Copyright Law and the Cheng Library

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James Heller

Intellectual Property in a Democratic Society,” and the conference’s two invited speakers gave lectures on their areas of expertise. The first speaker was James Heller, Professor of Law at the Marshall-Wythe School of Law at William and Mary and the author of many books and articles on copyright.

Heller gave an introduction to copyright law beginning with the intent of the framers of the United States Constitution: “Congress shall have power . . . to promote the progress of science and useful arts, by securing for limited times to authors . . . the exclusive right to their respective wrings . . .” (Article I, U.S. Constitution).

Prof. Heller then traced the Congressional acts which have revised this basic statement of use and protection. These acts range from the 1976 revision of the Copyright Act to the Digital Millennium Copyright Act, passed in 1998, to the TEACH Act of 2002. Heller also addressed the difference between licenses and copyright, and reviewed the four factors which govern the fair use of copyrighted materials for research and scholarship. Heller noted that copyright law is “one of the most important and confusing laws of our time.”

Robert Boynton, Professor of Journalism at NYU and published author began his address with the statement, “Copyright is a battle between control and freedom.”

Copyright law was developed for the free expression of information and to protect the creator’s rights. However, the increasing limitations on the free use of information have the potential to erode the intellectual commons. Boynton observed that an entire generation, accustomed to many means of file-sharing, is “thinking differently about intellectual property.” He maintains that our intent should be to raise the awareness of intellectual property, and not to reinforce copyright law to combat piracy. Boynton commented: “The copyright divide is a cultural gap.”

A question and answer session followed the lectures. Joining the speakers as panel members were two William Paterson University professors: Michael Principe of political science and Elizabeth Birge of communication.

The afternoon session took a more practical approach: James Heller presented a pragmatic and interactive program, “Copyright in the Traditional and Online Classroom.” Held in the Cheng Library Auditorium, this session provided useful advice for faculty on copyright issues in teaching and research and addressed practices often encountered in the classroom.

The conference was a collaboration of the Cheng Library Advisory Committee and the American Democracy Project. A Provost Incentive Grant provided funding for the event.
Jessica Mishaan joins Lending Services as Principal Clerk

Jessica Mishaan was appointed Principal Clerk of the Lending Services department on February 26, 2004. Jessica holds a B.A. in psychology from Manhattan College in Riverdale, New York.

Before joining William Paterson University, Jessica worked at Sloan-Kettering Hospital in New York City and then took time off to raise her daughter, Miranda.

In her new position, Jessica is responsible for training and coordinating the schedules of all the department’s student assistants. In addition to working at the Lending Services and Reserve desk, Jessica provides collections support by maintaining the Library’s delinquency files and assisting patrons with collection issues.

In her free time, Jessica enjoys traveling and spending time with her daughter and husband, Jon, at their home in West Milford, New Jersey.

Patricia Moore joins Curriculum Materials

Patricia Moore joined the Cheng Library as Principal Library Assistant in the Curriculum Materials Center on May 29, 2004. Prior to her appointment, Pat had worked part-time in the same department since 1992.

Pat is currently a sophomore at WPUNJ working towards a B.S. in computer science. She has always been proficient at using educational technology and decided to complement this ability with programming skills. Pat enjoys her classes and plans to pursue a master’s degree in computer science.

A long-time resident of Wayne, Pat is the mother of seven children and is expecting her second grandchild in late December. In her spare time, Pat is active in the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, a state-wide organization for girls aged 11-21. The organization seeks to promote self-esteem, speaking skills, and charitable works for the young women.

Pamela Firth appointed Library’s Program Assistant

Pamela Firth joined the Library as Program Assistant in the Director’s Office on August 23, 2004. She had worked part-time in Lending Services for the previous two years.

Pam graduated from William Paterson University with a degree in computer science in May, 2003.

As Program Assistant, Pam is responsible for overseeing the Library’s student assistant program, coordinating many of the Library’s personnel-related procedures and providing general administrative support in the Library Director’s Office.

Pam especially enjoys the many opportunities this position presents to use her creative abilities to help promote the numerous lectures and events of the Library.

Outside the Library, Pam enjoys spending time with her husband, family, and friends, and welcomes any occasion to practice her culinary passions.

Ray Schwartz appointed Systems Specialist Librarian

Ray Schwartz joined the Cheng Library Information Systems department as Systems Specialist Librarian on October 9, 2004. Ray has earned master’s degrees in Library Science, from Columbia Univ., and in Media Studies, from the New School.

Ray is responsible for the management of the Library’s Voyager integrated library system and analysis of Voyager data for the creation of reports. He also participates in the configuration of library systems and designs applications to meet the Library’s immediate and long-term goals. After his first month at the Library, Ray said of his new surroundings: “I enjoy working with my colleagues and feel that there are plenty of challenging tasks ahead.”

Ray is a seasoned traveler, having lived in Europe and made trips to South America, Greenland, Australia and China. He is also an avid runner and recently completed his third New York City marathon.
People befriend libraries in many ways, but one of the most astonishing demonstrations of friendship toward the Cheng Library during the past academic year was the Tice family’s generous donation of a vintage print of George A. Tice’s *Joe’s Barber Shop* (1970). It now hangs in the Library’s main room. It is, no doubt, one of his best-known pieces. I had seen it displayed in various exhibitions of the photographer’s work over the years, but, like many others, knew it chiefly through his collection of photographs, simply titled *Paterson*, which was published by Rutgers University Press in 1972. It is one of the most complex and bewildering images in this splendid volume, and I now relish a chance to view it anew whenever I visit the Library.

For me, it is a portrait of a simple, communal place caught in a moment of desertion. And it is tempting to see *Joe’s Barber Shop* as the doomed past staring us in the face with a cold, hard gaze. It is an old story. Slated for demolition in the wake of Route 80’s and Route 19’s joint blitzkrieg through the heart of Paterson, this unassuming space sought no reprieve and none, needless to say, ever came. The photograph lingers with eloquent muteness to detail the otherwise irrecoverable.

It depicts an austere, masculine world, not altogether solemn. The racy calendar – *de rigueur* for shops of a certain sort in those days – reminds us that it stoked male desires as well as groomed them. The Santa Claus decoration adds more than the usual yuletide merriment. Beneath this cheerful, blustering façade, one can espy signs of a quiet devotion to the barber’s craft. If one looks closely at the window on the left, where a white towel is draped upon the ledge, one can discern some of the tools of the trade arranged in meticulous display, a display made all the more poignant when the eye glances through the window into the wheel of a dump truck, its bed loaded with debris, which glides like a ghost in the shimmering middle distance beyond. That little battered truck feels like a culture’s hearse. Cities, like men, know the sting of mortality.

Each time I look at *Joe’s Barber Shop*, I walk away feeling I’ve been torn between respect for the artful image and regret for its vanished subject. Such tension, I think, is at the heart of much of Tice’s best work. There we can experience absence without a reciprocating sense of loss. The image, after all, endures. Such art – less common than one might wish – does not merely please, it also forestalls. As such it is, I would argue, the manifestation of a generous and deeply ethical vision.

“Say it!” declaims the poet-speaker in another *Paterson*, the poem by William Carlos Williams, “No ideas but in things.” Indeed. But what are the ideas in this photograph, this marvelous “thing”? They are, perhaps, inexhaustible. Here I have suggested merely a few. But, really, you should come to our Library to see for yourself.

John Koontz, Chairperson  
THE FRIENDS OF THE CHENG LIBRARY  

### Professional Activities

*Anne Caliberti* was elected President of the Executive Board of the Highlands Regional Library Cooperative.

*Bill Duffy’s* article about the Cheng Library’s interns appeared in the Fall 2004 issue of the newsletter of the NJLA/ACRL Association.

*Amy Job, Susan Sabatino, Pamela Theus* and *Nancy Weiner* attended the New Jersey Library Association Annual Conference on April 20 - 21, 2004 in Long Branch, NJ.

*Richard Kearney, Debbie Pluss, Pamela Theus,* and *Kurt Wagner* attended the Endeavor Annual User Group Meeting on April 15 - 18, 2004 in Chicago, IL.

*Jill Pruden,* Technical Library Assistant, has been accepted into the Master of Science in Library and Information Science program at Drexel University.


*Bill Russo,* part-time assistant in the Periodicals Department, has been accepted into the M.S. in Library and Information Science program at Pratt Institute.

*Susan Sabatino* attended the Annual Network Meeting of the New Jersey State Data Center on June 8, 2004 in West Windsor, NJ.

*Kurt Wagner,* with Jim Robertson (NJIT), made a presentation to the NJ Academic Library Directors’ meeting entitled Next Generation Integrated Library Systems on September 24, 2004. Kurt was also invited to join the newly formed Highlands Regional Library Cooperative Technology Committee, September, 2004.
Jackie Hill, Periodicals Librarian, Plans Retirement

Jackie Hill, Periodicals and Document Delivery Librarian, plans to retire effective January 1, 2005. In her 18 years full-time, and prior to that, 6 years part-time tenure at William Paterson, she experienced dramatic changes in the University, in the Library, and in the Periodicals Department.

Jackie was hired as a reference librarian, and a short time afterwards, was appointed head of the Periodicals Department. The responsibility for InterLibrary Loan (ILL) was later incorporated into this department.

In Periodicals and ILL she supervised the transition from a totally manual operation to an almost totally automated operation, continually meeting the challenges of learning new systems and introducing them into the Department.

In 1980, the OCLC library system and the CLSI online catalog were the only computerized systems in the Library. Today, technology pervades all aspects of library management and service and different systems function simultaneously throughout the Library.

Jackie’s service to the University included participation on a number of committees and councils. For many years, she was Chair of the Senate Admissions and Academic Standards Council. As Chair, she introduced a number of resolutions which were accepted by the Senate and later enacted by the Provost. She also served on the Assessment Committee and chaired the Middle States Self Study, Academic Support Task Group.

Jackie says that her tenure at William Paterson was rewarding professionally and personally. She thoroughly enjoyed meeting the challenges of a growing Library and University and working with her colleagues on a variety of activities.

The energy, insight and expertise Jackie brought to all of her endeavors will be missed by those who worked with her at the Library and those who collaborated with her on University councils and committees.

Two Librarians Assume New Responsibilities

Judy Matthew was appointed Periodicals/Document Delivery Librarian for the Cheng Library, effective January 1, 2005. She has been serving as acting Periodicals Librarian since July 1, 2004 and has already become involved with state-wide committees dedicated to improving document delivery among public and academic libraries in New Jersey.

Judy began her career at William Paterson in 1994 as a reference librarian, and in 1998, she was named Coordinator of User Education. In that role, she revised learning objectives for students, managed the Library’s classroom and developed online tutorials for library instruction.

Judy looks forward to the challenges of integrating new technologies in the Periodicals Department as libraries progress to more pervasive electronic and digital methods of scholarly communication.

Nancy Weiner has assumed the duties of Coordinator of User Education for the Library, effective July 1, 2004. Nancy joined William Paterson University in 2002 as Reference/Distnece Education Librarian. Since that time, she has been active on the Continuing Education and Distance Learning Advisory Committee and Technology Across the Curriculum.

Nancy also chaired the Senate Elections Council for the past two years. In this capacity, she has coordinated the electronic voting for numerous Senate elections.

In her new role, Nancy plans to concentrate on collaborating with faculty to incorporate the standards for information literacy competencies into the Library’s instruction program. She also aims to develop methods of assessment that will be used to gauge how well our students perform basic information literacy tasks.

Nancy is excited about her new position and anticipates that the year ahead will be productive and stimulating.

Visit the Library’s Webpage at www.wpunj.edu/library for information about the Library’s services and resources.