MICHIGAN STATE



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Dear Friends of MSU Libraries and MSU Alumni:

As we approach the season of sharing with family and friends, we would like to take a few minutes to share some of the triumphs we've experienced and challenges we face in this calendar year.

First, it should come as no surprise to anyone that the economic situation facing the nation and the State of Michigan, in particular, is not good. On Friday, October 30, the crisis came home to MSU in a very tangible way with President Simon's and Provost Wilcox's announced plan to consolidate several programs. Every College, Unit and Department on campus is actively reassessing its ability to respond to further budgetary cutbacks. So where do the University's libraries stand?

Like its campus counterparts, MSU Libraries experienced a decrease in the 09/10 budget though not as great as some. In anticipation of rapidly diminishing resources from the State, the Libraries' Executive Council began months ago creating best and worst case scenarios in order to operate as efficiently and effectively as possible despite the dismal forecasts. After all, patron use of library facilities and resources – both traditional and electronic – *increases* in times of economic stress. To that end, in fact, MSU Libraries this year upgraded its digitization capacity with the purchase of an i2S 14000 DigiBook SupraScan – one of only two in the nation. This state-of-the art digital scanner allows the Libraries to undertake preservation-level scanning of countless treasures from our collections and make them available online for users around the world. Our purchase of this exceptional piece of equipment, by the way, was made possible by the Libraries' partnership on a McCormick Foundation grant with the School of Journalism to preserve and demonstrate the pioneering use of color by the *Chicago Tribune*.

If ever there was a time and circumstance that underscored the importance of endowments to support program sustainability, it's now. As I write, the current market value of the libraries' endowment is approximately \$5 million – *the lowest of all Big Ten University Libraries*. Though building the endowment has been a priority of mine since I became Director in 1997, donors often find it difficult to appreciate the importance of this long-term investment when more immediate and tangible needs manifest themselves. BUT, if we had substantially more reserves (i.e. endowed funds) working for us day-in and day-out, it could significantly reduce our exposure to crises like the one we're presently experiencing.

As you read this issue of *Insight* and consider your year-end giving, we encourage you to celebrate with us the many positive things that are happening here at MSU Libraries. Know, too, that **a** gift of any size to MSU Libraries is greatly appreciated. Your support is a critical affirmation of our programs, our librarians, and the tens of thousands we serve.

With thanks and best wishes for a deeply meaningful holiday season,

cliff Haka

Clifford H. Haka Director of MSU Libraries

Important Announcement: Insight Goes Electronic in 2010

In an effort to make the most efficient use of our resources, it has been decided that beginning in 2010 this newsletter will be delivered only through email. The cost of publishing and posting a hard copy newsletter is simply not viable when opportunities exist to bring readers information more quickly and at less or no cost. We understand this may inconvenience some who do not have computers or email addresses of their own. If that applies to you, we encourage you to contact LCT's Development Office at 517.884.6445. We will find an alternative means of getting the news to you. For those who are able to receive email, we need you to register. Please do so by going to giving@lib.msu. edu to add your name and address to our mailing list. Thank you.



Insight is published to inform the MSU community about the collections, activities and services in the MSU Libraries. Story ideas and comments from readers are welcome. For information about joining the Friends, contact the Office of Development for Libraries, Computing & Technology, at 517.884.6445, or visit http://giving.lib.msu.edu.

Director of Libraries Clifford H. Haka Director of Development for Libraries, Computing & Technology Diane Nye Mattick Assistant Director of Development for Libraries, Computing & Technology and Insight Editor Roger Merrifield Photography Louis Villafranca (unless noted) Graphic Design Theresa Moore

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MSU Libraries Acquire Lev Raphael Papers

The Michigan State University Libraries recently announced their acquisition of the present and future literary papers of American-Jewish literature pioneer. Lev

Raphael. Mr. Raphael has published fiction and non-fiction about children of Holocaust survivors for longer than any other American writer. He is also a pioneer in writing about the gay Jewish experience in America, winning the Lambda Literary Award for his debut collection of short stories Dancing on Tisha B'Av (1990).

Mr. Raphael is best known in Michigan for his Nick Hoffman mystery series set in the fictional town of "Michiganapolis," and his many years as a reviewer for the Detroit Free Press, Ann Arbor's "Michigan Radio", WKAR in East Lansing and WLNZ in Lansing. A widely-acclaimed and



Photo provided by Lev Raphael.

anthologized author of nineteen books ranging in genres from memoir to mystery, he has given hundreds of talks about his work at venues on three continents. Mr. Raphael's books have been translated into a dozen languages, many of which are texts for study at colleges and universities around the U.S. His work has also been the focus of scholarly discourse in articles, conference papers and books in the U.S. and abroad.

The Lev Raphael Papers consist at present of some ninety boxes of handwritten and typed manuscripts; annotated drafts of all published work; diaries; travel and book tour journals; letters; tour memorabilia; fan mail; corrected galley proofs; drafts and clippings of the hundreds of published reviews; CDs from his radio show interviews with authors including Salman Rushdie and Erica Jong; research materials for his books; interviews in print and on tape, CD and DVD; editorial correspondence; reviews of his books from around the world; articles, conference papers and book chapters written about Mr. Raphael; copies of all published works including some rarities; unpublished manuscripts; poetry; "association copies"; awards; original cover art and posters; and "ephemera" including gifts from fans collected over his thirty-one year career as a published author.

Peter Berg, Head of Special Collections is pleased to announce this generous addition to the extensive resources researchers continue to find available at and through MSU Libraries.

For more information about making a gift to support MSU Libraries' Special Collections, contact the Libraries, Computing & Technology Development Offices at 517.884.6445.

a primary research stop for scholars of the history of comic books, and for scholars of current graphic novels. Until two years ago, however, we were not considered to be an interesting site for primary research in the earlier and still continuing comics format, the newspaper comic strip. In July 2007, a telephone call and e-mail exchange with Mark Johnson, archivist of the King Features Syndicate in New York, changed that. The Hearst Corporation had told him to clean out sixty years' worth of proof sheets. Proof sheets are the large sheets of paper on which newspaper comics have traditionally been distributed to subscribing newspapers. Typically, each sheet will have either six daily strips of a given title, or one Sunday strip. Thus a week of Beetle Bailey would arrive at the Lansing State Journal in two sheets, printed much larger than the final version, and ready to be cut apart and fitted into the local comics page. Some of the longest-running titles in the collection are The Phantom, Mandrake the Magician, and Prince Valiant, with

The Comic Art Collection has long been

60 years of each now on our shelves. In all there are over 100 different titles very substantially represented.

King Features is keeping the whole set of its proofs in electronic form, and a set of the physical proofs has gone to Ohio State University's Cartoon Research Library as well. The strips arrived in two semi trailers, roughly a million sheets in all, and shelves were duly built for them in the Library's Remote Storage Facility. There they remain, but they are now organized and cataloged, and because of this

work two different publishers have been able to use them in the preparation of reprint collections. Watch your bookseller's shelves for volumes of The Heart of Juliet Jones (from Classic Comics Press) and Rip Kirby (from IDW Publishing).

This influx of about two million (!) comic strips added to our existing half-million in various scrapbooks from earlier donations adds up to an archive of about oneguarter of all newspaper strips produced in the United States in the 20th century. We were not quite through being amazed at this when another offer arrived. Retired professor Richard Webster of the University of Toledo decided to give us his collection of one million comic strips collected from newspapers all around the world in the 1960s. Yes, a third semi



The King Features Syndicate **Proof Sheet Collection**

by Randy Scott, Special Collections

in the boxes they came in, but professor Webster has provided complete indexing and we plan to offer access to these strips as well in the near future.

Only a few libraries have been able to devote the space and energy to the preservation of this fading heritage. No library can do it all, but it is good to be able to say that we at Michigan State University Libraries are doing more than just a little to bring this long disregarded literature intact into the twenty-first century.

For more information about making a gift to support Special Collections' Comic Art Collection, contact the Libraries, Computing & Technology Development Offices at 517.884.6445.

With Appreciation... **RECENT GIFTS**

The J. Sumner and Irene G. Bagby Fund for MSU Libraries

Michigan State University has long been a part of the lives of Sumner and Irene Bagby. Irene Goodell Bagby graduated in 1969 in Retail Marketing, Husband Sumner graduated in 1968 having studied Business and Social Science. Married in 1972, they have remained active alumni, staying close and providing generous support to the University. The Bagby's awareness of the vital role MSU Libraries play in the educational process and in campus life has led them to create this endowed fund to benefit students, faculty and residents of the state of Michigan.

The Michael J. DeGrow Gift of Historic State of Michigan Maps to MSU Libraries' Map Library Fund

In May of 2009, MSU Libraries' Director Cliff Haka accepted a remarkable gift from Eaton Rapids (MI) resident, Mike DeGrow. This gift consisted of historic Michigan maps from early explorations in the 1760's through the 1830's when Michigan gained its statehood. Of particular significance in this collection are maps pertaining to the Ohio-Michigan border conflict in the 1830's. Mr. DeGrow's gift also included early Michigan laws and documents from this same period providing further documentation of Michigan's journey to statehood.

The Baldwin Foundation Makes Gift to the Wallace Conservation Lab

More ergonomically suitable furniture and conservation equipment were the objects of Baldwin Foundation funding to the Conservation Lab this year. The Baldwin Foundation has a history of generous support to MSU Libraries for which we are very grateful.

The Charles W. Mulholland Gift of Railroad Books and Magazines

In May of 2009, MSU Libraries accepted a gift of more than 450 railroad books and related magazines from Mary Lou Kidd and Frank Mulholland in memory of Charles W. Mulholland. This large collection will be used to supplement MSU's emerging Railroad Management program.

Mary and Gary Pierce Make Noteworthy Gift to MSU Libraries' Special Collections

Following consideration of several universities, Mary and Gary Pierce chose in April to make MSU Libraries' Special Collections the home of the Willard G. "Bill" Pierce Archery Collection. Head of Special Collections, Peter Berg called the breadth and quality of this new addition "a perfect fit" with our other collections.

> An Archer from The Archer's Guide...by An Old Toxophilite. London, 1833.

> > & Cun tahank

The Sliker Cookery Ephemera Gift

Established in 2005 by Shirley Brocker Sliker, the Brocker Sliker Cookery Ephemera Collection contains thousands of food and cookery related publications produced primarily by companies in the United States from the late nineteenth century up to the present. MSU Libraries' Special Collections received another very generous addition to the collection from Ms. Sliker in 2009.





One hundred twenty guests attended the MSU Libraries' Fall Gathering on Sunday, August 30. In keeping with this year's theme, "Far Away Places", arriving guests were photographed for specially-designed and individualized Library passports. Following light refreshments and music by 'Bookman's Holiday', MSU Libraries' Director Cliff Haka welcomed guests and shared the afternoon's ambitious 5-stop collections' itinerary.

First stop on the tour was an exhibit from the Libraries' Special Collections brought up to 1-East for this unique occasion. Head of Special Collections' Peter Berg welcomed guests, spoke briefly about some of the treasures on display and then encouraged those in attendance to inspect these rare pieces for themselves. Guests were then divided into four groups and moved upstairs to rotate between Maps and Turfgrass on the third floor and DMC and Fine Arts on the fourth. Heads of each collection gave a brief overview of their holdings and exhibited collection pieces for guest's perusal. The event's planners knew moving such a large number of guests through five collections in 90 minutes would be a challenge but were delighted with the positive reaction of guests.

After each group had visited all four upstairs' collections, guests followed the sounds of 'Bookman's Holiday' back to the Cyber Café where an exhibit by MSU's Conservation Lab was on display and a tasty lunch provided by popular local epicurean, Dimitris Gavrilis awaited them. LCT Vice Provost David Gift thanked guests for attending and offered brief remarks on the importance of collections to the library. Departing guests were presented with a travel-pack of postcards representing the collections they had visited that afternoon.

Director of Libraries' Cliff Haka continues to make presentations to alumni groups across the nation. These are not only great venues to update friends on developments at MSU Libraries but they invariably rekindle many fond memories on the part of former students. In February, Cliff spoke to two groups in Florida – first in Naples and later in the muchheralded "The Villages" near Ocala. In June, Cliff took part in an MSU friends and alumni event in Los Angeles. These occasions to connect with the extended MSU family yield benefits far beyond simple reunion. They offer an opportunity to re-engage with one's alma mater - to give back for what they received here. If you know or hear of presentation opportunities for Cliff and/or the Libraries' Development Staff on campus, throughout the state or in other parts of the country, please contact the LCT Development Office at 517.884.6445. We have a great story to tell!

Guests Tour Collections at Libraries' Annual Fall Gathering

MSU Libraries' Road Show

CLIR grant digitizes rare Africana Posters

by Peter Limb, Africana Bibliographer

SPC posters about and from Africa are featured in a successful recent grant. The Council on Library and Information Resources Cataloging Hidden Special Collections and Archives project selected "Africana Posters: Hidden Collections of Northwestern and Michigan State University Libraries" as one of only 15 of 118 applications. The project will collocate, catalog and share online data about African posters. From January to April 2009, Africana Bibliographer Peter Limb supervised metadata input and scanning of the bulk (300) of MSU posters. SPC holdings were enhanced after publicity stimulated additional donations of rare or scarce posters, including from Ethiopia of the 1960s, and on South African labor, by Professors Grover Hudson and John Beck respectively. Searching of SPC collections has uncovered dozens more "hidden" posters, and additional posters from Fine Arts Library and Africana have been integrated. Examples of historic posters include: rare posters from the Nigerian Civil War (1967-70) in the Onuma Ezera Collection of Eastern Nigerian Materials (Mss 24); posters produced in East Lansing from the Patricia Beeman Southern Africa Liberation Committee Collection, Mss 258: including a poster "State of Michigan, House Concurrent Resolution No. 462; Sanctions against the South African Government"), and River Blindness from the John Melton Hunter Papers (Mss 267). SPC posters feature: extensive coverage of South African elections;

themes such as health, education, art, anti-apartheid movements and Nelson Mandela, poetry, women's rights, unemployment, and movie posters from Ghana. African countries represented include Nigeria, Ethiopia, Ghana, South Africa, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Uganda, Zambia, Tanzania, Eritrea, Kenya, Angola, and Mozambique, including some in African languages. International posters about Africa include those from Britain, Holland, Russia France, Spain, Germany, Australia, and the U.N. Some interesting titles include: "African Spirit Soweto Gospel Choir," "Afrika House Marcus Garvey," and a recent poster

produced at MSU Museum twinning Nelson Mandela and Rosa Parks.

Clockwise from top: Eritrea political poster (ca. 1970s-80s); African World Festival poster (1983); Ethiopian election poster (Amharic language, 1965), Ethiopian election poster (Amharic language, 1973).



EDUCATION : A WEAPON

IN THE STRUGGU

"Lifelong Library Emeriti Program" A Huge Success

While giving a presentation in May to the Faculty Emeriti Association entitled "Libraries In The Age of Google", MSU Libraries' Director Cliff Haka offered to have his staff develop a program specifically for Emeriti "to expand their Web information skills and searching savvy". In practically no time at all, Library Instruction Coordinator Stephanie Perentesis and several of her colleagues had created a summer-long three-session program promising those interested to "learn more about finding what you want and evaluating what you find online—whether it's for academic purposes or personal enrichment while discovering the many 'value-added' resources and services only available to you through the MSU Libraries." Limited to a class size of 24, the summer program accommodated a total of 60 participants and was met with rave reviews.

Building on the success and enthusiasm of the summer sessions, the Instructions team set out to extend the program into the Fall with five more sessions through year's end. The monthly sessions – with two in the month of October – are built around the following topics: "Newspapers: Read All About It Online", "Google & Wikipedia: Digging Beneath the Surface", "Government Information At Your Fingertips", "Social Networking: Connect Online with Colleagues, Family and Friends" and "Finding Health Information on the Internet." This is proving to be an appreciated, wellattended program and one for which Stephanie and her colleagues are to be gratefully commended.

For more information about making a gift to support Library Instruction at MSU Libraries, contact the Libraries, Computing & Technology Development Offices at 517.884.6445.

"The African World is One"

AFRICA







The field of development is full of great stories. Here's one: In April of this year, LCT's Development Offices received a call from a representative of the ANEW Foundation of Pasadena, CA, asking whether the MSU Libraries could make use of hundreds of "gently used" file cabinets. The Foundation, whose tag line is "Doing what's right with what's left", acts as a facilitator for manufacturers who have surplus product they wish to donate to non-profit organizations rather than resell. In this instance, a Michigan manufacturer of office case goods had approximately five trailer loads of file cabinets they could make available to MSU Libraries. If agreed to, the University would need to accept delivery within a matter of days.

From the start, it was obvious that while the Libraries could use a large number of cabinets, it wouldn't come close to needing five trailer loads' worth. A call was made and, within hours, the University gave its consent for the Libraries to accept this generous gift on behalf of the University-at-large. Soon after, one Haworth Corporation trailer arrived each day for five consecutive days filled with pallets of shrink-wrapped file cabinets of various styles and colors. The full inventory of 401 cabinets will be on display for unit/College selection in the newly opened MSU Surplus Stores' warehouse later this fall. LCT Development will coordinate with Stores in announcing the timing and availability of cabinet selection. We wish to thank the ANEW Foundation and Haworth Corporation for their great generosity in making this very large and unusual gift possible.

Students Share Impressive Personal Collections

Once again this year, MSU students showcased a wide variety of interests with their entries in MSU Libraries' Student Book Collection Competition. Students participating in the April 15th event were required to submit a short essay describing the focus and contents of their collection and provide an annotated bibliography of its contents or a selection of 50 titles from larger collections. Eleven students entered the 2009 competition and presented impressive collections to a panel of three judges representing MSU Libraries, Library volunteers and MSU Press.

Finalists (their college/collection theme) in this year's competition are pictured below from left: Andrew Friend (Economics) Appreciating American Classics: My Journey; Barbara Postema (English Literature) Comics and Graphic Novels by Women (at right); John Leahy (Human Medicine) American Involvement in Vietnam; Linnea Czerney (Elementary Education) An Award Winning Collection: Newberry and Caldecott's for Children. Finalist Megan Garrett (Chemistry/Anthropology) shared her collection, How to Balance a Book on Your Head, but was unable to join in the awards ceremony.

And the winners were...

Barbara Postema was awarded first place and a prize of \$500 and John Leahy, second place and a \$250 prize. Each of the remaining finalists received awards of \$100. The first place entry is moved on to national competition sponsored by Fine Books & Collections magazine.

The 2010 MSU Student Book Collection Competition will be held on Tuesday, April 6, 2010 at 3:30 p.m. in MSU's Main Library Lobby.

Endowment Honors Online Library Systems' Pioneer

Libraries are often home to rare books. They can also be home to rare breeds. MSU's Main Library is home to at least one of the latter and on Tuesday, May 5, she received her richly

deserved credit in a verv touching way. Mr. Jerry Kline, President of Innovative Interfaces (Emeryville, CA), traveled to MSU to pay tribute to his colleague and very dear friend, MSU Assistant Director of Libraries' Colleen Hyslop. In a surprise announcement, Colleen learned that Jerry has established The Jerry Kline Endowment for the MSU Libraries in Honor of Colleen F. Hyslop.

This Endowment, given in

honor of Colleen's distinguished career recognizes her extensive efforts to provide input and assistance to Innovative Interface's development of the premier integrated library system. Building upon this relationship, Colleen and Jerry spearheaded the prototyping of a statewide library-lending system utilizing Innovative's INN-Reach system. This system was subsequently expanded becoming MeLCat, a network today of nearly 350 participating libraries across the state of Michigan.

For more information about making a gift to support InterLibrary Services, contact the Libraries, Computing & Technology Development Offices at 517.884.6445.



English Short Title Catalog Enhanced

Thanks to the efforts of MSU librarian Agnes Haigh Widder, Special Collections' holdings in the English Short Title Catalogue (ESTC) are increasing in number and accuracy. The ESTC is an international project established at the British Library in 1977, to create a machine readable bibliography of books, serials, pamphlets, and other ephemera material printed in the English speaking countries from 1473-1800, with library holdings, based on the collections of over 2,000 institutions world-wide. At last count there were over 460,000 items in the ESTC, the result of institutions reporting their holdings to the ESTC offices over the past four decades. Over 3,500 items are in the ESTC from MSU Libraries due to Widder's fine work to verify our holdings in the database, input records for works acquired in the last decade, and improve records for previously added items. She is building on work done by previous staff members. The end result will promote scholarship by making our fine early British imprints more recognized and accessible. Search the ESTC database at http://estc. bl.uk



A Chapman from The Cries and Habits of the City of London, by M. Lauron, 1709.



The book in the codex form, or the book as we know it today, has been around for nearly 2000 years. But the books we read today look nothing like those early books bound by the Copts and early Christians. This exhibit, held in the Special Collections Reading Room in May and June, 2009, offered examples of bindings from throughout the ages beginning with some of the oldest books in Special Collections from the 15th century. Books from subsequent centuries show how binding progressed (or regressed) as styles changed, technology advanced and the reading public grew. The focus of this exhibit is not on structure or



"David," a binder from the late 19th century. The full leather binding is elaborately gold tooled and the inside of the covers features full leather doublures. Most of the books offer clear examples of how books looked during their particular era: from the heavy wooden boards of the 15th century to the small, elegantly decorated books of the 17th century to the decorated cloth books of the Industrial Revolution. Whatever the case, these books will show how the bindings of books have changed over time and offer an appreciation and celebration of the book as a physical object. In other words, this is truly how to judge a book by its cover.

For more information about making a gift to support the Wallace Conservation Lab, contact the Libraries, Computing & Technology Development Offices at 517.884.6445.

How to Judge a Book by its Cover: The History of Binding Exhibit

by Eric Alstrom, MSU Libraries Conservator

how the book is made, but on the style and materials used. Dating a bookbinding can be difficult. Unlike the printing on a page of a book, a binding can be changed, altered, removed or rebound at any point in time. Some of the books in this exhibit do not have their original bindings and some have been repaired. One good example is Meisterlin's Ein schöne Cronick vn[d] Hystoria. The text was printed in 1522, but the binding is definitely not 16th century. Fortunately in this case, the binding style is in extreme contrast to the

date of the text and the binding is signed





Honoring '08 Published MSU Faculty

Each spring, Michigan State University Libraries hosts the Faculty Publication Reception, to honor faculty whose books, multimedia works, musical scores or recordings were published during the previous year. This year's Reception, held on April 29th recognized 212 members of MSU faculty for 254 works published in 2008. It is a matter of MSU family pride that President Lou Anna K. Simon, Provost Kim A. Wilcox and Vice Provost David Gift join Director of Libraries' Cliff Haka in celebrating these scholarly efforts by so many of our own.

MSU is a national leader in its effort to recognize faculty publications. In addition to presenting an award, the MSU Libraries spends \$30,000 annually to add these scholarly publications to the Faculty Book Collection in the Main Library. This is the most widely used Collection with more than one third checked out at any given time. Even during tough budgetary times like the present, we remain committed to adding to the Collection because it represents the heart and soul of the work of MSU's brightest and most productive faculty.

Putting Our Best Foot Forward

Imagine being personally presented with the latest and greatest at MSU, shuttled door-to-door throughout your two-day stay and receiving individual attention from MSU President Lou Anna K. Simon and/or Provost Kim Wilcox. Visiting dignitaries, you ask? Well yes, in a manner of speaking.

Since April of 2006, University Development has hosted a total of 86 participants over five "Experience MSU" events. These intimate and privileged affairs offer an exclusive opportunity to enjoy an exciting "insider's view" of the most innovative and transformative initiatives now underway at Michigan State University. They bring together small groups of MSU alumni, donors and friends to interact with the best and brightest of MSU faculty and students. Guests spend two days on campus sampling the diverse, dynamic intellectual life of the institution, observing MSU from a perspective that is sure to enlighten the view of even its most long-time supporters.

For the first time, on Saturday, April 25th of this year, MSU's Main Library was added to the list of destinations for Experience MSU's guests. Following breakfast in the Cyber Café, Head of Special Collections Peter Berg and Arlene Weismantel, Head of Main Library Reference treated guests to an exhibit of treasures from Special Collections that clearly made a very positive impression. Several guests voiced their desire to come back again when they could more fully explore the wealth of holdings at MSU Libraries. It is our hope that those responsible for scheduling future Experience MSU events will keep the Libraries in mind as its always a pleasure to share the breadth of holdings at MSU Libraries.

Faye Backie Retires

This summer saw another big change in MSU's Main Library with the retirement of Assistant Director for Public Services,

Fave Backie. That's right. For many who know Faye, it's difficult to believe she really did it. Having recently completed construction of their new environmentally 'green' home, Fave and husband, Steve, relocated from East Lansing three hours northwest to Lake Michigan's quaint shoreline community of Onekama. In a recent telephone conversation. Fave shared the following:

Insight: What would you consider the biggest change over the course of your 23-year tenure at MSU Libraries?

FB: Without a doubt, accessibility to electronic resources is the biggest. When I first came to the library, patrons didn't have direct access to databases. We used what

we called "intermediated" searching. In other words, you'd explain what you were trying to find and I'd work up the search strategy, log on to the database (dial in, of course, since there was no Internet!) and type in the search. Depending on the database, it could be VERY expensive – and the patron paid, so the librarian needed to create an effective search and be a good typist! I'd also have to say (Director of Libraries) Cliff's focus on building enhancements made for remarkable changes at the Library. He has always focused on what else might be done to improve the Libraries' facilities to better serve our patrons.







FB: Like so many others, I, too, have been following the dismal news coming out of Lansing. These are indeed challenging times. With regard to MSU Libraries, the staff has always been attentive to being as efficient and economically conscientious as they can be so they are no strangers to finding ways to manage with limited resources. The strain on public libraries is particularly troublesome in that they

Insight: You've been away now since July, what do you miss most?

FB: Oh, the people. I miss everyone I worked with and certainly the students. I miss the campus, too.

Insight: As you know, Faye, economic pressures are having a significant impact on our libraries on campus and public libraries throughout the state. Might you have any words of encouragement for your former colleagues at MSU Libraries and/ or your fellow librarians throughout Michigan? simply must continue to be responsive to patron needs...which obviously only intensify during hard times. Let's hope our legislators on both sides of the aisle can find common ground and put this chapter behind us.

Insight: Well, thanks for your time, Faye. It's been a pleasure talking with you. Come back and see us when you can.

FB: I will, thanks. Please say 'Hello' to everyone at the Library for me.

For more information about making a gift to support Librarian services at MSU Libraries, contact the Libraries, Computing & Technology Development Offices at 517.884.6445.

Libraries' Executive Council Welcomes Two New Members

Assistant Director for Public Services Arlene Weismantel and Assistant Director for Digital Information Shawn Nicholson have recently been added to the Libraries' Executive Council. Arlene, formerly Head of Main Library Reference, assumed the vacancy left by Faye Backie's retirement while Shawn, formerly Head of Government Documents, filled a position left open by Michael Seadle. Arlene and Shawn joined EC colleagues Libraries' Director Cliff Haka, Associate Director of Human Resources Colleen Hyslop, Associate Director of Collections Steve Sowards, Assistant Director of Technical Services and Systems Nancy Fleck and Assistant Director of Special Collections and Preservation Peter Berg in July.



insight

IBRARIES

The Annual MSU Student Book Collection Competition will be held on Tuesday, April 6, 2010 at 3:30 p.m. in MSU's Main Library Lobby. Finalists in the 2009 event are featured on page 8.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Office of the Director Michigan State University Libraries 100 Library East Lansing, MI 48824-1048



"Foggy Autumn Morning" at Michigan State University. LCT Development would like to acknowledge photographer and Library staff member, Louis Villafranca, whose work appears throughout this and previous issues of *Insight*.

Congratulations to the following MSU Libraries' Student Employees who graduated in May 2009

Michael Abele, Dominic Adams, Caitlin Blair, Emily Bliss, Shontae Collins, Michelle Conway, Nathan Cort, Yifan (Derek) Dai, Meredith Eddy, Joy Fikes, Nicole Footé, Christina Frenzel, Nicole Geller, Hannah Gould, Divyamalthi Gunaseelan, Jessica Hagen, Lauren Halverson, Amber Jennings, Samantha Johnson, Matthew Kawiecki, Jonathan Kempston, Pa Lao, Geoffrey Larson, Jae Jung Lee, Francisco Lopez-Guerrero, Michael Mannino, Maria Mattson, Caitlin McCahill, Lauren Miller, Timothy Mitchell, Danielle Moore, Marvell Mukongolo, Michaela Norman, Jessica Ploeg, Anthony Puzzuoli, Stephanie Rand, Sara Rebman, Britani Reid, Madeline Schichtel, Elisabeth Slocum, Meaghan Snowdin, Akasha Starr, Colleen Szeliga, Justin Tinsey, Megan Webster, Hui Wen, Krystle Williams, Tequila Williams, Rachael Wilmeth, Erica Wines, Matthew Wolf.

