Libraries connect my dots . . .

By Cordelia Candelaria, University Distinguished Professor and Dean of Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences

The path of my life from girlhood to an SMU professorship and Dedman College deanship is connected by a series of dots from libraries in New Mexico to Washington, D.C., to London, England, and now to Dallas.

I got my first real job at the age of 12 in Albuquerque, New Mexico, at the Los Griegos Branch Library. I probably was hired because I was a regular fixture in the library, borrowing up to 20 books a week for my mother and myself. My job was to shelve books after school and, later, to become the Saturday story hour reader.

The dots from that first job to undergraduate studies at the University of New Mexico led to UNM’s Zimmerman Library. I was a single parent, and my 5-year-old son, Clifford, frequently accompanied me to the Zimmerman stacks. My neighborhood library seemed almost unrelated to the immensity of Zimmerman, a university research library that both awed and intimidated me at first.

My own journey no doubt affected my son as he accompanied me to new cities and new libraries at every stop. He has always been confident in the world of ideas. Books continually enrich his life. Sharing a passion for learning, we never run out of topics to discuss and debate, and he always teaches me new things he has discovered.

¿Y qué? So what? From the children’s room in my neighborhood library to the specialized collections devoted in great university research libraries, I encountered the world’s vastness and gained insight into myself as well. I learned that new discoveries not only change the future, but they also alter our understanding of the past. Libraries are a key to transforming our prospects at the same time that they connect the dots to our shared past.

New collection opens unique window to Texas history

A new collection of 5,000 historic Texas photographs at DeGolyer Library features rare images of figures such as Mexican General Antonio López de Santa Anna, Comanche Chief Quanah Parker and Confederate Brigadier General John Gregg. The Larry T. Jones III Texas Photography Collection also features the only original 19th-century photograph of legendary Texas pioneer Cynthia Ann Parker, who was kidnapped by Comanche Indians at age 9.
and towns. The collection also features studio portraits of soldiers, Indians and everyday citizens.

"Pioneer Texas photography captured my interest many years ago," says Jones, who spent 30 years amassing the collection. "Over the years I discovered that frontier Texas photographic images are among the rarest of the early historical photographs. For various reasons, the supply is not as great as in other states. The demand among collectors is intense and highly competitive."

Jones, a native Texan from Greenville, is a historic photography expert. He has published the Confederate Calendar of historic images for 30 years and served as a photographic consultant to the Texas State Historic Association. He is co-author of Civil War and Revolution on the Rio Grande Frontier: A Narrative and Photographic History (Texas State Historical Association, 2004).

The photographs will be featured in a spring 2010 exhibit in conjunction with a meeting of the Texas Historical Society. Highlights of the collection are available digitally at digitalcollections.smu.edu/all/cul/dgp.

"Having the Jones Collection at SMU means that it will be well cared for, preserved and used for teaching and research. I look forward to a long relationship with DeGolyer," Jones says.
On the Origin of Species: A visual feast

When Charles Darwin’s *On the Origin of Species* was first published in 1859, only 1,250 copies of the book were printed. Subsequent printings were not much larger—3,000 at the most, despite five additional editions published through 1872.

DeGolyer Library collections include a copy of each of the six editions published in Darwin’s lifetime, as well as the numerous impressions made for each edition. The DeGolyer collection includes more than 60 Darwin volumes printed through 1890. With a full complement of Darwin’s other major publications, the library is preparing to open a major exhibit about the father of evolution.

The Charles Darwin collection is one of the hidden jewels in the library. While we are best known, perhaps, for our Western Americana and railroadiana, our books and journals in the history of science are extraordinary,” says Russell Martin, director of the DeGolyer Library.

The exhibit, “On the Origin of Species: Texts and Contexts for Charles Darwin’s Great Work,” opens September 8 and runs through December 9. It’s part of a yearlong celebration at SMU to honor both the 150th anniversary of the publication of Darwin’s *On the Origin of Species* and the 200th anniversary of his birth.

*Origin*, in which Darwin explained his theory that all life descends, with modification, from common ancestry, is the foundation of modern biology and one of the most influential books ever published, Martin says. The fall exhibit also will include other books and publications by Darwin, including his famous *The Voyage of the Beagle*.

“We hope the exhibit will be a visual feast,” Martin says. “We’ll get to see how the book itself evolved over time—text, bindings—and how Darwin fit into the scientific and popular literature of his day. Many of the books are annotated by former readers, so we can see the notes his contemporaries made.”

DeGolyer’s only gap of Darwin’s major works is the *The Zoology of the Voyage of the H.M.S. Beagle*, says Martin. “It’s probably one of the most desirable color-plate books of the 19th century, with illustrations by John Gould and others,” he says.

The exhibit also includes works by other scientists, naturalists and explorers from the 18th and 19th centuries. Many of these volumes were owned by Dallas oilman Everette DeGolyer, who had a life-long interest in collecting the history of science.

Unbooked and unbound

Library staff, faculty members and community members were surrounded by DeGolyer Library historic first editions as they met to establish new Central University Libraries goals and objectives. Their discussion, however, looked to the future as they began a yearlong process to create a 2008-2013 strategic plan.

The 41-member task force studied current patterns and trends in student and faculty needs, technology and library staff development with the help of management consultant Peggy Sundstrom.

“A strategic plan shows a commitment to pursuing excellence. The more complicated the institution, the more important strategic planning,” says Sundstrom, who has led strategic planning for manufacturing, nonprofit and service institutions. “A library is a very complex institution.”

These are complicated times for libraries, as task force members learned when they divided into committees to establish needs and set measurable goals. Academic libraries are charged with embracing technology and its new pathways for acquiring information, yet continuing their longtime charge of preserving the past, says CUL Dean and Director Gillian McCombs.

“The challenges for CUL are many, but so are our strengths,” McCombs says. “We welcome the opportunities these challenges bring and look forward to serving our users to the best of our abilities.”

Copies of Unbooked and Unbound, Central University Libraries for the Second Century are available in the CUL offices, room 300, Fondren Library East and at smu.edu/cul/stratplan/.
DeGolyer Library hosted a reception for Dallas real estate legend Ebby Halliday in honor of the publication of her new biography, *Ebby Halliday: First Lady of Real Estate* (Brown Books, 2009), on February 15, 2009. A popular speaker, the 98-year-old dynamo continues to attract standing-room only crowds. Halliday charms and inspires her audiences with humor and motivational messages, but she brings them to their feet with her unique closing—a song composed for the occasion that she sings while strumming the ukulele. Halliday’s speeches and lyrics to tunes such as “Camptown Races” and “Five Foot Two” are included among the papers she has given to the Archives of Women of the Southwest at DeGolyer Library.

Dinner and discussions are served at annual Tables of Content. At Tables of Content, the Friends of the SMU Libraries’ annual fundraiser, guests enjoyed dinner and conversation on topics ranging from the Battle of the Alamo and Abraham Lincoln to the environment and world affairs.

Guest hosts of the April 4 event at SMU’s Collins Executive Education Center included Mary Anne Alhadeff, president and CEO of KERA public radio and television; Christina Melton Crain, president of the Dallas Bar Association; Brett Shipp, investigative television news reporter; Deborah Crombie, mystery novelist; Laura Wilson, photographer, whose books include *Avedon at Work*; and John C. “Jack” Waugh, author of nonfiction books on the Civil War era.

Adventures of an archaeologist

A standing-room only crowd of more than 200 turned out February 5, 2009 at DeGolyer Library for a book signing by renowned archaeologist Fred Wendorf, Dedman College Henderson-Morrison Emeritus Professor of Anthropology.

Noting “this is the nicest day of my life,” Wendorf spoke briefly at the signing, telling a few of his adventures during his 60-year career as an archaeologist.

The retired professor is notable for many important discoveries, especially most of what is known about the Stone Age prehistory of Northeastern Africa.

The author of more than 30 books, Wendorf has been a member of the SMU faculty since 1964. In 1987, he became the first SMU faculty member elected to the National Academy of Sciences.

Wendorf’s book, *Desert Days: My Life as a Field Archaeologist* (SMU Press, 2008) was published in cooperation with the William P. Clements Center for Southwest Studies.

Fred Wendorf, Henderson-Morrison Emeritus Professor of Anthropology

Hosts from SMU included Cordelia Candelaria, dean of Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences, Mark Roglán, director of the Meadows Museum, and Willard Spiegelman, the Duwain E. Hughes Jr. Distinguished Professor of English.

Tables of Content proceeds support grants for the purchase of books, periodicals, electronic resources, equipment and other materials for SMU’s libraries.

For more information, visit smu.edu/friends.
“Remember the Ladies!” celebrates a milestone

In her gift to SMU’s “Remember the Ladies!” Campaign, Susan Carter Johns honored her friend and colleague Nancy Goodman Brinker, founder of Susan G. Komen for the Cure, “who made a promise that would change the world: to end breast cancer forever.”

Journalist Lee Cullum honored her mother, Garland Mac Cullum, who “could make everyone she met feel miraculously renewed.”

And archivist and artist Judith Garrett Segura honored Juanita Jewel Shanks Craft: “With love, patience and determination, she was a lifelong leader in efforts to gain equal rights for blacks and women.”

Thanks to these and numerous other donations in honor of notable women, the “Remember the Ladies!” Campaign has raised more than $500,000 toward its goal of $1 million, which will endow an archivist position dedicated to the Archives of Women of the Southwest collection at DeGolyer Library.

SMU will recognize the many donors, honorees, contributors to the archives and their families in an April 19 event at DeGolyer Library. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison, the campaign’s honorary chair and an honoree, will serve as guest speaker.

“This event provides us with an opportunity for celebration and inspiration as we reach the halfway mark in the campaign,” says Gillian McCombs, dean and director of Central University Libraries. “We are immensely grateful to so many people — to the donors, to the Archives of Women of the Southwest board members and, in particular, to the women whose stories we have heard and who have changed so many lives. They give us the energy and the motivation to complete this campaign speedily.”

The archives include the letters, diaries, documents and photographs of more than 150 women, as well as the records of women’s organizations. Among the collections are the papers of Dallas real estate legend Ebby Halliday Acers, arts leader Anita Martinez, the YWCA of Dallas and the Tejas Girl Scout Council.

“All of the collections are potentially useful in understanding women’s contributions to the professions, the arts, domestic life and American society,” says Russell Martin, director of DeGolyer Library. “Gifts to the “Remember the Ladies!” Campaign will allow us to hire an archivist who will further develop the archives and who will care for and process each collection, thereby making it available to scholars and students.”

The campaign takes its name from the plea that Abigail Adams made in a letter to John Adams in 1776, when he was serving as Massachusetts’ representative to the Continental Congress in Philadelphia. The names of women honored in the campaign will be inscribed on plaques in DeGolyer Library.

To learn about supporting the “Remember the Ladies!” Campaign, please contact Director of Development Paulette Mulry at 214-768-1741 or pmulry@smu.edu.

LEADING THE LITERARY LIFE IN NEW YORK

Behind-the-scenes tours of New York’s best known libraries were highlights of CUL’s second trip to New York for past and current members of the Central University Libraries Executive Board and the Friends of the SMU Libraries Board. A tour of the Rare Book Library of Columbia University’s Butler Library provided a look at literary treasures such as the First Folio, a collection of Shakespeare’s plays published in 1623. The travelers also enjoyed private tours of the Museum of Modern Art library and archives and the New York Historical Society.
Rewound: Unique film restored and shared

Grainy black-and-white images accompanied by a church choir singing African American spirituals portray the riverside baptism of Martha. Absent from the occasion, however, is Martha’s new husband, Razz, a non-believer too busy hunting to attend. At home later that evening, Razz accidentally shoots Martha. Her spirit is taken by an angel on a journey to the crossroads of heaven and hell, where she must choose between Satan and God.

These scenes and more from the historic African-American film “The Blood of Jesus” were recently restored and preserved with a $27,270 grant from the National Film Preservation Foundation. The only surviving copy of the 1941 film is part of the G. William Jones Film and Video Collection at Hamon Arts Library. The funds enabled the library to preserve the film and create a new digital video which will be available this fall.

The film in 1991 became the first race film named to the National Film Registry by the Library of Congress. The National Film Registry preserves 25 films a year that are considered “culturally, historically or aesthetically significant films.” *Time* magazine also counted “The Blood of Jesus” among its “25 Most Important Films on Race.”

“The Blood of Jesus” is a vital part of U.S. film history, but one that relatively few people have had the opportunity to experience and we hope to change that,” says Amy Turner, head of the Jones collection. “Films that were made for black audiences at that time did not benefit from the kinds of exhibition, preservation and commentary that have been more consistently applied to mainstream Hollywood products.”

“The Blood of Jesus,” filmed in Dallas on a shoestring budget, will provide historians with a unique perspective into the true life and times of African Americans in the ’30s and ’40s without a Hollywood interpretation, Turner says.

“It is the first feature by writer-director and actor Spencer Williams, later a star of TV’s ‘Amos ‘n’ Andy,’ whose films have been vastly underappreciated despite his unique ability to capture black religious and cultural practices while experimenting with film style,” says Jacqueline Stewart, professor of film at Northwestern University and National Film Preservation Board member.

The new print of the film debuted at the February 2009 Oscar Micheaux conference hosted by Columbia University.

“It concludes with Martha choosing heaven over hell. As a result she is allowed to live. Not only did Martha receive new life, but so did this significant film through its preservation by the Hamon Arts Library.”

IN MEMORIAM

A collector of history

Historian, collector and businessman Lawrence Budner ’51, ’90 died November 11, 2008. A retired banking executive, Budner and his late wife, Doris, were leaders of a number of charitable and educational institutions.

Budner’s greatest love, however, was history. He earned his Master’s degree in history from Dedman College at SMU after his retirement, completing his thesis on Theodore Roosevelt’s Western experiences.

Budner assembled one of the largest privately owned Theodore Roosevelt collection in the world and twice served as president of the National Theodore Roosevelt Association. The Budners chose DeGolyer Library as the recipient of their 4,500-item Roosevelt collection, including first and rare editions of books about Theodore Roosevelt, original letters by Roosevelt, his family and contemporaries, and campaign materials.

“It is an honor for us to be stewards of the collection, and I know that Larry and Doris would be pleased to know that it will be useful for teaching and research for generations to come,” says Russell Martin, director of DeGolyer Library. “We dedicated our fall exhibition, From Log Cabin to White House: Presidential Campaign Biographies, to Larry, and I told the audiences who came to hear the lectures that, although Larry was not able to be with us in person, he was with us in spirit. The same will hold true in the memorial he leaves us in the Theodore Roosevelt Collection.”
A new view of the home front

Novelist and English Professor C.W. Smith is well known for his attention to detail—and in his latest book, SMU’s library resources helped him bring the World War II years on the American home front to life.

*Purple Hearts* (Texas Christian University Press, 2008) is based loosely on a 1943 incident in Beaumont, Texas, when shipyard workers rioted following a rumor that a black man had raped a sailor’s wife. At its center is the story of Georgie Karacek, heir to an East Texas oil fortune, who hides his epilepsy to join the Army.

During his research, Smith made extensive use of the Central University Libraries’ periodical archives, poring over newspapers published in the Houston and Beaumont area during the early war years. Along the way, he dug into the CUL’s government information archives and received “excellent assistance” from Billie Stovall of InterLibrary Loan in finding rare items.

He also read dozens of books from CUL holdings on subjects ranging from the history of epilepsy to the development of the East Texas oil industry to civil rights and racial conflict during the first half of the 20th century, among others.

“I read in one of the histories of the American home front that 98,000 people were killed or injured in domestic industrial accidents during the war years,” Smith says. Those statistics and his research into the living conditions of workers at the B-24 Liberator plant in Ypsilanti, Michigan, “gave me a powerful sense of how romanticized our later conception of those years has been. And that, in turn, influenced my desire to portray the lives of Americans at home during those years in a more authentic way.”

As a measure of Smith’s success, writer and critic Bryan Woolley called *Purple Hearts* “the best novel I’ve read about the home front during World War II. It illuminates the dark fact that there was more to that home scene than Rosie the Riveter and War Bond drives.”

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C.W. Smith, novelist and professor of English in Dedman College, relied on library resources to create the World War II home front setting for his latest novel. Resources include photographs and brochures from the digital collection, "Historic Government Documents from World War II."

A bountiful life

Horton Foote, the Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright and Oscar-winning screenwriter, died March 4, 2009. He gave his papers to DeGolyer Library in 1991 and received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from SMU in 2003. His papers were the subject of a 2003 DeGolyer exhibit, “Horton Foote and The Trip to Bountiful, 1953-2003.”

Foote won his first Oscar for the 1962 screenplay of Harper Lee’s *To Kill a Mockingbird* and his second for 1983’s *Tender Mercies.* He won a Pulitzer Prize for Drama in 1995 for his play “The Young Man From Atlanta,” which was nominated for a Tony Award. His honors also include the National Medal of Arts in 2000.

“He was an active writer to the end of his days. For all his success, he was also simply a good and gentle man,” says Russell Martin, director of DeGolyer Library. He had a broad and sympathetic vision, reflected clearly in his work and also in his personal associations. We shall miss him greatly—but his body of work will endure. We are honored to be the stewards of Horton Foote’s legacy here at DeGolyer Library.”

The Horton Foote Collection at SMU includes more than 200 boxes of material documenting the career of the playwright, author and film maker. The collection includes manuscripts, scrapbooks, handwritten drafts of screenplays, diaries, letters, photographs and family memorabilia of the Wharton, Texas, native who spent more than 60 years in film, stage and television.
INSIDE

Unique film restored
Darwin first editions: A visual feast
A novelist’s inspiration

Exhibits
• Through May 1 Books for Devotion, Bridwell Library
• April 13 – May 31 David A. Dreyer: Landscapes from the American Southwest, Hawn Gallery
• April 20 – May 5 Faculty Recognition Exhibit, Fondren Library Center
• May 13 – July 17 Early French Flight, 1900-1910 Fondren Library Center
• Through May 17 From the Temple and the Tomb, Etruscan Treasures from Tuscany, Meadows Museum
• June 21 – September 20 Diego Rivera, The Cubist Portraits, 1913 – 1917, Meadows Museum
• July 6 – August 14 Human Rights Student Art Exhibit, Fondren Library Center
• September 8 – December 9 On the Origin of Species: Texts and Contexts for Charles Darwin’s Great Work, DeGolyer Library

Events
• April 21, 6 p.m. Reception and unveiling of Henry Arthur McArdle’s portrait of Sam Houston, Texana Room, DeGolyer Library
• May 4, 6 p.m. Annual Dinner and Meeting, Popolo’s Café, Friends of the SMU Libraries, reservations required
For details, call 214-768-3225

Library Contacts
DeGolyer Library/Special Collections 214-768-2253
Fondren Library — general library information 214-768-7778
Fondren Library
Information Desk 214-768-2216
Circulation/Reserve 214-768-2219
Government Information Resources 214-768-2311
Friends of the SMU Libraries 214-768-1939
Hamon Arts Library 214-768-2894
Norwick Center for Digital Services 214-768-4384

Web site
Central University Libraries smu.edu/cul/