# Collections and Connections

A newsletter from the College of University Libraries, eLearning and Academic Support





# Digital Initiatives Librarian Arjun Sabharwal

Interim Director of the Canaday Center, Kim Brownlee, sat down with the newest member of our Library faculty, Arjun Sabharwal, for the following questions and answers.

#### What is your professional background?

A combination of academic librarianship and digital archiving.

### What projects are you working on currently?

Managing the Toledo's Attic website and adding new exhibits, digitizing collections for OhioLINK's Digital Resource Commons, creating digital finding aids, serving on the E-library Services Taskforce and the Digital Initiatives Taskforce, just to name a few.

#### What are your personal interests?

Music, photography, travel, history, castles and humor.

#### Where did you go to school?

Wayne State University, California State University, University of Michigan.

#### Why did you want to be a librarian?

I have always been interested in the epistemology of creating and organizing knowledge. In addition, my interest in history led me to pursue a career in archives.

The University's online courses give students in Ohio and beyond the opportunity to participate in UT's world class education and take courses from a variety of discipline areas. Our focus is to enrich your educational experience. We bring UT's tradition of learning to the student, preparing you to compete in today's work place.

At UT, distance learning (DL) is defined as a course offered via technology (web, CD-ROM, ISDN lines, IP Video) that connects student and instructor for at least 70% of the course interaction and content.

To find out more about Distance and eLearning visit http://www.utoledo.edu/dl/index.html

Congratulations to Janet Douglas, LMTA2 at Carlson Library, for winning third place in the Professional and Technical Shapiro Writing Contest. She wrote a formal report on green electric energy options for The University of Toledo. Contrary to countless complaints from his mother while he was growing up, reading comic books has been of benefit to Digital Services Librarian Gerald Natal

Had Instructor Natal put down his comic book and shelved his imagination, he never would have come up with the idea for a comic book display showcasing African American super heroes.

According to Natal, "The idea for the display was inspired by all the news at the time about president Obama appearing on the cover of a Spiderman comic book. The media was reporting that the election of a black president has fueled hopes in the African-American community for positive change, of which this comic was an example. I started thinking about the typical topics for Black History Month (Martin Luther King, Jr. and other key figures in history and pop culture, the Underground Railroad, for instance); I thought perhaps the story of African Americans in comic books would be a relevant and current topic and one that might engage student interest.

I gathered information from print and online resources, and spoke informally to a couple of proprietors at local comic shops. I found that the comics were, and are, a direct mirror of society at large, and that the advancements in race relations made since the 1960s have created a positive environment for African Americans in the comics, although there is still progress to be made."



The collection, first on display at Carlson Library on the Main campus, garnered so much positive feedback that it was moved to Mulford Library on the Health Science campus for the month of March.

# Dorothy Price donation

Dorothy Price graduated from The University of Toledo in 1948 and has since been an active supporter of UT through her philanthropic gifts.

Dorothy recently made a very generous donation of artwork to University Libraries from her private collection. Display cases near the elevators at Carlson Library hold decorative masks, soapstone carvings, glass and ceramic works of art. Mulford Library will have display cases with more artwork from Dorothy's collection in the near future.



# Award Winning!

The Society of American Archivists selected the Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections as the winner of the 2009 Philip M. Hamer and Elizabeth Hamer Kegan Award for their "From Institutions to Independence: A History of People with Disabilities in Northwest Ohio" exhibit.

Take a virtual tour of the award winning exhibit online at http://homepages.utoledo.edu/ASab har/DVX/index.html

The book sale held at Carlson Library April 13<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> was a huge success. Books were marked at incredibly low prices and were flying off the book carts! What a great way to celebrate National Library Week!



Items not sold were sent to Better World Books, a company that funds education and literacy programs throughout the world. For more information about Better World Books, visit www.betterworldbooks.com/.



## Summer Hours

Summer session library hours can be found online at

http://www.utoledo.edu/library/info/hours.html

# Ask a Librarian

The librarians at The University of Toledo Libraries want to help connect you to the information you need. They are available in person, by phone, via email and by instant message or chat.

Please visit their website at http://www.utoledo.edu/library/help/ask.html for more information on how to contact a librarian.

#### **Become a Friend of the Libraries**

A minimum donation of only \$100.00 to any library fund bestows the status of Friend of the Libraries. Current students need to make a donation of only \$5.00 to become a member.

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# Summer reading

The faculty and staff of University Libraries, eLearning and Academic Support are busy reading this summer. Here is but a sampling of the pages they are turning.

Laura Kinner, Director Technical Services, is reading "The Path Between the Seas: The Creation of the Panama Canal 1870-1914", "1776" and "Truman" this June all by David McCullough. Laura plans to move on to Charles Dickens in July.

Marlene Porter, Director HSC Library, is reading "10-10-10: 10 minutes, 10 months, 10 years; A Life-Transforming Idea" by Suzy Welch.

Valerie Brown, InterLibrary Loan Associate, is currently reading "Admission" by Jean Hanff Korelitz and is working her way through "The Complete Novels of Jane Austen".

Tyna Derhay, Executive Secretary to the Dean, is reading "My Anecdotal Life: A Memoir" by Carl Reiner.

Katie Mihaly, Circulation Associate, is reading "The Man Who Ate Everything" by Jeffrey Steingarten.

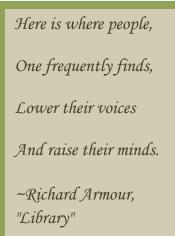
John Napp, Engineering Librarian, is reading "No Ordinary Time: Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt: The Home Front in World War II" by Doris Kearns Goodwin.

Thomas Atwood, Coordinator Information Literacy & Library Instruction, is reading "Dandies: Fashion and Finesse in Art and Culture" edited by Susan Fillin-Yeh.

Dianne Masztak, Student Services Assistant, recently finished "Innocent Abroad, An Intimate Account of American Peace Diplomacy in the Middle East" by Martin Indyk.

Jerry Natal, Health Science Librarian, is reading "Listen to This!: Leading Musicians Recommend Their Favorite Artists and Recordings" by Alan Reder and John Baxter.

Lucy Duhon, Serials Coordinator, is reading "Notes from a Small Island" by Bill Bryson.





Editors: Kimberly Brownlee, Manuscripts Librarian, Alice Crosetto, Coordinator of Collection Development, Tyna Derhay, Executive Secretary to the Dean of University Libraries, eLearning and Academic Support and Marcia Krautter Suter, Associate Dean and Director of Library Services.