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Note from Nancy

This year, you will discover something unexpected, new and fresh about our annual report. The unexpected element is the absence of anything about the Flood of 2008. This was done deliberately since we devoted the entire issue of the last Bindings to the University Libraries and the Flood of 2008. When you have experienced something this major, it is easy for it to overshadow everything else that occurred during the year.

But there were other impressive events and accomplishments and this annual report will highlight many of them. The “new and fresh” element is the format. We decided to focus on fewer accomplishments than in the past but offer a little more information and visuals about a selective number of the most impressive. All the statistics are still there, but they are tucked into a separate piece in the middle of the report. Within these numbers, much of the critical day-to-day work of the Libraries is reflected.
The Libraries recently hired a new, talented graphics and web designer, Serina Brekke. This is one of Serina’s first major projects for the Libraries and you can see why we are especially delighted to have her on board.

I hope you find this report as informative, impressive, and visually attractive as I did.
Collections
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"I would like to see the ballot in the hands of every woman." — Mark Twain.
A Cure for Melancholy
Twain’s Huckleberry Finn

Before Amazon.com, Barnes & Noble or even the local bookstore like Prairie Lights in Iowa City, booksellers sold their wares one-by-one to individuals. The salesman carried prospectus copies to show potential customers who might agree to purchase the complete, finished book. The salesman took custom orders, and the buyers could choose from a wide variety of options before the books were even printed.

In 1885 when Mark Twain published *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, an agent for Charles L. Webster Publishing Company in New York was selling individual copies of the book in Iowa. His prospectus copy of this classic novel became a part of the UI Libraries’ Special Collections this year. Prospective buyers could view the standard cloth cover, options for hard-cover bindings, sample illustrations and pages.
This prospectus copy also contained marketing text and price lists to help him sell copies of *Huckleberry Finn*. The publisher described the novel as a “Cure for Melancholy…. An amusing book is a panacea more agreeable than medicine and less expensive than doctors’ bills.” And this particular salesman did sell books primarily to the soldiers at Fort Niobara. He maintained a ledger of his buyers in the back of the sample copy.

On assessing this particular copy, the appraiser remarked that it is in “remarkably good condition for its age and considering the handling that a prospectus copy received.” The appraiser also noted that this particular prospectus copy is a second state, corrected copy. In the first state copies, an illustration in the book had been altered in an obscene way. When the alteration was discovered, the prospectus copies were recalled and the altered illustration was replaced.

This prospectus copy becomes part of the Libraries Twain collection, which includes first editions of *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur’s Court*, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, *Life on the Mississippi* and *The Gilded Age*. 
Other Notable Special Collections

- **Allen Motor Company Records**; founded in Elkader in 1903, Allen was the first automobile dealership in Iowa.

- **Near Klamath** (1968), Raymond Carver’s extremely rare first book.

- **Dr. Kenneth Hartman** papers; UI alumnus who worked on the “human engineering” aspects of the Apollo space program.
President Theodore Roosevelt memorialized on the “Long, Long Trail” by cartoonist “Ding” Darling.
When President Theodore Roosevelt died on January 6, 1919, Jay N. “Ding” Darling was working as a political cartoonist for the *Des Moines Register* syndicated through the *New York Tribune*. The news about the former president’s death came out in the morning, finally in the afternoon when Darling learned of it he was shocked into an “emotional coma.” Yet he felt that creating a something to immortalize this man “demanded a supreme effort.”

He first sketched a scene of Roosevelt on horseback waving good-bye. Disappointed with this effort, he felt that it did not “embody any fitting memorial to one of the most stimulating public figures in that generation.” When his editor came to check on Darling’s progress, there was nothing except a pile of failed attempts on the floor next to his drawing table. Darling pulled out the drawing of Roosevelt on horseback and decided to sketch in the trail of buffalo and covered wagons and the Capitol dome. Roosevelt would be waving good-bye to the world on the “Long, Long Trail.” Unsatisfied with the result, but having already missed the deadline for the early edition, Darling and the editor decided to run the
cartoon in the *Register*. The newspapers had hardly time to hit the street before “congratulations began to come in.” Reprints and special editions of this cartoon were still being requested 38 years later.

We know this story through a recorded dictation of a letter that Darling made in 1955. Darling corresponded with friends and colleagues frequently and like most professionals of his day, he dictated his letters for his secretary to transcribe. In the late 1940s Darling acquired a portable Dictaphone that recorded 15 minutes of dictation on a three-and-one-half-inch-wide plastic belt. Unlike earlier wax cylinders, the belts could not be reused, and just over 1200 of Darling’s belts survive. They date from 1951 through 1961.
and record his dictation of nearly 4000 documents. Recently
the Special Collections department acquired (and found a former
Dictaphone repairman to refurbish) an antique Dictacord to migrate
the content of 1,187 Dictabelts to digital files.

Digital Library Services added clips from four of these recordings
as well as scans of Darling’s earliest cartoons (1900-1906) from
Sioux City Journal microfilm to The Editorial Cartoons of J.N. “Ding”
Darling digital collection (http://digital.lib.uiowa.edu/ding) in the Iowa
Digital Library. The collection now includes more than 11,000 editorial
cartoons by the Pulitzer-winning Iowa cartoonist.

Other Notable Iowa Digital Library Achievements

- 100,000th item added in April 2007
- Iowa Gallery created through collaboration with
  UI Museum of Art, School of Art and Art History
- The Daily Palette (digital.lib.uiowa.edu/gallery)
- Iowa Women’s Archives Digital Collection launched in honor
  of the IWA’s 15th anniversary. (digital.lib.uiowa.edu/iwa)
General Collections
Every morning millions of people around the world flip through the pages of their favorite newspaper to catch up on the happenings of the day. And every evening those newspapers are added to the recycling bin. Though newspapers are throw-away items of our daily lives, they have the power to become important scholarly resources.

For many researchers, especially undergraduates, historical newspapers are often the best primary sources of information on a wide variety of topics. As more of these resources are becoming available online, the UI Libraries have been adding them to our collection.

These newly digitized newspapers, which were originally created in the letterpress era, use sophisticated optical character recognition (OCR) software to enhance readability and allow library users to search the actual text of the newspaper. Newspaper images can be magnified for easier reading or reduced for on-screen navigation. Library users can save and print article images, create persistent links and email them to others.
Two of these new digitized collections include newspapers dating back to 17th century Britain and 19th century United States. A third collection includes Historical Black U.S. newspapers. The British newspaper collection helps chart the development of the concept of news, newspapers and the free press. The collection contains more than 1 million pages including everything from early pamphlets to full runs of national and regional newspapers. The early American newspaper collection serves as a true portrait of the U.S. nation at the beginning of the Republic. These newspapers helped shape the nation’s identity. The Black Newspapers collection is cross-searchable with other historical newspapers – The New York Times, Chicago Tribune and Los Angeles Times – allowing researchers to evaluate history from multiple points of view.
Other Notable Collections

- **Dance in Video** will contain 250 dance productions and documentaries by the most influential performers and companies of the 20th century.

- **Slavery, Abolition and Social Justice, 1490-2007**, documents key aspects of the history of slavery worldwide covering the varieties of slave experience, religion, revolts, abolition and legislation.

- **Tests in Print**, produced by the Buros Institute, is a listing of commercially available tests that are currently in print in the English language.

- **Web of Knowledge** full backfile (including the Web of Science) with citations back to 1900 was acquired with private and some state funds.

- **JSTOR Arts & Sciences VI Collection** will extend coverage in disciplines across the social sciences, with clusters focused in economics, education, linguistics, political science, and area studies.
Outreach and Teaching
Outreach and Teaching
Sim Central at Hardin Library

Harvey is locked up in a room by himself, but most everything else in the Hardin Library for the Health Sciences’ new Simulation Center is out on the shelves and ready to use.

The center, in space previously occupied by the Information Commons, opened in early January. It boasts numerous simulators for teaching resuscitation, physical exam and procedural skills and is staffed whenever the Hardin Library is open.

Harvey, of course, is the cardiopulmonary patient simulator that helps medical and PA students learn to diagnose 25 different heart ailments. His sophisticated—and costly—electronic and mechanical components prompted officials to require that students receive training and use him under supervision. Dozens of other devices available at the Simulation Center are lower on the technology scale than Harvey but no less useful to students learning basic clinical skills. They include male and female pelvic trainers; a rectal exam trainer that can be fitted with differently-sized prostates and anal canal polyps; male and female catheterization models; dark- and light-skinned IV infusion arms; a wearable breast simulator; several retinal eye exam simulators; adult and infant resuscitation mannequins; surgical knot-tying kits; and others.
“Making the center’s learning resources readily accessible is a key goal,” said Kathy Skhal, clinical education librarian. “Not only is the center staffed during Hardin’s hours of operation, some items also are available for check-out. The kits that help students learn surgical knots should be especially popular for take-home use.”

George Bergus, MD, Dr. William and Sondra Myers Family Professor of family medicine, affirms the value of simulation in medical education. Bergus directs the Carver College of Medicine’s performance-based assessment program and led the task force that formulated the College’s approach to simulation in medical education.

Simulation promotes two important educational outcomes, Bergus said. First, it helps students develop basic skills, and second, it boosts their advancement to clinical learning. When students begin their clinical rotations, Bergus said, “They’ve been primed to learn at an accelerated rate in a real setting.”

Editor’s Note: A version of this article originally appeared in MedEd Update, a publication of the Office of Student Affairs and Curriculum in the Carver College of Medicine.
Outreach and Teaching

Government information covers a wide range of topics and genres like this children’s book about conservation, *The Little Acorn* (Above), and medical research article, *Systemic Zygomycosis Caused by Apophysomyces Elegans* (Left).
From Acorns to Zygomycosis
Answers with Government Information Online

The U.S. Federal Government sponsors billions of dollars of research every year, and the results of much of that research are available to citizens through the Federal Depository Library Program (which the UI Libraries is a part of) and GPOAccess and USA.gov. The output of all of this research makes the U.S. government one of the world’s largest information providers. GPOAccess, for example, provides access to more than 2,200 databases through over 80 applications, such as the Federal Register and the Congressional Record. More than 130,000 titles are housed on GPOAccess servers, and links are provided to over 94,000 additional titles from other agency Web sites, totaling over 224,000 titles.

Recognizing that this is a huge amount of information for a researcher, student or general interest user to search to find answers to their questions, government information librarians across the country developed Government Information Online (GIO).
GIO is a free web-based “Ask-a-Librarian” service. This collaboration with nearly 30 other libraries nationwide provides chat and email service for government information on local, state, federal and international levels.

The project began in 2004; the UI Libraries joined the partnership in 2005, and the Government Printing Office became an official partner in 2007. Today links to GIO are present on USA.gov and GPOAccess websites. People are asking government information specialist librarians questions about real-life situations. Nearly 2,400 interactions between librarians and public information seekers occurred between February and June 2008. Government documents librarians at the UI Libraries take their turn monitoring the chat window and answering specific email questions from researchers all over the world.
Other Notable Outreach Achievements

- **Changing the Face of Medicine**, traveling exhibit from the National Library of Medicine, was presented with a variety of programming at the Hardin Library for the Health Sciences in October 2007.

- **Preserving Family Treasures** courses taught by Nancy E. Kraft, head of Preservation and Gary Frost, Conservator through the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute.

- **Roving Reference**, librarians walked through the Main Library in the afternoon and evenings helping students find books in the stacks or research materials online.

- **Iowa GoLocal**, released in March 2008, is a free resource that people searching for consumer health information with local health care providers.
Diversity
Diversity

Above) “Presenting Dora Lee, Queen of the Campus,” from Saturday Evening Post, Feb. 9, 1956. Left) Students performing for the local Methodist Church. For more information: http://digital.lib.uiowa.edu/aaws
In the fall of 1955, the University of Iowa was buzzing about who would be the next Miss SUI. Each year during “Pageant Week” candidates, along with groups of friends, would visit the fraternity houses. A bright-eyed 17-year old from Houston, Texas, Dora Lee Martin, brought the house down with her version of the “Yellow Rose of Texas.” When the male students cast their votes, Dora Lee had won. This story made news across the country because Dora Lee was the first African-American woman to earn such an honor.

This image from the Saturday Evening Post is part of a new digital collection African American Women Students at the University of Iowa (digital.lib.uiowa.edu/aaws). Though The University of Iowa was one of the first institutions to open admission to African Americans, African American women students at the University have often had to overcome other barriers to an equal education.

The digital collection is based on Dr. Richard M. Breaux’s doctoral research in the history of education. It brings together newspaper articles, photographs, correspondence, oral histories, and other primary
sources chronicling African American Women students’ university experiences. The original documents in this digital collection were contributed by the Iowa Women’s Archives, University Archives, African American Historical Museum and Cultural Center of Iowa and The State Historical Society of Iowa.

“The digital collection about the contributions of black women to Iowa’s rich history is intriguing and moving,” says Courtney Parker, Recruitment Chair of the Black Student Union. “I truly appreciate the
hard work that goes into such projects, as it justifiably honors and commemorates
the everyday black women, college-age women in America such as myself, who have
(until now) anonymously participated in the gratifying struggle of leaving their mark in
the history books. It makes me proud to look upon the faces of and read the stories
about women who have made a difference for women like me.”

This digital collection was created as part of a UI School of Library and Information
Science fellowship project in digital librarianship funded by the Institute of Museum
and Library Services.
Diversity

Above: Students dancing at the annual Gusto Latino festival. Left) Teaching international etiquette.
Shine the Spotlight
On Culture Centers at Iowa

In February, library users walking through the first floor corridor in the Main Library were introduced to Eddie Moore, Jr. and Venise Berry through a display highlighting African-American students, faculty, staff and alumni at the University of Iowa. This was one of the first “Spotlight Exhibits.” Others focused on Native American/First Nations Poets and Novelists, Hispanic heritage and activism on the UI campus in the 1970s.

These exhibits were “living displays” that displayed library materials that students and other library users could pick up from the exhibit and check out for their own use. People were also encouraged to leave comments about current display and suggestions for future displays.