

# Dulaney-Browne Library

## Quarterly Report

### January - March 2013

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Director

#### 4<sup>th</sup> floor renovation

The most significant project of the quarter was the continuation of the renovation with work on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor. Facilities staff made significant progress removing old walls, ceilings, and fixtures and installing new walls, and starting on paint wiring, and ceilings.

First, library and facilities staff cleared the floor



Then, a debris chute was installed



and walls started coming down...



After a pause to clean up asbestos



the demolition continued.



Then, the new walls could go up



and



wiring,



paint,

and

ceiling grids followed.



### **Weather Closures**

The library follows the university closures for weather emergencies. In February, this meant that the library closed early on two days in advance of expected storms and opened late on a third day to allow staff members time to arrive safely. On Tuesday, February 12<sup>th</sup> the campus and the library closed 3:00 p.m. On Thursday, February 21<sup>st</sup> the late opening was approximately 9:30 a.m. Finally, on Monday, February 25<sup>th</sup> closed at 1:30 p.m. for an expected blizzard that never arrived. During the weather closings, the library building was closed, but online resources and electronic reference assistance were available.

### **Librarian Resignation**

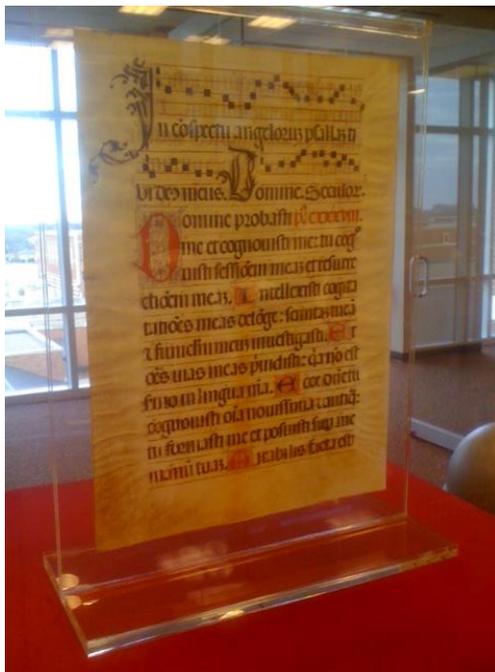
Elizabeth (Beth) Jones resigned effective February 15, 2013 to become the Serials Librarian at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center library. She served us well since 2005 first as Acquisitions Technician, then as Access Services and Systems Librarian, and finally as Serials, Government Documents, and Systems Librarian. She made important contributions to the library's web page and online catalog innovations including a mobile version of the web site and the catalog, short loans, and other projects. Her contributions are sorely missed.

### **New Reference Strategy**

With two librarian resignations in the middle of the academic year, the library needed to look for a new way to provide high quality reference service that placed less stress on the remaining librarians. The new plan includes a monitor at the circulation desk with a photograph and contact information for the librarian on duty and a sign near that librarian's office door. When a student asks a library informational question at the circulation desk, the staff member calls the librarian on duty, who generally comes out to help the student. In some cases, students make appointments or are directed to the office of the librarian on duty. Librarians have advertised "office hours" to students in their liaison areas and some are using it well (music, English, and nursing).

## Choir Book Page

Leichter Listening Library hosted a reception on February 26<sup>th</sup> for Reverend Paul and Mrs. Wilma Hamilton in honor of their donation of a choir book page. The Hamiltons made the donation in honor of Reverend Hamilton's uncle, Jaroslav Bauer. The page was given to Jaroslav Bauer as a retirement gift from the Philadelphia Orchestra from his friend the



conductor, Eugene Ormandy in the early 1950's. It originally was one leaf of a very large Antiphony, which was a collection of antiphons and hymns used during the prayers of the Devine Office. Ours is a responsorial setting of Psalm 138 and is meant to be sung at the Vespers service, or evening service of the Office at the feast of St. Michael in September. The words to the sung response are "in conspectu angelorum psallam tibi" which translates to "I will sing praise to you in the sight of the angels." Considering how often the voices of the Wanda L. Bass School of music are raised in praise, it seems the perfect addition to the Leichter Listening Library collection!

## Library Statistics

Library statistics for the quarter generally point toward a need to better market key library resources and services. Informational reference questions have continued to decline. We changed how we provide reference service partially because we have two fewer librarians this semester because of recent resignations and this may be impacting the number. We have planned several marketing initiatives to see if we can increase the use of librarians for research assistance. Circulation to students and library attendance were also down compared to the previous year for the first time this fiscal year. Several measures of electronic resources also continued to show declines compared to the previous year,

including use of electronic books (Ebrary), streaming of classical music (Naxos), and reference database use. However, retrieval of full text journal articles while down slightly for the current quarter, is up for the fiscal year overall.

One number that was particularly interesting was the number of questions related to computers and printers. These numbers have been decreasing every quarter since July-September 2011, which is the quarter in which new printers, print control systems, and virtual computers were installed in the library. It looks like students have largely learned to use the new machinery and Campus Technology has worked out most of the problems seen when the

system was implemented. The numbers for a January to March quarter are the lowest they have been since 2010.

## Library Training

The first library training time of the quarter occurred before students returned to campus. Library staff and faculty gathered to prepare for a new reference model, with staff at the circulation desk fielding questions and referring to librarians when needed. The second library training time of the quarter was rescheduled due to a weather closure, so "Navigating the Naxos Nation" took place on March 12<sup>th</sup> after having been originally scheduled on February 12<sup>th</sup>. Six library staff members, 2 librarians, and one non-library faculty member attended the training session.

