The scent of knowledge

By William M. Tsutsui
Dean of Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences

I have always loved the smell of libraries. Not the grand entryways or circulation desks or long reading rooms, of course. Those spaces always have the air of bank lobbies to me: well scrubbed, orderly, professional. What I have an abiding affection for is the stacks and their distinctive earthiness, that singular scent of row upon row, shelf upon shelf of good, old-fashioned books.

I know that not everyone shares my sensual appreciation of books. To many, I suspect, the stacks seem dusty and musty, dog-eared and worm-eaten, mildewing and slowly decomposing, a place desperately in need of fresh air and purifying sunlight, a little-used warehouse-cum-morgue that calls forth memories of grandma’s attic or the damp corner of a basement. To me, though, the stacks are a magical place, a veritable treasure chest of information, a portal to distant times and places, a quiet haven for reflection and enlightenment and escape. The smell is part of the charm. When I step off the elevator in Fondren West and inhale the heavy air, I sense something organic, something truly living. From the ranks of volumes – and all the paper, ink, hide glue, buckram cloth, binder’s board and leather that constitute them – I catch the scent of knowledge, of timeless wisdom and accreted experience, of civilization itself and the material objects that transmit it from person to person, continent to continent, generation to generation.

I have never smelled a Kindle, and never particularly care to. I imagine it smells like plastic, hard and brittle, cold and impersonal, perhaps with some lingering odor of the teeming workshop in southern China from which it came. I expect my knee-jerk Luddism will abate, as it did eventually with microwave ovens and cell phones, and that someday I will happily click my way through e-books and revel in a well-stocked personal library weighing only 8.5 ounces. But I know I will never tire of the fragrance of the stacks, of the many memories it evokes and the countless possibilities it stirs. I hope Fondren West will always be there, both for my nose and for my mind.
"Fondren Library was a useful tool for broadening my student experience," says Moslemi, who earned a Ph.D. from SMU’s Lyle School of Engineering and is now in research and development at National Oilwell Varco. Justin Montgomery (B.B.A., B.A. '06, M.S.A '08) also remembers Fondren as a favorite place to study and relax. "You could explore different subjects independently and grow at your own pace," he says. "I used a lot of the online resources for class projects. I also liked to browse the new books, to see if anything caught my eye, and to sit in the periodicals section, reading a newspaper or magazine."

While attending SMU, both Montgomery and Moslemi served on the CUL Student Advisory Council, which meets once a month for pizza with Dean Gillian McCombs to discuss library concerns. Montgomery maintains a strong link to the libraries through membership in Young Literati, the Friends of the SMU Libraries/Colophon group for supporters under age 50. "I want to keep a connection to a place on campus where I spent a lot of time and that added a lot to my college career, so I joined Young Literati," he says. "I also see it as a sort of gateway to campus events and a way to keep a finger on the pulse of SMU."

The opening of the Lyle School of Engineering’s new Caruth Hall last spring created an opportunity for Central University Libraries Technology Services.

When several Engineering departments vacated offices on the third floor of the Science Information Center (SIC) within Fondren Library Center, CUL reclaimed the space. Engineering had occupied the area for several decades, according to Bill Dworaczyk, assistant dean for Human Resources and Facilities. CUL administration worked closely with Lyle Associate Dean Jim Dunham to coordinate efforts during the transition.

"Our charge was to do it quickly and without any new construction," says Mary Queyrouze, director of Technology Services. "We formed staff groups and worked out the details of who would move where and when."

Three units now function under the Technology Services umbrella: the Center for Information Processing, Library Information Technology and Digital Initiatives, and norwick Center for Digital Services.

Approximately 45 people, including six student workers and two Office of Information Technology library systems support personnel, are now housed on SIC-3. Most offices are private, while a few are shared. "We formerly had staff on three different floors, and technical services staff were in the basement of Fondren East," Queyrouze explains.

Personnel affected by the move were engaged in the process from the beginning. "Staff input was essential" in crafting efficient workspaces with a personal touch, says Dworaczyk.

To inject an element of fun into the proceedings, staff played their own version of "Let’s Make a Deal" and other games to mix and match furnishings for their new spaces. Bill Brown from SMU Surplus supplemented a good amount of usable furniture inherited from Engineering.

A few cosmetic tweaks, like new paint and carpeting, also gave the third floor a brand-new look.

Once the facelift was complete, offices were ready to be occupied following a well-orchestrated plan that played out over several weeks in the fall.

In addition to new offices, SIC-3 houses several spaces for all library staff to enjoy. "We’ve never had a space large enough to accommodate everyone for library-wide meetings and educational events, and now we have a staff auditorium," Queyrouze says. "We also have several meeting rooms and a staff lounge with a small kitchen."

From gathering for a spontaneous meeting to getting a quick answer to a problem, the benefits of coming together on one floor are many, Queyrouze says. "We found that a number of catalogers also want to be involved in digitization and metadata, and now they can just walk across the hall and work on that when they have time. We’ve really got good synergy going."

"The breadth of the Hamon Library collection is absolutely astounding. I’ve researched artists in a variety of genres and have found a number of excellent books on each." —Anna Membrino

Libraries’ resources, staffs continued from page 1
Introducing Texas art to the world via digital collections

Former librarian and First Lady Laura Bush was honored by Friends of the SMU Libraries/Colophon with the 2011 Literati Award during the 11th annual Tables of Content fundraiser April 2. “We are indeed honored to welcome Mrs. Bush back home to the library she studied in while here at SMU, and to present her with the 2011 Literati Award for her literary contributions,” says Dean Gillian McCombs.

A slight change in the event’s format – there were no table hosts this year – allowed time for a rare, informal interview with Mrs. Bush, who graduated from SMU with a Bachelor’s degree in elementary education in 1968.

As First Lady of Texas, Mrs. Bush established the Texas Book Festival in 1995. The festival honors Texas authors, promotes the joy of reading and benefits the state’s public libraries. To honor his wife’s involvement with libraries and literature, then-Governor George W. Bush contributed the Laura Bush Promenade, a garden and seating area outside Fondren Library Center, in 1999.

Mrs. Bush is the author of two books: her best-selling memoir, Spoken from the Heart, published last year; and Read All About It!, a children’s book co-written with daughter Jenna Bush Hager in 2008.

Several of this year’s Top 10 Haute Young Authors were featured authors at past Texas Book Festivals, including Jessica Lee Anderson, a writer of children’s books and young adult fiction, in 2009; and poet Carrie Fountain and Dallas author Kathleen Kent in 2010. Other up-and-coming writers honored this year by the Friends were Philipp Meyer, whose work was featured in the “20 under 40” fiction issue of The New Yorker last year, and 11-year-old Alec Greven, the author of five books, including the best-seller, How to Talk to Girls.
Jean Holmes ’54 gazes down at a photograph that includes a young man, aged well beyond his tender years with a gray wig and makeup.

“I was in that play with John Tower,” says the former Arden Club thespian as she points out the 1951 SMU graduate. Tower served in the U.S. Senate from 1961-1985.

The picture from a student production of Accent on Youth is one of dozens of items featured in the Hamon Arts Library exhibit, “Hidden Treasures from the McCord/Renshaw Collection.” The exhibit – a Second Century Celebration event – will continue at Mildred Hawn Gallery in SMU’s Owen Arts Center through May 13.

“Some items may not be unusual by themselves, but to have them as part of such an extensive collection of theatre, film, music and dance materials is rare,” Grubbs says.

The McCord/Renshaw Collection is currently being processed. Two 8th-century Japanese gigaku masks are among the most rare and important discoveries.

Grubbs, who found the mislabeled treasures in the archive in 2009, uncovered the history and significance of the ceremonial masks with the assistance of Ratcliffe and Ellen Buie Niewyk, curator.

Information about the exhibit is available online at smu.edu/ cul/hamon/gallery/hiddentreasures/. Selections from the collection may be viewed at digitalcollections.smu.edu/all/cul/mrp/
DeGolyer, North Texas arts groups celebrate Horton Foote


The exhibit and book are part of the Foote Festival, a seven-week tribute to the lauded writer by Dallas-Fort Worth arts organizations. The festival continues at various venues through May 1.

“Dallas is fortunate to have access to Horton Foote’s extensive personal papers at DeGolyer Library,” says Kevin Moriarty, artistic director of the Dallas Theatre Center, one of the producer partners of the festival. “The collection is rich and deep, and anyone interested in fully understanding Foote’s artistry can be enriched by engaging with the collection.

“DeGolyer Library is a vital partner, and its exhibit from the Foote collection provides insight and context for festival-goers who will experience his funny and moving plays on stages throughout North Texas,” Moriarty adds.

The DeGolyer acquired Foote’s papers in 1991. The collection of more than 200 boxes of materials – spanning more than 60 years – includes manuscripts, scrapbooks, handwritten drafts of screenplays, diaries, letters, photographs and family memorabilia.

Arranged in chronological order, the exhibit creates a vivid timeline of Foote’s prolific career. Many of his awards, including two Academy Award statues and an Emmy, are among the rarely seen items on display, says librarian Cynthia Franco.

Other highlights include his Oscar-winning screenplays for To Kill a Mockingbird – along with his annotated copy of the novel – and Tender Mercies, and the Pulitzer Prize-winning play, The Young Man from Atlanta. Photographs, letters, programs, posters and other documents also are on display.


“Edited by scholars Marion Castleberry and Susan Christensen, the book includes essays by family, friends and colleagues,” says DeGolyer Director Russell Martin.

Foote’s daughter, playwright Daisy Foote, as well as Edward Albee, Bruce Beresford, Betty Buckley, Ellen Burstyn, Robert Duvall, Wilborn Hampton, Jim Houghton ’83, Romulus Linney, Jean Stapleton and Jane Roberts Wood are among the more than 60 contributors.

The book is available at DeGolyer Library and some festival locations.

NEW ONLINE: BROADSIDES, ASIAN STUDIES BIBLIOGRAPHY AND MORE

Central University Libraries continues to expand its online resource offerings with a number of new additions, including:

• American Broadsides and Ephemera, a fully searchable facsimile database of approximately 15,000 broadsides printed between 1820 and 1900 and 15,000 pieces of ephemera printed between 1760 and 1900. The remarkably diverse subjects of these broadsides range from contemporary accounts of the Civil War, unusual occurrences and natural disasters to official government proclamations, tax bills and town meeting reports.

• Bibliography of Asian Studies, the first place to check when doing research on East, Southeast or South Asia, particularly in the humanities and social sciences. Records include journal articles, conference proceedings and some monographs.

“For example, searching for William Tsutsui [dean of Dedman College and Annotations guest columnist] produces several references, including chapters in books, edited volumes and journal articles, all dealing with the economics and culture of Japan,” says Patricia Van Zandt, CUL director of Scholarly Resources and Research Services.

• Global Road Warrior, which was tested at CUL in the fall, provides information on climate, society and culture, demographics, money and banking, points of interest, transportation, maps, communications, and much more for 175 countries.

“Global Road Warrior is one-stop shopping for information – everything from languages to currency to customs – whether the user is going overseas for the first time or the 10th time,” says Susan Kress, director of SMU Education Abroad.

More information is available in the CUL Online Resources Newsletter: blog.smu.edu/ernews/
Evelyn Day: Sound judgments over sound bites

In this age of information overload, research librarian Evelyn Day says one of her challenges is to “teach students that it’s not just about choosing a quote that sounds good; it’s about determining which resources are the most important and credible.

“As teaching librarians, we don’t just sit behind a desk and give students information,” Day adds. “We focus on information literacy: providing students with the skills to find and evaluate information, particularly from online resources.”

Day also filters the data smog as a subject liaison for the Annette Caldwell Simmons School of Education and Human Development, as well as the departments of Psychology and Sociology and the Women’s and Gender Studies program in Dedman College.

SMU’s renewed commitment to teacher education means Day spends considerable time locating books, journals and other resources to support the Simmons School’s focus on leadership and policy issues. “These topics weren’t even on the radar for the education field a few decades ago,” she notes.

The new Annette Caldwell Simmons Hall features a reading room for which Day and Associate Professor Paige Ware are assembling a collection.

“Evelyn has suggested types of books, ranging from handbooks to award-winning children’s books, but even more appreciated has been her willingness to help us think through decisions not directly impacting the acquisitions: bookends, bookplates, signage and more,” Ware says.

Day lends her expertise to other areas of the University community through service on the selection committees for the Book of Common Reading and the newly formed Staff Association Book Club.

“I’m very excited about The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks, the fall 2011 Common Reading selection. It’s such a thought-provoking book and will engage members of our scientific and literary communities alike,” she says.

In her “second life” career, Day’s interests in literature, social sciences and public service intersect every day. She worked in the telecommunications industry for 15 years before leaving to raise two daughters, now high school honors students: Alexandra, a senior, and Jackie, a sophomore.

She joined SMU three years ago after earning a Master of Library Science degree from the University of North Texas.

Motioning to the full shelves not far from her first-floor office in Fondren Library Center, Day says: “I have a dream job. I’m surrounded by books.”

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NEW BOOK EXPLORES MUSTANG ATHLETICS’ FIRST CENTURY

In Honor of the Mustangs, a new book published jointly by the SMU Lettermen’s Association and DeGolyer Library, chronicles athletics in the context of the history of the University and American higher education in general.

The first comprehensive account of SMU athletics showcases exploits on the gridiron, from the football team’s infamous defeat 146-3 to the Rice Owls in 1916 to its 45-10 victory over Nevada in the 2009 Hawaii Bowl. Also highlighted are achievements in swimming, basketball, volleyball, track and field, cross-country, tennis, baseball and equestrian competition.

Darwin Payne ’68, SMU professor emeritus of communications and SMU centennial historian, wrote the book. Photo editor Gerry York ’58, curator of SMU’s Heritage Hall, selected the 650 photographs that illustrate the 400-plus pages. The book includes a statistical appendix, timeline and an index.

Russell L. Martin III ’78, director of DeGolyer Library, and Joan Gosnell, University archivist, served on the editorial advisory board with Roman Kupchynsky II ’80, president of the Lettermen’s Association; Chuck Hixson ’70, former SMU quarterback and president-elect of the Lettermen’s Association; and Paul Rogers, professor of law and faculty athletics representative for SMU since 1987.

Despite a cold snap that sent temperatures plunging, several hundred Mustang fans attended a book signing at the Hall of Champions January 20. During the event, York described the project as a “two-year labor of love” and applauded Martin and Gosnell for their “indispensable” assistance in information gathering and ensuring historical accuracy.

Mustangs signing autographs that evening included basketball standouts Bobby Mills ’57 and Larry Showalter ’57, members of the 1956 Final Four team, and center/forward Ira Terrell ’76; football players Chuck Hixson ’70 and Lance McIlhenny ’84; 14-time NCAA swimming champion and Olympic medalist Martina Moravcova ’98, ’00; and Lisa Cole Zimmerman ’91, All-American soccer player.

Information about ordering the book is available online at smu.edu/cul/degolyer.
Frances Golden Ware: Linking past and present

When Frances Golden Ware ’44 attended SMU, World War II’s impact on the campus was palpable. “There weren’t many boys, but we still had a lot of fun,” she told DeGolyer Library’s Pamalla Anderson during an interview for a wartime history of the University.

“To me, that statement really sums up her personality,” Anderson says. “She always seemed to have a smile on her face.”

Ware, a loyal supporter of SMU’s libraries, died December 16, 2010, in Dallas following a brief illness.

SMU was in Ware’s DNA. Her grandfather, Stephen J. Hay, an early Dallas mayor, lobbied to bring SMU to Dallas while her grandmother, Mary Hay, was the University’s first dean of women. Mary Hay Hall residence hall in the North Quad was named for her.

Ware was born on Thanksgiving Day, November 29, 1923, and grew up just blocks away from campus. Her mother, Frances Hay Golden, was a popular music teacher from 1919 until her retirement in 1957. In honoring her mother through the Remember the Ladies! campaign, Ware recounted that students “secretly and affectionately” called her mother’s studio “Mrs. Golden’s Perfection Parlor.”

“Frances was a link from the earliest days of SMU to today,” says Joan Gosnell, University archivist. “She was always willing to share her SMU stories, and her memory for details was phenomenal.”

At SMU Ware was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta, a Rotunda Beauty, a school favorite and student body secretary. After earning a Bachelor’s degree in English, she taught school for several years in Highland Park.

In 2000 Dean Gillian McCombs filmed an interview with Ware, which is part of the Central University Libraries Digital Collections’ “SMU’s Video Archive Series” (digitalcollections.smu.edu/all/). Ware donated more than 3,000 letters and family papers to DeGolyer Library.

Ware joined the Friends of the SMU Libraries in January 1989 and served two terms on the board, 1997-2001. She also served on the Tables of Content (TOC) committee in 2001 and 2002. Ware’s daughter, Bettina Hennessy, continues the tradition, having served on both the board and the TOC committee.

“In addition to being a longtime member, Frances attended as many Friends programs as possible,” recalls Amy Carver, Friends director. “She always brought her friends and introduced a number of members to the group.”

Ware also served on the SMU Alumni Board and on the executive board of Dedman College.
Save these dates

Robin Oliveira, author of *My Name is Mary Sutter*, will discuss and sign copies of her historical novel.

**Thursday, April 21, 11:30 a.m., Hughes-Trigg Student Center Ballroom, lower level. RSVP to Cindy Ruppi at cruppi@smu.edu or 214.768.3225 by April 18.**

Antoinette Terry Bryant, a screenwriter of *Splice*, will speak at the annual dinner meeting as Friends of the SMU Libraries observes its 41st year.

**Monday, May 2, 6 p.m., Mercury Grill, 11909 Preston Road, Dallas, reservations required, 214.768.3225.**

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SIC-3: Reclaimed and re-energized
Performing arts collection continues to amaze
A celebration of Horton Foote

**Come and get it!**

Central University Libraries and dining-services provider Aramark teamed up to serve a free, late-night breakfast in the main lobby of Fondren Library Center December 13. The waffles-and-fixings treat supplemented the CUL’s traditional finals week Coffee Breaks, says Cindy Gautreaux, project coordinator for the libraries. Almost 3,000 cups of coffee, hot chocolate and tea were served at Fondren December 7-14, 2010. The Coffee Breaks, which started in May 2008, will continue during finals this spring.

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**Library Contacts**

DeGolyer Library/Special Collections 214-768-2253
Fondren Library — general library information 214-768-7378
Fondren Library
Information Desk 214-768-2326
Circulation/Reserve 214-768-2319
Government Information Resources 214-768-2331
Friends of the SMU Libraries 214-768-1939
Hamon Arts Library 214-768-2894
Norwick Center for Digital Services 214-768-4584

**Website**

Central University Libraries: smu.edu/cul/