The pages of a book are held together by its binding. Sewn together, one after another, each page adds to the book, creating a whole. *Bindings* represents the continuing relationship between alumni and other supporters of the University of Iowa Libraries, its students, and faculty.
University Libraries Have New Leadership

Nancy L. Baker
University Librarian

This past August, the University of Iowa welcomed Nancy L. Baker as the new University Librarian. Baker brings 27 years of library experience to the UI, most recently serving as Director of Libraries at Washington State University, Pullman. At Pullman, she led the overall administration of operations and personnel at 11 branch libraries in Spokane, Vancouver, Olympia, and the Tri-Cities area of south central Washington. Prior to this, Baker was the Associate for Libraries Public Services at the University of Washington, Seattle.

At the time her appointment was announced, Provost Jon Whitmore noted, “She brings to the UI an outstanding combination of management ability, library science experience, and ideas that will benefit students’ learning and the UI campus community.”

Baker received a Master of Arts in library science degree in from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and a Master of Arts in English literature from the State University of New York at Binghamton, N.Y. She also earned a graduate certificate in public administration from the University of Utah, Salt Lake City, and a Bachelor of Arts in English (with honors) from the University of Connecticut. She is a widely-published scholar in the library sciences and is associated with several professional library organizations. An active member of the American Library Association, she has served as the chair of the University Libraries Section.

“I'm delighted to have the opportunity to work with the University of Iowa community. Iowa has distinguished itself by its creative use of technology and excellent collections,” said Baker.

In addition to her academic and leadership responsibilities, Baker enjoys working with library Friends groups and Alumni. While at Pullman, Baker initiated outreach programs for friends and alumni, both locally and statewide. She understands that the contributions made by Friends and supporters are vital to library advancement, and she sees the opportunity to strengthen those relationships as both an essential and agreeable activity.

“One of my greatest pleasures as a library director has been the opportunity to work so closely with our library friends. Many of our supporters are ‘book people’ who cherish the intellectual pursuits embodied in the book. Some of our friends have embraced technology, recognizing its potential for increasing access to information and scholarly publications. All of them have shared my belief that libraries are the intellectual center of the university. Only with excellence in libraries can you have excellence in academic programs. I look forward to meeting and working with the many library friends of the University of Iowa.”

Baker’s appointment concluded a nearly yearlong national search to replace Sheila D. Creth, former University Librarian, who resigned in December 1999 to start a consulting business in the Iowa City area. Barbara Dewey, former Director of Information and Research Services, served as Interim University Librarian from January 1 - August 4, 2000. Dewey has since accepted the position of Dean of Libraries at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

To contact Nancy Baker, call the Libraries Administrative Office at 319/335.5867 or email nancy-l-baker@uiowa.edu.
Bill Burger, Chair of the Friends Board, has announced that Jean Lloyd-Jones has accepted the position of Board Chair, effective January 1, 2001.

Lloyd-Jones is a former legislator, feminist, peace activist, and UI alumna. She received an MA in history from the University of Iowa in 1971 and has been active in local and national civic and political organizations for a number of years. She has served as president of several organizations, including the Iowa City United Nations, Johnson County League of Women Voters, and the League of Women Voters of Iowa. She was a founding member and first chairperson of the Iowa Peace Institute, located in Grinnell, Iowa.

She has been active in the Democratic Party, serving as a State Representative from 1978 until 1986 and as a State Senator from 1987 until 1994. She was chair of the Coordinating Committee for the Iowa Women’s Conference in 1977 and a delegate to the National Women’s College in Houston, Texas. Currently, she chairs the Iowa Yamanashi Sister State Committee, which is celebrating the 40th anniversary of that partnership.

A longtime advocate of libraries, Lloyd-Jones served on the board of the Iowa City Public Library and has been a member of the Friends of the UI Libraries Board since 1998. “I have always loved libraries,” said Lloyd-Jones, “and when I was a college student at Northwestern University, I had a part-time job in the periodicals section. My studies have lead me to do research at the Newberry Library in Chicago, the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library and several of the UI departmental libraries, including Law, Art, Business, Psychology, and Main Library.”

“This experience has helped me to develop some perspective on how libraries connect to other University programs and the broader community. And in addition to supporting research through service and teaching, the library is also a place for self-directed learning and discovery. I am excited about exploring how these partnerships can be fostered and supported.”

Lloyd-Jones will succeed current Board Chair Bill Burger. Burger is senior Vice President, Personal Trust, for Firstar. He has served on the Friends Board since 1996.

Burger said, “Throughout her career in public service, Jean has demonstrated the ability to work well with a wide variety of people, some with very different concerns. She has always managed to do this with enthusiasm and poise. Moreover, her experience on State planning committees, as an elected member of State government, and on other Boards gives her a great understanding on issues of State finance and fundraising.” Burger added, “She will provide leadership and vision for the Friends Board in working with Nancy Baker, the new University Librarian.”

Burger will continue to serve on the Friends Board after turning the Chair over to Lloyd-Jones. During his term as Chair, important issues on libraries fundraising and board recruitment were addressed. Additionally, he has been instrumental in keeping the Board on course during the leadership transition at the Libraries.
Roderick and Lois Briggs have lived in California for many years, but their hearts lie in Iowa, not San Francisco. They are both UI alumni who met and married here and continue to have family connections in Iowa.

Rod grew up in Waterloo, Iowa, where his mother was a well-known local artist (a portion of her papers are held in the Iowa Women’s Archives, see notes opposite), and his father was a manufacturer. After a brief term in the Navy, Rod enrolled at the University of Iowa as a pre-med student. His life changed forever, however, when he attended a drawing exhibition at the University. The exhibit included works by master artists such as Matisse and Picasso, and inspired, Rod began to draw. Soon he was enrolled in an art class. Art challenged Rod, and this intrigued him. Before long he was a full-time art student.

The Briggs celebrate their 50th anniversary this year.

After graduating from the UI, the newlyweds moved to Savannah, Georgia. They worked hard and saved and soon entered graduate school at the University of Georgia, where Rod earned an MFA and Lois an MAE (Masters of Art Education). Lois landed a job in Long Beach, California, and they moved west to teach junior high and high school art for many years. Throughout this time, Rod continued to work as a professional artist. His work is part of many prestigious collections including that of the Levitt Center for University Advancement at the University of Iowa (see “Notes”).

In California, Rod and Lois’ thrifty nature enabled them to save enough money to buy real estate in Seal Beach and Long Beach. Smart investment of the proceeds from those properties has provided for a good retirement. In 1989, they decided to give something back to the University of Iowa. Rod notes that “it was the most thrilling part of our lives. The University of Iowa opened doors to the whole world for us.”

In considering how best to support the University, Rod and Lois chose the Libraries. As students, they had frequented the art library, pored over literary classics in the main library, read the Spanish-language newspapers, and spent hours in the political science library. “We probably spent half our time in the main or branch libraries. As naive students of the late 1940s, we vastly enlarged the scope of our lives by taking advantage of the stacks scattered around the Iowa campus,” said Rod.

“The Libraries’ continuing efforts to expand collections in liberal arts and women's archives deserve encouragement. We are proud to lend our support in these areas and to programs that research the development of Iowa artists and writers.”

Notes:
Roderick Briggs Paintings at the Levitt Center for University Advancement
4th Floor: “Homeward Bound,” 1986
“On a Clear Winter’s Day You Can…” 1988

* Call the Levitt Center for additional information at 319-335-3305
Thinking Globally: International Collections at the UI Libraries

Sitting squarely in the middle of the United States, far from the coasts and traditional international hubs, you might not think of Iowa as a center for global studies and cultural exchange. But with students coming to Iowa from more than 100 different countries and more than 40 internationally focused academic and co-curricular programs, the UI is poised to help prepare its students to work, live and compete in a multicultural, multilingual marketplace.

The University Libraries needs to support international studies across University programs. At present, the Libraries are concentrating efforts to develop those collections with an emphasis on African, East Asian, East European, Latin American and South Asian cultures. In each of these areas, there is the potential to create excellence in coordination with strengths in academic programs. The link between global studies and a number of professional programs such as Business, Medicine and Public Health offers special opportunities to develop exceptional collections and services. For example, the business librarian and the Latin American specialist might obtain economic information, both digital and print, to help students who are learning how to conduct business in Argentina or Mexico. Or the Chinese Studies librarian might be asked by faculty to acquire rare documentation of democratic movements in the Peoples Republic of China.

The following descriptions highlight some unique aspects of these collections while stressing specific needs.
The Africana Collection is in heavy use through programs such as the African Studies Program and African Language Instruction, as well as by faculty and students in a variety of other academic disciplines from history and art to law.

The collection is particularly strong in the areas of African arts and literature. The Libraries purchase government documents from different African countries, and two Foreign Periodicals Program grants received in the early 1990s greatly strengthened journal holdings for African materials in the social sciences and health sciences. These collections are enhanced by electronic resources such as the Center for Electronic Resources in African Studies (CERAS) and the Electronic Journal of Africana Bibliography (EJAB), both of which are published by the UI Libraries. Additionally, the UI Libraries participates in the Cooperative Africana Microform Project (CAMP) run by the Center for Research Libraries (CRL).

In addition to purchases and grants, the collection is also enriched by gifts such as the Warren Collection. Compiled by the late Dennis Michael Warren, a leading Africanist scholar at Iowa State University, the collection was donated to the UI Libraries in 1998. The collection focuses on indigenous knowledge and rural development with a special emphasis on art, customs and traditional healing in Ghana and Nigeria.

The Chinese Studies Collection contains more than 120,000 volumes in Chinese (77,000) and other languages and more than 300 current Chinese journals, covering the major disciplines in the humanities and social sciences. It is the only Chinese resource center in Iowa.

The collection has its strength in classical Chinese literature, history, and religion. Additionally, there are several unique collections at the University of Iowa that serve as national Chinese resources. The Chinese medical journal collection includes more than 300 core Chinese medical journal titles. A collection of Chinese Writers in Iowa comprises more than 1,500 volumes of literary books and manuscripts from 83 prominent Chinese writers who attended the UI International Writing Program. The Chinese Film Collection holdings include more than 250 movies, with an emphasis on films from 1920-1950.

The Collection needs support for staffing, additional space and funds to keep it vital and relevant. There is an urgent need for a professional cataloger to assist the bibliographer and his assistant with processing so that materials are accessible to students, faculty and researchers. Additionally, the collection’s current location is filled nearly to capacity, leaving little room for growth. There is interest in establishing an East Asian library (that would include the Japanese and other Asian collections), a project which has been estimated at nearly $250,000.
literature. Fast-forwarding a few centuries, the recent acquisition of the Latin American Database (LADB) helps students keep up with current affairs. LADB is the first Internet-based news service in English about Latin America, with a searchable archive of more than 24,000 articles going back to 1986. Its professional journalists produce three weekly electronic news bulletins about Mexico, Central America, the Caribbean (including Cuba) and South America.

The Japanese Language Collection is strongest in the humanities (especially history, literature, and religion), which reflects the history of Japanese studies at Iowa. Some of the special interest areas in the collection include books and other materials on Japanese film, language and paper-making. The Japanese Film Collection contains contemporary journals, reprints of pre-war and postwar film magazines, film posters, reference books and other print resources. Iowa has a strong film studies program, and the study of Japanese film is an important component. To complement print materials on this subject, there is a need to acquire a much broader range of contemporary Japanese films.

The Japanese Language collections comprise texts, cassette tapes, and books on both the theoretical and practical aspects of teaching Japanese as a foreign language and resources for Japanese language instructors. The papermaking materials include samples of Japanese paper or “washi.” Because of the interest in this topic through the UI Center for the Book, this area will be supplemented, and the Japanese bibliographer has made trips to meet with publishers and papermaking experts in Japan.

A new resource that just became available is the Gordon W. Prange Magazine Collection. Prange was an Iowa native and earned his Ph.D. at the UI. He served during the Japanese Occupation as the director of the military historical section under General Douglas MacArthur. When he returned to the University of Maryland to teach, he arranged the transfer of documents in the Civil Censorship Detachment, which amounted to most of the publishing output (books, magazines, and newspapers) of Japan during the Occupation period. All of the magazines in the collection are now available on microfiche, but the cost of even subsets of this resource are extremely expensive at $80,000 - $100,000.
The Slavic Collection at the University of Iowa Libraries developed alongside and in support of the Department of Russian and Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies (REEES) program. Throughout the 1940s, courses in Russian language and literature, Russian and Soviet history, and government and foreign relations were offered. The Department of Russian was established in the 1960s. The Center for International and Comparative Studies, of which Soviet and East European area studies is a component, was formally recognized in 1984.

After the breakup of the former Soviet Union and major changes in Eastern Europe in 1991, materials in other vernacular languages besides Russian have been included, although these collections are still quite modest. The REEES collection at the UI Libraries is estimated as 145,000 volumes. The collection remains predominantly print—books, journals, and newspapers—although it includes significant holdings in microform and a growing set of resources in electronic format. In addition, the UI Libraries’ Russian and East European film and video collection has grown during the last five years, including films from the newly independent Central European countries.

The UI Libraries’ Slavic collection—although still modest—has grown in the past years to reflect the teaching and research needs of an expanding program and active faculty and students.

The South Asian Collection includes books and journals, government publications and electronic resources. The Libraries participates in several Library of Congress Cooperative Acquisitions Programs, including the extensive South Asian program, which brings most of our material from India, Pakistan, Nepal and other South Asian countries. The Libraries’ membership in the Center for Research Libraries (CRL), which contains extensive area studies collections, broadens the resource base available to Iowa faculty and students. The UI Libraries is an active participant in the CRL South Asian Microform Project (SAMP) and is an active member of the Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC) South Asian Library Project. CIC has initiated several projects including the electronic Hindi-English dictionary project.

If you would like to help support international collections, contact Deborah Dreusicke, Director of Development for the University of Iowa Libraries, at the University of Iowa Foundation, Levitt Center for University Advancement, One West Park Road, P.O. Box 4550, Iowa City, Iowa 52244-4550. U.S.A., call 319.335.3305, or email deborah-dreusicke@uiowa.edu.

If you would like more information about the Libraries’ International Collections, please contact the following library specialists:

Jim Cheng, Chinese Studies Bibliographer, 319.335.5803
jim-cheng@uiowa.edu

Ellen Hammond, Japanese Studies Bibliographer, 319.335.5030
ellen-hammond@uiowa.edu

Jim Julich, Latin American Studies Bibliographer, (on leave through Spring, contact Afeworki Paulos in the interim)
afeworki-paulos@uiowa.edu

Eeva Nikkanen-Hoch, Slavic Collections Librarian, 319.335.3077
eeva-hoch@uiowa.edu

Web Sites:
Center for Electronic Resources in African Studies: http://sdrc.lib.uiowa.edu/ceras/

Electronic Journal of Africana Bibliography
http://sdrc.lib.uiowa.edu/ ejab/

Chinese Collections Web Page
http://uiowa.lib.ui.edu/eac/chinese.html

Japanese Collections Web Page
http://www.lib.uiowa.edu/eac/japan/index.html
At the Speed of Light
Graduate students in the Information Arcade and the Information Commons

What is not a classroom but contains a classroom and provides graduate students from a variety of disciplines with job opportunities and hands-on training in multimedia technology? There are two such places, actually—the Information Arcade located in the Main Library and the Information Commons at the Hardin Library for Health Sciences. Both are state-of-the-art electronic facilities with student work areas, multimedia stations for independent learning and consults, and electronic classrooms (the Arcade has one, the Commons, two).

The University Libraries has offered assistantships of this kind to graduate students since 1992. This hands-on experience can give students an advantage in the job market after graduation. The Libraries also benefit. Graduate Assistants (GAs) enable the Libraries to expand services. Drawing from their expertise in instructional design, multimedia, and academic research across the humanities and social sciences, GAs work with individuals and departments to integrate technology into their scholarly and educational work.

Former GAs currently fill positions as teachers and technology specialists in universities and private businesses across the US and the world. The following accounts offer some insight into the effectiveness of these assistantships in career-building and the contributions GAs make to the academic community.

Kelly McLaughlin is a current graduate student working on a Ph.D. in the American Studies program. McLaughlin studies 20th century art and aesthetics and the history of the body. She completed post-baccalaureate work at the University of Kentucky in Women’s Studies and Feminist Theory before beginning her study at the University of Iowa.

As a Graduate Assistant in the Information Arcade, McLaughlin provides software and hardware maintenance for both PC and MAC multimedia stations and individual consultations to Arcade patrons. She also helps plan and teach the Campus Web Clinics, short seminars that focus on different aspects of web design such as how to create animations or how to optimize images for the web. Some of the special projects McLaughlin has worked on include web page design for the Libraries and other

University departments, and writing and editing a series of educational handouts on Arcade programs and software applications.

McLaughlin’s long-term goals involve finding ways to integrate technology with both traditional and non-traditional teaching environments. Currently, she is working on a web-based project that exposes stereotyped images of Appalachian artists and offers a more accurate viewpoint. As a native of Kentucky, McLaughlin is sensitive to these misperceptions and hopes to foster a greater appreciation for the history and heritage of this distinctive culture. The site will include informative and art historical research and an e-commerce component that will give artists the opportunity to sell and promote their work.

Mat Lebowitz works as a multimedia designer in New York City where he helps create the look and functionality of e-commerce web sites and writes html, dhtml and java script coding. Although Lebowitz was a GA at the Information Commons for only a short 18 months, the experience has proved essential.
Lebowitz, who earned an MFA in creative writing from the UI Writer’s Workshop, was drawn to the Commons as a means to develop marketable skills so that he could support himself and his young family while continuing to pursue a career as a fiction writer. He says that his assistantship at the Commons provided training for work in what is probably the single-largest growth industry in the United States, if not the world. As a young writer, “It is nearly impossible to make a living or even a wage from writing fiction. Not so with new media. So while my experience at the Commons was very separate from my educational experience, in some ways I consider it the most valuable part of my time at the University of Iowa,” Lebowitz said.

As a GA, Lebowitz created an interactive multimedia presentation that was shown at the ‘Health Care in the Year 2000’ symposium. US Surgeon General David Sacher was a guest speaker at the conference. The purpose of the interactive presentation was to help promote the Department of Public Health as it transitioned into the College of Public Health. Lebowitz had full creative control of the aesthetic look and functionality of the project. Later, a free-running version was burned onto CD format for easy promotional distribution.

Marilyn Dispensa had been working at Cornell University as a research assistant in microbiology when her research team moved to the UI to work at the Bowen Science Building. Shortly after the move, Dispensa decided to return to school and earn a graduate degree in Instructional Design and Technology through the UI College of Education. Instructional Design and Technology focuses on the art of good instruction and the development of assessment measurements. Dispensa was particularly interested in computer-assisted instruction geared towards interactivity.

At first she was earning her degree one course at a time. When an opening for a graduate assistant became available at the Information Commons, she jumped at the chance to work in an environment that would enable her to pursue her interests in science and multi-media while gaining experience in faculty support and teaching.

For her master’s thesis, Dispensa helped develop an interactive, computer-based tutorial of the anatomy of the human skull. The project was a collaborative partnership between the Information Commons and faculty member Jerald Moon, Ph.D., from the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology. The Bones of the Skull: A 3-D Learning Tool utilizes a collection of QuickTime VR (virtual reality) object movies of the skull and its individual bones. Students are able to rotate the bones and view them from multiple perspectives. Dispensa received the 1999 Sandoz/Slice of Life Student Software Development Award for her work on this project. Additional information is available at http://www.lib.uiowa.edu/commons/skullvr/index.html.

Since graduating in December 1998, Dispensa has worked as a programming specialist with the University of Iowa Information and Technology Services (ITS) Academic Technologies. In this position, she acts as a consultant providing the academic community support in the uses of technology. “My work at the Information Commons led directly to this position,” said Dispensa.

The Libraries is seeking additional support to increase funding for graduate assistant opportunities. For more information on how you can contribute or become involved, contact Deborah Dreusicke, Director of Development for the UI Libraries, 319-335-3305, deborah-dreusicke@uiowa.edu. For more about the Information Arcade, call 319-335-6465 or visit the Arcade Web Page, http://www.lib.uiowa.edu/arcade/. To learn more about the Information Commons, call Jim Duncan at 319-335-6928 or visit the Commons Web Page, http://www.lib.uiowa.edu/commons/.

Above: Vertamae Grosvenor (left) and Doris Witt (right) during the book signing. Right: Wes Phillips and Alexandre Lunsqui, graduate students in the UI School of Music, jazz studies, played during the reception.

The 2000 Friends Dinner Event was a resounding success. Guests were treated to live jazz music at the pre-dinner reception played by Alexandre Lunsqui and Wes Phillips, two graduate students in the UI School of Music, while featured speaker Vertamae Grosvenor and UI Professor Doris Witt signed books and visited with guests. Grosvenor is the author of several cookbooks that explore the influence of Africa on American cuisine, and Witt has published a book on African-American culture and food. The dinner menu was based on Grosvenor’s books. Grosvenor spoke to a captivated audience about her travels, research and work on Public Television and Public Radio.
**Special Events**

**ADVANCE NOTICE:**
**FRIENDS DINNER 2001**
Guest speakers: Susan Taylor Chehak and Tom Chehak
**Friday, May 4, 2001**
Watch your mailbox for more details

Susan Taylor Chehak and Tom Chehak are UI Alumni and native Iowans who both grew up in Cedar Rapids. Susan, who earned an MFA from the University of Iowa Writer's Workshop, is the author of five novels, including *Smithereens* (a Hammett Award nominee), *The Story of Annie D.* (an Edgar Award nominee), *Harmony* (a Literary Guild Editor's Choice), and most recently, *Rampage*. Taylor Chehak is hailed as a “master of the Midwestern gothic.” “I think I may have the distinction of being the only graduate of the Writer’s Workshop who grew up in Iowa and continues to publish fiction set in and about Iowa!” she says.

Tom Chehak graduated from the UI with a BA in Communications and Theater as a film/video production major. For his first Hollywood job, he was offered $115 a week to act as a gofer for several shows, including the Mary Tyler Moore show produced on the MGM lot. This gave him access to the MGM vault. He learned to write for TV by reading scripts in the company of props like “sleeping Lassie,” stuffed dogs used in place of live talent when the script didn’t require the dog to move.

Since that time, Tom has worked as a staff writer on “WKRP in Cincinnati” and has written episodes for the “Tony Randall Show” and the “Mary Tyler Moore Show.” He is currently an Executive Director for “Diagnosis Murder,” which airs on CBS and stars Dick Van Dyke.

The Chehaks live and work in Los Angeles, where Susan teaches fiction writing at The University of Southern California and UCLA Extension.

**Exhibitions**

**The Fifties: From Atomic Power to American Pie**
October 2000 - January 2001
North Exhibition Hall, Main Library

This exhibit explores the politics, culture, and social life of the 1950s, highlighting the incongruities between the stereotypes and realities of life at mid-century. This exhibit complements “Point of No Return: 1950, The Cold War, and the Twentieth Century,” a series of symposia sponsored by the University of Iowa, Truman State University, and the Hoover Presidential Library.

**The InfoHawk is Here!**
On September 7 a special reception was held in the North Exhibit Hall of the Main Library to celebrate the changeover from OASIS to InfoHawk, the UI Libraries' and Law Library's new online catalog and information system.

Present to welcome the newest hawk at the UI were Provost Jon Whitmore, University Librarian Nancy L. Baker, executive and administrative staff, students, faculty and the University of Iowa's other hawk (our team mascot, of course).

The InfoHawk provides improved accessibility and is more user-friendly than the OASIS system, which was first designed in 1970 and is no longer supported by its software developer. The new system is web-based and features a graphic interface.

InfoHawk URL: [http://infohawk.uiowa.edu](http://infohawk.uiowa.edu)
University of Iowa alumnus Nicholas Meyer (1964), who became well-known as a Hollywood movie director and screenplay writer of blockbuster hits such as *The Seven-Per-Cent Solution*, *Time After Time* and *Star Trek II*, has donated more of his personal papers to the Libraries’ Special Collections Department. Contained in the 12 boxes are screenplays from *Star Trek VI: The Undiscovered Country*, 1991, *Vendetta*, a 1998 Home Box Office movie, storyboards from various films, and movie set pictures of some of film’s most recognizable actors. Meyer’s recent donation to Special Collections follows several others made in 1984 and later.

The Meyer collection is significant because it enables aspiring screenplay writers, movie buffs and the general public to read materials that describe how movies are developed and produced. Other items in the current gift include market research memoranda illustrating how audience opinions influence film production and character development.