

Among Friends

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The Newsletter of the Friends of the Library of Brown University

Reaping the Rewards of Hard Work

There is a common denominator to the energy, enthusiasm and success of the Friends of the Library endeavors: Sophie Blistein '41, p'01.

"As chair of the Friends membership committee for many years, Sophie has been instrumental in swelling our membership from just a few hundred to over 1,000 members today," said Fraser A. Lang '67, p'04 and Chair of the Friends of the Library. "This was her goal, and one she pursued with tireless determination. She promoted Friends of the Library memberships at Corporation meetings, to far-flung alumni, current students and even went so far as asking her friends and family to join the Friends of the Library in lieu of giving her birthday gifts."

This fall, Sophie stepped down as membership chair, having achieved her goal of 1,000 members. To honor the occasion, the Friends of the Library Board of Directors presented her with the following certificate of appreciation:

The Friends of the Library of Brown University

Express our Heartfelt Appreciation to

Sophia S. Blistein
"Sophie"

We are grateful for the many years you have shared your wisdom, enthusiasm and tireless energy as Membership Chair for the Friends of the Library.

We honor your spectacular achievement of surpassing the milestone of 1,000 Members for the Friends.

"Things won are done, joy's soul lies in the doing."
(W.M. SHAKESPEARE, TROILUS AND CRESSIDA, ACT I, SCENE II)

September 30, 2004

Rhode Island Coalition of Library Advocates Present William E. Reeves Friends Recognition Award to Brown Friends of the Library

While happy that the Friends board could honor Sophie in such a way, Interim University Librarian Florence Kell Doksansky and Board Chair Fraser A. Lang wanted to tell Sophie's story to the larger community. When an opportunity came to nominate the Friends for the Rhode Island Coalition of Library Advocates' William E. Reeves Friends Recognition Award, they jumped at the chance to bring even greater attention to Sophie's achievements.

In his letter announcing the call for nominations for the award, Rhode Island Coalition of Library Advocates Chair William J.

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Joan Ress Reeves, Florence Doksansky, Fraser A. Lang and honoree Sophie Blistein

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A View from the Chair

Although the Brown University Library is in a time of transition, great things are happening! The new "Library Collections Annex" is now open (see story on page 5), we have received a generous gift for a new, 24-hour student study area in the Sciences Library, and we are making great progress in our search for a new University Librarian.

The Corporation of Brown University formally accepted a \$5-million gift from Susan P. and Richard A. Friedman, 1977 and 1979 Brown graduates respectively. Four million dollars of that gift will allow the University to create a 24-hour student study center using the first three levels of the Sciences Library. The University will create space for the new facility by relocating Library administrative areas and by moving some Sciences Library materials to its new Library Collections Annex.

This generous gift and planned renovation will allow the Library to better serve students, who desperately need 24-hour study space. The new study center will be yet another way for the Library to be a central part of students' academic lives.

Much has been happening to improve Library facilities, with the new Annex and now the study center. This focus on facilities has been an important emphasis of the Library Advisory Council, a dedicated group of volunteers who meet regularly to advise President Simmons and the Corporation about Library matters. The Council is delighted that its work has been recognized and such impressive progress is being made.

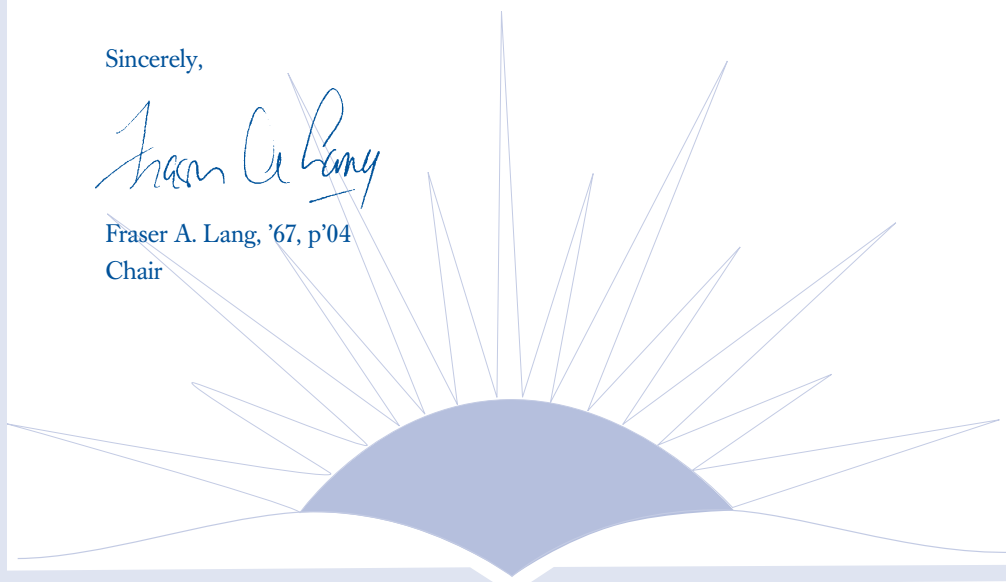
On another front, we are moving forward with the search for a new University Librarian. The search committee has interviewed a number of candidates and several of the finalists have visited campus. I am confident that we will soon identify a lead candidate who can carry on with the excellent foundation already established at the Library. In this way, the Library will continue to provide the core support necessary to ensure Brown's academic programs continue to thrive in the 21st century.

Finally, I'm pleased that the Library, under the leadership of Interim University Librarian Florence Doksansky, is making such progress. And as always, we are indebted to the tireless support of our Friends.

Sincerely,



Fraser A. Lang, '67, p'04
Chair



"Sophie" continued from page 1



Fraser A. Lang, Sophie Blistein and Florence Doksansky

Allen described why the organization offers the award. "[We] recognize the many valuable contributions which friends groups make to their local libraries. Not only do they raise money for their libraries, but they also run programs and engage in a variety of community outreach and public relations activities."

"When I read this, I realized that this is exactly what the Friends of the Library have been doing with Sophie's guidance," said Doksansky. "Our nomination detailed Sophie's achievements and the mix of personal connection and interesting programming that enabled the Friends to reach Sophie's 1,000-member goal."

The Coalition was impressed and selected the Friends to receive its award for innovative programming. The award was presented at its annual meeting on February 15, 2005 at the Rhode Island State House. Joan Ress Reeves, whose late husband this award is named in honor of, was most pleased to acknowledge the Brown Friends, and noted that this was the first time an academic library's friends group received this award. It is a tribute to the fact that the Rhode Island Coalition of Library Advocates recognizes all types of libraries and their friends.

Joan also was most delighted to recognize her longtime friend, Sophie; she described Sophie's accomplishments in reaching the 1,000-member goal. Sophie in turn thanked Merrily Taylor, past University Librarian, and Sam Streit for their leadership and support in this effort. It was an exceptionally proud moment in the history of the Brown Friends of the Library. And as was fitting, Sophie accepted the award on behalf of the Friends; we received a plaque and a gift of \$100, which we have put toward the Merrily E. Taylor Friends of the Library Endowment.

Calendar of Events

Please mark your calendar for these upcoming events! Please e-mail Jane_Cabral@brown.edu or call (401) 863-1518 for more information. All Friends of the Library events are open to the public, so feel free to bring a guest and allow us to introduce them to fellow Friends of the Library. Please note that our first event with Art Buchwald does require advance registration.

I'll Always Have Paris: An Evening with Art Buchwald

Tuesday, May 3, 2005, 8 p.m.

List Art Center Auditorium

PLEASE NOTE: Advance registration is required for this event, as seating is limited.

Spend an evening with one of America's most notable journalistic personalities.

Art Buchwald – Pulitzer Prize winner, columnist, humorist, dramatist, and author of numerous books, including "Art Buchwald's Paris" (1954), "Down the Seine and Up the Potomac with Art Buchwald" (1977), and "I'll Always Have Paris: A Memoir" (1996) – comes to Brown University for a special talk about his days in Paris: From 1949 to 1962, Mr. Buchwald was based in Paris, writing for *Variety* and the European edition of *The New York Herald Tribune*. His visit to Brown is part of the Mel and Cindy Yoken Cultural Series.

After Mr. Buchwald's talk, guests are invited to a reception at the John Hay Library (next door to List Art Center) and to visit the Yoken Archives, a collection of books, letters, notes and personal papers of Mel B. Yoken, MAT'61, Chancellor Professor of French at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. Professor Yoken has corresponded with writers and luminaries in many different fields in France and throughout the world. The Yoken Archives, containing more than 25,000 items, was donated to the Brown University Library in June 2004.

Seating is limited for Mr. Buchwald's talk. Please reserve your seating no later than April 28. Reservations may be made by calling Jane Cabral at (401) 863-1518 or e-mailing Jane_Cabral@brown.edu.

Calendar of Events continued from page 3

Imagining the Civil War

Tuesday, May 10, 2005, 8 p.m.
John Hay Library, Lownes Room

Augusta Rohrbach, Charles H. Watts II Visiting Professor of English, and her class of Brown students are using the McLellan Lincoln Collection and other collections of the John Hay Library this semester to study the legacy of Civil War images and legends that shape our understanding of the past. Friends of the Library are invited to a colloquium on May 10 to visit with the class to discuss their research. This is a special opportunity to interact directly with students who are using the Library's special collections in their study and to learn some of the insights their research has uncovered.

Carberry Day 50th Anniversary Buffet

Friday, May 13, 2005

Luncheon buffet:

11:30 a.m. to
2 p.m.

Dinner buffet: 6
to 9 p.m.

Brown University
Faculty Club

Since notice of him first appeared on a University Hall bulletin board in 1929, Josiah S. Carberry, Brown's globetrotting Professor of Psychoceramics, has been a fixture in the hearts and minds of all Brunonians (although the good Professor hasn't always been around to enjoy the acclaim). As many Friends know, Professor Carberry's close relationship with the Brown University Library was forever sealed when, on Friday, May 13, 1955, the University received an anonymous cash gift and letter that read: "The enclosed \$101.01 is for a special fund in memory of my future late wife, Laura Carberry; to be known, of course, as the Josiah S. Carberry Fund." One of the conditions of the gift was that each Friday the 13th hence

should be designated "Carberry Day" and on that day, "alumni, students, friends of the University and other unfortunates" should "donate anonymously to the Fund such small change as they might have on their persons."

It was decided that the beneficiary of the Carberry Fund should be the University Library, to be used to purchase "such books as Professor Carberry might or might not approve of."

Fifty years later, the Brown Faculty Club will celebrate Professor Carberry's legacy with a special lunch and dinner buffet on Friday, May 13. Keeping with the good Professor's wishes, a portion of the proceeds will be donated (in loose change) to the Library's Carberry Fund. Menu items for the buffet will be drawn from the Friends' own *Carberry Cookbook*, which is available for sale on the Friends website at: www.brown.edu/library/friends

For more information about the May 13 buffets and to make reservations, please contact the Faculty Club at (401) 863-3023.

For more information on Carberry lore, please visit:
www.brown.edu/Facilities/University_Library/lib/hay/carberry.htm

Regarding Broadway: A Commencement Forum with Laurence Maslon, '81

The Inaugural Wilmeth Lecture in American Theatre

Saturday, May 28, 2005

Time to Be Announced

Location to Be Announced

Laurence Maslon, '81, is coauthor of *Broadway: The American Musical*, a companion volume to the groundbreaking six-part PBS series. Mr. Maslon will talk about the profound changes in the musical from the crossover revues of Ziegfeld to the financial juggernauts that bring the

sound of Broadway around the globe in the new millennium.

Mr. Maslon is a Master Teacher at the Graduate Acting Program at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. In addition, he teaches courses at NYU's Undergraduate Drama and the MFA Musical Theatre Writing Programs. He wrote the story and teleplay for the acclaimed PBS American Masters documentary *Richard Rodgers: The Sweetest Sounds* (2001), and organized two Rodgers projects for the Chicago Humanities Festival. He has also written for *Stagebill*, *Show Music*, *The American National Biography*, and a history of Broadway for volume three of the *Cambridge History of the American Theater*. In conjunction with Michael Kantor, he has co-written Episodes 1 and 6 of the series *Broadway: The American Musical*. More information about the PBS series is available at www.pbs.org/wnet/broadway/index.html

Mr. Maslon's appearance will inaugurate the Wilmeth Lecture Series in American Theatre. This endowed lectureship is named in honor of Don B. Wilmeth, Asa Messer Professor Emeritus and Professor Emeritus of Theatre & English at Brown University. Professor Wilmeth was Chair of the Brown Department of Theatre, Speech & Dance, and Honorary Curator of the H. Adrian Smith Collection of Conjuring Books and Magicana at the Brown University Library. A caricature of Professor Wilmeth, drawn by Laurence Maslon in September 2003 to mark Professor Wilmeth's retirement, is available at www.brown.edu/Departments/Theatre_Speech_Dance/Faculty_Wilmeth_portrait.html

An exhibit to showcase some of the Broadway-related sheet music in the Brown University Library's collections will be on display at the John Hay Library concurrent with the commencement forum.

Library Collections Annex Opens to Serve the Brown Community

After years of planning, renovation and moving, the Library Collections Annex opened on March 31, 2005. This major achievement was made possible by funds allocated by President Simmons and the University Resources Committee. It will reduce the holdings of on-campus libraries which were 20 percent over capacity, better utilize space in Library facilities, and provide the Library with alternative storage space during construction and renovation projects that are planned.

The Annex has been developed for the Brown University Library to house, preserve and provide access to library materials of research value, in a cost-effective manner and in a safe environment. It will allow the Library to improve the functionality of the campus library facilities both in terms of research and study space, and to create more accessible circulating collections on campus. The new facility has a capacity of 1.7 million volumes and should accommodate the Library's growth needs for about 15 years.

Located at 10 Park Lane in Providence, about a 10-minute drive from campus, the Annex also will house the 250,000 items that the Library had been paying to have stored at the Harvard Depository in Southboro, Massachusetts. Moving all these items from Harvard's Depository is the first order of business for the Annex, as storage of Brown's research materials at Harvard has been expensive. Moving these materials to Brown's Library Collections Annex also will ensure quicker access for students and faculty.

Once fully operational, the Annex will be open Monday – Friday 8:30 am to 5:00 pm. Four Library staff will work at the Annex to handle storage, preservation and retrieval needs for the Brown Community. In addition, students and faculty are welcome to visit the Annex during business hours to view items in the reading room.

Items stored at the Annex will be retrievable via a request link on the Josiah online catalog record, available through the Library's website www.brown.edu/library. Library material requested for use will be delivered to campus and be available the next business day at any of the on-campus Library locations.

"We are very excited about the Annex opening," said Eric Shoaf, Preservation Services Department Leader for the Brown University Library and responsible for operations at the Annex. "This will mean that students and faculty will have greater access to research materials and the Library can better steward the collection and do the necessary work to preserve our more fragile materials. At the same time, over-crowded campus libraries will be made more useful by moving lesser-used items to the Annex."

Detailed information about the new Library Collections Annex is available on the Brown Library website at: www.brown.edu/Facilities/University_Library/lib/annex/index.html



A view of a large storage bay in the Annex during construction

Recent Gifts to the Library

The Brown University Library gratefully acknowledges the many gifts that add to the scholarly resources available to Brown students and faculty. While it is not possible to list every gift here, we have selected a small sampling to share with our readers.

Twelve binders and approximately 867 packets of legal documents of the Gorham Manufacturing Co., including minutes of the Board of Directors (1920-1967); contracts, patent, royalty and employment agreements, correspondence, papers dealing with the acquisition of factory facilities in Aiken, South Carolina, plus an album labeled "Mr. Aldrich's Black-Jack Book", several monographs and codices, and one watercolor drawing.

Gift of Mr. Louis Calcione

Approximately 85 volumes, mostly Galician literature, with some Portuguese dictionaries & histories, a few general Spanish language textbooks & miscellaneous other subjects.

Gift of Dr. Manuel Jato Macias

125 books and journals in the field of mathematics, including work by donor (in English and Japanese).

Gift of Katsumi Nomizu, Professor Emeritus of Mathematics

7 volumes by playwright Romulus Linney (father of actress Laura Linney, '86): THE LOVE SUICIDE AT SCHOFIELD BARRACKS (2 different editions); THREE POETS; SAND MOUNTAIN; POPS; JULIET/YANCEY/APRIL SNOW; HEATHEN VALLEY.

Gift of Don Wilmeth, Asa Messer Professor Emeritus of Theatre & English

539 items including 281 books & 258 maps, etc. Subjects include American history, current events & literature.

Gift of Mr. David M. Rich, Brown University Library Catalog Librarian

Four volumes by Voltaire and Racine, from the 18th & 19th centuries.

Gift of John S. Henderson

2.5 feet of additions to the papers of donor's late husband, Prof. Albert S. Cook. Includes correspondence, articles, essays, poems, notes, typescript passages, photocopies of passages of works by other authors; 5 WWI posters; miscellaneous archival and poetry material.

Gift of Mrs. Carol Cook

19 volumes (15 titles) from the 16th-19th centuries; approximately 143 volumes in English, Spanish & Catalan on history & literature of Spain.

Gift of Geoffrey Ribbans, Professor Emeritus of Hispanic Studies

Approximately 360 volumes, primarily medical with some general science, zoology, fiction, history, politics, military history, language, reference and biography.

Gift of Dr. William Sammartino, '53 and Mrs. Joan Sammartino, '54

Six boxes of LPs and 63 boxes of books; 2 boxes of papers belonging to the donor's husband, Professor Austin Warren.

Gift of the Estate of Mrs. Antonia Warren

Limited Editions Club books illustrated by Arthur Szyk: BOOK OF JOB and BOOK OF RUTH; Limited Editions Club book illustrated by Thomas Nasen: COMPLETE POEMS by Robert Frost; CRUSADE IN EUROPE by Dwight D. Eisenhower; THE GENTLEMAN IN THE PARLOR: A RECORD OF A JOURNEY FROM RANGOON TO HAIPHONG by Somerset Maugham; MISTER JOHNSON: A NOVEL by Joyce Cary; OUT OF AFRICA by Isak Dinesen. A previous gift of Hogarth Press books: 8 volumes by Virginia Woolf and one volume by Vita Sackville-West.

Gift of Herbert Iselin, '42, P'79, P'81

If you are interested in making a material gift to the Brown University Library, please contact Ned Quist by calling (401) 863-3999 or e-mailing library_gifts@brown.edu for more information.

Students and Faculty Welcome New Online Library Service



For busy students, nothing is more frustrating than having to wait for study materials. With a traditional system of course reserves, faculty members requested that the Library put copies of course readings “on reserve” just for the students in their classes. Because an entire class would have to read a course reserve, the time allowed for check-out was limited. Inevitably, there were times when more students arrived at the Library seeking to read the reserved materials than the number of copies available. This could be a recipe for frustration, especially during final exam period.

The Brown University Library has turned this system on its head and greatly enhanced student access to course reserve readings. The Library recently launched its Online Course Reserves Access (OCRA) system. Course reserves are placed online, so students can access these materials whenever they want – regardless of the time of day (or night). Students can access them from anywhere they have internet access. And, because the course reserves are digital, there is no limit on the number of students who can be reading them at the same time – and

there is no time limit on how long a student can spend using a reserved item.

Using the OCRA online form, faculty members (or their graduate student teaching assistants) can upload items for the Library to put on reserve directly, which will be available to students immediately. If faculty members need assistance, they can instruct Library staff on exactly what they want placed on reserve.

The Library offers faculty a gamut of services, depending on each faculty member’s technical proficiency and time constraints. Librarians can help faculty with paging, scanning and uploading the documents or locating the material already in electronic form. Once placed online, students can access them through the Library’s website. Since many faculty members make websites for each of the courses they teach, Library staff members also create links to be placed on the faculty member’s course website. Thus, students can get their reserve materials right from their professor’s website.

The Library spends a substantial portion of its budget to license

electronic resources and works carefully with faculty members to ensure that all items placed on course reserve conform to copyright or fall within “fair use” guidelines.

“Students are pleased with this new service,” said Jean Rainwater, Leader for Web Services at the Brown University Library. “Today’s students are used to having information at their fingertips, day or night. Now we can deliver their reserve materials in this way.”

“But it’s the faculty who are most excited,” added Rainwater. “They are able to take much better advantage of reserve readings now that they are offered online. Since students can access the reserves any time, and there is no waiting for limited copies, we’ve removed a barrier between students and the readings faculty assign. It is very important to faculty to know, when they design the curriculum, that their students can easily access and read what is placed on reserve.”

For more information about OCRA, please contact:

Rock-Reserves@brown.edu or call (401) 863-3606 or (401) 863-3599.

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