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Olin Library

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Olin Info

NEWSLETTER OF THE FRANKLIN W. OLIN LIBRARY AT ROLLINS COLLEGE

January 2010

Olin Hours — Spring

Mon-Thur: 7:45 a.m. to Midnight

Friday : 7:45 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Sunday: 11:00 a.m. to Midnight

Olin Telephone Numbers

Hours.....(407) 646-2376

Circulation (407) 646-2521

Reference.....(407) 646-2507

Archives.....(407) 646-2421

Ask A Librarian:
askolinlibrary@gmail.com

Facebook:
Olin Library @ Rollins College

Twitter: OlinLibrary

This edition of our newsletter is in pdf format on our website and most of our readers are receiving it in that format. If you would prefer to receive it in print in full color in the future, send an email to Darcella Deschambault at ddechambault@rollins.edu We will be happy to oblige.

Donna Cohen, the director of the Olin Library from 1999-2006 passed away on January 2, 2010 after suffering a stroke while vacationing in New Mexico. Her husband, Rollins English Professor Ed Cohen, was by her side. Donna's career in the Olin Library began in 1986 when she became Head of the Acquisitions Department.



Those who worked with Donna will agree that two qualities stand out: Firstly, she was an extraordinarily gracious person who helped make the library a warm, welcoming and comfortable place.

Anyone who has been lucky enough to have dinner at Donna's house knows that she was a fantastic cook and really knew how to throw a first-class dinner party. On the other hand, she was a person with high standards and a dogged determination to make the library the best organization it could possibly be. This unique combination of traits was a little like working for a cross between Emily Post and General Eisenhower. It certainly made working in the Olin Library an exciting place to be.

During her tenure as Library Director, Donna presided over numerous changes. We went from a handful of stand-alone CD-Roms to over 50 online databases. She helped make off-campus access to journal databases a reality. When she became director, there was no wireless access, no free printing of journal articles, no ability to have a reference question answered through e-mail. There was no such thing as the ability to call up online reserve reading from anywhere in the world. Certainly, we had no coffee in the library. All these things were accomplished before she retired.

Donna's commitment to the Olin Library extended beyond technology. She was a passionate book lover and was fiercely committed to making sure that the millions of words contained in older books have a safe place at the Olin Library. When we ran out of space for more books, Donna succeeded in getting the funding for movable bookshelves which increased our shelving capacity by almost 50%.

Donna was devoted to libraries that each time she vacationed, she took a snapshot of herself in front of a library. Her album included pictures from Farleigh NZ, Mildurah AU, Oviedo Spain, Durango CO, and many points in between.

The librarians and staff who had the pleasure to work for Donna all agree that she was a wonderful mentor, a fantastic librarian, and a good friend.

Dorothy Mays

A New Web Page for the Olin Library

The R-Search window searches almost the entire holdings of the Olin Library....including our databases, book catalog, and online journals. This represents true one-click searching!

We still have all the links to get you directly to the departments, services, and resources you need.

For those who prefer the traditional way of going directly to a specific database or resource, you can still link directly to them.



You can comment on the redesign or report problems here

These tools allow you to quickly share any website on our page or link to the library on Facebook, Twitter, etc.

If you still prefer our old website, this link takes you back to it for the duration of the academic year.

Quick access to news and information about the library or newly acquired materials

Librarians can be contacted through chat, email, or phone.

New developments in search technology, social media, and the rapid pace of digital acquisitions meant we needed a large-scale overhaul in our web presence if you were to use these tools in the most efficient manner. We know that students want quick, integrated technology when performing research, and this new website is optimized for just that. Special thanks to Bill Svitavsky, Paul Gindlesperger, and the entire Library for their hard work!

Next stage: Watch for our mobile website, optimized for smart phones.

Going Out of My Mind – A Book Club Experience

By Charlene L. Edge, Rollins Faculty Spouse

Last semester something happened to my mind: I stepped out of it and peered into other minds in a book club hosted at the Olin Library. We discussed [*The Gutenberg Elegies – The Fate of Reading in the Electronic Age*](#), by Sven Birkerts. One of his main concerns about reading in the digitized age of the Internet is, “Who has the time to read books the way people used to?” The group proved some people still muster up enough time to read a book, and not only that, they make time to talk to each other about it in person.

I’d never before joined book clubs. I feared they’d devolve into gossip groups or excuses to eat extravagant pastries and I’d get fat. Maybe the reality was they avoided me - since no one ever asked me to join one. To my delight, I found the club discussions intellectually and emotionally invigorating. We read, laughed, listened, questioned, surmised, and challenged each other to think, read, respond, and think again. I gained free insight into what other educated people think about reading literature [we weren’t talking about reading email or Twitter] in this electronically mediated age. The club members and the book stirred my passion for the fate of what Birkerts calls the “contemplative register.” What is clear to me after my book club experience is the need to protect and feed this register. A major way I do it is by reading. Also, the communal act of discussing what I read also affected this contemplative aspect of myself. I’d drive home after the meeting and keep thinking about what my fellow readers said. They offered me a rare chance to experience a book in a more complex way than sitting alone on my couch. With them, I thoroughly enjoyed going out of my mind. ~ Charlene Edge.

Others who joined in the Gutenberg discussion included Adjunct Professor Nichole Jackson, who commented, “The real value came from the two-step process in which the journey Birkerts speaks of, the solitary read, was only the travel necessary to arrive at the meeting place where the collective journey began. If the commitment to read is what Birkerts laments as fading in our technological society, then book clubs, like this one, are a way to ensure sustained reading—and thereby access to a subjective self.”

Library historian Wayne Wiegand did not share Birkert’s fear of the diminishment of reading. “I find it hard to believe that reading is in trouble,” Wiegand said. “In 2009 we have more public libraries in this country than ever, and they are circulating more books than ever. Certainly the invention of movable type in the 15th century changed the act of reading in many ways, and over the centuries people used the practice and habit of reading in multiple ways for multiple purposes. Thus, looking at the past tells me that “reading” has always changed. I sense it will continue to change. But I don’t share his sense that reading is fated. I trust readers will figure out ways to adjust to new technologies all by themselves.

A Place for Adjunct Faculty in the Olin Library

Adjunct faculty members can sometimes feel like nomads on campus, with no place to gather their thoughts, meet with a student, or check e-mail. Since adjuncts rarely have an on-campus office, it can be hard for them to find a comfortable place to relax between classes.

The Olin Library is pleased to announce a comfortable lounge for the use of our adjunct faculty. Located in Room 227 on the main floor of the library, this spacious room is complete with comfortable seating, a computer, printer, and workspace. You can find the room right around the corner from the reference terminals and next to the offices of the Reference librarians.

We hope the newly created lounge will be a convenient place for our adjuncts to catch up on work or network with their peers.



Not Just a Box of Books: The Library in Society Discussion Series

Many people share an instinctive sense of affinity for libraries. Jorge Luis Borges once said that he always imagined Paradise would be a kind of library. Writer Germaine Greer said that "Libraries are reservoirs of strength, grace and wit, reminders of order, calm and continuity, lakes of mental energy, neither warm nor cold, light nor dark. The pleasure they give is steady, reliable, deep and long-lasting." What is it that draws so many people to a library?

Library historian Wayne Wiegand, Winter Park Institute Scholar, will host a series of informal conversations on the role of libraries in American culture and life. This will be a chance for you to meet your peers from other local colleges, libraries, and the community to share ideas and simply enjoy lively conversation. Suggested readings will be distributed to attendees, and refreshments will be served.

The discussions will take place in the Olin Library's Van Houten conference room beginning at 5:00pm on the following Tuesdays:

- January 26 *The Library as a Place*
- February 23 *The Library in the Lives of People who Use Them*
- March 30 *Public Spheres as Agencies of Culture*



The New York Public Library, courtesy of Thomas Hawks

If you are interested in joining the conversation, please rsvp to Dorothy Mays at dmays@rollins.edu.

Welcome to the Olin Library:



David Noe is our new Digital Services Librarian. He has a American Studies degree and a Masters of Library Science, both from the University of Alabama. His most recent position was at the University of St. Thomas University where he was the Technical Services Librarian. David's interest include professional photography and fiction, especially turn-of-the-century American realism. Although he proclaims himself a fine photographer and librarian, more than anything else he takes pride in being a terrific cook.



Cathleen Bota Trygved joined the Olin Library as a Circulation Specialist. She has experience at numerous libraries, including Orlando Public Library, Temple Terrace, and the University of South Florida. Cathleen recently completed a degree in English from Rollins College. Her interests include writing poetry and sewing. Cathleen is fabulous with a needle and even makes many of her own clothes.