

FOCUS

THE FRIENDS OF THE GOUCHER COLLEGE LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

Road to the Library at the Athenaeum

Ribbon cutting marks opening of loop road

by Jennifer Spieler Curry



President Ungar leads trustees and other dignitaries in the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

An early morning ceremony under a white tent marked one of the first milestones for the creation of the Athenaeum at Goucher. On September 7, faculty, staff, trustees, and several delegates and congressmen gathered to celebrate the opening of the new loop road with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

As John Bond, the new chair of the Goucher Board of Trustees, welcomed everyone to the event, he made mention of his own special connection to Goucher College. Bond's mother, Roselie Sturtevant Bond '40, and his aunt, Barbara Sturtevant Conway '35, both graduated from Goucher. He also commented that the Athenaeum, once constructed, will

“form the intellectual heart and soul of our campus” as a place “where faculty, students, and other members of the Goucher community can come together, exchange ideas, and learn from each other.” Bond also took the time to thank the Maryland state legislators in attendance, including Delegates Sue Aumann, William Frank, Adrienne Jones, and John Trueschler. Other prominent officials present included U.S. Congressman Ben Cardin and Calvin Burnett, the secretary of higher education for the Maryland Higher Education Commission. The relocation of the loop road, the first stage in the building of the library and Athenaeum, was made possible by a capital grant from

the state of Maryland.

President Ungar added to Bond's comments with the hope that the Athenaeum becomes not only a place for exchange within the Goucher community, but also among “the members of communities around us—in Baltimore, across the nation, and around the world.” Pattie Batza, vice chair of the Board of Trustees, echoed the excitement surrounding the ceremony. The moving of the loop road, in her words, “puts us one step closer to realizing our Strategic Plan. It allows us to transform the campus, joining the intellectual, social, and cultural

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FALL 2004

Vol. 49, No. 1

FOL

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Julia Rebecca Rogers

Library Launches Research Fair

Event celebrates birthday of Julia Rogers

By Margaret Guccione and Thomasin LaMay

The Julia Rogers Library celebrated the 150th anniversary of Julia Rogers' birth by holding a research fair to share 70 research projects with the campus community. On October 27, 2004, the library displayed the research work of Goucher students, faculty, and staff throughout the library. This work included papers, recently published books, performances, graphic arts, and other formats. All divisions and most departments of the faculty were represented.

The day included a program of remarks by President Sandy Ungar, Academic Dean Michael Curry, Chair of the Faculty George Delahunty, and College Librarian Nancy Magnuson, followed by birthday cake in the library lobby. All participants were very enthusiastic about the opportunity to

share such a broad range of work.

As part of this celebration, the library staff announced the Julia Rogers Research Prizes: three annual student research prizes of \$250 each, one for a first- or second-year student, one for an upperclass student, and one for a graduate student. The undergraduate prizes will be sponsored by the Friends of the Julia Rogers Library for the first year, and the graduate prize by the library and the Welch Center for Graduate and Professional Programs. The prizes will be awarded during National Library Week in the spring. Other college and universities have reported very successful programs like this, and we are very excited about giving it a try. See more about the fair, including pictures, at www.goucher.edu/library.

From the College Librarian

By Nancy Magnuson

Since the last issue of Focus, the Julia Rogers Library has been honored by a number of notable guests. During her April speaking engagement at Goucher, author Maxine Hong Kingston spent some time with students and library staff at a tea party celebrating National Library Week. Also in April, Graeme Cottom, a Trustee of the Chawton House Library and Centre for the Study of Early English Women's Writing, paid a visit to the rare book room to see our Jane Austen Collection. International dance scholar Kathrine Sorley Walker also visited the Austen Collection while at the library to see the book collection we received as the bequest of retired dance professor Jane Ward Murray. The day before graduation in May, commencement speaker Maurice Sendak stopped by to see the library's display of his books. Earlham College's Tom Kirk, as mentioned elsewhere in this issue, was our other May visitor.

In June, the library staff went on a field trip to the Dickinson

College Library as a way to gather ideas in planning our own new library facilities. July brought a follow-up visit from Tom Claerson, OCLC's Manager of Education and Planning for Digital Collection and Preservation Services, who had spent two days at the library in February. Claerson's consultancy was funded by a preservation planning grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, and his report will aid the college in planning the new library building. We were gratified to hear his assessment of our special collections as remarkable in size and depth, and "in good hands," though lacking sufficient appropriate space.

Finally, I'm delighted to announce that Diane Fuller has joined the library staff in the new part-time position of coordinator of library services for limited residency programs. Fuller has an MLS from Rutgers and a "day job" as an information specialist at the University of Maryland Health Sciences and Human Services Library. Welcome!

Goucher Memorabilia Brought Back to Campus

Alum buys historical scrapbook online

By Jennifer Spieler Curry

A piece of Goucher history might have been lost were it not for the watchful eye of Jeremy Kraut-Ordovery '01. While surfing the auction website ebay.com, he spotted a rare gem up for bid—a scrapbook dating back to 1919 from Rose Catherine Hales, documenting her freshman year at Goucher and her ultimate transfer to Cornell University.

Currently the Associate Director of Development at the California Western School of Law in San Diego, Kraut-Ordovery says he often likes to search the web for all kinds of memorabilia (including items from Goucher). He chose to have the scrapbook returned to Goucher because of his research experience in the library archives.

As a history major with a political science minor, Kraut-Ordovery wrote his senior thesis on Goucher's shift from an all-female college to a coeducational institution, and he appreciated the vast resources available to him for his studies. Kraut-Ordovery plans to make higher education his career someday, hopefully in an executive position at a small liberal arts college like Goucher, because of his successful college experience.

Who knows what might have become of this scrapbook, whose former home was in Taneytown, Maryland (only an hour away)? The library appreciates Jeremy's generous donation and dedication to helping to preserve Goucher's past.

Politics: Memorabilia Surrounding the American Presidency

New exhibition on display outside rare book room

by Jennifer Spieler Curry

As the country elected a new president this year, Sydney Roby, the special collections and preservation librarian at Goucher, thought it the perfect time to highlight some of Goucher's political collections in a new exhibit. Called *Politics*, the exhibit features a wide array of political memorabilia from several sources.

Some of the older pieces in these varied collections date back to the 18th century. The Winslow Collection of Political Memorabilia features a wide array of silks (a forerunner to political buttons), buttons, and pins from across the years. Dr. Clinton Winslow was chair of the political science department at Goucher from 1926 to 1958.

Most of the contemporary pieces found in the exhibit come from the Brownlee Sands Corrin Collection of Political Memorabilia, named after Professor Corrin, political science department chair from 1958 to 1973, and founder of the communications department at Goucher. An interesting feature of Corrin's collection is a remarkable assortment of media: almost 300

reel-to-reel tapes, videotapes, and videocassettes of politicians in the media, including political advertisements, inaugurations, debates, and convention footage. Rounding out the exhibit are items that Roby continues to gather from donors who know of the college's interest.

Roby hopes that those who stop by to view the exhibit find it not only educational but also entertaining. Some of the more lighthearted items on display range from a three-page foldout of a tastefully nude Henry Kissinger to a pack of "Eisenhower for President" cigarettes—not to mention all four aces from the now infamous playing cards of wanted Iraqi leaders. She also notes that there are plans for a space in the new library to display these political collections more prominently, for both scholars and visitors.

Items from both collections are also displayed digitally on the Goucher library website. To view these collections, head to www.goucher.edu/library, and click on the library services link.

was located downtown on Saint Paul Street, Magnuson stated that this small step in opening the loop road "gives us license to think in bold new terms about the possibilities a library may represent and the role it may play" in the life of the Goucher community. Magnuson wholeheartedly expressed the enthusiasm of the library staff in taking these steps to embrace their expanding role on campus.

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aspects of college life through the creation of this important venue."

As folks mingled and chatted in between remarks, College Librarian Nancy Magnuson perhaps summarized best how this first step begins a brand new chapter of Goucher's history. Recognizing that the library first began as a handful of books in Goucher Hall when the college



Friends Update

By Kenna Forsyth & Beverly Winter

We would like to bring you up to date on our proposed new relationship with the College, outlined in the "Cooperative Endeavor Agreement." See the Friends section of the Goucher website (www.goucher.edu/library/index.cfm?page_id=323) for details. The Friends would dissolve as a separate tax-exempt nonprofit (501c3) and come under the umbrella of the College, in order to take advantage of Goucher's financial services and various insurance policies. We would, however, continue to be independent and in control of our finances and activities. At our May meeting, the Friends membership agreed to this relationship with Goucher. President Ungar has reviewed the document and will present it to the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees, who will make the final decision on its implementation.

New Membership

Yes, I wish to join the Friends of the Goucher College Library; my contribution is enclosed.

Please make your check payable to Friends of the Goucher College Library. Mail this form and your check to Friends of the Goucher College Library, Julia Rogers Library, Goucher College, 1021 Dulaney Valley Road, Baltimore, MD 21204.

- Benefactor (\$500 or more)
- Sustaining Friend (\$250)
- Contributing Friend (\$100)
- Patron (\$50)
- Friend (\$25)
- Associate Friend (\$10)

Faculty, staff, faculty and staff emeriti, first-decade alumnae/i, and student membership level

Name

Street address

City

State

ZIP

Telephone number

E-mail address

Expanding the Information Environment

Task force tackles information literacy

by Nancy Magnuson

Last May, Academic Dean Michael Curry appointed a new task force to examine the issue of information literacy: the ability to identify, find, understand, evaluate, and use information. The concept expands what we have traditionally called the research process to include tools for an increasingly complex information environment.

The Goucher task force is composed of co-chairs Nancy Magnuson, college librarian, and Jill Zimmerman, associate professor of mathematics and computer science, as well as other librarians, technologists, and faculty from all divisions.

The task force was asked to work with existing curriculum-related groups to explore information literacy opportunities in majors and in the general educa-

tion program. Members were also charged with reexamining the current computer proficiency requirement in light of a raised awareness about information literacy, developing a plan with faculty to promote the importance of information literacy, and recommending a mechanism for support of collaborative curriculum development projects that will bring together the expertise of faculty, librarians and instructional technologists.

Work began with a visit from Tom Kirk, a national leader in the area of information literacy who serves as library director and coordinator of information services at Earlham College. His two days at Goucher included a talk to the Goucher community entitled "Are Your Graduates Prepared for a Changing World? Can They Find, Evaluate, and Use Information

Resources Effectively?" In addition, about 35 local librarians attended a reception hosted by the library to honor Kirk's selection as the 2004 Academic/Research Librarian of the Year by the Association of College and Research Libraries.

Over the summer, the task force held discussions about computer proficiency and developed materi-

als to use with first-year writing classes and Frontiers, the first-year seminar. The agenda for the coming year is a full one, including creating a plan to be included in the college's next re-accreditation report to the Middle States Association.

A Warm Thank You

The library staff at Goucher wishes to express their gratitude to the Friends, on behalf of all Goucher students, for their generous offering of coffee and doughnuts during exam week last semester. The students were pleasantly surprised and appreciated the thought tremendously, with many expressing their thanks personally to the library staff.

Friends of the Goucher College Library
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