Hobart Manor Papers Now Available in Digital Repository

The Cheng Library is pleased to announce that a collection of documents relating to Hobart Manor and the family of Garret Hobart is now available online. The Hobart Manor Papers collection consists of a variety of materials including newspaper clippings, correspondence, photographs, and other documents. This collection joins several other digital collections already available at the Library’s web site.

Work began on the digitization of the Hobart Manor Papers in the fall of 2011. After more than two years of scanning and editing, the University has a detailed digital collection documenting the Hobart family and the history and restoration of Hobart Manor. This collection contains nearly two hundred unique objects and is still growing. In addition to the existing compilation of photographs, correspondence, deeds, newspaper clippings, and documents, objects soon to be added include two sets of architectural plans from the restoration of the Manor, a video of the construction during the restoration, and a number of other photographs and documents.

The digitization of the Hobart Manor Papers is the first project to be completed almost entirely within the Cheng Library utilizing Library staff and equipment. While the scanning and image editing of previous digital projects was done externally, the creation of a new digitization work area facilitates the execution and completion of projects in the Library.

This area, the Lorraine Cheng Digitization Workshop, was funded with a memorial gift from the Cheng family in remembrance of Lorraine Cheng. It houses the recent purchases of scanning equipment, hardware and software. The Library staff now has the ability to independently create, edit, and make available digital projects of all types.

Several projects are already part of the Cheng Library’s digital collections. Past projects have included the digitization of older issues of two student newspapers, The Beacon and Pioneer Times.

As a result of the Hobart Manor Papers project, the Library staff has an improved understanding of digital collections and the processes, equipment, and skills needed to assemble a successful one. Procedures for new digital projects have been developed from the creation of this collection. After a proposed project has been approved, the original source objects are imaged (either scanned or photographed), and those images are then edited, if needed. The images are then saved as presentation files (such as PDFs and JPs) which are easily viewed online.

A metadata schema is also developed for each collection. This template allows for an accurate description of each object, and this descriptive data helps a user to precisely locate a desired item within the digital repository. When complete, the collection is uploaded to the University’s computer system where it will be stored with other WPUNJ collections.

The Library is also initiating work on new projects. Among the possibilities for future digital collections are a set of historical University yearbooks, a compilation of past course catalogs, and a collection of histories of the University.

Dr. Anne Ciliberti, Dean of Library Services, recently received copyright permission to digitize the book by Kenneth B. White, Paterson State College: A History, 1855-1966. An electronic version of this book will soon become part of the University’s digital histories.

The University’s Archives web page of the Cheng Library provides links to the Hobart Manor Papers and other digital collections. Please view these collections at www.wpunj.edu/library/university-archives.dot.

Selected Documents in the Hobart Manor Papers Collection

- Brief history of Hobart Manor
- Ailsa Farms transfer of title from Garret Hobart
- Final Draft of the Historic Preservation Assessment for Hobart Manor
- Hobart family history
- Hobart family crest
- Garret Hobart biography and genealogy
Cheng Library Book Sale Appeals to Campus Readers

The Cheng Library held a used book sale for three days in March. The event took place in the Multi-Purpose Room of the Student Center from March 25-27, 2014. The book sale has become a valued tradition of the Cheng Library, and the sale attracted crowds of students, faculty and staff from across the University. This was the fourth major book sale of the Library. Book donations had been assembled for the previous eighteen months and totaled 217 boxes of books.

The Library receives donations from students, faculty, and others throughout the year. Any books donated to the Library which are not added to the collection are transferred to storage to await the next book sale.

The sale is coordinated by the staff in the Technical Services unit of the Library. These staff members are primarily responsible for the ongoing tasks of the sale. The work before the sale involves collecting, sorting and storing the thousands of books the Library receives.

However, during the sale days, most of the Library staff participates in this collective effort. The sale days involve arranging books, assisting customers looking for particular titles, authors, or subject areas, and operating the cash register.

The books covered all subject areas and included many types of fiction and non-fiction as well as some CDs and DVDs. Many students are eager to purchase books related to their major, and the book sale is a good place to find textbooks. Often, faculty will donate older editions of text books to the Cheng Library to be included in the sale. Students also donate their used text books to the Cheng Library. These books may be of value even if the edition is not the most current one.

The funds from the sale totaled approximately $3,500. This money will be used to make improvements at the Library that will benefit students but represent purchases that are not part of the usual budget.

In the past, the funds from the sale have helped support the purchase of furniture and a television for the Friends’ Room of the Library, a monitor for one of the group study rooms, and a water bottle filling station on the first floor. The Library has asked students to contribute ideas for new purchases and has already received a few suggestions.

The Library also wishes to extend its gratitude for the assistance provided by the University Facilities staff who moved the 217 boxes of books from the Library to the Student Center, and to the Hospitality staff for the loan of a cash register and a Pioneer card-reader.

The next book sale is tentatively scheduled to take place during the fall 2015 semester. Until then, the Library invites you to donate books you no longer want. They will be appreciated by someone at the next sale.

Library Holds Annual Reception for Student Assistants

Every spring, the Library holds a recognition reception for its student assistants. This reception provides a way to formally recognize these students and to demonstrate the Library’s appreciation for the assistance they provide throughout the year. With more than 20 students working in the various Library departments, these assistants represent a substantial part of the Library’s workforce.

Students provide a considerable range of services in the Library. They assist at the Periodicals, Reserve and Lending Services Desks, shelve books, help with stack maintenance, and often perform numerous additional tasks. This recognition event is just a small token of the Library’s gratitude.

At the event, held on April 22, 2014, the Library specifically honored five students for outstanding service: Kayla Dailey, Robert Graham and Dylan Anderson of Lending Services, and Ra Quasha Jones and Tatyana McGuire of the Periodicals Department.

The staff of the Cheng Library thanks all of our student assistants for their dedicated service, and wishes them well at the end of the academic year.
The Cheng Library, the Faculty Senate Research and Scholarship Council, and the Office of the Provost sponsored a program to initiate discussion among faculty on the promise and potential benefits of open access publishing. The program was held on April 15, 2014 from 12:30 - 1:40 p.m. in Science Hall East, Room 2063. Numerous faculty, chairpersons and deans attended.

Richard Kearney, Electronic Resources Librarian at the Cheng Library, welcomed those attending and opened the discussion. Open access is a large and growing faculty-driven trend for publishing scholarly research. While definitions vary slightly for open access journals, the term usually means that the publication is freely available on the public internet.

Considered in broad terms, open access publishing involves both journals and online repositories. For many academic institutions, a commitment to open access often begins with a comprehensive faculty discussion about open access principles, the adoption of a departmental or university-wide policy regarding open access, and the establishment of an institutional repository to make faculty research available even if much of this work is subsequently published in non-open access journals.

Prof. David Gilley, Biology Department, spoke about his personal experience with open access publishing. For a recent project, he decided to submit his research paper to an open access journal rather than a commercial publisher. In making this decision, he tried to weigh the advantages and benefits of each type of publication.

Although the initial dissemination of an article in an open access journal may be slower than one in a commercially published journal which has an established readership, open access journals have the potential to reach a broader audience over time.

Prof. Gilley also appreciated the significance of article-level metrics for individual articles published in open access journals. The writer is able to determine how often an article was viewed, downloaded, cited or discussed in social media. Once an article is posted on open-access web sites, its level of importance can be influenced by the readers of the article and other writers who cite it.

During the question and answer period, faculty asked about the reputation and prestige of publishing in open-access journals rather than commercial or association journals. Is this a factor for decisions made by retention and promotion committees? How will the publication fees required from most open-access journals be paid? Do institutional repositories create confusion for proper citation of published works? These important questions have no immediate answers, but as the status of open-access journals continues to increase, and as institutional repositories become more common, open access publication is becoming an increasingly vital part of research communities.

This program was an initial step in exploring the issues and opportunities in open access publishing. The Cheng Library invites your comments and questions.

For additional information, please contact Richard Kearney at the Cheng Library or Prof. David Gilley, Biology Department and Chair of the Faculty Senate Research and Scholarship Council. Please also consult the Cheng Library’s Guide to Open Access and Scholarly Publishing, available at: http://guides.wpunj.edu/openaccess.
Cheng Library Holds Annual Reception for University Authors

The Change Library held its annual University Authors’ Reception on April 3, 2014 in the University Commons Ballroom. This reception marked the 25th anniversary of this annual event. The Authors’ Reception is open to the entire University community and is held in conjunction with University Research and Scholarship Day.

The Library recognizes and showcases the publications of William Paterson University’s faculty and staff. Before the event, the Library staff sends a notice to the campus community asking for authors to submit citations of their published works to be entered into the bibliography.

Faculty and staff submitted work in the form of scholarly journal articles, books, magazine articles, and other media. These items were displayed at the reception, allowing guests to browse through the many works written and created by faculty and staff.

At this year’s event, the Library also displayed copies of the Authors’ Bibliography for the past 25 years to show how this publication has changed over the past quarter century. Dean of Library Services, Anne Ciliberti quipped, “It’s amazing to see how far desk-top publishing has advanced during that time.”

President Waldron and Provost Sandmann were in attendance to congratulate the authors. Pres. Waldron commented that this is one of the proudest days celebrated at William Paterson, and Provost Sandmann recommended that everyone take time and consider the range of creativity and scholarship accomplished at the University.

Dean Anne Ciliberti, who will retire this year, reflected on the many years of celebrating the University’s authors that she has seen in her long career. Martin Williams, Director of Sponsored Programs, was also present to recognize faculty and staff who had successfully applied for grants through his office.

An interesting fact about this year’s bibliography entries is that many publications are co-authored by more than one faculty member. The articles and books demonstrate that numerous collaborations have taken place on campus, sometimes between members of the same academic department but also across disciplines, and even across colleges. For example, four Nursing department faculty, Julie Bliss, Sarah Valentine-Maher, Elizabeth Van Dyk and Nadine Aktan co-authored an article about teaching across diverse clinical experiences for the Journal of Nursing Education.

A group of faculty and staff members from the College of Science and Health and the Science Enrichment Center collaborated on an article about academic support for the Learning Assistance Review. Collaborators were Peter Chen of Mathematics, Sandra DeYoung of Nursing, Donna Potacco and Daniel Chisholm of the Science Enrichment Center and Danielle Desroches of Biology.

Pixy Ferris of the Communication Department co-edited a book with Hilary Wilder of Educational Leadership titled The Plugged-In Professor: Tips and Techniques for Teaching with Social Media. This book included an article by Sandra Miller, the Director of Instruction and Research Technology, about using streaming video clips.

Ismael Flores-Marti of Kinesiology and Christopher Mulrine of Special Education and Counseling co-authored the article, “Practical Strategies for Teaching Students with Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder in General Physical Education Classrooms.”

Faculty were not the only authors honored. Glen Sherman, Associate Vice President and Dean of Student Development, published a book, Refocusing the Self in Higher Education, that is part of Routledge Research in Higher Education Series.

This year’s bibliography contains 112 entries, and the complete bibliography can be viewed online at the Library’s web site: www.wpunj.edu/library/authorreception. It’s fascinating to see the range of interests our faculty holds.