Friends of the Library Dinner Set for March 16

UNCG’s own Fred Chappell will be the featured speaker at the annual dinner meeting of the Friends of the Library to be held Tuesday evening, March 16, 1999. This marks the first time in the 41-year history of the Friends of the Library that our speaker has come from the UNCG faculty. The social hour will begin at 6:00 p.m. in the Virginia Dare Room of the Alumni House, with dinner to follow at 7:00 p.m. in Cone ballroom of Elliott University Center. Reservations must be received by March 9. Contact Library Administration at 334-5880 for details.

Great Books by Great Women: Jackson Library Celebrates Women’s History Month

What are the great books by great women?

When I submitted this question to the UNCG community and to members of the Friends of the Library organization recently, I received a wide range of responses.

Some respondents wanted to know my criteria. “None,” I replied. “You are free to decide for yourself.” This purposeful ambiguity made for unusual answers, depending on how people set the criteria. Should the emphasis be on the book, the woman, or both?

A basic question for those placing emphasis on the book is the question of what makes a book great. Is a great book only one that stands the test of time? My first submission came from Jackson Library cataloger Mary Jane Conger before we even announced the celebration and may argue in the affirmative. Mary Jane’s submission was a book written about A.D. 1000 by Murasaki Shikibu, a Kyoto court lady who was the author of the Genji Monogatari (The Tale of Genji), which Mary Jane says is generally considered one of the greatest works of Japanese literature and is thought to be the world's oldest full novel.

Still, to require a book to be old would eliminate the possibility of including books by contemporary women writers. Most of the books written by

(Continued on page 2)
women have been published within the past century, so this criterion alone would eliminate a lot of good books.

This celebration was starting to be fun. Clearly I was going to learn something in the process.

Library Director Doris Hulbert had no hesitation in nominating another book by a non-English-speaking author. One of her favorites is the trilogy *Kristin Lavransdatter*, written by Norwegian author Sigrid Undset between 1920 and 1922. Doris recommended it based on Undset’s ability to immerse the reader in the world of medieval Norway and her strong character development. I discovered that Undset won the Nobel Prize in 1928, one of only a handful of women to do so. Does the fact that a book is a prize-winner help make it great?

Special Collections Librarian Bill Finley mentioned Harriet Beecher Stowe’s *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*, which he cited as perhaps the most influential American novel, contributing as it did to the antislavery movement which led to the Civil War. Ever the book collector, Bill followed up on his nomination by explaining why our Woman’s Collection should have an early edition of *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*. He succeeded in obtaining a first edition shortly thereafter, and it is now on display in Jackson Library’s Special Collections Division on the second floor of the Main Building. To Bill’s way of thinking, *Uncle Tom’s Cabin* should be included on the basis of its influence and importance, not necessarily its literary merit.

Does a great book by a great woman have to be a work of literature? I nominated Rachel Carson’s book *Silent Spring* as deserving some consideration for its influence on the environmental consciousness of the late 20th century.

Friends of the Library Board member Jill Wilson called to nominate Virginia Woolf’s *Mrs. Dalloway*. Jill says that Woolf deserves to be recognized for being the first woman to write the way women think and for having developed a new genre, the interior monologue. The entire story of *Mrs. Dalloway* takes place within the span of a single day.

Should the emphasis be placed on great women who happened to write books? Should books by such historical figures as Queen Elizabeth I, Florence Nightingale, or Eleanor Roosevelt make the list simply on the basis of the importance of the women who wrote them, many of whom were better known for achievements other than writing?

So what makes for a great book by a great woman? Should the decision be based on longevity, literary merit, historical impact, or some other criterion? Should the works of significant women be included, regardless of literary merit?

Jackson Library’s Assistant Director for Collection Development Robert Galbreath is both a scholar and a diplomat. He pondered only a minute before he smiled and suggested that we rename the celebration, “Some Books of Some Importance by Some Women.”

Help us decide. Nomination forms are on page 7.

We will announce a list of Great/Important/Influential/Interesting Books by Women in March and conclude with an event in the Faculty Center on March 31 at which BFA actresses, directed by Dr. Marsha Paludan of the Broadcasting/Cinema and Theatre Department, will depict several women authors whose books are on the list.

Please join us for the exhibit in the Special Collections Division throughout March and especially for the event at the Faculty Center on March 31.

—Barry Miller
Electronic Information Resources: Continuous Improvement of Library Services and Technology

Remote Access to Library Databases

Students and faculty – your wishes have been heard!

Jackson Library is pleased to announce that 90% of the databases available from its web page are now available remotely for students, faculty and staff with a valid ID. For the first time, databases previously available only on campus or via UNCG PPP are now accessible. All of the following major systems are now available remotely: NC LIVE, ERIC, JSTOR, InfoTrac (already available remotely), Lexis-Nexis, Medline, Project Muse, and Proquest.

Access to the databases is available through our web site at:
http://library.uncg.edu/dbs/

Full Text Online Journals Database Now Operational

As promised in the last issue of Library Columns, the Library now has a searchable and browsable database on its web site containing a list of all of the over 9000 full-text online journals available through Jackson Library, regardless of supplier. Because journals available electronically are now cataloged by academic discipline, a searcher can now pull up a list of all the electronic journals in our collection or just those in their discipline.

Networked Information Services Librarian John Felts built this database to make it just as easy to know which electronic journals are in the collection as it is to know which paper journals are in the stacks. The process is even easier, in fact, since a simple mouse click takes you to the database containing the journal and allows you to query it and pull up the text right away.

The database is accessible by clicking on electronic journals from the Jackson Library web page at http://library.uncg.edu/ ejournals/

Library Subsidizes Document Delivery through CARL Uncover

CARL Uncover indexes nearly 17,000 English language periodicals and makes over 7 million articles available through its document delivery service. As of March 1, Jackson Library will subsidize document delivery through CARL for all students, faculty and staff of the University. Documents will be delivered by fax, email and limited direct to desktop delivery.

Persons interested in using the service should contact John Felts at 4238 to set up a free account.

Web Page Redesign Project Underway

The Library’s web page is being redesigned to make it more convenient, more functional, faster, and easier to use. The page is the principal means by which students, faculty, staff and outside community accesses our catalogs and resources. Justin Ervin is spearheading this redesign project.

In a student-centered university, successful redesign means talking to the largest group of people using the page, our students. Justin is accomplishing this goal with the help of others on the UNCG campus, including Assistant Professor Norwood McMillian and Lecturer Marilynn Baker of the Business Administration Department in the Bryan School of Business and Economics. These professors and their students in Marketing 422 - Promotion Management – are conducting research on the reactions of UNCG students to the Library’s web page and helping Justin to understand better how the page is used and by whom. They are also working to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the present page and several alternative redesigns. Justin also has solicited the advice of the Senate Library Committee, as well as a number of groups within the Library itself. Faculty and staff are invited to contact Justin by phone at 334-4238 or via e-mail at justin ervin@uncg.edu to provide feedback on the project.

The new web page is expected to be ready by summer.
LIBRARY’S APPROVAL PLANS

Jackson Library has several means of acquiring books, including firm orders for specific individual works, standing orders for sets and series, blanket orders for all publications issued by a particular press, and gifts. Perhaps least well understood by the public is the approval plan, even though it is playing an increasingly important role in acquisitions. Roughly 30% of our book purchases now come through approval plans.

With an approval plan, the Library establishes with a supplier (“vendor”) a profile of subject interests, specified publishers, and various price, format, and language restrictions. We then receive automatically one copy of every new publication which matches our profile. These books are received “on approval,” meaning that we have the option of returning any – at our expense -- which in our judgment do not fit our needs. Naturally, the vendor is not eager for us to return much, nor do we want to incur the expense of doing so. It is in everyone’s interest, therefore, to make sure the profile fits our needs as closely as possible.

Participating in approval plans significantly reduces the time it takes to receive and make available the latest publications. Faculty can feel confident that obvious publications, such as those from the major university presses, will be received automatically, thus allowing them to devote their limited time to the selection of specialized, retrospective, and foreign-language materials which require their particular expertise and judgment.

Recently, the following changes were made in our approval plans to increase their coverage, economy, and efficiency:

- **Price cap raised to $100.** The approval plans now receive any appropriate book costing no more than $100. The cap had been $85; still earlier it had been $65. With the continuing increase in the cost of research materials, many more books are being published with prices between $65 and $100. As before, we will receive slips for any items that exceed the new price cap of $100. These slips will be sent to the appropriate departments; if any items are ordered, they will be charged to the departments’ individual allocations rather than the Library’s approval plan accounts.

- **Paperback option chosen.** Whenever a publisher on our approval list issues simultaneous hardcover and paperback editions of a title (not subsequent paperback reprints!), we have opted to receive the paperback edition. Simultaneous editions are becoming increasingly common in academic publishing. They have a number of advantages: they typically cost one-third to one-half the price of the hardcover editions; they usually include on their back covers the contents summary and author information that appear only on the dust jackets (which we discard) of the hardcover editions; and, like their hardcover counterparts, they are printed on acid-free paper and have sturdy bindings. The paperback option allows our book budget to go much farther, which in turn enables us to raise the price cap and add more publishers.

- **Commercial scholarly presses added.** The Library’s principal approval plan has traditionally emphasized university presses, but it has included several commercial houses as well: Basic Books, Free Press, Jossey Bass, and, more recently, New Press and Penguin Classics. Now we have added a further six major commercial publishers of scholarly materials: Blackwell, Longman, Routledge, St. Martin’s Scholarly (which handles British Macmillan titles), Westview, and Wiley. We have had faculty requests to add a number of these presses in the past.

We anticipate further growth in approval plans in the coming years. Please send any suggestions, comments, or inquiries to Robert Galbreath, Assistant Director for Collection Management (334-5880 or email: Robert_Galbreath@uncg.edu) or Rick Anderson, Head Acquisition Librarian (334-5281 or email: Rick_Anderson@uncg.edu).

—Bob Galbreath
“Why Are They Such Difficult Customers? Libraries and Online Products.” Amy will discuss public services, John will deal with the mechanics of providing institutional access to databases, and Rick will discuss license negotiation.

Barry Miller will present a paper entitled, “A Fish in Different Waters: A Corporate Librarian Comes to Academia” to the Academic Libraries Development Network annual meeting in March. His presentation discusses how academic libraries can adopt some aspects of special librarianship and deliver special research services to university administrators and development officers.

Justin Ervin will present a paper at the Computers in Libraries conference in March, speaking about how to publish and access a database on the web, using News and Newspapers Online as a case-study example.

Audrey Sage has been illustrating the last several issues of a magazine called “Dream/Girl,” which is a magazine to inspire creative genius in girls 11-15. She has also completed illustrations for the next issue of "The Carolina Quarterly."

Lexis-Nexis Academic Universe

Jackson Library has recently added Lexis-Nexis Academic Universe to its electronic database offerings. Lexis-Nexis Academic Universe is a large multidisciplinary collection containing the text of over 7500 journals, newspapers, magazines, transcripts, newsletters and other sources. It is particularly useful for current events, general news and business news.

Because of growing space limitations within Jackson Library itself, some library materials will be moving from Jackson Library to remote storage when a new on-campus but off-site facility is completed. Current plans call for moving lesser-used materials to the site this summer. Requested materials in remote storage will be retrieved by Library staff no later than the next day, Monday-Friday. Little or no effect on library service is anticipated, and the move will free space for newly acquired incoming materials that are much more likely to be requested frequently.
Coming This Summer -
Music Division of
Jackson Library

Progress continues on the new Music School Building, and thus on the new Music Division of Jackson Library facility, which is expected to open in July. Committees have been formed to plan and execute the move of music materials now housed in Jackson Library to the new facility, where they will be joined with the materials currently in the Music Listening Center. This move will consolidate UNCG’s music collections in one place for the first time.

Markevitch Visits UNCG Special Collections

UNCG and Jackson Library were honored by a visit from master cellist and teacher Dimitry Markevitch on October 26-27. Professor Markevitch was here to teach master classes in the School of Music. He has committed to give his papers and personal collection of cello music materials to Jackson Library, where they will become part of what Markevitch describes as the world’s most complete collection of cello music materials. During his visit, Professor Markevitch presented former Special Collections Librarian Emilie Mills with a revised catalog of his collection, which was in turn given to Special Collections.

Hours of Operation

For the remainder of the Spring Semester 1999
11 January 1999 – 23 May 1999

Regular Schedule
Monday - Thursday 8:00 A.M. - 12:00 Midnight
Friday 8:00 A.M. - 10:00 P.M.
Saturday 10:00 A.M. - 10:00 P.M.
Sunday 10:00 A.M. - 12:00 Midnight

Exceptions and Holiday Periods:
March
1-4 Monday-Thursday 8:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.
5 Friday 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
6 Saturday 10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
7 Sunday 1:00 P.M. – 12:00 Midnight

April
2 Friday (Spring Holiday) CLOSED

May
4 Tuesday (Last Day of classes) 8:00 A.M. – 1:00 A.M.
5 Wednesday (Reading Day) 8:00 A.M. – 1:00 A.M.
6-7 Thursday-Friday (Finals) 8:00 A.M. – 1:00 A.M.
8-9 Saturday-Sunday 10:00 A.M. – 1:00 A.M.
10-11 Monday-Tuesday 8:00 A.M. – 1:00 A.M.
12 Wednesday (Finals end) 8:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.
13-14 Thursday-Friday 8:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.
15 Saturday 10:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.
16 Sunday (Commencement) 1:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.
17-21 Monday-Friday 8:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.
22-23 Saturday-Sunday CLOSED
Great Books by Great Women is the theme of Jackson Library’s Women’s History Month celebration coming up during March. The staff of Jackson Library invites members of the university community, Friends of the Library, and community residents to nominate books written by women that they believe should be counted among the greatest books by women authors.

The deadline for nominations is March 10, 1999.

Great Books by Great Women Celebration Nomination Form

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<tr>
<th>Name of author</th>
<th>Title of Book</th>
<th>Basis for the Nomination</th>
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Throughout the month, visitors to the Library will be able to view exhibits featuring great books by great women, including materials from the Special Collections Division.

The celebration will conclude with an event at the Faculty Center on Wednesday, March 31 at 4:00 p.m.

At that event, Jackson Library will present a list of Great Books by Great Women based on your nominations.

Directed by Dr. Marsha Paludan of the Broadcasting/ Cinema and Theatre Department, BFA actresses will then portray some of these great women authors.

Send your nominations to:
Great Books by Great Women
c/o Barry Miller
Jackson Library
Library Columns
Walter Clinton Jackson Library
UNC Greensboro
P. O. Box 26175
Greensboro, NC 27402-6175

Upcoming Events

Friends of the Library Spring Dinner with Fred Chappell, Tuesday, March 16, 1999
  Reception in the Virginia Dare Room of the Alumni House at 6:00 p.m.,
  Dinner at Cone Ballroom at Elliott University Center at 7:00 p.m.

Great Books by Great Women – Celebration of Women's History Month - March 1999
  Exhibits in Special Collections throughout the month
  Special Celebration Wednesday, March 31 at the Faculty Center 4:00 p.m.