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Criss Chronicles, Volume 4, Issue 1

Criss Library  
*University of Nebraska at Omaha*

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From the Dean’s Desk

What’s a 3D printer doing in the library?

The entire staff at Criss Library has worked very hard over the past year to implement our new integrated library system, often abbreviated as ILS. The ILS is the nuts and bolts of our operation, running everything from ordering, cataloging, all aspects of lending and borrowing, even financial reporting. Because of everyone’s efforts, we’ve managed to save a great deal of money and will be able to re-allocate some staff to support our goals for more and better services. We’ve added new research databases and a huge electronic book collection, but beyond that we’ve invested in two key areas. Our institutional repository is now better staffed and is growing rapidly. The repository collects the research and writings of UNO faculty and makes them available to the world – it’s great advertising for the excellent work being done here. One of the most popular items has been downloaded over 2,000 times, and the repository has been visited by scholars in 74 countries.

Another key area in which we are investing is the new Creative Production Lab (CPL) that supports students doing media creation, video editing and other “high tech” tasks involving images, video, text and data. There are video editing computers, large format scanners and printers (think banners six feet high), video cameras, a sound booth and video stage. Using the 3D printer located there, students can design and actually produce objects for a wide variety of purposes. This technology has become quite advanced and affordable over the last few years – many of the complex objects created by the “early adopters” of this machine can be made for under a dollar. So why is the library doing this? It’s a natural extension of our main duty to provide information and help people turn it into knowledge. The ability to visually “tell stories” and create models, prototypes and examples is an important part of knowledge creation – and gives our students a set of tools that will be increasingly in demand at their future workplaces. For my part, I’m enjoying just watching the evolution of the library from the two dimensional world of print on paper to the new world of moving colorful images and three dimensional ways of teaching, learning and sharing knowledge.
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Criss Library in the Cloud......

Last spring we switched to a cloud-based integrated library system called WMS. This system helps patrons search for books, DVDs, ebooks, journal articles, and more. Read these tips to become a WMS expert!

Your Library Account

You might have noticed a little snag when you tried to enter a database from your home or dorm. It’s not you – it’s us! Over the summer we switched to a new authentication system, so everyone needs to set up their library account. Once you’re set up, you’re good to go!

Benefits of creating your account:

- Create book lists
- Place holds
- Renew items online
- Tag items
- Write reviews
- Access databases from off campus

Run Boolean Searches

Use the following symbols to run Boolean searches:

AND: Use (+). Example: dogs + cats (Finds dogs and cats.)

OR: Example: dogs OR cats (Finds dogs or cats.)

NOT: Use (-). Example: dogs - cats (Finds dogs, not cats.)
“Mrs. Beazley’s Deeds.” In the story, a woman is imprisoned by her husband—a nasty man who takes over her affairs and forces her to take in boarders. Well, along comes this female boarder who begins to advise Mrs. Beazely. Eventually, it becomes clear that this boarder is also a lawyer, and while Mr. Beazley is away, the locks are changed on the house. Some other highlights are “On the Divide” by Willa Cather, “The Apostate” by Jack London, “Xingu” by Edith Wharton, and “The Second Advent” by Mark Twain. As for obscure authors, we’re including Hannah Lloyd Neall’s “Placer.” This story, by a woman in California who published only a handful of short pieces in her lifetime, is about a couple in California in the 1870s. One day he brings home something wrapped in a blanket, and she thinks it’s the tea set she has been wanting from “back East.” Instead, it’s a Native American baby, given to the husband by his mother, who was dying by the side of the road. The story then follows the white woman’s reactions to raising a baby of a different race – students who read it just love it!

Q: How did you select these stories?

A: Both Larry and I made selections, but I also emailed colleagues who specialize in the literature of this era, and they sent me their suggestions. A UCRCA fellowship this summer allowed me to gather the stories and read them. I flew to Detroit in June and spent two days with Larry, and together we narrowed down the list. I have to add a plug here: the Criss Library’s resources – both online and print -- has also been invaluable in finding these texts.

Q: As a former English major, I had to reread a number of different stories in different classes. What do you think the reaction to these “fresher” stories will be in the classroom?

A: When I have presented present my students with a lesser known story, and told told them that they are among the first students to read and study these stories, they have gotten very excited. It’s a thrill for them to write papers about works that haven’t been widely read. In the anthology, we hope to keep the annotations to a minimum and just let the students react and read.

Q: What’s next?

A: We’re at around 61 stories now, and our next step is to get it down to 50. We’re also drafting a proposal for publishers. Hopefully our selections will present a broader political spectrum on issues, reinvigorate anthologies, and point students and scholars in new directions for future inquiry.
From the Archives

OU Stenographic Bureau Printing
Samples 1945-46

Those familiar with primary sources understand that materials commonplace to those many years ago are often rare and wonderful to us today. This is the case with a strange little Archives collection of 1945-46 University of Omaha form samples. Along with the items pictured here, the collection includes blank transcript pages, memo pads, envelopes, letterhead stationery, and a variety of registrar, payroll, and OU Alumni Association forms. This collection offers a unique glimpse into the academic lives of OU students, faculty, and staff 68 years ago and we are fortunate that it has been preserved.
Focus on Resources

New Resources: Literati by Credo

Where do research topics come from? Dreams or tea leaves? Reading a newspaper article? Following a tweet? If you need inspiration and a starting point, Literati by Credo is for you! (http://literati.credoreference.com.leo.lib.unomaha.edu/)

Literati is an online platform that combines reliable, citable reference content with your library’s resources and helps you to do faster, more effective research.

Literati includes:
- Keyword searching
- Mind mapping of topics
- Encyclopedia, dictionary, and full-text articles
- Videos and interactive research tutorials

When you start in Literati, your search can jump into other Criss databases – your search terms are already entered for you!

Sign up for a free Literati account and manage your research with Literati tools.
Fall has arrived! I am sure the crunchy leaves will appear any moment now, right? While some mourn the loss of steamy summer days, I have always loved the crisp breeze that heralds autumn. It means the return of socks, jeans, sweatshirts, and scarves. Pumpkins and apples make for a pleasant change from summer berries and melons. But perhaps what I love most of all is the return of school. Were you one of those kids, like me, that had to be controlled amongst the aisles of paper, pens, glue, and crayons at the beginning of each new school year?

Though I no longer shop for crayons, I enjoy the rituals that accompany college life just as well. Buying textbooks, scoping out what spot you want to claim in each class, and exploring the variety of classes and projects excite me. A college campus comes alive in Fall as students and professors and staff resume the tasks that make education possible. And it is no different at the KANEKO-UNO Library these days. We have been refreshed with educational technology in the form of new 60” LCD TVs and desktop computers. We even have new 3D televisions! They make my slideshows of multicolored Fall leaves look amazing!

Our most recent book club meeting sparked stimulating conversation about the nature of the relationship between author and audience, spinning off onto the entire concept of plagiarism as a cultural construct. On November 13th from 6-8pm, we will sit down to discuss Making the Mummies Dance: Inside the Metropolitan Museum of Art by Thomas Hoving. In addition to exploring Hoving’s admittedly “snarky” style of management and writing, we hope to explore some of the intriguing art scandals rocking the world and the state of museums here and abroad. As always, a broadening of the mind seems impossible to avoid!

Within KANEKO, an increase of activity and excitement are palpable as well. Two exhibits by Jun Kaneko will be opening Friday, September 20th in some of the recently completed space at 1111 Jones St. “STACKED,” a collection of rarely shown “sound sculptures” will grace the clerestory space, while “Fremont Dangos,” featuring six 11-foot ceramic “dangos” transform the main exhibition hall with their vast size and impressive decoration. In the last week, I have watched the pieces being loaded into the building and it is going to be beautiful!

Though Fall is the death of Spring, it is the renewal of learning…at least to me!
From Apprehension to Appreciation
The Culture Walk Journey
UNO College of Education

Now - October 4

Celebrating its fifth year, the student-community program Culture Walk displays photographs and artifacts of UNO’s history with the community. Since 2009, teacher candidates include Culture Walk in their curriculum, which prepares teachers to better serve and educate students from diverse backgrounds throughout Omaha.

The exhibit is free and open to the public.

Upcoming Exhibits:

Heart & Hands 2013 - A Fourth National Juried Book Art Exhibition for Students - October 11 - December 21

UNO BFA Thesis Students’ Art Exhibition - November 24 - December 21
A Conversation With............Nora Hillyer

Q. Where are you from and what is your position in the library?
A. I am originally from Johnston, Iowa; a small town northwest of Des Moines. There were 82 in my graduation class. Currently, I am the Research Services Director and Business Librarian at Criss Library.

Q. What do you like most about Criss Library?
A. I love the fact that all of us are customer oriented and try our best to serve the students, faculty and staff at UNO.

Q. What are your hobbies?
A. I love to paint, make jewelry, read and walk (whenever I can). Bob and I like to pack a lunch on Saturday mornings and travel to the different state parks in Nebraska, hike and then have lunch.

Q. If you could have dinner with anybody, past or present, who would it be and why?
A. My parents and my in-laws. Both sets of parents are gone now and I would love to talk with them again.

Q. What would people be the most surprised to find out about you?
A. There were six kids in our family; four boys and two girls. I am the shortest one. All of my brothers are 6’4” and taller and my sister is 5’9”.

Q. If a book was written about you, what would the title be?
A. “The Late Bloomer”

Q. Where is your favorite place to eat?
A. Flemings – Bob and I just celebrated our 38th anniversary there last weekend.

Q. If you had six months with no obligations or financial constraints, what would you do with the time?
A. Travel by car across the United States. I would love to spend time on the west coast.

Q. What is the most interesting project you have worked on professionally?
A. The flipped classroom. For this semester, the RSU team is starting a pilot project to have students learn information literacy concepts on their own time which will free up classroom time for active learning activities. We are trying to teach concepts in a more interactive environment rather than having a lecture format.
Calendar

September 2013

Now - Oct. 4: From Apprehension to Appreciation - the Culture Walk Journey - Osborne Family Gallery

Sep. 10 - Oct. 25: Danish Children Growing up American - Criss Library main floor

October 2013

Oct. 9 - Dec. 4: Fighting the Fire of Hate - Criss Library lower level

Oct. 11 - Nov. 14: Juried Book Art Exhibition for Students - Osborne Family Gallery

Oct. 20 - 22: Fall Break

Hours for Fall Break:

Oct. 20  12PM - 9PM
Oct. 21  7AM - 9PM
Oct. 22  7AM - 9PM

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photo from http://www.ForestWander.com
# November

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- Nov. 13: KANEKO Book Club - KANEKO/UNO Library 6 - 8PM
- Nov. 24 - Dec. 21: UNO BFA Thesis Students’ Art Exhibit - Osborne Family Gallery
- Nov. 27: Holiday Hours
- Nov. 28 - 30: Thanksgiving

## Holiday Hours:

- Nov. 27: 7AM - 5PM
- Nov. 28 - 30: Library Closed

# December

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- Dec. 9 - 12: Prep Week
- Dec. 15 - Dec. 18: Finals Week
- Dec. 22: Intersession
- Dec. 23 - Dec 31: Holiday Close-down

## December Hours:

- Dec. 9 - 12: 7AM - 1AM
- Dec. 15: 12PM - 1AM
- Dec. 16 - 18: 7AM - 1AM
- Dec. 22: 12PM - 5PM
- Dec. 23 - 31: Library Closed

Compiled by - M. Iftikhar Husain
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OPEN
327 Days a Year

AVAILABLE
24/7 @ library.unomaha.edu

LIBRARY HOURS
Monday - Thursday: 7:00 AM - 12:00 AM
Friday: 7:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Saturday: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Sunday: 12:00 PM - 12:00 AM

Consult website for holiday hours

Danish Children Growing up American
Photographs from the collections of the Danish American Archive and Library (DAAL)