

View from the Dean:

**“Books are the carriers of civilization ... Books are humanity in print.”
-- Barbara Tuckman**

It has often been said that a library is the heart of the university, serving as a central hub for learning and teaching. These days, I think it is more like the steam plant, pushing intellectual heat out through the building, across the campus, to the farthest reaches of the State and beyond -- a dynamic stream of ideas.

In the midst of unprecedented change in how libraries deliver information, how they assist students, and how scholars search for the information, the MSU Libraries finds that some core library roles have changed very little.

The MSU Libraries contains the cultural and scientific history of humanity since we first started to set it down. From bits and bytes to ideas bound in books, the story continues to grow. All great literature, art and science are built upon the work of those who have gone before it – but first the student has to find those ideas and be challenged by them. One of the roles of the library is to make past works available and engaging.

The MSU Libraries has begun a renewed effort to consider our role in the cultural life of the University. In recent years we have experimented with several kinds of free public events. We celebrated Banned Book Week in September with short public readings. We persuaded a few faculty, administrators, and students to choose a favorite banned or challenged book and read a small excerpt aloud.

The books selected ranged from Harry Potter (often challenged for its themes of wizardry and witchcraft) to *To Kill a Mockingbird* (challenged for use of racial language and themes). The readers have included an undergraduate student and the Asst. Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education among others. These lively events generally draw a rapt audience during the noon hour.

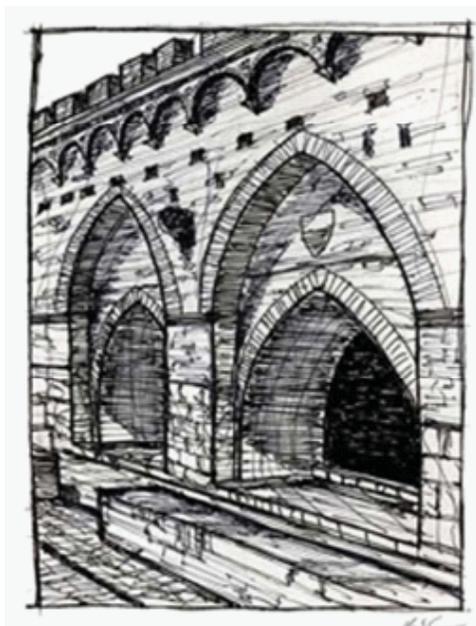
Last year, we celebrated National Poetry Month (April) with noontime poetry readings by MSU faculty member Greg Keeler and Montana Poet Laureate, Greg Pape. Although the Library does not have a public meeting room, the atrium area on the first floor has proven to be a remarkably flexible space. Speakers can be heard on both the first and second floors around the open atrium, without bothering those studying in other areas of the building.

We are considering a variety of events for the year ahead – some may build on these early efforts and others may strike out in new directions. The one certainty is that they will be lively and thought provoking. We invite you to stop in anytime. Everyone is always welcome to come to the MSU Library to seek out the story of humanity in print and online!

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE'S ROME STUDIO EXHIBIT

DURING EACH OF THE LAST FOUR SUMMERS, THE SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE'S PROFESSOR PETER KOMMERS HAS LEAD A GROUP OF STUDENTS TO ITALY TO STUDY AND DRAW. IN THE SUMMER OF 2009 THE STUDIO TRAVELLED IN TUSCANY AND UMBRIA BEFORE MOVING TO THE PLAZA PIO IN ROME. STUDENTS FINISHED THEIR SEMESTER WITH INDEPENDENT TRAVEL THROUGHOUT EUROPE.

THROUGH THE END OF MAY, TRAVEL DRAWINGS, WHICH REPRESENT A PORTION OF THE TRAVEL DRAWING AND ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN PROJECTS COMPLETED BY THE STUDIO, ARE ON DISPLAY IN RENNE LIBRARY.



GROWING OUR COLLECTION



by Doralyn Rossmann
Collection Development Librarian

Film buffs, nursing scholars, and educators have even more resources to choose from at the MSU Libraries thanks to three recent exciting and significant gifts from other academic units on campus.

This summer, the College of Nursing donated over two hundred videos and books. In the fall, the School of Film and Photography gave us its extensive collection of videos and sound effect recordings which had been housed in the Visual Communications Building.

Most recently, the College of Education, Health, and Human Development contributed the majority of its materials from their Teachers Resource Center to Renne Library. This donation includes over 7,000 children's books, textbooks, and general and subject-specific education items which support the entire education curriculum. With the Education gift came some money to help defer the cost of processing these materials.

We are excited to have retired MSU Library employees Sara Williams and Judy Staigmilller back with us on temporary basis to assist us in this project.

These generous collection donations benefit students, faculty, and other researchers by uniting external collections with those already at the Libraries. In addition, these materials are available for the many hours the Libraries are open and each department has a library liaison to provide instruction and assistance.

We are delighted that these academic units came to us with these gifts. Ultimately, all researchers now have a greater depth and breadth of resources to use in their quest for information at the MSU Libraries.

DESSERT DIALOGUES

April 20, 2010 Hilton Garden Inn



President Cruzado, Kate Anvik (Student Representative to Fol Board), and Carole Crowell (Fol Board) enjoying the evening.



Table Host Michael Everts, MSU College of Architecture, shares information about the Khumbu Climbing School in Nepal with his table guests.

**IVAN DOIG
TO SPEAK AT FALL DINNER!**

SAVE THE DATE

**OCTOBER 14, 2010
Fall Dinner Fundraiser Event
Best Western GranTree Inn**

For more information on the event
please visit our website
www.friendsofmsulibraries.com
or call
994-3119
We hope to see you there!



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Upcoming Events

Fall Dinner - October 14

Friends Book Group

Location: Bozeman Public
Library 7:00-9:00 p.m.
June 8
July 13
August 10
September 14



For more information:
www.friendsofmsulibraries.com
Jan Zauha 994-6554

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