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THE NEWSLETTER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES

Friends of the Libraries Reconvenes

The Friends of the University of Miami Libraries was founded in 1960 by University of Miami alumni and community leaders. At that time the group was described in *The Carrell*, the organization's original publication, as "an association of book-loving people

Friends of the past: Former University of Miami art professor Richard L. Merrick's work often graced the cover of *The Carrell*, the original publication of the Friends of the University of Miami Library. This wood engraving of his wife, Mildred, studying in one of the Otto G. Richter Library's carrells was described as being "in further defiance of the tradition that carrells are devoted exclusively to monkish contemplation" since he "peopled his modern carrell with a woman scholar." Mrs. Merrick, a well-respected reference librarian fondly remembered by UM alumni for her interest in the arts, served as head of the Reference Department for many years.

organized to increase the general interest in and knowledge of the Library of the University of Miami; to present lectures; to hold exhibitions and to sponsor publications; to add special materials for scholarly research to the Library's collections; to assist the work of the Library in its relation to every department of the University and to carry to the whole community the great tradition and ennobling force of letters."

True to this mission, today's Friends of the Libraries is committed to the same objectives and offers support for scholarship, creativity, and innovative learning across the University. Though the Libraries now offer a wide array of Web-based international information resources, the traditional role of assembling quality collections of print materials that enrich the scholarly enterprise remains vital.

Membership in the Friends provides an opportunity to help the Libraries continue their success in ensuring the University of Miami maintains its position as one of the nation's premier research institutions.

For information on the Friends of the Libraries, call 305-284-4026.

Inaugural Event Features Famed Author Ernest Gaines

The University of Miami celebrated the renaissance of the Friends of the Libraries in June at an inaugural event, "A Conversation with Ernest Gaines," which was hosted by Arva Moore Parks and Nancy Davis, cochairs of the Libraries' component of the *Momentum* campaign, and sponsored by The Biltmore Hotel, whose generous support has made the 2005-2006 Friends season possible.

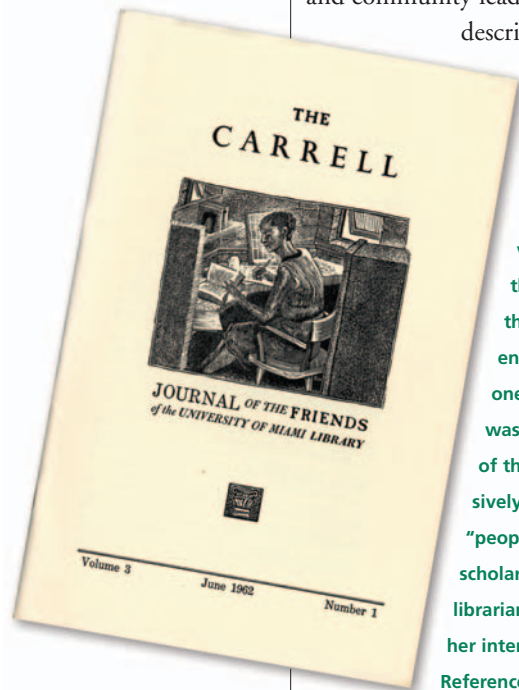
The event featured Ernest Gaines, the award-winning author of famed best-sellers, including *A Gathering of Old*



Literary giant: Celebrated author Ernest Gaines signs a book at the Friends of the Libraries inaugural event.

Men, The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman, Catherine Carmier, and A Lesson Before Dying. His books have been translated into 12 foreign languages and four have been made into films.

As Gaines told his stories, he focused on how libraries had contributed to the development and refinement of his craft and, by extension, of himself as a human being. The audience gained an appreciation of how a gifted writer thinks and works as he creates a world both unique and common to the human experience.



Ruthven Leading Digital Library Programs

Tom Ruthven, a 20-year veteran of the National Library of Australia (NLA) with extensive experience managing electronic informa-



Digital driver:
Tom Ruthven leads the growth of digital holdings and systems.

tion resources, has joined the University of Miami Libraries as director of Digital Library Programs and Systems. Ruthven previously served as executive officer for the Australian Partnership for Sustainable Repositories (apsr.edu.au), a center of excellence for the management of scholarly assets in digital form. Ruthven coordinated the agenda and organized program issues for three academic institutions, including the Australian National University, as they collaborated on creating digital images useful to academics and researchers.

"It is an exciting time to join the University of Miami, when digital work is moving from experiment to underpinning the research and learning process," Ruthven says. "The University is well placed to take advantage of digital developments, with eager

faculty, knowledgeable library staff, and interesting research areas."

Ruthven's responsibilities focus on collaborating with faculty to develop new projects that enhance teaching, learning, and research technologies. Currently, he is working on the UM Imagebase Project (see story on

"IT IS AN EXCITING TIME TO JOIN THE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI, WHEN DIGITAL WORK IS MOVING FROM EXPERIMENT TO UNDERPINNING THE RESEARCH AND LEARNING PROCESS."

page 3), implementing improvements to the Libraries' computer hardware, and redeveloping the Libraries' Web site.

From 2001 to 2004 Ruthven served as the digitization project director for the NLA. He established a full digitization program that annually processed 20,000 pictures; the NLA's digital collections can be viewed at nla.gov.au/digicoll/index.html. While project director,

Ruthven served a three-month internship at the New York Public Library where he worked with a team to develop the Digital Gallery.

Miami-Dade County Awards Grant to CHC

At the initiative of Commissioner Rebeca Sosa (District 6), Miami-Dade County allocated \$100,000 in its 2004-2005 budget to the Cuban Heritage Collection (CHC) of the University of Miami Libraries. This grant is being used to support the CHC's public programs and exhibitions, community outreach efforts, and the preservation of its collection. It made possible the presentation of

five educational programs in the spring and summer 2005 semesters and will support additional programming and exhibits in the early fall. The funding also enabled the CHC to establish an internship program, with three graduate students joining its staff for the summer. The CHC also will use the grant to redesign its Web site and host open houses at its Roberto C. Goizueta Pavilion.

Likness Appointed Director of Collection Development

The University of Miami Libraries are pleased to



Strengthening resources: Craig Likness develops the collections.

announce the appointment of Craig Likness to the position of director of Collection Development. Likness's responsibilities as director include developing a library collection that serves the research needs and instructional goals of the University community, and articulating the values

and objectives of the University Libraries' information resource management philosophy.

"In addition to acquiring new print and electronic resources of value to library users, we want to use various methodologies to assess the quality of collections currently in place and augment those subjects that need to be enriched," Likness says. "One of the reasons students should choose UM is its library, which stands among the best in the country. At the same time, we also understand that collections carefully developed today

will have enduring value and serve future generations as well. Books do much more than furnish a room."

Formerly head of Archives and Special Collections at the Otto G. Richter Library, Likness has been with the University for five years. Previously, Likness served at Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas, as humanities librarian, then acquired the responsibilities of head bibliographer, and for nine years also assumed the role of assistant library director for Public Services and Collections.

Digitally Enhancing the Curriculum: UM Imagebase Project

Traditionally, students in architecture and art history study static images of buildings and artwork from slides or photographs in books. As of this fall, a high-resolution image archive, made available by the University of Miami Libraries, is bringing a new dimension to the teaching and study of art history and architecture through the delivery of interactive images on the Web. A \$1.5 million gift from an anonymous donor made it possible to develop the archive, a project spearheaded by digital libraries program staff in consultation with faculty in the School of Architecture and the Department of Art and Art History.

One faculty member using the archive is Rebecca Brienen, assistant professor of art history. During the summer Brienen taught 17th-century Dutch art as a pilot for the UM Imagebase Project. ARTstor, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation's not-for-profit image archive, provides the platform for UM's collection. ARTstor offers a variety of viewing configurations, including examining a single image, comparing two side-by-side, or studying an image along with supplemental text. All viewing options provide zoom and panning capabilities that make it possible to see fine details in artwork.

"Students absolutely loved it,"



Brienen says. "They seem to be more engaged because of their ability to access the images online at home."

Brienen found the Imagebase to be an invaluable resource for teaching Dutch art since there is relatively little of it on display in Miami. She worked with the Libraries' staff to develop a portfolio of images.

Engaging technology:
Rebecca Brienen finds Imagebase an effective teaching tool.

Florida's Appeal Promoted in Eighteenth-Century Book

With funds donated by the Helen C. Purdy Foundation, the Libraries have acquired a classic book about Florida—William Roberts's *An Account of the First Discovery, and Natural History of Florida* (1763).

Purchased at the New York Antiquarian Book Fair, the rare copy is a significant addition to the Libraries' holdings. Established in 1990, the Purdy Foundation has long bolstered the Libraries' special collections.

Roberts's book is a general history offering descriptions of key geographical characteristics. The author never visited the region; he "collected" or com-

plied his account from available sources. His objective as an admitted polemicist was to promote settlement of Florida and support England's position in North America. The volume contains six wonderful maps by the noted mapmaker Thomas Jefferys. No book had more influence on the early English migration to and settlement of East and West Florida.

Helen C. "Mike" Purdy headed the Libraries' Special Collections Division for many years. The Florida Collection, consisting of over 20,000 volumes of Floridiana relating to the development of Florida from the 16th century to the present day, is in large part a result of her work.



Fabulous Florida:
A map of St. Augustine from Roberts's 1763 book promoting the region.

Help Ensure the Libraries' Continued Excellence

In recent years the University of Miami Libraries have introduced new facilities and programs that have significantly strengthened their pivotal role serving students and faculty. From wireless Internet access in the stacks and the acquisition of massive digital archives to the opening of the Weeks Music Library and Technology Center and the Roberto C. Goizueta Pavilion, the Libraries' development plays a critical role in the continuing advancement of the University.

The Libraries are poised for ambitious expansions. From a new grand reading room to enhanced reference and learning areas, the new Library Center will help accelerate the University's progress as a top research institution.

The continued excellence of the University Libraries depends on increased levels of giving from alumni, friends, corporations, and foundations. Donors to the Libraries have the ability to ensure academic and intellectual greatness for the entire University.

Gifts, regardless of their size, allow the University of Miami Libraries to enhance and preserve valuable collections, provide quality research assistance, and create inviting spaces for learning.

To discuss annual giving opportunities, leadership commitments, or a special project or collection, please contact the director of library development at 305-284-4026.



Now showing:
A 1775 regional map, documents from the late Congressman Dante B. Fascell, and the literary contributions of Cubans who fled in the Mariel boatlift.

Exhibition Calendar

The University of Miami Libraries are a gateway to our cultural heritage and a place where scholars and others can discover historical archives and records. The following exhibits, drawn from the Libraries' collections, will be on display through December 2005 at the Otto G. Richter Library.

LIBRARY LOBBY, First Floor

What It Means to Be An American: Immigrants in U.S. Fiction and Life-Writing

W. E. B. DuBois described African Americans in *The Souls of Black Folk* (1903) as possessed by a "double self"—those living in the new land can never completely disconnect from what was left behind. DuBois expressed it as "two souls, two thoughts, two unreconciled strivings." This tension, or duality, lies at the heart of all important American ethnic fiction and life-writing. Classic works of this genre, both new and old, by or about immigrants to the United States, are on exhibit.

Examining what it means to be an American and to live in a new world after leaving the old are works by the following authors: Zora Neale Hurston, Louise Erdrich, Ernest J. Gaines, Paule Marshall, Maxine Hong Kingston, Washington Irving, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Willa Cather, Junot Diaz, Hector St. John de Crevecoeur, Jhumpa Lahiri, Edwidge

Danticat, I. B. Singer, Lester Goran, Upton Sinclair, Anzia Yezierska, Mary Antin, O. E. Rolvaag, Diana Abu-Jaber, Susan Sontag, Nathaniel Hawthorne, and M. Evelina Galang. A bibliography of recommended readings accompanies the exhibit.

Second Floor

Mark Catesby's The Natural History of Carolina, Florida, and the Bahama Islands

In this 18th-century book, Catesby introduced readers around the world to wildlife and plants in the U.S. Southeast and Bahamas.

Dante B. Fascell and the Middle East

Letters and photographs from the late congressman focusing on the Congressional tour of the Middle East during the first Gulf War. The Libraries hold some 1,200 boxes of materials documenting Fascell's political career.

The Cultural Legacy of Mariel

This exhibit, in the Roberto C. Goizueta Pavilion of the Cuban Heritage Collection, looks at the literary and artistic contributions of Cubans who arrived in the United States through the Mariel boatlift of 1980. The Mariel generation of intellectuals and artists brought a different perspective to the Cuban exile experience, a viewpoint formulated under the Revolution and colored by the oppression they endured in Cuba. Once in the United States, these artists sought to rediscover and make their own the Cuban cultural and literary tradition that was lost to them in Cuba, identifying with writers and artists who had been excluded from the official cultural canon.

On the 25th anniversary of Mariel, we are able to see how the Mariel generation has significantly contributed to the art, literature, dance, and musical traditions of the Cuban exile community throughout the world. Works by writers Reinaldo Arenas and Roberto Valero are among those featured in this exhibition organized by the Cuban Heritage Collection. Four works on loan from the Lowe Art Museum's collection accompany the exhibit.



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