THE LIBRARY recently joined the In-Library e-Book Lending Program initiated in 2011 by the Internet Archive. Patrons of participating libraries may borrow electronic books for a limited time from a cooperative collection created primarily from digital copies of print books contributed by member libraries. The digital lending collection also includes more current electronic books that are purchased specifically for the collection. Borrowed books can be read in Web browsers on laptops or library computers as well as on e-book readers that utilize either PDF or e-Pub formats.

The digital lending collection now has over 200,000 e-books, mostly from the 20th century. The shared digital collection is built on the Open Library platform, which makes more than one million electronic books openly accessible without restriction. The
CLAIMING CITIZENSHIP EXHIBITION

Claiming Citizenship: African Americans and New Deal Photography, an exhibition curated by historian Rickie Solinger, will be on display in the Lemle Academic Commons in Mudd Center from March 12 to April 27.

Drawing on images from the Prints and Photographs Division of the Library of Congress, the exhibition illustrates how African Americans realized new freedoms and took advantage of a wide variety of economic, cultural, and recreational opportunities during President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s New Deal.

Solinger, who has published widely on topics related to women’s rights and economic justice, will deliver a talk related to the exhibition on Tuesday, April 3 at 4:30 p.m. in Moffett Auditorium, Mudd 050.

FRIENDS PROGRAM VIDEOS NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE

THE DAYS OF STRUGGLING to remember a pithy quote from a Friends of the Library faculty book talk or regret at missing a talk altogether are over. Videos of recent Friends programs are now online, beginning with those scheduled in fall 2011. Those currently available include book talks by Wendy Call ’90; Gary Kornblith, Professor of History; and T. Scott McMillin, Professor of English, as well as Mark Dimunation’s talk as featured speaker at the Friends annual dinner. The videos are linked from the Friends web site (www.oberlin.edu/library/friends/) and are also available on Vimeo, the online video sharing site that Wired magazine dubbed “the thinking person’s YouTube.”

FRIENDS COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

The following are highlights of the Friends of the Oberlin College Library Council meeting held Saturday, November 5, 2011.

The annual financial report indicated that regular membership contributions to the Friends during 2010-11 exceeded $50,000. In addition, the Friends received estate gifts totaling $195,000. The beginning fund balance for the year was $40,000 and the ending balance was $212,000. The Council approved the Acquisition Committee’s recommendations to spend $40,000 for new acquisitions for the library’s special collections and to support subjects across the curriculum (see article on page 5). The Membership Committee reported that membership in the Friends remained strong during 2011-12, with a total of 745 members.

The Council also awarded one life membership and one posthumous honorary membership in recognition of generous contributions to the library and the Friends organization. The Council

continued on page 11
The Friends of the Library awarded a posthumous honorary membership to Margaret Forsythe ’46 at its annual dinner on November 5. The organization’s highest award category, the honorary membership recognizes Forsythe’s outstanding financial support for the Oberlin College Library. In addition to her generous annual donations, she left a major bequest to the library and the Friends of the Library. Her estate gift is one of the largest received by the library in recent years.

A large portion of Forsythe’s gift will be used to fund the renovation of the Goodrich Room, the special collections reading room on the fourth level of the Main Library. The renovation, slated for completion this summer, will feature a classroom for teaching with special collections and archival materials, new furnishings, and exhibition space. The classroom, to be named in Forsythe’s honor, will provide excellent support for faculty interested in integrating the study of rare books and archival resources into their courses. A portion of Forsythe’s estate gift will also be used to purchase high-priority library materials.

For many years Forsythe was Dean of Women at Ohio Wesleyan University, where she also served as Dean for Student Development and Director of Academic Advising before retiring in 1987. Earlier in her career she held similar student personnel positions at Kent State University and the University of Cincinnati. After graduating from Oberlin she completed a certificate in business administration from the Harvard-Radcliffe School of Business, a master’s degree from Syracuse University, and a doctorate in education from Case Western Reserve University.

Photo courtesy of the Ohio Wesleyan University Historical Collection

NEW DIGITAL RESOURCES

In addition to new resources recently purchased with Friends’ support (see article on page 5), the library recently acquired the following online collections.

Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS) Daily Reports has long been recognized as the United States’ principal record of political open source intelligence. The 1941-1974 archive provides an essential complement to FBIS Daily Reports, 1974-1996, which the library has had in digital form for several years. The newly digitized materials offer perspectives on topics related to World War II and the Axis alliance, the Islamic countries of the Middle East, the creation of Israel, the establishment of the People’s Republic of China, the Berlin Wall, colonialism in Africa, apartheid, the Cold War, the Suez and Cuban Missile crises, the

continued on page 8

WILLIAM STEINMETZ IS LIFE MEMBER

THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY awarded a life membership to Wayne Steinmetz ’67 at the annual dinner on November 5. Steinmetz, Emeritus Professor of Chemistry at Pomona College, has been a generous donor to the Science Library for many years. His donations have been designated primarily to purchase books and other library materials in the field of chemistry. The library’s complete holdings of *Structure and Bonding*, a serial in physical chemistry published by Springer, are due to his contributions. In addition, he recently partnered with Scott Smith ’79 to establish a jointly endowed book fund in honor of Emeritus Professor of Chemistry Norman Craig ’53. Income from the fund will be used to acquire chemistry materials in all formats.
OBERLIN SIGNS BERLIN DECLARATION ON OPEN ACCESS

berlin College is among over 30 research universities, colleges, associations, and foundations in the United States and Canada that recently expressed their commitment to open access to research by signing the Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities. The participating institutions signed the declaration prior to the ninth Berlin Open Access Conference held November 10-11 at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute in Bethesda, Maryland.

The Berlin Declaration promotes the Internet as an effective means for disseminating scholarly knowledge in an open, unrestricted manner. Its goal is to make scientific and scholarly research more accessible to the broader public through the use of digital technologies. Signatories to the declaration support actions that further the development of open access to their research outputs. Among other actions, these institutions encourage their researchers and grant recipients to publish their works according to the principles of open access. Open access ensures free, unrestricted access to research information while giving users significant rights to reuse the results of their research as widely as possible. That principled commitment is an expression of the view that open access to scholarship is an important step for the advancement of knowledge, helping to overcome barriers that restrict, rather than encourage, the sharing of ideas and engagement in discourse.

“The faculty of Oberlin College have made a commitment to disseminating the results of their research as widely as possible. That principled commitment is an expression of the view that open access to scholarship is an important step for the advancement of knowledge, helping to overcome barriers that restrict, rather than encourage, the sharing of ideas and engagement in discourse.”

–Sean Decatur,
Dean of College of Arts and Sciences

FRIENDS RESEARCH AWARDS

THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY Research Awards Committee selected two papers from among nine outstanding submissions this year. The winners were Benjamin Jakubowski ’11, and Thomas Vozar ’13.

Jakubowski’s paper, “Controversies in ‘-omics’ Diagnostics Development,” was written for Bioanalytical Chemistry, taught by Rebecca Whelan, Associate Professor of Chemistry. The paper focused on approaches for assessing disease diagnostic techniques. Wheland described Jakubowski’s work as follows: “Among many thoughtful, thorough, and comprehensive research papers produced by members of this seminar, Ben’s truly stands out. ... He assimilates a large amount of information into a coherent, sophisticated, and compelling story.”

Vozar’s paper, “Scorti Libellus: Publication as Prostitution in Sulpician Elegy,” was written for Latin Love Elegy, taught by Kirk Ormand, Associate Professor of Classics. In nominating Vozar, Ormand wrote: “This is an outstanding paper, written on a short sequence of poetry attributed to a young woman poet from the Roman Empire. The assignment required that the students use one or two secondary sources; as you’ll see from Thomas’ bibliography, he went well beyond that. He tracked down, and made unusually sophisticated use of, 26 secondary sources, including several in French (which he read in the original).” Ormand also noted

BOOK IN EAST ASIA WORKSHOP

berlin will host a two-day workshop on the Book in East Asia from April 20 to 22. The workshop is designed for faculty, library staff, and museum curators from liberal arts colleges and research universities that have strong Asian studies departments.

Coordinated by Professor of Japanese Ann Sherif and funded by the Luce Foundation, the workshop will explore a variety of pedagogical and curricular issues related to the study of book history and culture in East Asian contexts. Workshop activities will focus on approaches for teaching the book in East Asia, curricular integration, the history of the book in China and Japan, and the handling and conservation of East Asian books.

While most sessions in the workshop are for invited participants only, some events are open to the public. Cynthia Brokaw, Professor of History at Brown University, will deliver the opening keynote lecture on the history of the book in China on Friday, April 20 at 7:30 p.m. in Craig Lecture Hall. Jonathan Zwicker, Assistant Professor of Japanese Literature at the University of Michigan, will lecture on the history of the book in Japan on Saturday, April 21 at 11:45 a.m. in the same location.

A related mini-course for students focusing on issues related to the conservation and handling of paper and books in traditional Asian formats will be held just prior to the faculty workshop. Led by museum conservators, papermakers, and faculty, the module class will be a hands-on experience that also includes historical background on Asian paper, printing technologies, and the book. There will be two public lectures related to the mini-course. Jesse
At its annual meeting on November 5, 2011, the Friends of the Library Council approved spending $40,000 of Friends funds to purchase the following materials to support teaching, research, and learning.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Solche Sensationen / Such Sensations: Food & Philosophical Reflections of Chef Hubert Seifert, 2010 [artists’ book]. A collaborative work by a chef, writer, artist, calligrapher, and designer, this artists’ book consists of 12 menus printed from copper plates on an intaglio press, sewn into hand-made covers of black walnut- and indigo-stained raw flax, each accompanied by an essay. The book is housed in a box covered in black Italian linen with one of the original copper intaglio monoprint plates inlaid into the cover.

First editions of two rare pamphlets by early French feminist and writer Olympe de Gouges. A militant feminist, de Gouges was regarded by most critics as an inferior writer; the political nature of her plays, combined with their melodramatic style, contributed to her reputation as a bad playwright. In Avis Pressant, ou, Réponse à Mes Calomniateurs (1789), de Gouges defends herself against those who question her patriotism and work, reminding her enemies that she was among the first to concern herself with the plight of blacks. In Séance Royale: Motion de Monseigneur le Duc D’Orléans (1789) she addresses her opposition to despotism and anarchy, and her ideas promoting the advancement of women and children. These titles are of interest to faculty in the French department.

MULTIDISCIPLINARY RESOURCES

African American Periodicals, 1825-1995 [electronic resource]. With more than 170 academic journals, magazines, newsletters, organizations’ bulletins, and annual reports, these diverse periodicals will enable new discoveries about the lives of African Americans, from slavery to the modern era. The rare titles brought together here—many short-lived and not collected by most libraries—capture the voices of African Americans in social, political, religious, literary, and business history. This resource will support faculty and students in history and African American studies.

Archives Unbound [electronic resource]. This database of historical documents offers targeted access to highly specialized collections. The Friends approved purchase of two collections. Phyllis Lyon, Del Martin, and the Daughters of Bilitis, Parts 1 & 2 includes correspondence, manuscripts, and papers that chronicle a turning point in civil rights. Lyon and Martin founded the first U.S. lesbian rights organization, the Daughters of Bilitis, in San Francisco in 1955 as a secret sorority. The couple was also involved in related social movements, including the contemporary women’s rights movement. "We Were Prepared for the Possibility of Death": Freedom Riders in the South, 1961-1962 includes surveillance reports, chronologies, witness statements, and more relating to the Freedom Rides organized by the Congress of Racial Equality. These materials, some only recently declassified, provide unique insight into the Freedom Rides, the Kennedy administration, and the segregated South.

Brill’s Encyclopedia of Hinduism, 2009. The five-volume encyclopedia presents comprehensive research on all aspects of the Hindu religious tradition, from ancient to contemporary times. Among topics covered are the global spread of Hinduism over the last 200 years, the interaction of Hinduism with other religions, and the various responses of Hinduism to contemporary issues such as feminism, human rights, ecology, and bioethics.

International Studies Online, 2010 [electronic resource]. Published in association with the International Studies Association, this is the most comprehensive online encyclopedia in the fields of international studies and international relations. It presents specially commissioned, peer-reviewed essays written and edited by an international team of scholars and teachers, and is enhanced by links to archives, datasets, cases, pedagogical aids, and other relevant materials.

JSTOR Arts & Sciences X [electronic resource]. The newest JSTOR collection of approximately 125 journals features broad coverage in business, economics, finance, sociology, education, public policy, and the history of science, technology, and medicine. The Friends have supported purchase of earlier collections from JSTOR, which is one of the library’s most heavily used digital resources.

Periodicals Archive Online, Collection 8 [electronic resource]. An online archive of digitized, full-image journal articles, this resource offers unprecedented access to international, scholarly literature in humanities and social sciences disciplines from 1802 to 2000. Some 20 percent of the journals are in non-English languages, mirroring the broad international scope of the digital collection. A new platform and search engine provide powerful and easy searching across the vast content. Oberlin acquired Collections 1-7 last year.

ART

Four artists’ books by Aimee Lee ’99, E & Z: The First Ten Chapters, 2004-2010, consists of 10 mail art pieces bound in a large book; it follows the story of two girls who grow up together but are later separated when one grows wings and flies away. The artist created the work to help her navigate the loss of a childhood...
All 12 of the library’s iconic womb chairs were recently sent to a restoration specialist in Michigan for complete refurbishment. Part of Mudd Center’s original 1974 furnishings, the popular orbs were due for new paint and upholstery. To celebrate their return in September, two of the chairs were placed prominently on the main level so students could welcome them back and take a spin.

Created in 1963 by renowned Finnish interior designer Eero Aarnio, the “ball chair,” as he dubbed it, is still sold. Now considered a classic work of industrial design, these chairs are occasionally found in museum collections. The womb chairs are a favorite place to study or nap for many students. Some even cite them as one of the reasons they chose to attend Oberlin. The womb chairs have been featured in the Oberlin Alumni Magazine more than once, most recently on the cover of the Fall 2011 issue, which highlighted an article on the Oberlin Project with an image of the Earth as seen from outer space superimposed on a womb chair’s outer surface.

Over the past two years College Archivist Ken Grossi and his staff have been working closely with College Green Publishing, Ltd., an independent arts publishing company headquartered in London. The company is producing an heirloom collector’s book that it hopes will capture the unique heritage and identity of the College and Conservatory. Designed as a photographic documentary, the book will contain over 400 pages and showcase nearly 2,000 images in a visually stunning, coffee-table format. The book will also include a series of essays on specific themes and periods in Oberlin’s history. The college’s founders, the Lane rebels, abolition, temperance, civil rights, women’s issues, sports, and environmental activism will be represented, along with many other topics.

After traveling throughout North America, London-based management consultant Mark Brunton was struck by the dearth of attractive and engaging commemorative books about American colleges and universities. He envisioned a different sort of publication from those he typically found, one of both substance and depth that would present the entire history of an institution in a unique way. In 2009 he founded College Green and approached Oberlin about becoming the publisher’s first client. The publisher’s aim is to create a new type of college life memento that will honor Oberlin’s values, people, history, and spirit from its founding in 1833 to today.

College Green staff have visited Oberlin on multiple occasions to take photographs, attend classes, pour over historical materials, and interview key faculty and staff, community members, students, and alumni. Archives staff members have worked intensively on the project, researching early records of the college, retrieving thousands of historic photographs and documents, and photographing and scanning many of them for the College Green team to review. The Alumni Association and the

Ken Grossi, Sheila Jager, Ann Sherif, and Ray English open manuscript gift from President Satow

The symposium was organized to celebrate the life and legacy of Alsatian pastor and philanthropist John Frederic Oberlin, bringing together for the first time representatives of the principal institutions that bear his name. In addition to Grossi, other panelists included Loïc Chalmel of the J. F. Oberlin Museum in Waldersbach, France; Johannes Kwaschik of the Oberlinhaus Association in Potsdam, Germany; and Toshiko Tsutsumi, emeritus professor at J. F. Oberlin University. Bruce L. Batten, Vice President for International

Womb Chairs Receive Spa Treatment

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NEW STAFF

LINDSEY FELICE started work in October as the Special Collections and Preservation Assistant. Felice worked in libraries from middle school through college and has long been involved with making and repairing books.

She earned a BFA in fiber and material studies at the Cleveland Institute of Art (CIA), where her work focused on embroidery and drawing. She learned the basics of bookbinding at the Interlochen Center for the Arts in Michigan and further developed her skills on her own. Since 2008 she has taught a class on handmade books through the CIA's continuing education program. She is eager to learn more about the library's preservation program and book repair techniques in the coming months.

In January she assisted with instruction and support for students enrolled in the letterpress studio winter term course. While she completed a minor in printmaking from the CIA and had previous experience with many different print processes—relief, intaglio, lithography, silkscreen—the winter term project provided her first exposure to letterpress printing. She looks forward to using the studio and making it more accessible.

Felice has been especially impressed by the broad range of materials in special collections. “It’s so exciting to handle objects that can be centuries old. This job also has a great mix of technologies. In a single day I can work with manuscripts, typewriters, and computers.” She considers her new job to be a “match made in heaven.”

Louisa Hoffman joined the Archives staff as a temporary employee last August and began work in the continuing position of Archival Assistant on January 2. A 2009 graduate of Ohio Wesleyan University, with double majors in Latin and art history, Hoffman earned an MLS in 2011 from Indiana University. She began library work in the circulation department at Ohio Wesleyan on her first day of classes as an undergraduate and later worked in both archives and special collections. That experience inspired her to pursue graduate studies in librarianship, with a goal of working in an academic library.

The daughter of Faith Hoffman (Gifts Assistant and Conservatory Library Stacks Supervisor), Hoffman is enjoying her work in the Archives. She notes that her collaboration with Lindsey Felice in Special Collections has created new opportunities for oversight of the Goodrich Reading Room. Working with the papers of the late Emeritus Professor of English Dewey Ganzel is one of the current projects that she finds particularly rewarding.

Her leisure activities include reading, knitting, crafting, and playing hand bells at First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Lorain.

PATRICIA RUSH is the new Preparations Assistant in the Cataloging and Metadata Services Department in the Main Library. She graduated from the University of Akron with a major in English literature and a minor in business.

After working in the private sector, Rush earned an MLIS in 2006 from Kent State University, with a concentration in young...
Office of Communications have also been closely involved in the project. The venture has been illuminating for Archives staff. The work has involved selecting, digitizing, and describing photographs and verifying information for the essays to be included in the book. Historic documents, such as speeches, maps, architectural plans, art, photographs, and posters, have been rediscovered and many will published for the first time in the new book. “Numerous items uncovered for this publication are being brought to light for the first time in decades,” says Grossi. “The hundreds of items we have photographed and scanned will also help us create an online digital trove of historic materials that will benefit future researchers of Oberlin’s past.” Entitled simply Oberlin, the book is scheduled for publication in May. In keeping with Oberlin’s values, the publisher has established the College Green/Oberlin College and Conservatory Scholarship Fund to which it intends to donate 10 percent of the price of each copy sold. Their goal is to raise $50,000 to benefit future generations of Oberlin students. To learn more about the forthcoming publication and to order a copy, visit www.oberlinbook.com.

E-Book, continued from page 1

In-Library Lending Program is a pioneering endeavor to apply principles of copyright, in particular the first-sale doctrine, to digital materials. The first-sale principle allows a library to lend the physical books it purchases, just as it allows the owner of a book to sell it or give it to another person. E-books are lent for a period of two weeks and are available to only one user of the system at a time. “The e-book lending library should be particularly valuable for academic libraries that are taking a cooperative approach to the management of lesser-used print books,” says Director of Libraries Ray English. One of the goals of such programs is to reduce the collective number of print copies of lesser-used books held within a consortium, while still retaining enough copies to make them readily available through interlibrary lending services, such as OhioLINK’s direct patron borrowing.

Digital Resources, continued from page 3

The Johns Hopkins Guide to Literary Theory and Criticism is an indispensable resource for students and scholars of literary theory and discourse. Compiled by scholars from around the world, this major reference work presents a comprehensive historical survey of the field’s most important critics, theorists, schools, movements, and innovations. In recent decades, the field of literary theory and criticism has played an increasingly important role in the humanities and social sciences. Now available online, the guide aims to cover the field in clear and concise form for scholars, students, and others. New entries will be added annually.

The Encyclopaedia of Islam Online, the preeminent reference work in the field, provides comprehensive coverage of the entire Islamic world, past and present. Topics covered include biography, history, geography, religion, institutions, manners and customs, tribes, industries, and science. The online version combines articles from the respected 13-volume second edition, published over a span of five decades beginning in 1960, with new material as it becomes available from the third edition, which started publication in 2007. The new edition places greater emphasis on social and economic topics, with particular attention to Muslim minorities around the world.
periodicals has already begun and should be complete this summer. That portion of the collection includes magazines and journals from three continents, all in nearly pristine condition. Dating from the 1930s to the present, the periodicals document the history and development of jazz in numerous cultures.

The process of digitizing selected audio recordings should be well underway by this time next year, allowing users to stream music from the collection at computers on campus. Smith will consult with jazz faculty to identify a core collection of 2,000 LPs for the first round of digitization.

According to Smith, “It’s a great privilege to work with someone as knowledgeable about jazz history as Jim Neumann and to have daily access to such an expansive collection. With an outstanding jazz faculty, the new Kohl building, and now the addition of the Neumann collection, this is an unprecedented time for jazz studies at Oberlin. I’m eager to see this collection fully processed so that students and researchers can experience firsthand what a rich and comprehensive resource Oberlin now has.” During a recent conversation, Neumann expressed how personally satisfying it is to have the collection at Oberlin. He noted that his collection, which was in its nascent stages when he was a student member of the jazz club, has now come full circle. He remarked that his collection reflects important struggles and triumphs of the 20th century and described jazz as a truly American art form that changed the face of music in our country.

Neumann, continued from page 1
Workshop, continued from page 4

Munn, Retired Conservator of East Asian Books, Library of Congress, will speak about "Formats of East Asian Books" on Thursday, April 12 at 7:00 p.m. in Classroom 1 of the Allen Art Building, and Anne Yonemura, Curator of the Freer Sackler Gallery at the Smithsonian Institution, will speak on "Using Getty Digitization of Asian Books in the Library of Congress" on Friday, April 20 at 4:45 p.m., also in Classroom 1.

The library will host an exhibition of books from the Ainsworth Collection of Japanese Artists’ Books in conjunction with the faculty workshop and student mini-course. The exhibition will be on view in the Goodrich Room in Mudd Center April 16–April 27. The Book in East Asia Workshop follows a similar event held at Oberlin in the fall of 2010 that focused on book studies in Western cultural contexts.

New Staff, continued from page 7

Jones, continued from page 1

requiring thorough knowledge of music research resources and cataloging tools, along with patient persistence in solving complex name authorization problems. Over 17 years ago Jones began contributing name authority records to the NACO Music Project, a national cooperative for cataloging music materials that requires highly specialized expertise. Since then she has contributed more than 16,000 new authority records (among the highest institutional totals), revised or corrected thousands of existing records, and occasionally trained other catalogers.

In addition to her cataloging work, Jones selects new sound recordings for the Conservatory Library’s collection. She is also a contributor to Authority Tools for Audiovisual and Music Catalogers: An Annotated List of Useful Resources and author of Every Monday Morning: A Discography of American Labor Songs in the Conservatory Library at Oberlin College. Through OCOPE (Oberlin College Office and Professional Employees), the campus union for administrative assistants, she initiated a labor film series at Oberlin during the 1980s. Her interests beyond the library include visual arts and design, music, nature, and human rights.

Kay Showalter began work as the Art Library Assistant in a temporary capacity in October 2010 and accepted the permanent position in February 2011. During her extended time in the temporary position she grew to “love the students and the staff here” and also became highly proficient in supervising circulation and reserve functions. Showalter comes to Oberlin with a wealth of experience as a costume designer and expert seamstress, having spent 35 years creating, altering, and repairing garments for historical reenactments, theater, and feature films. Her extensive background in design includes costumes, period pieces, embroidered finery, and delicate ensembles. Her creations have been sold through niche artistic outlets. A life-long resident of the Lorain County area, Showalter is currently finishing a degree in practical nursing and hopes to find part-time work in nursing homes or hospices. In her spare time she pursues family genealogy research, reaching back to records in the early 1700s, and enjoys gardening and preserving. She also manages a brood of 25 hens that produce fresh eggs daily.

Greg Solow ’10, the new Evening and Weekend Supervisor in the Conservatory Library, is no stranger to Oberlin or its libraries. A double major in creative writing and classical civilizations, he held variety of student assistant positions during his four years at Oberlin, including work in the Conservatory Library and in the preservation lab in the Main Library. He also spent a winter term processing and organizing a ‘zine collection that had been donated to Special Collections.

After graduation Solow held a number of jobs in Oberlin, including working at MindFair Books and starting a video game company with some friends. He worked at the Conservatory Library as a temporary employee in his current position before being appointed permanently in the fall of 2011.

Solow is responsible for scheduling a roster of 20 to 25 students who work at the circulation desk. In addition to coordinating and supervising their work, he has been creating training videos and taking an inventory of the CD collection, among other projects.

Having worked in libraries since high school, Solow began to consider a career in librarianship midway through college. He is currently enrolled as a part-time online student in the MLIS program at Rutgers University in New Jersey. His experience as a supervisor has led to an interest in library management and administration. Greg serves as the staff advisor for the Oberlin College fencing team in what little spare time he has after his job and course work. As an Oberlin student he was captain of the team for three years.

Research Award, continued from page 4

that Vozar consulted L’Année Philologique, an advanced index for classics research not often used by undergraduates.

Friends President Maxine Houck presented each winner with a $500 check at a luncheon with members of the Research Award Committee and Director of Libraries Ray English on December 12, 2011.

Each year the committee asks the teaching faculty to nominate outstanding student projects that meet the following criteria: use of a broad range of research resources, creativity, thoroughness, and accuracy in the use of research resources. Committee members are Kathy Abromeit, Conservatory Public Services Librarian; Megan Mitchell, Reference & Instruction Librarian; Alison Ricker, Science Librarian; and Ann Sherif, Professor of Japanese.
Berlin 9, continued from page 4

open access to scholarship is an important step for the advancement of knowledge, helping to overcome barriers that restrict, rather than encourage, the sharing of ideas and engagement in discourse. I am pleased that our faculty is so strongly supportive of open access and I am honored to sign the Berlin Declaration on their behalf.

The Berlin 9 Conference was organized by leaders in the science, humanities, research funding, and policy communities. Primary sponsors were the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, the Max Planck Society, the Association of Research Libraries, and SPARC (the Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition).

Other North American signatories to the Berlin Declaration include private research universities (such as Harvard and Duke), public research universities (the University of Kansas and the University of California-Los Angeles), Canadian research institutions (Concordia University and the University of Quebec at Montreal), major library associations, and the Open Society Foundations, which supported the Budapest Open Access Initiative, the earliest open access proclamation. Nearly 300 leading institutions from around the world have now signed the declaration.

Friends Purchases, continued from page 5

friend to leukemia. Performance Residue: What I Borrowed from the Library [Chapter Thirteen], 2008, is a box of cataloged audience stories collected by the artist during a performance art piece in a hall of the Chicago Cultural Center, formerly the circulation room of the Chicago Public Library. Organized in broad themes, it continues the story begun in E & Z: The First Ten Chapters. Chapter Fourteen, 2009, is a knitted paper artists’ book that continues the same story, with one of the girls realizing that, despite her ongoing grief, she has reached a point where she can let go of her friend and acknowledge her loss. Sisters, 2011, in which the artist’s thoughts and feelings weave in and out of the dyed and knitted handmade mulberry pages, deals with familial relationships. These works join several other artists’ books by Lee in the Art Library’s collection.

Replacing rare films with modern DVD copies. Under the leadership of visionaries like Ellen Johnson, the Art Department acquired an important collection of rare art films by mid-20th century video artists, many of which are now considered pivotal works that influenced further developments in film and modern art. These films are on outdated formats and have become increasingly difficult to view with existing equipment.


Some of These Daze, 2005 [artists’ book]. Beginning on September 11, 2001, artist Mimi Gross filled five sketchbooks with ink drawings made on downtown streets, often working in the dark, directly at Ground Zero. Simultaneously, poet and critic Charles Bernstein was also writing in response to the events of 9/11. Gross proposed a collaboration after hearing Bernstein read his new writings at the Zinc Bar in New York City. Gross and Bernstein together made a selection of images and text for the book, which will support students and faculty in both creative writing and art.

Surveying the First Decade: Video Art and Alternative Media in the U.S., 1995 [eight DVDs + study guide]. This comprehensive history of experimental and independent video includes more than 68 seminal titles by over 60 artists, ranging from conceptual, performance-based, feminist, and image-processed works, to documentary and grassroots genres. The DVD will replace the heavily used VHS version.

SCIENCE

Nature, 1987-1996 [electronic resource]. The library’s print run of this important and prestigious science journal is heavily used and falling apart. The online archive will complement our subscription to the current content. Nature supports every area of the science curriculum, as well as history of science and certain areas of the humanities and social sciences.

MUSIC

Bawdy Songbooks of the Romantic Period, 2011. This four-volume set reprints nearly all of the known songbooks from the romantic era. It includes approximately 1,000 texts of ribald songs from a recently discovered trove of 49 rare songbooks from the 1830s and 1840s. The reprinting of these songs will assist scholars interested in 19th century popular music, London theater, and music halls.

Enzyklopädie der Kirchenmusik, 2011. This six-volume encyclopedia of church music brings together for the first time the range of issues and topics unique to this area of scholarly study, including its importance in musical and cultural history and liturgy, social and societal contexts, and relationship to other art forms.

Musical Instruments in the Ashmolean Museum: The Complete Collection, 2010. This new catalog of the collection of 39 stringed instruments and 18 bows in Oxford University’s Ashmolean Museum of Art and Archaeology will be an important resource to complement the holdings of Oberlin’s Goodkind and Frederick Selch collections on the history of stringed instruments.

Ballad Opera: A Collection of 171 Original Texts of Musical Plays [16 reprint volumes, 1974]. Originally published in the late 18th century, the Conservatory Library owned just one of 28 volumes from this rare reprint series of ballad opera texts. Students of voice, musical theater, and historical performance will benefit from access to these important works.

Friends Highlights, continued from page 2

elected officers for 2011-12, reappointed two members to second terms, and appointed two new members.

The Council heard reports on the numerous activities of the Student Friends of the Library and on progress in digitizing the Oberlin Evangelist through the use of Friends funds.

The Council discussed a proposal to renovate the Goodrich Room, the reading room for special collections and archives on the fourth floor of Mudd Center, and voted to designate $178,000 from the bequest of Margaret Forsythe ’45 in support of the project. In addition, the Council approved naming in honor of Forsythe a new classroom that will be part of the renovation.

Detailed minutes of the Council meeting are available online at www.oberlin.edu/library/friends/minutes./

Friends Purchases, continued from page 5

E & Z: The First Ten Chapters. Chapter Fourteen, 2009, is a knitted paper artists’ book that continues the same story, with one of the girls realizing that, despite her ongoing grief, she has reached a point where she can let go of her friend and acknowledge her loss. Sisters, 2011, in which the artist’s thoughts and feelings weave in and out of the dyed and knitted handmade mulberry pages, deals with familial relationships. These works join several other artists’ books by Lee in the Art Library’s collection.

Replacing rare films with modern DVD copies. Under the leadership of visionaries like Ellen Johnson, the Art Department acquired an important collection of rare art films by mid-20th century video artists, many of which are now considered pivotal works that influenced further developments in film and modern art. These films are on outdated formats and have become increasingly difficult to view with existing equipment.


Some of These Daze, 2005 [artists’ book]. Beginning on September 11, 2001, artist Mimi Gross filled five sketchbooks with ink drawings made on downtown streets, often working in the dark, directly at Ground Zero. Simultaneously, poet and critic Charles Bernstein was also writing in response to the events of 9/11. Gross proposed a collaboration after hearing Bernstein read his new writings at the Zinc Bar in New York City. Gross and Bernstein together made a selection of images and text for the book, which will support students and faculty in both creative writing and art.

Surveying the First Decade: Video Art and Alternative Media in the U.S., 1995 [eight DVDs + study guide]. This comprehensive history of experimental and independent video includes more than 68 seminal titles by over 60 artists, ranging from conceptual, performance-based, feminist, and image-processed works, to documentary and grassroots genres. The DVD will replace the heavily used VHS version.

SCIENCE

Nature, 1987-1996 [electronic resource]. The library’s print run of this important and prestigious science journal is heavily used and falling apart. The online archive will complement our subscription to the current content. Nature supports every area of the science curriculum, as well as history of science and certain areas of the humanities and social sciences.

MUSIC

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Join Us. Be A Friend.

The Friends of the Oberlin College Library provide significant support for special acquisitions and programs that help the library fulfill its fundamental role in the academic life of the college. Members receive the *Library Perspectives* newsletter, invitations to Friends programs, and other privileges. Most of all, Friends have the satisfaction of supporting Oberlin's outstanding library.

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Archivist, continued from page 6

Affairs and a professor of Japanese history at J. F. Oberlin University, moderated the symposium.

Grossi’s talk focused on the influence of John Frederick Oberlin’s life and ministry on the founding of Oberlin College and how the pastor’s values and ideals continue to influence the work and beliefs of Oberlinians in various causes of the 21st century. Following the presentations, panel participants discussed a range of philosophies and concerns their institutions share in common, such as learning and labor, student activism, and social justice. J.F. Oberlin University President Toyoshi Satow presented each panelist with a framed Japanese manuscript translation of the phrase “Learning and Labor.” The manuscript will be featured on the Archives’ web site as part of an online exhibit about John Frederic Oberlin.