

Highlights 2008 at Mann Library



Changing of the guard

At the top of Mann's highlights for 2008 is the news of the library's new acting director, Mary Ochs '79 (Natural Resources). Mary stepped up to the helm at Mann last October when departing director, Janet McCue, assumed a new position as Associate University Librarian for Teaching, Reference and Outreach Services. Many at Cornell already know Mary, who received her MLS degree from Syracuse University in 1982, as a librarian long associated with everything that Mann Library offers. In her 20-plus year career at Cornell, Mary has left her mark on collection development, instruction, reference, interlibrary loan, and international initiatives. Her track record in grant writing and project management includes awards received from the Rockefeller Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Most recently, as principal investigator for the Gates Foundation-funded World Ag Info Project workshop series held in Zambia, India and at Cornell, Mary helped lead an initiative that has laid promising groundwork for realizing effective information technologies for agricultural researchers and the rural poor in Africa and Asia.

A farewell reception honoring departing director Janet McCue in October made the changing of the guard official. To the soaring music of the Olympic anthem and the thunder of virtual fireworks, Janet handed over to Mary a blazing "torch of leadership" (i.e. a large ear of Indian corn) to seal the transition—but not before professor of human development Barbara Lust stood up to represent the CALS and CHE faculty in expressing deep appreciation for Janet's service. Mann Library staff also honored their erstwhile director with a formal presentation of well over three dozen gold medals (Michael Phelps, move over!) for her leadership in stewarding Mann Library's many accomplishments during her 10 year tenure. Janet will clearly be missed, but she leaves Mann Library in good hands. Mary's many ties to the teaching and research mission of Cornell and her involvement with some of the most innovative initiatives on the information frontier, make her uniquely qualified for meeting the tough challenges currently confronting higher education in New York State.



And the flame burns on! Mann's new acting director, Mary Ochs receives the "torch of leadership" from departing director Janet McCue.



Mann Business Resources Cluster takes off

Visit Mann Library's first floor on any given afternoon and you'll likely spy a buzz of activity at Mann's Business Resource Cluster, a specialized new learning center for applied economics and management students. Here students find dedicated computing stations offering access to Thomson Datastream Advance, the online Ernst & Young's library, a Bloomberg terminal and other powerful resources for current business and real-time financial markets data. Helping our young professional's-in-training get a

handle on the effective use of these sophisticated technologies, Mann's business resource librarian Baseema Banoo Krkoska MSc '04 (Communication) provides customized guidance for achieving fluency in finding, managing, and analyzing financial data, fluency sure to give AEM graduates a big leg-up as they enter the competitive job market.

Revitalizing Iraqi Agriculture



In Spring 2008, Marine Capt. Georgia Parment, a public education planner stationed in Iraq, contacted Mann Library about improving agricultural information resources in Anbar province—and a great new collaboration was born. Several months later, ten newly re-furbished computers arrived at Al Anbar University's College of Agriculture and Veterinary Sciences in Ramadi along with The Essential Electronic Agricultural Library (TEEAL), a resource which will provide faculty, students and researchers with access to the full text of over 130 of the world's top-ranked agricultural journals. Input from a number of corners made this achievement possible, including Mann Library's TEEAL Project, U.S. Marine and Anbar University staff, the Cornell Computer Reuse Association, and Cornell Humphrey Program Fellow Khalida Jaafar, who has been volunteering with TEEAL to translate the TEEAL user's guide into Arabic and train Iraqi faculty and graduate students in the use of TEEAL and its online counterpart, AGORA. With this newest development in Anbar, TEEAL sets have become fixtures in 14 universities and education institutes across Iraq—marking some more milestones of hope for agricultural development across the world.

Technology matters....

Being able to count on easy access to computing technology has become the *sine qua non* of college success. In addition to the extensive new computing facilities at the Stone Computing Center on Mann's first floor, students will now also find:

The Kenneth J. Bissett '89 Collaborative Center

Honoring the memory of Kenneth Bissett '89, a CALS communication student tragically killed in the bombing of Pan Am flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland, the Bissett Center is a customizable space for students to work collaboratively on projects and assignments. The Center features portable LCD screens, a Smart Board Interactive Display, Mac mini computers, whiteboards, multi-media equipment, moveable partitions, chairs and tables. Whether working with one, two, three or more classmates, students will find that the Bissett Center puts the best in collaborative research and writing gadgetry at their finger tips and honors well the memory of an innovative young thinker. For more details on the space, check out <http://mannlib.cornell.edu/equipmentandrooms/bissett.cfm>



More new computing labs:

Open since the start of the Fall 2008 semester, two new labs on Mann's ground floor provide a total of 33 additional Macs and 44 additional PCs—loaded with software ranging from Geographic Information Systems to statistics—for use by students working individually and by instructors teaching hands-on workshops and classes.

Fully loaded video editing room:

Video recording equipment available for loan at the Mann circulation desk and a dedicated Mac computer—located in a reservable study room on the library's 2nd floor and powered with a full suite of film editing software—provide all the bells and whistles it takes to master the art of effective digital visual communication. And the creativity? Cornell students provide no shortage of that!



Weekend Warrior Hours

Parents, take heart: while Sunday mornings may see your sons and daughters do little more than catch up on their Z's when home from school, here on the Cornell campus they've been lobbying—with great success—to get into the library early. Since last fall, Mann Library has added Sunday morning to its normal hours of operation. The request for these extended weekend hours came to us from none other than undergraduate students themselves. Given the new Mann's bright new study spaces, powerful computing resources, and rich research collections—not to mention the good coffee and healthy breakfast snacks at the Mandible Café—who could blame them?

A Class Act

Next time you find yourself hungry on the Cornell Ag Quad, don't miss catching a culinary class act at the Mandible Café off of the Mann lobby. Mandible was profiled in the October issue of *Every Day with Rachel Ray*, celebrity chef Rachel Ray's monthly print magazine. Calling the Ag Quad eatery a "study in eco-friendly eating," the article noted the use of local produce delivered by bike from Dilmun Hill, Cornell's student-run organic farm, as well as the campus-favorite overstuffed burrito. Other innovative student food joints also cited in the column included Penn State, Wisconsin and Brown. Culinary options for college students are definitely looking promising these days. . . and the experts in the field are taking note.



Brimming with buzz....

From earth art to the newest of the new in New York wine grapes—Mann Library's public programs of 2008 brimmed with interactivity and the communication of ideas and knowledge across fields, disciplines, and generations. A few highlights:



"Woodchucks in Watercolors" proved a popular late winter exhibit on the colorful Cornell career of mammalogist and legendary Cornell professor of biology William Hamilton (1902-1990). The display featured whimsical illustrations created by artist and emeritus professor of horticulture Jack Lambert as Groundhog Day cards for his teacher, colleague, and friend, "Wild Bill."



Grape and honey tasting fairs in the Mann lobby drew visitors like, well, flies on honey, to Mann's late spring and fall exhibits. Exhibit subjects included new developments in New York viticulture, vineyard photography by the Cayuga Nature Photographers, and the sobering decline of U.S. bee populations. In a talk that opened the fall display "Bees in the Balance," professor of entomology Nick Calderone presented an update on current research about the causes and agricultural implications of colony collapse disorder currently affecting U.S. beekeeping.



In December, environmental art by the Cornell Garden-Based Learning initiative gave visitors to the Mann Lobby the chance to see a photo-like image of Mahatma Gandhi emerge on a large, grass-seeded panel. Students of HORT 201 worked with instructor and senior extension associate Marcia Eames-Sheavly (Dept. of Horticulture) to stage the "Message from the Earth" project, choosing Gandhi's image to encourage greater awareness of the importance of environmental stewardship and social justice.



*We visited your esteemed school Cornell
My daughter thought it was swell
She's gonna apply
So please don't deny
Or my parenting life will be Hell!*
Thus went the prize-winning entry of one anonymous visiting parent in the limerick contest held in celebration of Mann's spring 2008 exhibit: "Never Mind the Pussycat: The Ornithological Art of Edward Lear." Most people know Edward Lear as a consummate creator of comical limericks, but as the Mann exhibit showed, the great nonsense poet was also an exquisite ornithological artist. For a view of Lear's artwork—and a full listing of our winning limerick entries—don't miss the virtual exhibit at <http://exhibits.mannlib.cornell.edu/lear/>






Mann's new gallery website provides a visual tour of the range of thought-provoking work being displayed by students, faculty, and local artists on the walls of the new Mann Gallery on the library's 2nd floor. Student displays bring to life the rich variety of coursework—interior design, garden planning, oil painting—that engages the students of Cornell across campus. Also featured on the gallery website is the faculty-sponsored exhibit "Immigrant Images: Photographs by Spencer Tulis," which complemented the October conference "Immigrant Child: Past, Present and Future" hosted by the Family Life Development Center at the College of Human Ecology. For a view, visit the site at <http://gallery.mannlib.cornell.edu/>

New podcasts

Care to catch up on one of Mann's 2008 book talks or readings? Just visit www.podcast.mannlib.cornell.edu. Recorded programs include:



-  Book talks by Stephen Kress (*The Audubon Society Guide for Attracting Birds: Creating Natural Habitats for Properties Large and Small*); Max Pfeffer (*Saving Forests, Protecting People? Environmental Conservation in Central America*), and David Brown and Nina Glasgow (*Rural Retirement Migration*);
-  Special lectures by Deborah Streeter (“**The Cornell eClips Collection**”), Marcia Eames-Sheavly (“**Turfwork! Telling the Story of Environmental Art**”), and CHE Fellow in the History of Home Economics, Karen Dunn-Haley (“**The College on Wheels and Post-World War Two Extreme Home Makeovers**”);
-  A poetry reading in celebration of National Poetry Month by Johnson Museum director Frank Robinson.

Selected new gifts:

The Janet A. McCue Fund at Mann Library, the library's newest acquisitions fund, honors Janet McCue's years of dedicated service as Mann Library's director. It supports the enrichment and preservation of Mann Library's collections and will celebrate the legacy of a tireless library director and advocate.

Elizabeth E. (Betty) Rowley Endowment for Mann Library - A visual delight now greets visitors to the Mann Administration Office suite: a permanent display of original art—fall crab apples, spring irises, summer corn, and more—by artist and Cornell teacher of botanical watercolor art Bente Starcke King (1938-2005). Generously donated to the library by Bente's family, the illustrations were prepared for exhibit with the support of the Elizabeth E. (Betty) Rowley Endowment for Mann Library, which helps make possible the display of original works of botanical art and scientific illustration at the library. In making the gift of this fund to Mann Library, CALS alum Jean Rowley found inspiration in the warm friendship that his wife Betty Rowley enjoyed with her teacher, Bente King, and in their shared love of nature's simple yet awesome beauty.



The Hive and the Honeybee - U.S. beekeepers are taking a lead role in a key expansion of Mann's online library of selected works from the E. F. Phillips Beekeeping Collection. Gifts from beekeeping associations from California to Maine have made possible the addition of rare book gems such as the 1623 edition of Charles Butler's *The Feminine Monarchie* as well as the first twenty volumes of *The American Bee Journal*, an influential 19th century beekeeping journal. What's next for the Hive collection? An initiative to digitize early volumes of another major American beekeeping publication, *Gleanings in Bee Culture*. For more information, please visit The Hive and the Honeybee site at <http://bees.library.cornell.edu>.

Our delightful walking tour of the library was an eye-opening experience. The vast array of technology and the number of students utilizing the library was amazing.

Mann's community of dedicated friends help ensure the world-class caliber of Mann's facilities, collections and services. Now more than ever, this help is making a world of difference in all that the library offers to the students, faculty, researchers and citizens who depend on us for the success of their work. We hope the near future brings opportunity for you to visit the library to see this difference in person. We would welcome your visit! If you would like to find out more about making a gift to Mann, please visit us at <http://mannlib.cornell.edu/about/friends/> or contact Mary Ochs, Acting Director (email: mao4@cornell.edu, tel.: (607)255-2285; or Albert R. Mann Library, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853). Thank you!