

# Friends of Montana State University LIBRARIES



## View from the Dean:

Spring 2011  
No. 34

By Tamara Miller  
Dean of the Library



In an increasingly digital world, the Library remains a singularly important place on the MSU campus. While many have predicted the demise of libraries, in truth the library has become more important than ever to MSU students. Last year 788,523 visits were made to the MSU Library.

Our challenge is to create a library that supports new learning methods, changed study habits, and the transformation of information into knowledge. The Library's collections are robust, but are increasingly online rather than on the shelf. We have seized the opportunity to remove unneeded book stacks in order to provide better spaces for student learning. The conversion of the first floor of the Library into a Commons area with group study spaces, assistance with technology, and an expanded Writing Center should be completed by September 2011. The creation of the Library Commons is our best opportunity in over 50 years to devote more space to services for students. Students have enthusiastically supported the Commons project from its inception.

As part of our examination of the best use of all library spaces, the MSU Creative Arts Library will close its doors on May 6, 2011. This small branch library opened in 1974, shortly after Cheever Hall was built. Art and architecture collections and services that have been split between two locations for decades will now be united in the main library building. We celebrate CAL's history and look forward to a new era of providing even better information and assistance.

In the midst of these space changes, the Library has undertaken an ambitious instruction program to teach students how to be critical information users. Last year librarians taught instruction sessions that reached 4,266 students or more than 40% of MSU students. 318 students made appointments for in-depth research assistance. The Library also offers online tutorials, chat reference and email service that is used by students both far and near.

The Library plays a critical role in engaging students and retaining them as they complete their degrees. Our success and theirs is made possible by the support of the many Friends of the MSU Libraries. Thank you.

*The library  
is the intellectual  
heart of the  
university community*



## “Flies That Bind”

It is natural for people to look backwards for reassurance in times of rapid change, especially as we face the challenges of environmental conservation while the curtain is slowly falling on what future historians will likely deem the “Age of Print.” Just as the quiet contemplation of nature’s beauty will continue as long as humans care enough to preserve the habitat in which all creatures thrive, the relaxing perusal of words on paper, bound in codex format and handsomely presented, will survive for those who continue to appreciate the silent, uninterrupted dialog between author and reader.

A new exhibit in Special Collections celebrates the retrospective meditation of both natural history and the legacy of print in a display of rare books presenting the art of trout fly illustration through time. “Flies that Bind” highlights examples of book illustration dating from the late 1400s to the present day which showcases the parallel advances in entomological science, printing technology, and artistic craftsmanship that document the fly fisher’s passion for the sport. As the centuries passed, new understanding of the natural world found improved methods of its transmission, from crude wood block depictions of hooks to the near photographic quality of contemporary full color halftones of trout and their habitat.

The exhibit has taken some of the more striking examples of these advancements over the past 500 years with a display of beautiful volumes containing images of trout flies and the insects on which they are patterned. Paul Schullery, MSU Library’s scholar in residence, designed and wrote the exhibit, with assistance from his wife, artist Marsha Karle and Kim Allen Scott. The exhibit is open to the public and will remain on display until late spring, neatly coinciding with the Trout and Salmonid lecture held in February.

Kim Allen Scott  
Professor/University Archivist  
Montana State University, Bozeman  
(406) 994-5297

## Honoring Life; Creating Legacy

From time to time in this column I have written about the many wonderfully generous people in our circle of friends who have thoughtfully invested in MSU Libraries. The following individuals are part of that elite group of benefactors. These remarkable individuals chose to create a legacy honoring a special person in their lives.

A longtime friend of Montana State University, Verna M. Green (Business 1972) tragically lost her son, Stephen Kyle Green (Film & Photography 1975), in an avalanche in the spring of 2010 while snowmobiling with friends on Buck Creek.

A businessman, entrepreneur, father, husband, brother and friend, Steve appreciated the overarching value of education at the local and global level. Knowing this, Verna recognized an opportunity to celebrate Steve’s contributions to his family and community by investing in the Library, an area of MSU that impacts the lives of all students and faculty, regardless of discipline. She chose to direct her contribution to the new resource area of the Library Commons project, the goal of which is to address the ever changing needs of students and faculty by providing technology rich student study space.

Dr. Stuart E. Knapp, former MSU Vice President for Academic Affairs (1978-1988), Professor of Parasitology (1988-1999-Veterinary Molecular Biology Department), Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs (1996-1998), and Interim Dean, College of Agriculture (1998-1999), lost his beloved wife of 59 years, Beverly (Hensen) Knapp, in March of 2010.

In addition to her dedication as a wife and mother, Beverly enjoyed skiing and hiking; was chair of the Democratic central committee of Gallatin County; was elected to the Bozeman City Commission; served as president of the Montana Library Association; and was a budgetary advocate for and helped establish the Bozeman Public Library foundation, in addition to many other involvements and activities. Her own successes, combined with those of her husband and two sons, Karl and Paul, allowed Beverly to envision a future of boundless opportunities made available through education.



### Continued from previous page

Not unlike Verna Green, Dr. Knapp identified an opportunity to honor his wife's many and distinguished contributions to family, libraries, community and education. Stuart chose to designate an estate gift to establish a library endowment that will provide resources for all students and faculty of Montana State University, in perpetuity.

A mother unexpectedly losing a son; a husband bidding farewell to the love of his life. Each of these individuals and their families suffered a great loss. Each seized an opportunity to honor their treasured loved one by creating a legacy – a Legacy of Learning – providing quality education and opportunity for future generations. Education is the gateway to the world's future. What a beautiful, powerful tribute.

For more information on how you can design your legacy, please contact:

Patricia (Denison) Gleason  
Executive Director for Library Advancement  
and External Relations  
pdenison@montana.edu  
406-994-3340

## Spring Exhibit

The spring art exhibit in Renne Library features the work of students from Professor Meta Newhouse's History of Graphic Design course. Students chose a specific decade and then designed a color poster that visually communicated the chronological sequence of (A) significant events, achievements and/or works of graphic design that occurred during that decade; and (B) significant events and achievements from other social or technological spheres such as politics, economics, the sciences, literature, theatre, film and other visual arts from that same time period.

Information and imagery were culled from a wide variety of sources, both analog and digital. Students' original thinking is seen in their choice of theme, and how that theme is interpreted and supported by the visual choices and corresponding text. Students were encouraged to think of themselves as curators for a design history museum and were asked to generate new knowledge as an outcome of this process.

## Coming Attractions



**April 28, 2011**

Friends of MSU Library and MSU Alumni  
Association present

**Distinctive Dialogues**

6:30pm

Hilton Garden Inn, Bozeman

**October 20, 2011**

Friends Fall Fundraiser Dinner and Auction  
featuring

**Keynote Speaker Jamie Ford**

6:30pm

Best Western GranTree Inn, Bozeman

Questions or to RSVP call 994-3119

## Boardwise

**There are many wise people who guide and contribute to the success of our institution. The FOL Board is no exception.**

**Please welcome:**

**Kyle Andersen- Edward Jones**

**Alexis Fowler - Homewood Suites**

**Donald Farris - Retired**



### 2011 Friends Board

Kyle Andersen  
Spencer Buck  
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Kelly Meadow  
(*Library Representative*)  
Pam Schulz (*Staff Liason*)  
Darlene Siedschlaw  
Stephanie Stranahan (*Vice-Pres.*)

### Friends Book Group

7:00-9:00 p.m.  
Bozeman Public Library

April 12  
May 10  
June 8  
July 12  
August 9



For more information:  
[www.friendsofmsulibraries.com](http://www.friendsofmsulibraries.com)  
Sheila Bonnand 994-4130 or  
[sbonnand@montana.edu](mailto:sbonnand@montana.edu)

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Your annual basic membership entitles you to Friends newsletters,  
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**Thank you for your support!**

**AG11NLIBA**

