Fall 2019

John M. Pfau Library
Extensive Egyptology Book Collection Donated

THE HARER FAMILY Trust donated many of the ancient Egyptian artifacts that have given our very own Robert and Frances Fullerton Museum of Art one of the largest public displays of Ancient Egyptian artifacts in Southern California. Once again, we have benefited from the Harer family’s generosity for Mr. C. Kenworthy Harer has just donated an amazing collection of published materials (books and auction catalogs) on Egyptology.

Included are the classics, such as Sir William Matthew Flinders Petrie’s works. Petrie (1853-1942) was a British archaeologist and Egyptologist who was influential in establishing excavation techniques and methods, and also invented a sequence dating method.

Popular works such as Elizabeth Peter’s Amelia Peabody’s Egypt are represented too. They are mostly on ancient Egypt, but there are a few works on other areas, such as ancient Greece.

This collection will support students and other researchers in their exploration of ancient Egypt. We are just beginning to process it and every box reveals new treasures which, after all, is what archaeology is all about whether those treasures be everyday objects, things reserved for royalty, or new knowledge gained.

We also are indebted to Egyptologist Kate Liszka, who travelled to Seattle to help pack the collection and then drive the truck to our library, to ensure that everything arrived safely. Look for the Egyptology Special Collection, coming soon! 

Jill Vasilakos-Long

THE JOHN M. Pfau Library’s Special Collections Department is holding a Grand Re-opening on November 7, 2019. The event will take place from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in room PL-4009. We have many hidden gems to reveal, such as Inland region history, children’s literature, comic books, antique postcards, pulp fiction, Japanese Internment Camp newspapers, and chronicles of life in underrepresented communities, among other materials.

Special guests include Jamal Nasar, professor and dean emeritus of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, who will speak on building the Middle Eastern Studies Collection; Kirk Whisler, co-founder of Latino Literacy Now, who will discuss new literacy projects and the International Latino Book Awards; Richard Santillan, professor emeritus of ethnic history. We also are indebted to Egyptologist Kate Liszka, who travelled to Seattle to help pack the collection and then drive the truck to our library, to ensure that everything arrived safely. Look for the Egyptology Special Collection, coming soon!

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Jill Vasilakos-Long
Meet the New Librarians!

The Pfau Library, Department of Library Research and Instruction, is excited to introduce our newest librarians, John Hernandez and Kim Wobick. They have respectively taken on the roles of Viral Technologies Librarian and Head of Access Services. They joined the team in January 2019 and have hit the ground running!

Before joining CSUSB, Hernandez did extensive work in government documents in the social sciences as a subject specialist in several areas, and in assessing library user experience and website accessibility. Hernandez led teams that designed surveys and conducted focus groups to gain better knowledge about user behavior. Wobick’s previous work involved the development of library services, and providing library instruction to both classes and individual graduate students both in-person and online via various technologies.

Please join us in welcoming our new colleagues!  

Precinct Reporter Newspaper Archives Donated

Jill Vassilakos-Long

IN 1965, the first edition of the Precinct Reporter included a quotation from Voltaire on the front page: “I wholly disagree with what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it.” That quotation has been on the front page of every issue since then, a statement Art Townsend made of the values that drove him to found the newspaper. From the beginning the newspaper committed to providing library instruction to both classes and individual graduate students both in-person and online via various technologies.

We’ve landed on a product called Academic Video Online (AVON). It offers thousands of titles (imagine the browsing potential!), and everything we were looking for. The Chancellor’s Office recently negotiated with the publisher to get an excellent deal for the CSU. The library pays the contract annually (not per film, like Kanopy), so the subscription is stable and cost effective. Here’s what we get: 68,000 streaming video titles across all disciplines, from publishers such as California Newsreel, Public Broadcasting Service, Bloomberg, BBC, Sony Picture Classics, Microtraining Associates, and WGBH Educational Foundation, among many others. You can access AVON right now, or go to our website, click on Databases by Subject, then Video. AVON is the first database on the list. To browse: click on the red “Browse Channels” box near the lower right corner.

If you use video in your classes, please browse AVON as soon as possible. While you may not find the same film you use in Kanopy (because Kanopy has so much exclusive content), you may discover a film that meets your needs better! As always, I’m interested in your feedback. If you have any questions or comments, send them along to me (909-537-5553; bquarton@csusb.edu).

New Laptop Computers in the Library

John Hernandez

CONVENIENT access to reliable, up-to-date, secure computers in the library is absolutely crucial to student success, particularly those who do not own computers. The workstations on the first floor of the library are constantly occupied and heavily used and our laptop lending program has been wildly popular.

When computers get as much use as ours do, attention must be paid to their useful life span and plans made to replace them in a timely fashion when, despite our best efforts to keep them in good condition, they show their age.

We have once more successfully competed for Vital/Expanded Technologies Initiative funding and will be using the money to purchase 40 Dell Latitude laptops to replace our oldest laptops.

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Players of all skills levels—whether beginner, intermediate, or advanced—are welcome to participate in the contest. Each chess match will be time-controlled.

1st, 2nd, and 3rd place cash prizes, in the respective amounts of $100, $75, and $50, will be awarded in each of the following categories: beginner, intermediate, and advanced.

We invite the campus and broader community to join us for the tournament, and look forward to a day of friendly competition,” said Cesar Caballero, dean of the Pfau Library, who founded the club. “We hope it becomes an annual university event.”

The Pfau Library Chess Club is open to all CSUSB students, staff, and faculty, as well as members of the general public.

To RSVP, visit library.csusb.edu/chessclub. For more information, contact Robbie Madrigal, 909-537-5184; smadrigal@csusb.edu.
Fifteen Years of Baseball History
Dean Cesar Caballero and Dr. Richard Santillan

IT WAS 15 years ago that the Latino Baseball History Project (LBHP) began. It really took off after a very successful exhibit at California State University, Los Angeles’ Kennedy Library. It generated so much public interest that the Los Angeles Times ran a front-page story on the exhibit including photos. A few years after the highly popular exhibit, the LBHP published its first book, Mexican American Baseball in Los Angeles, with Arcadia Publications. To date, the Project has published 16 books, over 4,500 vintage photos, and 500,000 words of narrative. More than 25,000 books have been sold, an eye-catching amount. The Project is currently working on its 17th book, Mexican American Baseball in the San Fernando Valley, and the 18th book on the community of Boyle Heights.

The Pfau Library serves as the headquarters for the LBHP with Dean Cesar Caballero as its director. Dr. Richard Santillan is the lead author and researcher for the book series. Thousands of digitized photo images and a significant number of historical artifacts are stored in the library’s Special Collections Department. The library holds the largest collection of Mexican American baseball and softball memorabilia and photo collection in the entire world.

Currently, the LBHP is working with both the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York and the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. All 16 books can now be found in the Baseball Hall of Fame Library. For the first time, there is a significant collection of materials regarding the profound and rich contributions of Mexican Americans to the national pastime.

For the past three years, the Smithsonian has been working with the LBHP and other national groups to host the first-ever exhibit in Washington, D.C. in October 2020 on the history of Latino baseball and softball in the United States. The Smithsonian exhibit and additional traveling exhibits were mainly inspired by the extraordinary groundbreaking work accomplished by the LBHP during the last 15 years.

The Latino Baseball History Project is planning to celebrate its 15th anniversary by holding a symposium in spring 2020. We hope to see you there!

Watching the Debates
Jill Vassilakos-Long

ON JULY 30 and 31, CNN televised the second Democratic Candidate Debate. The 20 candidates who qualified by CNN’s criteria were split into two nights of debates through a drawing. This created two very different debates. Professors on campus were interested in giving their students the opportunity to watch the debates. Ombudsman Twilla Evans-Carthen brought a proposal to library Dean Cesar Caballero. He suggested that she work with the League of Women Voters of San Bernardino on a debate viewing event. We booked the Media Center in the library and the library worked with Sodexo to provide light refreshments. The July 30th audience of almost 30 people and the July 31st audience of almost 40 included CSUSB students, staff, and faculty, and members of the League of Women Voters and of the Sierra Club. We took notes on the candidates, talked about their responses to questions, and even laughed.

With such a large field of candidates it can be difficult to give everyone careful consideration; this event helped us all get a better feel for who is running to be the Democratic candidate for president in the 2020 election. California’s primary has been moved earlier in the election calendar; this election our votes count more than ever!

11:30 A.M. – 12:45 P.M.
Thursday, November 7, 2019

Panel on Reparations
Tuesday, October 29, 2019
Noon to 2:30 P.M.
PA-102
Faculty Panelists:
Dr. Diana Johnson, Assistant Professor, History
Dr. Ryan Keating, Associate Professor, History
Dr. Roshabh Kumar, Assistant Professor, Economics
Dr. Yumi Pak, Assistant Professor, English
Dr. Marc Robinson, Assistant Professor, History
Dr. Mary Texeira, Professor, Sociology
Moderator: Dr. Rafik Mohamed, Dean, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences

Fall 2019 Events
Pfau Library Chess Club Tournament
Saturday, October 19, 2019
10 A.M. – 3 P.M.
PL-5005 (Library Multimedia Center)

Panel on Reparations
Tuesday, October 29, 2019
Noon to 2:30 P.M.
PA-102
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Special Collections Grand Re-opening
Thursday, November 7, 2019
11:30 A.M. – 12:45 P.M.
PL-4009
Reception and open house to follow program.

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