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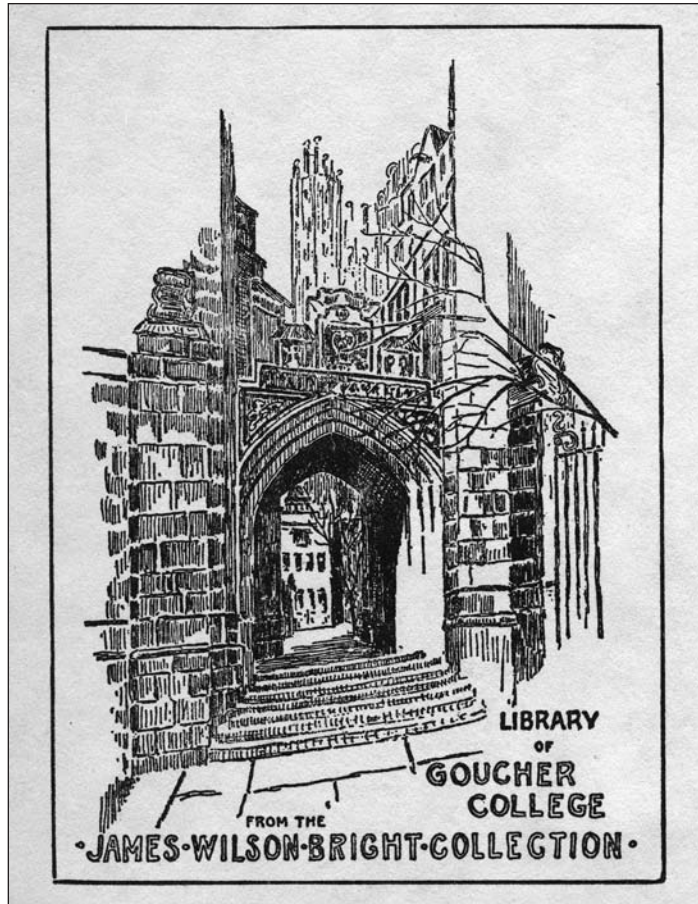
THE FRIENDS OF THE GOUCHER COLLEGE LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

Goucher Grants Help Preserve and Publicize Rare Books

by Gail McCormick, Special Collections Librarian and College Archivist

Goucher College is well known for the Henry and Alberta Hirshheimer Burke Collection of Jane Austen material, but its collection of nearly 5,000 books on English language and literature may not be as familiar. Purchased from Johns Hopkins professor and Anglo-Saxonist Dr. James Wilson Bright (1852-1926) in May 1925, the collection includes many of Goucher's rarest volumes, including 175 books published before 1700. This group seemed a perfect sample for testing creative ways to preserve rare books and special collections, while making them more accessible for research and curriculum development.

Associate Professor of English Arnold Sanders, Special Collections Librarian and College Archivist Gail McCormick, and recent Goucher graduate and Presidential Scholar Victoria Van Hying developed a pilot project to integrate these special collections into a rigorous, interdisciplinary academic curriculum. Improved access, including electronic images, will help educate local students and distance learners, support faculty publication, and attract researchers from the region and the world. Improved preservation, primarily in the form of rare-book enclosures, will help prepare the collection for its eventual move to the Athenaeum. The Office of the Academic Dean supported the initial work on this project with a \$500 grant to purchase preservation supplies. The project also was awarded a \$5,000 Innovation Grant to acquire a



A bookplate from the Dr. James Wilson Bright collection

high-quality digital camera, support the salaries of two part-time summer workers, and purchase additional supplies and reference materials.

Victoria Van Hying and fellow 2006 graduate Jordana Frankel have identified the pre-1700 titles in the original Bright Collection inventory, noting those that are not yet included in Goucher's online catalog. They have also begun to analyze and record unique characteristics of each volume, including unusual bookplates, bindings, annota-

tions, ownership marks, and illustrations. At the recent American Library Association's annual conference in New Orleans, the Rare Books and Manuscripts division discussed a trend toward improving access to the unique qualities of rare books. Rare-book librarians from a variety of institutions expressed interest in our project and its emphasis on curriculum enhancement and student training.

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FOL

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The Julia Rogers Resource Delivery Program

Interlibrary loans give college access to many resources

by Randy Smith, Research Services Librarian

In the past, if you attended a small college like Goucher and the library's collection was not sufficient, you had to travel to a larger institution for the "right" book or magazine. Today, such scenarios are a distant memory. Current Goucher students, faculty, and staff are able to search the catalogs of nearly every library in this country and beyond by using the library's WorldCat database. While an extensive search engine is helpful, it is necessary also to provide an easy means to gain access to the actual material—in a reasonable amount of time and at the right cost to the Goucher community.

Fortunately, the provision of resource delivery, often labeled "interlibrary loan" or ILL, is a well-developed service at the Julia Rogers Library.

Over the past year, the library borrowed more than 1,600 items for eligible Goucher requestors, including books, magazine articles, videos, CDs, and musical scores. Items varied from best-sellers, to dissertations, to obscure old tomes. Among the titles we borrowed were Margaret Sanger's papers, *Dorm Room Feng Shui*, and *Theatre sans Animaux*.

Students, faculty, and staff make

their requests by filling out simple online templates. We do not charge for these transactions, and we can usually put a requested item into a user's hands within a week. Some libraries even send article copies to us electronically, making for "next-day delivery." Not surprisingly, use of our ILL service is rising, up 33 percent from two years ago.

Interlibrary loans are able to save the college money and build relationships with other institutions through this mutual exchange process. Once in awhile, we resort to buying an article or book to satisfy a

special research need, but this request is rare. We have strengthened our commitment to the lending side over the past few years. Most libraries must be lenders as well as borrowers for a nationwide interlibrary loan system to work. This past year we responded positively to nearly half of the borrowing requests received.

We will continue to improve our ILL system, using software that allows the library to send and receive scanned images of articles or books. This process is both more efficient and produces clearer-looking pages than do fax machines.

"Goucher Grants" continued from p. 1

One new curriculum idea developed from the Bright Collection initiative is a course titled *Hypermedia / Print / Manuscript—Archives of Endangered Media and the Future of "the Book."* This interdisciplinary English course has been awarded a \$1,600 grant from the Nancy Larrick Crosby '30 Fund for Excellence in Teaching to help with implementation. Special Collections staff will work with faculty to identify topics of interest and train students to handle relevant rare materials. The Center for Teaching, Learning, and Technology (CTLT) staff will train students to do digital imaging and to create web-pages to display their work. In addition, Arnie Sanders has been awarded three grants by the Faculty Affairs Committee to support the project. Two Travel and Research Grants (totaling \$2,600) enabled him to take courses at the Rare Book School in descriptive bibliography and the 15th-century book. A third Summer

Research Grant of \$3,000 (from the Elizabeth Nitchie Fellowship Fund) added to the funds needed to purchase the digital imaging hardware and student researchers' archival work.

A small space adjacent to the Special Collections and Archives department in the Julia Rogers Library has been converted into a digital photography lab. Students will be trained to digitally capture images of the unique rare-book characteristics identified in the analytical phase of the project. The CTLT has also provided the project a workspace for editing the digital images.

An exhibit on Dr. James W. Bright and his collection, prepared by Victoria Van Hynning, is on display in Special Collections and Archives. For more information about the Bright Collection and the initiatives to preserve and publicize it, please contact Gail McCormick at 410-337-6347.

Julia Rogers Research Prize Winners Announced

Winners of the Julia Rogers Research Prize for papers written in 2005 were announced at a ceremony held during National Library Week in April. These awards are given to Goucher students for outstanding research using library resources. Winning entries received a \$250 prize, sponsored by the Friends of the Library and presented by then-President Kenna Forsyth.

First-year/Sophomore: **Kate Murray '08, and Gregory Bortnichak '08.** "Why It Hurts to Write: An Analysis of Pain in the Writing Process." Written for English 221: Theories of Composing, Tutoring, and Teaching. Nominated by Professor Arnold Sanders

Junior/Senior: **Alex Wood '05.** "No Way Out: The Paradox of Woodrow Wilson's Response to the Race Question." Written for History 338: Seminar in Modern European and American History. Nominated by Professor Jean Baker

Graduate: **Debra Piekrel MAHP.** "The End of an Era: The James V. Forrestal House (No. 17 Beekman Place, New York, New York, 1932-1940)." Written for Historic Preservation 613: Urban History. Nominated by Professor Stuart Meck

From the College Librarian

by Nancy Magnuson

We're happy to welcome our new bibliographic services librarian Cynthia Ogden. Cindy arrived on August 9 to replace catalog librarian Trish Keogh in a newly redefined position. Trish left in April to become head of cataloging at Long Island University's Brooklyn campus. Cindy was most recently the technical services librarian at Cumberland County Library System in Carlisle, Pa. She has a B.S. in food science from Purdue University and an M.L.S. from Clarion University of Pennsylvania, as well as experience with employers as diverse as Starbucks and Harley-Davidson.

This fall the library is taking a large leap toward the 24/7 environment we envision for the Athenaeum. In partnership with the Center for Teaching, Learning and Technology and the college's IT division, we are combining equipment and staffing to extend library hours by more than one-third. Under this arrangement, the computers from the 24/7 labs in Froelicher Hall are moving to the library, where we are doing lots of rearranging to accommodate them. Portions of the student staffs of the library and CTLT are being combined to operate a merged service desk that will replace the current library circulation desk, and additional public safety staff are being hired to provide late-night coverage. One of the most frequent student suggestions in our 2005 LibQual+ user satisfaction survey was for additional hours.



Jaime Bogardy '08, with books for Baltimore Reads

One of the other things learned in that survey was the need to do a better job of marketing our collections and service. We've formed a task force to meet with the college's Office of Communications to look at a range of marketing issues—publications, events, on-campus publicity, webpage, even the role of the Friends in what we do (this newsletter is a great marketing tool for us), and how everything fits with the move to the Athenaeum.

The library webpage at <http://www.goucher.edu/library> has been completely redesigned, thanks to the efforts of IT librarian Margaret Guccione and college webmaster Bob McPeak. You'll note a link to Friends information is now on the front page.

As part of our National Library Week celebration in April, the library held a children's book drive to benefit the Baltimore Reads Book Bank, which has provided new and gently used books to disadvantaged families in Baltimore since 1992. Its goal is to spark family reading by making sure there are plenty of books available to take home. We received donations from students, staff, faculty, and Friends; the drive was coordinated by student assistant Jaime Bogardy, who delivered four big boxes of books to the Book Bank on May 6.

An exciting event last spring was the opportunity to visit two newly renovated Baltimore City elementary school libraries. The Langston Hughes and Dr. Rayner Browne libraries were inspired by the Library Initiative in New York City, about which many of you heard Henry Myerberg speak at Goucher in December 2003. At the beautiful new Langston Hughes library, we were pleased to discover Goucher alumna Elaine Schwartz as the librarian.



Librarian Elaine Schwartz '57, with Langston Hughes students

Lastly, I hope you saw the March 31 article in *The Baltimore Sun*. Poet Anne Sexton's last reading was given at Goucher College on October 1, 1974, three days before her suicide. The college's fragile recording of that lecture was reformatted, with the support of the Kratz Center for Creative Writing. The student

group Word for Word staged a public listening that was very well attended, including by some who had attended the original event. The recording is one of the treasured items in the library's archives, and we are investigating a larger initiative to reformat other unique media items.

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 _____

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City _____

State _____

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Friends Update

by Cori Rich Tyner '82, President

Happy fall!

In my new role as Friends of the Library president, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank those who have helped the Friends with our recent accomplishments. First and foremost, our thanks go out to Kenna Forsyth for the countless hours she spent as president of the Friends of the Library. Kenna played an instrumental role, with the aid of Wilma Zimmerman '64, working on the group's revised bylaws. Also, Steve Klepper did a wonderful job working on the agreement between Goucher and the Friends of the Library, and I would like to report that it has been approved. Our gratitude also goes out to Natasha Mathias '85 for her many years as the organization's treasurer. She

maintained our books to the highest level of proficiency. In addition, we would like to welcome new board members Pat Blanchard '74, and Gretchen Weaver Marcus '60.

We wrapped up the year in April by holding one of the most successful events Friends has had. Our annual meeting was held during Alumnae/i Weekend this year. In collaboration with this weekend, we had Marion Rodgers '81, give a talk on her best-selling book, *Mencken: The American Iconoclast*. Marion gave an inspirational and captivating lecture that thrilled more than 150 guests.

Our guest this fall is Leslie Burger, director of the Princeton Public Library and current president of the American Library

Association. The title of her talk will reflect her presidential theme: "Libraries Transform Communities." Please mark your calendars for November 2, at 7 p.m. in Goucher's Haebler Memorial Chapel. This should be a wonderful lecture and one surely not to be missed.

Finally, the Friends of the Library board would like to thank Nancy Magnuson for all the wonderful insight she brings

in making our library such a wonderful place. Nancy is not only busy developing new and exciting events for us, but she is also involved in the planning of the Athenaeum, which will hold our new library. We are so grateful that she is part of the Goucher community.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the November 2 event, and have a wonderful fall!

Student workers are valuable assistants in Special Collections and Archives. You may view the slide show prepared by our students for April's Alumnae/i Reunion at www.goucher.edu/x11017.xml. A special thanks to Gillian Rathbone-Webber '09 for her exhibit "Goucher Spirit: Souvenirs from the Archives," which has expanded into the exhibit cases in the department's foyer; and to Jaime Bogardy '08, who has decorated the department's bulletin boards.

Friends of the Goucher College Library
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