reader with color and design. We were missing an opportunity to trumpet one of the best reasons to come to the library… the latest books.”

Tim has been using five large bulletin boards located around the second floor of the library. They highlight books in History, Social Science, Science, Literature, Philosophy, and Sports. They have been well received by patrons, who browse a la Barnes & Noble. The difference is patrons can check them out for free!

According to Andre Garza, the librarian in charge of the Space Committee at the library, “We are making a concerted effort to re-define the library partly through being creative with the space. Fostering a more bookstore-like atmosphere is one way to make libraries more user-friendly. Look for more changes in the future that respond to how students are using the library today.”

So if you need a good read, check out the latest book jackets on display around the library, and look up the title in the online catalog to see if it’s waiting for you on the shelf.

~Tim Held

New Databases

As the nature of research changes and as more and more resources become available electronically, the CSU Stanislaus Library continues to expand our collection of databases and other electronic resources. The majority of these acquisitions are made possible thanks to the efforts of SEIR (CSU Systemwide Electronic Information Resources) and COLD (CSU Council of Library Directors), who work together to negotiate consortial agreements with vendors and to provide centralized funding for some of these resources.

During this past year, the Library was able to add a number of valuable new databases to our collection of electronic resources. Some of these are geared toward specific disciplines, while others are more interdisciplinary. The full list of additions is available from our Library Home Page under the “What’s New” link and includes such essential reference sources as Mergent Online, Gale Literary Databases, Mental Measurements Yearbook, and Biological Abstracts, as well as several new electronic journal collections.

~Arthur Buell

Featured Database: CINAHL

As the core database for nursing, CINAHL (Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature) has been a mainstay at CSU Stanislaus ever since it came online in the late 1990’s. However, the lack of online full text has been a source of frustration for the students and faculty in our rapidly-growing Nursing Department. Even with the addition of SFX linking technology, the sheer number of different journals indexed meant that students often had to rely heavily on interlibrary loan to get the materials they needed.

However, all that has changed with the acquisition of CINAHL Plus Full Text, CINAHL Select, and Pre-CINAHL. Together these three databases represent a major enhancement to CINAHL. CINAHL Plus Full Text includes the full text of articles from over 300 of the journals indexed in CINAHL, while CINAHL Select adds another 170 full-text journals with coverage back as far as 1973, including 120 peer-reviewed publications. Pre-CINAHL indexes new journal articles that haven’t yet been included in the CINAHL database. The numerous full-text articles and the expanded coverage of these new resources are proving to be an invaluable asset for our Nursing students and faculty.

~Arthur Buell

Tim Held
Reference & Instruction Librarian

Hailing from Eugene, Oregon, Tim Held is one of our newest librarians. Tim’s road to the University Library began at the University of Oregon where he received his Bachelor’s degree in English and German. He would go on to earn a Master’s degree in English Literature at Boston College. Following a stint teaching English at Oregon community colleges, Tim decided to earn a Master’s degree in Library and Information Science at the University of Washington. Tim demonstrates his enthusiasm for higher education and the University Library not only in the regular duties of his role, but also as the Library’s Interim Instruction Coordinator. Tim is the Librarian Liaison to the Agricultural Studies, Anthropology, Economics, and Geography departments.

Contact him at: theld@csustan.edu

Interlibrary Loan Statistics 2005-06 (p.5), 2006-07  IC 2  Question 1  EL 110
**Something about the University Library**

- With funds allocated by the University, the Library purchases approximately 4,000 new print books a year.
- The Library currently subscribes to 1,500 print journals and provides access to 15,000+ electronic journals.
- The Library is a Federal Depository Library and currently selects to receive 35% of the total Federal government documents available to the public.

The Library’s Technical Services team consists of 6 full-time library assistants, 1 part-time staff member, 6 student assistants, and one librarian. Here is a snapshot of part of its work life… presented in figures…

**During the school year 2005…**

- 4,700+ new books/music CDs/videos/DVDs were purchased, added to the library catalog, and processed for use.
- 1,000+ gift books were cataloged, processed, and made available for use.
- Some 35,000+ journal items were received, processed, and sent for public use.
- Some 700 hours were spent on resolving issues related to and bibliographic control of journals in electronic format.
- 900+ records for electronic journals and electronic books were added to the library catalog.
- 1,500+ print government documents were received and processed for use by the public; and 4,300+ sheets of microfiche were received and added to the documents collections.
- 1,000+ business e-mail messages were sent and received by the acquisitions team.
- Some 120 hours were spent on special processing – it takes 8.6 min. to add a plastic hard cover to a paperback, and 4.2 min. to add a book jacket….
- 1,300 library items were mended; 354 hours were spent on mending – it takes an average of 16.3 minutes to mend one item….
- Less than ten hours were spent on formal department meetings; numerous hours were spent on informal collegial discussions and consultations….

**What’s New in Interlibrary Loan? (ILL)**

The Interlibrary Loan Department and Library Systems’ staff were busy last summer implementing a new system for electronic document delivery. Articles requested by students, faculty and staff are now delivered electronically to the patron’s ILLiad account whenever possible, where they can be immediately retrieved as a PDF file. This service will provide faster, more convenient document delivery to patrons, while saving on paper and printing costs. The response to this delivery method from faculty and students has been very positive!

Patrons can access ILLiad from home or campus, and go online to register, submit requests, request renewals, check on the status of requests, and change personal information or preferences.

Another recent improvement in customer service is the use of email notification when materials arrive, as well as for renewals, overdue notices and cancellation of unfilled requests.

**ILL Statistics for 2005-06:**

- 16,569 requests were processed by CSUS ILL department
- 1,997 loans were provided to other libraries
- 4,484 articles/photocopies were provided to other libraries
- 2,552 books were borrowed from other libraries
- 2,226 articles/photocopies were received from other libraries
- 57% of borrowing requests were filled by other CSU libraries

The ILL Department obtains materials not owned by our library from an international partnership of libraries. In the past year, we have borrowed materials from libraries in Canada, the British Library, Denmark and Australia. We have also filled requests for loans or photocopies for libraries in Puerto Rico, the Czech Republic, Guam and Hong Kong.

~Julie Reuben

**New Works in the University Library**

A list of works recently acquired by the University Library is now available via the Library’s Website http://library.csustan.edu/acquisitions/. Book titles are arranged by Library of Congress call number, providing an inventory of new works in a specific subject area. The site also includes new video recordings (VHS and DVD), sound recordings (e.g. compact discs), and Master’s Theses.

Since only one subject-based call number is assigned to each work, books on a broad topic can be found in different areas of the list. For example, depending on the main thrust of the content, books covering ancient Greece might be found under Philosophy (B), Anthropology and Customs (GT), Sports (GV), History (DF), Architecture (NA), Ancient Language and Literature (PA), and Military Science (U). To find all current publications on a subject available in the library, search OLLIE (the library catalog) by keyword and use the “limits” button to display only recent years.

The current site includes titles acquired from January through June, 2006. The University Library plans to update the site at regular intervals in the future. From the Library’s home page http://library.csustan.edu/, select “What’s New?” to find the most recent list.

~John Brandt
Oldest Books in the Library Uncovered

After engaging in a bit of sleuthing, a couple of librarians have identified the two oldest books in the library’s collection, and indeed both of these old books are interesting and significant works. By far the oldest book is a small Latin text that is both classic and understated. It is a “scholar’s edition” of Lucretius’ De Rerum Natura (loosely translated as “On the nature of the universe”), published in Venice in 1515 by the Aldine Press. What makes this edition significant is not only that it is an early printed text coming out of the humanist tradition of Renaissance Italy, but also that the book was issued by a printing house of great importance in the history of printing. The printer, Aldus Manutius (1450-1515), is known for several striking innovations in book format and type design, forms that have since been adopted universally in publishing and book-making down to the present day.

In 1501, Aldus initiated a classics series that included many first printings of Greek and Latin texts. The books issued in the series are recognizable for their small, compact format (very unusual at the time) and the use of the italic font (first known as “Aldine type”). These “pocket books” were in great demand since they were highly portable, inexpensive to purchase, and they exhibited the best scholarship available. Aldus’ italic typeface, adapted from an early handwriting style, was the first use of italic font in printing history. Our own copy of Lucretius is an example of one of Aldus’ classic editions. Indeed the book is quite small, measuring approximately 4 by 6 ½ inches, about the size of a small paperback. Each of the volumes of the classics series displayed a now famous “printer’s device,” or logo, depicting the anchor and dolphin with the name ALDUS split by the anchor stem. Despite being nearly 500 years old, the book has a remarkably modern feel to it. Our Aldine press book came to the University Library in the early 1970s as a donation from Dr. Catherine Rau, Professor of Philosophy (1965/66 - 1972/73).

Our earliest English language book is a 1611 imprint issued by one the many printing presses of the Protestant Reformation. The full catalog citation is as follows:

Ursinus, Zacharias, 1543-1583.

The Summe of Christian Religion: delivered by Zacharias Ursinus in his lectures upon the catechisme, authorised by the noble Prince Frederick throughout his dominions: wherein are debated and resolved, the questions of whatsoever points of moment, which have beene or are controverted in divinitie /

London: Translated into English by Henrie Parrie, and lately conferred with the last and best Latine edition of D. David Pareus. Imprinted by H.L[ownes], and are to be sold by Arthur Johnson, 1611.

The work is a theological study that outlined and delineated the Heidelberg Catechism, first published in 1563. Ursinus was then known as a prominent Calvinist theologian, and the Heidelberg Catechism was considered the second great catechism (next to Martin Luther’s) of the Protestant Reformation churches. This exceedingly old and rare book came to the California State University, Stanislaus Library in 1970 as part of a large Assyrian book collection acquired from a local Turlock minister, the Rev. Eshoo Paul Sayad. The Sayad collection consists of many rare and unusual books, including several other theological texts, centering on Assyrian history, culture, and religion. It is a well-rounded collection spanning from the ancient origins of the Assyrians in the civilizations of Mesopotamia up to modern times in Northwestern Iran and parts of Iraq. The collection consists of several hundred volumes, including reference books, grammars, bibles, and historical works, many of which have been integrated into the library’s main collection. However, well over 100 of the books are printed in the ancient Syriac script. The oldest and rarest books of the collection reside in a special, monitored area of the library’s special collections.

Each volume of the Sayad Collection contains a bookplate honoring Eshoo Paul Sayad. The bookplate features Syriac script in large font running around the borders with the English text “Established in Memory of Paul and Rebecca Sayad” (the donor’s parents) in the center.

~ Ken Potts
California State University, Stanislaus

Interlibrary Loan Usage 2006-2007

- 16,571 requests were processed by CSU Stanislaus ILL department
- 2,532 loans were provided to other libraries
- 5,047 articles/photocopies were provided to other libraries
- 2,546 books were borrowed from other libraries
- 2,766 articles/photocopies were received from other libraries
- 49% of requests were filled by other CSU’s
- 5% of requests were filled by UC campuses

Source: Julie Rueben, Interlibrary Loan 09/12/07