

September 2004

Director's Notes – **While you were away**

Olin Hours - Fall

Mon - Thurs.. 8:00am to Midnight
Friday 8:00am to 6:00pm
Saturday 9:00am to 6:00pm
Sunday 11:00am to Midnight

Calendar *online*—

<http://www.rollins.edu/olin/circulation/calendarpage.htm>

Olin Telephone Numbers

Hours 646-2376
Circulation 646-2521
Reference 646-2507
Documents 646-2693
Archives 646-2421

Olin Info online—

<http://rollins.edu/olin/olininfo/>
Contains current & back issues.

Summer was unusually busy this year for the Olin faculty and staff. For the first time in its 128-year history, the annual conference of the American Library Association was held in Orlando. Nearly everyone in the department participated in the conference activities, from serving on the help desk, to attending a special viewing of *Fahrenheit 9/11*, to competing in the fun run. We joined librarians from across the country to discuss issues of concern to our profession.

Keynote speaker Richard Clarke, who served as counter-terrorism chief under Bill Clinton and George W. Bush, presented his views on the ground war in Iraq and the fight against terrorist ideologies. It was most appropriate that he was addressing librarians, he remarked, because “this has been the year when political debates have been informed not by newspapers, television, or the Internet, but by books.” In the exchange of ideas, “American citizens need to be well informed, and libraries play a key role in this venture.” Most importantly, Clarke asserted, the freedom to read should be cherished, and librarians must defend the Constitution.

This was a summer in which diversity was celebrated in a number of venues. At the Florida Library Association conference, Rollins librarian Naomi Harrison participated in a special panel on the fiftieth anniversary of the *Brown v. Board of Education* ruling. And at the ALA conference, Pulitzer Prize-winning author Taylor Branch, Cheryl Brown Henderson (whose father Oliver Brown was named in the case), and ALA President Carla Hayden continued the discussion of the landmark decision.

Also at the ALA conference, librarians addressed two recurring issues: equity of access and censorship. We believe strongly that everyone, regardless of income level, should have access to information. Decreases in support for purchases of print materials and new government efforts to put more and more information online are contributing to an information gap. Robbie H. Harris, author of one of the most frequently challenged books in 2003, observed: “librarians are the real heroes in preventing censorship since, by allowing people to choose the books they read, they are the keepers of democracy.”

The Olin Library begins the new academic year with renewed commitment to open and equal access to information.

Donna Cohen, Library Director

New Look for the Olin Website

With the start of the new academic year, the Library is launching an updated version of our website at <http://www.rollins.edu/olin>.

The structure of the new site is easier to navigate. Links to the most frequently sought information appear throughout the website, and information is presented more clearly and logically. The site also has a new look that should appeal to library users.

A major new addition to the site is a collection of subject guides describing the research databases, reference books, and websites most useful for specific disciplines. At present, subject guides are available for the fields of art, biology, chemistry, classical studies, communication, computer science, economics, education, environmental studies, grants, history, literature, mathematics, music, philosophy, physical education, physics, religion, sociology, theater & performing arts, and women's studies. Librarians will add more guides in the future and keep the existing guides up to date.

The launch of the new site is accompanied by the addition of several new online databases:

- *L'Année Philologique*, an international index to work in classical studies, includes citations from more than 1,000 journals.
- *Communication & Mass Media Complete*, indexes more than 400 core journals in communication, and almost half of the journals include access to the full-text of the articles.
- *SciFinder Scholar*, the largest and most comprehensive database of chemical information in the world, contains abstracts and some full text of chemistry literature and covers related fields such as biochemistry, toxicology, and environmental sciences. --WLS

Welcome...

To our new Night Circulation Specialist, Sam Leininger! Sam comes to us from Glenridge Middle School, where he worked as a Media Specialist. His work here at Olin includes co-managing the circulation desk in the evenings, assisting patrons with using library resources, and circulating library materials. --NCC



Sam Leininger

"The world of books is the most remarkable creation of man. Nothing else that he builds ever lasts. Monuments fall, nations perish, civilizations grow old and die out, and after an era new races build others. But in the world of books are volumes that have seen this happen again and again and yet live on, still young, still as fresh as the day they were written, still telling men's hearts of the heart of men centuries dead."

Clarence Day

Books That Made A Difference

Watership Down

Richard Adams, 1972

I was what teachers refer to as a "reluctant reader" as a child. Books were chores to be endured, and I was consigned to remedial classes due to my apparent inability to read and comprehend more than a few pages of text. My concerned parents brought me books recommended for girls, hoping my disinterest in reading would be cured if I could identify with classic adolescent heroines such as Nancy Drew, Harriet the Spy, and Laura Ingalls Wilder. While I recognize these books are classics, they were sheer tedium for me. Nothing worked until I stumbled across my brother's



Dorothy Auchter
Mays

well-thumbed copy of *Watership Down*, a novel featuring an improbable storyline involving an intrepid band of rabbits fleeing certain destruction in hope of finding a new home.

Frankly, it is difficult to make a plot about bunny rabbits sound appealing, but the book has been wildly popular among juvenile and adult audiences ever since its publication. By the end of the first chapter I was riveted, as an idyllic meadow is plowed under, creating a harrowing situation for the characters who were unprepared for the mindless annihilation of their way of life. As an adolescent, I can remember being captivated by the intense identification I had with the protagonists as they were forced to confront fear, uncertainty, and change.

On its surface, *Watership Down* is a rip-roaring tale in which heroism triumphs over adversity. On another level, scholarly essays have been written about the less than subtle themes running throughout the novel, including the perils of modernization, democracy vs. totalitarianism, the role of the epic hero, and even the Cold War. Most prominent for me was the theme of hope as the characters confront one disaster after another, always with an unwavering determination to find a better place to live and a more just means of establishing a new community.

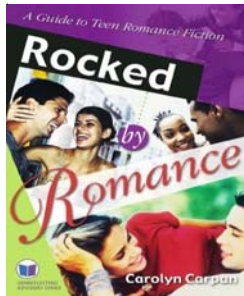
Watership Down was a "gateway" book that opened up an entire new genre for me. I liked reading about other worlds and strange beings. Soon I was reading C. S. Lewis, George MacDonald, J. R. R. Tolkien, and any other fantasy writer who was brave enough to do a little world-building. Although a good plot and an interesting setting were important, I always appreciated the writers who wove allegorical meanings throughout their novels. I will be eternally grateful to Richard Adams for writing the story that turned me into a life-long reader. -- DM

"The man who does not read good books has no advantage over the man who can't read them. "

Mark Twain

Rollins Librarian Publishes Book on Teen Fiction

Adolescent readers have distinct reading preferences, and the young adult book market is a 200 million dollar industry that addresses their needs. Adolescent readers often seek out books that cast teenagers in central roles, allowing them to empathize with characters as they explore issues of growing up, experiencing first love, and coping with peer pressure. Rollins reference librarian and assistant professor Carolyn Carpan has written and published a book that explores the genre of teen romance fiction. *Rocked by Romance: A Guide to Teen Romance Fiction* defines the genre, identifies its notable titles, and provides librarians with tips to help patrons find novels to read.



Genre fiction has recently been given serious study by academic researchers, but young adult fiction continues to be overlooked. *Rocked by Romance: A Guide to Teen Romance Fiction* was written to define the current state of this unique genre. Teen romance fiction is harder to identify than it used to be, because it has become mingled with other genres, including fantasy, historical, humorous, and issues fiction. Professor Carpan's book presents scholars with information supporting research on the history, content, and reading of teen romance novels. It also provides an annotated bibliography of titles organized by subgenres and themes popular in contemporary teen romance fiction. Subgenres include classics, contemporary romance, romance series, issues romance, alternative reality romance, romantic suspense, historical romance, and Christian romance. An earlier version of this bibliography was originally published in *The Bulletin of Bibliography* in 2001.

Response to the book has been positive, and Professor Carpan has been invited to present her research at conferences for the American Library Association and the Romance Writers of America.

Upcoming Lectures & Other Events

The *Turn-It-In* software program will be the subject of a brown bag discussion and demonstration for faculty on Tuesday, September 28, at 12:30 pm in the Teaching Lab of the Olin Library. *Turn-It-In* is used as a deterrent to plagiarism and licensed for use by Rollins College.

Pulitzer Prize winning book critic Michael Dirda will speak in the Bush Auditorium on Tuesday, October 5, at 7:30 pm.

The Invisible Web brown bag discussion and demonstration will take place in the Teaching Lab of the Olin Library from 12:30-1:30 pm, Thursday, October 28.

Pulitzer Prize Winning Book Critic To Speak at Rollins

"Absolutely limpid in its telling."

"... an exceptionally ingratiating writer, with a skewering wit, wide sympathies and a gimlet eye for the killing or illuminating detail."

"The problem lies in the book's tone. Its pitch strikes me as a little shrill, over bright."

These quotes are immediately recognizable as lines in a book review. In this case, they are snippets from reviews by Michael Dirda, book critic for *The Washington Post* and winner of a Pulitzer Prize. Have you ever wondered how book reviewers come up with these phrases, why they enter the world of literary criticism to start with, and how they select the books they review? Obviously a love of reading is a prerequisite, but how does it act to create that peculiar creature, the book critic? Are reviewers born or made? Are they writing their own "great American novels"?

Throughout history, book critics have been vilified for advancing political or literary agendas. Some have been accused of being frustrated writers. Many fear that writing negative reviews will pigeonhole them as spiteful reviewers. Despite the hazards of reviewing, many book critics take great enjoyment in participating in a form of cultural conversation. They are, after all, negotiating between the authors and their potential readers.

Mr. Dirda recently published *An Open Book*, a memoir in which he recalls the significant impact of the books he read while growing up in "an innocent America." "It was the America where a teenager could safely ride a bike 13 miles from one town to another to use the library." A book lover from an early age, Michael Dirda has both written book reviews and received criticism from reviewers.

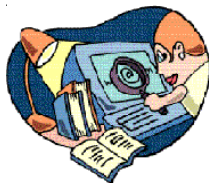
The Olin Library invites you to hear one of America's most noted book critics discuss his multi-faceted relationship with books. Michael Dirda will speak in the Bush Auditorium on Tuesday, October 5, at 7:30 pm. Mr. Dirda comes to Rollins as a Thomas P. Johnson Distinguished Visiting Scholar hosted by the Olin Library. In addition to Mr. Dirda's public talk, he will be visiting an RCC class and teaching a master class for English majors. --DYJ

"In a library we are surrounded by many hundreds of dear friends, but they are imprisoned by an enchanter in these paper and leathern boxes; and though they know us, and have been waiting two, ten, or twenty centuries for us, -some of them, -and are eager to give us a sign and unbosom themselves, it is the law of their limbo that they must not speak until spoken to; and as the enchanter has dressed them, like battalions of infantry, in coat and jacket of one cut, by the thousand and ten thousand, you chance of hitting on the right one is to be computed by the arithmetical rule of Permutation and Combination, -not a choice out of three caskets, but out of half a million caskets, all alike."

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

What is the Invisible Web?

Powerhouse search engines have a reputation for being able to find anything that is on the Internet. It therefore comes as a surprise to many people when they learn that Google, Yahoo, and similar search engines access



less than *ten percent* of the information that is on the Internet. The other 90% falls into what is known as “the Invisible Web.”

A number of factors account for why search engines may not find an Internet resource. Technological limitations preclude information in databases, certain computer formats, and deeply embedded information from being retrieved. Sometimes web page designers deliberately exclude pages from search engines, while others designers have inadvertently made mistakes that prevent a search engine from ever finding the page. The log-in screens used on many sites, even free sites, prevent search engines from indexing the data contained in them.

Much of the information in the invisible web deserves to be relegated to oblivion. Few people lament that the invisible web contains obscure information like daily weather reports from hundreds of cities and outdated airline flight schedules. Google would grind to a halt if it tried to index and present such information.

On the other hand, some of the most valuable research material is also living quietly on the invisible web. Archivists have provided access to large collections of digital images, manuscripts of ancient texts, old photographs, or other rare information, but technical limitations often render these resources unsearchable. There is no magic key that will open the invisible web to search engines, but a number of techniques can be used to uncover desired information.

Chris Sherman, editor of SearchEngineWatch.com, developed a web page that provides an introduction to the invisible web and access to the sort of content rich databases that typify research material on the invisible web (<http://www.invisible-web.net>)

The Olin Library will be hosting a brown-bag session on Techniques for Searching the Invisible Web on Thursday, October 28, from 12:30-1:30 pm in the Teaching Lab of the Olin Library. Please attend! --DM

MISSION STATEMENT: The Olin Library provides instruction, information, and services to support the teaching and research needs of the Rollins Community. **OLIN INFO** is published periodically throughout the academic year for library patrons. Editors: Natasha Chatlein & Dorothy Mays. Contributors: Olin Library Faculty and Staff and the staff of Planned Giving

News from the IT Department...

Network Upgrades: The campus network upgrade was a massive project that called for the replacement of hundreds of network devices and impacted every building on campus during the summer of 2004. During the six-week process, new hardware was configured to work with the old network. Also, all of the power to the network and systems room was upgraded to provide for the new equipment and greater insulation from outages.

The Rollins home page received a new look this summer. We incorporated many of the suggestions that came from the Web focus groups and research conducted earlier this year. A new section called “Rollins People” will feature short profiles of Rollins faculty, staff, and students.

New people:

Robert Pfluger, Evening Help Desk Systems Analyst. Robert is responsible for the monitoring and troubleshooting of the Rollins College computer network systems. His additional duties include faculty, staff and student help desk support.

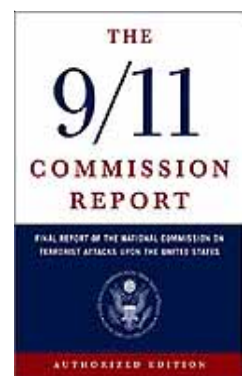
Ken Turner, Computer Technician. Ken will provide computer hardware/software support for the college.

Rashel Scantian rejoins IT as a Computer Technician. Rashel will provide computer hardware/software support for the college.

Lab upgrades: The Teaching Lab in the Olin Library was upgraded to Dell SX270 computers with 17" flat screen monitors. Other upgrades in Olin include flat panel monitors in the late night lab and some video-editing machines in the multimedia area. --MM

Docs @ Olin

The 9-11 Commission Report: Final Report of the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States, Official Government Edition



The Commission’s Final Report provides a full and complete account of the circumstances surrounding the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, including preparedness for and the immediate response to the attacks. It also includes recommendations designed to guard against future attacks.

The **Full Report** (585 pages) is available in its entirety, as a single PDF file, on GPO Access at <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/911/index.html>. An **Executive Summary** (35 pages) of the Final Report is also offered. Print versions are located in Olin Library’s government documents department. --DB