

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES Report

FALL 2004 ISSUE

Rutgers' Libraries' Future Charted at Summer Symposium

In late July national education leader Dr. Clara Lovett, Rutgers Executive Vice President Philip Furmanski, and University Librarian Marianne Gaunt came together at a Libraries symposium to build a theoretical time machine and take participants five years into the future.

Dr. Lovett, president of the American Association of Higher Education, served as the keynote speaker for the "Envisioning the Future" symposium held in the Scholarly Communication Center and teleconferenced to the Camden and Newark campuses. Over 125 university faculty, administrators, librarians, and library staff participated.

Dr. Lovett charted the broad higher education landscape to which universities are rapidly headed. She

At the same time, the rapid growth and proliferation of information technology has placed more responsibility on educators to help separate the wheat from the chaff. In higher education settings the traditional role of imparting knowledge has become less important, while guiding students on what information to choose and why has become a far more impacting role.

Dr. Lovett pointed out as well that our universities have witnessed a marked rise in diversity and globalization, a product of a student body that now encompasses many segments of American society and students from many foreign countries. Academic curricula have also broadened to account for an international scene that has grown

increasingly interdependent.

In our era, a college education has become an increasingly valuable commodity. College degrees have become

essential passports to gainful employment. Societal expectations have expanded, and universities are viewed as central and essential to individual and civic success. At the same time for profit colleges and other alternatives for developing vocational competencies are arising that challenge



Dr. Furmanski speaks to the symposium participants as Marianne Gaunt, seated, listens.

noted that a democratization of knowledge has developed, resulting from an increased number of information outlets and increased expectations of access in our society. This democratizing trend has produced a generation of students who expect to find information sources that are user-friendly, unfiltered, and readily available.

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UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

The lead article in this issue of the *Report* summarizes well the many opportunities and challenges ahead as the Libraries update their strategic plan for the next five years. The changing landscape for higher education, as Dr. Clara Lovett notes, will require more collaboration and a focus on student learning. A future focus for Rutgers will be undergraduate life and learning and developing centers of excellence that cross disciplines and institutions. The Libraries and our librarians will take on new roles that support these efforts.

It was encouraging to hear Dr. Lovett speak to the strengths of the profession of librarianship, especially the important contribution librarians make by fostering collaboration and developing partnerships throughout the university. Indeed, libraries could not provide the resources they do without having collaborated on developing standards for the interchange of information. Much of "information work" is based on standards and best practices. In the university, we could not succeed without collaborating with faculty in all

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disciplines and balancing disparate needs. Through collaboration and partnerships we will build our strategic plan. It should be no surprise then that collaborations and partnerships will be the focus of the plan itself.

As we proceed, we will be drawing on the work we have done over the last ten months of preparation—meeting with focus groups of faculty and students on perceived needs for the future; polling our disciplinary liaisons for

their input on faculty needs; commissioning a communications audit that captured information from administrators, faculty, and students across the university to determine how the Libraries can better communicate about our resources and services; holding an information literacy symposium with faculty to understand how Middle States assesses information literacy and beginning discussions on the most effective approaches at Rutgers; and validating criteria we developed for measuring excellence in services and resources with our stakeholders.

It will be an exciting year, and progress on our plans will be communicated in the Report as well as other venues. We look forward to working with administrators, faculty, students, and our friends as we move the Rutgers University Libraries, in concert with the university, to the next level of excellence. ■



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universities' purview over credentials and knowledge. To address these challenges directly, it is vital that universities coordinate with each other, pool resources, and select diversified roles. Libraries have traditionally excelled in forging such partnerships and will see these efforts attain greater prominence in the years ahead.

The University Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Philip Furmanski spoke about Rutgers vision of the near future world, one in which the university will achieve distinction from signature niche programs that capitalize

on Rutgers areas of strength. These distinctive programs will bring together faculty, centers, and programs on all



Libraries systems staff person Bob Warwick speaks during one of the afternoon breakout sessions.

three campuses and partnerships with government, industry, and the non-profit agencies in the state and on the federal level.

Rutgers envisions building national distinction in programs focused on transportation, stem cell research, early education, advanced materials and devices, nutrition and global and ethnic studies. Concurrently, the university has increased its focus on undergraduate education and is working to define Rutgers' goals, expectations, and mandate for the undergraduate experience.

Dr. Furmanski pointed out that state funding for Rutgers increased in the recently passed budget and that the university hopes for a continued reinvestment by the state. Yet there is considerable financial ground to recover, with overall funding to Rutgers down sharply from a high

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Libraries New Website Offers More Options, Greater Ease of Use

Libraries users can be forgiven if they arrive at the 'front door' of the Libraries' website, after some absence, and don't recognize where they are.

The new Libraries website, unveiled in early July, now greets visitors with a photo-montage featuring images of the many activities that take place in the Libraries. Redesigned to reflect the color scheme and layout of the Rutgers University family of Web

and to review options for securing materials not available in the Rutgers University Libraries.

Finding electronic reserves becomes a whole lot easier on the redesigned website, through a search box that pops up when the cursor touches the "Find Reserves" link on the front page. Remote users will be pleased to learn how to set their home PC's to secure access to licensed Libraries databases, with instructions

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point of over a decade earlier. Dr. Furmanski encouraged the Libraries to take account of the university's priorities as it develops a new five-year plan.

University Librarian Marianne Gaunt sketched out the challenges academic libraries face as they strive to adapt to the shifting higher education landscape and serve the strategic vision evolving at Rutgers. Foremost among these challenges are the changes in scholarly communications, developments in information technology, changed needs and roles for library facilities, competition for resources, varied communications objectives, and the imperative of continued assessment.

A common feature to all the challenges is the value of managing change, through continued professional development of library personnel, frequent reexamination of library organizational structures and policies, and strategic reallocation of resources.

The combined challenges have pushed librarians to assume new roles, or expand traditional roles, as editors, publishers, educators, policy advocates, researchers and developers, entrepreneurs, and intermediaries. Through these roles, and others that may emerge in the years ahead, the Libraries look to address proactively the many changes at Rutgers and in higher education.

In afternoon breakout sessions led by SCILS Professor Dan O'Connor and Dana Library Director Lynn Mullins, small groups discussed the issues raised by the speakers. Discussion participants considered how the Libraries could leverage digital projects to serve Rutgers programs of distinction, build upon its strengths in cross institutional collaboration, work more effectively with academic departments, and other topics. ■



Image of the frontpage of the Libraries new website.

pages, the Libraries new website consolidates most options into one left side navigation bar. Subcategories, which are clickable, are highlighted as a user's cursor passes over the different options.

The new website also offers features not available on the previous design. An alumni library provides links to scores of resources and publications of special interest to graduates and invites alumni to submit their most treasured libraries memories for posting. A Faculty Services Web page brings together links of particular interest to teaching faculty, allowing them to request to put materials on reserve, place a film or video on the Libraries Mediavision cable station, schedule a library instruction session,

available on the front page by skimming their cursor over the "Connect from Home" link.

Recognizing the value of news and public events in the life of fast-paced university, the Libraries new website elevates news headlines to a prominent location on the right side and provides direct links to the stories.

For questions on how to use the website, please see the Libraries' Ask A Librarian Web Page at: http://www.libraries.rutgers.edu/rul/ask_a_lib/ask_a_lib.shtml

To offer feedback on the new website, please send email to Ka Neng Au, the chair of the Libraries Web Advisory Committee, at: au@andromeda.rutgers.edu. ■

New Resources at the Libraries

Business Source Premier Replaces *ABI/Inform*, Offers Much More Material

Knowing a good business decision when they see it, the Libraries have traded up. So Libraries users now have access to *Business Source Premier* and, as of August 31st, no longer had access to the *ABI/Inform* package of journals.

Business Source Premier covers most business and management topics including accounting, banking, economics, finance, international trade, marketing, and public administration. It contains the full-text (or abstracts) of articles from thousands of scholarly and professional publications, academic journals, and trade magazines. This database also includes profiles of the world's 10,000 largest companies, reports for over two thousand industry sectors, and hundreds of country risk and economic reports.

Business Source Premier provides extensive full-text or full-image content from over 8,000 sources, including journals, magazines, company profiles, industry reports, and country economic reports.

Business Source Premier offers twice as many scholarly journals indexed and abstracted, and in full text, than did *ABI/Inform*. The new electronic resource also includes deeper back issue coverage of 200 titles; more non-journal content, such as country reports and company profiles; a more extensive thesaurus; and more international sources.

By securing *Business Source Premier* the Libraries also acquired free access to *Regional Business News*, a notable companion database. *Regional Business News* provides comprehensive full text coverage for regional business publications, incorporating seventy-five business news magazines, newspapers and news wires from all metropolitan and rural areas within the United States. Publications of local interest include *Crain's New York Business* and *NJBiz*.

With the Libraries new LinkSource

service, users can now link directly to full text articles in other packages of journals available at the Rutgers University Libraries.

Users can access *Business Source Premier* and *Regional Business News* from the front page of the Libraries website, either through IRIS or by following the path Find Articles / Indexes and Databases / Business. ■

Communication & Mass Media Complete

A new online resource at the Libraries provides a scholarly look at the news that's traveled coast-to-coast or just person-to-person.

Communication & Mass Media Complete (CMMC) combines two earlier databases in the fields of communication and mass media studies -- *CommSearch* (formerly produced by the National Communication Association (NCA), and *Mass Media Articles Index* (formerly produced by Pennsylvania State University). The new database offers full-text coverage for more than 200 titles plus citation coverage for many more. Many major journals have indexing, abstracts, PDFs, and searchable citations from their first issues to the present (dating as far back as 1915).

CMMC uses a controlled vocabulary and includes linked references for all "core" peer-reviewed journals. Search limits include the ability to restrict search results to full-text, scholarly (peer reviewed) journals, or articles that include references.

Users can access *CMMC* from the front page of the Rutgers University Libraries website, either through IRIS or by following the path: Find Articles / Indexes and Databases / Social Sciences & Law / Communication.

Computing Reviews

The Libraries newest resource covers all the juicy bits of news in computer science, in byte-sized pieces.

Computing Reviews comprehensively reviews the best books, articles, conference proceedings, theses, technical reports, and Web-based publications in computing and computer science. Articles cover software, hardware, computational theory, artificial intelligence, information science, human-computer interaction, instructional technology, and the research and development communities involved in computing.

Searching is available using keywords, authors, reviewers, and Computing Classification System terms and features phrase searching, use of wildcards, and Boolean expression searching as well as search limitation on fields, publication, and publication date.

Users can access *Computing Reviews* from the front page of the Libraries website, either through IRIS or by locating it in the title list of Find Articles - Indexes and Databases or through following the subject listing: Science, Technology, and Math / Computer Science.

Conference Board Research Collection

Business scholars and students are invited to share the broad view of industry leaders by using a new business resource from the Libraries.

The Conference Board Research Collection provides over 300 full-text management and analytical reports on such topics and issues as business ethics, corporate governance, leadership, outsourcing, and strategic management. The Research Collection also includes a monthly newsletter on economic conditions as well as current news releases on economic indicators.

Users can access Conference Board Research Collection from the front page of the Libraries website, either through IRIS or by locating it in the title list of Find Articles - Indexes and Databases or through following the subject listing for Business.

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Meet New Music Librarian John Shepard

The Libraries are pleased to welcome John Shepard as the new music librarian in the Blanche and Irving Laurie Music Library. John formerly worked for 32 years at the New York Public Library, most recently as the head of rare books and manuscripts and curator of the Toscanini Memorial Archives.

To help introduce John to his Rutgers colleagues, the Libraries asked him a few questions.

What drew you to Rutgers University?

The dynamic programs of the Mason Gross School of the Arts, and the opportunity to manage a general performing arts collection in the context of a great state university library system.

What features of the Rutgers University Libraries system most impressed you?

I admire the collegial community of Rutgers' library faculty, which fosters consensus and offers mutual support for service and scholarship.

What do you find most distinctive about the Blanche and Irving Laurie Music Library?

Two of the most notable features are the Library's comprehensive music history collection, and its holdings of a broad array of critical editions of historical music repertoire.

What were your proudest accomplishments at the New York Public Library?

- Serving as a reference librarian in NYPL's Music Division and effectively facilitating access to its large, confusingly arranged collections;
- Serving as the ad hoc curator of the Igor Stravinsky Papers--with full access for scholars and students--during the eight months they were deposited at NYPL by order of the Surrogate Court of New York State (the collection is now in the Paul Sacher Foundation in Basel, Switzerland);
- Enlarging the Toscanini Memorial Archives collection of microfilms of music manuscripts from international

libraries to include major 20th-century collections (e.g., the manuscripts of Benjamin Britten from the British Library and the Britten-Pears Library); and,

- Teaching visiting classes from



John Shepard

universities and conservatories how resources in NYPL's Music Division can support both scholarship and performing careers.

Have you set goals for yourself in your work at the Laurie Music Library? If so, what are they?

To enlarge the collection of music performance materials to better serve the needs of the students in the Music Department, and to develop the collection of literature about theater and the dance.

The Blanche and Irving Laurie Music Library is located in the lower level of the Mabel Smith Douglass Library on the Douglass Campus. To learn more about the library, please see it's website at: http://www.libraries.rutgers.edu/rul/lib/music_lib/music_lib.shtml.

To contact John, please send him email at: jdshep@rci.rutgers.edu. ■

New Resources at the Libraries

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Linguistics Research Guide

Students and scholars in linguistics, foreign languages, and related fields will find that the Libraries new Linguistics research guide expresses their research needs quite clearly.

The research guide provides valuable links and listings for electronic resources (catalogs and indexes), Internet gateways, directories, and reference sources in print and online. The research guide also brings together links to other related research guides in the associated fields of African studies, anthropology, classics, French language and literature, German language and literature, and Latin American, Caribbean, Spanish, & Portuguese studies.

The research guide's particularly extensive coverage of print reference sources covers dictionaries and encyclopedias, language atlases, handbooks, print indexes, print bibliographies, current journals, and significant monograph series and conference proceedings available in the Rutgers University Libraries. Many of the listings in the print references section include brief descriptions, the date of publication, and the Libraries call number for the item. The current journals list comprises sixty journals available in the Libraries, specifying their years of coverage, whether they are online or in print, and the library location for issues in print.

Users can access the Linguistics subject research guide from the front page of the Libraries website by following the path: Research Resources / Subject Research Guides / Arts and Humanities / Linguistics. ■

Libraries Capital Campaign Exceeds Goal

Rutgers' capital campaign has been declared a success, raising \$615,347,473 and exceeding its goal of \$500 million by 23 percent. The Libraries also surpassed our initial goal, \$9,250,000, raising a total of \$12,845,978. Thanks to alumni, parents and other friends, including many foundation and corporate donors, we raised more than \$4 million in endowments, nearly \$6 million in support for current academic operations, and over \$2.5 million for capital projects. We have been able to strengthen our research collections, upgrade reference and information

delivery services, improve the facilities that house our collections, and provide a safe, comfortable space for our users to learn and create new knowledge as they pursue their academic and personal goals.

One of many successes we enjoyed was the Lomench Challenge. Thanks to the overwhelming generosity of over 1,500 donors, the Rutgers University Libraries will establish The Friends of the Libraries Fund for Technology Initiatives, to support technology initiatives at the libraries. It was an unprecedented effort on behalf of the libraries by our volunteer leadership,

especially Friends fundraising chair, Ira Lomench, which helped raise the \$253,961 in gifts and pledges for the fund. Income from this endowment will support strategic acquisitions of instructional and content management technology.

The Libraries owe many thanks to the dedication of the many alumni, friends and colleagues, including our faculty and staff, who worked together to advance the mission and goals of our Rutgers University Libraries through extraordinary gifts of service and financial support. ■



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