

FAU and SEFLIN send books abroad

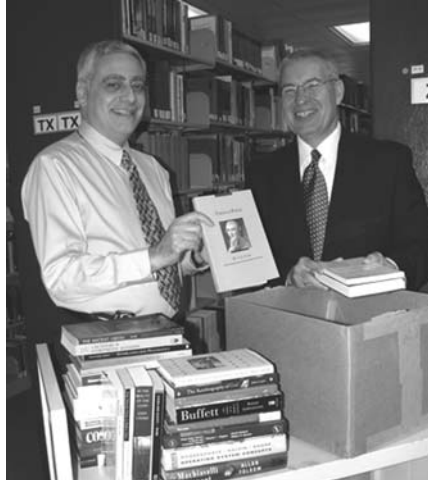
Florida Atlantic University (FAU) Libraries have redirected thousands of English-language books that are not needed by its library users to Armenia and Iraq, enabling librarians in those nations to augment their collections and offer a larger variety of titles to readers. The effort, which now includes a network of Southeast Florida libraries as partners, and an Iraqi university as a recipient, began after William Miller, dean of University Libraries at FAU, visited Armenia following the September 2001 terrorist attacks.

"Before 1991, books to Soviet Bloc countries were provided free of charge centrally from Moscow, and, of course, they were all in Russian," said Miller. "After the fall of the Soviet Union, the book shipments stopped, and the countries had no money to purchase books. By 2001, the libraries had basically acquired no books for a decade and also had little or nothing in English."

Miller and his staff at the S. E. Wimberly Library on the FAU Boca Raton campus began the project by setting aside appropriate books among duplicates from their gifts program. The first books shipped were mainly science and technology books that were donated by an area publisher of scientific research manuals or books that had been superseded. After the project got underway, Miller and Tom Sloan, executive director of the Southeast Florida Library Information Network (SEFLIN), who has also visited Armenia as a consultant for the State Department on numerous occasions, collaborated on how to provide ongoing assistance to Armenian libraries.

SEFLIN, which includes FAU Libraries among its membership of more than 300 libraries, assumed responsibility for the

project, now known as the SEFLIN Gift Library Materials Program, in January 2006. About 3,500 of the books shipped by SEFLIN have been academic titles, while another 3,200 have been books designated for grade schools and public libraries. More than 100 titles on the study of the English language have been donated to language institutes. In addition to FAU, Lynn University, Palm Beach Community College, Lighthouse Pointe Library, and members of the S.E. Florida Independent School Libraries Consortium have donated books, microfilm, videotapes, and other library materials. For more information on the project, contact Tom Sloan at sloan@fau.edu or William Miller at miller@fau.edu.



William Miller, dean of University Libraries at Florida Atlantic University, and Tom Sloan, director of Southeast Florida Information Network, review books at the S. E. Wimberly Library.

EBSCO becomes SUSHI compliant

EBSCO has released a SUSHI server, making it the first full-text database vendor to support the Standardized Usage Statistics Harvesting Initiative (SUSHI). SUSHI facilitates automated retrieval of usage data from EBSCOhost databases in compliance with the COUNTER Code of Practice.

The SUSHI standard allows librarians to bypass time-consuming manual data aggregation of usage statistics. COUNTER assists librarians, publishers, intermediaries, and industry organizations by facilitating the recording and exchange of online usage statistics. SUSHI builds on the work of COUNTER by allowing completely automated request and delivery of COUNTER compliant usage reports. EBSCO is in strict compliance with release two of the COUNTER code of practice.

SUSHI was developed to address the problem of retrieving and loading usage reports into ERMs and Usage Consolidation modules and became a NISO standard (Z39.93) in

ACRL invites applications for Immersion '09 Program

The ACRL Institute for Information Literacy is pleased to announce the invitation to apply for its Immersion '09 Program. 2009 will bring a new structure to the Immersion Program.

The teacher and program tracks will continue to be offered together in summer 2009, and, for the first time, the intentional teacher and assessment tracks will be offered simultaneously in late fall 2009.

This new schedule blends Immersion programs with similar formats and lengths to offer a more cohesive experience. It also allows teacher and program graduates to continue their Immersion experience by applying for assessment or intentional teacher programs to be held in the fall.

Applications are now being accepted for Immersion '09 teacher and program tracks, to be held at the Eckerd College Conference Center and Lodge in Eckerd, Florida, July 26–31, 2009. Visit www.acrl.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/events/index.cfm (click “Immersion '09”) for complete details about the program tracks, learning outcomes, and application instructions.

Acceptance to Immersion '09 is competitive to ensure an environment that fosters group interaction and active participation. The application deadline is Monday, December 8, 2008.

Questions concerning the program or application process should be directed to Margot Conahan at (312) 280-2522, or e-mail mconahan@ala.org.

2007. Visit www.niso.org/workrooms/sushi for additional information on SUSHI and www.projectcounter.org/ to learn more about COUNTER.

Comment on RBMS guidelines

The ACRL Rare Books and Manuscripts Section Security Committee has completed work on a final draft of the revised “Guidelines Regarding Security and Theft in Special Collections.” This document combines earlier guidelines relating to theft prevention and response to library thefts. The draft text is available on the committee’s Web site at www.rbms.info/committees/security/securitydraftfinal.pdf.

A hearing on the revised guidelines will be held from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. on Friday, January 23, 2009, at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver. Location details will be available in the meeting program. Advance comments may also be sent to the committee chair, Richard Oram, at roram@mail.utexas.edu.

Digitizing Massachusetts law

The State Library of Massachusetts and the Joseph P. Healey Library at the University of Massachusetts-Boston (UMB) have announced a partnership to scan and electronically preserve 250,000 pages of Massachusetts session laws from 1620 to the

present. UMB will sponsor the digitization of the State Library’s collection of Massachusetts Acts and Resolves, with the scanning of the documents to be performed at the Northeast Regional Scanning Center, housed at the Boston Public Library. The partnership, and its planned project, will provide students, legislators, historians, genealogists, policy researchers, and interested citizens with greater access to the vast wealth contained in these volumes. Work on the project, sponsored by the Sloan Foundation, the Boston Library Consortium, and the Internet Archive, is expected to begin in fall 2008.

Wayne State joins ArticleReach

The Wayne State University (WSU) Library System recently joined libraries from across the globe to bring patrons a new service called ArticleReach, which enables fast, user-initiated electronic delivery of journal articles between institutions. Users who cannot locate needed articles online from WSU Libraries resources can request digital delivery from one of the print copies located in other member libraries’ collections. Members of the ArticleReach consortium include Michigan State University, University of Colorado Boulder, University of Oregon, Washington State University, Washington University-St. Louis, Georgetown Univer-

sity, University of Glasgow (Scotland), the University of Liverpool (England), the University of Queensland (Australia), and the Australian National University.

New gateway to protein structures

A new window onto the world of protein structure is now open with the launch of the PSI-Nature Structural Genomics Knowledgebase (PSI-SGKB), a free resource from the Protein Structure Initiative (PSI) and Nature Publishing Group (NPG). Hosted by Rutgers University, PSI-SGKB serves as a continually updated gateway to research data and other resources from PSI. First established in spring 2008, PSI-SGKB is now relaunched in collaboration with NPG, with NPG contributing editorial content to help researchers stay informed about developments in structural biology and structural genomics.

PSI was launched in 2000 by the National Institute of Health to determine protein structures on a large scale. Over the course of the initiative, PSI-supported research centers have produced more than 3,200 structures, published around 1,000 scientific papers, and developed many techniques now employed

in labs around the world.

PSI-SGKB is freely available online at kb.psi-structuralgenomics.org/.

Instruction Section seeks submissions

The ACRL Instruction Section (IS) is seeking submissions of high-quality, published or unpublished, instruction-related research to serve as the foundation for its 2009 ALA Annual Conference program, "Illuminating New Instruction Research: Applying Research to Practice." The goals of this panel program are to spotlight recent instruction-related research and to show how research can be actively used to develop or improve instructional practices. A total of three submissions will be selected for use in the program. Submit your own research for consideration, or nominate published or unpublished research by another author.

At the program, panelists will summarize selected research submissions and then apply these research pieces to an instructional scenario. In addition, research summaries will be posted to the IS Web site in advance of the program, so that potential attendees can familiarize themselves with the research.

New ACRL publications

Two new titles, *Informed Learning and Gaming in Academic Libraries: Collections, Marketing, and Information Literacy*, are now available from ACRL Publications.

Authored by noted Australian learning theorist Christine S. Bruce, *Informed Learning* provides a unique perspective on helping students become successful learners in fluid and fast-moving information environments. In answering the question "What should we teach and how, so that our students will use information successfully, creatively and responsibly in their journey as lifelong learners?" Bruce has created a powerful and extensive examination of how information literacy and disciplinary learning can coexist. The work is essential reading across higher education for those interested in learning theory and the teaching of information use.

Gaming in Academic Libraries, edited by Amy Harris of the University of North

Carolina-Greensboro and Scott E. Rice of Appalachian State University, is a lively volume containing 16 examples of the use of gaming in libraries. Covering a wide range of game play, from classic video games to Geocaching with board games and fantasy sports, the collected essays describe issues related to games as a collection format, the cataloging and circulation of games, the use of games to market the library and the use of games to help students achieve information literacy. Cases include projects at large research libraries, as well as at smaller liberal arts colleges, and describe libraries that are addressing gaming with either a great deal of funding or on a shoestring.

Informed Learning and Gaming in Academic Libraries: Collections, Marketing, and Information Literacy are available for purchase through the ALA Online Store (www.alastore.ala.org) and by telephone order at (866) 746-7252 in the United States or (770) 442-8633 for international customers.

Visit the IS Web site at www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/about/sections/is/newsacrl/progcall09.cfm for more information, including selection criteria. Please nominate or submit research as a Word document e-mail attachment to Wendy Holliday at wendy.holliday@usu.edu by midnight December 15, 2008.

John Carter Brown Library research fellowships

The John Carter Brown Library at Brown University will award approximately 30 short- and long-term graduate research fellowships for the period June 1, 2009–June 30, 2010. Short-term fellowships are available for two-to-four months, with a monthly stipend of \$2,000. Long-term fellowships, underwritten by the National Endowment for the Humanities, InterAmericas, Donald R. Saunders, and R. David Parsons, last five-to-ten months with a monthly stipend of \$4,000. Applicants for short-term fellowships must pass their preliminary or general examinations and be at the dissertation writing stage, and long-term fellowship applicants must complete their Ph.D. before January 2009.

Research proposals must be suited to the holdings of the library, focusing on the history of the Western hemisphere during the colonial period. All fellows must relocate and be in continuous residence at the library for the entire fellowship term.

For additional information and application forms, visit www.jcbl.org.

SwetsWise Community opens

In September, Swets announced the launch of SwetsWise Community, a collaboration service allowing customers to share best practices. Presented as a wiki, SwetsWise Community provides a collaborative environment where users can exchange their views and knowledge of various SwetsWise services. The editing functions available in the wiki software allow users to update, expand, and refine the information within the help pages and enables less-experienced or new SwetsWise customers to easily familiarize themselves with the extended functionality. SwetsWise Community is now online at community.swetswise.com, and customers can log into the system with their existing SwetsWise ID.

E&RL 2009

The Electronic Resources and Libraries (E&RL) Conference is moving to the west coast in 2009. The conference provides a forum for information professionals to explore ideas, trends, and technologies related to electronic resources and digital services. In 2009, conference organizers plan to increase interaction among attendees with roundtable discussions and lightning rounds of five-minute presentations.

E&RL 2009 will be held February 10–12, 2009, at the Covell Commons on the northwest campus of the University of California-Los Angeles in Westwood. Pre-conferences are scheduled for February 9, 2009. Early registration is now open and runs through December 14, 2008, with regular registration continuing until January 19, 2009. A variety of scholarships, grants, and awards are available during the early registration period. Visit www.electroniclibrarian.org for more information.

EBSS Guidelines for Curriculum Materials Centers

The ACRL Education and Behavioral Sciences Section (EBSS) Curriculum Materials Center Committee is currently revising the “Guidelines for Curriculum Materials Centers.” The committee hopes to submit the revised draft for approval at the 2009 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver, and is soliciting comments.

The draft of the revised “Guidelines for Curriculum Materials Centers” can be found on the EBSS Web site at www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/about/sections/ebss/ebsscommittees/curriculummaterials/Guidelines_for_Curri.pdf. Feedback and comments may be sent to the committee chair, Cindy Judd, at cindy.judd@eku.edu. ♪

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