Endowments Boost Access to Library Collections

Two newly endowed positions at the UO Libraries will have an enormous impact on the level of service the library offers to UO students, faculty, and staff in two important areas: the University of Oregon archives and the library’s Map and Aerial Photography (MAP) collection. Thanks to recent gifts from two couples who are longtime university and library supporters—Richard and Mary Corrigan Solari and Dave and Nancy Petrone—library users will experience greatly improved access to materials in both the archives and the MAP collection.

Richard and Mary Corrigan Solari

Mary Corrigan Solari and her husband Richard are well known in the UO community. Mary, who graduated from Oregon in 1946, was an active student leader throughout much of her time at the university; as a senior she was president of the campus YWCA, secretary of the Mortar Board, and cofounder of the Women’s Coordinating Council. She and Richard, a retired executive with Granite Construction Company in Watsonville, California, have stayed in close touch with their friends at the university since her graduation. In fact, the family’s connection to the university has grown even stronger after one of the couple’s grandsons graduated from the UO in spring 2004.

The Solaris’ recent gift of $1.4 million has created an endowment to support the Richard and Mary Corrigan Solari University Historian and Archivist position in the library. In addition, they supported the Knight Library expansion project in the late 1980s, created an endowment to support information technology and teaching in 1995, established a faculty fellowship for library staff members in 1999, and funded an endowment to support library instructional services in 2001.

In endowing the historian-archivist position, the Solaris have helped open the doors to one of the university’s treasures. University Archives is the official repository of university records dating back to 1873. The materials in the archives currently occupy more than 19,000 linear feet of space and more than 12,000 boxes, including paper records, university publications, student theses and dissertations, photographs and negatives, audiotapes, films, and general memorabilia. The heavily used University Archives is the single most important source for documenting and interpreting the university’s rich historical and cultural heritage.

Heather Briston, who has been named the Richard and Mary Corrigan Solari University Historian and Archivist, says, “The Solari endowment creates an opportunity to fulfill the library’s vision of what the archives should be. I’m honored and excited to be able to contribute to that effort.”

Dave and Nancy Petrone

In announcing Dave and Nancy Petrone’s $2.5 million gift for five different university initiatives, including the endowment of the library’s MAP/GIS faculty position,
FROM THE DESK OF THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN

At the UO Libraries, we continually take stock of how well we’re doing in making use of our considerable organizational assets, not the least of which is our strong base of library supporters. Each issue of Library Notes offers examples of what we’ve done recently to leverage the support we receive to expand access to resources, build our print and digital collections, and improve the quality of research and instruction at the university.

The library’s other organizational assets are important, too. Here are a few that deserve special mention:

- **Knowledge management skills** give us the ability to provide reliable long-term access to information in a variety of formats, not just books and journals. Our goal is to manage information so that our users can access it for the full range of research and instructional purposes.

- **Educational and information technology** is a key asset that provides students and faculty members with access to state-of-the-art equipment, software, and technology training. Information technology has changed the face of higher education, and the library staff uses its expertise in this area to help the university maintain its competitive edge in delivering a high-quality education to its students.

- **Commitment to teaching** is reflected in many of the library’s programs. Our librarians play a central role in strengthening the teaching and learning process on campus by offering courses, workshops, individual consultations, and faculty training opportunities. The library is also home to several technology-rich studios and classrooms, which are used by instructors in all disciplines.

- **Trust** accrues over time. By providing reliable access to authoritative sources of information and by offering the unparalleled expertise of our librarians in navigating the global network environment, the library has earned the respect and trust of the many thousands of UO students, faculty members, and members of the general public who use our facilities.

- **Collaborative relationships** between the library and other campus units, as well as with other colleges and universities, have valuable outcomes for everyone. Resource-sharing programs and resource-building projects have become an essential component in improving access and in creating and paying for new information resources.

These assets have developed from a solid foundation of library support. With your assistance, we will continue to fulfill the library’s central mission: To enrich the student learning experience, encourage exploration and research at all levels, and contribute to advancements in access to scholarly resources.

\[Signature\]
Deborah A. Carver
Philip H. Knight University Librarian

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Endowments  continued from front page

UO president Dave Frohnmayer said the Petrones “personify generosity and vision.”

Their generosity has extended far beyond their financial support, however. Dave Petrone, who graduated from the university in 1966 with an economics degree and went on to earn his M.B.A. in 1968, was volunteer chair of the university’s previous fundraising campaign. He has also served on the UO Foundation Board of Trustees since 1991 and is a member of the Campaign Leadership Council for the university’s current fundraising effort, Campaign Oregon: Transforming Lives.

Petrone, chairman of Housing Capital Company in San Mateo, California, says he and Nancy were motivated to make their gift “by our admiration for the University of Oregon, its leaders, faculty members, and volunteers, and by our desire to promote quality academic programs.”

The timing of the Petrone gift was ideal. In the past few years, the library’s MAP collection has grown to become the fourth largest in the U.S. and Canada. It includes approximately 400,000 maps, more than 500,000 aerial photographs, 4,000 atlases and reference books, and numerous Geographic Information System (GIS) datasets. GIS technology has revolutionized research in many fields, making it possible to digitally gather, analyze, and present geographic information. The system software and support has become a critical component in the library’s service to a growing number of students and faculty who use GIS in their classes and research.

The Petrone’s endowment will allow the library to hire an expert in cartography and Geographic Information Systems to manage, expand, and improve access to the library’s MAP collection. The position is expected to be filled by early 2005.
Friday, March 26, 2004, was not a typical day at the UO Libraries. Finals week of winter term had just ended, and most students and faculty members had left campus to enjoy spring break. With so many library users out of town, it seemed like a good time to put a brighter face on some of the more heavily used areas of Knight Library.

The call went out to library staff for volunteers who were willing to stop dealing with books and computers for a while and instead pick up mops, brooms, paint brushes, and polishing rags for a day of good, old-fashioned spring cleaning. More than eighty volunteers answered the call—and thus began the first-ever Library Day.

In 1994, major renovations to Knight Library were completed in anticipation of increasingly heavy use by UO students, faculty, and community users as well as by visitors from across the globe. But after a decade of heavy foot traffic and general use, a number of other areas needed a general face-lift.

To counter the effects of wear and tear, library staffers and dozens of individuals from other campus units, including the UO’s Facility Services, volunteered to give Knight Library some of the TLC it needed. Staff members applied fresh coats of paint to the walls, washed windows, and cleaned computers and terminal screens. The steps and entryways to the library were given a thorough power washing. New carpet was laid in the reference area, and new tile replaced the worn areas on the floors in the library’s Instructional Technology Center, Copy Center, and several side halls. New furniture, funded through the generosity of UO alumni and friends, replaced the well-worn tables and chairs in various locations on the second, third, and fourth floors. The ornate wood façade at the library’s circulation desk was also restained and repolished.

Philip H. Knight University Librarian Deborah Carver said the turnout and support for the event reflects campus and community pride in the library as a central campus gathering point for study and research: “The work done on Library Day demonstrates the library’s commitment to providing a pleasant, comfortable environment in which students, faculty, and others can carry out their studies. We expect Library Day to become an annual event that supports our goal of keeping our facilities attractive and user friendly.”
Academics, Athletics, and the Library—A Winning Combination

Dave Taylor ’78 was a four-time All-American distance runner at the University of Oregon and a member of the 1973 and 1974 NCAA national champion cross-country teams. Dave, a retired Nike executive, and his wife Terry are now continuing a winning tradition by supporting the UO Libraries in developing a new digital collection on UO sports history.

Athletics at the UO has a rich and storied past. Much of this past is preserved in the library’s Special Collections and University Archives, where thousands of photographs and other items dating from the early 1890s to the present document the achievements of legendary track-and-field icons like Bill Bowerman and Steve Prefontaine and basketball greats like the Tall Firs team of 1939. The material also captures proud moments in the history of UO football—like the 1917 Rose Bowl victory—as well as other sports. These visual depictions, along with extensive textual descriptions, videotapes, and audiotapes, illustrate the evolution of the UO athletic program and the role collegiate sports has played at the university. In the past, these unique materials were only available to researchers who physically traveled to or called the library’s secure reading room to request them. Additionally, many of the images existed only as negatives, making them difficult for patrons to view.

The Taylors’ gift to the library will help remedy these difficulties. The gift will be used to digitize photographs and create new contact prints with accompanying digital scans. Print documents will also be scanned for inclusion in the new digital collection. Online delivery of these materials will allow anyone interested in UO sports history to use their home computers to enjoy an “armchair” tour of UO athletics and to delve more deeply into the rich history and growth of the program. Online access will also stimulate cross-disciplinary research across campus—for example, in sports marketing, history of photography, human physiology, and sociology.

“The UO provided me with a great overall experience,” Taylor says. “The discipline and challenge of the academics coupled with the competitiveness and teamwork of the athletics enabled me to develop skills that have been invaluable in both my professional and personal life. Plus, I met Terry while attending the UO.”

After graduating, Taylor worked a part-time job for Nike’s Eugene retail store. “It was an incredibly exciting time of rapid growth for Nike, and the opportunities for job advancement were tremendous.” The part-time job led to a variety of production and management positions in New Hampshire, the Philippines, Taiwan, and the Beaverton headquarters. Dave retired from Nike as a senior executive in 1999, and he and Terry now split their time between their home in Beaverton and traveling around the U.S. in their motor home.

In 1993 Taylor started an annual fundraiser for the track-and-field program with a small group of alumni and friends known as the Lame Ducks. “If you know any of us, the name fits,” Taylor says with a laugh. However, the Lame Ducks are hardly lame when it comes to supporting the university. From humble beginnings, the fundraising effort has now contributed nearly $1 million to the UO track-and-field program.

But the Taylors also wanted to contribute to Oregon academics. For the UO Libraries, they have given gifts to refurbish library study rooms and purchase new computer equipment. “We believe it is important to support academics at the UO as well as athletics, and supporting the library helps benefit the entire UO community,” explains Taylor.
CORRIGAN-SOLARI FELLOWSHIP WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Two UO librarians deeply involved in emerging technologies related to digital library collections and electronic cataloging have been named as recipients of the 2004 Richard and Mary Corrigan Solari Faculty Fellowship Award.

Carol Hixson, head of Metadata and Digital Library Services (MDLS), and Lori Robare, catalog librarian and assistant head of MDLS, were recently named as the award winners.

The Corrigan-Solari Faculty Fellowship Award is given each year by the UO Libraries to honor deserving library faculty members for their noteworthy contributions to the university, the region, and the international community of scholars. Funded by a gift from Richard and Mary Corrigan Solari, the award includes $3,000 in support of each recipient’s continued professional development.

CAROL HIXSON

The library’s Grants and Awards Committee, whose members made the award selections based on nominating letters, praised Hixson for her service to the university community as well as for her significant contributions to the library profession. Those nominating Hixson described her as a model of a twenty-first century librarian who represents the “best in team building and barrier demolishing.”

Beginning in 2002, she oversaw the reorganization of the library’s Catalog Department into what has become Metadata and Digital Library Services, increasing productivity, expanding services, and helping establish the UO Libraries as a leader among research libraries in building digital collections.

Under Hixson’s charge, MDLS has played a central role in initiating and developing numerous cross-departmental projects at the university, as well as collaborative projects involving dozens of other libraries at colleges and universities throughout the region. Two of the most notable digital collections developed under Hixson’s guidance are Scholars’ Bank, a digital repository for results of research conducted at Oregon, and the UO’s contributions to the Western Waters Digital Library, an online collection of historical and contemporary resources focused on the Columbia River Basin.

Hixson’s involvement in another digital collection—Picturing the Cayuse, Walla Walla, and Umatilla Tribes—demonstrates her skills at devising systems that use technology not only to deliver information but also to make the information more accurate and useful.

A collaboration between the UO Libraries and the Tamástslikt Cultural Institute (TCI) of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, the project involved digitizing hundreds of historical photographs with culturally sensitive tribal content and delivering them to TCI in such a way that tribal members, rather than outsiders, could provide first-hand commentary on the individuals and events portrayed in the photos.

Malissa Minthorn, TCI’s library and archives manager, sums up the value of Hixson’s involvement in the project: “More often than not, others inaccurately contextualize the images specific to the Confederated Tribes. With Carol’s leadership, this project has facilitated the creation of new contexts, interpretations, and cultural understanding of the history, events, and people of the Umatilla Tribe and Columbia Plateau region of the State of Oregon.”

LORI ROBARE

In more than ten years of service to the UO Libraries, Lori Robare has distinguished herself as a skilled and dedicated librarian, a knowledgeable and temperate colleague, and a creative and dependable collaborator.

One example of Robare’s many contributions to the library and the region is the leadership role she played in the Data for Local Communities project, which culminated in the creation of a database of web-based statistical and descriptive information about local
Digital Collections and Websites Expand

Gifts to the UO Libraries and grants from private and public sources allow the library to enlarge its collections far more rapidly than would otherwise be the case. This is especially true in the realm of website and digital collections, where the preparation process is time intensive. For example, digital projects typically require library staff members to develop efficient scanning processes, build complex information delivery systems, and design highly functional presentation formats for each collection.

Thanks to several generous gifts and prestigious grant awards, the library has been able to dramatically increase the size and number of digital resources it offers. The rapid growth in digital collections has already radically changed the way libraries interact with their users and has revolutionized the use of materials that were once difficult to locate and costly to access.

The following digital collections, websites, and other resources have been developed by the library thanks to external funding.

Picturing the Cayuse, Walla Walla, and Umatilla Tribes

This collaborative project involves the Tamástslikt Cultural Institute of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, the UO Libraries, and the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education. The project’s goal is twofold: first, to make available to a wide audience the Major Lee Moorhouse photographs of native peoples; and second, to provide a site for historical descriptions of these images as well as descriptions created by native peoples. <http://libweb.uoregon.edu/catdept/digcol/mh/> Partial funding provided by the Northwest Academic Computing Consortium.

Historical Photograph Collection

The goal of the Historical Photograph Collection is to make the public aware of the quality and depth of the photograph collections owned by Special Collections and University Archives and to encourage further research on the original photographic materials. This collection offers a small sampling of images from more than 400,000 in the complete collection. <http://libweb.uoregon.edu/catdept/digcol/gh/> Funded through a gift from Margaret and Thomas Hart.

Western Waters Digital Library

This collection of historical and contemporary resources focuses on the Columbia River Basin. The collection provides access to well-organized, areas in Oregon. Citizens, local government officials, business owners, and educators throughout the state have used Data for Local Communities as a key resource in their work. The project has been hailed as a success across the region and is now being expanded to include Washington State.

Robare has recently shared her substantial knowledge of cataloging at the national and international levels as well. As cochair of the Joint Initiative on Subject Training Materials, a project of the Program for Cooperative Cataloging and the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services, she led a national effort to develop a training program to teach cataloging skills in subject analysis.

Lynn El-Hoshy, a senior cataloging policy specialist at the Library of Congress and a participant in the project who witnessed Robare work on the initiative, said, “I was truly impressed with Lori’s superb command of the materials and her ability to establish rapport and communicate with the trainees. I can honestly say that this signal achievement would not have taken place without her sustained efforts.”

Based on her performance at the national level, Robare was invited to present a two-day workshop using the training materials at the National Library of Scotland and at Trinity College in Dublin. More than 60 librarians from across Scotland and Ireland received the training during the workshop.
comprehensive information sources and analysis based on high-quality research and accurate historical records, with the goal of enabling westerners to meet the challenge of managing their water resources wisely in the twenty-first century. <http://libweb.uoregon.edu/catdept/digcol/wwdl/> Partially funded by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

**NORTHWEST DIGITAL ARCHIVES**

Northwest Digital Archives (NWDA) provides enhanced access to archival and manuscript materials in Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington. Finding aids that help researchers identify the location and contents of archived material housed in 15 northwest institutions are available for more than 2,200 items. A database of the finding aids allows users to search by keyword and other fields. NWDA contains finding aids on materials covering several different topics, including major economic forces affecting the Northwest; urban and rural social and progressive movements; local, state, regional, and national politics; outdoor recreation; Native American language and culture; and the place of religious communities in the region. <http://nwda-db.wsulibs.wsu.edu/> Funded in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

**NORTHWEST LABOR HISTORY**

Researching labor history using materials in Special Collections and University Archives became much easier with the launch of The Labor Project, a new web resource that includes a searchable online catalog of major holdings in the labor history collection. <http://libweb.uoregon.edu/speccoll/exhibits/labor/> Funded in part by a gift from Jon and Lisa Stine.

**DATA FOR LOCAL COMMUNITIES**

Data for Local Communities is a new online database resource for locating statistical, spatial, and descriptive information about cities, counties, and other civil, economic, and natural regions of Oregon. A keyword or subject search of the database returns links to websites that provide relevant information. This resource supports the work and interests of local governments, educators, students, business people, researchers, libraries, and citizens of Oregon. <http://libweb.uoregon.edu/dlc/> Funded through a grant from the Library Services and Technology Act, a national program of the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

**DON HUNTER ARCHIVES**

The library is collaborating with the university’s Museum of Natural and Cultural History to bring the unique work of Don Hunter, a local photographer and audio archivist, to a wider audience. Hunter, who began documenting the sights and sounds of Oregon’s people and places in the 1930s, created multimedia presentations that combine historic images with unique recorded and collected sounds, including sounds from nature. The project will provide a model for the digitization of diverse audio and visual records in a variety of formats. Metadata and Digital Library Services consulted on this project, with Media Services playing the lead role for the library. Funded by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.
Gifts to the UO Libraries are instrumental in helping purchase valuable new research tools that would otherwise be difficult for the library to acquire on its own. No better example exists than the library’s recent acquisition of Early English Books Online (EEBO), an online database of all printed materials published in Great Britain between 1473 and 1700 and materials published elsewhere in the world in English during the same period. Purchase of EEBO was made possible in part by a gift from Tom and Mimi Hartfield.

The database contains digitized facsimiles of books, tracts, pamphlets, advertisements, ballads, rhymes, and other ephemera. William Rockett, associate professor emeritus of English, notes that UO faculty members and students in religious studies, political science, the history of science, and literature, to name just a few disciplines covered in EEBO, will now be able to study digitized versions of both prominent and obscure historical printed documents at their computers.

Rockett has used EEBO to demonstrate to his students how interpretations of passages from Shakespeare’s plays hinge on variations in the printed texts of the playwright’s work. “EEBO is a great teaching tool and a great research tool,” he says. “It makes it possible to have easy, immediate online access to original texts that heretofore were very difficult to find.” Because EEBO is available as an online resource, UO instructors can access and display the digitized texts in their classrooms.

The database will continue to expand as new items are added to the more than 100,000 records already in EEBO. Increased capabilities for direct keyword searching of the texts will also become available as the resource grows.

Gift Brings Early English Books Online to the UO Libraries
The University of Oregon Libraries gratefully acknowledges the support of alumni, friends, and businesses who generously gave more than 1,700 gifts this past year. Unrestricted gifts have helped us strengthen the library’s instructional services, create a digital library for preserving unique collections, employ student assistants, and collaborate with other research libraries to improve scholarly communication. Gifts of collections are valuable for research and teaching.

The University of Oregon Libraries gratefully recognizes those whose lifetime giving to the library totals $25,000 or more.

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