

**ARCHITECTURE AND ART LIBRARY
ANNUAL REPORT, July 1, 2011-June 30, 2012**

Prepared by Jane Block

I. UNIT CONTRIBUTION HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

A. Staffing:

1. The lack of replacement for Jing Liao after her death on 28 February 2011 placed a strain on several crucial services delivered by Ricker Library. We requested and were denied a consolidation of our half-time Library Specialist position to a full-time Library Specialist.
2. The Unit was fortunate to have one .50 FTE graduate assistant funded by GSLIS at .25 and .25 by the University Library. The major responsibilities of the assistant are in the areas of collection development, reference, outreach (co-ordination of displays at the entrance of Ricker Library and web site assistance). The graduate assistant also provided some help with information literacy classes and important public outreach to our clientele by serving ably at the reference desk when librarians were attending meetings on or off campus. The report on the departing graduate assistant was provided to the Office of Human Resources.
3. We mentored a GSLIS graduate student who volunteered her services for five hours weekly in Ricker Library. This student evidenced interest in a career in art librarianship. Her duties were restricted to collection development activities.

B. Collection Development: [Goal 4, Expand Library Collections of Strategic Initiatives]

The disciplines served by Ricker Library still rely primarily on print resources (monographic), although we are eager to acquire electronic resources whenever possible. The acquisition of titles singly is a time-consuming process in contrast to the social and hard sciences where large electronic packages are the norm.

NEW JOURNALS: ARTMARGINS: A new journal from MIT fostering awareness about contemporary art in Eastern Europe with a global perspective was acquired. The content includes Eurasia, North Africa, the Middle East, Latin America and Central Asia.

THE LIBRARY IS LOOKING FOR COLUMN: We were able to acquire three important and expensive publications through the generosity of donors who saw our requests: *Le Corbusier's Plans: From the idea to the project: a dvd set consisting of the digital archive of Le Corbusier's architectural plans*, \$10,000; *the Medieval bestiary: the animal in illuminated manuscripts*, \$625; and Leonardo Da Vinci's, *Codex Leicester(Hammer)* containing the entire range of Leonardo's inventive thought on astronomy and water, \$1,975. Each of these is an essential acquisition in the field containing the most up-to-date scholarship accompanied by lavish illustrations.

RETROSPECTIVE PURCHASES: With the assistance of the Office of Collection Development, Peter Bennett, antiquarian bookseller, and I met with ten faculty from the School of Architecture, the Department of Art history and the Krannert Art Museum, and acquired forty retrospective monographs including the serial *Forma: publicacion ilustrada de Arte Español antiguo y Moderna y de Obras Extranjeras Existentes en España*. These books fill significant gaps in the collection pinpointed by the teaching faculty.

COLLECTION ASSESSMENT: With the publication of a new directory of catalogue raisonnés, we continue to undertake a review of the literature, one of the important tools in the discipline, in order to determine gaps in the collection. We acquired over three dozen of the most significant items to help support research and teaching. We were also able to update our list of catalogue raisonné holdings on our website, a popular research tool for our students and faculty. We transferred the rarer catalogue raisonnés from the Main Library to Ricker.

GIFTS: We processed three significant donations: the photography library of the College of Art and Design (some 1,000 books); a large shipment of items from the Krannert Art Museum (300 items); and materials from a faculty member including a large component on Frank Lloyd Wright and the Prairie School (638 items). In addition, annual donations to the unit have remained well above \$11,000. We have a loyal base of contributors which I believe is strengthened through personal acknowledgements of all gifts and through our biannual newsletter, *Ricker News*.

WEEDING: In order to alleviate overcrowded conditions in Ricker due to a moratorium on transfers into the Main Library stacks, we selected 1,179 items from Ricker Library for transfer to Oak Street. In addition, we transferred 4,427 items from Ricker to Main Library Stacks and 3,377 items from the Main Library Stacks to Oak. We are most grateful for Cherie' Weible's leadership and the assistance provided by IPM under Mary Laskowski's aegis on this project. We will continue to monitor the Main Library Stacks for congested areas and transfer these to Oak Street. In turn, we are hoping for a larger footprint in the Main Library Stacks devoted to the Humanities in general, and particularly to Art and Architecture materials. We need to have a consistent program for orderly and timely transfers to and from Stacks that is dependable.

IDENTIFYING MATERIALS FOR PRESERVATION: We have made a concerted effort in tandem with our summer graduate assistant to identify items in the greatest need of repair. For these we have requested boxes. This graduate assistant has a keen interest in conservation and preservation and she has been assessing the condition of items in one vault area. This year we have identified 75 items for which boxes or enclosures have been completed

C. Improved Access: [Guiding Values IV, improving access to library content and collections]

Increased Access: Requested and received support from the IT fee to keep Ricker Library open an additional eight hours a week for spring and fall terms.

Internet Archive: Ricker Library continues to recommend items to be scanned from its collections. The most recent suggestion is to digitize all of the School of Architecture's traveling fellowship reports which number in the several hundred.

Website: Both assistants, under supervision of the Ricker Librarians, continuously improve and update the entire web site. With funding from the University Librarian, we were able to create six new Libguides:

Guide to Architectural Details

Guide to Architectural Journals

Guide to Sustainable Architecture

Guide to the Closed Stacks

Guide to Basic Architectural Sources

Guide to Basic Sources in Art

BLOG: Launch of our new blog accessible from Ricker Library's homepage. The blog gives Ricker Library a new avenue of outreach.

Newsletter: Unit issues two newsletters annually, fall and spring, *Ricker News*, containing information on events in Ricker and signaling donor acknowledgements.

Cataloguing: Our backlog was searched and approximately twenty-five items were sent to rapid cataloguing for processing.

D. Staff Development Activities:

Librarians participated in the following annual meetings of: The ALA Annual conference in New Orleans, June 2011; ALA Midwinter Meeting in Dallas, January 2012; ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, June 2012; the ALA Committee on Accreditation, Chicago, November 2011 and April 2012; Conference on Illinois History; Society of Architectural Historians [SAH], and the Walter Burley Griffin Society. Librarians and staff members attended the Library-wide retreat held in January 2012, and the Lync Training Workshops. A staff member is on the LSSC and attends the monthly meetings and is the representative to the Arts and Humanities Divisional monthly meetings. Our .50 graduate assistant attended: Voyager Acquisitions, Content Management System (CMS) training, and LibGuides training.

User Services:

10 information literacy sessions were offered to 616 students.

E. Exhibitions:

Ricker Library featured six exhibits, mostly geared to events in regional museums or lectures in the School of Architecture. Among these were exhibits highlighting the fall and spring shows opening at the Krannert Art Museum; a display featuring regional art exhibitions at the St. Louis Art Museum: *Monet's Water Lilies* (fall 2011); the Indianapolis Museum of Art, *Art of the*

American Indians, the Thaw Collection (spring 2012); the Art Institute of Chicago's, *Bertrand Goldberg: Architecture of Invention* (fall 2011) and its *Light Years: conceptual Art and the Photograph* (spring 2012).

F. Cooperative Activities within the College of Fine and Applied Arts:

Head Librarian representing Ricker on 3 library committees within the College; Head librarian ex-officio member of Krannert Art Museum's Acquisitions Committee. Extensive assistance provided to museum staff engaged in research on the collection.

G. Contributions to library-wide programs:

Librarians regularly provide recommendations on items for digitization to Digital Content Creation.

II. STATISTICAL PROFILE

A. Facilities:

TOTAL USER SEATING: 95
At tables: 88
At public workstations 7
No group study rooms or carrel

B. Personnel:

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 STATISTICS

UNIT: Architecture & Art

Personnel	Start Date Mo/Yr	End Date Mo/Yr.
Academic Employees		
Jane Block Faculty	Sept. 1988-	
Chris Quinn Faculty	Aug. 1995-	
Jing Liao Faculty	Aug. 1995-	2011
Hannah Marshall (.50)	Aug. 2010	May 2012 funding from GSLIS
Joyce Wright (2 days weekly)	May 2010-	
Non-Academic Employees		
Dorfredia Robinson	Jan. 1989-	
Laura Poulosky .5	Feb. 2008-	

Student wage budget and student FTE:

Budget: \$15,844 [FTE: .76]

C. User Services:

Gate Count

Fall 2011: 711

Spring 2012: 652

Reference Count

Face-to-Face:

Fall 2011: 128

Spring 2012: 119

Paged Item Interaction

Fall 2011: 96

Spring 2012: 91

Digital Reference Count

Fall 2011: 1

Spring 2012: 0]

Gate, reference, paged item interaction and directional counts are from sweeps weeks – Oct. 10-161, 2011 and March 26- April 1, 2012 (provided by Desk Tracker).

Circulation

Charges:

Renewals:

Discharges

Source: To be provided by Jon Gorman

Numbers of hours open per week: Summer II 2011-40 per week. Fall 2011 – 75.5 per week.

Spring 2012 - 75.5 per week. Summer I 2012-40 per week.

Source: Ricker Library

Supervision of GSLIS volunteer: five hours weekly

Presentations to Groups

10 sessions, 616 students in attendance

Source: Instructional statistics database

Overall goals: Overall goals: Familiarize students with using major databases in the fields of art and architecture; assist in developing a search strategy, orient students to the UIUC Library system and some familiarity with subject headings. Below is a list of specific courses:

In 2011-12 Ricker Library was invited to give orientations to both the incoming undergraduate and graduate students in the School of Architecture. In August 2011 orientation sessions were held for groups of new graduate students introducing them to electronic and print resources in Ricker library (including the *Avery Index* and *Art Full Text*), as well as the organization of the UIUC library and the online catalogue.

In September 2011 the focus group was 200 undergraduate students enrolled in Architecture 101. This presentation was focused on the online catalogue, *Avery Index* and *Art Full Text*--databases the students would use specifically for a class assignment.

A number of other sessions were given including:

Art 101F – Contemporary issues in Art

The focus in this session was on databases such as the online catalogue, *Art Full Text* and the *Artbibliographies modern*. In addition, the faculty member requested a general discussion including the content and scope of print art journals, as he hoped to encourage the students to browse.

ArtHistory 395 – Junior seminar

This session focused on introducing the students to art history databases, most notably the *Bibliography of the History of Art* and the *International Bibliography of Art*.

Architecture 272 – Strategies of architectural design

In this session the focus was on preparing the students for a research assignment on a specific architect and building. The emphasis was placed on formulating search strategies which included selecting appropriate subject headings when consulting the online catalogue and the *Avery index*. This course, along with architecture 101 resulted in library presentations reaching a large percentage of the freshmen and sophomores in the School of Architecture.

Additional instructional sessions included one for Library and Information Science 524 dealing primarily with print resources in the fine arts exposing students to a broad array of resources, and a session for History 200 on using art information for historical research.

D. [Collection Management:]

Voyager Location	Monograph	Monograph	Serial	Serial	Visual Material	Visual Material	Manuscript	Manuscript
	New BIBs	New Items	New BIBs	New Items	New BIBs	New Items	New BIBs	New Items
Arch/Art	2,301	2,388	11	14			1	1
Arch/Art [noncirc]	5	5	6	20				
Arch/Art Cl Stx [noncirc]	50	65	1	4				
Arch/Art Oak St[req only]	7	12	3	8				
Arch/Art Ref [noncirc]	18	32	1	1				
Arch/Art Vault [noncirc]	63	101	4	14	7	24		
Total	2,444	2,603	26	61	7	24	1	1

Above data provided by CAM
 Backlog of catalogued items: 75

III. PRESERVATION STATISTICS

A. Personnel

Name	FTE	Position (faculty, AP, staff)
Laura Poulosky	.08	Staff
*Chloe Ottenhoff	.25	Graduate assistant
Hannah Marshall	.05	Graduate assistant
Chris Quinn	.025	Faculty

*This graduate student has been funded by the Main Library to work on a discrete project of collection assessment for the octavos in the closed stacks areas in Ricker Library. She has worked from July 1-August 15 at ten hours a week of a .25FTE.

IV. CHALLENGES FACING THE UNIT

- **Outdated library infrastructure:** Inadequate physical facilities impinge on all aspects of our responsibilities to our users. Lack of climate control hastens the deterioration of the book collection, and lack of adequate shelf space hastens the decline of these materials; inhospitable environment for teaching and learning.
- **Domestic inflation for monographs coupled with inflation of the Euro** resulting in decreased purchasing power. Lack of funding for resources for the collection (electronic & print) will impinge upon our national and international standing.
- **Desirability of upgrading half-time Library Specialist position to a full-time Library Specialist.** This would maximize efficiencies, allow us to offer new services (through the use of social media) and be recognition of both the complexity of the duties needed to be performed and the time it would take to perform them.

V. LAST YEAR'S (FY 2011) GOALS ACCOMPLISHED SUCCESSFULLY:

- A.** We must continue to weed within Ricker Library for transfer to Main Library Stacks and where appropriate to Oak Street. While IPM has been very accommodating, other projects such as New Service Models, always seem to have priority over the normal cycle of events in a departmental library. We acquire at least 2,700 new items annually and with the return of books at the end of the spring semester, we are often drowning in materials. We need to be able to transfer items to Main Library stacks in a consistent manner and be part of the work flow.
- B.** Integration into Architecture 101, a new course, and the annual graduate architectural orientation: Accomplished through participation in the new course and in the fall graduate architectural orientation.
- C.** Continue assessment of the rare materials in Ricker Library: We have hired a graduate student who has a keen interest in preservation and who has worked in the conservation unit. She is assessing the condition of the vault quarto items.
- D.** Continue preparation of a subject guide to periodicals.

VI. PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR (FY 2012)

- A.** Preparation of three new lib guides on: 1. Building types; 2. Art periodicals available in Ricker Library, and 3. Environment and Behavior.
- B.** Enhancement of information literacy session offered to Architecture 101 (over 200 freshman students in the School of Architecture).
- C.** Continue selective weeding in Main Library Stacks for transfer to Oak and in Ricker Library for transfer to Stacks.
- D.** Complete assessment of vault materials.