

IN THIS ISSUE

- Alum Gets Talmudic With the Library
- Impact of State Budget Cuts at the Libraries
- Libraries Add Three New, High Quality Databases: Cost = \$0
- Hold the Date!



Report

FALL 2006 ISSUE

Alum gets Talmudic with the Library

It's the unmet need, the open opportunity, which inspires some Libraries supporters to take action. Such was the case with Rutgers College graduate David Salem.

David returned to the Rutgers-New Brunswick campus a few years back for a class reunion and stopped in at Alexander Library to examine the Jewish religious book collection. He noticed that the collection was missing some critical components. So he decided to help fill the gap by adding one sizeable element. In the spring 2006 semester, with the assistance of world history librarian, Jim Niessen, David donated a full 73 volume set of the Schottenstein Edition of the Babylonian Talmud, published by the Jewish book publisher ArtScroll, to the Rutgers University Libraries.



Reviewing the new Talmud collection in Alexander Library are, left to right: World History Librarian James P. Niessen, Associate Professor of Jewish Studies Azzan Yadin, and Chair of the Department of Jewish Studies & Blanche and Irving Laurie Chair in Jewish History Gary A. Rendsburg.

The Talmud is the cornerstone of Jewish religious Oral Law. One of the principles of Jewish tradition is that God dictated the Written Torah (the Five Books of Moses) to Moses and also

continued on back page

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

Budget cuts impact at the Libraries: Update

I am very happy to report that the partial restoration of funding for higher education in the state budget has meant a partial restoration of funding for the Libraries. The University established an additional reduction category of "academic support unit" that includes the Libraries and reduced our budget by 8.2% rather than 10%. As a result, we need to absorb a permanent reduction of \$1,944,466-- a restoration of \$426,834. In addition, we were given a one-time special allocation of \$198,166 for collections.

We will still need to freeze approximately 20 positions yet we will avoid layoffs. We will be able to fill four previously frozen

positions, and we will be able to fill some of the positions that become vacant during the year. Because we will be significantly reducing our operating funds, including wages of labor for hourly employees, we will not be able to do everything we want to do to provide excellent services

for faculty and students.

Many operations will not cease, but will slow down. Some new activities will be curtailed and

many serials and databases will be cancelled. The one-time funding for collections will be applied to the purchase of new books.

Our website will provide important information for library staff and our users about what services will be changing. Details about specific changes appear below under the appropriate categories. We appreciate your continued support and understanding at this difficult time.

Document Delivery

The Libraries' document delivery service provided through the Ingenta database was canceled on July 1, 2006. Users may continue to order articles from Ingenta directly and charge them to a personal credit card. However, Rutgers journal holdings will not display in the Ingenta database and the Libraries' account will not be active.

Interlibrary Loan Services is an alternative for quick delivery of articles not available at Rutgers: <http://www.libraries.rutgers.edu/cgi-bin/ILLPatron.pl>. Most ILL article requests are filled within 48 hours and delivered to users' desktops.

Service Changes

The Libraries will be making a number of public services changes for the upcoming academic year.

- 1) We will reduce regular semester building hours in New

continued on back page

Brunswick/Piscataway by 109 hours per week this fall. This reduction includes:

- ♦ a rollback of last semester's extended hours pilot at Alexander (late night and early weekends) and the Library of Science and Medicine (early weekends),
 - ♦ earlier evening closings at Alexander, Douglass, Kilmer, Chemistry, Physics, SERC, Math, and Chang libraries, and
 - ♦ later weekend openings at Chemistry, Physics, SERC, Math, and Chang.
- 2) We will close the Undergraduate Reserve Desk at Alexander Library. Undergraduate reserve materials will be circulated at Alexander's general circulation desk.
 - 3) We will reduce the number of student workers across the New Brunswick/Piscataway Libraries.
 - 4) When Interlibrary Loan Services is unable to borrow a print copy of a dissertation from a partner library, patrons may have to purchase them.
 - 5) We will eliminate the following print brochures and rely on their corresponding websites for the most up-to-date information:
 - ♦ Interlibrary Loan Borrowing,
 - ♦ Interlibrary Loan Lending,
 - ♦ Visitors Guide, and
 - ♦ Reserve Services: A Guide for Faculty.

Special Collections

Special Collections and University Archives will be closing the New Jersey Reading Room to the public on Mondays starting September 4, 2006.

The revised hours of operation for the New Jersey Reading Room are:

Tuesday through Friday 9 am - 5 pm
Saturday 1 pm - 5 pm.

For more information on the impact of budget cuts at the Libraries please see: http://www.libraries.rutgers.edu/rul/news/06/06_budget_cuts.shtml. ■



The *Report* is a biannual publication from the Office of the University Librarian.

Marianne I. Gaunt, *Publisher*
Harry Glazer, *Editor*

Rutgers University Libraries
732/932-7505 • Fax 732/932-7636
Internet: www.libraries.rutgers.edu
Email: hglazer@rci.rutgers.edu

Alum gets Talmudic with the Library

continued from front page

provided an oral explanation of how to interpret the Torah and observe its 613 Commandments. Without the Oral Law, the Written Torah could be misinterpreted or distorted beyond recognition.

The Oral Law explains the details of how to observe the Sabbath, Jewish holidays, kosher dietary laws; how to perform a Jewish wedding and many other areas of Jewish life. Such detail is not included in the Written Torah. The Oral Law also explains that the Biblical injunction of an "eye for an eye" (Leviticus 24:20 and Deuteronomy 19:21) should not be interpreted literally but rather to mean proportionate monetary compensation.

The Libraries are very grateful to David Salem for his generous donation. The Talmud set will surely inspire generations of students and faculty to consider, discuss, and debate the many questions and answers that helped establish the rites, rules, and practices of the Jewish faith.

To read the full story, please see: http://www.libraries.rutgers.edu/rul/news/06/06_talmud_donation.shtml. ■

Hold the Date!

Tuesday, October 26, 2006
5:00 p.m.

Dana Room, 4th floor
John Cotton Dana Library
Rutgers-Newark campus

Just a Mood: Jazz and Other Images, 1966 – 2006 Photographs by Edward Berger

Exhibition showcases photographs of noted jazz musicians in concert and behind the scenes in rehearsals, at recording sessions, and in social settings. Highlights include photos of Louis Armstrong and Benny Carter and photos of Egypt, Europe, and the Soviet Union in the 1960's. Exhibition will run September 20 — January 19, 2007.

For information or to RSVP, send email to maisonav@andromeda.rutgers.edu or call 973/353-5223.



Photo of Louis Armstrong in performance

Libraries add three new, high quality databases: Cost = \$0

Despite the severe constraints of an adverse budget, the Libraries seek to add to our collection of research resources wherever the cost is feasible and the quality of the resource is top-notch. Working within those parameters, the Libraries recently added three promising new databases, at no cost.

Child Abuse, Child Welfare & Adoption Database presents information about the well being of children. Some subject areas covered include: child maltreatment, out-of-home placement and adoption. Information on service programs, prevention programs, federally funded research, training programs, and ethnicity and cultural competency is also available. The materials include books, journal articles, conference papers, unpublished documents, reports, treatment strategies and final grant reports. The database is produced and provided for free by the federal government.

VioLit, as the abbreviated title indicates, is a bibliographic database about violence literature. The database is published and distributed for free by the Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence (CSPV), a research program of the Institute of Behavioral Science (IBS) at the University of Colorado at Boulder. This database covers information about violence from books, literature reviews, journal articles and reports.

The Homeland Security Digital Library (HSDL) is a compendium of materials available for scholarly research in the area of Homeland Security. The digital library collection is focused on strategy and policy in the various subject areas of homeland security research and supports the curriculum of the Center for Homeland Defense and Security (CHDS). Materials selected for inclusion in the HSDL come from: governmental departments and agencies, academic institutions, think tanks, conference sites, non-governmental organizations, and other entities. The database is produced and provided for free by the federal government.

Users can access each of these three databases from the front page of the Libraries website, from IRIS or by following the path: Research Resources > Indexes and Databases > Social Sciences and Law > (name of database). ■