Milwaukee Polonia: Treasure Trove of Photographs Now Online

The launch of the UWM Libraries’ vast digital collection Milwaukee Polonia at Polish Fest in June offered some visitors an emotional and gratifying glimpse of long-deceased relatives and long-ago events.

One attendee, Craig Bukowski, found images of his grandparent’s family home and all of their children. “Thank goodness for UWM,” he said.

The digital collection is comprised of over 32,000 photographs made by Roman B.J. Kwasniewski, a studio photographer who worked on Milwaukee’s South Side from the 1910s through the 1940s.

Literally thousands of individuals passed through Kwasniewski’s studio on Lincoln Avenue and had their portraits taken for weddings, First Communions, Confirmations, and graduation ceremonies.

Kwasniewski also took his camera into the community, creating a lovingly detailed portrait of the world around him. He took thousands more pictures of street scenes, buildings, parks, businesses, sports teams, and fraternal societies.

His photos show an ethnic community during its most cohesive period. This nationally significant collection is used by scholars researching the history of Polish-Americans and by genealogists seeking images of past family members.

The UWM Libraries acquired the archive in 1979 and opened it for research in 1991. It has been featured at numerous community events, used to illustrate numerous books on Milwaukee’s Polish community, and been the subject of its own book, Illuminating the Particular: Photographs of Milwaukee’s Polish South Side (Wisconsin Historical Society Press, 2003) by staff member Christel Maass.

The new digital collection provides scholars and the public with opportunities to explore the photographs in ways that are not possible with the physical collection, which consists primarily of 5 x 7 in. glass negatives.

“Milwaukee Polonia opens an entirely new perspective on the collection,” says Michael Doylen, Assistant Director and Head of Archives. “One can now easily browse the 32,000 images in the collection by place, topic, or date.” As a result, images previously overlooked have the opportunity to surface and receive more consideration.

continued on page 2

Members of a drama troupe, 1920, Roman Kwasniewski.
“We can’t do without libraries—they’re as essential as the air we breathe.” These words were spoken by Sinika Sipilä, President of the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA), as she was setting out key themes at the recently concluded IFLA Congress, with the main thrust of her speech the need to raise the profile of libraries throughout the world.

It is, however, up to individual institutions to decide the question of what place the library should have within their own communities.

Last fall the UWM Libraries participated in a national survey called LibQUAL+, in collaboration with other UW System libraries, to find out where our UWM community thought the library stood: Did we meet, exceed, or fall below your expectations?

Those of you who have been on campus since 2008 (hopefully faculty/staff rather than students!) may recall we conducted this same survey then. Five years later, how do we compare?

Please take a minute to read the page 3 article on LibQUAL+. Overall, you perceive our services, spaces and collections as much better, meeting and in some cases superseding your needs.

A few factors worth mentioning that contributed to such positive results:

• campus administration redirected a percentage of funds from grant overhead (indirect funds) for increasing online resources (we went from 8000 or so paper serials to 87,685 online serials with an expansion in all disciplines);
• our outstanding, albeit small staff, have introduced new services e.g. the Digital Humanities Lab, big data support, increased information literacy instruction, and greater collaboration with faculty on projects;
• the Daniel M. Soref Learning Commons was completed five years ago, creating a dynamic and welcoming learning space. (Please save the date, Friday, November 7, and join us to celebrate the Learning Common’s fifth anniversary.)

A note on where we are with our space planning. As I mentioned in our previous newsletter, we want to create more collaborative spaces, based on the success of the Learning Commons. We have hired a library planner who has been working with us for the last several months to assess needs, study existing usage of space and shortly will be putting together a roadmap for our future as regarding space.

We started with the intent to create a faculty and graduate student commons which fosters collaboration across disciplines, brings together tools and expertise needed to further innovation, and incorporating the Digital Humanities Lab as part of this larger approach.

Also, we would like to simplify and streamline operations by merging some units such as Special Collections and Archives into a shared space.

Once we have the report, we can determine what we might be able to implement soon and what will require more funds and state approvals. You may notice that over the summer, we moved our “Ask a Librarian” service from the back of the south commons to the main desk to make it easier to receive research and reference assistance.

Another change, in virtual rather than physical space, is our rollout this summer of Search@UW, our new gateway to all of our vast resources, integrating journal articles, books, and digital resources. Our legacy online catalog, Panthercat, will be retired at the end of this calendar year.

The entire Libraries staff wishes you a productive fall semester. We are here to help you, so please do not hesitate to contact us, and thank you for participating our LibQUAL+ survey.

Ewa Barczyk
Associate Provost & Director of Libraries
LibQUAL+ Survey Offers Perspectives on Libraries

This past April, more than 1,300 people evaluated the UWM Libraries using LibQUAL+, a rigorous web-based survey offered by the Association of Research Libraries. This tool allows faculty, graduate students, undergraduate students, staff, and the local public to grade the library’s services, collections, and space.

The results demonstrate the library has made major improvements since the last time we offered the survey in 2008. At that time, faculty made special note about the state of our books and journals. Hearing this feedback, the university devoted much time and many resources into the collection, and this year’s survey results reflect that improvement.

More than 500 people took time to provide supplemental comments. A large percentage of these comments shared positive feedback about the library’s customer service. We know our staff provide top-notch support, but we still like to see affirmation!

Patrons also appreciated the library’s Interlibrary Loan service and our ability to provide material from around the world. (We made a wordle of all the comments so you can visualize what was most on people’s minds.)

No organization is perfect, and the library recognizes we need to improve several areas. The library has updated both its website and Search@UW over the past few months. These changes are ongoing, and we welcome your continuing feedback. Other services and policies also demand our attention. The Library Assessment Committee will target each of these areas as it recommends further changes.

Overall, we are pleased with the initial results. Perhaps some of our users can describe their feelings even better that we can:

A Junior in the College of Education wrote that the library was her “second home.”

A Senior in the College of Letters & Sciences wrote, “I think after I graduate, I’ll miss this library more than anything.”

Finally, a Senior in the College of Letters & Sciences succinctly encapsulated the multiple missions the library serves when he wrote that the library is “the best part of UWM in my opinion. The idea that there are places for quiet study and places were you can have a conversation is great.”

Tim Gritten

Archives Receives AIDS Resource Center Records

The AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW) has donated its historical records to the UWM Libraries’ Archives. The first set of records, donated on behalf of ARCW by former Executive Director Doug Nelson, consists primarily of advocacy materials.

These records document ARCW’s attempts to raise funds at the local, state and national level in order to help build a comprehensive system of HIV prevention, care and treatment.

“The ARCW will observe the 30th anniversary of its founding in 2015, and this seems like a timely opportunity to donate our archival records to UWM Archives, a repository with an ongoing interest in documenting the HIV/AIDS health crisis in Wisconsin,” said Nelson.

The UWM Archives has accepted an initial accession that will be processed, cataloged and made accessible to researchers at the UWM Library.

“‘The ARCW is known throughout Wisconsin and the country as the main provider of HIV health services in the state,’” said Michael Doylen, Head, UWM Archives. “This is truly a capstone collection that adds significantly to the Archives’ existing holdings of HIV-related organizations.”

Once the records have been processed they will be made open to research, and, according to Doylen, there is already significant interest among students and scholars.

There are also tentative plans to display some of the material in an upcoming event to observe World AIDS Day and the 30th anniversary of ARCW.

Tim Cary
Libraries to Celebrate 5th Anniversary of Daniel M. Soref Learning Commons

A pizza party for students and a First Friday celebration for faculty and staff are planned to celebrate the Daniel M. Soref Learning Commons, which opened in early fall 2009.

The $5 million plus project—underwritten by the state and by private funding from the Daniel M. Soref Charitable Trust, board members of the Friends of the Golda Meir Library, and others—has been a success from the day it opened: student use increased markedly, by nearly 27%, and the library has become the destination point for the entire campus.

In addition to its striking design and carefully-chosen and comfortable furnishings, the Learning Commons offers many group study spaces for collaborative learning, team projects, and presentation practice, as well as two instruction rooms dedicated to information literacy classes, and a coffee bar.

Contributing to student success is the convenience of a Main Desk that integrates Circulation, Interlibrary Loan, and research and technology help, and generous open hours, 24/5 during the academic year.

Numerous architects and librarians have visited the Learning Commons to employ as a model for reshaping their own libraries into a dynamic space for users.

A student-centered party with free pizza, giveaways and fun opportunities for students to share what the Learning Commons means to them, will be held Wednesday, October 8 from 12:00 p.m. to 2 p.m.

On November 7, the Libraries will host the campus’ First Friday in the Learning Commons. The Graduate School, UITS, and the Friends of the Golda Meir Library are co-sponsors.

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Ettinger Series
Features Book Artist
Daniel Kelm

The annual Ettinger Book Artist Series lecture will be held on Tuesday, October 21, 2013 at 7 p.m. in the fourth floor Conference Center of the Golda Meir Library. This year’s presenter is Daniel Kelm, a book artist, sculptor, bookbinder and teacher.

One of the great masters of inventive artists-book binding in America, Kelm is the inventor of the widely-used “wire-edge binding” and founder and proprietor of Wide Awake Garage studio in Easthampton, Massachusetts, where he designs and produces artist’s books and interpretive fine bindings that combine traditional and new materials in innovative book and box structures.

Kelm established Wide Awake Garage in 1983, and in 1990 he founded the Garage Annex School that offers workshops of all levels in bookbinding.

He has exhibited nationally for over thirty years, and taught and lectured at dozens of universities and libraries in North America and Europe.

Kelm’s presentation is free and open to the public.

This is the tenth year the Ettinger Family Foundation has supported the Book Artist Series.

For more information, please contact Special Collections at 414-229-4345 or libspecial@uwm.edu.
Criminalization of African American Youth Subject of Fromkin Lecture

Joe Austin, Associate Professor in UWM’s Department of History, will present the 2014 Fromkin Lecture on Thursday, October 16 at 4 p.m. in the fourth floor Conference Center of the Golda Meir Library.

The title of his presentation is “Preparing for the Great Incarceration: The Criminalization of African American Youth 1940-1970.”

Austin presents a “pre-history” of the current Great Incarceration (the disproportionate and rising rate of African Americans imprisoned) by situating it within a longer history of white fears of black crime, particularly the sensationalized reporting of African American criminal acts within US newspapers.

Based on his research, he suggests that most US citizens may have expected the Great Incarceration, and thus the rising rates of incarceration were comforting, even though they bore little to no relationship with the actual crime rates of the period.

Austin is the author of *Taking the Train: How Graffiti Art Became an Urban Crisis in New York City* (Columbia University Press). His research interests include the history of youth and adolescence, US 20th century urban history, and visual and print cultures.

The lecture is free and open to the public. For more information or special needs, please call (414) 229-4345.

More information about the annual $5000 Fromkin Research Grant and Lectureship is available at [http://uwm.edu/libraries/special/programs-and-lectures/fromkin/](http://uwm.edu/libraries/special/programs-and-lectures/fromkin/)

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**Call for 2015 Fromkin Grant Proposals**

The UWM Libraries invite proposals for the 2015 Fromkin Research Grant and Lectureship. The grant encourages and assists UWM scholars in all fields of study to conduct research on individuals, groups, movements, and ideas, in the Americas and elsewhere, which have influenced the quest for social justice and human rights in the United States.

All full-time UWM faculty and academic staff are encouraged to apply, individually or as a group, for this $5,000 award, which is intended to cover costs of research such as support for travel, research assistance, or other appropriate expenses.

Applications must be received by Friday, October 31, 2014. For more information about the grant and application, see [uwm.edu/libraries/special/programs-and-lectures/fromkin/](http://uwm.edu/libraries/special/programs-and-lectures/fromkin/)
Q & A With Library Staff: Ann Hanlon, Digital Collections and Initiatives

Editor’s note: With this issue, we begin a regular feature highlighting a UWM Libraries staff member. Our first interview is with Ann Hanlon, Head of Digital Collections & Initiatives, who joined the Libraries in 2012. Since arriving, Ann has overseen the addition of some 62,000 digital images to our online collections and co-directed the creation of UWM’s Digital Humanities Lab.

Q: Ann, what is your academic background?
AH: I received undergraduate degrees in painting and art history from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, as well as my master’s degree in library science, and later earned a master’s degree in history from the University of Maryland, College Park. In between, my husband and I lived in Ankara, Turkey for two years, where he taught in Bilkent University’s American literature and culture department and I was employed as a librarian.

Q: When did you begin working with digital issues?
AH: At Bilkent I worked with new digital subscription tools and licensing in electronic serials. While I was a graduate student at Maryland, I had a job in the Maryland Institute of Technology in the Humanities, which was one of the earliest digital humanities centers. After getting my degree, I was hired as a project archivist in the UM Libraries and then became the digital collections librarian.

Q: What brought you back to the Midwest?
AH: I was hired at Marquette University in 2008 as digital projects librarian, focusing mainly on establishing their institutional repositor y, which is called e-Publications@Marquette.

Q: What was your first project at the UWM Libraries?
AH: When I started, planning had just begun on Milwaukee Polonia, a collection of nearly 32,000 images created by southside Milwaukee photographer Roman Kwasniewski in the early 20th century. Two of my colleagues here, Jim Lowrey and Ling Meng, had envisioned a special “rail” system to quickly but carefully digitize the mostly glass-plate negative archive. Their innovation resulted in a number of efficiencies and Milwaukee Polonia was launched this past summer (see article page 1).

A lot of what happens in digital collections is thinking about different innovative ways to digitize and reformat materials that are often difficult to work with. In the first place, I also want to say that everything I have accomplished at UWM has been as a member of a team—all these projects are collaborative.

Q: What other digital collections have you worked on?
AH: I came in on the first of two National Endowment for the Humanities grants for digitizing and preserving photographic images in our American Geographical Society Library (AGSL). A lot of people think of maps when they think about AGSL, but the library has fantastic photograph and image collections from journalists, photographers, and geographers who were using cameras to document their work. Both grants are now finished and nearly 30,000 photographs are available in the AGSL digital collections.

We have also created a number of smaller collections, including Latino Activism at UWM, ACT UP Milwaukee Videos, and the UWM Sheet Music Collection.

Research Adventures Recounted in AGS Library Series

William Huxhold, professor and chair of UWM’s Urban Planning Department, will inaugurate the 2014-15 “UWM’s Academic Adventurers” lecture series on Friday, September 26, 2014.

The title of his presentation is “GIS Comes to Kazakhstan.”

Other talks in the series are:

- Friday, November 14, 2014, Jean Creighton, Director, UWM Manfred Olson Planetarium: “Adventure in the Stratosphere.”
- Friday, February 20, 2015, Stephen Dornbos, Associate Professor, UWM Department of Geosciences: “Exploring the Early Animal Fossil Record in Southwest China and Western Mongolia.”
- Friday, March 6, 2015, Ingrid Jordt, Associate Professor, UWM Department of Anthropology: “Research in Risky Places: Fieldwork in Burma.”

Academic Adventurers talks begin at 3 p.m. in the American Geographical Society Library, third floor, east wing of the Golda Meir Library. A reception with light refreshments, sponsored by the Friends of the Golda Meir Library, follows each talk.

Kostanay State University, Kazakhstan. Photo courtesy William Huxhold.
Q: What can we look forward to?

AH: New digital collections that will go up this fall or early in 2015 include Kaleidoscope, a 1960’s underground Milwaukee newspaper, supported in part by the Chipstone Foundation, and a set of Yiddish theatre posters recently acquired by Special Collections.

We are also adding 31 video interviews from the “Conversation” series conducted by UWM faculty in the 1970s that includes discussions with people like Aaron Copland, Jackie Robinson, and Dizzie Gillespie.

And we’re starting a project to digitize a collection of nearly 50,000 color slides from the AGSL collection that will add more images from around the world.

And in the meantime, our collections are being harvested by the World Digital Library and soon, the Digital Public Library of America.

Q: Another exciting initiative that you are involved with is the UWM Digital Humanities Lab, located in the library.

AH: Yes! The DH Lab, which I co-direct with Matt Russell, an adjunct lecturer in Comparative Literature and staff member at the Center for Instructional and Professional Development, was established last fall. It is a cross-disciplinary space with a mission to work on, and raise the visibility of, digital humanities on campus.

It’s sitting in the library makes perfect sense: so many of the skills involved in the DH Lab are really library and digital collection skills, and the library is viewed as a “neutral” space on campus, open to all.

Our schedule this past year focused on current projects by UWM faculty and visiting scholars. This coming year we hope to put an emphasis on the skill-building side of digital humanities.

The first year ended with a kind of capstone event as we hosted the annual conference of the Electronic Literature Organization (ELO), which was one of the earliest digital humanities-focused organizations. It was very exciting to set up in the lab ELO’s media arts installation, curated by Kathi Inman Berens from the University of Southern California. Working with her to figure out all the technical and space details was a great learning experience and a good way to see the lab space utilized to its fullest.

Gift of Fine Press Imprints

Special Collections recently received the latest installment of a multi-year gift from New York collector Jerry Buff. This latest donation of over 1550 books consists mainly of fine-press and deluxe publications, considerably augmenting the Libraries’ collections of a number of American, British, and German private presses.

The gift includes volumes from Abattoir Editions, Allen, Anvil, Aralia, Arion, Bird and Bull, Bremer, Cummington, Gehenna, Golden Cockerel, Grabhorn, Gregynog, Janus, Labyrinth, Merrymount, Nonesuch, Officina Bodoni, Oriole, Overbrook, Pennroyal, Perishable, Prairie, Rampant Lions, Red Ozier, Roycrofters, Tiessen, Tuscany Alley, Whittington, and Yellow Barn.

Also part of the gift is the work of important designers, publishers, and pressman, including Clifford Burke, Harry Duncan, William Everson, David Godine, Frederic Goudy, Victor and Carolyn Reading Hammer, Jerry Kelly, Thomas B. Mosher, John Henry Nash, Bruce Rogers, Charles Seluzicki, Daniel Berkeley Updike, Frederic Warde, James Weil, and Virginia and Leonard Woolf.

“We are particularly delighted to see that the donation includes the Pennroyal Press editions of Frankenstein, Alice in Wonderland, and Through the Looking Glass,” says Max Yela, head of Special Collections, “all designed and printed with original wood engravings by Barry Moser.”

The Alice books are deluxe editions that include additional suites of over 100 original wood engravings, each signed by the artist.
**Staff Member Presents on Assessment at National Conference**


The presentation was the culmination of the Libraries’ winning application to the Association of College & Research Libraries’ “Assessment in Action Initiative.” Kopecky participated in a 14-month professional development program funded by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

UWM was among 75 institutions chosen for the first year of this three-year initiative meant to train librarians to “lead their campus teams in the development and implementation of an action learning project examining the impact of the library on student success and contributing to assessment activities on their campus.”

Kopecky also served on the expert review panel for the second year of the Assessment in Action project, with 73 new institutional teams now starting the program.

**Exhibit Features Deluxe Books Illustrated by Major Artists**

An exhibit of “livres d’artistes”—limited-edition handmade books illustrated by major artists—will be on view in the Fourth Floor Exhibition Gallery this fall, Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

In the late nineteenth century the livre d’artiste was initiated by Parisian art dealers/publishers, particularly Ambroise Vollard and Daniel-Henry Kahnweiler, to establish a new type of book that paired classic or contemporary texts with original artwork by established or emerging artists.

Exploiting the newly expanding marketplace for visual arts and luxury items, publishers of the period recognized the opportunity to reinvent the deluxe editions that had long been a part of the industry—large-format books with fine craftsmanship, virtuoso printing, and elegant illustrations catering to a sophisticated audience—by incorporating original works of art by noted artists into the deluxe book.

While publishers may have conceived of the livre d’artiste as a new art commodity, the artists themselves recognized that the genre also offered them the potential to explore new venues and possibilities unavailable or unimaginable to them before.

This exhibition presents a sampling of livres d’artistes from the UWM Book Arts Collection in Special Collections, highlighting the work of a wide range of noted artists, including Alexander Calder, Marc Chagall, Stanley William Hayter, Robert Johnson, Jack Levine, Henri Matisse, Joan Miró, Barry Moser, Pablo Picasso, and Ben Shahn.

Each work captures not only the recognizable style of each artist, but also presents how the artists uniquely respond to text and page space through a variety of techniques, including etching, lithography, collagraphy, aquatint, letterpress, wood engraving, collage, and pochoir stencil painting.

“Publisher’s Delight: Livres d’Artistes and Deluxe Books” was developed by Max Yela, Head of Special Collections. Christos Passalis-Bain, a senior undergraduate fieldworker from the UWM Art History Department, assisted in the production of the exhibit.
LGBT Collection Receives Major Donation

Local philanthropist Will Radler has donated $65,000 to the UWM Libraries’ LGBT Collection in honor of fellow philanthropist Joseph Pabst. Cream City Foundation will facilitate the donation.

Radler chose to honor Pabst in recognition of Pabst’s own support of the LGBT community, including his significant contributions to the Libraries’ LGBT Collection. In 2008, Pabst established the Libraries’ LGBT Outreach History Endowment and followed with a substantial planned gift.

“This is a stunning donation from Will Radler to the UWM Libraries,” says Michael Doylen, Assistant Director of the Libraries and Head of Archives. “It will enable Archives and Special Collections to do more with the LGBT history collection than we could do with existing funds. We’re incredibly impressed by Will’s generosity and think this is just wonderful!”

The Libraries’ LGBT Collection was established to preserve and make widely accessible the recorded history of LGBT life and culture, particularly that of the Milwaukee area.

Most of the local holdings date from the period following the Stonewall Riots in 1969, although some provide glimpses of the lives of gay men and lesbians following WWII through the 1960s.

Collections from the 1970s provide evidence of the local Gay and Lesbian Liberation Movement and the gradual emergence of groups within business, sports, theater, health care, and the media.

Documentation from the 1980s show the community’s development in the face of the AIDS crisis and the mounting opposition from the New Right.

In the 1990s and early years of the twenty-first century, debates about military service and marriage equity became more prominent.

For more information about the Collection, contact Michael Doylen at doylenm@uwm.edu or Max Yela, Special Collections Head, at maxyela@uwm.edu.

Internship Program Brings Taiwanese Students to Campus for Fifth Consecutive Year

The UWM Libraries hosted four of eight graduate students selected to receive scholarships from their school, National Taiwan Normal University, and from the Taiwanese government, to participate in an eight-week program this summer at UWM and the School of Information Studies. The other four students interned with Milwaukee Public Library and Marquette’s Raynor Library. Pictured here are all the interns on a field trip to the Wisconsin Historical Society in Madison. Front row, from left: Wang Yun-Chiao, Michael Edmonds (WHS Deputy Administrator of the Library-Archives Division), Lin Yi-Ting, and Wu Chia-Chen; back, from left: Hsieh Yu-Hsin, Chang Chia-Lin, Wa Yang, Chou Ting-yu, Chang Ju-Fang. Photo by Linda Kopecky.
New Resources for Data Management

On October 1, 2014, the US Department of Energy (DOE) will start requiring its grantees to write data management plans. The DOE is just the latest of a number of federal funders (including NSF, NIH, and NEH) requiring data management plans, but it will not be the last.

In response to the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy February 2013 memorandum on public access, all of the major federal research funders will start requirement data management plans within the next few years.

To meet the university’s growing data management requirements, UWM Libraries established Data Services in fall 2013. Data Services currently provides consultations on data management and data management planning and conducts training sessions on a range of data management topics.

On Data Services’ first anniversary, we are debuting several new resources for data management.

One new resource is the DMPTool (https://dmptool.org/), which walks researchers through the creation of a data management plan (DMP) for their grant application. Templates are available for all major US funders with a DMP requirement.

At each step in the process, the tool outlines requirements and provides general guidance and custom recommendations for UWM researchers. Users can work on plans individually or jointly using the collaboration features within the tool.

Additionally, users seeking feedback can submit their plans for review by the Data Services Librarian, Kristin Briney. With more funding agencies requiring data management plans, the DMPTool is a great way for researchers to create their first (or their next) data management plan.

Besides data management planning, Data Services provides guidance on data management generally. Last year, Data Services conducted several training sessions on campus and for the coming academic year there are several new options for learning about data management for off campus students and those who are unable to attend sessions at the library.

The first resource is a series of videos on a range of data management topics including documentation, organization, storage and backup, retaining old data, and data management planning with the DMPTool. The videos are available through the Data Services webpage (http://uwm.edu/libraries/dataservices/).

To go along with the new videos, there is a new data management guide (http://guides.library.uwm.edu/data) offering suggestions and linking to useful resources. The hope is that anyone with UWM affiliation, on campus or off, can learn how to better manage their research data.

Between new demands and new resources, Data Services is looking forward to another exciting year of tackling data management challenges at UWM.
Historic Yiddish Theater Posters Acquired

With the assistance of the UWM Stahl Center for Jewish Studies, the UWM Libraries has acquired a set of 78 Eastern European Yiddish posters (mostly for theatrical performances), that serve as documentation of performative presentations in Eastern Europe, especially Latvia, in the inter-war period.

The posters are preserved in the Libraries’ Special Collections and a project has been initiated to digitize the collection for remote and classroom use.

The posters are “show-print” style advertisements for performances and presentations (theater, vaudeville, music, lectures, etc.) in Eastern Europe (mainly Latvia) in the 1920s and 1930s.

Information in the posters include venue names, performance dates, titles and descriptions of performances/presentations, performer/presenter names (some with titles, brief bio info, and photographic image), and sponsor information.

Personalities highlighted include Lithuanian actor and producer Rachel Berger, Russian film star Ossip Runitsch, and prominent Labor Zionist and Latvian parliamentarian Dr. Max Lazerson.

The posters range in size from 9"x13" to 29"x44", with the majority about 23" x 36". All are letterpress-printed in wood and metal types, with some cuts and photographic imagery printed mainly in black, but there are also red, blue, and rainbow-roll colors.

Typography includes Hebrew (mainly Yiddish), Cyrillic (mainly Russian), and Roman (mainly Latvian).

As a partnership acquisition with the Stahl Center for Jewish Studies, the collection is intended mainly for teaching and research through the Center’s programs, but it has additional usefulness for Art & Design, History, language programs, the Milwaukee Jewish community, and when it becomes fully digitized, for the broader theater-history and Jewish/Yiddish communities worldwide.

The Yiddish Poster collection is fully available for use by the public. Special Collections’ hours are Monday-Friday, 10am-5pm, or by appointment (414-229-4345 or libspecial@uwm.edu).

Max Yela

(This article originally appeared in UWM Sam & Helen Stahl Center for Jewish Studies newsletter The Golden Peacock.)
Library Scholar Awards for 2014-15 Announced

Lara Ghisleni, a PhD candidate in Anthropology, and Sahar Hosseini, a PhD candidate in Architecture and Urban Planning, are the 2014-15 recipients of the Chancellor’s Golda Meir Library Scholar Awards. A third PhD student, Katherine Morrisey, English, has been awarded the Provost/UWM Libraries’ Award.

The awards support the research of outstanding UWM graduate students with a grant as well as special assistance from the UWM Libraries.

Ghisleni’s research examines changing landscape configurations after the Roman conquest of Britain, exploring how spatial configurations articulate with activity patterns, creating the contexts in which social and economic roles are formed and transformed.

She will use the American Geographical Society Library’s GIS services, constructing maps and modeling peoples’ movements, to analyze the changing patterns of landscape use in southern England. She also plans to take advantage of AGSL’s map collection, and will work with librarians to locate materials in the library and elsewhere.

Hosseini’s doctoral work looks at two important moments of transformation of maydan (“square” or “plaza”) in Iranian cities, from extra-mural military ground to multi-functional urban spaces, and thereafter to hybrid spaces of practicing modern citizenship.

She will take advantage of many Libraries services and resources, including the extensive online database and Interlibrary Loan. The AGSL’s large collection of photographs, maps and rare books are especially important for her research.

Morrisey’s project outlines the impact digitization is having on the authorship, distribution, content, and readership of romantic stories in print and digital formats, and asks, How are recent technological and industrial changes affecting the authorship and circulation of romantic stories as well as the fantasies that romance makes available to readers?

To analyze industry reports, trace the emergence of online publishers, and examine reception data, Morrisey will utilize specialized research help from library staff. As a volunteer in the Libraries’ Digital Humanities Lab and with support from DH Lab members, she has already begun to develop an interactive website to share aspects of her research with fan communities and solicit their input.

The three award recipients will present reports on their work in “The Scholar and the Library” lecture series in the spring.

There were 49 applicants this year, distributed across a range of disciplines. A subcommittee of the University Libraries Committee reviewed the applications and submitted its selections to the Chancellor. The Provost’s office and the Libraries provided funding for the awards.
FROM THE PRESIDENT

This summer, I brought several friends and family members to our library and they were impressed!
In one case, three generations came together and reactions ranged from “Wow! This isn’t the library I used in the 1960s!” to “Hey, grandma, can we go back and look at those globes and maps again?”

Our library is a community treasure, available to all!
As we begin another school year, those of you who are Friends of the library will be invited to a myriad of programs that we sponsor and co-sponsor with other campus and community organizations.

There are two programs this fall that I’d like to highlight. They are actually back-to-back, making for a special week at UWM: on Thursday, Nov. 6, author Rick Perlstein will talk about his acclaimed book *The Invisible Bridge: The Fall of Nixon and the Rise of Reagan* and on Friday, Nov. 7, we are helping to celebrate the 5th anniversary of the Daniel M. Soref Learning Commons, a project the Friends supported in many ways.

Finally, we will hold one blockbuster spring book sale this spring. Watch for details.

In the meantime, if you are a Friend of the Golda Meir Library at this time, thank you! If you haven’t joined yet, please become a member of a group that will provide you with a world of ideas and inspiration.

Lynne Pearson

RICK PERLSTEIN, AUTHOR OF THE INVISIBLE BRIDGE, AT LIBRARY NOV. 6

The Friends of the Golda Meir Library, the UWM Libraries, and Boswell Book Company are co-sponsoring an appearance by Rick Perlstein, author of the recently published book *The Invisible Bridge: The Fall of Nixon and the Rise of Reagan*, on Thursday, November 6, 2014 at 7 p.m. in the fourth floor Conference Center of the library.

*Invisible Bridge* is the third volume of Perlstein’s celebrated series on the recent history of conservatism in America. His book *Before the Storm: Barry Goldwater and the Unmaking of the American Consensus* (2001) won the Los Angeles Times Book Award for history; *Nixonland: The Rise of a President and the Fracturing of America* (2008), was chosen as one of the best nonfiction books of the year by over a dozen publications.

Perlstein’s essays and book reviews have been published in *The New Yorker, The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Nation* and *Slate*. He has received a National Endowment for the Humanities grant for independent scholars.

The free event includes a book signing, and books will be available for purchase. For more information or special needs, please call 414-229-6202.
At the Friends Annual Business Meeting on May 15, the terms for two Board officers, Vice President Nick Wilson and Secretary Joe Sectzer, were renewed for two years. Lynne Pearson was re-elected to the Board for a second four-year term, and Gabrielle Davidson, having filled a vacancy, was elected to her first full term. Marianne Lubar was elected to a four-year term. She has served on the Board previously, 2005-2013, and chaired the Golda Meir Library Renovation Task Force, which successfully raised over $2.3 million dollars in private funding for the creation of the Daniel M. Soref Learning Commons. Pat Gahl was elected to her first term on the Board. Pat, who earned both her BA and MA from UWM, has operated a business management consulting firm, PH Gahl and Associates, for over 30 years.

Jody Steren and Deborah Conta, who retired from the Board, were thanked for their many contributions to the Friends and were honored with emerita status.

### Libraries Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>September 26, 2014</td>
<td>UWM’s Academic Adventurers Series. William Huxhold, Professor, UWM Urban Planning Department, presents: “GIS Comes to Kazakhstan.” 3 p.m. Golda Meir Library building, AGS Library, third floor, east wing. 414-229-6282.</td>
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<td>September 28, 2014</td>
<td>Map Society of Wisconsin. Michael Blanding, author of <em>The Map Thief.</em> 2:00 p.m. Golda Meir Library building, AGS Library, third floor, east wing. 414-229-6282.</td>
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<td>October 21, 2014</td>
<td>Ettinger Book Artist Series Lecture. Book artist Daniel Kelm. 7 p.m., Conference Center, fourth floor.</td>
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<td>November 5, 2014</td>
<td>Directions in Digital Humanities. Thomas Malaby, Professor and Chair, UWM Dept. of Anthropology, presents “Games in the Era of Digital Production.” 4 p.m., UWM Libraries Digital Humanities Lab, second floor, east wing.</td>
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This summer the UWM Libraries participated in a number of outreach activities throughout southeast Wisconsin and in Chicago, with support from the Friends.

One event was “U at the Zoo” on June 21 at the Milwaukee County Zoo, where the Libraries featured its award-winning children’s picture books from the Curriculum Collection. Friends Board member E.J. Brumder helped staff the Friends Welcome table and connected with parents, grandparents and especially the children—future UWM students and Friends.

The Libraries also joined the Alumni Association’s “Summer Tour” which included Waukesha (7/16), Racine (7/23) and Chicago (7/24). Held in special venues with the purpose to re-connect with area alumni, both library collections and Friends membership were spotlighted.

UWM Libraries Reference and Instruction Archivist Abbi Nye prepared displays featuring the Bliffert Postcard Collection for Waukesha and Racine. Student Development Assistant Tanner Rampson assisted with the preparing materials and display set-up. The Kwasniewski Collection was showcased in Chicago.

Abbi also met with a group of visitors from St. John’s on the Lake, a retirement community on Milwaukee’s East Side. A recent thank you letter from participant Judy Moberg noted “Our eyes are now open to thinking of other ways we can connect St. John’s residents with the UWM Libraries!” Connecting to area retirement communities is a major initiative of the Friends.

Susan Modder
Thank you to the following donors who gave gifts-in-kind—books, maps, DVDs, and other library materials—from January 1, 2014 to June 30, 2014:

Ruth Agrusa  
Patricio Amerena  
Anonymous  
Linda Bachowski  
Pat Baer  
Theresa Beaulieu  
Lakshmi Bharadwaj  
Debra Bradley  
John P. Brlas  
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Rosemary Woodyard  
Anne Wysocki  
David Zach  
Yuqing Zhang  
A Strange Object  
AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin  
Bay View Compass  
Brady East STD clinic  
George Segal Gallery  
Yasuhikok Japanese Literature Publishing Project  
Tori Duggan Michael S Engl Family Fdn Research Ctr Library  
Roger Milwaukee Gay Arts Center  
Milwaukee Press Club  
MPTV  
Nat’l Assoc for Armenian Studies & Research  
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Special Libraries Association WI Chapter  
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UWM ESL Programs Office  
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