

**Director's Office**  
569-8803  
**Reference**  
569-8806  
**Circulation**  
569-3120  
**Interlibrary**  
**Loan**  
569-8812  
**url:**  
[library.ualr.edu](http://library.ualr.edu)  
**FAX: 569-3017**

## From the Director

by Kathy Sanders

Last week I returned from the biennial conference of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL). These conferences focus on topics related to the academic libraries' mission of teaching, research, and public services. This year the conference was held in Denver, Colorado. Six other staff members from Ottenheimer also attended with me; I hope their names are mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter. Denver is an exciting city, and we were able to take advantage of great meetings and much local color!

The ACRL conference is always a treat, largely because there are so many programs to choose from that attendees have tough choices to make. This year's theme was "Crossing the Divide." Librarians are very conscious of the digital divide, which is our way of describing those who have access to information sources and those who do not. The theme was a creative one that launched the planning committee, I am sure, into all sorts of program possibilities.

Several keynote speakers delivered talks to the entire assembled group: one for an opening session, one for a luncheon, and one to close the conference. Sprinkled throughout the four days were other featured speakers from various segments of higher education. Speakers included Dr. Michael Hawley, a professor of media technology from the MIT Media Lab; Dr. Patricia Limerick, Chair of the Center of the American West, U. of Colorado, Boulder; and Dr. Claire Gaudiani, President of Connecticut College.

Consistent with the theme of accessing and using digital information, the majority of the programs dealt with giving instruction to university students about the use of the Internet as an information source. Librarians are trying to step into the teaching program on campuses throughout the country to make students aware of how to access and evaluate sources on the Net. Programs were given demonstrating information literacy, required information coursework on campuses, teaching techniques for this type of instruction, assessment of student learning on the Web, team teaching with professors, and distance education possibilities. Although I couldn't attend each program, I feel sure they provided food for thought to everyone

present.

Other programs covered such topics as grant writing, fundraising for libraries, creating stronger relationships with faculty, public relations, building or renovating buildings, library-museum collaborations, digitizing collections, disaster plans, and copyright. Of these topics, two particular ones interest me right now. The first is renovation of buildings; we have begun our planning for our imminent occupation of the fifth floor of the library building. The second topic of interest is the digitizing of collections. This process involves creating digital copies of materials so that they can be mounted on the Web, enabling students and other patrons to use documents that might have previously only been available via a personal visit to a museum or library. The added advantage, of course, for the materials, is that the original source can be protected in an archival facility.

I always look forward to the ACRL conference and I always try to attend. Where's next? The site in 2003 is Charlotte, North Carolina. I'm betting that I'll be there!

### And the Winner is . . .

The week of March 18<sup>th</sup> was full of winning announcements for UALR.

- Our team of Construction Management students gained national recognition within their industry by taking first place in the Associated Builders and Contractors annual competition held in San Antonio, Texas.
- The UALR English Department and the William G. Cooper, Jr. Honors Program in English proudly announced that National Book Award winning writer Ha Jin would read from his work on Friday, March 23 in the Dickinson Hall

- In only their second year of competition, our robotics team placed 13<sup>th</sup> among the 40 teams participating in the US FIRST Lone Star Regional Competition.
- College faculty winners were announced in the areas of teaching, research/creative endeavors, and public service.
- The Department of Rhetoric and Writing announced that three of its students have won awards for their writing in the 12th Annual Student Writing Contest sponsored by the Austin

chapter of the Society for Technical Communicators. The winners were Dana Garrison, Sherri Maxey, and Kathleen Blackmon.

Ottenheimer Library's administration, faculty, and staff thank all of these people for their work and wish them the best in future competitions. Through the positive recognition they bring to UALR, we all win.



## Calendar of Events

**Dr. Don Wold**  
7:00 pm, 19 April  
Ottenheimer Library  
Menz Instruction Room

**Arkansas Library Association  
College and University Division  
Spring Meeting**  
20 April  
Cooperative Extension

**Ottenheimer Library  
"Overdue" Tributes Dinner**  
6:30 pm, 10 May  
Donaghey Student Center  
Room A

**Hepcat Cafe**  
Evenings, 7 -- 10 May  
Ottenheimer Library  
Outer Lobby

**Friends of UALR Ottenheimer  
Library Board**  
2:00 pm, 16 May  
Ottenheimer Library  
Director's Conference Room

**Arkansas Library Paraprofessionals  
Conference**  
16 -- 18 May  
Lake Hamilton, AR

**Innovative Users' Group  
Meeting**  
19 -- 22 May  
Santa Clara, CA

## Ben's Guide to U.S. Government for Kids Award-winning site is not just "for kids."

As the name indicates the site is "hosted" by Benjamin Franklin, America's first public librarian and honorary "first public printer." Created by the United States Government Printing Office, *Ben's Guide* is designed to be the education component of *GPO Access*, GPO's service for providing the official online version of legislative and regulatory information.

Using colorful graphics and descriptive text, the design, purpose and activities of the United States government are explored in four grade level-specific sites: K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12. As each grade level explores a part of the government, applicable historic documents are provided in full text with the history of their development and analysis of their importance. Each level also provides glossaries, links to other government sites on the topics, and games and activities to reinforce the ideas presented.

While the site is designed to assist children, it is an excellent resource for adults as well. An entire section of the site is designed to assist teachers and parents who have children learning about the development and functions of the federal government. Links are provided to other Government Printing Office pages that offer information for researching government activities online or by purchasing agency publications.

To assist teachers in planning

lessons, there are two lists of government web sites, which can be incorporated into classroom assignments. One is a subject list of federal sites designed for children, including those from the Smithsonian, NASA, and the National Park Service. The other is a list of sites that relate to the teaching of politics and government like those from the U.S. Mint, the Census Bureau, and the U.S. Institute of Peace.

*Ben's Guide* debuted in 1999 and has since won numerous awards and compliments for its design and content. It has been called a "top-notch tool for students, parents and teachers," by HomeworkSpot.com, and the *Philadelphia Inquirer* recommends that "any virtual government tour' start with Ben."

Ben's Guide to U.S. Government for Kids can be accessed at <http://bensguide.gpo.gov>

### Ottenheimer News

Tony Rose  
Editor

Rob Cash  
Abby Holt  
Karen Russ  
Kathy Sanders  
Linda Stipsky  
Contributors

## New Reference Books

*The Anchor Bible Dictionary.*  
6 vols. REF BS 440 .A54 1992

Contributors to this non-sectarian work include scholars in the fields of archaeology, history, Classics, and Hebrew from the most prominent universities in the United States and several other countries.

*Arkansas Biography: A Collection of Notable Lives.*

REF CT 224 .W55 2000

*Arkansas Biography* includes entries on more than 300 prominent or famous people, all now deceased, who were either born or lived in Arkansas. Included are politicians, lawyers, physicians, authors, planters, bankers, businesspeople, clergymen and educators.

*Measures for Clinical Practice.*  
2 vols. REF BF 176 .C66 2000

These volumes include the questions for hundreds of psychological scales and inventories. A few of them will illustrate its range: Argumentativeness Scale, Caregiver Strain Index, Death Depression Scale, Goldfarb Fear of Fat Scale, Index of Job Satisfaction, Mathematics Anxiety Rating Scale — Revised, Procrastination Assessment Scale — Students.

*New Historical Atlas of Religion in America.*

REF G 1201 .E4 N4 2000 Atlas Case

Maps of counties show the growth, and sometimes the decline, of major and minor religious denominations throughout United States history. Not simply another big book of maps, this atlas also

contains extensive text and provides a succinct history of each denomination in the U.S.

*Women in World History: A Biographical Encyclopedia.*

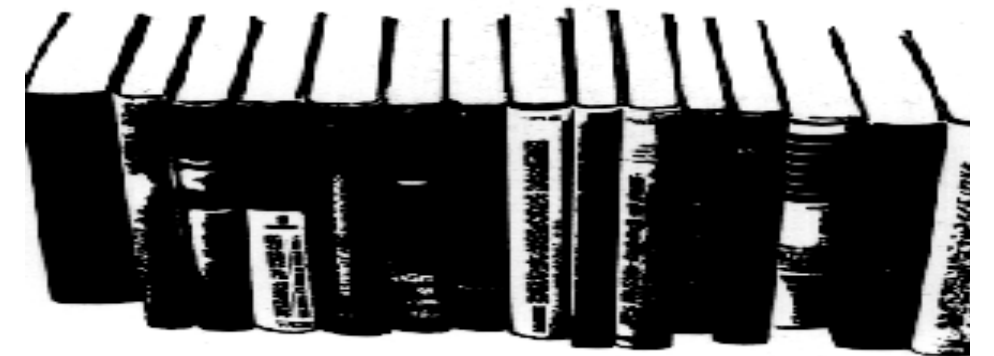
REF HQ 1115 .W6 1999

So far the library has received ten volumes of this set. These include entries from Ruth Hughes Aarons, a world champion table tennis player, to Lise Meitner, a theoretical physicist who contributed to the discovery of nuclear fission. When it is finally completed, this encyclopedia will be a work unprecedented in its scope.

## Friends of the Library Programs

On the evening of 15 February, in the midst of a tremendous thunderstorm, Dr. Robert Boury, UALR's resident composer and professor of music, presented to the Friends of UALR Ottenheimer Library an overview of his work in a program entitled "We Have a Resident Composer?" From radio jingles to opera, Boury's compositions are arresting and appealing. Though the crowd in the Library Conference Room was small due to the weather, those present were unanimous in suggesting that Boury be invited back for an encore presentation.

Next up for the Friends is Dr. Don Wold's "From Galileo's Telescopes To Neutrino Telescopes," at 7:00 pm on 19 April.



### Library Welcomes New Paraprofessional

Circulation & Reserve Services recently hired Paul Willis as Reserve Coordinator. Paul worked as a student employee in Circulation during the 1997-1998 school year. He took a break from studying to open his own business, Ocean Environments. He recently sold the business and plans to complete a philosophy degree. Paul is busy learning all the changes the Library made in his three year absence.