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Olin Library

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OlinInfo

NEWSLETTER OF THE FRANKLIN W. OLIN LIBRARY AT ROLLINS COLLEGE

May 2009

Olin Hours — Spring

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

Friday7:45 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

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

Sunday.....11:00 a.m. to Midnight

Calendar Online

<http://www.rollins.edu/olin/about/calendar.htm>

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

A New Look and Format for OlinInfo

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 ddeschambault@rollins.edu. We will be happy to oblige.

A New Way of Doing Business for the Olin Library

In Spring of 2008, the Olin Library worked with a consulting company to help us streamline, automate, and expedite the manner in which we acquire our books. The goal was to align our library operations with the rapidly evolving nature of patron expectations. Libraries of the 21st century have increasing demands for electronic resources, remote access, and a rapidly expanding array of resources beyond the book. This means that staff positions, budget lines, and collection development efforts must be revamped in order to support the needs of a modern college library.



Blackwell's famous bookshop in Oxford, founded in 1879

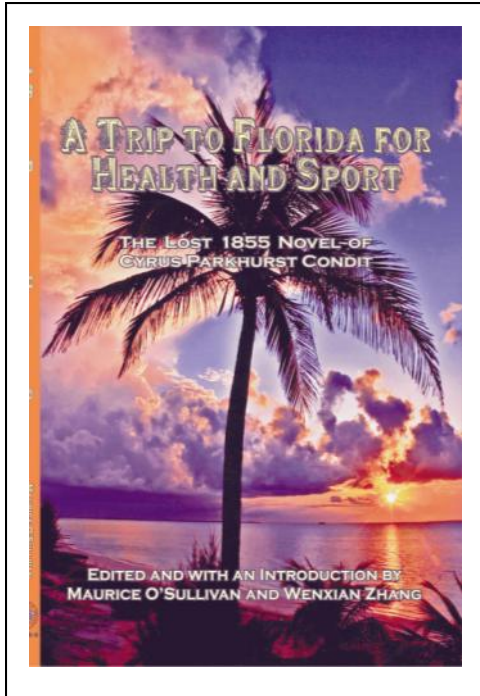
Following the recommendation of R2 Consulting, the library has been evaluating vendors that can help streamline our book orders by providing automated services and shelf-ready materials. Rather than devoting our staff time to adding barcodes, inserting security strips, and creating catalog entries, these tasks will be outsourced to a vendor and our books will arrive shelf-ready. The Olin Library has selected Blackwell's Book Services as our primary vendor. Blackwell's began as a bookstore in Oxford, and began supplying books to libraries in 1879. Over the years they have evolved into one of the largest academic booksellers in the world.

In addition to automating many stages of the acquisitions process, Blackwell's will allow faculty members to initiate orders. The company's Collection Manager software will make it possible for faculty members to find books to order, receive e-mail notifications of new titles in their fields (via a custom profile tailored to their particular interests), and request them for the library. When we place an order, Collection Manager software will check our holdings to make sure we don't already own the item and make it possible for us to download a complete purchase order into our catalog. Blackwell's will deliver our books fully cataloged and shelf-ready, thus eliminating the need for in-house cataloging.

Our partnership with Blackwell's will streamline acquisitions and cataloging workflows considerably. We expect that, in most cases, the time required for an order to be acquired and shelved will be reduced by half. We will continue to accept book and film orders in any format (online forms, e-mail, campus mail, etc.), but we hope that Collection Manager will be a useful new tool for our Rollins and faculty members.

Your Librarians are looking forward to introducing this new software to the faculty in Fall 2009. —Darla Moore

Treasured Florida Manuscript Uncovered at the Rollins Archives



While conducting a summer inventory in the Archives and Special Collections at Rollins College, Wenxian Zhang, Head of Archives & Special Collections, “discovered” a rare manuscript in the school’s Florida Collection. It consists of an unpublished novel about a young man’s winter visit to Florida. Apparently written by Cyrus Parkhurst Condit (1830 – 1861), it was one of many gifts to Rollins from Frederick Dau, an editor, collector, and the author of *Florida: Old and New* (1934). Based on internal evidence, Condit’s biography and historical events, it was determined that the manuscript was probably written in 1855.

Written on one side of 162 folio leaves (12 5/8 by 8 inches), the manuscript is folded in quires and sewn and bound in stiff tan wrappers. The sewing has come loose, as have the wrappers, but everything is present, including a portion of the spine. The manuscript is enclosed in a brown cloth slipcase. The wrappers and first and last few pages are damp-stained, obscuring only two or three words of the “Table of Contents.”

The novel tells the story of George Morton, a seventeen year old New Yorker who travels one December to Florida for his health. While most of the narrative focuses on Welaka, a small town 55 miles south of Jacksonville, and the adjacent Lake George region, it also includes visits to St. Augustine, Enterprise, Mellonville (now Sanford) and Silver Glen Springs, as well as hunting, fishing and camping trips along the state’s rivers and lakes.

According to Dr. Maurice O’Sullivan, Kenneth Curry Professor of English at Rollins, the manuscript’s importance stems both from its date, which makes it one of the state’s first novels, and from its detailed portrait of ordinary life along the St. Johns River in the early 1850s. In describing how the handful of Welaka residents and the farmers who surrounded them worked and socialized, married and worshipped, hunted and fished, Condit has made a rich contribution to our understanding of antebellum Florida. The story’s incidents and descriptions are so specific in detail that they appear clearly based on first-hand experience or taken from familiar local anecdote. It is the book’s record of those distinctively Floridian customs, the large and small events of day-by-day life, that makes it so valuable.

A Trip to Florida for Health and Sport: the Lost 1855 Novel of Cyrus Parkhurst Condit, edited with introduction by Maurice O’Sullivan and Wenxian Zhang, will be published by the Florida Historical Society Press in May 2009.

Check out our new video!

The Olin Library is often cited by our alumni as one of the buildings at Rollins they remember with great fondness. With the help of Technical Services Specialist T.R. Parker and our student assistant Nadia Johnson, the library created a short video of the building in which students recall their favorite spots in the library. You can watch the video at:
<http://tars.rollins.edu/olin/>

We hope this will be the first of many videos we make of various events and topics in the Olin Library.



The Olin Library Hosts an Edible Book Contest

Students using the Olin Library were greeted by an unusual sight on April 1st. The lobby was filled with an assortment of cakes and other oddities as part of their first annual Books2Eat Contest. Participants were charged with creating a sculpture that captures the spirit or title of a book, using entirely edible ingredients. Examples included Shawn Keevan's *House of Spirits*, a loosely assembled log cabin made of pretzels and filled with miniature bottles of liquor. Another contribution featured a large ear of corn surrounded by miniature corn, representing *Children of the Corn*. Other students contributed cakes shaped into designs representing *Watership Down*, *Peter Pan*'s island, and *Winnie the Pooh*.

The Books2Eat contest is an international competition hosted by libraries around the world on the first of April. The date is in celebration of the birthday of the famous French gastronome Jean-Anthelme Brillat-Savarin (1755-1826). Last year there were Edible Book contests held in Brazil, Japan, Russian, India, Mexico, Morocco, and Hong Kong. Pictures of the Rollins contest entries can be viewed at the Olin Library's Facebook page, [Olin Library@Rollins College](#).

Ballots were collected from anyone who wished to vote in the contest. The runaway winner for the People's Choice Award went to first year student Yarissa Matos-Soto and Van Le. Senior Laura Edwards won the Judge's award for a towering sculpture of Winnie the Pooh atop a mound of honey. The competition was open to all members of the Rollins community, and will be held again next year on April 1.



Winnie the Pooh



Peter Pan



Children of the Corn



Three Cups of Tea

The Library Now has Kindles!

If you have ever logged on to Amazon.com, you are certainly familiar with the Kindle, the slim, ergonomically designed electronic book reader. Book-lovers have long been skeptical that e-books will ever be able to replicate the joy of curling up with a good printed book. Although the verdict on this remains to be seen, the Kindle is generally regarded as the most convenient and comfortable e-book reader available. At a pricetag of \$359, plus the cost of books, most people hesitate to splurge on a Kindle without the ability to give it a test-drive.

Enter the Olin Library! We have purchased two Kindles, plus an array of popular titles, to allow members of the Rollins community the chance to experiment with electronic books. Amazon claims the Kindle was designed with long-term reading in mind. It is lightweight and can easily be held in one-hand, and a simple flick of the thumb will turn pages. Unlike a computer screen, which is backlit and can cause eyestrain after prolonged reading, the screen of the Kindle uses eInk technology that looks remarkably like ink printed on actual paper. Navigation is easy, text size is adjustable, and the device can operate continuously for four days without need of recharge.

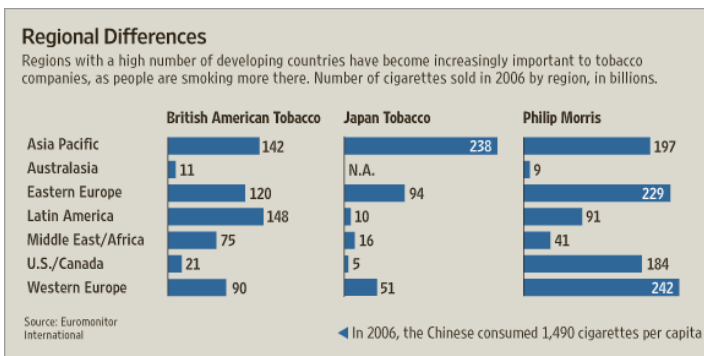


Most Rollins users who have had a chance to use the Kindle have enjoyed it. All agreed it took no more than a few minutes to learn how to use it, and were impressed with the lightweight, elegant design. Most people reported it was easy to read for several hours. Although some users said they would not want to funnel all their reading to a Kindle device, it would be an ideal tool to have when travelling. Circulation of the Kindles will last three weeks. Swing by the Olin Library to check one out!

Euromonitor Added to the Library's Databases

Did you know that men in Argentina spend a large percentage of their disposable income on grooming products? Or that 34% of the people in Denmark have a Facebook page? Canadians don't mind spending money on wine, but are quite value-conscious when selecting beer. Contrary to the popular belief, only about 30% of people in India embrace the vegetarian lifestyle.

This is the kind of consumer data that can be found in a new database available through the Olin Library called Euromonitor. Despite the Euro-centric name, this database has excellent demographic and consumer data for all areas of the world. The primary strength of Euromonitor is its profile of consumer preferences and demographics. It contains extensive reports for consumer behavior for the 60 major world economies, with shorter reports for an additional 110 countries. The database is available under our Alphabetic list of Article Indexes and our business subject guide.



This chart is an example of the type of research that can be generated from Euromonitor.



Kudos

Bill Svitavsky (Head of Digital Services & Systems) In March, Bill was promoted to head a newly created department in the Olin Library. The Digital Services & Systems department was created in recognition of the growing complexity and importance of online resources in modern libraries. His first major task will be to hire a new librarian to perform his previous duties. Look for a new Digital Services Librarian later in the year!



Jonathan Miller (Library Director) On April 16th Jonathan successfully defended his dissertation on the role of librarians in the development of the 1976 Copyright Act. He now holds a Doctorate of Library Science from the University of Pittsburg. Congratulations Doctor Miller!



Kimberly Woodham Griffis (Circulation/Billing Specialist). Congratulations to Kim for her freshly minted Bachelor of Arts degree (May 2009). Kim graduated from the Holt program with a degree in the Humanities, and can now celebrate by having her evenings and weekends back!



T.R. Parker (Technical Services Specialist). T.R. completed the Boston Marathon on April 20th with a time of 3 hours and 7 minutes. This was T.R.'s second marathon, and many of his colleagues in the library were able to follow T.R.'s progress throughout the day on the Boston Marathon website, which uses GPS to update the status of the runners.



Wenxian Zhang. (Head of Archives and Special Collections) Congratulations to Wenxian for the publication of *A Trip to Florida for Health and Sport*, a rare manuscript recently discovered in the Olin Library Archives (see story on page 2.) This book is expected to offer new insight into the early history of early Florida literature.