



GELMAN NEWS

Change in Reporting Structure

by **Jack Siggins**
University Librarian

If you have read the GroupWise message I sent to all staff last week about the FY 2003 Budget, you will understand why I feel a strong need to increase our effort to generate funding support from donors and other sources outside the University. This past year, I have spent much more time on fundraising activity than in previous years, and the projection for the future is that a larger portion of my time will have to be devoted to it.

This adjustment will decrease the amount of time I can devote to daily operations and to the staff responsible for those operations. This is true of the Building Operations Department, which, as you know, combines the functions of customer service and security in a critically important role on behalf of The Gelman Library, its users and staff.

So, after careful consideration of the many challenges we will face in FY 2003 and thereafter, I have asked Andrea Stewart and Gale Etschmaier to help by assuming responsibility for the administrative oversight of Building Operations and to work closely with Peggy Enevoldsen and her excellent staff. This change is effective July 1, 2002.

Peggy has already been working closely with Andrea and Gale when I have been unavailable and has participated in discussions about this change. She agrees with this shift in responsibilities and understands that her leadership role is key to a successful transition and to the effectiveness of Gelman operations.

All four of us have agreed that I will continue to be involved in space and security issues. Gale, Andrea and Peggy are working on a transition plan that you will read more about in an upcoming issue of *RT*.

I want to thank Peggy and her staff for performing so well in what is a very difficult and important job. I know each member of the Gelman staff will continue to give Peggy, Andrea, Gale and me your support. If you have questions, please contact any of us.

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Administrative Appointment

by **Jack Siggins**

University Librarian

It is my pleasure to announce that, in accordance with the Code for Librarians, I have made an Administrative Appointment of Cathy Zeljak to the position of Director of the Eckles Library. As you know, Cathy has held an interim appointment as Director of Eckles since the departure of Anne Emery last Fall. This permanent appointment is effective July 1, 2002.

Cathy will also continue as Head of SEEARR at the same time. This will mean that she will have dual responsibilities for both units while holding the equivalent of one full-time position in The Gelman Library System.

I hope you will join me in congratulating Cathy and in wishing her the best as she assumes her new duties.

Update from the Workflow Implementation Team

Randi Robinson

Acquisitions

In conjunction with R2 Consulting, the Workflow Implementation Team has been analyzing the effectiveness and usefulness of various processes in acquiring materials for The Gelman Library System. Thus far the Team has analyzed and drafted new procedures for the selection, ordering and processing of monographs ordered from Blackwell Approval Slips. The Implementation Team will work with staff to initiate changes to this system early in FY 2003. This fall we will move on to workflow redesign for other firm orders, approvals, gifts, government documents, serials and periodicals.

Key issues the group has focused on include: 1) expanding our use of Blackwell Book Services (BBS), thereby decreasing the amount of activity we have to do on our end; 2) identifying training needs for staff so all can improve and expand our knowledge of various library workflows; 3) minimizing the overlap and repetitiveness of work across and within departments; and 4) considering changes in processes while discussing the impact of such changes with staff members that will be most affected. For some processes we will conduct test trials before making permanent changes. From our test trials we hope to find out how easily we can streamline different tasks and how changes of these tasks will impact other areas of the library. We will also establish "key measures" for processes; these will be used on a regular basis to see if we are meeting our goal to greatly decrease the time it takes us to move materials out of technical services to the shelves for our users.

The Students' New Voice at The Gelman Library

by **Matthew Tisdale**

Student Liaison

Greetings to The Gelman Library community! You may have noticed a new face zipping around the Library lately. That face belongs to me, Matthew Tisdale, and I have been given the pleasure of serving the student body of The George Washington University as the new Student Liaison to Gelman. I anticipate a wonderful year of getting to know Gelman inside and out and tackling those tough issues that constantly keep this staff on its toes. I feel positive that by working together we have the unique opportunity to advance the Library and its services into new and exciting realms. The first step in this process is for you and I to get to know one another. Thus, you should expect a visit from me to your department in the upcoming weeks that will serve to span gaps of communication and allow the numerous resources that we have to offer one another to be made evident to both the Gelman

staff and most importantly, the students who we are ultimately here to serve.

If you need to contact me before I contact you, I am available in my office downstairs in the first floor suite Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., by phone at 202-994-2937, or by e-mail at mtisdale@gwu.edu.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to be a part of such an exciting project, and I look forward to meeting you all!

Staff Management Group Elects Steering Committee for 2002 - 2003

by **Steven Watson**
CMS

As the 2002-2003 Chair of the Gelman Library System Staff Management Group Steering Committee, I am pleased to announce the winners of the recent SMGSC elections.

- **Crystal Belk**, Manager of GLS Financial Operations was elected *Vice Chair/Chair Elect* and will coordinate, plan, and conduct SMG meetings in the absence of the current Chair (Steven Watson). Crystal will become Chair in July 2003.
- **Nia Phillips**, GLS Human Resources Specialist, was elected *SMG Archivist*. Nia will maintain all files and records stored in k:\Groups\SMG, distribute SMG agendas, summarize meeting notes, and publish them in "Renaissance Times," the Gelman Library System staff newsletter.
- **Gerald Phillips**, Manager of the Gelman Library Information Service and Media Resources, was elected *Member-at-Large*. Gerald will serve as a liaison between SMG and the rest of the Gelman Library System staff to ensure that all perspectives of library management issues are represented.

In addition to the elected officers, Sandra Carpenter, the GLS Senior Human Resources Specialist, serves in an ex-officio capacity as a permanent, non-elected member of the SMG Steering Committee.

Congratulations, Crystal, Nia, and Gerald and thank you to all the other candidates who ran in this year's election!

Staff Management Group members are looking forward to working with the new Steering Committee members as they develop agendas that enrich staff development and help us keep in touch with library and campus-wide issues.

The next SMG meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 25, at 2:00 p.m. in room 202.

Statistics Online Project Update

by **Andrea W. Stewart**
Administration

Now that we've entered fiscal year 2003, I wanted to update you on the **Statistics Online Project** and your role in assisting us in the implementation of this important management information tool.

- During Phase I, Teena Bedola and I constructed 17 Departmental spreadsheets for three of the ARL surveys we're required to submit on an annual basis: the General Statistics Questionnaire, the Supplementary Statistics Questionnaire and the Preservation Questionnaire.
- A timeline for training staff (and their backups) that enter statistics, for testing the departmental spreadsheets and for monitoring data collection, has also been developed. At the August 22nd SMG meeting, we will demonstrate the new online system, describe your role in providing data, and answer your questions. We will also describe the ongoing support you can expect to receive.

- Since I have assumed new responsibilities for supervising the Building Operations Department, and will spend more time concentrating on fund-raising, Alicia Miller has been assigned the implementation of Phase II of this project with the continued assistance of Teena Bedola. I will continue to work with them through that phase. Phase II will concentrate on a number of different topics. For example, Alicia will create pc desktop connections to a management summary of this data and provide training and support to you as we implement this online data collection tool. Alicia's expertise in designing management information tools and Teena's skill in working with Excel spreadsheets will assist us as we move forward.
- With this memo I am enclosing copies of the blank forms and instructions from ARL (from last year) that you are accustomed to receiving from me. Please review them and refresh your memories about the categories in which we collect data. Perhaps there are new areas in which your department or unit should begin collecting data. Discuss these categories with your AUL's. Note that we do not have new survey forms for 2001-2002, but that the categories will generally be the same.
- Please do not wait until August to begin (or continue) collecting your statistics. We will ask for your reports to be submitted on a monthly basis beginning with July's report. Please begin to compare your monthly data with data you collected in the same month last fiscal year and submit a brief analysis of trends you observe. More information on this process will be presented at our July 25th SMG Environmental Scan meeting.

Your continued support is essential as we implement this critical management information tool. Your feedback is important to us at each stage. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Staff Association Committee Election Results

by **David Killian**
MVC, Committee Chair

The 2002 GLS Staff Association Committee election results are in. The following persons have been elected to seats on SAC:

Seat 1	Rene Sy
Seat 2	Wendell Kellar
Seat 3	Janice Wills
Seat 4	Alan Lloyd
Seat 5	Brian Mathews
Seat 7	Teena Bedola

Congratulations to these new SAC members! Upcoming events for which they will be helping the committee plan are this summer's Staff Retreat and the fall Open Forum.

Thanks to all staff members who put themselves forward as candidates in this election. Thanks also to all those who voted.

Thanks to Frank Janicki for receiving and counting the ballots.

The Kiev Room, It's Not A Place in the Ukraine

by **Amy Stempler**
Special Collections

One of the first things people should know about the Kiev Room (pronounced "Keeve", not "Kee-ev"), is that it is not a repository devoted to the city in the Ukraine, with which it is often confused, but rather one of the top university

collections of Judaica. Ari and Phyllis Kiev donated the I. Edward Kiev Judaica Collection to the University in 1996, which is maintained by the University Archives on the seventh floor. In 1998, the Kiev Judaica Room was dedicated as an area to house the books and provide a reading room for researchers.

I. Edward Kiev, Ari Kiev's father, was the Chief Librarian of the Jewish Institute of Religion in New York, which is one of the premier centers for Jewish education and scholarship in the United States. As a rabbi and librarian, Kiev spent his life devoted to Jewish learning and the preservation of his Jewish heritage through books. The collection was his personal library and consists primarily of books relating to Judaica and religion, but also secular interests such as philosophy and the classics. As a living collection, we have seen the collection grow from approximately 18,000 volumes to over 22,000 in the last few years. Most of the volumes are dated from the 18th through the 20th century, but there are also those that date back to the 15th century. The works not only span many subject areas, but are also written in several languages. Roughly speaking, about 45% of the works are in English, 30% in Hebrew, 20% in German, and a modicum of Hungarian, French, Latin, Russian, Arabic, Spanish, and Farsi.

Rob Eisen, Assistant Professor of Religion and Judaic Studies, had commented that what separates a great Judaica library collection from a good one is its out-of-print material. The Kiev Collection is such a wonderful asset to The Gelman Library, he asserts, because of its out-of-print resources. As a growing collection, there have been valuable additions made to its stacks, including Martin Luther's, "Von den Juden und ihren L"ugen" ["Concerning the Jews and Their Lies"], published in 1543. With the help of Ari and Phyllis Kiev as our generous benefactors, particular attention has been paid to filling in gaps in volumes of publications and periodicals.

The depth of the collection has facilitated researchers with various interests. The collection has been a worthy resource to many inside and outside our GW community, including numerous requests from our Interlibrary Borrowing Department: from a GW undergraduate student in History writing his thesis on Jewish soldiers' practices during the Civil War, to a student at Catholic University who found a rare comparative biblical text from a 3rd century Christian theologian. We have serviced faculty from George Mason and William and Mary and even the Library of Congress, when an LOC employee used the collection to make 10 photographic reproductions from two volumes of *Picturesque Palestine* that were missing from their stacks.

In the past four months I have begun the task of processing the manuscript collection. Along with material on Rabbi Kiev himself, the collection has a treasure of correspondence from some of the most well known leaders in the American Reform movement, particularly that on Stephen S. Wise. The manuscript collection includes not only significant letters to and from Wise, but also some of his personal diaries. Wise was a national and world Jewish figure, as co-founder of the World Zionist Congress and creator of the Jewish Institute of Religion [JIR] in New York City. The JIR, which has since merged with Hebrew Union College, is where he and Rabbi Kiev developed their close personal and professional relationship.

My next project will be organizing the 50-plus artifacts varying from religious objects such as his personal grogger (Purim noisemaker) and many unique menorahs, LP records ranging from Yiddish classics to Lenny Bruce, and a wide variety of artwork, primarily with Jewish themes. After the artifacts, the pamphlet collection, currently stored in 17 record center boxes, needs to be processed.

Reeve Schlenker, Gelman copy cataloger and resident Jewish expert, and I are currently planning a new exhibit on German Jewish publications, which will highlight some of the

most rare and significant works of Jewish scholarship that are in the collection. The exhibit will be in the glass display visible to all who pass by the room. Continuing our desire to put up interesting and educational rotating exhibits every couple of months; we would also hope to feature our material on anti-Semitism, including anti-Semitic cartoons from the 1920-1930s, originals of *Der Stürmer* [*The Attacker*], the infamous Nazi weekly newspaper, and recently acquired anti-Semitic woodcuts (prints or engraving made along the grain of sheaves of wood) from the Nuremberg Chronicle *Weltchronik* from 1493.

The Kiev Judaica Collection is not only a wonderful resource to the Judaic Studies program here at GW, but also the Departments of Religion, History, German, and it also can be very helpful to students of Middle Eastern history, politics, foreign policy, or archeology. The collection, along with the Library's collection of Holy Land maps received by Samuel Halperin and the extensive collection of Yiddish books already owned by the Library, solidifies Gelman Library as one of the top research facilities for Jewish Studies.

Since the article appeared in *The Washington Post* on April 20, 2002 devoted to the Kiev Judaica Collection, the Archives have been contacted by a remarkable number of researchers and those wanting to donate to the collection. As with all material in Special Collections/University Archives, the Kiev Judaica Collection does not circulate, but we would be happy to assist you, Monday through Friday, 12 noon – 5 p.m., or by special appointment at 994-7295. We hope that more curious minds in the GW community and beyond take advantage of this gem of a collection.

GELMAN HUMAN **RESOURCES UPDATE**

Vacancy Listing

Please see **Attachment A** for The Gelman Library System's Vacancy Listing.

Administration Office Welcomes Sheila Grier

by **Emma Mosby**
Administration

Sheila Grier began working in the Administration Office as the new Administrative Services Desk Supervisor on June 24, a position that she had worked in as a temporary for two months. Sheila graduated from Strayer University, where she has earned both a Bachelor of Science and an Associate in Arts degree in Computer Information Systems. Prior to coming to Gelman, Sheila worked as a Cosmetologist, an Information Systems Specialist, Receptionist, and an Inventory Representative. In the next week or so, Sheila will visit each department in Gelman as part of her orientation to meet with managers in each department to discuss how you might assist her in referring calls within the Library. Please drop by and say hello.

Welcome Sheila!

Valerie Emerson Transfers to Acquisitions/Periodicals

by **Judy Solberg** and **Joyce Whitmore**
Periodicals *Reference*

After reviewing organizational needs, the Library has decided to transfer a Library Specialist II position from Reference and Instruction to Periodicals Services, beginning July 1, 2002. This transfer is being done to meet current organizational needs. The new position will be a

Microforms Room Specialist and will draw on both Valerie's public and technical service skills. There has been a long-term need for a permanent position in the Microforms Room to assist users in finding materials and to help maintain the microform reader printers. These tasks are important to timely and quality services we provide for our users in the Microforms Room. Having Valerie Emerson responsible for service in this area will be a great service to our users.

CONFERENCES

American Library Association Annual Conference Reports

by **Teena Bedola**
Administration

Mary Faith Pankin's report on the American Library Association's Annual Conference is attached as **Attachment B**. Caroline Long's report on the American Library Association's Annual Conference is attached as **Attachment C**.

The Tenth Off-Campus Library Services Conference Report

by **Teena Bedola**
Administration

Attachment D is Brian Matthews' report on The Tenth Off-Campus Library Services Conference.

OTHER NEWS

Missing June Jordan

by **Francine Henderson**
Africana Research Center

Pearl Cleage came forward to receive her "Fiction Award" at The Black Caucus American Library Association Literary Awards ceremony on June

17, 2002. Though she was pleased and honored to be the recipient of this prestigious award, her usual bright smile was not as brilliant. Her friend and colleague, June Jordan had succumbed to a battle with cancer on Friday, June 15 at age 65. Pearl made a short acceptance statement and then dedicated the rest of her 10 allotted minutes to share a few memories about June.

The audience sat spell bound as they too remembered the remarkable life of June Jordan. Born in Harlem to immigrant parents from the West Indies, she attended Barnard College and the University of Chicago and in 1966 became poet-in-residence at Teachers & Writers Collaborative and then taught on the English faculties at Connecticut and Sarah Lawrence colleges before joining the English Department at Yale in 1974. Jordan joined the University of California at Berkeley in 1986 where she remained until her death.

As Pearl recalled, and the audience silently confirmed, Ms. Jordan was to be remembered for her powerful and direct poems and writings articulating struggles against racism, politics, and international affairs. She explored topics from individual concerns like love and self-awareness to broader social issues raised by conflicts in Nicaragua, Africa, the Balkans, Palestine and elsewhere.

Ms. Jordan was a prolific writer with an extraordinary and embracing sense of language. She published nearly thirty books making her the most published African American writer in history. She has also been included in more than 30 collections such as **Norton Anthology of Modern Poetry, Homegirls: Anthology of Black Feminism, and Village Voice Anthology.**

statements and comments about her career are abundant and extensive. Biographical compilations, anthologies and web sites are all prolific with praises, criticisms and interpretations of Ms. Jordan and her life and work. She lived an amazing life, which can be celebrated for her creative accomplishments.

Though most of us did not know June as did Pearl or fellow writer Ishmael Reed or her engaging students at Berkeley, we may want to rejoice that she lived and added so much to the essence of American Literature. As one television reporter stated, *“Her words could melt your heart and fire the imagination. But she had a spine of steel and a deep flowing passion for justice...”* Another, Alice Walker, in 2000 at the NYS Writers Institute said *“June Jordan is courageous, as rebellious, as compassionate, as she is original...an inhabitant of the entire universe.”* For me, at this moment, *“I am missing Miss June Jordan.”*

LITERARY HISTORY

July 7, 1535	Sir Thomas Moore is beheaded for refusing to acknowledge Henry VIII as the supreme authority of the Church.
July 7, 1901	Johanna Spyri , author of the classic story of Swiss Children, <i>Heidi</i> dies in Zürich.
July 8, 1918	Red Cross volunteer Ernest Hemingway is wounded in the trenches near Fossalta, Italy.
July 8, 1956	Founder of the influential Florentine literary magazine <i>Leonardo</i> , Giovanni Papini dies in that city.
July 9, 1735	At 25, Samuel Johnson marries Elizabeth Jervis Porter, a wealthy widow 20 years his senior.

July 9, 1942	At 13, Anne Frank goes into hiding with her family and four other Jews in the Amsterdam warehouse behind her father’s business.
July 10, 1879	Henry Wadsworth Longfellow composes <i>The Cross of Snow</i> after looking over an illustrated book of Western scenery.
July 11, 1899	Essayist and children’s novelist, E.B. White is born in Mount Vernon, New York.
July 12, 1389	Richard II names Geoffrey Chaucer chief of the king’s works at Westminster.
July 13, 1923	Ashley Bryan , a well-known African-American poet, folklorist, and anthologist is born in New York City.
July 13, 1934	Nigerian playwright and poet Wole Soyinka is born in Abeokuta.
July 14, 1642	Benjamin Thompson , the first published American poet is born in Quincy, Massachusetts.
July 15, 1779	Clement C. Moore , the author of the classic holiday poem, <i>Twas the Night Before Christmas</i> or <i>A Visit from St. Nicholas</i> , is born.
July 15, 1919	Novelist Iris Murdoch is born in Dublin.
July 16, 1953	At age 83, Hilaire Belloc dies of burns sustained after falling into the fireplace at his home in Shipley, Sussex.
July 17, 1742	Poet William Somerville dies at Edstone, Warwickshire.

July 17, 1889	Attorney and author Erle Stanley Gardner , who features lawyer Perry Mason in his more than 100 novels, is born in Malden, Massachusetts.
July 18, 1811	William Makepeace Thackeray is born in Calcutta, India.
July 18, 1899	Horatio Alger dies in Natick, Massachusetts at aged 65.
July 19, 1898	Emile Zola flees France on the advice of his lawyers following the public uproar surrounding his trial for libel.
July 20, 1304	Author of <i>Epistles</i> , <i>Africa</i> and <i>Canzoniere</i> , Petrarch (Francesco Petrarca) is born in Arezzo, Tuscany.
July 20, 1934	Mark Twain's <i>The Innocents Abroad</i> is published.

with the Tao as its hinge. Anyone who struggles against the current of life is like an insect caught at the end of a pendulum – swinging back and forth, and suffering with each movement. But by crawling along the hinge (Tao) to reach the top, a place of complete stillness is found. Lao-tzu advised that people do away with their desires, avoiding that which is extreme, extravagant, or excessive, and steering clear of any competition.

Taoism is still relevant to many today. When it was developed some twenty-six centuries ago, the philosophy filled a spiritual void that was not addressed by the practical doctrines of traditional Confucianism. (One legend had it that Lao-tzu rebuked a young Confucius for his pride.) The Tao also contributed greatly to Buddhism, especially in its emphasis on meditation and sudden enlightenment.

One of the great thinkers of the Chinese Taoist School was Chuang-tzu (c. 365-c.290 B.C.), who constructed an apolitical, transcendental philosophy; that promoted an individual's spiritual freedom.

Taken from:
The Handy History Answer Book
 Edited by: Rebecca Nelson

Something to Talk About



How old is Taoism?

It dates back to the sixth century B.C. when it was founded by Lao-tzu (604 B.C. - ?), who believed in inaction and simplicity – which he combined with religious practices to form the mystical philosophy of the Tao (Dao), the path of virtuous conduct.

Lao-tzu reasoned that since humans face a “cloud of unknowability,” they ought not to react to things at all. He viewed the world as a pendulum



SIMPLE TIPS

*How to thrive in The Gelman Library System
 (or any other organization)*

**“Take Vacations and Long Weekends.
 Never Let Vacation Time Expire.”**

by **Jack Siggins**
 University Librarian

*“I have always imagined that Paradise will be a
kind of library.”*

-Jorge Luis Borges-



RENAISSANCE TIMES

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