

BiblioTech

A Publication of the Gumberg Library



April 2001

“*In a world of information overload, librarians are information navigators - clearing a path, pointing you toward the information you need.*”

Campaign for America's Libraries

As you know, today's libraries are places of learning, innovation and opportunity but they also face many challenges. The Campaign for America's Libraries is a response to these challenges. This is a five-year commitment, sponsored by the American Library Association, to speak loudly and clearly about the value of libraries and librarians to our communities, schools, academic institutions, and businesses, as well as to our society, democracy and the new digital age. The campaign is designed to increase awareness about the vibrancy, vitality and real value of today's libraries, to galvanize public support and influence public policy.

One of the challenges the campaign faces is the diversity of audiences to which it must speak. The Campaign for American Libraries will educate consumers that libraries are dynamic, modern community centers for learning, information and entertainment.

National Library Week

The dates for National Library Week this year are April 1-7 and the theme is **@your library**. As part of the Gumberg Library's National Library Week celebration and in conjunction with The Campaign for American Libraries, we would like to invite the Duquesne community to participate in the variety of activities planned for the week. On Tuesday, April 3, from 12-2 PM, our guest speakers will be Ms. Rebecca Carpenter and Ms. Sue Evans from the Greater Pittsburgh Literacy Council. Wednesday's event will be story time held from 10:30 - 11:30 AM in the new Maureen Sullivan Curriculum Center for the daycare children on campus and for anyone who is young at heart. For our last event, Dr. John Lech, Director of Duquesne University's Browett Pharmaceutical Information Center, will discuss drug information for consumers on Thursday, April 5, from 12:30-1:30 PM. For additional details about the events go to <<http://www.library.duq.edu>>.

We look forward to seeing you **@your library** and hope that you will join us as we celebrate and show our appreciation for the many contributions made by all types of libraries and librarians.

“*In a world where knowledge is power, libraries open doors to knowledge and bring power to any who enter.*”

While the campaign is national in scope, the “riches” that will bring the campaign to life and make it even more relevant to users are the “real life” stories and programs illustrating how libraries and librarians positively impact each and every individual's personal life.

“*Today's library technology means that information from around the world is just a few clicks away. Miles are meaningless.*”

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The Simon Silverman Phenomenology Center

By Paul Demilio, University Archivist

The Gumberg Library has many valuable collections that provide researchers with a wealth of information on a number of topics. One such collection, known worldwide by scholars and students, could be considered the crown jewel of them all. The Simon Silverman Phenomenology Center, popularly known as the “Phenom Center,” is home to the most comprehensive collection of phenomenological literature anywhere in the world. The Center was opened in 1980 and is located on the 1st floor of the Library in the Special Collections area. Many visitors to the Library frequently ask the question, “What is phenomenology?” – often times mispronouncing it. Although difficult to define, one of its better known ties is with humanistic psychology. This is an approach seeking to understand the human as human, versus the imposition of any categories that reduce the human to the aspect it presents for some foreign, objective or natural scientific approach. Phenomenology, as the Silverman Center envisions it, would then without a doubt extend to humanistic psychology.

Duquesne’s ties to phenomenology began as early as 1950 when Fr. Henry Koren, C.S.Sp., Chairman of the Philosophy Department at the time, sought to broaden the horizons of faculty and students by inviting many European speakers to Duquesne who were phenomenologists. Koren was a Thomist but became committed to phenomenology. Fr. Adrian Van Kaam, C.S.Sp., another phenomenologist became part of the Psychology Department at the time and together the two Holy Ghost Fathers promoted and developed phenomenological theory and research at Duquesne.

Over the years, Duquesne University has become synonymous with phenomenology in North America and the Center is dedicated to the promotion of phenomenology. It carries out this mission through the comprehensive acquisition of books and other material relating to the discipline. Because the Philosophy and Psychology Departments at Duquesne share a tradition of work in phenomenology, the Silverman Center does not limit its collection to phenomenological philosophy, but attempts to be equally comprehensive in phenomenological psychology.

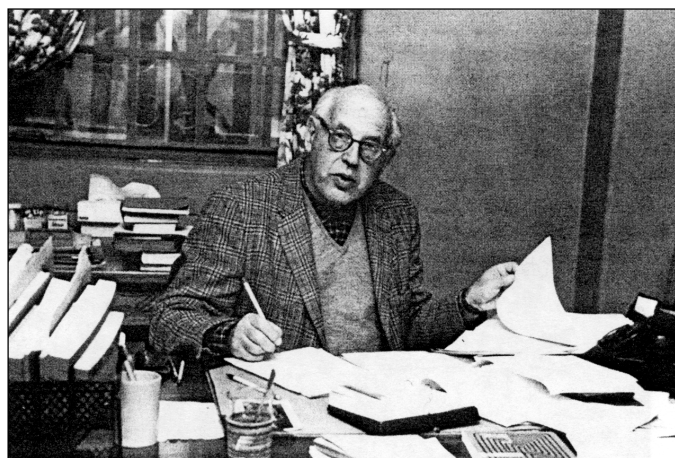


Photo courtesy of Simon Silverman Phenomenology Center, Duquesne University

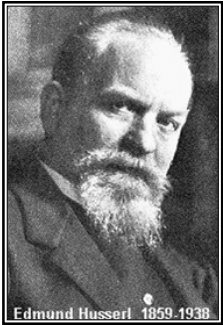
Erwin Walter Maximilian Straus in his office in Lexington, Kentucky

The beginnings of the Center began upon the occasion of the death of celebrated psychiatrist Edwin Straus in 1976. Straus had close ties to Duquesne and his death was a profound loss to the University. Professor Amedeo Giorgi of the Psychology Department approached Fr. Edward Murray, C.S.Sp., Academic Vice President and former chair of the Psychology Department, about the possibility of establishing a library memorial to Straus. The two approached Straus’ widow about the possibility and she agreed to donate his entire library to Duquesne University, thus formally establishing the Straus Memorial. It was at this time that Dr. Paul Pugliese, University Librarian, suggested acquiring additional collections and developing a live center for the documentation and study of phenomenology. With the help of others, work was begun to make the dream a reality. John Dowds, then Director of the University Press, approached Mr. Simon Silverman, President of Humanities Press, about the project and Silverman proved to be the single most generous private benefactor to the establishment of the Center. Because of his support, the Center was named in his honor. In addition to Silverman’s contributions, additional funding was secured, resulting in a second important acquisition in 1980, the library of the late Aron Gurwitsch. This event helped launch the opening of the Center.

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The Center continued to grow over the years through the purchase of books and the donations of personal libraries of retired or deceased scholars in phenomenology. These personal libraries are represented in numerous alcoves and are kept intact in the Center. The Center also has a number of special holdings such as the Husserl Archives. In fact, the Silverman Center is an official branch of the Husserl Archives of the Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium. The unpublished transcribed papers of Husserl are available for consultation at the Center.

The Center actively collects books and journals, including offprints, out of print books, dissertations, unpublished papers, unpublished correspondence, and unpublished English translations. It attempts to obtain every book published on phenomenology in every language. The responsibility of identifying relevant materials rests with the Executive Director of the Center, Fr. David L. Smith, C.S.Sp., Ph.D. The Center currently houses about 20,000 volumes.

The Center was never meant to be merely a dead repository of books and materials, but rather a "Live" Center. It actively promotes the advancement of phenomenology by sponsoring original scholarship. One of these "live" functions is an annual symposium, begun in 1983. This conference is held in the early part of March and brings together four scholars for two days to present papers and debate a specific issue in phenomenology. The Symposium is always free and open to the public. The Center also publishes the talks of the symposia and these are available at the Center. Additionally, the Phenom Center sponsors the André Schuwer Lecture, which is part of the proceedings of the annual meeting of SPEP (Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy).

Duquesne University and the Gumberg Library are fortunate to be home to the Simon Silverman Phenomenology Center. The Center has proven to be a valuable asset to those involved in the study of phenomenology and is recognized worldwide as one of the most comprehensive collections of its kind.

INFORMATION

information

The Simon Silverman
Phenomenology Center
is open from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Monday – Friday.

For more information contact:

Fr. David L. Smith, C.S.Sp., Ph.D.

Executive Director

The Simon Silverman Phenomenology Center

Duquesne University, Gumberg Library

Pittsburgh, PA 15282

Phone: 412-396-6038 • Fax: 412-396-1658

<http://www.library.duq.edu/collections/silver2.htm>

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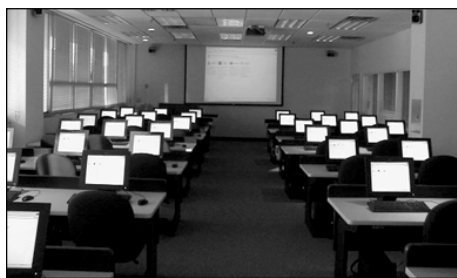
Technology at the Gumberg Library

By Bruno J. Mastroianni, Director of Information Technology

Over the past year the Gumberg Library has continued to make significant improvements to its technology infrastructure. Recent upgrades – including new computers in the public access areas, a new Library homepage, and continued improvements to remote access – have allowed us to continue to make access seamless to researchers in the Library, on campus, and at a distance. The Library Web server has seen over 2 million hits in the past year. Thousands of Duquesne researchers, both on and off campus, have utilized the Library's more than 100 research databases, 2,500 electronic journals, magazines, and newspapers, and 2,000 electronic books. This combination of extremely high use and widely varied resources requires the Library to continuously improve access to its electronic collections.

Library Upgrades Workstations

Since 1996 the Gumberg Library has been leasing desktop computers in the public access areas, enabling the Library to continuously provide access to current technologies. This year, 41 new student stations and an instructor station were leased and installed in the Electronic Classroom.



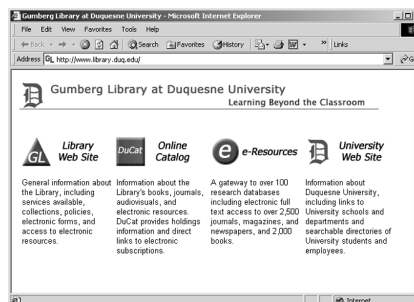
The computers from the classroom were moved to the public access area and some staff offices. The newly leased computers are IBM NetVista

A40 workstations with 833 Mhz Pentium III processors, 256 MB of RAM, 18 GB hard drives and 15 inch flat panel monitors. These systems were selected for performance as well as their small "footprints." Flat panel monitors provide increased desktop space giving students more room for notebooks and papers.

The Library also upgraded the operating system on all computers to Windows 2000, the newest environment available. This upgrade also provides new management tools that allow for remote distribution of software, thus, increasing IT staff efficiency.

Library Upgrades Homepage

In August 2000 the Gumberg Library made its first significant changes to the Library website since its inception. In February 2001 the Library made it easier to access the most heavily used sections of its website – e-Resources and DuCat. This new interface allows direct access to e-Resources, DuCat, the Library informational website, and the University homepage. With over 2 million hits to its Web server in twelve months, the Library will continue to monitor the site and make improvements. Visit us today at <<http://www.library.duq.edu>> to see the changes.



Remote Access Continues to Improve

With the proliferation of databases on the Web and improved access to these resources both on and off campus, the Library continues to migrate to Web-based databases. The authentication method implemented last February provides seamless access to databases regardless of location or Internet Service Provider. This improved access led to the elimination of PASS database access on February 15, 2001. This change only affected six of the more than 100 databases now available. However, these six databases will continue to be available to users in the Library.

Conclusion

Over the last year we have been able to significantly improve access to DuCat and e-Resources. We expect to see continual changes in technology, which will allow the Library to provide better access to Duquesne researchers. Planned enhancements to the systems in 2001 include: improving DuCat, adding a common interface to additional databases, offering transparent access to users behind firewalls, and further updating the website.

Hildegard of Bingen: Renaissance Woman of the Middle Ages

By Martin Sivitz, Overdues Assistant



The phrase “ahead of one’s time” is a rare historical compliment; Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1179), German abbess and mystic, wears it well, both as a woman and a person. And her reputation continues to grow as the mysticism of her music, poetry, drama, and treatises on the natural sciences speaks to many over the centuries.

She was born in Bemsersheim and as the tenth child of noble parents, was eligible to become a “tithe”. Thus, her parents gave her to the Catholic Church as was the custom. They sent her to an anchoress in the Benedictine monastery of Disibodenberg in 1106. She attained the duties of abbess in 1136. The monastery grew and she moved it to Bingen in 1150. As a child in the monastery, she participated in the liturgy several times a day. The simple monodic (single melodic line) plainchants of the liturgy, so stark and yet so otherworldly, infused Hildegard with musical intuition even though she had no formal knowledge of music.

Hildegard became a prolific composer of lyrical poetry, composing 77 poems set to music, which have endured to this day. In fact her motifs for these pieces show greater sophistication than her contemporaries. More ornamentation, wider leaps in intervals, and more melodic variation enhanced the music’s expressiveness though harmony was virtually non-existent. She also composed a morality play with 82 melodies, “Ordo Virtutum.”



Still more remarkable were her far-reaching interests encompassing natural science and statesmanship. Because of her visions, beginning at an early age, she kept company with popes and kings who sought her counsel. She wrote a series of 26 revelations. Her writings even include affirmations of sexuality, unusual for the time. Her views on science and medicine emphasize the delicate balance between the environment and the human body and she wrote two works on the natural history of medicine.

Though never actually canonized, she has been beatified and is called Blessed Hildegard.

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Hildegard of Bingen Discography

The following recordings are available at the Gumberg Library

- Canticles of Ecstasy (CD-1013)
- Celestial Light (CD-1052)
- Early Music (CD-1068—two copies)
- 11,000 Virgins: Chants for the Feast of St. Ursula (CD-1007)
- A Feather on the Breath of God: Sequences and Hymns (CD-973, also R-6059—LP format)
- Geistliche Musik des Mittelalters und der Renaissance (R-7206—LP format)
- Las Canciones de Hildegard von Bingen (CD-1533)
- Laudes de Sainte Ursule (CD-972)
- The Medieval Lady (CD-1876)
- Monk and the Abbess (CD-981)
- Music for the Mass by Nun Composers (R-2885, two copies—LP format)
- Ordo Virtutum (CD-971, vol. 1-2, Also on R-12675—LP format)
- Unfurling Love’s Creation (CD-1272)
- Voice of the Blood (CD-1019)
- Voices of Angels (CD-1016)

New Scholarship To Be Awarded

By Barbara Adams, Reference Librarian

Dependable, responsible student workers play an important part in the Library's services, both publicly and behind the scenes. Offering a scholarship especially for these students is intended to encourage their educational commitment and reward their good work at the Library. A committee of Library staff is currently working on specific requirements to be met by applicants as well as other details concerning the award.

The Gumberg Library Endowed Scholarship is an outgrowth of the Duquesne University Capital Campaign. When pledges were solicited at the beginning of the most recent Capital Campaign in 1995, a core of contributors within the Library designated their contributions for the Scholarship. As of July 2000, the accumulated contributions had reached the required level to become a University endowment fund and the dream of a Gumberg Library Endowed Scholarship took another step toward becoming a reality. The Scholarship will be offered for the first time in the coming academic year.

Additional contributions to the Scholarship fund are welcome from anyone, at any time, and may be made by contacting Mary Ellen Kristofik of University Relations, 412-396-6040. For more information about the Scholarship, contact Diana Sasso, Director, Information Services Division, 412-396-5680.

Student Employment Opportunity

The Library is one of the largest employers of students on campus. Students have the opportunity to work days, evenings, and weekends during the Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters. The Library provides students with employment in all departments including Information Technology, Circulation, Periodicals, Cataloging, Acquisitions and Reference – depending on current vacancies. A limited number of part-time positions are available to students not eligible for work-study positions. Qualified students with work-study clearance should apply at Human Resources.

Student Assistants

Since this is the last newsletter issue of the year we would like to commend our student employees for all their hard work this past year. We appreciate their many efforts to provide service to Library users and to assist staff in their job duties. On behalf of the entire Library staff, the Newsletter Committee would like to congratulate the graduating seniors and wish them all the best in their future endeavors.



Summer Policies

The spring semester is almost over and summer is just around the corner. During the summer, Library hours will vary and policies for borrowing materials may change.

Make sure to check with the Circulation staff or at the Reference Desk to make sure you have the correct information.

Have a great summer and we will see you in the fall!

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Upcoming Events for the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures

Friday, April 6, 2001

Friday, April 6, 2001 – 1:00 pm
Duquesne University School of Law

*“Organ Transplantation:
Medical, Legal and Ethical Implications”*

Keynote Speakers:

The Most Reverend Anthony G. Bosco, J.C.L., D.D.,
Bishop of Greensburg

Ignazio R. Marino, M.D., F.A.C.S.,
Professor of Surgery, The University of Pittsburgh
Director, European Medical Division,
UPMC Health System

Sponsors:

National Italian American Foundation (NIAF),
Honorary Consulate of Italy – Pittsburgh,
International Consortium for International Studies (ICIS),
Duquesne University School of Law,
Duquesne University Department of Modern Languages
and Literatures.

Tuesday, April 24, 2001

Tuesday, April 24, 2001 – 1:00 pm
28th Annual Western Pennsylvania Symposium
on World Literatures (WPSWL) – Duquesne University

*“Mysticism and Spirituality:
From St. Augustine to Padre Pio”*

Sponsor:

WPSWL, a consortium of fifteen colleges and universities
in Western Pennsylvania

*For further questions on any of the above events,
call the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures at
Duquesne University: 412-396-6415.*