

VIRTUAL LIBRARY COMPLEMENTS UNLV SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE'S INNOVATIVE CURRICULUM

In 2002, when UNLV welcomed its first School of Dental Medicine (SDM) students, Nevada was in the midst of a dentist shortage and the school was charged with preparing socially aware, clinically adept dentists to address oral health needs. The Libraries created an online branch to support the SDM's clinical practice and research efforts.

"The deep partnership between the SDM and the University Libraries is helping students become lifelong learners and responsible, informed health care professionals through the use of technology and a commitment to personal service," says Dr. Karen P. West, dean of the School of Dental Medicine.

The force behind UNLV Libraries' first virtual library is Eva Stowers, health sciences librarian; she is the face of the UNLV Libraries to the 60 faculty and 300 students at the satellite campus on Shadow Lane. "I took it very seriously," says Stowers. "From the beginning, I was determined that the Shadow Lane campus students would never be disadvantaged in terms of library service by being off the main campus."

Stowers says, "We created a virtual library because, even though the school was on the main campus for the first few years of its existence, we knew it would eventually move to Shadow Lane and students would not have easy access to Lied Library's physical resources."

Based in Lied Library, Stowers built a dental sciences collection from scratch, subscribing to journals in online format whenever possible. Online journals were still relatively new, and print versions were still preferred by many users. From modest beginnings, Stowers, in close collaboration with the Libraries' web services staff and the faculty at the SDM, created a virtual library that organizes library dental science resources for students and faculty. The extensive Libraries' online dental journal collection, whether accessed from that page or the Libraries'



Virtual Library continued on page 5

A dental mannequin gets a check-up in the SDM simulation lab.

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Patricia Iannuzzi
Dean, University Libraries

We developed our strategic plan around one of UNLV's objectives: "Discovery through research, scholarship, and creative activity."

CONNECTIONS

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<http://www.library.unlv.edu>.

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FROM THE DEAN

Our feature story about the creation of a partnership between the UNLV School of Dental Medicine and the University Libraries illustrates so clearly the positive results of finding the thing you love to do — and doing it well.

The Libraries is taking that philosophy to heart as we plan for the next biennium. I am, first and foremost, an educator, and I know that how we focus the Libraries over the next two years will impact the campus for years to come. We are restructuring the way we teach, thinking more imaginatively about how we create learning experiences and how we partner with academic programs.

We developed our strategic plan around one of UNLV's objectives: "Discovery through research, scholarship, and creative activity." The Libraries supports the campus mission, guided by the Focus 50–100 plan for the next 50 years. We have chosen to emphasize discovery, whether in the form of continually improving our website, making it easier for our users to find information, or providing services like Text a Librarian to allow users to communicate on the go with Libraries' staff — or through institutional partnerships like that with the School of Dental Medicine that help develop self-sufficient lifelong learners.

The Libraries will continue to direct considerable energy to maintain "strong, reciprocal, and interdependent relationships between UNLV and the region around us," another of UNLV's core objectives. The Libraries is committed to the documentation of the history of the Las Vegas Valley. You'll read about the important preservation of materials on the Lake Mead National Recreation Area. You'll also read about our community outreach activities like the Curriculum Materials Library's annual participation in Nevada Reading Week.

Our community has a strong investment in Las Vegas and in UNLV; we will continue to nourish relationships with supporters like Flora Mason, who has for years been a guiding influence in the Libraries. I think you will enjoy the profile of Flora and her contribution to the Libraries. You'll see by the growing number of supporters listed in this issue that our staff is spreading the word about our resources — and doing it well.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patricia Iannuzzi".

Patricia Iannuzzi
Dean, University Libraries

LIBRARIES DEVELOP INNOVATIVE APPLICATION TO ENHANCE DIGITAL COLLECTIONS

dmBridge Adds Community-Building Features and Provides Cutting-Edge Interface

When Cheryl Walters, head of digital initiatives at Utah State University, saw *Southern Nevada: The Boomtown Years 1900–1925*, she wrote, “This is such a beautiful, rich digital collection, loaded with things that make it useful for teachers and students.” It is dmBridge that enables the Libraries to provide this custom, optimized user experience.

dmBridge is custom-designed software infrastructure for CONTENTdm® developed by Alex Dolski, an application developer in the Library Technology Division.

CONTENTdm® is an application widely used by libraries to manage and provide access to their digital collections. Transparent to the online visitor, dmBridge provides an improved web interface with social, community-building features such as tagging, commenting, and RSS capability to automatically alert interested visitors when the collection grows. In addition, a sister application, dmMonocle, was developed by Brian Egan, the Libraries’ web and multimedia designer. This application further enhances the digital experience by providing an improved image viewer, allowing quick and easy pans and zooms of the high-resolution digital images.

Dolski was awarded the Libraries’ 2009 Innovative

Solutions Award for authoring dmBridge. The award recognized his sophisticated program code, which provides back-end customization and enhanced user

It is dmBridge that enables the Libraries to provide a custom, optimized user experience.

access to the Libraries’ online digital collections.

Both applications have been implemented for two of the Libraries’ premier digital

collections, *Welcome Home, Howard!* and *Southern Nevada: The Boomtown Years 1900–1925*. In response to overwhelming interest, the Libraries are currently exploring avenues to share this important work with technical staff at other libraries to similarly enhance their online collections.

More information about the Libraries’ digital collections, dmBridge, and dmMonocle can be found at <http://digital.library.unlv.edu/>, <http://digital.library.unlv.edu/dmbridge/>, and <http://digital.library.unlv.edu/dmmonocle/>.



Howard Hughes at Flying Boat controls. “Welcome Home, Howard!” collection

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LIBRARIES PRESERVE LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY

Lake Mead Research Materials Added to Collections

The UNLV Libraries' already comprehensive collections relating to the regional environment are growing, thanks to a cooperative agreement among the UNLV Libraries, the Public Lands Institute at UNLV, and the National Park Service's Lake Mead National Recreation Area. This agreement will result in the creation of a special collection in the Libraries called the Lake Mead National Recreation Area Limnology.

"Limnology is an environmental science, essentially the study of inland waters," explains Peter Michel, director, Special Collections. "It is crucial that documentation associated with this research, past and present, be preserved in the UNLV Libraries."

Lake Mead, part of the Colorado River System, is the largest reservoir in the United States and the sole source of drinking water for 1.6 million Southern Nevada residents. More than 20 million downstream users draw their drinking water from Lake Mead. Lakes Mead and Mohave are managed by the National Park Service as a National Recreation Area (NRA). Southern Nevada's increasing urbanization raises concerns over potential impacts to the existing high water quality of the lakes, and to the terrestrial wildlife,



1936 aerial photo of Lake Mead filling behind Hoover Dam. The white spray in front of the dam is from the open water outlets.

We anticipate this increasingly important material will be a resource that is readily accessible for research and education.

and fish that are dependent upon them. Limnological research by various entities is ongoing at the Lake Mead NRA.

The Public Lands Institute and the National Park Service entered into a cooperative partnership titled Limnological Assistance for the Lake Mead National Recreation Area in Meeting the Challenge of Water 2025. As part of this agreement, the Public Lands Institute will identify

available research material and reports on Lake Mead, to ensure their permanent placement and access in UNLV Libraries.

"This collection recognizes the significance of Lake Mead to Southern Nevada and limnology as a science," says Peg Rees, executive director of the Public Lands Institute. "We anticipate this increasingly important material will be a resource that is readily accessible for research and education."

To see digital collections documenting Hoover Dam and the creation of Lake Mead, see Las Vegas and Water in the West at <http://digital.library.unlv.edu/water/>.

VIRTUAL LIBRARY

Continued from page 1

homepage, provides immediate access to current literature.

Embedding information literacy — the ability to locate, evaluate, and effectively use information — in the dental school curriculum is another aspect of the strong partnership between the Libraries and the dental school. According to Karl Kingsley, Ph.D, assistant professor of Biomedical Sciences, the Internet has changed contemporary workplace skills, resulting in a need for proficiency with specific digital, online, and web-based technologies within the fields of medicine, dentistry, and public health.

The virtual library was created to allow students and faculty to access library resources to do their research and to help students develop skills as health care professionals. Kingsley emphasizes the importance of research that uses evidence-based, peer-reviewed scientific literature with this example: “If the students graduate this year and then two years in the future someone comes up with a new tooth-whitening laser ... how will they know if it’s useful or even practical for their practice? The salesperson will give them a biased view, so the only way they can objectively evaluate this is by searching the evidence base and making their own informed decisions.”

Stowers is helping design and implement an “information literacy skills” module after findings showed that more than 50 percent of students entering the dental school’s doctoral program were unable to

Who Makes It Happen: Eva Stowers, Health Sciences Librarian

“I have been working for the Nevada System of Higher Education for nearly 30 years. When I was a student worker, ‘library’ meant the round part of what is now the Law School building. I started out typing, photocopying, and filing catalog cards. Most students today don’t even know what those are.

“I left UNLV for the Desert Research Institute and earned my master’s degree at the University of Arizona. When I returned to UNLV in 1998 as a librarian, it was just in time to jump into the world of online resources.

“Showing a student how to search a database like Academic Search Premier or helping a graduate student navigate through PubMed gives me a real sense of satisfaction. Finding the resources they need is a lot like being on a treasure hunt — but the best part is feeling like a participant in UNLV’s research mission.”

Praise from Gillian M.P. Galbraith, M.D., professor and chair of biomedical sciences at the UNLV School of Dental Medicine: “Eva trained seven entering classes of dental students and numerous faculty in the

find a peer-reviewed article for an assignment. The new module is being incorporated into the curriculum during the fall 2009 semester.

As a trial, Stowers conducted a class on literature searching and guided students through evidence-based searches and the library

use of all the library has to offer and has recently expanded this activity to include additional contact with students in classes on critical thinking and research. In short, Eva plays an invaluable role in the educational mission of the UNLV School of Dental Medicine. Possibly her greatest success was the establishment of our virtual library, without which the school could not function.”

Stowers’ experience with the Shadow Lane virtual library resulted in two published scholarly articles:

Stowers, E.; Galbraith, G.; and Kendall, S.L. (2005). Creating a virtual branch library to

serve a remote campus. *Library Hi Tech* 23(3): 372-378.

Stowers, E., and Galbraith, G. (2004). Building a dental sciences collection in a general academic library. *The Acquisitions Librarian* 16: 77-88.

Stowers recently was a co-investigator on a National Institutes of Health challenge grant application relating to health information literacy that was submitted by Dr. Karl Kingsley of the School of Dental Medicine.

database search engines. Ninety-six percent of the students successfully completed the subsequent assignment.

“It is clear that the incorporation of information literacy and the personal touch made all the difference for these students,” says Dean West.



Eva Stowers

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TOOLS TO STAY CONNECTED WITH THE LIBRARIES

Text a Librarian, Ask A Librarian, Bringing the Catalog to Your Cell Phone

In our ongoing efforts to keep connected with the next-generation technology user, the Libraries' offers three new tools.

Have a quick question? Text a Librarian using your cell phone. Text 66746 and start your first message with the keyword askunlv. Use Text a Librarian (<http://www.library.unlv.edu/ask/textmessage.html>) for simple questions of up to 160 characters.

Ask research questions requiring lengthy or detailed responses by using one of the other options listed on the Ask A Librarian (<http://www.library.unlv.edu/ask/index.html>) page, including instant message, cell



phone, e-mail, or in person.

Finding materials in the Libraries is easier than ever. No need to write down the title,

call number, and floor location of an item — now you can send the information directly to your cell phone by following the easy directions at [http://blogs.library.unlv.edu/newsblog/2009/07/bringing-the-catalog-to-your-c.html](http://blogs.library.unlv.edu/newsblog/2009/07/bringing-the-catalog-to-your-cell-phone.html).

Writing a paper? Overwhelmed with citations? Need help with proper formatting? Try Refworks.

RefWorks is a web-based bibliographic software package that enables you to organize your research, create a bibliography in a variety of citation styles, import references from many data

sources, and much more. To learn more, go to <http://www.library.unlv.edu/help/refworks/index>. For free online seminars (webinars) on RefWorks, visit <http://www.refworks.com/content/webinars/default.asp>.

CML COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS ENCOURAGE YOUNG READERS

Nevada Reading Week is a good example of the Curriculum Materials Library's (CML) community outreach efforts. Last spring, more than 1,000 elementary school children gave Amy Johnson, head of the CML, their full attention as she read aloud to them. Guest readers like Johnson, community members, and local celebrities visited 40 classes in 16 area schools during the week.

Nevada Reading Week is held statewide each year to encourage students to celebrate reading

through shared activities and experiences. Guest readers help children recognize that reading can be a fun and enjoyable activity.

Johnson views these partnerships as a natural extension of the CML's mission. They support teacher programs in the College of Education (COE) and serve as a resource for teachers in Southern Nevada.

Another successful community outreach effort occurred in February, when the CML hosted award-winning children's

and young adult author Susan Campbell Bartoletti. The author's visit to Las Vegas was funded by the Libraries Dean's Associates. Bartoletti delivered a keynote speech at UNLV, which was free and open to the public. She also held a writing workshop for a select number of COE students enrolled in children's literature courses and visited a local middle school, delighting her young audience.

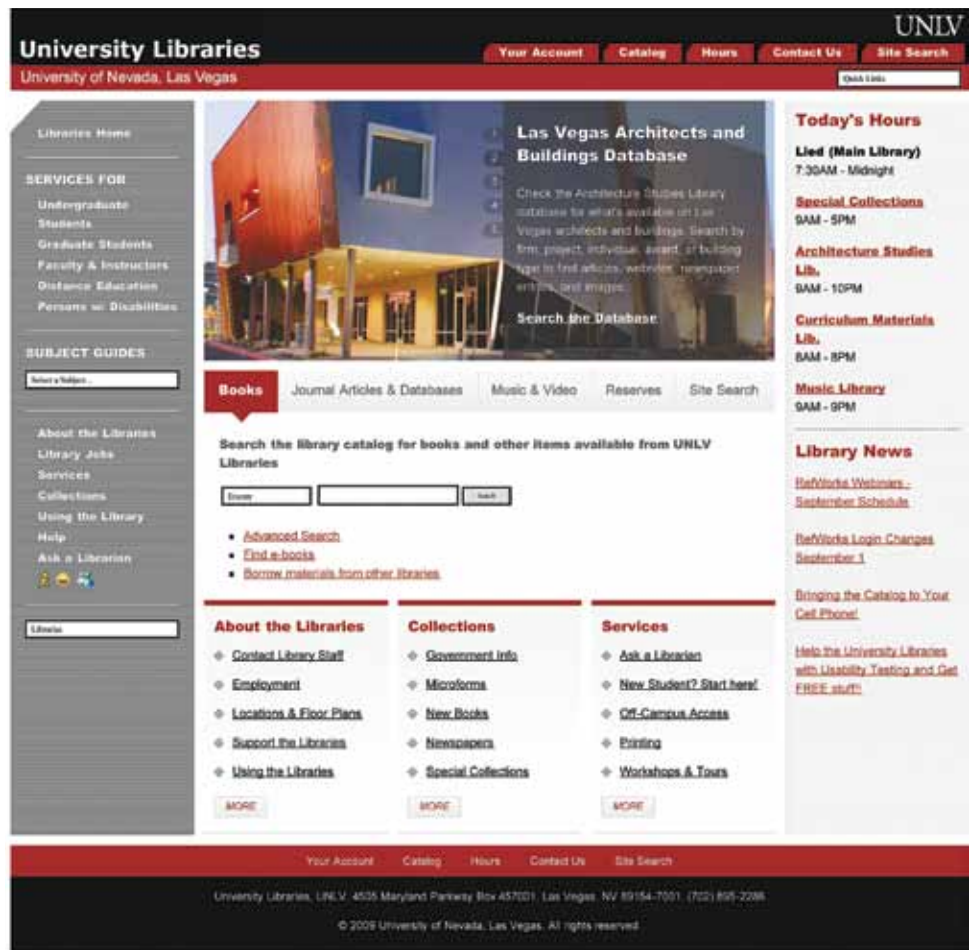
For more information on the CML and its programs, visit <http://www.library.unlv.edu/cml/>.

REDESIGNED LIBRARIES WEBSITE EASIER TO USE

The UNLV Libraries rolled out a newly designed website just in time for the start of the fall semester. Libraries' patrons started seeing additions and improvements to the site in early 2009. Over the coming year, the Libraries will continue to work on its site.

In August, under the direction of the Web Management Committee and informed by ongoing usability testing, the homepage underwent its first redesign since 2007. Changes included:

- Larger page size for easier readability
- Redesign and enhancement of first-level pages for more obvious navigation
- Changes to the tabbed search boxes to reduce confusion:
 - More noticeable Site Search tabbed box
 - Addition of a Media/Video search tab
 - Journals, Articles, and Databases combined into a single tab
- Enhancement of ad space and ad rotation to draw



attention to library services and events

Usability tests were run with both graduate students and undergraduates to determine the ease of finding commonly needed information. The

newly designed site addresses some of the problems that were uncovered by the testing, such as finding journal articles and locating frequently accessed items such as the Libraries' hours of operation.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

Lied Library
(main library)
library.unlv.edu
895-2286

Architecture Studies Library
library.unlv.edu/arch
895-1959

Curriculum Materials Library
library.unlv.edu/cml
895-3593

Music Library
library.unlv.edu/music
895-2541

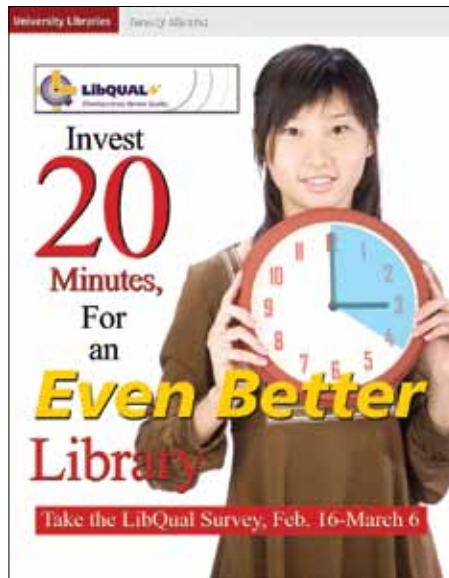
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SPRING 2009 SURVEY PROVIDES USEFUL FEEDBACK

The UNLV Libraries relies on library users' feedback in order to continuously improve resources and services that support teaching, learning, and research. One of the most powerful tools students, faculty, staff, and community members can use to give feedback is a nationally-normed survey called LibQual+. The Libraries offered the survey for the fourth time in spring 2009.

"We are grateful so many library users shared their perceptions and expectations of the library and its services. More than 1,200 faculty, undergraduates, and graduate students responded," says Jeanne Brown, assessment librarian.

The survey provides quantitative ratings as well as comments that are extremely helpful in interpreting that data. In general, the responses were very positive. The "helpful, knowledgeable staff" were mentioned frequently, often by name. Expectations are high, but our collections exceed minimum expectations in most cases. However, inappropriate cell phone use continues to be a concern. In addition, many individuals also mentioned



the need to regulate group study room use. And, not surprisingly, computers are not always available when wanted.

Now it is up to Libraries' staff to respond, using the data and its analysis to inform librarywide discussions and planning. Past LibQual+ survey results

have influenced decisions about collections, technology, and even furniture. We expect survey participants will find it was worth their time to give us feedback. For more about the findings, see the LibQual+ report at <http://www.library.unlv.edu/about/libqual/>.

"We are grateful so many library users shared their perceptions and expectations of the library and its services."

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES LANCE AND ELENA CALVERT AWARD FOR UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH - 2009 RECEPTION



Left to right, Lance Calvert, award winner Tyler Parry, and Elena Calvert.



Left to right, Dean Patricia Iannuzzi, Fred and Leilani Peters.



Lance Calvert addresses the guests.

FLORA MASON — LOVE OF LEARNING, COMMITMENT TO THE COMMUNITY

When Flora Mason heard the concept for the Libraries' Peer Research Coaches program, she knew it was just right for a campaign gift from her and her husband, Stuart. They wanted their gift to have a direct impact on students and create opportunities for students with financial need. The Peer Coaches program does this and more, providing mentors for each student and teaching skills to help them succeed in college and beyond.

Libraries have always been special to Mason, where she spent some of her happiest hours as a child. "I can remember the library in every place I've lived since I was a child," she remarked recently. She enjoyed working at the Clark County Library until the early 1980s but realized any chance for advancement required a college degree. Armed with this knowledge and the encouragement of the library director, she enrolled at UNLV.

Mason's first experience as a college student, nearly 20 years earlier in Florida, had confirmed her love of literature, so she majored in English at UNLV. She jokes that she first noticed most of her classmates were the same age as her children when her son Bill picked her up one



Flora and Stuart Mason

day after class, and the young woman talking with her had more interest in meeting Bill than in continuing their conversation. Mason's love of learning led to a master's degree in English and an instructor position in UNLV's English department.

After retiring, Mason joined the Libraries' Advisory Board and has been a valued advisor to two deans. Mason's academic experience, coupled with her involvement with community organizations such as the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, Anti-Defamation League, Temple

Beth Sholom, and Junior League, give her a perspective that truly benefits the Libraries

The Masons' commitment to Las Vegas, their home since 1965, was the catalyst for their support of the Peer Research Coaches program. Over time, with involvement with the students and the program, they expanded their support. "When we met the students and the team of librarians working with them, I knew the program would succeed. Stuart and I decided to endow it to ensure the program could continue into the future," says Mason.

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HONOR AND MEMORIAL PROGRAM

The University Libraries is proud to provide an opportunity to celebrate, memorialize, or pay tribute to individuals, organizations, or events through the Honor with Books program and through the naming of physical spaces throughout the Libraries. These programs provide donors with the opportunity to honor a family name, celebrate the life of a loved one, or extend the legacy of a friend, colleague, or family member. The following were honored between July 1, 2008 and June 30, 2009.

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <i>Marshall Ashcraft</i> | <i>Sherry Colquitt '90</i> | <i>Dorothy Leavitt</i> | <i>Lee Scroggins</i> |
| <i>Leora Baron</i> | <i>Margot Crow</i> | <i>Sarah Lee</i> | <i>Pam Sitton</i> |
| <i>Barry "NewB" Becker, Jr.</i> | <i>Al Esbin</i> | <i>Frances Manzi</i> | <i>Marta Sorkin '75</i> |
| <i>James "Jim" Bell</i> | <i>Joseph Fell</i> | <i>Marydean Martin</i> | <i>Laila Spiegel</i> |
| <i>Erin Bendavid</i> | <i>Key Fescher</i> | <i>Mary McCoy '75</i> | <i>Charles Sylvestri</i> |
| <i>C. Donald Brown</i> | <i>Vince Figgins</i> | <i>Thomas "Tom" McCullough</i> | <i>Michael F. Taylor '76</i> |
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| <i>Anne Calvert Curry</i> | <i>Harry D. Fletcher, Jr.</i> | <i>Paulette Nelson</i> | <i>Marnie Vantine</i> |
| <i>Lisa Cano</i> | <i>Peter Gratton '81</i> | <i>Norma L. Rathner</i> | <i>Kathy War</i> |
| <i>Roland Capagli</i> | <i>Frank Kerestesi</i> | <i>Henry Schmitt</i> | <i>Thurman White</i> |
| <i>Betty Carson</i> | <i>Bill E. Kost</i> | <i>June D. Schwartz</i> | <i>Claudine Williams</i> |

LIBRARIES HONOR ROLL 2008-2009

The University Libraries wishes to thank the following individuals, corporations, and foundations for their generous support from July 1, 2008, through June 30, 2009. The Libraries Honor Roll recognizes alumni and friends who help make possible the dynamic blend of preservation, research, and cutting edge technology the Libraries offer. Donors support the Libraries through the Dean's Associates, Investors Circle, and Honor and Memorial programs. Every gift is important and valued. It is our wish to recognize all donors accurately. If there is an error in your listing, or to make a change in the way your name appears, please contact Rhiannon Reynolds at 702-895-2235 or email at Rhiannon.Reynolds@unlv.edu.

| | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| <i>Anonymous</i> | <i>Genevieve and William Boldt</i> | <i>Sherry '90 and Richard Colquitt</i> |
| <i>Jessica C. Acuna '07</i> | <i>Peter Bondanella</i> | <i>Nellie A. Coren '93</i> |
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| <i>Dorothy P. Appleton '75</i> | <i>Judith Boyer</i> | <i>Craft Family Trust</i> |
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| <i>John Batdorf</i> | <i>Maria L. Campbell</i> | <i>Melody A. Edwards '03</i> |
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*Robert A. Mashas
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WHAT'S NEW AT THE LIBRARIES

BOOK AND PAPER CONSERVATION WORKSHOP SERIES

A series of workshops on the fundamentals of professional paper mending and book repair is now offered in Lied Library Special Collections. Practical hands-on experience is coupled with lectures on preservation theory. Upcoming classes will be held Nov. 14 and 21, and participants will learn techniques for creating quality protective enclosures for fine book bindings. On Dec. 5, a one-day workshop will give practical advice on "Basic Disaster Recovery" and provide methods for salvaging books damaged by fire or flood. All classes are taught by Michael Frazier, UNLV Libraries conservator and 2009–2010 president of the Conference of Inter-Mountain Archivists. Classes are open to the public, and fees include all supplies and handouts. Class size is limited, so enroll early at <http://edoutreach.unlv.edu>.

LIBRARIES 2009–2011 STRATEGIC PLAN TAKES SHAPE

The Libraries' mission to "contribute to and support self-sufficient learners who can discover, access, and use information effectively for academic success, research, and lifelong learning" is the foundation of the Libraries' strategic plan for the current biennium. The plan, with 16 strategic directions for the next biennium, emphasizes discovery. The Libraries' goal is to lead the campus in ensuring that faculty and students have the skills, abilities, and tools necessary to find the best information possible. The Libraries Strategic Plan is available at <http://www.library.unlv.edu/about/>.