From the Director
Robin Wagner, Director, Musselman Library

Many of you have inquired about how the library is doing during these challenging times. Like everyone else, we're being more prudent. We've looked for places to trim our operations budget, forgoing conferences and workshops, squeezing as much life as possible out of existing equipment, and closing the building over holidays and summer nights to save on energy costs.

The library depends on its endowments to buy books and magazines so faculty members are helping us review our periodical subscriptions to see which ones we can cancel. We have begun by eliminating duplication – if a periodical is issued online and in print, we will pick just one. Loose issues can sit on the shelf a bit longer before we pay to bind them.

Library use tends to spike upwards when the economy turns down. This has certainly been the case at Musselman Library. Friends have appreciated the availability of books, DVDs, CDs and audio books—all for the nominal membership charge, as well as invitations to free concerts, lectures and reading discussion groups.

In these tough times, it's important to let you know how much we appreciate your contributions to Friends of Musselman Library. You will see evidence of gift-giving throughout this newsletter. Friends' generosity has made possible a wide array of acquisitions and programming.

You will also see gifts of books, memorabilia, rare items and more. You'll see how one endowment is helping three students enjoy internships this semester. There are also gifts of time—providing expertise in a classroom or helping design new lighting systems.

The library has received more than 2,500 books as donations since last semester, ranging from rare German Bibles to modern best-sellers. An endowment provided by former students and associates of the late Professor Ted Baskerville keeps the browsing room stocked in the best recent fiction. Friends have stepped up and made contributions to other named library endowments or sent in gifts in honor of, or in memory of, a loved one.

For some of the most unusual gift giving take a look at the centerfold on pages 8 and 9. How many libraries can say this?
they have a bear trap? An ivory fly-swatter? Or a Uzbekistan ceremonial robe?

Fund raisers at the library have benefited a range of charities, from providing food and supplies to the local SPCA, to helping a student alleviate poverty in his homeland of Nepal.

College librarians have been urging students to give back to planet earth—or at the very least, help conserve its resources. Friends helped cosponsor “Read Green”, a reading and discussion program focusing on the environment and sustainability. Library staff have set up a composting experiment on the main floor. We’ve done away with Styrofoam products at our events and no longer supply disposable cups at our midnight coffee cart. And you’ve even helped us go green with new recycle bins.

So I guess the real answer to how we are doing is that “we get by with a little help from our Friends.”

Library Helps Charities Take the Cake

By allowing student service organizations to sell late-night snacks, the library has been helping charities such as autism awareness, cancer research, Big Brothers/Big Sisters and the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Last fall, six different groups conducted bake sales alongside Musselman’s free coffee cart. The cart, which opens at 11:30 p.m., was a great fit for organizations offering freshly made brownies, cookies and other treats.

“College Community Leaders was very successful; raising over $140,” says Angela Chongpinitchai ’09, club president. “All proceeds went directly to aiding our soldiers in Iraq and in helping the local Big Brothers/Big Sisters organization.”

Another group, the Pre-Vet Club made even more money when they borrowed a portable oven from Dining Services and made cookies on site. “The aroma of freshly baked cookies wafting through the library netted them $200 for the local SPCA,” says Circulation Supervisor Natalie Hilton.

The same club also used the library as a place for contributions to be dropped off for the SPCA. Stacks of cleaning supplies, food and treats, fluffy bedding, cat litter and more were left in the lobby.

“When I came to retrieve the donations I filled my car to the brim twice, and it is a big car,” says Emily Green, graphic designer, who coordinated the project.

The sales and the snacking continue this spring.

Save the Date

Environmental Activist Bill McKibben

Musselman Library concludes its successful “Read Green” series with a lecture by environmental activist and best-selling author Bill McKibben. He will discuss his book, Deep Economy: the Wealth of Communities and the Durable Future, which puts forward a new way to think about the things we buy, the food we eat, the energy we use, and the money that pays for it all. The lecture is free and McKibben will do a book signing after lecture (copies will be available for purchase).


The “Read Green” series (which Friends helped cosponsor with several other organizations, see last issue) drew large, diverse audiences for all its book and film events. “We learned that people are really interested in finding ways to make small changes that collectively will create greater environmental impact,” says Librarian Kerri Odess-Harnish. “We’re definitely building a community of people who are engaged in this topic and who are excited to come to the McKibben event!”

For more information visit: www.gettysburg.edu/library or call (717) 337-6600.

Thursday, April 16 • 7:30 p.m.
College Union Building Ballroom

From the Director (continued from page 1)
Gurung says he found the major parts of town filled with beggars and the homeless. But instead of avoiding them, he spent time getting to know their stories. "Many encouraged me to take their pictures and hoped that I would be able to share with my 'western' friends those stories of how a majority of my underprivileged countrymen survive today."

His efforts resulted not only in this exhibit, but in winning two honorable mentions in the 2008 international Lucie Awards competition, which included roughly 22,000 entries. A gallery of his photography is also on the National Geographic website, where one of his images was featured last December. He also won an award in a juried art exhibition in York, PA.

"These are pictures of people who scrounge for their meals everyday; children who were abandoned by their families or are the breadwinners of their families and would starve if they attend school instead of working; and families who live in dire conditions. I hope that through these photographs I will be able to shed some light on some of the true faces of my country."

Gurung was able to help his countrymen even further by selling his photography. On March 18 the Visual Arts department sponsored a reception in the library and sales of Anukul’s photographs raised funds for Mitrata-Nepal Foundation (www.mitrata.org), a U.S.-based non-profit organization dedicated to helping underprivileged children in Nepal. Friends interested in supporting Anukul’s initiative can contact him at guruan01@gettysburg.edu.

Rediscovering My Country is also online at www.gettysburg.edu/library/news/exhibits/rediscovering.dot

Discover Other Worlds at the Library

This semester Musselman Library celebrates the spirit of discovery with exhibits highlighting exploration around the world - and beyond. The exhibits include:

"The Literature of the Telescope"
400 years of books about the telescope from the collection of Larry Marschall, W. K. T. Sahm Professor of Physics.

"Images of Italy"
A photography exhibit by Dan DeNicola, professor of philosophy, part of the "Hidden Talents" series.

"Rediscovering My Country"
Photographs by Anukul Gurung, ’09 documenting poverty in Nepal.

"Mapping other Worlds"
Selections from the Stuckenberg Map Collection.

"Buddhism in the Modern World: The Quest for Social and Religious Identity in Southwest China"
Photographs of southwest China, taken during an ASIANetwork student trip led by Deborah Sommer, associate professor of religion.

"Life in Miniature: Wood Carvings from Brienz"
Depictions of daily life in Switzerland from the collection of the Rev. Frederick S. Weiser ’57.

"11 Days in Asia"
An assortment of photographs from China, Nepal, Singapore, Thailand, India and the Philippines by students of the International Club.

You can also see many of these exhibits online at www.gettysburg.edu/library/news/exhibits/dow/
This semester's Hidden Talents exhibit features striking photographs of a sojourn in Italy by Dan DeNicola, professor of philosophy. Colorful and vibrant, the exhibit includes images of water taxis and gondolas, richly painted homes and climbing wisteria, and gorgeous vistas.

DeNicola's foray into photography was serendipitous. When he first traveled to Italy, he took along the camera that was a gift from faculty as he left the Provost's position. He found "a photographer's dream." In both his first trip to Tuscany and Umbria and his second to Venice, the Dolomites, the "Northern Arc," and Lake Como, he "loved the diverse landscapes with marvelous colors and wondrous light."

Why did he select these images and not the Italy one usually encounters while traveling — exuberant, alive with human activity? Or the Italy of bountiful markets and delicious foods and wine? "Believe me," says DeNicola, "I have many such images, full of color and delight and memories. The images gathered for this exhibit, however, suggest to me a different theme. Though they do not feature portraits or people in action, they are scenes with evidence of human presence. They invite the viewer to enter into the landscape, to become the subject, to stay awhile, to take an Italian sabbatical."

Though his time in Italy was for exploration, writing, recalibration and rejuvenation, DeNicola's thoughts were not too far from the classroom. "These photographs and my philosophical interests have intersected. In the next academic year, I will introduce a new course, Philosophy of Place, that will explore the concept of place (vs. space) and the meanings that places have in our lives."

The exhibit is on display in the library's main floor browsing room through the summer. Musselman Library's "Hidden Talents" series highlights the artistic talents of people in the Gettysburg College community.

When Fred Wright Hopkins Jr., Class of 1956, retired as an administrator and faculty member from University of Baltimore in 2006, he thought of his alma mater when looking for a home for his personal library. His gift includes over 800 books, much of it in the areas of Asian studies and history. An avid fan of Gettysburg athletics, Hopkins brings a carload every time he comes to campus for a sporting event.

"It has by far the most pristine, well-cared for books I've seen in a donation," says Denise Weldon Siviy, the library's coordinator of gifts. "Many are virtually new and even the vintage items are still encased in unmarred dust jackets and show remarkably little wear. His books were so nice that we used them to replace many of our well-worn duplicates."

In an unusual twist, some of the books ended up back in Baltimore. Duplicates that weren't needed found a new home when Carol Rinke, assistant professor of education, and her students were on a service learning project at a new school in Baltimore. "This school has such a limited budget and only had a total library collection of 2000 books," says Siviy. "They were thrilled with the donations and we were happy to share this great gift."
This is Gettysburg, so people expect the library to have rich resources for the study of the Civil War Era. Of course we do have truly extraordinary resources—but the study of American History must include more than the Civil War. We have, for example, surprisingly good material related to the Colonial Period and the Revolutionary War, and thanks to an alert professor and the generosity of collector Harlowe DeForest Hardinge, we recently enhanced our holdings with a remarkable acquisition.

“It started when Professor Tim Shannon alerted me to a notice in a history newsletter that someone was looking for a home for his American Revolution rare book collection,” explains Karen Drickamer, director of Special Collections. “Mr. Hardinge visited our campus, attended one of Shannon’s classes, talked to students, had lunch, and visited Special Collections. He later called to say he had decided to give his collection to us.”

Hardinge shipped over 300 titles to the library from his home in Mercer Island, Washington.

A few of the rarest include:


Hardinge, a native of York, PA, says his interest in collecting started in his youth when he saw the Hearst collection on sale in New York City. “Among the items was a Lincoln letter and I thought it would be fun to own that,” he says. He started collecting autographs of politicians but his collection expanded when, as a student at Cornell University, he encountered a professor who gave him a passionate interest in the founding fathers.

One day Hardinge spotted an advertisement in the New York Times and realized he could purchase original documents. “My first purchase was an Alexander Hamilton document… when my interests became more selective, and expensive, I switched to books on the American Revolution,” he says. “The rest is history—my collecting history.”
With a few clicks on your computer, you can see exactly what Gettysburg looked like 75 years ago. Special Collections now has its 1924 Sanborn fire insurance map of Gettysburg online. The map is divided into 17 numbered sheets (sheet 14 is missing) and you can zoom in to examine the detailed layout of all the streets and buildings.

For example, if you look at sheet 5 you will see Gettysburg College. Pennsylvania Hall is designated as a dormitory, the president’s home is in the center of campus and Glatfelter Hall houses among other things the library and “dance hall.”

“Sanborn fire insurance maps were produced to document the residential, commercial and industrial buildings within city blocks,” explains Carolyn Sautter, cataloging and metadata librarian. “The surveyors who created the maps filled them with rich detail including the size and shape of the buildings. Although they were designed to assist insurance companies, they now allow us to stroll through the social history of Gettysburg in the 1920s.”

Founded in 1866, the Sanborn Map Company has produced maps for more than 12,000 cities and towns in North America. The maps were designed to help fire insurance agencies assess the risk of potential fire damage in order to set their premiums. Therefore these records include construction details about each building’s design, use, and power supply, as well as indicating relevant things like the nearest water supply location or even if there is a night watchman.

You will find these maps and more on the library’s GettDigital page: www.gettysburg.edu/library/gettdigital.

Musselman Library’s book cart drill team, Gett Down With Your Funky Shelf, took 1st place in its category in the 2008 Gettysburg Halloween Parade. Using the theme of Grease, librarians donned ’50s garb, transformed their carts into drag racers, and boogied to show hits like “Grease is the Word” and “You’re the One that I Want.” Other marching groups like Franklin Township Elementary School and Brownie Troop 894 were left in the dust as Gett Down sped to victory.

Other college staff assisted the team. Associate director of career planning Katy Mattson choreographed the winning performance as well as some cool marching moves for the parade route. Information technology gurus provided even more artistry with Travis Mantha driving the “Blue Bullet” electric vehicle/music projector and Sharon Birch designing the book cart art. Professors John Kowaleski and Jocelyn Swigger carried the team banner and added a bit of their own fancy footwork to the mix.

Due to popular demand, an encore performance was later held in front of the library with curious faculty, staff and students looking on in awe. And now the show has come to DVD!

Sophomores Anskar Fosse and Patricia Veasey followed the team’s every move creating a 15-minute documentary film for a class project. A copy is available for checkout from the library’s DVD collection.
ALUMNI COLLECTOR  A Tribute to Rev. Frederick S. Weiser

On January 26, 2009, the Gettysburg College community lost a gifted and generous friend with the death of Reverend Frederick S. Weiser, Class of 1957. Pastor Weiser was a highly respected scholar of Pennsylvania German studies and an avid collector of Pennsylvania folk art. Weiser periodically lent Musselman Library samples from his collections for public exhibition. Past exhibits included Colonial era artifacts, original Pennsylvania German fraktur, and carvings from the Swiss fishing town of Brienz in the canton of Berne.

At the time he passed away, library staff were working with Weiser on this exhibition of wood carvings from the mountain villages of Central Europe. We have done our best to complete our work without his wise counsel.

These wood carvings represent Swiss life around 1900 and feature careful reproductions of the regional attire, occupations, and the personality of this region north of the Alps. Brienz is known for the Cantonal Woodcarving School which was established in 1862. Weiser began collecting this set around 1962 when he brought one home as a gift for his mother. Over time, he continued to add to the collection as new pieces became available.

We offer this exhibit as a tribute to Weiser’s life and felicitous connection to Gettysburg College.

Library has Sweet Remembrances

Musselman Library notes with deep regret the passing of George Henderson Sweet, Class of 1942, on February 21. Sweet was a Navy veteran and contributed many of his World War II related papers and artifacts to Special Collections.

Sweet served from 1942-1945 as the chief officer of LST 358 in the European Theatre. He commanded his ship and crew in every major U.S. invasion in the North African and Mediterranean regions with the exception of the D-Day Invasion. He distinguished himself as being one of the youngest LST (Landing Ship Tank) skippers in the region.

Several years ago Sweet visited a senior history class to talk about his life aboard the LST he commanded, a replica of which he brought with him. “George was straightforward and informative, not just about crisis moments but also about everyday experience and interpersonal relations,” Professor Michael Briener recalls. “The students were absorbed by his outstanding presentation.”

With his brother Donald Sweet, Class of 1949, he authored two books, Lightning Strikes: a History of Amphibious Actions during World War II and a collection of reminiscences and reflections entitled A Village Remembers: the Strength of America: Ridgewood, New Jersey, World War II, 1941-1945. He donated copies to the library along with a video he produced, Marvelous LSTs, which includes footage from Navy Department World War II films showing the value of the LSTs in winning the naval battles for the United States.

In 1945, Sweet married Eleanor Westlake, Class of 1945. He had a long career with Masland Duraleather Company in Philadelphia, beginning in the mail room and rising through the ranks to company president. After retirement in 1975 they moved to Scottsdale, AZ where he worked for FEMA, volunteered at Habitat for Humanity, and held his realtor’s license. He resided in Carlisle, PA at the time of his death.
When we report Special Collections donations we usually present a list of documents, books, maps and traditional college memorabilia. But every once in a while we will get a surprise. How many libraries can boast owning an antique bear trap? Here is a sample of some of the most unusual gifts.
The Notes at Noon concerts continue to be a popular draw and this semester has offered an entertaining mix of music.

Two women plus 10 instruments equalled a lively performance in early March. Known as “Simple Gifts,” Karen Hirshon and Linda Littleton (shown below) played a wide variety of ethnic folk music, ranging from lively Irish jigs and down-home American reels to hard-driving Klezmer freilachs, haunting Gypsy melodies and exotic Balkan dance tunes. It was a great way to compliment the library’s current exhibit series “Discover Other Worlds.” In case you missed their performance, they will return to Gettysburg on April 24 as part of Music Gettysburg, at 7:30 p.m. at the Lutheran Theological Seminary.

On March 23 Ken Bell, adjunct assistant professor of French horn, and Paul Hopkins from the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra delighted audiences with their musical presentation of “The Horn: So Easy a Cave Man Could Play It.” The two gave a brief history of the horn and its evolution from the cave to the concert hall. Starting with the animal horn and the conch shell, they explored how the first sounds were made and used as a signaling device over many centuries. Sounds of the shofar, post horn and trompe de chasse were presented. As the horn developed into a musical instrument, the handhorn, mellophone and modern horn were explained. The concert included musical selections highlighting each period.

On April 6, the Sunderman Conservatory of Music Opera Workshop presented a preview performance of excerpts from Puccini’s Madama Butterfly. Under the direction of Kathleen Sasnett, assistant professor of voice and opera, students from the workshop will present the entire opera on April 17th in the Majestic Theater.

Rounding out the season on April 20th, Daniel Levitov, adjunct assistant professor of cello and member of the Sunderman Trio, teams with Scott Crowne, adjunct instructor and collaborative pianist, to present a concert of music for cello and piano. Watch your mail for details.

No one likes to wait in line and it is no different at the library where students are often rushing off to class or a patron with one book winds up behind someone with an armload. With the help of Friends of Musselman Library, a patron can now use a new self-check machine, quickly scanning his ID card and books on the way out.

The do-it-yourself machine is not only fast, but very easy to use. It looks similar to a computer monitor and has step-by-step instructions illustrated on the display screen. “Self check out also solves a privacy issue that libraries face,” explains Mary Evangeliste, director of user services, who spearheaded the project. “This is useful for patrons who want their reading matter kept confidential.”

Of course the machine won’t replace the circulation staff, who will continue to be there to check out your books the “old fashioned” way.
Former library student worker and 1971 graduate, Elaine McIlroy, was one of only 10 librarians nationwide to receive the prestigious “I Love My Librarian” award last December. This recognition is given annually to librarians having a “profound influence on their communities” by the American Library Association, the Carnegie Corporation and The New York Times.

Now the director of Wellfleet Public Library in Massachusetts, McIlroy contacted Musselman Library because she “wanted to share with libraries from my past that had a part in leading me toward my profession [this] lovely honor.” As a student, McIlroy worked in the language lab in the basement of Schmucker. She shares her remembrances:

When I got to Gettysburg in 1967, with my little blue Smith Corona typewriter in tow, I soon found myself spending a good portion of my time in Schmucker Library. It was a great place to meet people, the essential research center with not a computer in sight, and the place I could force myself to study. I remember Miss Moyer behind the desk, the glassed in periodical room on the right as you entered, the light filled main room, and the cage-like study carrels on the top floor.

She earned an MLS degree from SUNY Geneseo and was hired as the director of Wellfleet’s library, where she has been for 28 years.

McIlroy has supervised her library’s transition from a one-room space above the town hall to their current location in a renovated 10,000 sq. ft. building that had once been a candle factory. This facility is now the site of over 1000 programs, classes and meetings every year. Recently, she carried out a fundraising campaign to put solar panels on the roof.

Gettysburg College Professor (and Wellfleet summer resident) Larry Marschall has twice been guest speaker at Friends of Wellfleet Library events.

“Elaine has turned the Wellfleet Library into a cultural and social center for the small community of year-round residents and the much larger community of summer visitors to Cape Cod,” says Marschall. “Wellfleet’s Library is a place you go not just to find books and disks, but also to listen to live music of all sorts, to hear a wide variety of lectures with diverse viewpoints, and just to meet friends. Thanks to Elaine’s energy and enthusiasm, Wellfleet has much more to offer than great oysters and sunny beaches. But, of course those are great, too!”

McIlroy hopes to visit her alma mater soon. “I haven’t seen Musselman Library yet, but I was delighted when I started receiving the Friends of Musselman Library newsletter and learned about all the wonderful programs and activities going on there. I felt a renewed kinship with Gettysburg in connection with the library and am proud to be a member of FOML.”

“Buddhism in the Modern World: The Quest for Social and Religious Identity in Southwest China” records the experiences of the team as they tried to determine “how have traditional Buddhist beliefs, practices, and religious sites survived in the face of the incredibly rapid cultural and economic changes occurring in China today” says Sommer.

In the summer of 2007, a team of students and faculty spent one month studying the current state of Buddhism in the remote regions of China’s Sichuan Province. Deborah Sommer, associate professor of religion, photographed their exploration and some of those images are on display at Musselman Library (main floor apse).

“Buddhism in the Modern World: The Quest for Social and Religious Identity in Southwest China” records the experiences of the team as they tried to determine “how have traditional Buddhist beliefs, practices, and religious sites survived in the face of the incredibly rapid cultural and economic changes occurring in China today” says Sommer.
The typical student is just starting to work when the rest of us are going to bed. The hours after midnight have become prime time for student research. In order to accommodate them the library now offers access to a reference librarian 24 hours a day. No, we didn’t ask them to stay up all night downing black coffee, instead we joined Ask Here PA, a statewide chat reference service that provides 24/7 research help.

Whenever the reference desk is not staffed (10 p.m. to 9 a.m.), students can simply click the “Ask a Librarian” icon on the library website and someone from another library will be there to help. The system first searches for a librarian in Pennsylvania, if none are available it looks farther afield. More than 1000 libraries are part of the larger 24/7 Reference Cooperative.

“The service works just like other online chat or instant messaging service,” says Reference & Instruction Librarian Kerri Odess-Harnish. “It is staffed by trained professionals in public and academic libraries around the country and overseas [England]. Now students who need help at 3 a.m. have access to a librarian at their fingertips!”

In order to participate in this service, Musselman librarians reciprocate by providing five hours of coverage a week - during their regular work hours.

The numbers are in - our gate count indicates that in the fall of 2008 we had a total of 216,762 visitors for the term, up more than 28,000 from 2007. And the library is THE place for late night study, especially during exams. While it is great to be so popular, we don’t always have enough space for all those students at one time. Yes, it was time to look for study space where no student has gone before…

Last fall during finals week, the college kept the College Union Building open until 1 a.m. for five nights and Specialty Dining was opened from 5 p.m. until midnight for four nights. “Having additional night time study space available during finals was extraordinarily helpful,” says Natalie Hinton, circulation supervisor, who, along with her staff had solicited student feedback about the issue.

Students learned about the new locations through lobby signage promoted during finals by life-sized figures of Abraham Lincoln and that ol’ (different kind of) frontier gal Dale Evans.
Students and faculty now have access to a database filled with previously unpublished images from the Civil War era. Images of the American Civil War: Photographs, Posters and Ephemera recently launched with 1400 images documenting the political, social and military climate of the period. When completed, the database will have 75,000 images.

Alexander Street Press, the database provider, is working with archives across the nation to digitize images previously available only to on-site users. There are photographs that reveal all aspects of the soldiers’ war experience including camp life, battle, prison and hospitals. Others show civilian life and the important political figures of the day. There is sheet music, political cartoons, recruitment posters and more.

“Images of the American Civil War is an incredible collection of previously unpublished photographs and ephemera,” says Archivist Karen Drickamer. “This adds great depth to our already rich collection of primary source material we offer our students.”

Users can browse through images organized by subjection area such as Camp Life, Home Front and Posters, or by date. There is also a search feature to locate images with a specific title, keyword, location or photographer.

Reference Librarian Meggan Smith, a class of 2004 history major, found the database fascinating. “There was such a wide range of photographs — cock fights in the camps; railroad ruins in Atlanta; slave pens in Virginia; Lincoln’s funeral procession and even the execution of the Lincoln conspirators.

There were photos of people such as Daniel Webster, William Lloyd Garrison, Mrs. Lincoln in her inaugural gown... and groups such as 69th Pennsylvania at the Battle of Gettysburg.

“This is a great database to browse through!”

Copyright (C) 2009, by Alexander Street Press, LLC.
This semester three Esther Kenyon Fortenbaugh interns are being kept busy on a wide range of library projects.

Senior history major Andrew Royer had been a student employee in Special Collections for over a year when he became their Fortenbaugh intern. He says the work inspired him to apply to graduate school and seek museum internships as he hopes to become a curator for a museum or historical society.

“The internship is the opportunity to get a more in-depth experience,” he says. In addition to handling artifacts (college memorabilia being his favorite), Royer is also advancing those technology skills required to catalog collections. He is working with metadata (sort of a behind-the-scenes documentation about an item) and will soon assist with digitization projects.

Meanwhile, sophomore Chris Merkle is advancing his music skills at the library. The music education major is interested in becoming a conductor and explains that often, in order to get a “foot in the door,” beginning conductors take a position, such as music librarian, with a professional orchestra.

“That individual would be responsible for finding, collecting and purchasing repertoire for the ensemble, along with other duties,” he says. Merkle feels this internship will familiarize him with a wider repertoire and also “significantly improve my research skills, which is supremely beneficial for any college student, music major or otherwise.”

The third Fortenbaugh intern, junior Liz Johns, is seeing green. Johns has been assisting the reference librarians in promoting and managing the popular “Read Green” series (see page 2). “She joined the department as the series was about to launch and engaged immediately by creating a detailed list of suggested reading for participants,” says Director of Reference & Instruction, Janelle Wertzberger.

Johns is also getting a lot of experience in reference work, which she considers important in her plans to go to graduate school for dual masters in history and library science. "I love doing research and I love the general atmosphere of an academic library, so this internship provides the perfect opportunity for me to get a head start on what I hope to do in my career," she says.

"Esther Fortenbaugh comes to mind often when I see the energy and enthusiasm our librarians put into mentoring the interns," says Library Director Robin Wagner. "Esther was a dedicated librarian with such intellectual curiosity. She delighted in learning new things and in sharing those things with young people. She would have been pleased by all this.”

### Friends Cosponsor Visit by Noted Author

Friends of Musselman Library cosponsored a book reading and signing by noted author Christopher Bram on March 26. Bram read from his novel Exiles in America.

"Exiles in America takes us to contemporary academia, rural Virginia, and confrontations with issues of marriage (gay, straight, open) and ethnicity," says Richard Reitsma, visiting assistant professor of Spanish and event moderator. "Central to Exiles, however, is the clash of cultures between Americans struggling with their own psychological dramas and exiled Iranians, struggling with another set of dramas that inevitably lead to heartache."

Bram’s writing is described as a mix of historical, contemporary, political and gay fiction that explores how history and its interpretations have shaped the different worlds we live in. One of his nine books, Father of Frankenstein (1995) was adapted into the Academy Award winning film Gods and Monsters.

Currently Bram is conducting research for a new novel about the Civil War and has a soon-to-be-published novel, Johnstown, about the Pennsylvania flood of 1889.
Musselman Library celebrates the International Year of Astronomy with “The Literature of the Telescope,” an exhibit of historical books from the collection of Laurence “Larry” Marschall, W. K. T. Sahm Professor of Physics. “This display is a modest representation of the way the telescope has evolved and the ways it has been depicted in both popular and technical publications,” says Marschall. Also exhibited is a replica of Galileo’s telescope owned by the physics department.

Marschall explains the significance of Galileo’s telescope:

Four hundred years ago, in 1609, Galileo first observed the heavens with a telescope, and our concepts of the universe changed virtually overnight. Galileo’s discoveries—the mountains and craters on the moon, four moons of Jupiter, the phases of Venus, sunspots and the rotation of the sun, and the starry nature of the Milky Way—are things we take for granted today.

In 1610, when Galileo published the first account, a short book titled Sidereus Nuncius (“The Starry Messenger”), all these things were new, and they shook the very foundations of the accepted view of the cosmos, which had been accepted for nearly two millennia. Accordingly, the United Nations and the International Astronomical Union have declared 2009 the International Year of Astronomy, in celebration of Galileo’s work, and the great advances that have been made since.

The exhibited books are just a small sample of Marschall’s estimated 6000+ books. “I’ve been collecting since I was a child,” he says. “Most of the rare books I have are on astronomy (about 1000), but I also have a bunch on polar exploration and anarchism.”

Recently, Marschall added another book to the mix with his own Galileo’s New Universe: The Revolution in Our Understanding of the Cosmos, which he coauthored with Stephen P. Maran. Marschall is also the author of The Supernova Story, and is a contributor to numerous publications including Astronomy, Discover, Harper’s, Newsday and The New York Times Book Review. For the past 25 years, he has written about 750 reviews of science books from all fields, first for The Sciences (defunct) and now monthly for Natural History.

Musselman Library is Good for Your Health

Last fall the library was asked to participate in the college’s Wellness Benefits Fair and encourage employees to take advantage of our services as a way of living a healthier lifestyle. The wellness program focuses on a variety of healthy living options, but in addition to food and exercise advice, they also promote stress-reducing activities such as leisure reading.

“People can make their lives less stressful by reading the latest best sellers, trying out recipes from a cookbook, listening to an audio book on a long drive, or watching a great movie,” says Mary Evangeliste, director of user services. “We wanted to make sure that the staff knew about the many wonderful and free resources available for their use.”

User services staff manned a table at the fair alongside those promoting massage therapy, good nutrition, financial planning and more. Friends of Musselman Library provided funds for the printing of a “To Do” list that showed employees how to navigate the library and find popular fiction, feature films and audio books.

“IT was a great experience,” says Evangeliste. “Many employees had never taken advantage of our services and were even unaware that their college ID serves as their library card.”

Susan Pinkey, circulation assistant, tells employees about the library’s services.

Co-authors of Galileo’s New Universe: Larry Marschall (left) and Stephen Maran with a Galileo portrayer.
Several librarians are teaming up to offer an interesting mix of courses for Alumni College in late May.

"Librarians have offered Alumni College courses from time to time including ones on music, digital collections, and the always popular, library treasures," says Library Director Robin Wagner. "We thought we'd bring back a bit of the old and mix it with some new opportunities this year. Our hope is to encourage alumni to join us in the library and connect with their alma mater's history."

Here's a quick peak at our offerings:

**Getting to Know GettDigital: From the physical to the virtual in Special Collections**

Alumni love to look at the treasures in Special Collections but don't often have the opportunity. This course gives them a chance to be a student again by learning to take advantage of the digital collection. The class will feature objects from these collections: Civil War Era, Historic Gettysburg College, the Stuckenberg Maps, World War II Posters and Asian Art. Instructors are Karen Drickamer, director of Special Collections, and Carolyn Sautter, cataloging and metadata librarian.

Assistant Archivist Chris Ameduri had spent a lot of time searching fruitlessly on the internet for improved lighting for Special Collections. She knew that better illumination in the processing area was crucial for the kind of conservation work needed to preserve fragile rare books. Finally she decided to call her Uncle Bob, Robert Yohe, for advice.

Yohe owns Ener-Tech Associates, Inc., which offers a range of engineering services in the electrical, mechanical and structural engineering fields. Instead of a phone consult, Uncle Bob decided to come from Harrisburg to assess the space himself to determine what kind of lighting and fixtures would work best. After that meeting, he sent employee Matt Kalinowski back to take measurements, gauge candle power and draw schematics.

To Musselman Library's great surprise and delight, lighting and fixtures were quickly sent at no charge and the college's facilities services staff coordinated the installation. Uncle Bob had donated more than $2700 worth of materials and professional services, including new lighting and fixtures for the two windowless offices!

**Alumni Read Green: A Climate Change Discussion**

This course was born out of the very successful environmental reading and discussion series the library had this spring. "Attendance at this series ranged from students to farmers to members of local book groups," says Wagner, "how nice to be able to offer a taste of this discussion series to our alumni."

Librarians will join Sarah Principato, assistant professor of environmental studies, to facilitate a discussion of Field Notes from a Catastrophe by writer, Elizabeth Kolbert, who tackles the controversial subject of global warming. The book should be read in advance; the first 10 registrants receive a free copy.

**Saving Special Collections One Book at a Time**

“This workshop offered by assistant archivist Chris Ameduri and book conservator Mary Wooten is something completely new," explains Wagner. Special Collections is the steward for over 11,000 rare books. Many of the books from the 18th and 19th century are in various degrees of deterioration which restricts their use by researchers. "Chris has invested much time and energy in learning book conservation techniques and we thought this might appeal to the collectors and bibliophiles outside the library."

For more information, contact Alumni Relations at (717) 337-6518 or alumni@gettysburg.edu.