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CORNERSTONE

THE NEWSLETTER OF MORRIS LIBRARY • SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY CARBONDALE



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Southern[™]
Illinois University
Carbondale

David Koch Retires at July's End

After a thirty-five year career as a rare book librarian, the last twenty-five as head of Special Collections, David Koch retired at the end of July. He leaves a world-class research facility that's renowned for its holdings, particularly in Irish literature, American philosophy, freedom of the press, and regional history and culture. He has been an integral part of shepherding Special Collections from its humble beginnings to an advanced research center. Library Affairs Dean David Carlson said, "David leaves a wonderful legacy in Special Collections that surpasses his time at the University and that will continue to be a contribution in perpetuity."

A native of Highland, Illinois, Koch originally came to Southern Illinois University in the fall of 1961, as a graduate student and newspaper professional charged with the task of transforming the twice-weekly *Egyptian* into the *Daily Egyptian*. Koch arrived on campus at a time of change and expansion, fueled by the dynamism of university President Delyte Morris. Koch had been lured with the

promise of new on-site offset presses to be housed in a new Communications Building. Yet, when he arrived the presses were still in crates, staff worked in temporary barracks, the Communications Building was far from finished, and the campus paper was being printed by the *Du Quoin Evening Call*—a half-hour drive away.

Though Koch enrolled in a journalism course in research methods, taught by Morris Library Director Ralph McCoy, that forged a strong friendship between the two, Koch decided to change his major from journalism to literature, given the many hurdles of producing the campus newspaper. Dr. McCoy then placed Koch in a



position in the library, as an assistant to Ralph Bushee, the first rare book librarian on campus. Koch delights in recalling those days, "[Special Collections]

"Technology has really changed the way that we operate both in terms of collection development and in terms of research . . ."

was in the very same quarters we're in right now, except the building was unfinished, and there were just two by fours and a hog wire frame around." Koch left SIU in 1965 to accept a teaching position at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio, but returned

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<http://www.lib.siu.edu/hp/>

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SOUTHERN

Message from the Dean

I expect that most readers will know that the Library is named for President Delyte Morris. There is a certain nostalgia on campus for the Morris years. The campus was growing, enrollment was increasing, and SIUC was emerging with a national reputation and prestige. I was not on campus in those years, but I've spoken with many alums who were (no doubt, some readers of this column) and there seems to have been a level of energy and enthusiasm on campus that was contagious and invigorating. SIUC was an exciting place to be.



I cannot speak for all of campus—but for Morris Library—the excitement and energy are returning in force and in full! I could give many examples, but I will limit my comments to two key illustrations.

First, this newsletter: we are very excited about this newsletter and the promise that it holds. For the last few years, we have been negligent in communicating with you, our friends and alumni, on the progress and promise that is Morris Library. While I have been aware of this need for several years, I did not want to start a newsletter until I knew we could do it right. It has been worth the wait and I assure you that we are committed to *Cornerstone*. This inaugural issue demonstrates our commitment to excellence in our communications with you, and I am confident that future issues over time will demonstrate our long-term commitment to keep you informed about Morris Library.

The second example is the impending renovation and expansion of Morris Library. This complex and historic project begins this fall and is the largest capital construction project in the history of the University. The renovation is comprehensive and in three years (yes—three years!) we will have, in effect, a brand new building.

When I get a chance to speak about the renovation to groups, I make the point that there will be two, and only two, spaces in the new Morris that will be unchanged. One is the stairwells; the other is the Hall of Presidents. The Hall will be, by and large, unchanged but its purpose will be very different as it will serve as the primary entrance to the Library's Special Collections Research Center and will also serve as a place for special events and other sponsored activities. Other than these two spaces, everything else in Morris will be changed through the course of this project.

Given the importance of the renovation, it may surprise you that you will not find too much about the progress in this newsletter. In effect, there is too much to tell! Please visit the web page we have established to keep you informed on progress: <http://www.lib.siu.edu/hp/renovation/>. And, of course, we will have additional information and progress reports in future issues of *Cornerstone*.

There is so much more to tell about the staff, services, and collections at Morris and the progress we are making in the transformation of library services in the twenty-first century and the world of Internet-based connectivity. We look forward to telling the story of Morris Library—its past, present, and promising future—through this newsletter. Keep in touch and let us know how we are doing. Thank you.


DAVID CARLSON

Make an Online Gift—It's the quick, safe, secure, mercurial, painless, and expeditious way of giving to Morris Library—<http://www.lib.siu.edu/hp/libdev/>.

The Library is Seeking . . .

With the increasing costs of library materials, especially electronic journals and databases, research libraries struggle to provide important book resources for their users. THE LIBRARY IS SEEKING . . . looks for private funding for those items that would not otherwise be purchased by the library. Would you please consider the underwriting of one of these items?

\$1,140 for the Curriculum Materials Center to purchase replacement copies of CALDECOTT, NEWBERY, and CORETTA SCOTT KING award-winning children's books. Because it is crucial for education researchers to have access to award-winning children's literature, Morris Library traditionally purchases four copies of each title. Over the years, however, some of these titles are compromised by use, or they go missing. Thirteen titles totaling **\$532** are CALDECOTT winners, eight titles totaling **\$247** are NEWBERY recipients, and six titles coming to **\$361** are CORETTA SCOTT KING winners.

The CALDECOTT MEDAL was named in honor of nineteenth-century English illustrator Randolph Caldecott. It is awarded annually by the Association for Library Service to Children, a division of the American Library Association, to the artist of the most distinguished American picture book for children.

The NEWBERY MEDAL was named for eighteenth-century British bookseller John Newbery. It is awarded annually by the Association for Library Service to Children, a division of the ALA, to the author of the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children.

Each year, the CORETTA SCOTT KING Task Force of the ALA Social Responsibilities Round Table chooses two distinguished books, one by an author of African descent and one from an illustrator of African descent, that promote an understanding and appreciation of the "American Dream."

\$395 for *The World Atlas of Language Structures* (book and CD-ROM) which displays the structural properties of the world's languages. 142 full-color world maps and numerous regional maps display the geographical distribution of features of pronunciation and grammar, such as number of vowels, tone systems, gender, plurals, tense, word order, and body part terminology.

\$420 for *Nineteenth Century Labouring Class Poets*, a three-volume set, edited by John Goodridge. Praise for this editor's previous volume stated, "The strength of this pioneering anthology is its attention to individual writers; the biographical research is uniformly impressive, and the editors generously reprint prefatory matter from the original volumes."

\$249 for the *Springer Handbook of Condensed Matter and Materials Data*, which provides a concise compilation of data and functional relationships from the fields of solid-state physics and materials in one 1,400 page volume. This handbook is designed to be useful as a desktop reference for fast and easy retrieval of essential and reliable data in the lab or office.

\$300 for *Ramanujan's Notebooks* (Volumes III, IV, and V) by Bruce C. Berndt or \$100 for any one of the volumes. As a first-year college student in India, Srinivasa Ramanujan (1887– 1920) became so enthralled with mathematics that he failed his other subjects and dropped out of college. Around that time, Ramanujan kept notebooks of mathematical theorems that he discovered. These notebooks did not include proofs. Ramanujan later went to Cambridge, wrote many papers on number theory and became the second Indian ever elected a fellow of the Royal Society. In *Ramanujan's Notebooks*, Bruce C. Berndt tackles the theorems that the young Ramanujan had written as a young man. *Ramanujan's Notebooks* includes proofs for many of the theorems, and it includes references to the proofs for many others. Berndt received the 1996 Leroy P. Steele Prize for Mathematical Exposition from the American Mathematical Society for volumes I-IV of *Ramanujan's Notebooks*. Morris Library has the first two volumes of *Ramanujan's Notebooks*. The last three volumes would be a welcome addition to the collection.



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Did You Know?

From December, 1896, until June, 1904, Altgeld Hall—actually, the northeast room of the first floor—served as the university library.

Kathy Fahey Looks Back at Twenty-eight Years of Service

Armed with advanced degrees in zoology and library science, Kathy Fahey came to Morris Library in October of 1977, and she has stayed ever since. Originally from Minnesota, she was advised that her undergraduate degree in zoology could qualify her as a pharmaceutical sales person, but she had little interest in that pursuit. She once considered a career in biology but was thwarted by a weak job market. She admits her most fun job was with a newspaper library in North Dakota. She has even worked at a medical library in Nebraska, but the size of a larger research library had more appeal. Of Morris Library Fahey said, "I really like the wide diversity of this library."

The past three decades have been witness to cataclysmic changes in the world of librarianship, and Fahey has weathered, even embraced, the winds of change. She cites computers—"automation" as she says, as the biggest change within her career. Fahey said, "When I was in library school we had one class on the theory of computers. We never saw a computer in the class. And now, it's just routine. Everyone has a computer . . . Most everything we do with patrons involves a computer. So that's been the big change."

She does relate the issue of computers more specifically to her work in Morris by stating, "When I first worked in the science division—it was on the fifth and sixth floors. We had the journals on the fifth floor, and the books were on the sixth. Whenever anyone asked a question about a book we trotted up the stairs with people, because that's where the card catalog was. And we had no databases electronically, of course. And then over the course of several years we were

able to provide electronic databases. And we were confident enough of our online catalog, we could get rid of our card catalog. So that's been the biggest change since I've arrived here. I think it's all for the better, there's so much more we can do, and we can do it so much more



rapidly than we used to be able to do it. I'm thoroughly convinced of the value of automation."

Students have been a constant in Fahey's career. "They are pretty much as they've always been. I enjoy working

"A good day is a day that I help people find information, and I don't need anything in print or in concrete, or anything that's tangible."

with them. I always look forward to fall semester when the students come back

on campus. They bring a lot of energy with them, and a lot of enthusiasm, and a lot of curiosity, and it's just fun to work with them."

The issue of the most difficult or unusual question that she has ever fielded escapes her, but the enduring question that she and her colleagues joke about is, "Where's the basement?"

Of concern to Fahey is the ever rising cost of scientific journals. "We simply can't provide the breadth of the collection that we used to provide, because each journal is so terribly expensive. The further back you go in the history of Morris Library, the greater slice of literature we have because the costs weren't as high as they are now, so we have to be selective. Basically, I don't ever purchase a journal because I think it should be in the collection. We only subscribe to journals that [faculty] ask us to get."

She is delighted that Morris Library is the beneficiary of the largest capital renovation project in the university's history, and she points out that the expansion has been a long time coming. She recalls that in 1977 a seven story stack in the woods between Morris and Faner was envisioned. She continued, "All the staff were to be in the new building, because this building has always been bad in terms of temperature and humidity controls. So they were going to put the staff there, and basically leave the collections here. But (laughing) it didn't happen."

Her dedication to serving patrons is evident in her charitable demeanor. And though books and journal articles are generally the standard of achievement in the academic world, her benchmark

continued on page 5 . . .

Fahey . . . continued from page 4

of accomplishment is measured by the service that she's provided her patrons through the years. "When you work with the public, you don't really have something you can point to as finished product. It's basically doing the best you can to provide good service to as many people as possible."

Fahey continued, "I'm public service oriented. A good day is a day that I help people find information, and I don't need anything in print or in concrete, or anything that's tangible. I do the best I can to help each person that asks me questions, and that's my goal and that's what I've tried to achieve."

As for the future and her retirement, Fahey looks forward to the library's renovation, "I'm going to stay here. I've lived here longer than any place else, and I'll enjoy visiting the library. I'm a big reader, and I plan to use the library." **GP**

Koch . . . continued from page 1

in 1970 as rare book librarian. That year also signaled the birth of Special Collections under the tutelage of Kenneth Duckett, who had become University Archivist; previously the area had used the moniker of Rare Book Room.

Koch bristles at the notion that the term, Treasure Room, had once been applied to what is now Special Collections, but he admits that Charles Feinberg, a Detroit millionaire and collector of Walt Whitman material, had once considered donating much of his non-Whitman collection to Morris Library. Koch recalls, "[Feinberg] got interested in Southern because Bob Faner, who was in the English Department then, had written a book on Walt Whitman and opera, which Feinberg read and thought was just exceedingly fine. . . He came down on campus, and this was just when they were planning Morris Library as we know it now. . . He came into the unfinished library and he asked Ralph McCoy, 'Where is your Treasure Room? Because

Tips from the Conservation Lab

by Barb Summers

Be kind to your books

Only handle books with clean hands.



Keep books away from food. Eating or drinking while reading is risky. Crumbs and spills can cause permanent stains, and food attracts insects that eat paper.

Never use paper clips . . . they can tear the paper and leave rust stains.

Never use rubber bands on books . . . they deteriorate, give off sulfur compounds, and will stick to the book.

Never put Post-It notes in a book . . . after removing the note, some adhesive remains on the page which will discolor with time.

Use Bookmarks. Do not turn down the corners of a page to mark your place. It will make a permanent crease, and if the paper is brittle the corner will break off.

Do not lay open books face-down. This can break the spine or weaken the binding.

Protect your spines

Shelve all books in an upright position. If a book leans, the binding will break down quickly. Use book ends that are about two thirds the height of the books.

A shelf filled with books will support each other—in an upright position—but do not overcrowd the shelf because the books will be difficult to remove and may be easily damaged.

Do not remove a book from the shelf by pulling on the top of the spine. Push back the books on either side of the book wanted, and grasp it in the middle of the spine.

If a book is too tall for the shelf, place it spine down on the shelf. Never shelve it on the fore-edge (edge opposite the spine); it will cause the spine to break down in the hinge area. Another alternative is to lay several books flat on the shelf on top of each other if they are too tall to stand up.

Treat your books well and you will have them to enjoy for years to come.

I will fill it for you.' And Ralph, knowing that there had been no plans for a "Treasure Room," kind of put his hand over his eyes and pointed to a spot on the and he said, 'It's right there.'" Ralph McCoy's quick thinking and social graces garnered a number of rare Whitman items from the Feinberg collection for the library. Ultimately, Feinberg provided many fine editions and much of his American manuscripts collection to Morris Library. Koch continued, "But, by the time I came back in 1970, and began working with Duckett, we made it Special Collections, and in the 1970s the books, manuscript and University Archives collections had grown so significantly that we were beyond 'treasure' and saw it as research collections. Although it took until just recently to actually call this a research center." Special Collections Research Center was so named in spring of 2002.

In reflecting upon Koch's mission, former Morris Library Dean Kenneth G. Peterson said, "[His] knowledge and love of books and archival material enabled [Koch] to build upon the earlier work of both Ralph McCoy and Ken Duckett in enlarging and enriching the collections."

When asked about significant changes during the span of his thirty-five year career as a rare bookman, Koch says that "Technology has really changed the way that we operate both in terms of collection development and in terms of research and help to individuals. We do a constant Internet business and correspondence with scholars from all over the world. And correspondence that used to take months and months . . . now can be done in two days via email." He also cites digitization as an aid to librarians via scanning private photographic collections without ever separating the documents

Morris Library Giving Opportunities

Over the years many diverse and disparate funds have been established at Morris Library to benefit certain disciplines or subject areas. Commonly, funds benefit disciplines in the name of a former educator or authority within that field. On occasion funds have been established

as memorials in remembrance of a dedicated university employee as in the case of the Alan M. Cohn Memorial. To donate to any of these funds or to establish a new fund, please contact the library's development officer, Kristine McGuire at <kmcguire@lib.siu.edu> or 618-453-1633.

Morris Library Building Improvement Fund: to fund renovations, improvements, and repairs to Morris Library.

Carl. L. Schweinfurth Endowment Fund: for the enhancement of African Studies Collections.

Charles D. and Maude B. Tenney Library Endowment Fund: for the purchase of library materials in the field of Liberal Arts.

Eugene T. Simonds Memorial Library Endowment Fund: to purchase library materials in the field of U.S. Military History.

Piper-Robeson Library Fund: to purchase books on Illinois History and Culture.

Lewis E. & Elizabeth Hahn Philosophy Book Fund: to purchase philosophy books and publications.



Elmer and Carol Johnson Criminology and Criminal Justice: to purchase of books or journals not otherwise acquired routinely, in the specific subject matter areas of criminology and criminal justice.

Max & Anna Meyers Library Endowment Fund: to purchase library materials for the Science Division in the field of Chemistry and Chemistry-related subjects.

Alan M. Cohn Memorial: to assist in acquiring materials that reflect the diverse humanities interests of Mr. Cohn and to help preserve/restore similar items, or to aid in the publication of Morris Library materials.

Religious Studies Library Endowment Fund: to purchase library materials in the field of Religious Studies.

Joseph R. Dillinger Library Fund: to purchase library materials in the fields of Science, Engineering and Medicine.

Education & Psychology Library Fund: to purchase library materials for the Education and Psychology Division of Morris Library.

Muriel N. & D. Lincoln Canfield Library Endowment: to purchase library materials in the field of Spanish language and Hispanic linguistics.

Virginia L. Marmaduke Library Endowment Fund: to purchase library materials in the fields of Journalism and Communications.

Browsing Room Endowment Fund: to purchase library materials (mainly current books) for the Browsing Room collection of Morris Library.

Special Collections Library Endowment: to purchase library materials for the Special Collections Division of Morris Library.

Queen Library-History Fund: to purchase historical periodicals, monographs, and teaching aids for the classroom, such as maps.

Ralph & Melba McCoy Library Fund: to purchase library materials for the Freedom of the Press Collection.

Lindell W. & Viola Sturgis Library Fund: to purchase library materials in the fields of Business and Banking.

In Memoriam

Library Affairs wishes to extend its condolences to the McCoy and Peterson families for their recent losses.

Melba Elizabeth McCoy died May 12, 2005, in Blacksburg, Virginia. Born August 15, 1914, in Callaway County, Missouri, she was married to Ralph Edward McCoy, Dean of SIU Library from 1955–1976.

She is survived by her husband and two sons.

Jane Elizabeth "Betsy" Peterson died June 9, 2005, in Matthews, North Carolina at the age of 81. She grew up in Allentown, Pennsylvania, and in 1949 married Kenneth Peterson, Dean of Morris Library from 1976–1999. She is survived by her husband, three sons, and two daughters.

Did You Know?

With the completion of Wheeler Library in 1904, SINU was one of the first Normal schools in the United States to have a separate building for the library collection.

from their owners. "I think that technology has really helped us in developing some cooperation between schools, historical societies, and the university," Koch said.

In terms of notable accomplishments Koch pointed to keeping Special Collections "afloat" during difficult financial times. There have been periods when David Koch and administrators have not shared the same vaunted value of Special Collections, and staff and acquisitions have suffered as a result. He also cites the continued growth of the American philosophy collection as an achievement. "The John Dewey, Open Court Publishing, Library of Living Philosophers, and *Christian Century* magazine collections really form a wonderful nucleus of manuscripts and correspondence that really deals with pragmatists and modern philosophy," said Koch.

When asked about his plans for retirement, Koch jokingly replies that he has his applied as a greeter at Wal-Mart. Since he can no longer use his job as an excuse to avoid involvement, he hopes to throw himself into a number of projects. In what sounds like a busman's (perhaps bookman's) holiday he says he hopes to work on the reorganization of a bibliography on the Open Court. Another project involves gleaning the social history from a southern Illinois receipt and payment ledger from the late nineteenth century. In a more traditional vein, Koch said that he hopes to travel and in acknowledging a long-term interest in whales, he hopes at some point to take an extended whale-watching cruise that studies whale populations in the Pacific. **GP**

Vintage Image Corner



Photo courtesy of Special Collections

This group of SINU faculty, trustees, and family members convened outside Old Main, June 6, 1904, for the dedication of Wheeler Library. Perhaps they preferred the shade and shelter of Old Main on a summer's day to the newly-completed Wheeler Hall for this photo opportunity. Notables include Professor H. W. Shryock and wife (third row standing, second and third from left), Dr. D. B. Parkinson (second row seated, far left), and Trustee Samuel P. Wheeler (second row, sixth from left). Once in the possession of Coach McAndrew, who served the university from 1913 – 1943, the photograph was a gift to the university by Coach Abe Martin in 1956.

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