IBT Labor History Research Center to Open This Fall

In May 2009, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and The George Washington University entered into an agreement to build the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Labor History Research Center, the first major labor history center to be built in the United States in more than 25 years. Dedicated to documenting the role of organized labor in general, and of the Teamsters Union in particular, in the development of the United States during the 20th century, the Teamsters Labor History Research Center will offer scholars an exemplary research room, complete with exhibit cases allowing for a rich set of rotating exhibits, seating for up to 16 researchers complete with wireless Internet connectivity as well as multiple power outlets built into each (Continued on page 3)

IMLS Digitization Grant Awarded

The Institute of Museum and Library Services has awarded a $400,000 grant to The George Washington University’s Gelman Library and Georgetown University’s Lauinger Library for the project Cultural Imaginings: the Creation of the Arab World in the Western Mind. This collaboration will evaluate automatic book scanning methodology by digitizing approximately 2,500 monographic volumes and a number of bound manuscripts from the Middle East and North Africa. The project will assess the cost-effectiveness of using automated digitization technologies and develop metrics to analyze the cost of digitization for high productivity and high quality images, with the goal of calculating the cost of digitization per page. (Continued on page 3)
Meet the Staff of the Special Collections Research Center

The SCRC staff is a dynamic, talented group dedicated to acquiring, preserving, and providing access to the building blocks of historical inquiry and research. Our staff includes:

**Sylvia Augusteijn**
Sylvia Augusteijn, Archives Specialist, arranges, describes, and makes available manuscript collections accessioned by the SCRC. She is experienced in processing large collections such as the Jack Anderson Papers and the American Veterans Committee Records.

**Thomas Connors**
Thomas Connors is the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Labor Archivist. He is currently working with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters to arrange their organization’s records, create a permanent public exhibit, and make their records and other important labor history resources available through the Special Collections Research Center.

**Brad Sabin Hill**
Brad Sabin Hill is the Curator of the I. Edward Kiev Judaica Collection. He oversees this specialized collection of rare books and other printed materials documenting the Jewish experience, including over 28,000 books, pamphlets, and periodicals, as well as manuscripts, graphic art, and artifacts.

**Jennifer King**
Jennifer King is the Manuscripts Librarian for the SCRC. She is responsible for developing the SCRC’s collections related to the history of Washington, DC and also oversees the processing work and technical services for the department.

**Jennifer Kinniff**
Jennifer Kinniff is the Public Services and Outreach Librarian. She manages in-person and virtual public services and coordinates outreach and instruction activities for the Special Collections Research Center.

**Ashley Locke**
Ashley Locke is the Archives Specialist for the SCRC. She arranges, describes, and provides access to collections, and is the primary contact for University Archives and Mount Vernon Seminary and College related questions.

**Meredith Evans Raiford**
Meredith R. Evans Raiford, Ph.D. is the Director of the Special Collections Research Center. Dr. Raiford leads a team of professionals who preserve, maintain, acquire and provide access to historical materials, and represents the SCRC in the university and the archival profession.

**Philip Raino**
Philip Raino is the Exhibits Developer for the SCRC. He designs, researches, and installs collection-based exhibits, and also designs publications, catalogs, and brochures that support the SCRC’s public outreach initiatives.

**Athena Smith**
Athena Smith is the SCRC’s Reference Specialist. She provides expert assistance to researchers and develops online research tools such as LibGuides and bibliographies.

**Christopher Walker**
Christopher Walker is the Archives and Manuscript Specialist for the SCRC. He arranges, describes, and provides access to manuscript collections and is a part of the reference services team.
Last year, the Special Collections Research Center:

⇒ Answered 1,313 reference requests from patrons
⇒ Offered 42 instruction sessions, events, presentations, or tours, which were attended by 634 people
⇒ Created 250 new protective boxes to house our most fragile and valuable books
⇒ Added 3,118 linear feet of archival material to our collections
⇒ Created seven exhibits in the Gelman Library featuring our collection materials

The Cultural Imaginings project will demonstrate how a high productivity digitization effort can produce a significant volume of scholarly content in a quick, convenient, and reliable manner, and allow scholars of all ages to study the “orientalization” of the Middle East in the popular imagination of the West.

The grant included funding for the purchase of two remarkable pieces of digitization equipment: the Kirtas KABIS III automatic book digitizer, capable of scanning 3,000 pages per hour in 400 dpi resolution; and the Kirtas SkyView Flatbed Imaging System, for large format and fragile items.

Martha Whittaker, Director of Content Management and principal investigator on the grant, notes “I am often asked, ‘Isn’t Google already digitizing everything?’ In fact, we are not just digitizing and scanning, we are also doing OCR (optical character recognition) and producing very high-quality printing. This is true museum and library quality scanning.”

Kiev Judaica Collection Research Fellowship Debuts

The I. Edward Kiev Judaica Collection has announced its first ever research fellowship competition, designed to bring world-class scholars and gifted undergraduates in closer contact with this renowned collection of Judaica and Hebraica.

The fellowships will be awarded for the 2010-2011 academic year to one undergraduate ($750) and one graduate, post-graduate, or independent scholar ($2,500) from any discipline studying 18th-20th century Jewish history, Hebrew literature, Jewish art or Hebrew booklore. Brad Sabin Hill, Curator of the Kiev Collection, notes “This is an opportunity to make use of a unique resource at GW, in an environment conducive to study in many areas of Judaica.”

The Kiev Judaica Collection, the most important university collection in this field in the Washington Research Libraries Consortium, was established in 1996 through the beneficence of Dr. Ari and Phyllis Kiev. The collection was formed by Dr. Kiev’s father, I. Edward Kiev, one of the preeminent Judaica librarians of the 20th century. The Kiev Room also holds supplementary collections of graphic art, historical archives, music, and ritual objects.

The application deadline is July 31, 2010, and details on application requirements can be found on the SCRC website (http://www.gelman.gwu.edu/collections/SCRC/current-events/announcing-the-kiev-judaica-collection-research-fellowship).

Labor History Research Center to Open This Fall

(Continued from page 1)

The SCRC maintains a website devoted to the project, complete with pictures of each phase of demolition and construction, at http://www.gelman.gwu.edu/collections/teamsters-archive-research-center-construction-project.
The Special Collections Research Center's mission is to collect, preserve, and make accessible primary resources and rare or unique materials, including archives, books, images, manuscripts, maps, microforms, directories, theses, dissertations, faculty publications, periodicals, and ephemera to all researchers regardless of institutional affiliation.

Visit Us on Flickr!
We are contributing images from our collections to the popular image and video sharing website. In doing so, we hope to expose our treasures to a wider audience, provide access to meaningful digital content, and open productive dialogue between the SCRC and you, our web-savvy patrons. Our first collections include images of the student takeover of GW's Maury Hall in 1969; photographs of Allied-occupied Austria taken by Eleanor Lansing Dulles or her son, David Dulles, in 1947-8; and “mystery items” that we need your help to identify! Check out our photograph sets at http://www.flickr.com/photos/gwgelmansprc/.

IM Service Debuts
You can now reach Special Collections librarians and archivists via our instant messaging (IM) service! Special Collections staff will be available to answer questions on IM during our normal public service hours (Monday - Friday, 10 AM to 5 PM EST). Our username is GelmanSpec, and you can add us as a buddy on Meebo, AOL Instant Messager, or GoogleTalk. Or, use IM via the Meebo chat option located right on our homepage without even having to log in to your own IM account.

Jack Anderson Papers Open to Researchers
Jack Anderson (1922-2005) was a pioneering investigative journalist, author, television personality, and for over 50 years wrote the syndicated column "Washington Merry-Go-Round." With the exception of sensitive material that will be restricted for 25 years, all series of the Jack Anderson Papers opened June 1 to researchers. You may view the finding aid for the collection at http://www.gwu.edu/gelman/spec/ead/anderson.html.

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