



# **Friends news : University of Wisconsin-Madison Library. Vol. 4, Issue 2 Fall 2006**

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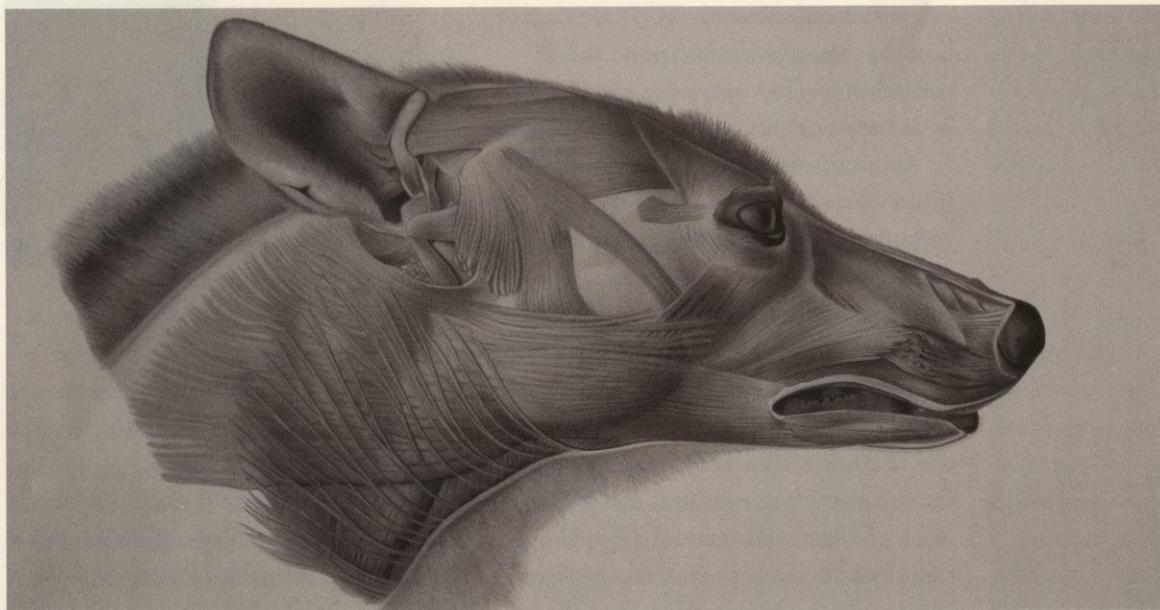
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# Friends NEWS

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON LIBRARY



Fall 2006 | Vol. 4 | Issue 2



The canine, from Johan Erik Vesti Boas, *The Elephant's Head: Studies in the Comparative Anatomy of the Organs of the Head of the Indian Elephant and Other Mammals* (1908-25); part of *Science Made Clear: The Art of Illustration* at the Ebling Library, on display through September 29.

## Old, new in science illustration come together in Ebling Library exhibitions

By Michael Worringer  
Library Communications

Despite its prime location in the two-year-old Health Sciences Learning Center, arguably the crown jewel of UW-Madison's 21st-century push to be one of the leading public science research universities in the country, Ebling Library was missing something until recently.

To be sure, excellent foresight by university administrators combined with intelligent building design has cemented Ebling as the hub of exciting interdisciplinary learning by medical, nursing, and pharmacy students, clinicians, and staff. However, among the library's more than 370,000 volumes, seating for 350, 16 group study rooms, and 19 research workstations, one could find nary a piece of artwork.

"One of the only criticisms of this space is that it was somewhat cold and unadorned," says Micaela Sullivan-Fowler,

curator and history of health sciences librarian at Ebling Library.

That changed when she agreed to coordinate the Guild for Natural Science Illustrators Annual Exhibition July 5-September 29. GNSI, a nonprofit organization of professional science illustrators, held its annual conference in Madison July 30-August 5. The university's geology department hosted the conference, but its Weeks Hall location did not provide the needed exhibit space.

The GNSI exhibition consists of sixty pieces of art hung throughout Ebling's more than 300 linear feet of wall space. It allowed the library the opportunity to install a permanent rail system to hang art. After working closely on the exhibit with Sarah Grimes, the UW Hospital and HSLC art coordinator, Sullivan-Fowler hopes to keep Ebling's walls consistently full of science-inspired artwork.

"Artists who have seen the current exhibit are wondering if we would hang

their artwork," Sullivan-Fowler says. "It's a really good opportunity for sharing, which is what libraries and librarians are all about."

Even amid the chaos of installing the GNSI exhibit, Sullivan-Fowler demonstrated her aptitude for sharing by creating, with the help of students Mary Savig and Ann Myers, a complementary exhibit in Ebling's Historical Reading Room, *Science Made Clear: The Art of Illustration* at the Ebling Library. The exhibit features human anatomy, comparative anatomy, and nature-inspired illustrations from rare books predominantly from the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

During the conference, Sullivan-Fowler also brought out additional large-format folio books of anatomical and botanical illustrations, allowing GNSI members to see firsthand the remarkable detail their predecessors captured without

*(continued on page three)*

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Board of Regents

*From the president*

## Protecting 'brittle books' important for libraries

The article in the Summer 2006 issue of *Friends News* on the distinctions between conservation and preservation reminds me of my own prior involvement in one such project.

About fifteen years ago, several medievalists and I served on a special committee on library preservation for the Medieval Academy of America. Our charge was to investigate the problem that "brittle books"—those volumes published between 1840 and 1980 on acidic paper—posed for medieval scholarship and to suggest various ways of remedying the situation. It was obvious that there was a problem with books published in that particular time period, for the pages of virtually any book published in those years crumbled in your hands as you turned—or tried to turn—the pages.

Over a period of several years, our committee worked in cooperation with the National Commission on Preservation and Access, did both primary and secondary research on the extent of the problem, investigated the options available to meet the challenge (e.g., digitization, microfilming, deacidification), and attempted to raise awareness of the issue among our colleagues by publishing articles, organizing exhibits on the brittle book problem, and sponsoring informational sessions at regional and national meetings. Although our efforts had some impact, the enormity of the problem is such that there is no silver bullet, no magic cure-all, and, most important, not enough time to deal with all of the affected books.

Our committee recognized the urgency for developing plans of action for preservation. Some members of the committee expressed the fear that ours might be the last generation of scholars

to find on library shelves the great works of nineteenth- and twentieth-century scholarship. More than half of the books in our research libraries are in a seriously brittle state, and new ones are entering the ranks at the estimated rate of two million per year. The general view is that there are some eighty million books in danger of disintegrating because they were printed on acidic paper. In 1989 the National Endowment for the Humanities proposed a plan—the "Brittle Books Program"—to microfilm three million volumes over the course of twenty years, but to date only a third of these have been done.

I have dedicated this column to the problem of brittle books because it is a problem that affects books in all areas and one that is not going to disappear. In this regard, I want to pay tribute to the excellent work in book preservation and conservation that has been going on for many years in Memorial Library. Our laboratory, its expert and experienced staff, and able volunteers are a very bright spot in a grim landscape, which is growing progressively darker, both because of the rapidly expanding nature of the problem and the lack of sufficient funding and time to provide the remedy.

We should not forget the very real needs of maintaining the health and well-being of those "brittle books" in our collections; the presence of both the new and the old is what makes our libraries the wonderful resources that they are, and we hope they will continue to be for many future generations of students, readers, and scholars.



—Christopher Kleinhenz

From the General Library System acting director

## Funding, preservation facility among top priorities for UW libraries

I am honored to be serving as the acting director of libraries during Ken Frazier's assignment as campus interim vice provost.

As Ken's deputy director for the past several years, I have directed the operational management of the campus libraries. I am a UW-Madison alumnus and most of my professional career has been spent working at the university. I have a personal and professional commitment to UW-Madison. It is a truly great public research university, and the campus libraries are an integral part of that long history and tradition.

The libraries enjoy strong support from university administration, faculty, staff, and students, but the longstanding support and assistance received from the Friends of the University of Wisconsin-Madison Library add distinction. That support for collections,

book sales, publications, and a variety of programming has been invaluable.

We face many challenges this year. Funding always seems to be an issue for maintaining our print and electronic collections. Other priorities include:

- seeking final approval for a new preservation shelving facility to help us better manage stacks overcrowding
- solidifying a program that supports scholarly communication, open access alternatives, copyright assistance, author rights, and digital publishing
- seeking a balanced collection management policy that assists faculty, students, and scholars in being productive with their research and teaching
- paying special attention to our facilities' needs in campus libraries
- increasing library gifts and endowments.

My job will be to provide a focus and a direction for these and other issues. With your assistance and the work of our great library staff, we will address these and other challenges.

I look forward to working with Chris Kleinhennz and the board of directors this year to specify how the Friends can help support our efforts. The time and effort that each of you puts into helping the university's libraries are remarkable and very much appreciated. I hope to meet many of you this year.

I welcome the challenges of the coming year, and I hope to see you at the library.

—Ed Van Gemert

## Ebling draws on its special collections in Science Made Clear (continued from page one)

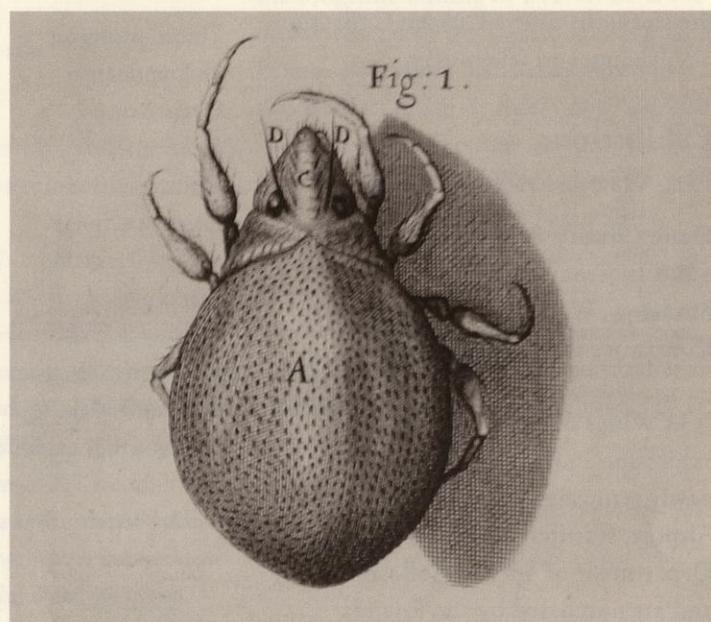
modern conveniences like computers, photography, or, in the case of cadavers, modern preservation techniques.

"The illustrators were awestricken," Sullivan-Fowler says. "They had never really been this close to the primary material before."

Woodcuts, engravings, and lithographs from noted authors and artists such as Vesalius, Govard Bidloo, Johan Boas, Christoph Trew, William Home Lizars, James Parkinson, and Robert Hooke serve to highlight the techniques used to observe, clarify, and inform the natural world.

"What's wonderful about scientific and natural history illustration is that it adds visually what you cannot know with just the written word," Sullivan-Fowler says. "After putting together this exhibit, I now look at book illustrations in a completely different way."

*Science Made Clear* and the GNSI Annual Exhibition continue through September 29 at Ebling, open from 9 a.m.–5 p.m. To learn more about Ebling's special collections, contact Micaela Sullivan-Fowler at [msullivan@library.wisc.edu](mailto:msullivan@library.wisc.edu) or call (608) 262-2402.



Detail from Robert Hooke, *Micrographia* (1665). Hooke's copperplate engravings of fleas and other disease-carrying bugs had a major role in the improvement of hygiene in Western Europe in the seventeenth century.



# CALENDAR

**Exhibition:  
Secrets Reveal'd:  
Pseudo-science, the Occult,  
and the Paranormal from the  
Holdings of the Department  
of Special Collections**

**976 Memorial Library**  
**Continues through October 13**  
**9 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday – Friday**

This exhibit ranges from early printed books of astrology and numerology to recent studies of UFOs, psychic phenomena, and alternative cosmologies. It draws heavily from the Robert Schadewald Collection, which features rare printed books, periodicals, printed ephemera, and research files assembled in the course of Schadewald's decades-long investigation into aspects of nineteenth- and twentieth-century pseudo-science.

The exhibit also takes advantage of the strengths of the Duveen Collection of Alchemy and Chemistry.

**Exhibition:  
On Wings of Art**

**Dane County Regional Airport**  
**4000 International Lane**  
**Madison, WI 53704**  
**Continues through October 30**

"On Wings of Art," the inaugural exhibition in the Art Court at the newly renovated Dane County Regional Airport, features works from the Department of Special Collections and art purchased by the Friends of the UW-Madison Library. The exhibition consists of seven individual

shows that highlight many aspects of aviation, mapping, and flight through historical photographs, maps, globes, sculptures, films, posters, rare books, and contemporary prints. In "Birds in Books," Special Collections curator Robin Rider and intern Ann Myers present historically important ornithology titles by Alexander Wilson, John James Audubon, and more.

Also on display is *Natural Philosophies*, artwork that has been purchased by the Friends for eventual permanent display on campus. Wisconsin artist Martha Glowacki drew inspiration for the piece from historical books she found in various campus libraries.

**Tim Tyson on Blood  
Done Sign My Name**

**Thursday, September 7 – 4:30 p.m.**  
**126 Memorial Library**

Tyson, professor of American Christianity and Southern Culture and senior research scholar at the Center for Documentary Studies at Duke University, discusses

his award-winning book on the racial tensions that exploded in Oxford, North Carolina, in 1970 over the murder of a black Vietnam War veteran by a white store owner.

Tyson was an associate professor of Afro-American studies at UW-Madison from 1994–2006. He earned a Ph.D. from Duke and B.A. from Emory University.



Tim Tyson

**FELIX:  
A Series of New Writing**

**Thursday, September 21 – 4:30 p.m.**  
**126 Memorial Library**

The Friends host poets Matthea Harvey and Robert Casper. Harvey is the author of *Pity the Bathtub Its Forced Embrace of the Human Form and Sad Little Breathing Machine*. She is the poetry editor of *American Letters & Commentary*. Casper is the publisher of the literary journal *jubilat*. He is also a cofounder of the *jubilat*/Jones Reading Series. He works as the membership director of the Council of Literary Magazines and Presses in New York City and serves on the poetry committee of the Brooklyn Literary Council.



Matthea Harvey



Robert Casper

**Astronomical Library  
Celebrates 125 years**

**Thursday, September 28 – 4:30 p.m.**  
**126 Memorial Library**

The Friends commemorate the 125th anniversary of the Woodman Astronomical Library. Jim Lattis, astronomy professor and director of the University of Wisconsin Space Place, and David Null, university archivist,

# OF EVENTS

will present an illustrated history on astronomy and the library at the university.

## Friends of the UW–Madison Library Semiannual Book Sale

**Wednesday through Saturday,  
October 18 – 21  
116 Memorial Library**

The largest used book sale in Wisconsin returns. Students, faculty, staff, and Madison residents donate materials in nearly every subject. Proceeds from the fundraiser help support the Friends Grants-in-Aid program for visiting scholars, grants to campus libraries, and other programming. In addition, ten percent of the proceeds are transferred to the Friends growing endowment.

To donate books or volunteer for the Friends book sale, please call (608) 265-2505 or e-mail the Friends at [friends@library.wisc.edu](mailto:friends@library.wisc.edu).

- Wednesday, October 18  
Preview sale (\$5 entry) 5 – 9 p.m.
- Thursday – Friday, October 19 – 20  
(No entry fee)  
10:30 a.m. – 7 p.m.
- Saturday, October 21  
\$2-a-Bag Sale (Bring your own bag, or buy one for \$1)  
10:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

All sales are open to the public. For more information on book sale hours, or to find out how to donate materials, visit the Friends book sales page: <http://giving.library.wisc.edu/friends/book-sales.shtml>.

The book sale is held in conjunction with the Wisconsin Book Festival, October 18-22.

## The Fairies are Exquisite Dancers: An Afternoon of French Make-Believe in Performance

**Thursday, October 26 – 4:30 p.m.  
Department of Special Collections  
976 Memorial Library**

The event will feature music by Debussy, Ravel, and other pre-World War I French composers. The repertoire, organized by UW–Madison School of Music

Professor Catherine Kautsky, will be based on a concurrent exhibit of books by Arthur Rackham and will include readings, songs, and piano music on the themes of childhood and make-believe.

## The Printed Book in a Digital Age

**Thursday, November 16 – 4:30 p.m.  
126 Memorial Library**

Kenneth Frazier, UW–Madison interim vice provost, will discuss the role of printed books in an era of increased use of digitization practices.

John Neu, former UW–Madison Libraries History of Science bibliographer, and Harold Scheub, UW–Madison African Languages and Literature professor, will present their books as recent Parallel Press authors, speaking on the importance of small-press publishing.



Catherine Kautsky

Neu will also hold a book signing for his recently published Parallel Press novel, *The Tiger's Child*, at 7 p.m. on Friday, November 17, at Border's Music and Books, 3750 University Ave.

## FELIX: A Series of New Writing

**Thursday, November 30 – 4:30 p.m.  
126 Memorial Library**

The Friends host poets Peter O'Leary and Sina Queyras. O'Leary has published two books of poetry, *Watchfulness* and *Depth Theology*, and a book of criticism, *Gnostic Contagion: Robert*

*Duncan & the Poetry of Illness*. One of the longtime editors of *LVNG*, he is the literary executor for the Ronald Johnson Estate, a position that has resulted in two books: *To Do As Adam Did: Selected Poems* and *The Shrubberies*. Queyras recently edited *Open Field: Thirty Contemporary Canadian Poets*. She is the author of *Slip* and *Teeth Marks*. Her third collection of poetry, *Lemon Hound*, has recently been released from Coach House Books. Queyras teaches creative writing at Rutgers University.



Sina Queyras

## The new journalism: Parents Fund gives reading room much-needed improvements

Technology continually reshapes how people use both libraries and the modern media, so it is appropriate that it played a central role in the reinvention of the place where the two intersect.

The Journalism Reading Room is a small departmental library in Vilas Hall that serves students, faculty, and staff in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at UW-Madison. The JRR had been a collection library, except what it was collecting, people were not using or could find somewhere else.

"Too many square feet went to shelving old textbooks that needed to be discarded and periodicals that could be found elsewhere in the university system," says Journalism School Director James Baughman.

This was discovered through an analysis of its collection by the General Library System. The results convinced the school that the JRR needed to recreate itself as a service library. A School of Library and Information Studies survey found that students wanted the JRR to have more hours, consistency, computer workstations, and quiet space as well as a separate group collaborative space. Journalism faculty surveyed largely agreed with the students' sentiments.

After the SLIS survey, the school and GLS entered into a collaborative agreement in which the Business Library provides administrative support for the Journalism Reading Room. Most



The renovated Journalism Reading Room in Vilas Hall now features tables and plush furniture with Internet access at every seat. In addition, the new separate room for group study allows the library to maintain a studious atmosphere.

important, the agreement gave GLS the opportunity to use Parents Fund money to renovate the JRR.

The changes have been significant. There are still many print items along the walls, but large shelving units have been removed in favor of tables and oversized chairs. A group study room was created, leaving the main room for quiet study. In addition, every seat in the JRR now has Internet access. Users need only plug in to outlets in the center of a table or in the base of a lamp.

"We felt that at most, we could put in 25 seats," says Business Library Director Michael Enyart. "Rather than have dedicated workstations where the only thing that space could be used for is a computer workstation, we decided the reading room would check out laptops

and have power and Internet connections at every seat, so people can use the tables or comfortable chairs as best suits them. We needed flexibility."

Collections unique to journalism, advertising, and public relations as well as significant mass communication research remain in the reading room, as do the many periodicals, local and national newspapers, and course reserves that the department maintains.

"The Journalism School faculty and students very much appreciate the counsel and support of the General Library System in transforming our reading room," Baughman says. "Because the renovation of the room was still underway last spring, some of our students do not yet know about the changes. I think they will approve."

## Wisconsin Book Festival returns for fifth year

The UW-Madison Libraries and the Friends will again help sponsor of the 2006 Wisconsin Book Festival October 18-22, 2006.

In recent years, the Friends and the libraries have sponsored lectures, film screenings, and a Festival of Fiction.

The Friends hold their semiannual used book sale concurrently with the festival. The fall 2006 sale runs October 18-21 in room 116 Memorial Library.

The Wisconsin Book Festival, which began in 2002, features readings, lectures, book discussions, writing workshops, live

interviews, children's events, and more. This year, for the first time, there will also be events in Milwaukee, Eau Claire, and Edgerton.

For more information, visit <http://www.wisconsinbookfestival.org/overview/index.php>.

## Visiting scholar studies Special Collections works on the Reformation

By Elena Brambilla,  
Friends 2006 Grant-In-Aid recipient

I am now enjoying my sabbatical year, and my university—like all Italian universities—has recommended that I spend periods of study abroad to enlarge my vision and come into contact with recent foreign trends and directions in historical research.

My research will concentrate on the history of the Reformation and on the organization of evangelical and reformed churches, both in the United States and in Europe. In my project study, “A practical history of tolerance,” I hope to make a comparative survey of the administration of the sacraments, especially baptism and penance, in Western Europe from 1550–1800, after a system of plural confessional churches emerged during the Reformation.

I think sacraments, although they were religious rites, were not limited in value

just to the religious domain; they also conferred, at a primary level, membership to both church and state. This defined civil or primary citizenship, since it was also extended to those—women, children, and serfs—who were excluded from political citizenship and had no access to public offices and the right to vote. By the same token, exclusion from baptism or the Eucharist had the power to deny people from membership in the church and from citizenship in the state.

By studying the differences that gradually emerged in the churches of the Reformation in the administration of the sacraments and in the operation of ecclesiastical tribunals, I hope to understand why the relationships between the church and state were so difficult to extricate and how practical compromises were actually reached. Pastors or ministers of different denominations had to learn to coexist within the same territory and sometimes the very same church building.

In particular, I will look for arrangements that allowed inter-denominational tolerance, and I will pay special attention to the countries where peaceful coexistence of different denominations first became possible, such as Holland, Switzerland, Germany, and the American colonies.

UW–Madison has a wonderful “open shelves” library system, where one can freely follow the course of one’s interests and directions of research. I hope my research here will be transformed into a future publication—possibly a book.

*Elena Brambilla, a professor of history of science at the University of Milan, is one of the five scholars visiting UW–Madison from around the world after receiving a 2006 Grant-in-Aid from the Friends. Look for more accounts from grant recipients in future editions of Friends News.*



Detail of “Baptism administered by a priest” from *The Religious Ceremonies and Customs of the Several Nations of the Known World* (1731–39). Elena Brambilla, a 2006 Friends Grant-in-Aid recipient, came to UW–Madison to study the Department of Special Collections’ rich holdings on the administration of sacraments during the Reformation.

## Regular dusting important in maintaining books

By Andrea Rolich, Preservation

No matter how often we clean, it seems that our books always manage to gather far too much dust. Since dust contains abrasive particles and components that may serve as nutrients for mold, its regular removal significantly contributes to the preservation of our collections. Fortunately, there are simple, effective techniques for dusting bound volumes in good condition.

Dust may be removed effectively with a vacuum cleaner that has a low suction setting, a soft-bristled brush attachment, and a HEPA (high efficiency particulate arresting) filter to block reintroduction of dust into the environment. As an extra precaution against accidental loss, place a piece of cheesecloth over the end of the hose before attaching the brush.

The volume being cleaned should always be held tightly shut to prevent dust from falling between pages or into the hollow of the spine. To ensure best results, clean volumes one at a time.

Begin cleaning at the top edge of the text block, which usually has accumulated the most dust. Brush gently from the

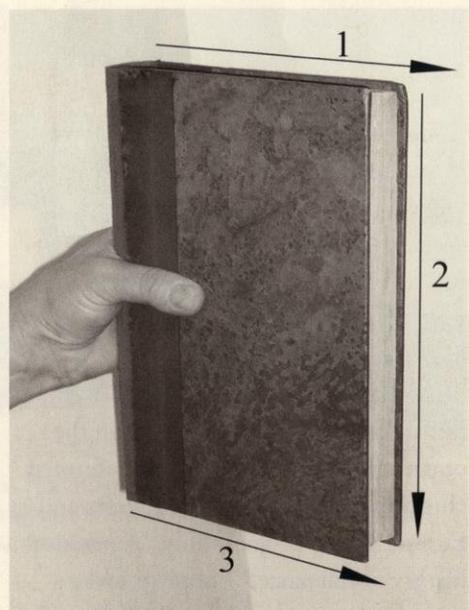
spine outward toward the fore-edge, then from top to bottom of the fore-edge.

Next, dust along the bottom edge from the spine outward. Finally, lightly vacuum the covers.

Alternatively, to protect the book from the suction power of the vacuum, a soft brush may be used to manually whisk dust from the book directly into the vacuum nozzle.

Dust cloths may also be used but should be reserved for wiping the covers of the book. Products that have been tested as safe for use on books include Dust Bunny and Dust Wizard, which have a slight electrostatic charge that attracts dust. Cleaning Frenzy!, MysticMaid, and other microfiber cloths also work well. Though some chemically treated cloths are said to be suitable for dusting books, they leave an unpleasant oily residue on hands and are probably best avoided.

The above methods are not recommended for damaged or brittle books. Instead, fragile materials that are likely to be further damaged by routine handling or cleaning should be protected



from dust by enclosure within a simple wrapping or a custom-made box or portfolio.

Storage shelves should also be cleaned each time books are removed for dusting. Vacuum, or wipe with a dry or damp cloth, making sure that dampened shelves have been thoroughly dried before books are re-shelved. Harsh cleaning agents are generally not necessary unless disinfection is required.

## Friends NEWS

Friends of the  
University of Wisconsin-Madison Library  
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