Library Remembers the Civil War

By Aaron Lisec

The Special Collections Research Center (SCRC) continued its four-year Civil War sesquicentennial celebration this spring with two exhibits and several public programs.

“Civil War 150” was in the Hall of Presidents and Chancellors April 28 to May 16. The traveling panel exhibit traces major events of the Civil War era through the eyes of soldiers, presidents, freedmen and families. A national project organized by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History in partnership with the Library of America, the exhibit was made possible in part through a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities: Exploring the Human Endeavor.

Glen Bishop opened the arrival of the exhibit with an April 28 presentation about Southern Illinois regiments in the Atlanta Campaign. Bishop, a local historian, appeared in a Union soldier uniform and quoted from Civil War letters and reports to dramatize how Southern Illinois soldiers helped turn the tide of key battles in the western campaigns.

Rhonda Kohl gave the May 2 keynote lecture prior to an opening reception. An SIU Carbondale alumna and author of “The Prairie Boys Go to War: The Fifth Illinois Cavalry, 1861-1865,” Kohl is currently writing about the wives of the Fifth Illinois Cavalry. She has extensively researched the Mann and Wiley Family Papers at SCRC.


SCRC mounted a companion exhibit focusing on the key events of 1864, told through the letters of Southern Illinois soldiers and their wives. The following excerpts are taken from the exhibit.

“Sherman’s March to the Sea,” engraving by Alexander Hay Ritchie, 1868.
Cornerstone is published four times a year. It is distributed free of charge to Friends of Morris Library, SIU Carbondale faculty, staff and friends of the university.

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For a complete listing of the library staff, go to the Staff Directory on our homepage: lib.siu.edu/staff

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Cornerstone

Message from the Dean

Library Affairs is excited to announce that two SIU units are joining us during summer 2014. The Center for Dewey Studies, which has been housed just off campus at 807 S. Oakland, will be moving into the basement rotunda once it has been enclosed to meet their needs. The Center for Dewey Studies became part of the Library on May 1, but likely will not move into the Morris Library building until July.

The Center for Dewey Studies was founded in 1961 to collect, edit and publish the works of American philosopher and educator John Dewey (1859-1952) in a standard edition. When the 37-volume Collected Works project was completed in 1990, work began on an edition of Dewey’s massive correspondence. Comprised of more than 24,000 items collected from more than 200 libraries and archives, Dewey’s letters have now been published in an electronic edition that is equivalent to approximately 63 print volumes. Both of these editions were made possible by generous support from the National Endowment for the Humanities and private donors. Works about Dewey, a comprehensive bibliography of secondary works about Dewey compiled and edited at the center, has been published in multiple editions since 1996. That year the center also published an electronic edition of Dewey’s Collected Works. The center’s editors are now at work on an edition of Dewey’s class lectures.

Since 1993 the center has extended its international reach by establishing Dewey research centers in China, Japan, Germany, Spain, Italy, Hungary, Poland, Turkey, Argentina, Brazil and France. During that time the center has hosted more than 500 visitors from the U.S. and more than 150 foreign visitors from 30 countries, including six Fulbright scholars. Justifiably known as one of SIU’s “Centers of Excellence,” the Center for Dewey Studies continues to be recognized around the world as the focal point for research into the life and work of one of America’s greatest philosophers, educational reformers and public intellectuals. For more about the center, visit deweycenter.siu.edu.

Southern Illinois University Press will become part of Library Affairs on July 1, but will remain housed in its current location just off-campus, next to McLafferty Annex. The press and the library have been engaged in and discussing collaborative projects for more than a year. The press will benefit with increased visibility and engagement in campus publishing. A greater range of electronic publishing options in the form of enhanced e-books and sales connected through OpenSIUC will expand the impact of the publishing portfolio.

Established in 1956, SIU Press publishes books in a variety of disciplines. The most scholarly fields include archaeology, rhetoric, composition, film, theater and criminology. While still scholarly, additional publishing fields are of more interest to the general public. These include American history, with a focus on Abraham Lincoln, Ulysses S. Grant and Civil War Studies; and regional studies highlighting the region including all of Illinois and the southern tri-state region, with a strong emphasis on Southern Illinois. SIU Press also publishes the Crab Orchard Series in Poetry, in collaboration with the “Crab Orchard Review.” To learn more about the press, visit their website at www.siupress.com.

We are genuinely excited about these new relationships.
$200 for Audubon’s Birds of America: The Audubon Society Baby Elephant Folio, edited by Roger Tory Peterson. All 435 of John James Audubon’s brilliant, hand-colored engravings are exquisitely reproduced from the original plates of the Audubon Society’s archival copy of the rare “Double Elephant Folio.” This new systematic arrangement of the prints, complete with informative commentaries about each bird, made it possible to correct many of the problems or errors in Audubon’s original edition revealed by later scholarship. The colorful captions in the back provide fascinating commentaries about each featured bird.

$2,340 for Encyclopedia of Quaternary Science, Second Edition, edited by Scott A. Elias and Cary J. Mock. Quaternary science provides crucial insight into environmental and climate change during the last 2.6 million years of earth’s history. As such, it increases our understanding of the processes and scope of current climate change. This comprehensive work contains more than 350 articles written by experts from around the world along with 3,000 illustrations. The first edition was an award-winning reference work that was beyond the means of Morris Library to purchase; the second edition is updated and expanded and will be of interest to students, faculty and other researchers in a variety of fields, including environmental science, geology, geography and biology.


$150 for The Ashgate Research Companion to the Korean War, edited by James I. Matray. This essential resource provides a comprehensive study of the literature about the causes, course and consequences of the Korean War, 1950-1953. Aimed primarily at readers with a special interest in military history and contemporary conflict studies, the book summarizes and analyzes the key research issues in what for years was known as the “Forgotten War.” The book incorporates three main thematic parts, each with chapters focusing on a variety of crucial topics covering the background, conduct, clashes and outcome of the Korean War. The first part sets the historical stage, with chapters focusing on the main participants. The second section provides details on the tactics, equipment and logistics of the belligerents. The final part covers the course of the war, with each chapter addressing a key stage of the fighting in chronological order. The enormous increase in writings on the Korean War during the last 30 years, following the release of key primary source documents, has revived and energized the interest of scholars. This essential reference work not only provides an overview of recent research, but also assesses what impact this has had on understanding the war.


$170 for Chinese and Japanese Films on the Second World War, edited by King-fai Tam, Timothy Y. Tsu and Sandra Wilson. This book examines...
Byron Webster, who later owned a drugstore in Benton, wrote to his fiancée, Hannah Elliott, during the Atlanta campaign in August 1864:

“The Rebs shot a Ten lbs Ball into our works and wounded Two of Co. B’s Boys last evening. The shot came with great force and it was well aimed. One of the boys name was Sam Thackston he had one hand and one leg shot off and Wm. A. Tate had his shoulder shot away and throat cut. It was an awful sight to see men cut to pieces. . . . Tate was a Christian all tho he was shot that he could not speak but he wrote with his left hand in the dust that he was ready to die and he exorted the boys to be Christians. He was in good spirits when I last saw him and he could not live but a few hours.”

The Illinois Civil War Muster Rolls list Sampson A. Thaxton as age 18 when he enlisted from Nashville. A farmer, he was single and had auburn hair, black eyes, and a dark complexion, according to the records. William A. Tate, of Centralia, was a farmer, 27 years old, single, and had light hair, gray eyes and a red complexion. Both men were killed at Atlanta on Aug. 14, 1864.

Nancy Mann, from Liberty in Randolph County, wrote that May to her husband, John:

“You soldiers cannot know the suspense Hope, Fear, Dread, and Anxiety we home folks have regarding the safety of our friends, and the success of their attempts to take Richmond, Atlanta, and other places. I know that God rules our Nation and whatever He brings to pass is right yet I cannot avoid this fear for the safety of friends. I know that if I should live to see peace restored to our country again I shall know how to appreciate it.”

When her brother Harvey Clendenin was killed near Atlanta in July, Nancy wrote, “Alas, he will return to us no more. The realities of war have come home to us of his kindred.”

When Union troops captured Savannah, Ga., after the March to the Sea, Joseph Skipworth was there with the 31st Illinois Infantry and on Dec. 30 he wrote to Mary Ann, his wife:

“Well I must not forget to mention about Christmas. I had a small spree. Whiskey is cheap only ten dollars a canteen. You may judge what kind of a spree it was. There was eight of us got hi on the one canteen of whiskey. Well I guess I have wrote enough of such foolishness.”

Morris Library recently replaced two public computers, which used to stand by the Information Desk on the first floor, with a brand new Consultation Room containing a state-of-the-art MediaScape. The new Consultation Room is walled with glass and decorated with word art featuring library and learning themes. The MediaScape within it includes a small conference table, a desktop computer and a large monitor. In the center of the table are six pucks people may use to connect electronic devices such as laptops, tablets and cellphones to the screen. Librarians at the library are using this new Consultation Room to meet with small groups of students to assist them with research and as a workspace to consult with faculty members on their research and information literacy support needs. The Consultation Room’s location, immediately next to the library’s Information Desk, is proving especially useful. It allows librarians to move longer reference interactions to the room where they can provide in-depth assistance to the user in a quiet and well-designed space.

By Jordan Forbes

The consultation Room is proving especially useful. It allows librarians to move longer reference interactions to the room where they can provide in-depth assistance to the user in a quiet and well-designed space.
Spotlight on the Big Muddy Film Festival
By Beth Martell

The Special Collections Research Center recently undertook a project to organize the records of The Big Muddy Film Festival (BMFF), held in the University Archives and centered on the first quarter century of the festival, which began in 1979. The following highlights from the festival’s history are quoted directly from documents in the collection.

The continuing goal of The Big Muddy Film Festival is to offer Southern Illinois residents an opportunity to view a variety of independent cinema and video and to interact with internationally renowned film/video makers, critics, and scholars. Each year the festival is dedicated to influential filmmakers who expand the intellectual and visual boundaries of the industry with their art. The festival invites nationally renowned juror/filmakers who publicly screen and discuss their work.

The First Decade

The BMFF was fashioned after the Athens International Film Festival and the Ann Arbor Film Festival to bring current developments in independent, non-mainstream films to Southern Illinois. The first organizational meetings were held outside a World War II barracks on campus. Initial meetings consistently attracted 40-50 community members and students. Major support was received from the Illinois Arts Council and volunteers from several SIU Departments including the Graduate Student Council, the Department of Cinema and Photography, the College of Communications and Fine Arts, and the Student Programming Council.

In 1979, the first festival was a three-day affair in the spring. A small entrance fee covered postage, judges, cash awards, and insurance. There were 35 entries. Prizes awarded totaled $1000.

By the end of its first decade, the festival grew in both public support and aesthetic range. The BMFF developed into a nationally recognized showcase for independent cinema, featuring panel discussions, workshop forums, and guest presenters of national and international repute.

- Guest filmmakers held lectures, workshops, and screenings of their films.
- The prize budget increased.
- The local citizenry interacted with the creators of work which addressed contemporary issues, illustrated recent technologies, and introduced recent strategies in media arts.
- 140 entrants competed in five categories: narratives, documentaries, animation, experimental, and computer animation films and videos.
- Worldwide interest was attributed to the publicity garnered in such film industry periodicals as After Image, The Independent, and Montage.
- Movie makers from California and New York dominated the list of winners.

The BMFF was widely covered in The Daily Egyptian. Along with film schedules, the DE ran advertisements for the featured filmmaker of the festival. Articles also appeared in The Southern Illinoisan and extensive television coverage was provided by WSIL-TV. Radio interviews with festival coordinators and festival winners were aired on WSIU-FM. “The Best Films of the Festival” program was aired on PBS affiliates WSIU and WUSI TV. The top three films in each category (Super 8 films, 16 mm films, and videos) were shown at the “Best of the Fest” screening. Coordinators attempted to expand the festival’s financial base by increasing the number of festival subscribers and by a concerted national and foundation grant writing effort. The festival also began offering a regional premiere of a major independent production. Local theater support allowed Big Muddy access to 35 mm screening facilities.

Illinois Arts Council funds were used for:
- Office personnel, equipment, and supplies
- Screening facilities, projectionists, and equipment rental
- Airfare, accommodations, meals for guests filmmaker/jurors and guest lecturers
- Marketing, advertising, program brochures, t-shirts, posters, flyers,

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representations of World War II in postwar Chinese and Japanese cinema. Drawing on a wide range of scholarly disciplines, and analyzing a wide range of films, it demonstrates the potential of war movies for understanding contemporary China and Japan. It shows how the war is remembered in both countries, including the demonization of Japanese soldiers in postwar socialist-era Chinese movies, and the pervasive sense of victimhood in Japanese war memories. It also shows how some Chinese directors were experimenting with alternative interpretations of the war beginning as early as the 1950s, and how, despite the “resurgence of nationalism” in Japan since the 1980s, the production of Japanese movies critical of the war has continued.

$165 for A Companion to Chinese Archaeology, edited by Anne P. Underhill. This collection of readings from leading archaeologists in China and elsewhere provides diverse interpretations about social and economic organization during the Neolithic period and early Bronze Age. Scholars from North America, China, Taiwan and Israel cover the era from 9000 BCE to the mid-11th century BCE through 30 essays. Following two introductory chapters on “complex societies” in antiquity and issues associated with the management of China’s archaeological heritage, the bulk of the book is devoted to various key regions. (American Library Association, 2013)

$180 for The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Encyclopedia of Camps and Ghettos, 1933-1945: Volume 2: Ghettos in German-Occupied Eastern Europe, by Geoffrey P. Megargee. This second volume of a groundbreaking reference work, published under the auspices of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, includes entries on more than 1,100 ghettos set up by Nazi Germany in areas from Poland to Russia and from the Baltic to the Black Sea. Although ghettos such as the one in Warsaw and camps like Auschwitz and Bergen-Belsen have become well-known to the general public, this is not the case with ghettos like those in Alushta, Belopole and Korop, to name just a few. Five more volumes of this encyclopedia are scheduled, with the next to feature 220 additional ghettos set up in states including Slovakia, Hungary, Vichy France and Romania. This user-friendly reference work belongs on every library bookshelf. (American Library Association, 2012)

$200 for Oxford Handbook of Child Psychological Assessment, edited by Donald H. Saklofske, Cecil R. Reynolds and Vicki L. Schwean. The 36 chapters fall into sections on foundations, models, practices and emergent topics. The volume is intended to be a comprehensive survey of contemporary scientific literature on assessment of ability, achievement, behavior and personality of children. Adolescents are often addressed as well. The volume is meant to serve both as a desk reference and as a cover-to-cover read and all chapters maintain reader interest. There are many forward-edge chapters, including one on therapeutic assessment with adolescents and their parents, and one that is an “authentic alternative for assessment in early childhood intervention.” Forensic assessment and ethical concerns are addressed. The volume is well-indexed for content although there is no author index. It is of interest to professors, undergraduate and graduate students and to practitioners in developmental, educational, and clinical psychology. (American Library Association, 2013)

$120 for The Oxford Handbook of Kierkegaard, by John Lippitt and George Pattison. This handbook is divided into three main parts: ‘Contexts and Sources,’ ‘Some Major Topics in the Authorship’ and ‘Kierkegaard after Kierkegaard.’ Three chapters seem particularly helpful to understanding Kierkegaard: David Law’s ‘Kierkegaard and the History of Theology,’ in the first part; Sylvia Walsh’s ‘Kierkegaard’s Theology,’ in the second part; and John Lippitt’s ‘Kierkegaard and Moral Philosophy,’ in the final part. The contributors include a number of well-established Kierkegaard scholars, and all chapters conclude with references and suggested readings. Many chapters will be helpful to students and researchers engaged with the writings of Kierkegaard. (American Library Association, 2013)

$195 for We Are What We Sell [three volumes]: How Advertising Shapes American Life . . . and Always Has, edited by Danielle Sarver Coombs and Bob Batchelor. In the United States, advertising has carved out an essential place in American culture, and advertising messages undoubtedly play a significant role in determining how people interpret the world around them. This three-volume set examines the myriad ways that advertising has influenced many aspects of 20th-century American society, including popular culture, politics and the economy. The collection spotlights the most important advertising campaigns, brands, and companies in American history, from the late 1800s to modern day.

SAVE THE DATE!
Friends of Morris Library Gala
Saturday, Oct. 18, 2014
Morris Library
newspaper ads, television and radio spots, etc.
- Film rental
- Prize money for winning entries, insurance and postage for films
- Promotional and programming consultations, video services

Additional revenue ($900) was made through the sale of hand-painted T-shirts and sweatshirts. A series of bake sales known as “The Big Muddy Café” brought in $500. Advertisements in the annual festival brochure added $155 to the budget. Private donations also helped pay for the festival, as did admission tickets and festival passes.

The Second Decade

1991
During its second phase of growth, all faculty members were asked to make contributions to support the BMFF. For the first time, a reception was given by the SIUC President to honor the jurors, introduce them to the community, and gain more visibility for the festival within the University.

1992
The festival transitioned from being a non-profit entity to being part of the university. This new organization, called Film Alternatives, consisted of Staff Advisor/Fiscal Officer, a Film Alternatives Director, a BMFF Director, and more than 30 volunteers. This organization facilitated community outreach, publicity, fund raising, and event coordination. It provided a more secure environment for the festival to continue its growth with reassurance that reliable and qualified people who shared a common interest in films would be available to enhance the quality of future festivals. Alternative film programming in the region was provided throughout the year. Liaisons with local community groups such as the Women’s Center, environmental groups, international organizations, and other groups were part of the effort to better address the needs of the community.

1994
All that hard work paid off for three former members of the SIU Department of Cinema and Photography. They received Academy Award Nominations. Gary Kolb, then chair of the department, said they did their work at the lower level jobs, climbed the ladder, and then moved into positions that created acclaim.

Film Alternatives received grants from the Southern Illinois Arts Council as well as the Illinois Arts Council, local businesses, and campus organizers. New supporters included the College of Mass Communication and Media Arts, Southern Illinois University Press, Woman and International Development, Minority Programs and Services, and the University Bookstore.

1995
Support increased in terms of record-breaking attendance and increased financial sponsorships by local businesses and organizations. The total of 3,502 film-goers was up by more than 1,100 over the previous year.
- The festival was lengthened to nine days.
- Three days of programming were added which allowed for the scheduling of seven additional events. These events included a documentary workshop, participation in the Black History Month celebration, a fourth feature film, more screenings, and adding a fourth visiting artist to make presentations and act as juror.
- Competition entries, genre showcases, and screenings of independently-made feature films were offered.
- Community outreach efforts included a Children’s Animation workshop held at the Carbondale Science Center, a special screening of entries focusing on women’s issues shown at the Women’s Center, and the Illinois Migrant Council screened competition entries

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Carbondale Oral Histories Online

By Christi Mathis

There’s nothing quite like experiencing history through the voices of those who lived it and some of those special voices and stories are now available online to everyone courtesy of Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

The Carbondale Remembered Oral History Project, a collaboration between SIU’s Special Collections Research Center and the Carbondale Preservation Commission, is an ongoing project featuring dozens of oral history interviews with residents of the Carbondale, Ill., area. The interviews are accessible online to anyone who wants to hear them for research purposes or just to experience the past as lived by local residents.

Dorothy “Dede” Lingle Ittner, SIU alumnus, historian and secretary of the SIU Alumni Association Board of Directors, primarily conducted the interviews. Originally recorded on audiocassettes, the interviews are digitized and available as mp3 files at http://www.lib.siu.edu/carbondale-remembered. The collection also features written transcriptions for some of the interviews and some photographs.

The memories and experiences represented in the collection are an eclectic mix, including recollections from the late Mary Ellen Curd Simon about the “mean-looking” sky on a March day in 1925 as she walked home from grade school at “The Normal,” now SIU Carbondale. That mean sky held what became known as the F-5 “Tri-State Tornado” that killed 234 and injured thousands in Murphysboro. The tornado also resulted in 33 deaths at the De Soto School and many more in Missouri, Illinois and Indiana while crushing 15,000 homes and injuring thousands.

“‘It was a scarring memory on my mind,’ recalls Simon, who was 91 years old at the time of the interview.

She relates how her father, Harlan Curd, a pharmacist, telephoned his wife, Margaret Porter Curd, and had her come to assist at Holden Hospital where there simply weren’t enough staff to treat the many burned and badly injured tornado victims.

Bill Schwegman, of Carbondale, assisted with the project by interviewing C. Gene Seibert, the former longtime manager of the Southern Illinois Airport. Seibert provides an historical account of local airports, particularly the one he managed.

And Robert James, also of Carbondale, recalls how he first got hired on the grounds crew at Southern Illinois Normal University, now SIU Carbondale.

“I gave a fellow a letter to take to show whoever they met about me wanting a job. Then all of a sudden, I got a letter from Springfield and this is what Governor (Adlai) Stevenson wrote on that letter. He says, ‘You are hired, you are welcome to the family of Southern Illinois Normal University,’ “ James recalls.

The oral histories focus on the Carbondale era in the 20th century, with an emphasis on political history, architecture and education. The topics include African-American history, university history, The Great Depression, natural disasters, business history, World War II and the Vietnam War. The collection now has 37 oral interviews and others will be added as they become available.

In addition to online access available through the website, people can find the histories at the Special Collections Research Center in Morris Library or at the Carbondale Public Library.

For more information about the Carbondale Remembered Oral History Project, look online at http://www.lib.siu.edu/carbondale-remembered, email phdean@lib.siu.edu or call 618/453-2516.
Jurek to Exhibit NASA Artifacts

By Dona Bachman

Richard Jurek, a space collector and double alumnus of SIU, will bring his impressive collection of NASA artifacts to the University Museum during the fall 2014 semester. Jurek gave a stimulating and well-received presentation, “Marketing the Moon,” at Morris Library in April. Now, he’s following up with the exhibit of his artifacts at the museum, formally opening with a public reception from 4 to 7 p.m. on Sept. 12 at the University Museum in Faner Hall.

Jurek traces his love of all things space-related to a high school teacher who gave students an assignment to write to a famous person. Jurek wrote to Neil Armstrong and received a wonderful letter and an autographed photograph in reply.

“That photo I received 32 years ago started me on a path of collecting space items,” Jurek said.

To complement his NASA items, Jurek suggested the College of Engineering lend the museum a moon buggy designed by SIU students. Tsuchin Philip Chu, a professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering and Energy Processes, and his students responded favorably, so this university artifact will be a part of the exhibit.

Jurek plans to deliver the artifacts this summer so Nate Steinbrink, the museum’s curator of exhibits, can install the exhibit for the fall semester.

Follow the museum’s website, www.museum.siu.edu, for more information.

Endnote Desktop coming to Morris Library

SIU Carbondale faculty and graduate students will have a new way to organize their research and keep track of citations this fall: Endnote Desktop. They will be able to download the citation management software directly onto their computers or tablets and use it to save, share and organize citations, PDFs and research notes as well as to create bibliographies.

All SIU students, faculty, and staff will continue to have access to Endnote Web, but the availability of Desktop will provide faculty and graduate students increased functionality and storage capabilities. Current Endnote Web users will be able to sync their existing accounts to a Desktop account so they will not lose their existing citation libraries.

Desktop contains a number of innovative features not available through Endnote Web. Cite While You Write (CWYW) allows users to format manuscripts and create bibliographies as they compose, using any of the more than 5,000 bibliographic and journal styles. Desktop users may also share citations online and enable read-and-write privileges for colleagues and collaborators.

Jessica Zieman, social sciences librarian, will be Morris Library’s point person for the launch of Endnote Desktop. She will also create an instructional research guide and tutorials that will be available through the library’s website, and she will offer workshops for graduate students and faculty in the fall.

Keep an eye on the Morris Library website for more information about the availability of Endnote Desktop and the times and locations for workshops.
The annual gala for the Friends of Morris Library will be held on Saturday, October 18, 2014. This year, we are proud to present, R. Buckminster Fuller: THE HISTORY (and Mystery) OF THE UNIVERSE. The highly acclaimed play on Bucky’s life and ideas was written by Douglas Jacobs in conjunction with the Fuller estate. Jacobs will also portray Bucky in this one-man production. In 1968, the story goes, Jacobs heard Bucky speak, which led to him studying the works of Fuller and eventually writing this play.

Jacobs co-founded the San Diego Repertory Theater, and served as artistic director for 20 years. In 1997, he resigned to focus on writing the play, which has been performed over 800 times to date. The Foghouse production ran in San Francisco for 15 months. It was recently produced at San Jose Rep, Arena Stage (Washington, D.C.) and A.R.T. (the professional theater associated with Harvard University). Jacobs has taught a class on the ‘Design Principles of Playmaking’ for Playwrights Foundation, Synergetics Collaborative/RISD and the Fuller Future Festival in Carbondale. Last year, he lectured on ‘Fuller, Creativity and Sustainability’ at the Wroclaw University of Technology, Poland, and co-founded a new company, TEATRO ARROYO // Theater Stream, in Los Angeles.

New to the gala celebration is a brunch on Sunday, October 19, 2014. In addition to great food, treasures from the Library’s Special Collection will be on display.

Invitations will be sent out in early September. If you would like additional information about the weekend’s festivities contact Kristine B. McGuire at kmguire@lib.siu.edu or 618/453-1633.

Can anyone shed light on this photograph of two 1960s-era students in front of Morris Library?


From the Rip Stokes Photograph Collection, University Archives, Special Collections Research Center.
Numerous SIU organizations, including some no longer in existence, have provided support to the BMFF throughout the years. Supporters include:

- Graduate Student Council
- Dept of Cinema and Photography
- College of Communications and Fine Arts
- Student Programming Council
- Undergraduate Student Organization
- Cinema and Photography Student Organization
- Graduate and Professional Students Organization
- Women's Studies
- Women's Caucus
- Minority Programming Initiative
- Student Center Graphics
- Graphic Arts Dept
- College of Mass Communication and Media Arts
- Southern Illinois University Press
- Woman and International Development
- Minority Programs and Services
- Office of Sponsored Projects Administration (OSPA)
- University Bookstore
- School of Art and Design
- CMCMA-New Media Center
- College of Liberal Arts
- Dept of Linguistics/CESL
- Dept of Philosophy
- Library Affairs-Morris Library
- School of Journalism University Press
- University Museum
- Gay Lesbians Bisexuals and Friends
- Department of History
- Department of Radio, Television and Digital Media
- Women's Services
- Department of Sociology

and made an interpreter available to lead the discussion.

- Other festivals were contacted to share mailing lists and the internet was used to get the word out about upcoming deadlines.
- The highest number of international entries were received as volunteers' efforts to widen the scope of the festival paid off.
- Film screenings in non-traditional settings were explored as suitable alternatives.

As a result of diminished support from the Illinois Arts Council, Film Alternatives set new priorities. Until it found alternative funding sources, its growth trend was curbed. If Illinois Arts Council funds were not going be available, new fund raising and soliciting activities would have to be explored to encourage even larger participation in the event.

1997
Film Alternatives moved its office from the Student Center to the basement of the Communications Building. It hired a new fiscal officer and faculty advisors. The organization was manned by the Film Alternatives Director, BMFF Director/co-directors, and chair positions for promotions, fund raising, pre-screening, community outreach, hospitality, showcase events and special programs. It employed these various committees throughout the year to promote and program other events such as the Women in the Director's Chair Tour, The Student Academy Awards screening, and numerous guest artists/lecturers. Film Alternatives started the Little Muddy Film Festival to showcase films and videos from SIU students and community members.

That year, 215 entries were received. 82 works were chosen. Competition films were organized in the following showcases:

- Assorted animation, documentary, experimental and narrative films
- Documentaries of Asian Culture
- All Japanese Showcase
- Documentaries of people and their lives
- Documentaries of African Americans
- Documentaries of American Culture
- Documentaries of Women
- Documentaries of Political Opinions
- Documentaries of Eastern Europeans
- Narrative films of love and obsession
- Films about sexuality
- Best of the Fest

The organization undertook several new initiatives. With the help of co-director Take Shimizu who translated our call for entries poster into Japanese, the mailing list grew. Because of SIU's campus in Nakajo, Japan, a large number of Japanese students enhanced the potential cross-cultural understanding in the region. In addition to an increase in film and video submissions from artists in Japan, SIU also received increased support from Japanese-owned businesses in the region and in Chicago. Shimizu was awarded a grant from Kodak to serve as an intern at the 1997 Cannes Film Festival where she worked to develop international contacts for the BMFF. Japanese-owned businesses in the region and in Chicago increased their support.

For the first time, the city of Carbondale hung a banner across a busy thoroughfare during the week of the festival.

"Rough Cuts," a local public television program, produced a show featuring the festival and interviewing the co-directors.

The Third Decade

2006
BMFF is the oldest student-run film festival in the nation. Documentaries have exploded as a format because technology is better and cheaper than ever before.

2009
Nineteen films representing more than 20 countries were chosen from more than 300 entries.

2014
After 35 years, while other festivals have become more focused on films attracting big stars, the BMFF continues appeal to the true and real spirit of independent films.
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