A FEW WORDS FROM THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN

This year I have the honor and privilege of serving as the president of the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) and Chair of its Board of Directors. My involvement in ARL has provided access to emerging ideas and best practices among our peers that we can use to strengthen the work we do at Rutgers.

ARL represents the largest and most prestigious research libraries in North America. Our strategic agenda is focused on three major areas: public policies, scholarly communication, and support for research, teaching, and learning. All these areas intersect in many ways and ARL’s role is to situate our libraries in positions that help shape positive outcomes for the academy.

In the area of public policies, we have advocated for copyright and fair use policies that advance our ability to provide more effective services using digital technologies and our faculty’s ability to be creative in incorporating digital technologies in research and teaching. We have been diligent in protecting rights to provide electronic course reserves and to digitize print for interlibrary loan document delivery. We have also highlighted the importance of faculty retaining rights to their

LIBRARIES PARTNER TO PRODUCE NJVID PROJECT

The federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) awarded nearly $1 million to a collaborative proposal by the Rutgers University Libraries, William Paterson University, and NJEDge.net, to create a statewide digital video archive that will provide streaming video to New Jersey colleges and universities, K-12 schools, libraries and cultural heritage institutions.

The three-year IMLS National Leadership Grant will support the launch of NJVid: New Jersey Video Portal, which will provide educators, students and lifelong learners with centralized access to a variety of tools and services, including video lectures on demand, licensed commercial videos, and locally owned videos, via a Web-based streaming video portal. Three major New Jersey consortia that represent most educational organizations in the state will incorporate and share their video resources via the portal: VALE (Virtual Academic Library Environment), a statewide

Capacity crowd attends multimedia lab opening

Andrew Ruggiero, center, Technology Specialist at the Douglass Library, explains some of the capabilities on the cutting edge computers in the newly opened Sharon A. Fordham Multimedia Resource Lab at the lab’s opening on January 30th. Listening are Sharon Fordham, far right; Mary Hawkesworth, second from left, Chair - Department of Women’s & Gender Studies; and others.

See story on back page.

continued on page 2

continued on page 2
publications, so that they may use them in other contexts, such as teaching or in web projects.

Our scholarly communication agenda is broad, but a significant area of interest is open access. ARL and its related associations strongly supported the recent NIH policy mandating that faculty publications resulting from NIH funded grants be placed in the open access archive, PubMed Central, so that citizens can derive benefits from their tax-supported research. Open access to research publications has become an important process for spurring research and demonstrating the impact of individual researchers and scholars. The development by research libraries of institutional repositories or digital archives provides a mechanism to capture faculty publications, make them openly accessible, and demonstrate or mine an institution’s scholarly output on a collective basis.

The last strategic area for ARL is supporting research, teaching, and learning. We are seeing new approaches to library spaces, especially as more of our collections are digital and the use of our print collections change, and in some areas, decline. Many libraries are moving lesser used print collections to remote storage facilities where they can be retrieved on demand, and a number of institutions are sharing these storage facilities, keeping only one copy of select publications in common.

The new spaces in libraries vary, from group study rooms to more sophisticated computer labs with an emphasis on authoring and other multi-media software, to cafes for socializing and study. It is more and more common for library buildings to integrate related university learning and teaching services, such as the writing lab and peer tutoring. In supporting research there is a new emphasis on a potential role in preserving or archiving data, such as the data that accompanies a research article. The federal granting agencies may require that a data preservation plan be included in grant proposals and the Libraries’ repository may fill that requirement.

As we continue to grow in our emerging role as trusted partner to the scholarly community for these and other, yet-to-be-revealed strategic areas, there will be opportunities aplenty for librarians and professionals in scholarly communication to provide important, visionary and energizing leadership. For those of you who support our work and goals with your attention, good will and financial support, you may be assured that you are part of a vital community of leaders who are making a real difference at Rutgers and beyond.

**A FEW WORDS FROM THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN**

continued from front page

Libraries partner to produce NJVID project

continued from front page

academic library consortium with 50 members; NJEDge.net, which provides optical broadband network services to 51 higher education members; and New Jersey Digital Highway, the statewide cultural heritage consortium which includes museums, archives, libraries, and historical societies.

“The goal of this project is to expand New Jersey’s digital media collections in academic institutions, libraries, museums, and other historical collections and archives, and provide easy access to those resources via the Web for students, faculty, and citizens any place and any time,” says Sandra Miller, Director of Instruction and Research Technology at William Paterson University and principal investigator for the project.

“One of the exciting aspects of this grant is the opportunity to develop a statewide information strategy that will serve any cultural heritage institution, school or university regardless of size or technical readiness,” added Marianne I. Gaunt, University Librarian at Rutgers.

William Paterson will be responsible for developing the Web-based portal for users. Grace Agnew, Associate University Librarian for Digital Library Systems at the Rutgers University Libraries, will oversee the development of the technical infrastructure to support the NJVid initiative. Much of this infrastructure will be an extension of the innovative programming the Libraries’ technical services department created to support digital projects at Rutgers. Charles Hedrick, Director of Instructional and Research Technology and Chief Technology Officer at Rutgers University, will manage the integration of Shibboleth – an open source authentication and authorization software protocol, used at Rutgers – into the NJVid project. NJEDge.net will contribute its robust statewide regional optical network and storage service, supporting access by local institutions with a variety of network speeds.

In addition to William Paterson University and Rutgers University, eight other institutions will serve as initial testers of this model integrated resource. NJVid will utilize a variety of cutting edge, open source software programs that can serve the diversity of organizations in the grant project’s various consortia.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation’s 122,000 libraries and 15,000 museums. Through its grant making, convenings, research and publications, the Institute empowers museums and libraries nationwide to provide leadership and services to enhance learning in families and communities, sustain cultural heritage, build twenty-first-century skills, and increase civic participation. Its National Leadership Grants help libraries and museums collaborate,
In his annual address in September, University President Richard L. McCormick identified a pressing challenge facing Rutgers and challenged the university to respond. He observed that while the student body at Rutgers is quite diverse the university’s faculty is seriously lacking in diversity, with only 3.7% African-American and 2.3% Latino full-time faculty and a shortage of women in a number of disciplines. The president announced the formation of a new Presidents Council on Diversity and Equity, to advance diversity at the University in hiring and in the curriculum. He also called on deans, provosts, vice presidents, and their respective units to develop initiatives to make progress in this area.

President McCormick’s identification of diversity as a critical imperative is reinforced by recent research. Faculty at the University of Maryland studied the organizational climate at five large universities across the US. Researchers found that the climate for diversity at an institution is directly correlated with improved organizational operation and customers’ reports on success in information access (Lowry and Hanges, 2008).

In response to President McCormick’s challenge and the implications of the research, the Rutgers University Libraries developed the 2008 Diversity Education Initiative. The Diversity Initiative encompasses a series of programs designed to educate all who work in or are served by the Libraries about the diverse needs and expectations of that community.

Programs in the Libraries Diversity Education Initiative series include:

- "Why the Diversity Boom?" Talk by Clement Price, Director of the Rutgers-Newark Center for Ethnicity, Culture, and the Modern World and Board of Governors Distinguished Service Professor of History. March 10, 2008
- "Building Tolerance and Acceptance" Discussion facilitated by Christina Balinski, Manager – Training and Development, University Human Resources April 17, 2008

For more information on the Libraries Diversity Education Initiative, including other programs in the series, please see: http://www.libraries.rutgers.edu/rul/news/08/03_diversity.shtml or contact Marilyn Wilt by phone at 732/932-7505 or by email at mrwilt@rci.rutgers.edu.

Libraries partner to produce NJVID project

Film & Television Literature Index (FTLI) is a comprehensive bibliographic database covering all types of writing, including industry papers, news journalism, and scholarly academic journals on topics for film and television. Its coverage includes Film Journal International, Journal of British Cinema & Television, Film Criticism, Post Script, and Variety, as well as technical publications such as SMPTE. FTLI also includes most existing international film and television publications such as Cahiers du Cinema, Cinema in India, Cinemamaya, Filmkultura, Segnocinema, and Kinetoscopio.

Users can access FTLI from the front-page of the Libraries’ website, by following the path: Research Resources > Indexes and Databases > Arts and Humanities > Film-Television > Film & Television Literature Index.
FULLY LOADED MULTIMEDIA LAB OPENS AT DOUGLASS LIBRARY

Douglass alumna Sharon A. Fordham funded the creation of the Sharon A. Fordham Multimedia Resource Laboratory at the Mabel Smith Douglass Library on the Douglass Campus. The lab has a dozen new MacPro desktops loaded with enough high-end software to make the most demanding computer geek swoon. Instead of conventional written papers, students will be able to create multimedia projects incorporating written text, music, video, choreography, and graphical design. While the lab is handy to students at the Douglass Campus and Mason Gross School of the Arts, Fordham hopes it will be used by students and faculty in the sciences, humanities, and business as well.

“I want to send a message to all the undergraduates and graduates that these disciplines overlap with almost anything you’re going to do,” said Fordham.

At the opening of the lab in January, faculty members test drove some of the most powerful computers on campus. They donned thickly padded head phones to explore Sibelius software, which allows users to compose and play back musical notation, and refine, hear, scan, and print musical scores. Others played with choreography software that can visualize and note dance steps. The new lab has a small, cork dance floor where dance students can execute and videotape dance movements and convert them into standard dance notation using Dance Forms software. “You can sit at the computer and step two feet in front of it and dance,” said Jeff Friedman, assistant professor and doctoral researcher of dance at Mason Gross. “That’s incredibly precious real estate for us.”

For filmmakers there are Apple’s Final Cut Pro Suite, the professional standard in video creation and editing, and Final Draft software for writing screenplays incorporating basic camera shot description. High-end video cameras, scanners, printers, and microphones round out the inventory, along with 30-inch monitors and a large projection screen.

The lab will be open on an appointment-only basis for a few months, until the library can add staff to work during regular library hours.

To read more about the opening reception for the Sharon A. Fordham Multimedia Resource Lab, please see: http://tinyurl.com/2f6yyx.

This story was written by Patricia Lamiel, public relations specialist, University Relations. The full story appeared in the March 5, 2008 issue of the Rutgers Focus.