



SIMMONS COLLEGE LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

Fall 2007

Online: <http://my.simmons.edu/library/newsletter>

Panel Discusses Global Access to Information By Kelly Jo Woodside

Kicking off a yearlong series of scholarly events, the Library presented “Research, Policy, & Practice: How Information Can Change the World,” an interdisciplinary panel discussion, on September 26. Organized in honor of Fulbright Visiting Specialist Shahnaz Hussain, professor of Geography and Environment at the University of Dhaka, Bangladesh, the panel also featured Simmons faculty from across the College.

Work, talked about providing information to help prevent the spread of HIV in Uganda, as well as the need to acknowledge cultural differences in the use of information and in the research process itself. Dr. Hussain shared challenges to information access for rural women in Bangladesh, such as language, literacy, and technology barriers, but explained that NGOs have made a lot of progress using alternative methods to educate these women about their rights.

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The panelists addressed questions related to access and use of information in each of their fields, with a focus on global development. For example, Julie



Left to right: Hugo Kamya, Shahnaz Hussain, Sergio Chaparro-Univazo, and Julie Stellar

Stellar, clinical assistant professor of Nursing, described her experience working with nurses in Romania, who rely on collaboration with colleagues from countries like the US for access to the latest medical research. Sergio Chaparro-Univazo, assistant professor of Library and Information Science, discussed the role of information in the design and promotion of government policy in countries like Brazil and emphasized that lack of information limits access to the democratic process. Hugo Kamya, associate professor of Social

Dr. Hussain also discussed the research process for her most recent book, *Gender Atlas of Bangladesh*, a copy of which she presented to the Library after the

panel. The event was followed by a reception with the panelists.

For those who were unable to attend, “Research, Policy & Practice” will soon be available on DVD in the Library collection.

For the next event in this series, the Library will host a book talk with Sophie Freud, professor emerita of the Simmons School of Social Work, as well as granddaughter of Sigmund, on December 4. Please watch Campus Announcements for further details.

MassBLAST Summer Interns

By Anne Croak

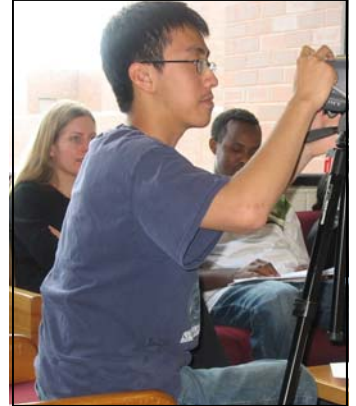
If you were in the library this summer, you may have spotted a group of teens taking photos, shooting and editing film, and writing scripts. *A Library is More Than Just Books, Behind the Scenes*, and *A Book Makes a Difference* were just some of the multi-media pieces created by former MassBLAST students. MassBLAST, a library internship program for high school students taking place in several Massachusetts public and academic libraries, is a project of the Simmons College Library, the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at Simmons College, and the Library at the University of Massachusetts Boston. This was the second summer former interns have worked on materials such as movies, slide shows and a web site that can be used by libraries taking part in the



program to supplement the internship curriculum.

With Robin Berghaus, a video producer, and Alison Cody, a Sim-

mons GLSIS student who served as the summer program's communication specialist, interns learned necessary technical skills for producing a variety of media. Over the course of six weeks, students developed story ideas and were introduced to software such as Photoshop, Dreamweaver, iMovie, Transcriba, and SoundSlides. They wrote scripts, shot photos, and edited both text and film. They visited the Boston Public and UMASS Boston libraries to experience filming on location and incorporated these libraries' materials and staff in their productions. Interns presented their work to friends, family, and members of the Simmons community at a premiere event at the end of the experience. To see some of their work and to read profiles of the interns in their own words, visit <http://www.simmons.edu/massblast/interns>.



Funding for MassBLAST is provided by the Institute for Museum and Library Services and the H.W. Wilson Foundation.

New Staff in the Library

By Judy Narosny

The Library is pleased to welcome two new staff members. John Rodzvilla joined the Library in May as Technical Services Library Assistant for Acquisitions and Periodicals. He is a current GSLIS student and is focusing on technology and information systems. John brings more than seven years of experience in book publishing from his work at Perseus Books Group. He is also an adjunct professor at Emerson College, this semester teaching a graduate level course in Electronic Publishing. Hank Sway joined the Library staff in June as Technical Services Library Assistant for Cataloging and Interlibrary Loan. Hank is a recent graduate of Boston University and a current GSLIS student, focusing his studies on technical services in academic libraries. Hank previously worked in MIT's Interlibrary Loan office, and brings useful customer service experience from a much larger institution to his work here at Simmons. We look forward to working with them and gaining from their knowledge and enthusiasm. Welcome John and Hank!



New Technical Services Library Assistants Hank Sway and John Rodzvilla

Archives Opens in the New Library!

All members of the Simmons College community are invited to visit the new College Archives which opened in May 2007 as a part of the final phase of the Library project. Located on the second level of the Library, the Archives provides Simmons with a state-of-the-art facility to document, preserve and make accessible the history of the College.

The cherry paneled Reading Room has space for twelve researchers, and offers comfortable seating for consultation with the Archives staff. Glass enclosed bookshelves contain extensive portions of the Historical Book Collections. Volumes from the Social Work, Children's Literature, and Nursing collections are available for browsing and reading in the Archives. For more information about the Historical Book Collections, visit the Archives website at http://my.simmons.edu/library/collections/college_archives/collections.shtml

The Reading Room is decorated with thirty-six photographs that illustrate Simmons history. The founder of the College, John Simmons, and all seven presidents are joined by images of student life from 1906-1970. There are photographs of academic programs such

as Home Economics, Retailing, Nursing, Library Science, Child Development, and Science, as well as glimpses into dorm life, sports, and Simmons traditions such as the May Day and The Olde English Dinner. The largest photograph depicts the "*Little Shop on Wheels*", which Simmons students and alumnae operated to raise money for the first Capital Campaign in 1921. The photographs are from the Archives collections of over 10,000 images of the College's history.

Also on display in the Reading Room are two small exhibits, one of the founder, John Simmons, and another of Simmons mascots. For those who can't remember a time when the shark was not the Simmons mascot, come and meet Woosie and Clementine!

A painting of Colonel Miriam E. Perry Goll '30 hangs in the Reading Room. Colonel Goll was an officer and dietician in the US Armed Services and US Air Force. Her husband, Lt. Colonel F. Moxie Goll, made a gift in her memory to the Archives in 1980.

A larger exhibit just outside the Archives entrance describes the Historical Book Collections and examples of the collections' hold-

By Donna Webber and Jason Wood

ings. Highlights include books from the Social Work, Children's Literature, and Nursing collections. And don't forget a visit to the exhibit cases at the entrance to the Library, where the Notable Women of Simmons 1900-1920 describe the careers and contributions of early trustees, faculty, and alumnae.

Another Archive exhibit is on display in Java City about Simmons sports. There is a special photograph that recalls Simmons's relationship with the Boston Red Sox.

For more information about The Archives online exhibits, see: http://my.simmons.edu/library/collections/college_archives/history.shtml

Donna Webber and Jason Wood look forward to welcoming all members of the Simmons community to the Archives. Faculty are encouraged to visit, bring their classes, and work with the staff to plan assignments using the Archives' collections.

For more information about the Archives, our collections, and the history of Simmons College, visit our website at http://my.simmons.edu/library/collections/college_archives/

Diversity Council Funds Archives Intern

The Diversity Council awarded funding in the spring to the Simmons College Archives to support an internship for the GSLIS Minority Scholarship student. The Archives welcomed Steven Booth in September. Steven holds a B.A. in Music from Morehouse College and hopes to be an archivist for a performing arts organization. Steven will spend two semesters working in the Archives. The internship is designed to give Steven the opportunity to experience the range of activities common to archives, including processing collections, working with paper and digital records, and identifying and scanning photographs and other visual materials. Steven began his internship by organizing the poster collection, and is now preparing an exhibit on the Historical Book Collections.

By Donna Webber & Jason Wood



Intern Steven Booth works with Associate Archivist Jason Wood

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Please direct comments to the Library:
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Online Version:
[www.simmons.edu/library/
newsletter](http://www.simmons.edu/library/newsletter)

What Is It Called?

To help minimize confusion over room locations and place names in what is often informally called “the library building,” here are some clarifications:

Lefavour Hall: the entire new building, including Beatley Library, Advancement, Sponsored Programs, Technology, Communications, Modern Languages & Literatures, the Kotzen Meeting Room, and the Meyers Café, as well as classrooms and other spaces. “L” as part of a room number refers to “Lefavour,” not to “Library.”

Beatley Library: the main Simmons library, with its entrance on Level One of Lefavour Hall, and extending, via internal stairs and elevator, to spaces on the Second and Ground Levels. The Library Instruction Classroom, L225, is within the Library. The Mann and Alden Trust Meeting Rooms, L222 and L223, are also located within the Library. The Crane Meeting Room is outside of the Library in Lefavour Hall.

The Simmons Library: the whole library organization, including the Beatley Library, College Archives, Miller/Knopf Career Resource Library, and the School of Management Library.

Media Collection & Viewing/Listening Room

By Doris Ann Sweet

Beatley Library is now home to the media collection at Simmons College. Over the summer a major project was carried out to classify all media (videos, DVDs, and other formats) in the Library of Congress system that is used throughout the library. As a result, for the first time, browsing the collection by subject on the open shelves is now possible for all library users. The collection is located on Level G, and items circulate to all Simmons users for three days.

The Library purchased and installed an online booking system during the summer. This new system allows faculty and staff to reserve media items in advance for class showings or other purposes. The system is integrated with the library catalog and very easy to use.

Faculty members can request media titles for course reserves in the same way that print and electronic materials are requested, and media items placed on reserve are housed at the Circulation Desk. These reserve items usually circulate within the Library for four hours, and can be viewed in the Media Viewing/Listening Room on Level G.

There are 22 individual stations in the Viewing/Listening Room, including two stations that allow viewing VHS video in any format. All stations in the Room can play DVD from any country or “region.” In addition, users can view several cable television channels. Many media items can also be viewed on the computers located throughout the Library, and in several of the group study rooms. Headphones can be borrowed at the Technology and Circulation Desks on Level 1.

The Library invites requests for purchase of media items from the campus community. Priority will be given to materials that support curriculum and research. Requests can be submitted to the Library in exactly the same way that book and periodical requests are made, including via the form in the library website <http://my.simmons.edu> under the Services tab.

Initial feedback from users about improved access is very positive. We encourage any kind of feedback during this period of adjustment that will help us to structure policies and procedures to better serve your needs. Send comments to Doris Ann Sweet at dasweet@simmons.edu or 617 521-2743.