

# Oviatt Friends

## 19th Century William Hogarth Book Donated

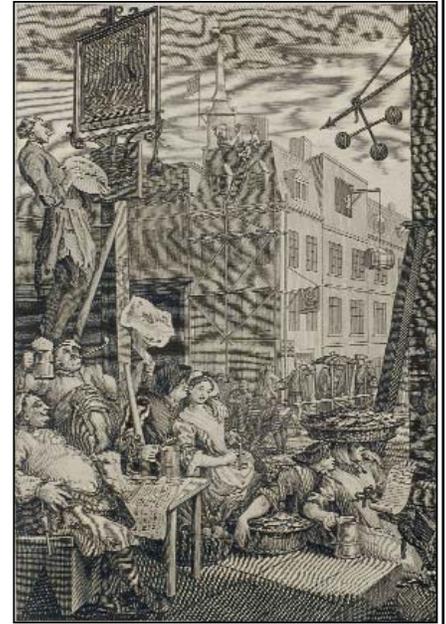
Professor Emerita Lillian Palmer and her husband, Herbert, have generously donated a folio of William Hogarth engravings to the Oviatt Library's Special Collections. The 1822 compendium, entitled "The Works of William Hogarth From the Original Plates," appears to be a later edition of Hogarth's original 1790 publication, says Tony Gardner, Curator of Special Collections. The Palmers are owners of The Herbert Palmer Gallery in Beverly Hills, opened in 1963, the oldest modern and contemporary art gallery in the area.

Gardner stated the book will "...nicely complement two of the Library's other collections on book illustration and caricature: the Richard Vogler Collection of 19th century illustrated books and the 20th century Chase Craig comic book assemblage."

The Special Collection's newest acquisition is of interest both for its artistic value—exquisite engravings depicting life in the 18th century—and for its social commentary. Each etching is accompanied by a story, apparently written by John Nichols, explaining the circumstances of the scene. Several engravings are sequential, each in the series depicting a related event or circumstance. In the poignant "Harlot's progress" series, Hogarth depicts the decline of the central figure from a beautiful young maiden to a decrepit hag, her face a mass of syphilitic sores. A compan-

ion series featuring male degradation, "Rake's progress," is missing.

Although the engravings' intended messages can scarcely be missed, short poems on their margins make clear Hogarth's thoughts. Two companion portrayals of bacchanalia are illustrative. The first, depicting beer



drinking and happy revelry, bears the words "Beer, happy produce of our isle...can cheer each manly heart." To the second, showing hard liquor consumption and debauchery, is attached the admonition that "Gin cursed Fiend...steals our life away."

According to Gardner, the book will not be rebound. Instead each illustration will be stored separately in the collection, available to scholars to study.

—jd

Top right: Beer Street  
Below: Dr. Benjamin Hoadly, Lord Bishop of Winchester  
Drawings by William Hogarth



# Chinese Delegation Visits Oviatt Library

They call themselves "Old China Hands." Their ethnicities and occupations are myriad, but they share one bond. All were once outsiders—non-Chinese—living in China prior to the 1949 Communist Revolution. In the intervening half century most moved elsewhere, a large contingent settling in California and neighboring states.

In June, more than a hundred Old China Hands converged on the Northridge campus for a two-day conclave sponsored by the Oviatt Library. Though a reunion of sorts, the confab's principal purpose was to provide an opportunity for a delegation from one of China's premier institutions, Shanghai's Jiao Tong University, to forge a partnership with CSUN, the Oviatt Library, and the Old China Hands and to learn of their early experiences in China.

Says Cindy Ventuleth, Oviatt Library's Development Officer, "The conference was precipitated, in part, by the Chinese scholars' interest in

the Library's Old China Hand Archive," a collection of books, personal journals, old photos and documents chronicling the lives of non-Chinese residents of pre-Communist

Wu," an alumnus of Jiao Tong University.

According to Gohstand, "The conference's first day was devoted to academic pursuits, including the presentation of



L-R: David Wu, Bob Gohstand, Chen Zhao-Neng, Dean Susan Curzon, Mo Ayati, Deputy President Ye Quyuan, Xie Boliang, and Chen Wentie relaxing at the Dean's house.

papers, discussions and an exhibition of archival materials." Day two was given over to less formal activities such as small discussion groups, a party and a tea. The conclave ended with a



Old China Hands Julia De Souza Gusek, Paula Smilo, Nancy Bartel, Zoya Schlakis

banquet at Hollywood Park Casino hosted by Mr. Chu, owner of the casino.

The visiting delegation, headed by the University's Deputy President Ye Quyuan, met with CSUN President Jolene Koester to discuss future inter-university ties. Subsequently,

China. Dr. Robert Gohstand, founding director of the archive and Professor Emeritus of Geography, was in charge of the overall conference. But, says he, "Arrangements with Jiao Tong University were greatly facilitated by Mr. Leo Chu, a great supporter of the archive, and Professor David

Gohstand has travelled to Shanghai to firm up plans for future visits and exchanges, and to aid the Chinese scholars' efforts to establish a center for the study of Old China Hands material.

—jd

# Public Health Students Donate Journal to Library

It's a problem in every discipline. What with near-astronomical journal prices and limited budgets, libraries simply cannot subscribe to every needed journal.

But in an unusual move, students in the Public Health Department took a step towards alleviating the problem. Thanks to a gift subscription from the Masters of Public Health Student Association (MPHSA), Oviatt Library patrons can now access the electronic periodical

## *American Journal of Health Behavior.*

When offered a monetary gift by Kathryn Krautheim, a former MPHSA member and recent Masters recipient (spring '05), the club didn't take long deciding what to do with the funds.

Dedicated to quality education, club members settled on the subscription as a lasting legacy with benefits extending far beyond the club's ranks. Says Dr. Vicki Ebin, the club's faculty advisor, "I am so proud of these students. I just can't help bragging about how important what they do is and how much they care."

According to the student donors, the journal is not only of interest to public health academics, but to those in sociology, psychology and allied fields

as well. Says David Black, the club's vice president, "The journal deals with many theories about how behavior—drinking, smoking, drug use, for example—affect health. For us in

*Health Students article continued on page 7*



back row: Dr. Vicki Ebin, David Black  
front row: Michelle Espiritu, Kathryn Krautheim, Sara Tamers,  
Sue Yasharpour, Dean Susan Curzon  
(Veleka Allen, also an officer in the MPHSA is not shown)

# Marianne Afifi Appointed Associate Dean

The search for a new Associate Dean for the Library concluded with the appointment of Marianne Afifi to the position, effective October 17.

Afifi comes to the Oviatt Library after twelve years as director of electronic resources and special projects development in USC's Information Services Division. In that role she managed digital information, library systems and web services, and was the systems development librarian for the University's Center for Scholarly Technology. Prior to joining the USC library staff Afifi served for many years as a financial analyst in that University's School of Medicine.

Afifi's academic credentials include an M.L.S. from UCLA and an M.B.A. from USC. She is author of many scholarly publications and pre-

sentations on library and information technologies, and serves on the Board of Directors of the American Society for Information Science and Technology. Says Library Dean Sue Curzon,

"Marianne's commitment to providing innovative and quality library service, her breadth of knowledge, her collegiality and her professional standing are among the many characteristics that make her outstanding for the position. We are delighted to have her as part of the team."

Afifi replaces Karin Duran who graciously served as Interim Associate Dean during the search. Says Curzon, "I am deeply grateful to Karin for her contributions as Interim Associate Dean. I don't know what I would have done without her." Duran returns to her position in the Library's Teacher Curriculum Center.



## *The Map that Named America*

The German government maintains a list—"a short, very elite list" says Dr. Christian Stocks, German Consul General for Los Angeles—of historical documents and works of art considered "National Treasures." None has ever left German soil. Until now! In an unprecedented move, the Germans recently agreed to transfer ownership of one of their treasures to the United States. The document? The only known copy of a 16th century world map by German cartographer Martin Waldseemüller on which the word "America" appears for the first time; in effect, the "map that named America."

The original four-by-eight-foot masterpiece, dated 1507 and printed from 12 hand-carved wooden plates, is housed in the Thomas Jefferson Building at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. On October 25, a full-sized facsimile was the backdrop for a conclave in the Oviatt Library devoted to the map's acquisition and history. The conference, organized by Dr. Michael Meyer of the History Department, featured talks by Margrit Krewson, Dutch/German specialist (retired) at the Library of Congress, and



L-R: Dr. Ronald Grim, Margrit Krewson, Prof. Michael Meyer, Eric Braeden

one of America's 'birth certificates.'"

In a personal saga, Krewson told of her decades-long effort to bring the "Holy Grail of cartography" to the United States. Charged with negotiating the map's purchase, in the 1970s she began pleading with German government functionaries but, she said, her repeated pleas fell on deaf ears, forcing her to endure refusal after refusal: usually abrupt, sometimes caustic, always emphatic. Undaunted, she continued her efforts even after her retirement and in 1998 was rewarded with an agreement to allow the map's owner, Prince Johannes Waldburg-Wolfegg, to sell the documentary gem to the Library of Congress. Several more years were required to raise the \$10 million asking price. Ultimately, the U.S. Congress provided about half, the remainder gleaned from private foundations.

Grim explained that until Columbus's journey to the New World, the Earth was typically depicted as a disk on which the three known continents—Asia, Europe and Africa—floated. As in reality, the continental triad was shown connected, but reflecting the prevailing Judeo-Christian view at the time, the junction point was Jerusalem. The discovery of the New



Oviatt Library Dean Dr. Susan Curzon (left) and Margrit Krewson

Dr. Ronald Grim, Curator of Maps at the Boston Public Library, and attracted several distinguished dignitaries, among them Stocks. In comments following the conference, Stocks said that the map's transfer to the U.S. was permitted "...as a gesture of friendship because the map is

World, said Grim, created a conundrum for cartographers: how to fit the new land onto the map. Initially, the newly discovered territory was relegated to a corner of the map as an island. It was Waldseemüller's map that finally gave Columbus's discovery its due—continental status, with an ocean beyond, and a name, 'America'.

The name, in honor of *Americus Vespucius* or (Amerigo Vespucci), an Italian navigator whose purported explorations of the New World are still the subject of debate, proved controversial, and on a 1513 reprint of Waldseemüller's map the new land was relabeled *Terra Incognita* (unknown land) and its discovery credited to Columbus. Only later, after more years of exploration determined the New World's shape, size and placement, did the name reappear on maps, this time applied to two continents, North and South America.

The facsimile map will be on permanent display in the Library, a gift to the students of CSUN from the German American Cultural Society. Says Sue Curzon, Library Dean, "The map represents an important part of our her-



Image from the Waldseemüller map.

itage. It is fascinating to see how the world was viewed at that time." Friends of the Library, the History Department, Phi Beta Delta, the German American Cultural Society and the Distinguished Visiting Speakers Program, Office of Graduate Studies sponsored the October 25 talks. —jd

## *University Honors Library Volunteers*

**A**mong those recognized by the University at its fourth annual Volunteer Service Award luncheon were two individuals—Fred Levy and Dr. Robert Gohstand—who have contributed to the Oviatt Library. Says Sue Curzon, Library Dean, "Both Bob and Fred are well deserving of the accolades they received. Both have worked tirelessly and have contributed in immeasurable ways to the Library."

### *Fred Levy*

Fred Levy was honored for his service of more than a decade to the Friends of the Library, a volunteer, non-profit organization dedicated to supporting and enhancing the resources of the Oviatt Library. Fred's tenure as a volunteer goes back to the early '90s, following his retirement from Hughes Aircraft and a two-year teaching stint in the University's College of Engineering and Computer Science. Fred has served as a member and officer of the Friend's Board of Directors, and currently serves as its president. The Friends' bookstore has benefited greatly from his twice-weekly labors at organizing donated books, determining prices and making sales.

### *Dr. Robert Gohstand*

This year's Emeriti Merit Award, an honor reserved for retired faculty who remain loyal and supportive of the University, went to Dr. Robert Gohstand, Professor Emeritus of Geography. Bob is founder and director of the Library's Old China Hands Archive, a collection of books, oral histories, papers and photos related to the lives of non-Chinese inhabitants of China prior to the 1949 Communist Revolution, and he has organized two conferences and exhibitions related to the archive (see accompanying article). But Bob's contributions to the Library began long before he retired. For more than 20 years he was a faculty representative on the Friends of the Library Board of

*Volunteers article continued on page 7*

# *Historical Vibrations: The Oviatt Library celebrates the guitar*

**M**ajor highways were closed, snarling traffic, and a pall of smoke filled the air, by-products of a wildfire that

raged on the Valley's fringe. But the potentially calamitous conflagration on September 28 and its unwelcome fruits failed to stop the long-planned gala opening of one of the Oviatt Library's largest and best known collections: The International Guitar Research Archive (IGRA). After a brief delay to allow expected guests to negotiate

a traffic nightmare, the inaugural event began as planned. Following a welcome by University President Jolene Koester and introductory remarks by Sue Curzon, Library Dean, the main event of the evening—a guitar concert on the Library lawn—began.

And what a performance it was! For almost 40 minutes the musicians held the audience's rapt attention as they interpreted the works of illustrious guitar artists—the



President Jolene Koester



Professor Ron Borczon

likes of Andrés Segovia, Laurindo Almeida, Vicente Gomez, Ozzie Osbourne and Randy Rhoads—from original scores now housed in the archive. Among the performers were Dr. Steve Thachuk and Professor Ron Borczon, both members of CSUN's guitar faculty, and an array of students of the University's internationally renowned music program. Student performers were Brian Barany, George England, Cassandra Eubanks, Steve Gottlieb, Damen Liebling, Justin Smolian, and Saul Velasco.

Prominently featured among the musical scores were original works by Vahdah Olcott-Bickford-Revere, the musical powerhouse of the guitar whose collection of memorabilia was the

foundation of the archive. "Were it not for Vahdah's efforts, the archive would not exist," said Dr. Ron Purcell, Professor Emeritus of Music, director of and genius behind IGRA, and the evening's musical host. For Purcell, himself one of Vahdah's students, the evening was as much a tribute to his mentor as it was an opening of the collec-



Oviatt Library Dean Susan Curzon

tion to musical scholars. Though most of the evening's musical performance was devoted to the classical guitar, the program ended with a famous rock tune, Crazy Train, a tribute to rock legends Randy Rhoads and Ozzy Osbourne.

Among attendees at the opening were two with ties to the virtuosos whose works comprise the archives: Deltra Eamon Almeida, widow of internationally renowned guitarist and composer Laurindo Almeida; and Delores Rhoads, mother of Randy Rhoads, regarded by many as one of the finest rock guitarists and innovators. Also in attendance were Tim Miklaucic, owner of Guitar Salon International; David Schramm, noted

teacher, luthier (guitar maker) and graduate of CSUN; and Jimmy Stewart, professional studio guitarist. All generously loaned guitars for the archival exhibit, among them the famous Almeida 'signature guitar' currently owned by Stewart. In addition, Dan Zeff provided two 19th century guitars from the Rose Augustine Estate and Jim Forderer, guitar collector, loaned an 18th century Baroque guitar.

That the Friends of the Library-sponsored opening was well received, in spite of the incendiary inconveniences, was evident from the fact that every chair—300 of them—was filled, with spillover onto the lawn. At the conclusion of the musical celebration, the audience was invited to view an exhibit of archival materials in the C. K. and Teresa Tseng Gallery and to share in refreshments. The display of historical guitars, manuscripts, correspondence, music scores, recordings and other materials remained on view until November 19.

In her dedicatory remarks Curzon noted that the archive "...captures, records and preserves

the magical music of the guitar and the creative geniuses who devoted their lives to the instrument," and in so doing honors both the artists and their works. But she also rightfully acknowledged that the honors are reciprocal: For having been selected as "...the steward and home of such a precious resource the archives also bring honor to the University and its Library."  
—jd



Dr. Steve Thachuk

## ***Public Health Students*** (continued from page 3)

public health, these are critical concerns."

Sara Tamers, the organization's president, says that the MPHSA is a very active club, the subscription merely one reflection of its activist concerns. Each year the organization "...sponsors orientations for incoming students, organizes forums, workshops and programs, and

publishes a student newsletter." In addition, club members help organize orientations for new students, participate in health fairs, and provide guidance to students on their projects.

Regarding the students' largesse, Sue Curzon, Library Dean commented "We appreciate this gift so much. The field of public health is vital

to all of us. The students' donation shows what we already know about this profession—a group of dedicated people committed to the well-being of our communities."  
—jd

## ***Volunteers*** (continued from page 5)

Directors and a member and chair of the Faculty Senate Library Committee. One of Bob's enduring legacies is the Library's reading room, where reading for pleasure is encouraged and students have access to classic books in all fields. Bob was instrumental in the room's establishment and he and his wife, Maureen, continue to support the purchase of books for the room via an endowment they created.

FRIENDS OF THE OVIATT LIBRARY

## Oviatt Friends

Oviatt Library  
California State University, Northridge  
18111 Nordhoff Street  
Northridge, CA 91330-8326

We are on the web:  
<http://library.csun.edu/friends/>

This newsletter is supported by the  
Friends of the Oviatt Library.

Contributing writer: Dr. Jim Dole

Photography by:  
Lee Choo, Mario Contini,  
Joyclyn Dunham

California State University  
**Northridge**

# USED BOOK SALE

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2006**

**9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.**

Hardbacks \$1.00    Softbacks \$.50    Small paperbacks are 25¢ or six (6) for \$1.00

**OVIATT LIBRARY LOBBY**  
**CAL STATE NORTHRIDGE**

Checks welcome with I.D.    Parking \$4.00 per day

Sponsored by the Friends of the Oviatt Library

All proceeds buy new materials for the Library

Info: Donations and volunteering    (818) 677-5573

California State University, Northridge \*18111 Nordhoff Street \* Northridge, CA 91330-8326\*