Remembering Amy

Amy Arnott, Dean of Libraries of UM-St. Louis from 2001 to 2008, was noted for correcting others when mispronouncing her surname by gently chiding them, “it’s Arnott, like ‘darn it’, please.” Arnott capped a thirty year career at UMSL by being the first librarian in the history of the university to assume the new title “Dean of Libraries.”

Arnott started at the Thomas Jefferson Library as a student assistant in 1978 and quickly moved up to become supervisor of student employees, head of the Access Services Department, the interim Director of Libraries and the Dean of Libraries. Throughout her tenure, Arnott adapted well to the dynamic change in the nature of the work of libraries and nourished an employee-friendly environment.

And during her library career Arnott pursued a lifetime love of the theater, an arena in which she continuously worked with her husband Tim Grumich. Arnott was an established figure in the St. Louis theater community where she was the President of the ACT-INC professional repertory company for over a decade. She directed many plays including Oscar Wilde’s “The Importance of Being Earnest”, “Meet Me in St. Louis”, and the “Matchmaker”. Arnott and Grumich also teamed up for other theater related activities, including set design.

In 2003 Arnott combined her professional and artistic careers by directing a specially commissioned work on the history of UM-St. Louis for the 40th anniversary of the founding of the institution: “UMSL: The First Four Billion Years”. The one act play, which was performed at the Touhill Performing Arts Center, was well received and it must be noted that not one member of the audience was heard to mutter “darn it.”

By Raleigh Muns

BARRIGER RAILROAD COLLECTION at the MERCANTILE LIBRARY HOSTS MAJOR TRAVELING EXHIBITION

THE WEST THE RAILROADS MADE: Tracks, Trains, & Transformation
March 7 - September 20, 2009

From the railroad visionaries in the 1830s who dreamed of the transformative power of a transcontinental railroad to the dramatic realization of those dreams in the latter part of the 19th century and beyond, the West the Railroads Made exhibition — opening March 7th on the first floor of the Library — examines the tremendous economic, social and cultural influence railroads exerted on the American West.

Created by the Barriger Library’s Barriger Curator in cooperation with the Washington State History Museum, the exhibition features more than 80 artifacts, rare railroad ephemera, photographs, paintings and other three-dimensional pieces, including many on loan from the Smithsonian and other institutions. It also includes a special exhibition of many of the Barriger Collection’s 19th century treasures and a photographic exhibition by Carlos Schwantes, the Mercantile Library Endowed Professor of Transportation Studies, on the West the Railroads are Making today. An accompanying book by Dr. Schwantes and James Ronda, an internationally recognized authority on Western American History, will be available for purchase. The exhibition is free and open to the public and runs from March 7 - September 20, 2009, after which it will be shown at the Oregon Historical Society in Portland. A fourth site is planned before the exhibition will be given a permanent home at the South Cle Elum Railroad Museum in Washington State.

All faculty are cordially invited to attend the exhibition’s official opening, Saturday, March 7th at 3:30 PM. BNSF Railway Chairman and CEO Matt Rose will give a talk and a reception will follow. RSVP Laura Diel at 7242 or ldiel@umsl.edu if you would like to attend.

by Gregory Ames
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Upcoming events/exhibits at Mercantile Library

Exhibitions
April 23 - One Artist’s Journey: The Life and Work of James Godwin Scott
October 10 - Entrepreneurs and the Modern Nation: The Experiences of China, Japan, and America

Events
May 15 - 17, St. Louis Fine Print, Rare Book and Paper Arts Fair
by Julie Dunn-Morton
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New databases added:

The Libraries of the University of Missouri System have recently added online access to the following products: Congressional Record, LWW High Impact Journal Archive, and the Mergent Archive. The Congressional Record Online (1789-1997) is the public account of all legislative debate in the United States Congress. As the official record of the proceedings, debates, and activities of Congress, the Record is a substantially verbatim account of all discussion occurring on the floor of Congress. The Record also contains inserted materials, communications from the president and the executive branch agencies, memorials, petitions, and information and materials on legislation being introduced or passed. Access this resource through the alphabetical listing of databases at http://www.umsl.edu/library. LWW High Impact Journal Archive includes online, full text access to the backfiles of 67 medical journals published by Lippincott Williams & Wilkins. Coverage varies by title, but many are archived back to volume 1, issue 1. Journals are accessed through database searching in Medline or via the Locate Journal Titles search. Coming Soon: The Mergent Archive will provide electronic access to all Moody’s/Mergent manuals ever published dating back to 1909. At this time the Municipal and Government manual is not available. Titles included in this collection are: Industrial Manual, Public Utility Manual-1914-Present, OTC Industrial Manual, OTC Unlisted Manual, Transportation Manual, International Manual-1981-Present, and the Bank and Finance Manual.

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Copyright issues

The UM-St. Louis Libraries have updated and consolidated their web pages to better assist faculty in understanding a variety of copyright issues. From the library home page, users can select “Library Services” then “For Faculty” to access this new information http://www.umsl.edu/library/copyright. Facilitating faculty use of copyrighted materials, such as placing scholarly journal articles on the MyGateway/Blackboard online course software, is emphasized.

This site links users to copyright information and resources at UMSL, at the University of Missouri System level, and various brochures and circulars explaining copyright issues at the United States Copyright Office. Though UMSL librarians are not authorized to legally decide copyright issues, these resources should assist instructors in their own decisions for providing resources to their students in the online classroom.

By Raleigh Muns
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B.A. English, University of Colorado, 1973
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Rodgers joined the Refer-
ence Department in 1995 and has served as co-manager of the department since 1998. Previously, she worked for 10 years as a news librarian at the Denver Post and for the Hawaii Newspaper Agency.

Rodgers and husband Ted have 2 daughters: Sarah, a Ph.D. candidate at Rutgers, and Ellen, completing a Masters at the University of Denver.
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