The way universities were founded was in this order: the library first. The university was originally a collection of books in one place. People hung around these books to read them. They’re now called the faculty. Then students came around to talk to the faculty about what they were reading. That’s the student body. At some point, administrators showed up. I don’t know when in history that happened.

But if you were to dismantle the university in reverse chronological order … the last thing standing would simply be the library.

Billy Collins, U.S. Poet Laureate, 2001–3
University of Oregon Convocation Address
September 24, 2006
EVERYONE HAS HEARD

this expression, probably more times than we care to count. It is usually issued as a cautionary note, if not an admonishment: “You can’t be all things to all people.” The phrase needs little explanation. If you try to do too much, or spread yourself (or your business or organization) too thin, you will ultimately fail. Besides, “all things to all people” is a preposterous concept. There are too many people and too many things. Right?

I think the phrase holds true if we are speaking about tangibles. But if we think about ideas, or imagination, “all things to all people” might be possible. The library is a storeroom of ideas. Some of these ideas live in the books on the shelves, others can be found from an online database, and others can emerge through the collaborative projects that students work on in the library. The library allows all people who have the inclination to visit—either physically or virtually—to rouse their imaginations. Creative expression is everywhere: in texts, music, images, historical photographs, and digital media. The library is a place of learning. But perhaps more important, it is the place where students of all ages can be creative, form new ideas, and think about the world and its challenges from different perspectives. The library encourages you to let go of your assumptions.

I am always struck by how many alumni, donors, students, and faculty say, “I love the library.” Even those people who admit that they used it only occasionally harbor the same sentiments. So what is it about the library that elicits such a strong and positive reaction? I suspect it has something to do with subtle memories related to learning how to think and discovering our own imaginations. That is what higher education is all about.

As with other issues of Building Knowledge, we try to give you a sense of what the library contributes to teaching, learning, and research by highlighting a few special features and new services. It is also our opportunity to recognize extraordinary people who have made their own contributions to those endeavors. In each issue, we can only give you a snapshot of the possibilities, such as our premier collection of children’s literature or our new programs designed to help students take full advantage of the library’s digital and print resources and services. But if we look at the library as a whole, we can see the possibilities of “all things to all people.”

Deborah A. Carver

Philip H. Knight Dean of Libraries
Illustration by Cornelius DeWitt for The Story of Alaska (1940), by Clara Lambert. The handwritten notation reveals DeWitt’s frustration with printing technology at the time.
Almost all of us have a favorite illustrated children’s book from our past, the images from its pages still vivid in our memories long after the book itself has disappeared from our “grown-up” bookshelves.

But your favorite piece of children’s literature may not be lost after all. In fact, it’s quite possible that many of your favorite childhood books—as well as the original art and manuscripts from which they were produced—are among the prized materials held in the Children’s Literature Collection in Special Collections and University Archives at the University of Oregon Libraries.

RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

The Children’s Literature Collection serves more important purposes than simply satisfying our nostalgia for children’s books. It is one of the country’s foremost research collections of manuscripts, artwork, and unique documents pertaining to the creation, publication, and distribution of children’s literature.

The collection is available to researchers interested in American cultural history, publishing and printing history, art history, the writer’s craft, social customs, and more. The editorial and personal correspondence of many authors is included in their papers, giving researchers a rare, behind-the-scenes look at more than 100 years of book publishing in one of the most popular literary genres.

“This collection is one of our true treasures,” says Linda Long, manuscripts librarian in Special Collections and University Archives. “Its range, richness, quantity, and quality are truly astounding. The opportunities for conducting original research using this material is unlimited.”

With the generous support of two couples, R. Jean and James Taylor ’57 and Ann and Fay Thompson ’54, the library has recently boosted access to these collections by making their descriptions, or “finding aids,” available through the Northwest Digital Archives, an online, searchable database researchers can use to determine the specific contents of archival collections.
WHAT’S IN THE COLLECTION?

Many of the holdings in the collection were gathered in the 1950s and 1960s, and a good portion of the material dates from the Golden Age of American children’s book publishing between 1925 and 1940. Overall the collection represents more than a century of literary output, with material dating from the first decade of the 1900s to the present day.

The list of authors and illustrators whose papers reside in the collection is long. Notable names include Edith Ballinger Price, Virginia Lee Burton, James Daugherty, Elizabeth Orton Jones, Louis Slobodkin, Maud and Miska Petersham, and Hardie Gramatky, among several dozen others.

Some of the illustrators represented in the collection have won the American Library Association’s Caldecott Medal, an award given annually since 1938 for the most distinguished American picture book for children. Other authors have earned the ALA’s Newbery Medal, given annually since 1922 for the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children.

Although the Children’s Literature Collection is distinguished by a large number of original drawings and illustrations, it also offers rare research opportunities through access to photographs, award notices, manuscripts, reviews and newspaper articles, personal and editorial correspondence with publishers, storyboards, galley and page proofs, annotated books, and much more.
The material reproduced on these pages represents a very small sample of holdings in the collection. Additional images and documents from the Children’s Literature Collection can be viewed online at libweb.uoregon.edu/ec/exhibits/childrenslit/. A complete list of authors and illustrators of books for children and young adults in the collection can be found at libweb.uoregon.edu/speccoll/guides/children.html.

All images from the Children’s Literature Collection appear courtesy of Special Collections and University Archives, University of Oregon Libraries. Given the size, complexity, and historical significance of the Children’s Literature Collection, the library is actively seeking funds to support further preservation efforts. For more information, contact Lisa Manotti, director, library development, lmanotti@uoregon.edu, (541) 346-1823.
During his years as an undergraduate at the University of Oregon in the early 1950s and even more as a graduate student in the late 1950s, Donald Mickelwait was a dedicated user of the University of Oregon Libraries.
HE ESPECIALLY LIKED reading and studying in and around the open stacks, surrounded by books and quiet. “The library has changed so much since I attended the university,” he said on a recent visit to campus. “It’s good to see all the computers and digital resources now available, but I’m also glad to see that the open stacks have grown too.”

“I wanted to support the library financially because every student who uses the library will benefit from it.”

Mickelwait recently demonstrated his appreciation for the quality of the education he received at the UO by making a $1 million gift commitment to the UO Libraries through a charitable remainder trust. “I wanted to support the library financially because every student who uses the library will benefit from it,” Mickelwait said. “I take a lot of personal satisfaction in giving something back to the library. It’s the good and right thing to do.”

A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE
Mickelwait’s professional career demonstrates his commitment to doing the good and right things in life. As a practicing rural economist, he has helped plan and implement dozens of programs to build sustainable economic systems in developing countries and in countries torn by war and natural disasters.

For example, he’s led more than thirty projects in Asia during the last ten years alone, focusing on agriculture, rural development, poverty alleviation, sustainable rural livelihoods, the environment, marketing, and agribusiness. But that’s only a glimpse of the scope of his career as an alternative development specialist.

Since 2004, his company, Experience International, Inc. (EI), has worked in Iraq to support agricultural development. EI experts have developed a strategy and implementation plan for reviving wheat production in northern Iraq after much of that region’s agricultural output was decimated. This U.S. government-funded development project includes assistance for certified seed importation, land preparation and planting, fertilizer trials, and harvesting. A particular focus has been on providing and deploying 340 seed cleaners to help farmers remove destructive weed material from their wheat seed.

Mickelwait has planned and developed other projects in China, Laos, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Kosovo, Cambodia, Pakistan, Indonesia, Afghanistan, and many other locations.

GETTING THERE
Mickelwait’s path to success in creating development projects across the globe has been focused and steady. After completing his master’s degree in development economics at the UO in 1960, he took a position with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and spent nearly seven years in Thailand working on development issues among the people in the north and northeast part of the country.

After his work with USAID, he attended the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and earned a master’s degree in public administration.
In 1970 he moved to Washington, D.C., where he and a small group of partners founded a consulting firm, Development Alternatives, Inc. (DAI).

“We hung out a shingle and managed to create a development consulting company that today is one of the largest—and I would argue one of the best—of those working in the international development field,” Mickelwait told a student reporter from the Oregon Daily Emerald, the UO campus newspaper. “We weren’t an instant financial success; it took seven years before we began making a profit. But from a three-person company, we managed to grow until today DAI employs about 450 people and works in fifty countries.” Mickelwait was the company’s CEO for about thirty years.

“Creating sustainable rural economies is central to raising the standard of living in any developing country.”

In 2000, Mickelwait turned his attention to running EI, a DAI spin-off firm, where he is currently chairman and CEO. “My training and experience have taught me that creating sustainable rural economies is central to raising the standard of living in any developing country,” Mickelwait said. “Establishing sound agricultural practices and systems will always be a key part of the economic equation in countries where the goal is to improve conditions of the people living there.”

When Donald Mickelwait visited the University of Oregon for a recognition event in celebration of his gift, he received his own “world tour” of the library, visiting several different areas of personal and professional interest.

TOP: Media Services Director Tom Matney tells Mickelwait about the library’s media production work on a UO-Thailand distance education project.

MIDDLE: Mickelwait and Robert Felsing, the library’s East Asian bibliographer, discuss items in the library’s Asian Collection.

BOTTOM: James Fox, head of Special Collections and University Archives, shows Mickelwait images from the library’s Doris Ulmann Photography Collection.
In 1937, when Knight Library, then known simply as the “New Libe,” first opened its doors to the campus community, one of its most notable architectural features was the awe-inspiring Upper Division Reading Room on the second floor. Designed by then UO architecture dean and campus architect Ellis Lawrence, the reading room was part of the New Libe construction project carried out by the Works Progress Administration.
The original 1937 library building, including the reading room, is now listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

As its name implies, the Upper Division Reading Room was reserved for use by juniors, seniors, and graduate students. Fronted to the north by seven twenty-foot windows, it offers abundant natural reading light, a rare commodity in most reading rooms. Its magnificent high ceiling is finished in a checkerboard pattern, surrounded by unique plaster molding. On the east and west ends of the room are eight-foot-high cedar panels in a triptych arrangement, with carvings by Art Clough of scenes from Northwest social history.

The room remains one of the most elegant and attractive spaces on the University of Oregon campus; James Fox, head of Special Collections and University Archive, says that it is certainly one of the more beautiful special collections reading rooms in the nation.

**CHANGES**

In the 1950s the room housed much of the library’s science holdings but remained in use as a reading room open to all UO students. The science holdings were moved to another location in 1962 and replaced by materials from Special Collections and University Archives, including rare books, photographs, manuscripts, and other historically important documents. After Special Collections occupied the space, it became known until very recently as the Special Collections Reading Room and is now reserved for use by students, faculty.

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**A HISTORY OF GIVING**

Paulson Investment Company, Inc. is a familiar name at the UO Libraries. The company and its founders, Chester L.F. Paulson ’58 and Jacqueline Paulson, have been library supporters dating back to 1992, when Paulson Investment Company, Inc. purchased the library’s two millionth volume, a three-book report and atlas on the 1792 voyage of Captain George Vancouver to search for a Northwest passage. In 1999, the company made yet another gift, creating a significant endowment to support technology in the library.

**WHAT THEY SAID**

Here are excerpts from the May 2006 announcement of Paulson Investment Company, Inc.’s $1 million gift to support Special Collections and University Archives:
members, and others who need direct access to these primary source materials for their research.

**INTO THE FUTURE**

Now, a new chapter has been added to the reading room’s storied history. The room has been named the Paulson Reading Room in honor of a $1 million gift from Paulson Investment Company, Inc., a Portland-based investment firm. The donation will be used to preserve and increase access to the wide range of rich historical materials housed in Special Collections and University Archives now and in the future.

**CHESTER L.F. PAULSON**, Chairman and Founder, Paulson Investment Company, Inc.

“As a company, we maintain a strong commitment to Oregon education, and we are honored to support the University of Oregon Libraries’ mission of documenting and preserving the state’s rich history for future generations.”

**DAVE FROHNMAYER**, UO President

“In this increasingly high-tech world, it is gratifying to know that such a prominent Oregon company wants to help us preserve our history. This extraordinary gift from Paulson Investment Company, Inc. will help ensure that these precious artifacts are preserved for future generations.”

**DEBORAH CARVER**, Philip H. Knight Dean of Libraries

“The Paulson Investment Endowment Fund for Special Collections will allow us to improve the visibility, accessibility, and long-term preservation of our growing collection of resources related to history, literature, and life in the Northwest. These resources exist nowhere else, and the library has a responsibility to researchers around the world to preserve them and make them available.”
COACHING STUDENT ATHLETES

THE LIBRARY TAKES THE FIELD

Just before the start of classes in fall 2006, the library was alive with activity: incoming freshmen finding their way around a major research library for the first time, faculty members busily assessing new library resources for use in their classes, and—perhaps most noticeable because of their physical size—the entire University of Oregon football team participating in a rigorous academic workout.
TEAM MEMBERS made several group visits to Knight Library during the week before classes as part of a collaborative effort between the UO Libraries and the UO Athletic Department’s Support Services for Student Athletes. This innovative program, made possible by a gift to the library from Gerald S. Wilson, a 1988 UO graduate in economics, is designed to help student athletes in all sports learn to identify and use library resources and effective research strategies in their academic coursework and future careers.

KICKING IT OFF

During the football team’s library visits, Reference and Research Services librarians and UO Head Football Coach Mike Bellotti impressed upon freshman players and seasoned veterans alike the importance of learning library research skills that would serve them well both in their current academic work and in their careers after graduation. Librarians and staff members from the university’s Office of Student Life met with student athletes to discuss issues related to plagiarism and academic integrity. During library tours, tips were given on using key areas and services in the library: the Instructional Technology Center, group study rooms, the new Learning Commons, and multiple service desks where subject-specific help is available.

Another important program component provides student athletes with access to an experienced student tutor who can point them to library resources and discuss research strategies for completing course assignments. In the first few weeks of classes, the tutor, who has two years of experience working at the library’s reference desk, assisted student athletes from several of the UO’s intercollegiate sports programs, including lacrosse and track.

The program is designed to help student athletes in all sports learn to identify and use library resources.

DRIVING FOR THE GOAL LINE

Barbara Jenkins, head of Reference and Instruction, oversees the program for the library and is busy planning new components. “We will offer more open-enrollment library classes in early morning time slots to alleviate the scheduling conflicts student athletes have when afternoon classes overlap practice schedules,” she says. She notes that the library is considering some summer session library courses to attract freshman student athletes, who often begin their university studies immediately following high school graduation. “Finding and evaluating information are critical skills for academic and employment success,” Jenkins says. “Mr. Wilson’s gift will enable us to help student athletes hone their information skills in some very effective and creative ways.”

SCORING HIGH ACADEMICALLY

“Most student athletes work very hard to excel in their studies,” says Stephen Stolp, director of the UO Athletic Department’s Support Services for Student Athletes. “We think this new program and the longstanding commitment of the library to assisting all UO students with their research and study needs will help keep us on track for success in the classroom and on the field.”

Finding and evaluating information are critical skills for academic and employment success.
A Royal Visit, A Royal Gift

The red carpet was rolled out in front of Knight Library. Bouquets and arrangements of yellow flowers lined the entryway and hallways.

INSIDE THE LIBRARY, the South Reading Room had been transformed into a grand reception hall with seating for more than 100 people. Banners, flags, bookcases, and more flowers signaled the significance of the event: the arrival from Thailand of Her Royal Highness Princess Bajrakitiyabha Mahidol, in the first visit to campus by a member of a royal family in more than forty years.

The princess, who is the granddaughter of His Royal Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej, was visiting campus for several reasons: to commemorate the sixtieth anniversary of the accession to the throne by the King of Thailand; to acknowledge and celebrate the strong educational ties established between Thailand and the University of Oregon over the past several years; and to dedicate a gift to the university from the Thai Royal Family of more than 1,700 books on Thai history and culture.

At the book dedication, Deborah Carver, Philip H. Knight Dean of Libraries, described how the gift was significant on several levels: “Access to global resources is becoming increasingly critical for many scholars in the United States, and research libraries need to collect and preserve these valuable materials. The Royal Family’s gift has already created a ‘halo effect’ for us. As other governments and international organizations become aware of the growing strength of the library’s Asian Collection, they are more likely to make similar donations to the university. Additionally, the gift’s rarity and significance symbolize a growing relationship based on an international friendship that will benefit students in both countries for many years to come.”

RICHES AND RARITIES

Among the 1,700 volumes included in the Thai Royal Family’s gift are numerous biographies of Thai royalty, religious and business leaders, and other public figures. Other titles run the gamut of cultural and social subjects, including music, art, architecture, history, literature, Buddhism, science, natural history, cooking and nutrition, travel volumes, agriculture, forestry, local culture and crafts, law, folk tales, medicine and health, language, ritual and pageantry, guidebooks, and more.
Some very rare items make the gift especially noteworthy. These include the following four volumes associated with Thailand’s monarchical history.

**King Chulalongkorn’s Personal Photo Book**
King Chulalongkorn (1853-1910) reigned from 1868 to 1910. He personally photographed hundreds of events and scenes around Thailand during his life. This collection of photos reproduces the king’s own handwritten captions. It was issued in a limited printing of only 3,000 copies.

**A Chronicle of King Chulalongkorn’s Royal Visit to Sweden and Norway**
This book, which was also issued in a limited printing, documents King Chulalongkorn’s state visit to Sweden and Norway in 1897. It features trilingual text and rare photos from the visit.

**King Bhumibol Adulyadej: The Golden Jubilee, 1946-1996**
King Bhumibol, now in his sixtieth year as king, has enjoyed the longest reign of any living monarch in the world. This book describes activities in Thailand and around the world celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of his accession to the throne.

**Indelible Impressions of a Royal Visit**
In the summer of 1960, King Bhumibol made a state visit to the United States. This limited-edition volume reprints an extensive collection of newspaper clippings about the visit.

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Covers, pages, and illustrations from items in the Thai Royal Family book gift
Please call me to discuss gift planning. I may be reached by phone or e-mail at

I have included the UO Libraries in my estate plan through my will, living trust, IRA, life insurance, other:

Please send me information about including the UO Libraries in my estate plan.

Please send me information on how I can support the UO Libraries and receive lifetime income through a ☐ charitable gift annuity ☐ charitable remainder trust

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**WHAT WE SPENT**

**LIBRARY EXPENDITURES – Fiscal Year 2006**

- Faculty & Staff (salary & benefits) .......... $9,207,143
- Collections (including electronic content) . $5,272,103
- Technology & Operations ................. $1,545,881
- Student Staffing ............................. $706,594

**TOTAL EXPENDITURES ..................... $16,731,721***

*From general funds, which comprise state appropriations and tuition

**WHERE DONORS GAVE**

**DONATIONS – Fiscal Year 2006**

- Unrestricted ............................... $1,494,000
- Collections ................................ $1,367,000
- Special Collections ......................... $980,000
- Technology & Facilities ....................... $66,500
- Gifts in Kind .................................. $77,000

**TOTAL EXPENDITURES ................. $3,984,500***

*Percentages indicate where gifts were designated

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With just two years to go in the university's ambitious fundraising campaign, support for the UO Libraries has been remarkable.

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO DATE** total $10.9 million, benefiting all aspects of library services and collections. Of this amount, $6.1 million was added to the library's endowment, $3.6 million was used to meet current needs, and $1.2 million was deferred, including charitable trusts and annuities that will one day benefit the library.

Since Campaign Oregon began in 2001, more than 5,400 new donors have stepped forward to support the libraries! Highlights from the past year include:

- Naming the Paulson Reading Room, home of Special Collections and University Archives, in honor of a $1 million gift from Paulson Investment Company, Inc. to support preservation and increased access to historical materials.
- A $1 million gift commitment from Donald Mickelwait ’55, ’60 in the form of a charitable remainder unitrust, a type of planned gift, which will one day be used to meet the library's greatest current needs.
- A $1.3 million estate gift from former librarian Clarice E. Krieg to support library collections.
- The library's first faculty-staff campaign, in which sixty-one of the library's dedicated employees participated.

Over the next two years, we will continue seeking support for library facilities, technology, collections, and other initiatives that benefit our students, faculty, and the broader community. Thanks to your generosity and vision, we are providing today's students with the tools they need to be successful in their academic careers, while laying a foundation for future generations.

As you consider investing in the university, I welcome the opportunity to be of assistance.

Lisa Manotti  
*Director, Library Development*  
*ismanotti@uoregon.edu • (541) 346-1823*