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# Report

FALL 2005 ISSUE

## School teachers plan NJ lesson plans at Libraries seminar

**T**welve New Jersey school teachers decided to forego the beach, postpone vacations, and spend days inside a library this past July. They postponed their summer recess to learn how some of today's latest Web-based technology can enhance teaching about immigrants who arrived in our state decades or even centuries ago.

The program that held their attention was a New Jersey Digital Highway (NJDH) Summer Educators'



Professor Benjamin Justice, Rutgers Graduate School of Education, (right) speaks with Brendan Mahon (center) and Derek Khoudja, social studies teachers at Hunterdon Central Regional High School, during the second day of the seminar.

Seminar held in the Scholarly Communication Center of the Rutgers University Libraries in New Brunswick. The five-day seminar organized by Rutgers librarians and libraries staff was filled with presentations by a number of experts and educators on grade school instruction, immigration patterns and impact, and New Jersey history. Seminar participants also spent

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## Libraries and allies rescue a historic resource

**I**n April, three Libraries leaders traveled to Washington, DC to help save the archives of an accomplished senator from obscurity.

Harrison Williams, Jr. served as U.S. Senator from New Jersey for nearly 23 years, from 1958-1981. He authored or cosponsored and steered to approval a number of landmark acts of legislation that profoundly changed the shape of our society. Among the legislation credited to Senator Williams are the Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964, the Higher Education Act of 1965 which established Pell Grants, the Older Americans Act of 1965 which funded Meals on Wheels, the Occupational Health and Safety Act of 1970 which established OSHA rules, the Pregnancy Discrimination Act of 1978, and many other social welfare acts.

In his fourth term as senator Mr. Williams was indicted for playing a minor role in the Abscam bribery sting. He resigned, served time in prison, and left the public stage. Before leaving the U.S. Senate Senator Williams donated his historically significant papers to Special Collections and University Archives. Special Collections head Ron Becker understood the extraordinary significance of the archive, which contains over 2,000 cubic feet of records on the laws the senator crafted. Yet Ron also saw the need to raise funds to process this vital

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## UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

### Libraries move forward with new strategic plan

**T**he Rutgers University Libraries will introduce a new strategic plan during the fall semester 2005 that is the result of over a year of universitywide planning and discussion. The plan will provide strategic direction to the Libraries through the year 2010, create a vision and set goals for how the Libraries will relate to the university and its constituencies and strategic partners. The plan will also describe strategic directions for the next five years in the areas appropriate to a research library system that supports a university aspiring to be in the ranks of the top AAU universities.

During the life of the plan, the Libraries will develop collections and services that are focused on students and researchers and that are integrated into the instructional and research programs of the university. The combined themes of focus and integration will guide decision-making, task selection, and priority setting for collections, services, technology, buildings, and human and financial resources.

The plan defines five strategic goals that redefine university goals for the Libraries:



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## Libraries move forward with new strategic plan

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- **Academic Excellence:** Improve the quality of scholarly resources and information services that support the advancement of academic excellence at Rutgers.
- **Students and Campuses:** Enhance the effectiveness of library services for students and the development of library facilities as learning spaces.
- **Service and Constituency Relations:** Improve awareness of the resources, services, and support available to all of the Libraries' constituencies.
- **Resources for Rutgers:** Increase the Libraries' resources to the levels of peer AAU public universities and manage those resources more strategically and efficiently.
- **Leadership and Administration:** Continue to develop an organization and the human resources to achieve the Libraries' strategic goals.

As preparation for developing the plan, the Libraries spent over a year surveying, interviewing, and meeting with members of the university community – students, faculty, staff, and administrators – and conducting an environmental scan. The plan will be finalized by the end of the fall semester, and goal setting will begin.

Members of the strategic planning committee are:

- **Ron Becker**, Special Collections and University Archives, Chair
- **Ka Neng Au**, Dana Library, Newark
- **Jeanne Boyle**, Public Services and Communications
- **Marianne Gaunt**, University Librarian
- **Gary Golden**, Robeson Library, Camden
- Professor **Judith Grassle**, Marine and Coastal Sciences, Cook
- **Rhonda Marker**, Technical and Automated Services
- Professor **Meredith McGill**, English, FAS-NB
- **Roger Smith**, Access Services, New Brunswick
- **Myoung Chung Wilson**, Information Services, New Brunswick. •

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## Libraries and allies rescue a historic resource

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collection. Ron began working to meet this need: first with the senator, who died in 2003, then with the senator's widow Jeanette, former colleagues of the senator, and other leaders in the Libraries. While their efforts met with some limited success, they were still far from their goal.

In April of this year University Librarian Marianne Gaunt, Ron Becker, and Development Director Julia Zapcic went to Washington, DC, to help secure the necessary funds. A fundraising reception organized by Rutgers University Office of Federal Relations Director Francine Newsome Pfeiffer for this effort, featuring guest speaker University President Richard L. McCormick, elevated the total money raised to \$174,000 – nearly 80% of the amount needed to fully process the archive.

For more information on the Libraries efforts to process the Harrison Williams, Jr. collection, see: [http://www.libraries.rutgers.edu/rul/staff/agenda/agenda\\_05/agenda\\_05-06-05.shtml#fundraiser](http://www.libraries.rutgers.edu/rul/staff/agenda/agenda_05/agenda_05-06-05.shtml#fundraiser). •



Ron Becker speaks at the fundraising reception about the significance of the Harrison Williams archive while University President Richard McCormick (seated, center) listens.

## Hold the date!

Tuesday September 27, 2005 6:00 pm  
Scholarly Communication Center  
Archibald S. Alexander Library  
169 College Ave., New Brunswick

**The Development of Roman Republican Coins**  
Louis Faugeres Bishop III Lecture  
by Ernst Badian,  
Harvard University  
Professor Emeritus of History

The lecture will coincide with the opening of the exhibition "Earlier Roman Coins of The Republic" in the Special Collections and University Archives gallery in Alexander Library. The exhibition will run September 27 - December 31, 2005

To RSVP call 732/932-7505 or email [events@rci.rutgers.edu](mailto:events@rci.rutgers.edu). •



## School teachers plan NJ lesson plans at Libraries seminar

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considerable time developing new lesson plans on New Jersey history, integrating source material on the NJDH website in consultation with the presenters and NJDH developers.

The NJDH website was created by librarians and web developers at the Scholarly Communication Center with content and original historical materials provided by educational institutions across New Jersey. The NJDH website offers educators and students photographs, books, documents, three-dimensional objects, video, and audio representing New Jersey's cultural heritage. The inaugural theme of the NJDH website is the changing face of New Jersey: the immigration experience from earliest times to the present.

Seminar participants represented middle schools and high schools in Allentown, Elizabeth, Englewood, Ewing, Flemington, Fort Lee, Hunterdon, Marlboro, Monroe Township, New Brunswick, Princeton, and Somerset.

Upper Freehold Regional Elementary/Middle School teacher Arlene Goldstein commented: "I teach a month long unit on immigration, and I've been unhappy with the quality of work my students submit. This symposium gives me a great chance to learn about new technology and help my students improve their research."

When the seminar ended on a Saturday afternoon, twelve educators walked away with new lesson plans that were built around a wide spectrum of illustrative primary materials, highlighted on an accessible cutting-edge website. The lesson plans will be posted on the NJDH website in the summer of 2006.

Educators and history enthusiasts are welcome to visit the New Jersey Digital Highway website, at: <http://www.njdigitalhighway.org/>. •

## One colleague's testimonial

"I'm online for work all the time and I love the Libraries website! The new IRIS is very easy and helpful. The new remote access method is so wonderful to use. With the new remote access method, I can login in 1-2-3 and get articles at home, in the middle of the night. It's great! And your Rutgers Delivery Service gets me books from anywhere in the Rutgers University Libraries, often in a day or two. Wow - you folks are doing great stuff!"

Marybeth Schmutz  
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