



Friends news : University of Wisconsin-Madison Libraries. Vol. 5, Issue 2 Fall 2007

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Friends NEWS

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON LIBRARIES



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Symbols of Medici power with the Duomo in the background. From *Raccolta d'Autori che Trattano del Moto dell'Acque* (Florence, 1723).

Patronage on display in Special Collections exhibit "Under the Medicean Stars"

By Robin Rider
Curator, Special Collections

In 1610, Galileo Galilei published an account of his discovery of moons orbiting Jupiter. In hope of gaining financial support, he named these the "Medicean stars" after Cosimo II de' Medici, grand duke of Tuscany. While this may be the best-known instance of Medici patronage of scientific inquiry, it was neither the first nor the last.

On exhibit currently in Special Collections is *Under the Medicean Stars: Medici Patronage of Science and Natural History, 1537-1737*, an exhibit designed to complement *Natura Morta: Still-Life*

Paintings and the Medici Collections at the Chazen Museum of Art, August 25 to October 21, 2007.

Planning for the library exhibit began with a suggestion from Professor Gail Geiger of Art History that we take this opportunity to showcase our strengths in illustrated natural history. A graduate student in the Department of Art History, Meghan Doherty, served as guest curator of the library exhibit, identifying scores of books of science and natural history by authors with ties to the Medici court, describing those now on display, and producing digital images of striking book illustrations for inclusion in an eventual online exhibit.

Friends sponsor Jane Hirshfield appearance at WI Book Festival

In joint sponsorship with the UW-Madison Libraries and the Friends, the 2007 Wisconsin Book Festival will feature prize-winning poet Jane Hirshfield.

Hirshfield will speak and read in Promenade Hall at the Overture Center at 5 p.m. on October 10, 2007. She is just one of many prominent writers who will appear at this year's Wisconsin Book Festival, themed "Domestic Tranquility."

Described as "radiant and passionate" and "insightful and eloquent" by reviewers, Hirshfield is the perfect poet for the festival's theme, according to Alison Jones Chaim, director of the Wisconsin Book Festival.

"Hirshfield's subjects range from the metaphysical to the political and scientific," Chaim says. "She explores a kind of hard-earned tranquility found in the domestic daily life of things. We are thrilled to include the uniqueness of her vision and voice in the Festival's exploration of domestic tranquility."

Hirshfield is the author of six collections of poetry including *After*, which was chosen as one of the best books of 2006 by the Washington Post, the San

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— Alison Jones Chaim
Director, Wisconsin Book Festival

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Board of Regents

From the president

What does it mean to be a “friend”?

As a teacher of Italian language and literature, I have, over the years, made a considerable investment in words, their meanings and nuances. Words represent, in many ways, the tools of my trade; they are my life, livelihood, and pleasure. Words are, in short, my friends. Indeed, I find that reading a good dictionary can be an activity that is both illuminating and engaging, for it rarely disappoints and almost always provides intellectual stimulation.

Etymology is particularly fascinating, for by studying the origin of a word, we may gain insights not only on its meaning(s), both past and present, but also on the dynamic interaction of language, history, and ideas. The reasons underlying or governing our speech can disclose a great deal about our cultural history and identity.

So what does it mean to be a “friend”? In many languages the word for “friend” points to much of the joy that should be fostered by and experienced in the concept of friendship. The English word “friend” comes from Anglo-Saxon *frēond*, the present participle of the verb “to love,” and thus the notion that being a friend involves the show of affection toward someone or something.

In Italian and the other Romance languages, “friend” – *amico/-a, amil/-e, amigo/-a*, etc. – derives from Latin *amicus*, which is based on the verb *amare*, meaning “to love.” Similarly, in Greek *philos* means the attitude of “loving” someone or something, and so philology indicates “loving the word,” and thus the love of literature and knowledge.

If I call myself an “*Italophile*,” I am declaring my love for all things Italian. Similarly, my colleagues in French are, or should be, “*Francophiles*.” And all of

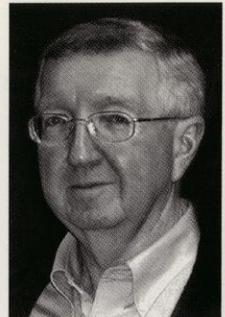
us in the Friends are “*bibliophiles*,” lovers of books.

Therefore, in general terms, to be a friend of the library means to feel passionately about books and about those institutions that have served and continue to serve as the repositories of books and knowledge over the centuries. In specific terms, to be a Friend of the UW-Madison Libraries ideally means to want to support those activities that, in a variety of ways, help the numerous campus libraries to achieve their multifaceted mission as world-class repositories of knowledge: to preserve and make available this wealth of knowledge and resources, to facilitate the research of students and faculty, and to provide additional services in support of these goals.

One very tangible measure of Friends’ support is financial, and over the years we have been, and will continue to be, a generous source for the funding of special projects and acquisitions. Another measure of Friends’ support, mostly intangible, is the large amount of time, expertise, and labor our members volunteer on a regular basis in pursuit of our mission to assist the UW-Madison libraries.

To be a friend of the library means to transform part of one’s passion for books and learning into a commitment of resources, time, and energy to a most worthy cause. I invite you to join us in this enterprise.

—Christopher Kleinhenz



UW Faculty Senate resolution moves toward greater access to scholarly communication

The University of Wisconsin-Madison Faculty Senate took a step toward greater open access this year when it approved a resolution designed to assist university authors in managing their publishing rights.

The resolution endorses the Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC) Provosts' Statement on Publishing Agreements and represents a nationwide trend toward greater access to scholarly communication. It also emphasizes that protecting authors' rights is paramount.

When scholarly communication is accepted in journals and books, authors often sign away most of the rights to the work, including copyright, which means the authors cannot post the work online or use it for future articles. University libraries are hit the hardest by this loss of intellectual property rights because they must pay for scholarly publications.

To address these issues, Ken Frazier, director of the UW-Madison Libraries, helped launch and develop an international alliance called the Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition. In 2005, he helped create the Office of Scholarly Communication and Publishing at UW-Madison.

Now, this year's Faculty Senate resolution encourages the use of an addendum to publishing contracts to ensure authors retain intellectual property rights, which may eventually reduce costs and increase access to scholarship.

The addendum—which comes from the CIC—gives authors the right to use their work for other purposes, such as future articles, teaching, and presentations; to self-archive the published version online six months after its publication; and to grant the author's employing institution rights to use and reproduce the work for any use at that institution.

"Without some important changes in publishing practices, authors and readers will continue to be frustrated by barriers to the free flow of information that is an essential characteristic of great research universities," the CIC Provosts' statement says.

Many other universities have adopted similar addendums including the University of Minnesota and the University of Illinois. Authors' rights supporters argue that, as more universities sign on, authors will have more leverage in talks with publishers.



Faculty and researchers enter into copyright agreements with journals that publish their research. The UW-Madison authors' rights resolution encourages faculty members to retain their rights.



Nick Rosza

Prize-winning poet Hirshfield speaks at Overture Center

(continued from page one)

Francisco Chronicle and the London Financial Times. Her other works include *Given Sugar, Given Salt, The Lives of the Heart, The October Palace, Ink Dark Moon, and Nine Gates: Entering the Mind of Poetry*.

Aside from Hirshfield, the Friends have supported appearances by a number of distinguished speakers in the past, including Billy Collins, Thylias Moss, and Jane Hamilton. The Friends also hold their semiannual used book sale concurrently with the festival, which this year runs October 10-13 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. Other writers appearing this year include Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Rick Bass, Michael Cunningham, and Harold Kushner.

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

CALENDAR

**Exhibition:
Under the
Medicean
Stars: Medici
Patronage
of Science
and Natural
History, 1537-1737**



976 Memorial Library
Continues through October 26
9 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday – Friday

In 1610 Galileo Galilei published an account of his discovery of moons orbiting Jupiter. In the hope of gaining financial support, he named these the Medicean Stars after Cosimo II de' Medici, grand duke of Tuscany.

Using books of science and natural history, often lavishly illustrated, this exhibit traces the financial and intellectual support provided by the grand dukes of Tuscany to members of their courts and to scholars working throughout Italy. Viewed in tandem with the exhibition *Natura Morta: Still-Life Paintings and the Medici Collections* on display at the Chazen Museum of Art, August 25 to October 21, 2007, *Under the Medicean Stars* highlights the interests of the Medici in both artistic and scientific endeavors.

**Exhibition:
John H. Van Vleck, "The
Early Years"**

Physics Library
4220 Chamberlin Hall
Continues through 2007

A winner of the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1977, John H. Van Vleck, whose father

is the namesake of Van Vleck Hall, came to Madison in 1905 as a young boy. This exhibit focuses on Van Vleck's early years, from his birth in 1899 until the UW Physics Department hired him in 1928. The display includes his high school and college yearbooks, grade school notebooks and photos from his childhood, as well as a program from his time in the UW Band, where he played the flute.

Van Vleck earned an undergraduate degree in physics from UW-Madison in 1920 and received his Ph.D from Harvard in 1922. "The Early Years" will be a permanent display in the Physics Library with displays for the middle and later years coming sometime next year.

**FELIX:
A Series of New Writing**

Thursday, September 20 – 4:30 p.m.
126 Memorial Library

The fall semester's FELIX event features Eric Baus and Cole Swensen.

Baus is the editor of Minus House chapbooks and the author of a number of publications and chapbooks including



Eric Baus

The To Sound and The Space Between Magnets. His latest chapbook, *Tuned Doves*, is forthcoming. He won the 2002 Verse Prize and his poems have appeared

in *Verse*, *Hambone*, *First Intensity*, and *Colorado Review*.

Swensen is the author of eleven books of poetry, the latest of which, *The Glass Age*, was published January 2007. She has won numerous awards including the San

Francisco Poetry Center Book Award, two Pushcart Prizes, and a National Poetry Series selection. She has also received numerous grants for translating and writing and is the founder of La Presse, which publishes contemporary French poetry in translation.



Cole Swensen

She teaches at the University of Iowa in the Writers' Workshop and divides her time between Iowa, Washington D.C., and Paris.

**Wisconsin Book Festival:
Domestic Tranquility**

Wednesday, October 10 – 5 p.m.
Promenade Hall
Overture Center
201 State Street

In conjunction with the UW-Madison Libraries and the Friends, prize-winning poet Jane Hirshfield comes to speak/read as part of the 2007 Wisconsin Book Festival. Hirshfield is the author of six collections of poetry including *After*, which was chosen as one of the best books of 2006 by the Washington Post, the San Francisco Chronicle and the London Financial Times.

In 2004, Hirshfield was awarded the 70th Academy Fellowship for distinguished poetic achievement by The Academy of American Poets, an honor held previously by the likes of Robert Frost, Ezra Pound and Elizabeth Bishop. She has received numerous other awards and fellowships.

OF EVENTS

Friends of the UW–Madison Libraries Semiannual Book Sale

**Wednesday through Saturday,
October 10 – 13
116 Memorial Library**

Come and explore the Friends twenty-fourth semiannual book sale, the largest used book sale in Wisconsin. Students, faculty, staff, and Madison residents donate materials ranging from literature and philosophy to science and reference texts. Proceeds from the fund-raiser help support a grant program for campus libraries, the Friends grants-in-aid program for visiting scholars, and other programming. Ten percent of the proceeds are transferred to the Friends' growing endowment. Last spring's Book Sale was the most successful in the history of the sales, taking in more than \$26,000.

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*.

- Wednesday, October 10
Preview sale (\$5 entry) 5 – 9 p.m.
- Thursday – Friday, October 11 – 12
(No entry fee)
10:30 a.m. – 7 p.m.
- Saturday, October 13
\$3-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 Pundits and the Power: Behind the Rise of Opinion Journalism

**Thursday, October
18 – 4:30 p.m.
976 Memorial
Library**

Tobin Harshaw,
senior staff editor
for the Op-Ed



Tobin Harshaw

pages of The New York Times, comes in collaboration with the School of Journalism to speak on the origins and evolution of opinion journalism.

Harshaw will briefly discuss the background of the separation of news and opinion in newspapers and touch, specifically, on The New York Times' decision to open its editorial pages to outside voices at greater length with the inclusion of an op-ed page in 1971.

Harshaw oversees and edits more than 200 op-ed articles from non-staff contributors each year and will discuss the page's shift in contributions from beltway insiders to a wider variety of authors, such as artists and writers. He will also touch on how a single op-ed page comes together, as well as the changing media landscape brought forth by the Internet.

The Wonderful Food of Italy: Creating a Cookbook

**Thursday, November 15 – 4:30 p.m.
126 Memorial Library**

Fred Plotkin, noted expert in the world of opera, music and the food of Italy, is the first visitor in the "Alumni in Residence" program. His love of all things Italian

began with his study of Renaissance history and grew through his many periods of residency in Italy, especially in Bologna and Milan.

Plotkin has written four books dealing with his favorite subjects: Italy and food. He will discuss the creation of a cookbook, focusing on the very personal and long trek of each book. His visit is sponsored by the Wisconsin Alumni Lifelong Learning program and the L&S Honors Program, of which he is a graduate.

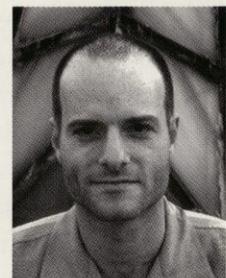
FELIX: A Series of New Writing

**Thursday, November 29 – 4:30 p.m.
126 Memorial Library**

The Friends host poets Janet Holmes and Dan Machlin.

Award-winning poet Janet Holmes has authored four books of poetry: *F2f*, *Humanophone*, *The Green Tuxedo*, and *The Physicist at the Mall*. She has received numerous awards and grants for her work and has been included in the annual *Best American Poetry* anthologies twice. She is director of Ahsahta Press, an all-poetry publication at Boise State University, where she is an associate professor in the MFA program.

Machlin is the author of three chapbooks: *6x7*, *This Side Facing*, *You*, and *In Rem*. He is the founder and editor of Futurepoem books, a publishing collaborative that presents contemporary poetry and prose from emerging and underrepresented writers.



Dan Machlin

Business Library has come a long way since its days in Bascom Hall's basement

By Christopher Kleinhenz

In 1991, Michael Enyart, director of the Business Library, wrote an article titled "Business Library to Triple Its Size" in the *Messenger*, the former title of the Friends magazine publication. In the article he wrote about the future design and intentions for his library, scheduled for completion in 1993.

Enyart focused on the benefits of the increased size of the new facility and on the ways in which library services could be expanded to meet new needs and challenges. Now, fourteen years after the move from the basement of Bascom Hall, Enyart is pleased to report that many of his predictions have come true – and then some.

The Business Library now serves between 24,000 and 30,000 patrons on a weekly basis (an increase of 400 to 500 percent), has more than adequate space for its monograph collection (which has grown by 10 to 15 percent), and has moved into the electronic information age with relatively few problems.

From then to now, the number of electronic databases has increased from one to twenty, while holdings of print journals have decreased by 50 percent through cancellation or conversion to electronic publication. The general feeling among most faculty and students in the Business School is that if something is not available in electronic format, they do not want it. Indeed, Enyart reports that the library is very close to delivering almost all class content electronically, including reserve materials.

After Memorial and College libraries, the Business Library has the most users on campus, which can be attributed to its central location and flexible schedule (8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., which Enyart hopes to extend to 1:00 a.m.). Attractive



After moving from the basement of Bascom Hall to the newly-built Grainger Hall in 1993, the Business Library has flourished and now has the third most users on campus.

study spaces, with a completely wireless environment and twelve separate break-out rooms and study alcoves in the main area – equipped with screens that enable students to practice class presentations – also contribute to the library's high usage.

These special study areas are very popular with the students, who recognize that collaborative activities are an integral part both of the Business School and of

the business community in general.

Once the new addition to Grainger Hall is complete, the library will have a second entrance, which will permit the consolidation of the two service desks into one. In the past, through our annual grants-to-campus-libraries program, the Friends have provided financial assistance to the Business Library in support of a variety of special initiatives.

Cairns Collection furthers research, inspires work of Grants-in-Aid scholar

By Rachel Melis

My goal in coming to the University of Wisconsin libraries was to gather texts by nineteenth-century women for use in future artist's books. I spent the majority of my time with the Cairns Collection of American Women Writers. I planned to identify women novelists or activists who were well-known for their thoughts on women's rights and then compare those with letters and journals by lesser-known women from Wisconsin.

I wanted to find out whether pioneer women surrounded by the Midwestern prairies and woodlands responded to the thoughts of their literary sisters who were concerned with the "woman's sphere" in eastern cities.

After many hours in Special Collections and the Wisconsin Historical Society, I discovered that several of the well-known women I started with had spent significant amounts of time in Wisconsin or nearby states. I found that their books about the Midwestern landscape could easily be linked with their later works about women's rights.

I looked at handwritten letters, articles for magazines, writings about each other, and the differences between editions of their books. I speculated on how the sentimental images popular in the nineteenth century may have affected interpretation of what are now thought to be some of the first American realist stories, and began sketching my own illustrations.

Over the next several years I will create a fine-press book for each one of the women I researched that pairs her women's rights-oriented writing with her Midwestern landscape/travelogue writing. I am excited about showing how their views on the "woman's sphere"

were shaped by expanding their personal spheres to include cultural and scientific exploration of the Midwest.

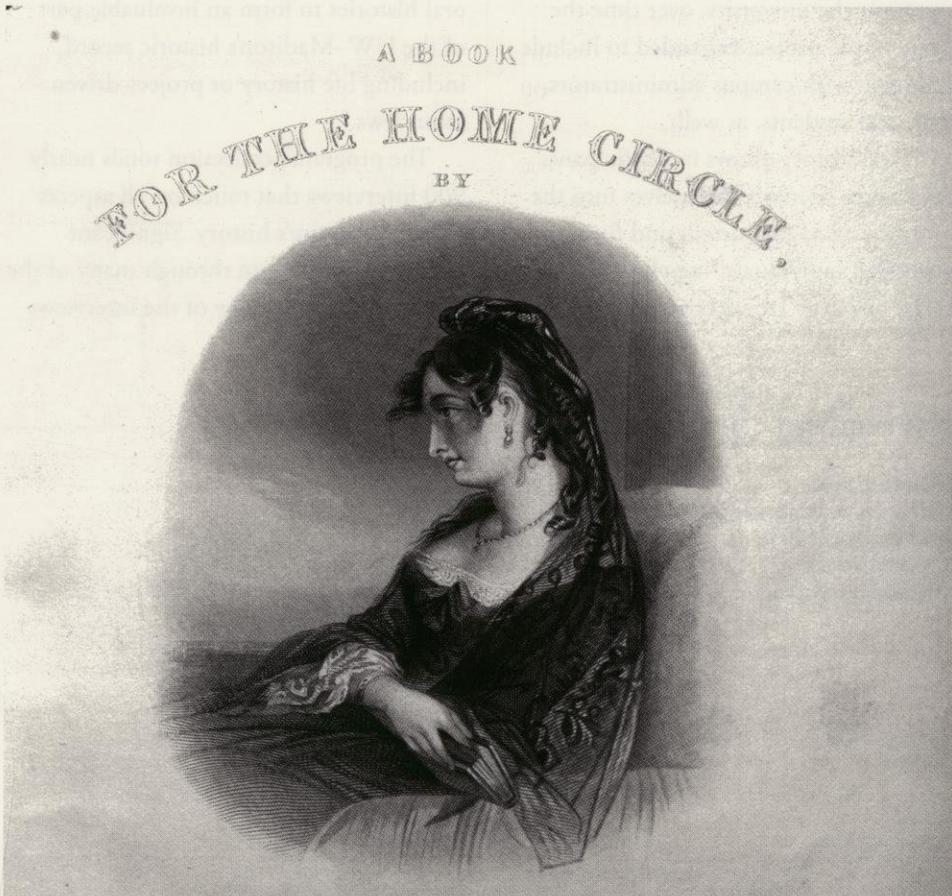
I will illustrate the books with scientific descriptions I encountered in my research and my own engravings that highlight the absurdity, humor, and cutting commentary often employed by the authors. Finally, I will be able to directly appropriate and alter the original, sentimental illustrations I found thanks to the high-resolution scanner just purchased for public use in Special Collections.

Because of the generosity of the staff in Special Collections, who hurried to get their new machine up and running for me, I was the first patron to use the scanner. I collected digital files of images and text from the Cairns books at a

quality I can use for fine-art prints. I do not know of any place in the country that allows public access to such a resource, and I am sure many artists will be interested in making use of it.

After receiving my MFA in art from UW-Madison in 2004 while working for the Silver Buckle Press and the Kohler Art Library, it was a great pleasure to be able to come back and explore Special Collections. It has inspired a whole new body of work and, like my past time in Wisconsin, will influence my art and teaching for years to come.

Rachel Melis, an assistant professor of art at College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University in Minnesota, was a 2007 Friends Grant-in-Aid recipient who studied here in July.



The Cairns Collection of American Women Writers has more than 7,000 titles by some 2,500 writers and includes fiction, poetry, drama, diaries, travel accounts, and more from 1650-1920. Pictured is an image from Caroline Kirkland, *A Book for the Home Circle*, titled "Reading for Amusement" (1853).

University speaks volumes through the Oral History Project

By Sara Johansen
Library Communications

If the university could talk, its stories would be endless. In its century-and-a-half of existence, the faculty, staff, administrators, and students who have entered the halls and walked the campus have shaped the history of the institution and created a tradition of excellence that has been recognized for decades.

In an effort to record the institutional milestones and memoirs, the university established the University of Wisconsin-Madison Oral History Program in 1971 as a division of the University Archives. Although the program's initial purpose was to record interviews of prominent emeritus faculty about their research and careers at the university, over time the scope of the project expanded to include dialogues with campus administrators, staff, and students, as well.

"Oral history allows its participants the chance to inject themselves into the historic record for current and future interested individuals," newly appointed OHP Director Troy Reeves says. "With



The Oral History Project features nearly 900 interviews that touch on all aspects of the university's history. Revered history professor and former dean of the College of Letters and Science, E. David Cronon, has two interviews in the collection.

new leadership in 2007, the Oral History Project will strive to continue to gather oral histories to form an invaluable part of the UW-Madison's historic record, including life history or project-driven interviews."

The program's collection totals nearly 900 interviews that touch on all aspects of the university's history. Significant historical themes run through many of the interviews. Thus, many of the interviews

were conducted as parts of a series, with subjects ranging from the Teaching Assistants Strike of 1970 to work done at the Arboretum in the 1930s by the Civilian Conservation Corps. Reeves notes the average interview contains five to six hours of narration, with some recordings reaching up to twenty hours.

"Taken individually, these interviews reflect the careers and interests of the interviewees; taken collectively they constitute a narrative of the development of the university over time. As such, they form an invaluable part of the historical record of the university," according to a mission statement on the project Web site.

While the majority of the interviews are kept on cassette tapes, the ability to digitize recordings will aid in preserving the program's oral records; the Oral History Project has begun conducting interviews on digital recorders, as well as digitizing the extant collections.

"For me," Reeves says, "being able to hear the narrator's voice as he or she tells a story, knowing that story was told anywhere from a few days ago to a few decades ago, has always been ."

Friends NEWS

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