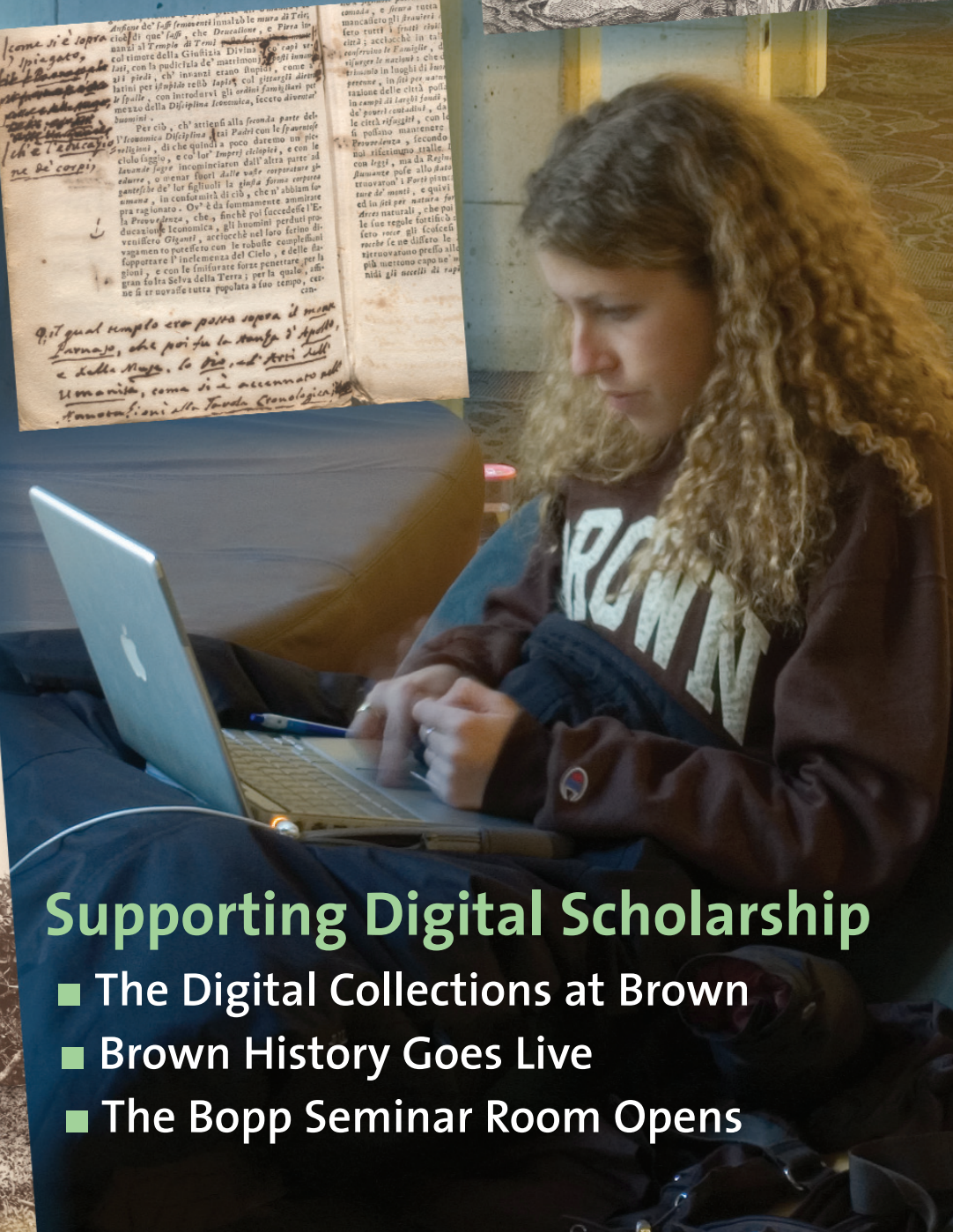
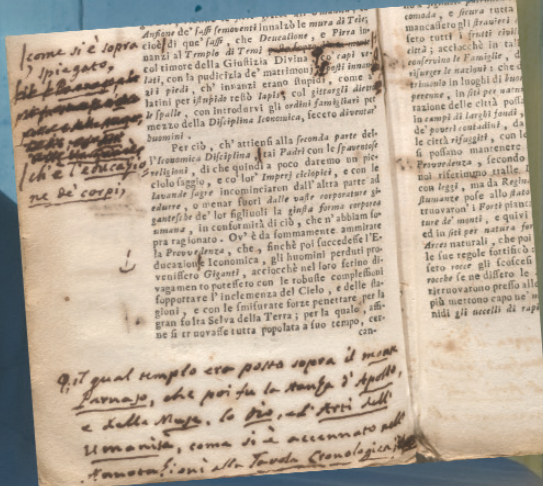


THE NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY OF BROWN UNIVERSITY  
VOLUME 22 NUMBER 1 • SPRING/SUMMER 2009



- The Digital Collections at Brown
- Brown History Goes Live
- The Bopp Seminar Room Opens



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Cover: Select images from the digital  
collections at Brown University.

## From the University Librarian's Office



# Redefining Libraries and Learning

Academic libraries are in a state of transition — a transition that reflects changes in higher education and society at large. The primary catalyst for these changes is technology. Advances in technology have altered the face and ultimately the fundamentals of teaching, learning, and research. How scholarship is generated, communicated, collected, preserved, disseminated, interpreted, manipulated and re-used are critical concerns for both the academy and the library. Technology has blurred the lines of responsibility and enabled the emergence of a global, information-based society that relies on a strong knowledge economy and a ubiquitous and sustainable infrastructure. Rather than diminishing or threatening the existence of libraries, technology has thus positioned us as key partners in addressing the issues facing higher education.

The Brown University Library seeks to strategically align its scholarly resources and services with the *Plan for Academic Enrichment* and redesign its facilities into vibrant, inviting learning spaces to meet the needs of students and faculty. As the University's trusted curator, organizer, disseminator, preserver and mediator of carefully selected scholarly resources, the Library will

remain responsive to the changing needs of the campus's teaching, learning, and research environment.

With the recent incorporation of Brown's Scholarly Technology Group and the Women Writer's Project into the Library, our ability to support and explore new forms of scholarship has grown exponentially. Integral to the University's academic mission, the Library has both the opportunity and responsibility to promote new scholarship and new literacies without discarding the most fundamental — reading and writing. Literacy in the 21st century must be multi-modal — reflective of the complex fluidity between analog and digital knowledge resources, traditional and non-traditional academic discourse, linear learning and interactive media, the data-driven human mind and our limitless imaginations. By embracing these new literacies and becoming a place for production and processing as well as a place for distribution and consumption of knowledge, the Library enables members of the Brown community to learn in the language and dialect of their own choice and expand their ability to question, produce and reproduce knowledge in new and deeper ways, ultimately transforming the everyday academic experiences and future of our students and faculty.

Harriette Hemmasi

Harriette Hemmasi  
*Joukowsky Family University Librarian*



## View from the Chair

It came as a recent surprise to me that Facebook has an increasingly grown-up side to it. In addition to Facebook's role as a social networking tool for teens and young adults, it has a growing role as a networking site for nonprofits and their supporters. Although there are many social networking sites, Facebook appears to have gone the furthest to reach mainstream organizations and attract an increasingly grown-up audience. Even the Friends of the Library have their own Facebook group.

Why should the Brown Library use a social networking site such as

Facebook? Among the reasons are that it is the best way to reach a younger audience that is more likely to use such websites. Facebook also allows nonprofits such as libraries and museums to present digitized information (recent additions to collections or information about a particular exhibit, for example), and to interact with "friends" relatively easily and inexpensively.

Facebook has just introduced new public profile pages that will allow nonprofits to "share all types of content with an unlimited number of users" and allow all Facebook users to comment on posted material

as they do on personal profile pages. These changes will make it easier for nonprofits to have timely, responsive two-way exchanges with the people they are trying to reach without technical support or an undue commitment of time.

Jeffrey Schreck '73  
Chair

## A Message from the Guest Editor

I first became involved with Brown's Center for Digital Initiatives in 2007, as a senior editor at the *Brown Daily Herald*. I worked with CDI director Patrick Yott on a project to digitize and make searchable the *Herald's* entire archive, from 1891 forward. The project continues successfully to this day, and I find myself poised at an exciting moment for libraries and scholarship as I look forward to my own future working in libraries. For my undergraduate thesis on Abraham Lincoln, I worked extensively in the archives of the John Hay Library. Resources like an online archive of

Lincoln's writings and even GoogleBooks, which has digitized extensive material from the nineteenth century and earlier, enabled certain aspects of my research that would have been otherwise impossible. It is hard to keep track of the variety of growing trends in digital scholarship, which makes the navigation and oversight offered by our own Scholarly Technology Group and the CDI so vital. Digital scholarship opens up a new universe of possibilities for libraries — one that I cannot wait to be a part of. I am especially glad to have gotten my start at the Brown Library.



Anne Wootton '08.5  
Guest Editor

### Environmental History of Hispaniola

John Hay Library, Lobby Gallery  
March 12 – April 30

Haiti and the Dominican Republic share the land area of the Caribbean island of Hispaniola. Although both of these former colonies of France and Spain have faced socioeconomic hardships and political instability in their post-colonial period, they show a sharp contrast in the current state of their natural resources. This exhibition traces the environmental history of Hispaniola from pre-Columbian times to the present and explores the evolution of its natural resources by highlighting special collection materials from the John Hay and John Carter Brown Libraries, and museum objects from the Haffenreffer Museum of Anthropology.

### Commemorating Aimé Césaire

John Hay Library, Foyer and Reading Room Cases  
April 3 – April 30

Aimé Césaire was the foremost black French intellectual-statesman-writer of the 20th and 21st centuries. Co-founder of the *négritude* school of literature in the 1930s, parliamentarian to the National Assembly in Paris for nearly five decades, and author of 16 books, plays and poetry collections, Césaire's recent demise is understandably mourned by francophones throughout the Caribbean, Europe, and Africa. But Aimé Césaire also inspired generations of American students, educators, and humanists who have read and pondered his inimitable poems and prose, whether in translation or the original. The exhibit is designed to offer the visitor a sense of the literary wealth and political possibilities that this extraordinary man created out of the culturally rich but economically impoverished Martinique into which he was born 95 years ago, and which he left, for the last time, on April 17, 2008.

As lead-up to the Memorial Symposium hosted by the Watson Institute on April 17, a *Commemorating Aimé Césaire* exhibit will showcase the Brown Library's collection of Césaire's *oeuvres* and works on the French Caribbean, along with other *objets d'art* and memorabilia (on loan from faculty) that are reminiscent of Césaire and his native island. A display in the John Hay Library foyer will be dedicated to President Ruth Simmons, who explored *The Poetic Language of Aimé Césaire* in her Ph. D. dissertation, completed at Harvard University in 1973.

### The Origin of the Theory: Tracing Darwin's Evolutionary Thought

John Hay Library, Lobby Gallery  
May 4 – June 30

In honor of the Darwin bicentennial, this exhibit at the John Hay Library will use the Library's extensive holdings in the History of Science to place Darwin and his colleagues within the broader context of Victorian scientific endeavor. The exhibition will include books, prints and original correspondence, and will be featured during Commencement Weekend.

For library hours and updated information on library exhibits visit:

<http://dl.lib.brown.edu/libweb/hours.php>

<http://dl.lib.brown.edu/libweb/exhibits>

# Spring Events



Samuel Bak  
in Israel, 2008

## An Evening with Samuel Bak

Brown University Hillel, 80 Brown Street (corner of Angell and Brown Streets), Providence  
Monday, May 11, 2009, 7 p.m.

Artist and Holocaust survivor Samuel Bak will be the speaker at the annual Mel and Cindy Yoken Cultural Series lecture. Mr. Bak's talk will focus on the story of his life including his time in Paris and what it has brought to his existence, and the successive phases of his development as an artist. He will show digital images and speak about the nature and themes of his art.

## Darwin, God and Design — America's Continuing Problems with Evolution

Prof. Kenneth Miller, Professor of Biology, Brown University

Salomon Hall 101  
Saturday, May 23, 2009, 1 p.m.

2009 is the 150th anniversary of the publication of Darwin's *The Origin of the Species* and the bicentennial of his birth. Prof. Miller has been speaking at many celebrations of this event and will speak at Brown as part of the University's Commencement Forums. His talk will be in conjunction with an exhibit about Darwin at the John Hay Library which will be on display from May 4 to June 30.



# Technology meets elegance...

## Bopp Seminar Room

### opens to rave reviews at John Hay Library

The John Hay Library boasts a new technologically sophisticated seminar classroom thanks to the generosity of alumni and brothers Walter S. and Peter D. Bopp, members of the classes of 1973 and 1978, respectively. The gift, made in honor of their father Walter L. S. Bopp '35, was inspired by the latter's fond memories of the John Hay when he was a student.

As the younger Walter Bopp recently stated, "The Hay was the main library when our father attended Brown so it is a particularly fitting site. Being an alumnus of Brown has been a great source of pride to our father and the rest of our family. Our father celebrated his 93rd birthday at the dedication of the room with President Simmons leading a chorus of "Happy Birthday." It is our hope the Bopp Seminar Room will open up this wonderful space and its special collections to a broader cross-section of the Brown community and help meet the goals of the *Plan for Academic Enrichment*." Peter adds that the classroom is intended as "a state of the art seminar room for the study of the multitude of historical documents and treasures housed in the Hay. Dad was quite moved to see the finished room when we visited in November — the same week that he turned 95."

Located adjacent to the Anne S. K. Brown Military Collection gallery on the third floor of the John Hay, the Bopp Seminar Room has been handsomely renovated to

accommodate a portion of the Military Collection and to provide additional exhibition space beyond its primary function as an electronic classroom. What was previously little more than a storage space has been transformed into a state-of-the-art facility and one of the most attractive public spaces on campus. In use for classes and meetings since January, the Bopp Seminar Room has received rave reviews from faculty, students and staff for its electronic capabilities, spatial flexibility, elegant atmosphere and even acoustics.

What sets the Bopp Seminar Room apart from other teaching spaces in the John Hay? The answer lies in the room's electronic capabilities that allow staff, faculty and students to interact with the Hay's rare and unique materials in ways heretofore not possible. An overhead document camera can project an image from a physical item — for example, a map or a book page — onto a screen. The resulting image can be manipulated electronically with a zoom feature that greatly magnifies detailed portions of the image. In this way, minute subtleties of printing, illustration techniques and manuscript variations can be viewed in ways not observable to the naked eye. A split-screen capability that enables a projected image, as described above, to be compared with a digitized image, either from Brown's own collections or from a digitized collection across the

country and made available via the Internet. "Smart-screen" technology — in effect, an electronic blackboard — allows users to interact with digital images through a touch-screen stylus, highlighting or "writing" notes over the screened image in digital "ink," and projecting the edited image onto the large screen.

Thanks to the Bopp family's generosity, students and researchers now have access to John Hay materials that combines physical objects with 21st century technology in ways that were inconceivable only a few years ago.

Associate Professor of English Tim Bewes and his spring 2009 seminar ENGL 1760-I, "Terrible Beauty: Literature and the Terrorist Imagery," meet in the Bopp Seminar Room.



# Digital Scholarship at Brown: The New Public Faces of Primary Sources

When Annie Valk began teaching American Civilization 1903G: Oral History and Community Memory, she did not anticipate that her students' research would engage many Providence residents in a collaborative project that has reached far beyond her semester-long course.

As part of the course, students recorded oral histories from Fox Point, a Providence neighborhood that borders Brown's campus, in addition to collecting associated paperwork, photos and scrapbooks, and collaborating with the University's Scholarly Technology Group to develop an interactive online resource, "Mapping Fox Point," that used GoogleMaps to illustrate the localities described in the oral histories — what Valk calls "memory mapping." Perhaps the greatest success of Valk's students' work is a public, online collection of Fox Point photographs ([www.flickr.com/groups/foxpointoralhistoryproject](http://www.flickr.com/groups/foxpointoralhistoryproject)) created with the public photo-sharing site *flickr.com*, where Fox Point residents are very active to this day in posting photographs and comments that identify the photos' subjects and locations.

Valk, associate director for programs at the John Nicholas Brown Center for the Public Humanities and Cultural Heritage, has hopes that the related Fox Point

documents will eventually all be photographed and made publicly available and documented online — in other words, compiled into a digital collection of Fox Point history. Valk's Fox Point oral history course is one example of how the Library helps faculty and students use the Internet to change archival processes and the accessibility of primary source material.

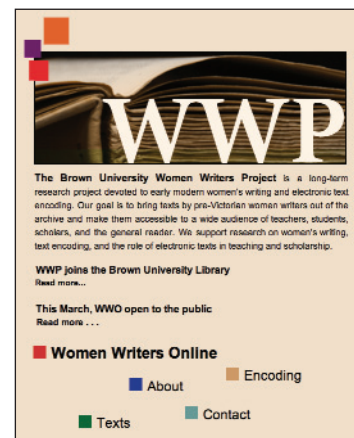
Today, Brown's campus is overflowing with a variety

of digital initiatives, many of which are spearheaded by the Library's emerging Center for Digital Scholarship, which has recently incorporated members of the Scholarly Technology Group (STG) and the Women Writers Project (WWP). Opportunities for collaboration and unique relationships among these groups and the campus will only grow in the coming months. "This merger will allow the Library to develop a cohesive and far-reaching program that supports scholars engaged in using, creating and disseminating scholarly materials in a wide range of

digital media. We are all very excited about the possibilities that this new union will provide," said Patrick Yott, director of the Library's Center for Digital Initiatives (soon to be renamed Center for Digital Scholarship).

One responsibility of members of Brown's Center for Digital Scholarship is to research the digital humanities and the many different methodological approaches to digital scholarship, while supplementing that work

through numerous innovative projects with University faculty and students. "How do you bridge that gap between the real and the digital? How does methodology alter the way that we interact with texts?" asks Julia Flanders, associate director for

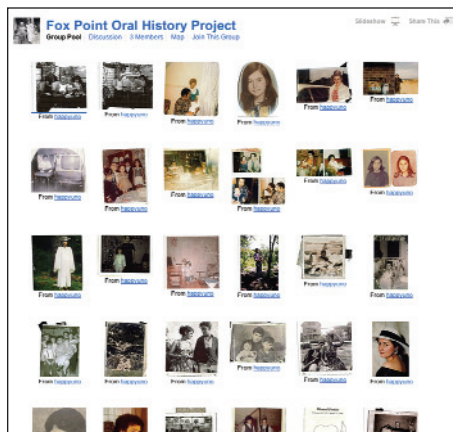


textbase development in the STG. Flanders is also the director of the Women Writers Project, an online anthology of text by women currently in its twentieth year of existence and one of the earliest and most successful attempts at reaching a broader audience through digital media ([www.wwp.brown.edu](http://www.wwp.brown.edu)).

"We start with the information structures — we have both the luxury and the imperative of engaging with the object at that level," says Elli Mylonas, director of the STG. "We are taking a step back and thinking about the information — not only what we want to do with it, but what it is." Thus for Mylonas and Flanders, the process of organizing information is in many ways a primary source itself, requiring documentation and methodological awareness. "You want to show a conclusion, but also the queries and methods you used to get the info," Mylonas says. Adds Flanders: "Self-consciousness arises from the idea that you're not just recording information but infusing it with scholarly expertise. It's treating the process as primary source data."

The University Steering Committee on Slavery and Justice, appointed in 2003 by President Ruth Simmons with the task of investigating and reporting on Brown's historical relationship to slavery and the transatlantic slave trade, used digital resources as an integral aspect of

Below: Thumbnails from the Fox Point Oral History Project site on *flickr.com*. At right: The home page for the Women Writers Project, which celebrates its 20th anniversary this year and has been incorporated as part of the emerging Center for Digital Scholarship at Brown.





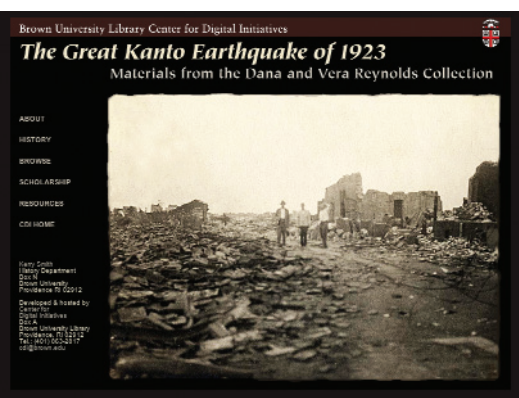


Digital materials related to the work of the University Steering Committee on Slavery and Justice.

its commitment to publicize its findings. As part of its work, the committee identified materials in the John Hay, John Carter Brown and Rhode Island Historical Society libraries, and worked with staff at the CDI to create a public, online catalogue of documents relating to Brown's ties to slavery (<http://dl.lib.brown.edu/slaveryandjustice>). The result was a "teaching resource" from which public programming was organized, said James Campbell, former professor of history and chair of the committee. Research in locations beyond Brown's campus resulted in a traveling exhibit of the Brown brothers-funded voyage of the slave ship Sally with accompanying website ([www.stg.brown.edu/projects/sally](http://www.stg.brown.edu/projects/sally)).

As the digital age moves forward, online collections range from the creation of new, online-only collections like the Slavery and Justice materials, or interactive user experiences like "Mapping Fox Point," to the digitization — that is, making publicly available online — of preexisting collections. Examples of this latter type of digital collection include the CDI's *The Great Kanto Earthquake of 1923: Materials from the Dana and Vera Reynolds Collection*, which offers a digital recreation of an album of photos and newspaper clippings donated

to the Brown Library in 2005 by the Reynolds' granddaughter (<http://dl.lib.brown.edu/kanto>). The site provides a unique glimpse into the culture of Americans traveling to Asia in the early twentieth century and also coincides with the research of Brown Associate Professor of History Kerry Smith, who has written a book on the subject of the earthquake. Through the efforts of Senior Lecturer in American Civilization Paul Buhle and the CDI, the public can now access a digital version of *Radical America*, a periodical published from 1967 to *Continues on page 8*



The home page for *The Great Kanto Earthquake of 1923: Materials from the Dana and Vera Reynolds Collection*.

## Some other notable digital collections at Brown:

### The Theatre that was Rome

<http://dl.lib.brown.edu/rome>

This digital collection makes available a selection of 16th to 18th century Italian books and prints from the extraordinary collection of Vincent J. Buonnano '66, as well as festival prints and architectural treatises from the collection of the John Hay Library.

### Center of Digital Epigraphy at Brown University (CoDE)

[www.brown.edu/Research/CoDE](http://www.brown.edu/Research/CoDE)

The CoDE is dedicated to research that relates to the digital encoding of inscriptions. Co-directed by classics and history



professor John Bodell and Michael Satlow, associate professor of Judaic studies and religious studies, its work currently includes two projects: the U.S. Epigraphy Project, which aims to gather and digitize ancient Greek and Latin inscriptions

preserved in the U.S., and Inscriptions of Israel/Palestine, which digitizes and translates inscriptions from the sixth century BCE to the seventh century CE.

### The MonArch Project at the Abbey of Saint-Jean-des-Vignes

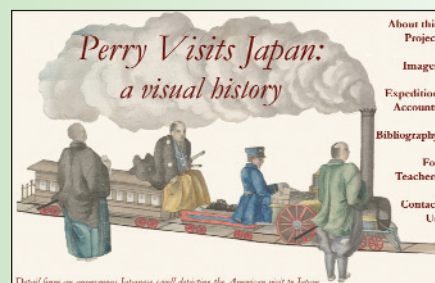
<http://polo.services.brown.edu:8080/exist/monarch/index.html>

Started in 1982, this project — co-directed by Sheila Bonde, Dean of the Graduate School and professor of archeology — takes monasticism rather than the monastery itself as the object of its study, through an ongoing archaeological investigation at a monastery in northern France.

### Perry Visits Japan: A Visual History

<http://dl.lib.brown.edu/japan/index.html>

This project serves as an extensive supplement to a Japanese scroll held in the collections of the John Hay Library, which illustrates Commodore Matthew Perry's 1854 landing in Japan. In conjunction with the American Civilization course, "From Perry to Pokemon: Japan in the U.S.; the U.S. in Japan," taught by associate professor Susan Smulyan, the Perry Visits Japan project has grown out of the work of Brown students, faculty and library staff.



For more on the many digital collections and projects at Brown, visit [www.stg.brown.edu/projects](http://www.stg.brown.edu/projects) and <http://dl.lib.brown.edu>.

Sophie Blistein '41 at her 90th birthday party in the John Hay Library, pictured with son David Blistein and his wife Wendy O'Connell.



### Sophie Blistein '41

Of all the Friends of the Library, perhaps Sophie Blistein requires the least by way of introduction as she has been a mainstay of both the Library and the University for over half a century. A wise and witty counselor, a gadfly in the interests of increasing Friends memberships, a catalyst for donors and a donor herself, Sophie epitomizes the best qualities of the Friends and of the Brown community.

To celebrate Sophie's 90th birthday, the Friends hosted a party on January 24 in the Reading Room of the John Hay Library, a gathering that drew some 100 of her friends and family. As was true at her birthday party a decade ago, Sophie would only allow the festivities to proceed on the condition that the Elmer and Sophia Schaffer Blistein Book Fund be the beneficiary. As a result, the fund currently stands at \$115,798.23 with over \$10,000 being added as a tribute to Sophie on the occasion of her birthday.

Sophie's involvement with the Brown Library extends back to her days as a Pembroke and her 1946

marriage to Elmer Blistein '42. Sophie and Elmer never left Brown, as he joined the faculty of the Department of English upon receiving his Ph.D. in 1953. Elmer was a teacher and mentor to Brown students for the next 39 years and throughout that time the Blistein household, augmented by sons Adam and David, was a vibrant center of Brown's social and intellectual life. The Library was central to Elmer's work and both he and Sophie served on myriad committees, task forces and informal groups that helped guide the Library as it strove to meet the ever-changing demands of faculty and students. At the University level, Sophie served for seven years on the Corporation Library Committee, as President of Women at Brown and as Alumnae Trustee of the University from 1971 to 1976.

For their many contributions, Sophie and Elmer were awarded the Library's highest honor in 1990, the William Williams Award, which "honors those individuals who have provided extraordinary support" to the Brown University Library.

In addition to the Blistein Book Fund, much of Sophie's involvement with the Library has centered upon the Friends, both in her capacities as Board member and as long-time chair of the Membership Committee, which under her leadership achieved a total of over 1,000 members nationwide. The Board continues to benefit from her good counsel and cheerful presence. We are thankful for her dedication and tireless efforts on behalf of the Library, and consider ourselves very lucky to be counted among her many friends.



The very first issue of the *Brown Daily Herald* as displayed in the Brown Daily Herald Digital Archive.

Continued from page 7  
1999 which is very difficult to find in libraries (<http://dl.lib.brown.edu/radicalamerica>). And collaboration between the Library and the *Brown Daily Herald* has resulted in a project to digitize and make text searchable the entire archive of Brown's daily paper since 1891 (<http://dl.lib.brown.edu/dbdh>).

Projects like these reflect a major shift occurring in the way research is done and scholarship is disseminated around the world. Not only has the Internet enabled universal access to materials that could previously only be viewed in libraries and museums, but it has also changed the way in which researchers and the public alike can interact with, or present, these materials.

"There's really a wonderful moment in historical scholarship — it's fascinating to see how [digital capability] changes what historians are interested in doing,

can do," said Steven Lubar, professor of American Civilization and director of the John Nicholas Brown Center, who is developing Brown's new program in public humanities. Lubar noted that digital scholarship is currently in a "strange stage... because it's partly public, partly private, and libraries have to figure out what they add to that. There's a public face and an archival face, and the question is how to make those work together... projects merge more into exhibitions than collections, and libraries start to look more like museums and less like archives," he said.

Many of Brown's existing digital projects, including those mentioned above, have tackled the balance between the public and private spheres in interesting and innovative ways. But the task remains to institutionalize these digital practices in an academic climate that has historically relied solely on peer-reviewed, printed media such as journals and reviews. Members of the Center for Digital Scholarship work with approximately 40 faculty and staff who are currently engaged in digital humanities at Brown and address these sorts of questions every day as part of their work.





# The Digital Collections: 250 Years of Brown History Meet the Web

In addition to collections that support the research and teaching needs of Brown's faculty and students, the John Hay Library holds significant material that documents Brown's history. Through the efforts of the Center for Digital Initiatives, the University Archives, the *Brown Daily Herald* and several faculty members, many of these collections are now available for use through the Library's website. While each collection is a valuable research tool on its own, the true benefits of digitization lie in making these collections accessible and the ability to easily search across multiple collections.

A researcher interested in the history of Bruno, the Brown mascot, will find photos of the live bear traveling by airplane en route to a 1937 sports game from the online Images of Brown collection, coverage in *The Brown Daily Herald* Digital Archive of inter-campus mascot kidnappings — such as the 1941 abduction of Butch Bruno VII by Rhode Island State, known today as the University of Rhode Island, as well as a student essay from the online *Chronicles of Brunonia* that provides a humorous look at Brown's history of live mascots.

And anyone looking for information on University Hall will find the original accounting of construction costs as well as a letter from Rhode Island's governor announcing the need to use University Hall as a hospital during the Revolutionary War from the Brown Archival and Manuscript Collections Online, photographs and postcards from Images of Brown depicting the building across the 20th century, including its renovation in 1940, in addition to descriptions and histories from the Historic Clocks Database of four clocks found within its walls. These sorts of connections between digital resources will only grow as we bring more historical resources to the web.

Some of the collections currently in development are:

**Brown Archival and Manuscript Collections Online (BAMCO)** (<http://dl.lib.brown.edu/bamco>)

This project, which provides access to primary source material through finding aids that represent manuscript and archival holdings at Brown University, is a joint project between the University Archives and the Center for Digital Initiatives.

**Brown Daily Herald Digital Archive** (<http://dl.lib.brown.edu/dbdh>)

The *Brown Daily Herald* digitization project is making accessible and searchable online the Herald's entire archive, from 1891 forward, as funds are



contributed. Through this effort historians, scholars and novelists will be able to read about the thoughts and lives of Brunonians over the course of two World Wars, the Civil Rights movement, man's first walk on the Moon and September 11, 2001.

**Brown Portrait Database**

(<http://dl.lib.brown.edu/portraits>)

For almost two centuries Brown has acquired portraits of men and women whose lives have had meaning for the University in one way or another. These likenesses date from every period in Brown's history from its founding years to the present, and taken as a whole reflect the University's concerns and priorities at any given time in history. This project provides digitized copies of the portraits as well as historical information on both the subject and artist.

**Images of Brown**

([http://dl.lib.brown.edu/images\\_of\\_brown](http://dl.lib.brown.edu/images_of_brown))

The Library will release this new online collection in late spring of 2009. At its initial release, the collection will include nearly 4,000 digitized photographs that span almost 150 years of Brown history, covering architecture and campus views, student theatre, presidents, faculty and nineteenth century student life.

**Chronicles of Brunonia** (<http://dl.lib.brown.edu/cob>) and **Historic Clocks** (<http://dl.lib.brown.edu/clocks>)

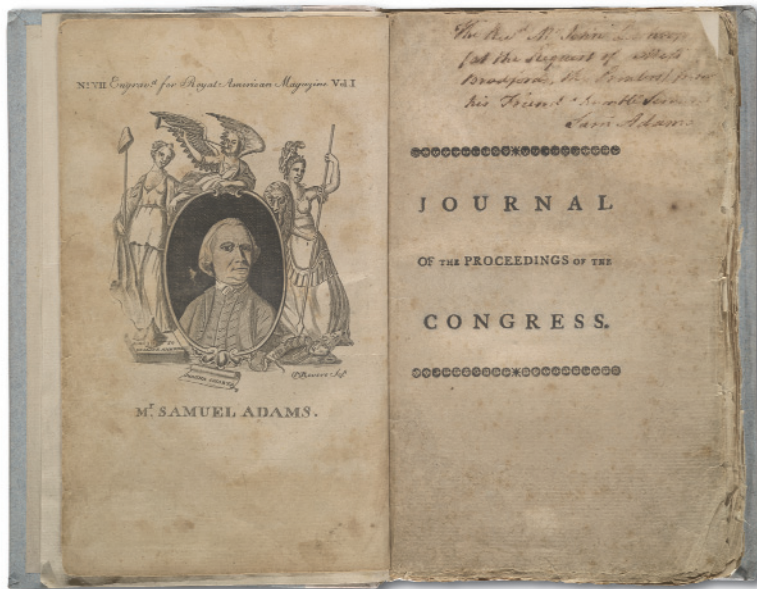
These two projects, an archive of student creative non-fiction and one student's independent study in American Civilization, respectively, provide context for and interpretation of previously untold stories from Brown's history.

Above: Bruno, the live mascot, disembarks from a plane ride. Right: Postcards of University Hall over the decades. Below: Home pages from several of the historical Brown collections featured on this page.



## Reconstructing Realities

Towards the end of 2008, Dan Siegel '57 once again made a magnificent contribution to the John Hay Library. The gift totaled 130 titles in all — among the most important books ever printed in their respective subjects. Although wide-ranging in scope, the fields most heavily represented are American and European literature and the history of science and mathematics. An arbitrary sample of the authors and titles represented by first editions of their major works provides insight into the importance of the gift as a whole; Descartes' *Discours de la Methode*, Pushkin's *Boris Godunov*, Newton's *Optical Lectures*, Copernicus' *De Revolutionibus*, Euclid's *Elementa* and Thomas Wolfe's *Look Homeward Angel*. These books join Dan's gifts of earlier years, including the manuscript of George Orwell's *1984* and his gift of just a year ago, the first edition of *The Great Gatsby*, inscribed by F. Scott Fitzgerald to T. S. Eliot.



The title page of the *Journal of the Proceedings of the First Continental Congress*, including the inscription of delegate Samuel Adams to his friend, the Rev. John Lathrop. The *Journal* is among 130 titles generously donated by Dan Siegel '57.

For more information about giving to the Library, email Gillian Kiley at [library\\_gifts@brown.edu](mailto:library_gifts@brown.edu) or call 401-863-1518.

Other than their iconic importance, how are such books used by Brown faculty and students? Take these two examples:

Giambattista Vico, *Cinque Libri* (1730). Philosopher Giambattista Vico (1668-1744) has been heralded as the creator of historical science for his proposition that “there shines the eternal and never failing light of a truth beyond all question: that the world of civil society has certainly been made by men, and that its principles are therefore to be found within the modifications of our own human mind.” How fitting, then, that the *Cinque Libri* will allow scholars to understand the construction of Vico's own thinking. This copy of the second edition of his *Principi d'una Scienza Nuova* is one of 63 extensively annotated by the author with his corrections and notes. As Professor Massimo Riva of Brown's Department of Italian Studies notes, Vico's corrections differed from copy to copy and the Center for Vico Studies in Naples will be especially interested in Brown's Siegel copy. Riva added, “I can imagine devoting an entire seminar to comparing our copy to the existing critical edition of the 1730 *Scienza Nuova* which also includes variants from other copies.”

Another treasure among Siegel's gifts is a copy of the first printing of the *Journal of the Proceedings from the First Continental Congress*, from the convention at Philadelphia in September 1774. Though copies of these printed proceedings are held at other rare book collections across the nation, this particular copy has special significance — it was presented by Boston radical Samuel Adams, then serving as a delegate to Congress, to friend and fellow patriot Rev. John Lathrop, the Congregational pastor of Boston's Second Church. Adams' inscription reads, “The Rev. Mr. Lathrop (at the Request of Messrs. Bradford, the Printers) from his Friend and humble Servant, Sam Adams.” Few records exist that pertain to connections between Adams and other Boston activists. Lathrop was certainly important in these circles, interpreting key events for the public through his sermons, such as his “Innocent Blood Crying to God from the Streets of Boston” (1770) delivered after the Boston Massacre. The inscription is therefore an important one, allowing scholars to further document the network of formal and informal ties — in this case, among Adams, the Bradfords and Lathrop — that created and sustained America's Revolution against Britain, leading to the birth to the United States.



David Banush has joined Brown as the Associate University Librarian for Access Services.



## Banush Joins Library Administration

On February 2, 2009, David Banush joined Brown as Associate University Librarian for Access Services, with administrative responsibility for the acquisition, licensing, cataloging, preservation and circulation of library materials. Banush comes to Brown from Cornell University, where he held a variety of positions, most recently serving as Head of Cataloging Services for 17 of the 18 Ithaca campus libraries. At Cornell, Banush was instrumental in developing and implementing a number of practices which sharply reduced cataloging costs, brought materials more quickly to users, and expanded the roles his staff played in meeting a broader goal of increased intellectual and physical access to the library's resources. That experience made him an attractive prospect to Brown as the Library seeks to make optimal use of its own staff in meeting both the challenges and tremendous opportunities that lie ahead.

As part of the Library's senior team, Banush will help shape policies, inform strategic planning and recognize opportunities for service innovations that will enhance the Library's role both at Brown and beyond. His work will directly complement the Library's goals to expand collections and access to scholarly resources, promote information technology and digital initiatives, forge partnerships across campus, transform Library facilities

and position the Library at the center of teaching, learning and research. "I am delighted to be here at Brown and am looking forward to working with my new colleagues to improve access to the Library's rich intellectual resources," Banush said. "This is a fascinating time for libraries generally, and I am excited to be working with outstanding people on an intellectually vibrant campus."

Banush has been active in a number of professional organizations, most notably the Program for Cooperative Cataloging, an international cooperative effort aimed at expanding access to library collections by providing useful, timely and cost-effective cataloging that meets mutually-accepted standards of libraries around the world. In 2008, Banush was elected chair of the group's Policy Committee, its governing body, and has also served as chair of its Standing Committee on Training. His other professional service includes chairing or serving on committees of the Society of American Archivists and the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services, as well as publishing articles on cataloging practices in *Cataloging and Classification Quarterly*, *Library Resources and Technical Services* and *Library Collections, Acquisitions and Technical Services*.

A native of Michigan, Banush holds degrees from the University of Michigan (Ann Arbor), New York University and Wayne State University.

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