



May 2003

HAVERFORD COLLEGE

No. 31

## From the Librarian

by Bob Kieft

Readers of this newsletter know that the Bryn Mawr/Haverford/Swarthmore library consortium has benefited in the last five years from a succession of grants that have allowed us to explore opportunities for both creating efficiencies and expanding service through collaborative effort. In 2001-02, an Andrew W. Mellon Foundation planning grant occasioned by potentially major changes envisioned for Bryn Mawr's Canaday Library building gave the three libraries a chance to look at the relationships between library spaces and collections of printed materials on all three campuses.

Under the planning grant, we gathered data on the composition and age of our collections and their circulation; engaged consultants to study the potential offered by electronic publishing for replacement of materials now in print; held focus groups of faculty and students about their use of library materials; inventoried library spaces; and outlined ways of sharing bibliographic expertise to build stronger, more integrated collections. Reports on the results of the planning grant are currently being reviewed for publication because they will be of interest to libraries large and small that are involved in cooperative collection development programs.

The planning grant has now led to a three-year project grant, also from Mellon, that will give us the chance to develop its findings in ways that, taking advantage of our proximity and delivery service, aim to treat the three libraries' collections more as one. The grant envisions a year of planning with faculty and administrators and then two years of hiring temporary staff to carry out programs of weeding and acquisition; over the course of the grant's life, we also plan to build a technical and organizational infrastructure that will enable us to realize the benefits of closer collaboration on our collections.

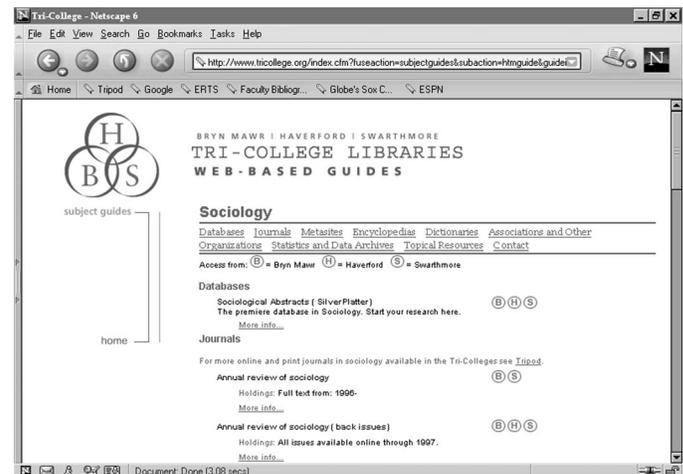
The libraries see advantages to the Colleges in integrating the collections both retrospectively, as we reduce the rate of duplication of lesser-used older materials, and prospectively, as we reduce the rate of

*Continued on p. 4*

## Tri-College Collaboration Leads to Database-Driven Web Guides

by Mary Lynn Morris Kennedy

During the last several years the Tri-College Library Consortium has been the recipient of a series of Mellon Foundation grants aimed at expanding the cooperation between the three member libraries. These collaborative efforts have begun to yield new services for our library users. One such service is an application used by reference librarians to create and maintain subject guides and pathfinders on the three library Web sites. While the libraries have provided these sorts of resources on their Web sites for some time now, their maintenance has always been a challenge. New materials are acquired on a regular basis, Web addresses for online databases and journals change frequently, and only a limited number of staff possess the HTML coding skills needed to produce Web pages.



*The subject guide for sociology. Subject guides are available at <http://www.haverford.edu/library/bysubject/>*

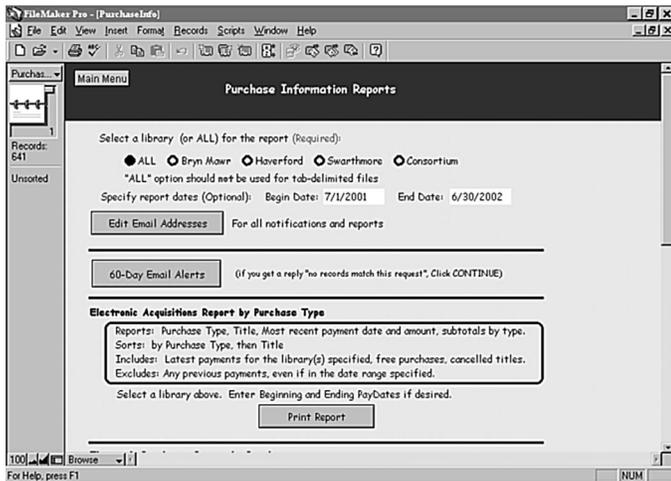
Using SQL and ColdFusion technologies, this application allows reference librarians with little or no knowledge of HTML to create Web-based subject guides to library resources which are database-driven and dynamically updated. The database used consists of records drawn from the library catalog, and relies on updates from the library catalog to ensure that accurate holdings, URL, and call number information is displayed on all guides. This method eliminates repeated entering of the same

*Continued on p. 3*

## Managing Electronic Resources with ERTS

by Norm Medeiros

The Library expends nearly the same amount of money to purchase electronic journals and indexes as it does to purchase print equivalents. Although both the popularity and expense of electronic resources are great, academic libraries have little control over these resources compared to print publications. Print journals are typically received, checked in, shelved, and bound — activities integrated library systems, such as Tripod, help us perform. These systems, however, are deficient at managing data about electronic resources. As a result, the Tri-College Libraries recently created our own solution, ERTS, the Electronic Resources Tracking System. ERTS documents provide access to data elements associated with our growing array of electronic resources.



*ERTS' report feature*

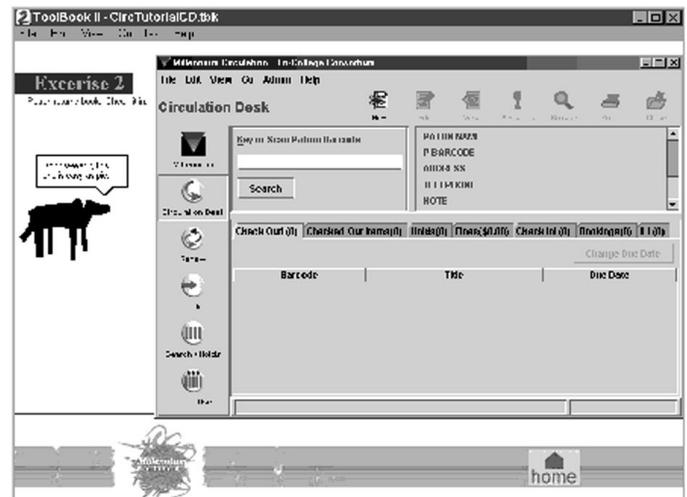
At Haverford, ERTS is used to deliver financial, statistical, and notification services not available through Tripod. Some of these elements include license restrictions, authentication means, and technical contacts. ERTS has relieved us from having to maintain hefty paper files and disorganized e-mail messages. It has also provided evening and weekend Library staff with information helpful to answering student queries regarding service and access to electronic resources. Other academic libraries are developing ERTS-like systems. Additional information about ERTS and comparable systems can be found at <http://www.haverford.edu/library/erts/>

– Norm Medeiros is  
Coordinator for Bibliographic & Digital Services

## The Circ Tutorial: Award-Winning Software

by Dawn Heckert

Three years ago during some tri-college small group brainstorming sessions, the idea of putting together an interactive tutorial to help train the many students we hire coalesced. We were lucky enough to get funding through a Mellon Foundation grant to make this idea a reality. An authoring software package from Click2Learn was chosen to develop the tutorial. I convened two student assistants, Megan Brooker '05 and Ryan Bowman '02, and a five-person task force, to design a product that would teach student workers how to use our automated circulation system. It has two components. The first is a series of teaching modules about each of the activities a worker might perform. The second component is an interactive simulation, where the trainee can practice what she has just learned. The software mimics Tripod's circulation system so trainees can get lifelike experience in a controlled environment.



*The Circ Tutorial*

Along with training the worker how to use the system, the tutorial also teaches many of the Tri-College Libraries' policies and some procedures associated with the borrowing of materials.

This Circ Tutorial has been a big hit with students. It has also helped to streamline training and make the training more effective and consistent. In February it was selected to receive an international award for the "most innovative training" from the Innovative User's Group.

– Dawn Heckert is Circulation Services Supervisor

## Collecting Quakers

by Ann Wetherill Upton

Quakers have a deserved reputation for documenting and preserving their past. The Quaker Collection at Haverford College, in Special Collections of Magill Library, is one of only three repositories of its kind and scope in the world and comes by this status through the efforts of centuries of thoughtful and generous Friends.

Haverford seeks to maintain a research-level collection by acquiring Quaker materials exhaustively. We attempt to represent all branches of the Friends, in all languages, and to capture the breadth and subtlety of the concerns of the Society. Our collection of books spans three centuries and numbers more than 32,000 titles, not including thousands of pamphlets, clippings and other ephemeral material.



*Rufus Matthew Jones (1863-1948)*

Highlights of our book collection are Quaker fiction, periodicals, the Jenks Collection of 17th century Quaker tracts, the Rufus M. Jones Mysticism Collection and books from the private libraries of notables such

as George Fox, William Penn, and many prominent Quaker families. More information on the breadth of our Quaker print resources can be found at <http://www.haverford.edu/library/special/#collections>.

We actively collect new books and current writings by and about Friends and the activities of the Society as well as search for books of the past to continually enhance and complete our holdings. We depend upon gifts in kind to enhance our collection of out-of-print Quaker books as family libraries find a home within our collection. Gifts of financial support are used to purchase the occasional very rare and expensive materials that come on the market.

Haverford's Quaker Collection is a grateful recipient of this legacy of serving the present by saving the past.

– Ann Wetherill Upton is  
Quaker Bibliographer & Special Collections Librarian

## Funds for Science Library Assistants

by Julie Miran

This past fall the science library received funds from the Howard Hughes Grant to hire multicultural students as library assistants. Contacted by Kaye Edwards, who helps to administer the grant at Haverford, the objective of the funding is to “. . . provide important educational experiences for students interested in the sciences. [It] enables students to contribute to an ongoing research or teaching project while . . . feeling more connected to the science community at Haverford.”

Work at the science library truly fits the objective of the grant. Students have the opportunity to see firsthand valuable resources for classes and research projects found both through our collections and our access to online resources. They also have the opportunity to establish a wide network of student peers in the 25 other assistants who work in the library. Students have frequent interaction with all the science faculty coming into the library, and their research skills expand as they take part in training required of all student assistants.

In our first year of funding three additional students are gaining valuable experience in the science library. Students hired under the Multicultural Scholars Program have been scheduled to work with other more senior assistants in related majors in the hopes of building additional support and guidance as they learn firsthand how to navigate the informational resources in our science library.

– Julie Miran is Science Librarian

## *Tri-College Collaboration . . . continued from p. 1*

data by different library departments and results in guides which are more current and accurate.

In addition to improving the quality of the Tri-College library Web sites, the Web guides provide an opportunity for Tri-College reference librarians to collaborate in providing a basic library service to users. This collaboration has resulted in better communication between the libraries. The Web guides created using this method include resources from all Tri-College collections and contact information for subject specialists at each college. This more holistic presentation of resources available to the Tri-College community is of great benefit to library patrons as they attempt to navigate a rapidly changing information environment.

– Mary Lynn Morris Kennedy is Digital Services Librarian

*From the Librarian . . . continued from p. 1*

duplication of current materials. From the savings thus gained in space and budget funds, the Colleges may be able both to defer the day when they have to build new library spaces for housing materials and to reallocate current budget dollars to the acquisition of a greater range of materials.

Trying to reduce the size or depth of a local collection in favor of a large and deep, distributed, or collaborative collection will raise many questions and test the Colleges' ability to cooperate. The identity of scholars and students is tied in important ways and by long tradition, after all, to materials that are on the local shelf, and accrediting agencies often require that certain items be on that local shelf. Some of the questions that will inform our planning are the following:

What are the reasonable grounds and the reasonable methods for a) removing duplicate books from local collections or b) not adding certain new books to local collections?

How, if at all, do circulation figures help us to decide what materials to withdraw; what else do we need to know to inform such withdrawal decisions for duplicated volumes?

Faculty and students maintain that books needed for courses should be locally held. How do we define that need – needed for reserve reading, listed on the syllabus as suggested reading, falling in an area where a faculty member teaches, etc.?

Faculty and students find shelf-browsing important. If "browsing" in this case is not a simple synonym for "being able to get it quickly," then how is browsing affected by a distributed collection? The weakness of browsing as a discovery method is its assumption that the body of potentially relevant materials is on the shelf at any given time and is collocated – browsing assumes that the intellectual coherence of the collection is defined by what is on the shelf. What would it take to move people to use the catalog for browsing and to see the catalog as representing the collection's intellectual coherence?

What value can we place on "negative use," that is, books that may not be useful now but could be in a hundred years or books that are browsed but rejected? How does a collection benefit from including the apparently superfluous?

The libraries have talked about the potential organizational, budgeting, and staffing changes a collaborative collection development model might involve as well as the improvements to the information/communication infrastructure we would have to make in order to enable collaborative collection building by librarians. What is the potential for distribution of bibliographic responsibility over multiple Colleges and how might such a distribution affect the reference, instructional, and faculty liaison roles of librarians?

The next three years will be challenging and, I think, even exciting as the libraries work with faculty and administration to try to find answers both intellectual and procedural to these questions.

*– Bob Kieft is Librarian of the College*

---

## Staff News and Announcements

by Mike Persick

**John Anderies**, Music Librarian, attended the Music Library Association national meeting in Austin, Texas, February 12-16. As chair of the Information Sharing subcommittee of the Reference and Public Services committee, he and his committee members put on a public session called "Together Wherever We Go: Collaborative Virtual Reference Services." The session included speakers from the Library of Congress and Santa Monica Public Library. John also gave a presentation to the Small Academic Libraries Roundtable on the project for which he won MLA's 2002 Walter Gerboth Award, "Developing a Core Integrated Digital Music Collection: A Tri-College Initiative." In addition to sampling some of the region's best Mexican food, John also attended excellent sessions on Spaghetti Western Film Music and Pioneering Women Ethnomusicologists. Returning from the conference John found himself stranded in Chicago for three days while the Philadelphia area dug itself out from the Presidents' Day blizzard!

*Continued on p. 5*

## Funny thing happened on the way to the printer . . .

by Emma Lapsansky

If we can imagine little people living inside our copiers and printers, what a fascinating view of the world they must get!! During a recent month of housecleaning, librarians found all sorts of “personal” detritus unclaimed in the paper-reproduction retrieval bins. Imagine this, for example: a printout of a free term paper abstract downloaded from the Web (did the surfer’s conscience win out, and the downloader went home to actually write the paper, rather than crib it from the Internet?) Or let’s look at other examples. Printouts of boxer shorts decorated with pictures of monster trucks, completed tax forms, passionate love exchanges via e-mail, and even more passionate graphics – an image of someone’s hairy backside, complete with tattoos have helped enliven the librarians’ long evenings of reference desk duty.

One of my favorite movie scenes is from Woody Allen’s *Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Sex*. The scene depicts human sperm (caricatured as men in helmets, prepared to do battle) gearing up to go forth to fertilize eggs. Most of the sperm are blond, but the one brown sperm looks around and says “What am I doing here?” (Allen, of course, made that movie before sophisticated DNA testing could have answered that question definitively.) And one of my favorite biographies is *With a Daughter’s Eye*, Mary Catherine Bateson’s memories of life as the child of several-times-married anthropologist Margaret Mead. The unclaimed “finds” in the printout retrieval bins put me in mind of these phenomena – public displays of “intimate” portraits of our society and its foibles, behind-the-scenes Post-its of life in our modern times.

Between DNA discoveries, tell-all biographies, “cookies” in our hard drives, chat rooms, identity theft, and printouts of hairy backsides, no part of our lives is truly “intimate” anymore, so if you’re having a boring day, stop by one of the printout bins in the library, and salvage a snapshot of life on the underside and inside (and back-side?) of some of the library’s hardest workers: the printers and copiers that crank out more than 100,000 – yes, 100,000 – pages every month.

– Emma Lapsansky is Curator of the Quaker Collection

The Library newsletter is available on the Web at  
<http://www.haverford.edu/library/about/news/news.html>

*Staff News and Announcements . . . continued from p. 4*

**Linda Bills**, Tri-College Consortium Special Projects Coordinator, is going to be involved in two presentations this spring. In March, Linda, Joan Beaudoin (BMC), and Eric Behrens (SC) will be talking to a conference called Digital Asset Management in Liberal Arts Colleges, meeting at Reed College. She is also helping to organize and present a preconference at the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) conference in April. The title is Collaborative Collection Development for Libraries in Consortia. The presenters will explain how the Five Colleges in Massachusetts, the CONSORT five colleges in Ohio, and the Tri-College Consortium are each exploring the opportunities available for consortia to share resources, save space, and expand their collections. Linda also reports that she spent Christmas in Mallorca at an archaeological dig, excavating living areas dated to 1500 BC.

*The Gazela*, Philadelphia’s own Tall Ship, is in the final stages of her refit. She will soon have an entirely new deck and refurbished rigging. She is sailing for Norfolk in June to join their Harbor Fest. Linda and **Claire McGuire**, Digital Archives Fellow, have been working on the ship as volunteers.

**Dawn Heckert**, Circulation Services Supervisor, and the task force she convened, recently earned the Be Innovative! Award for Most Innovative Training Program, given by Innovative Interfaces, for the Circulation Tutorial they developed as part of the Mellon V Grant.

**Bob Kieft**, Librarian of the College, gave a talk, “Collections, Collectors, and Consortial Collecting: How Much Do Things Change the More They Remain the Same?,” to a statewide group of academic library bibliographers in Illinois on Feb. 7, 2003, as part of their annual meeting under the auspices of the Illinois Cooperative Collection Management Program.

Curator of the Quaker Collection **Emma Lapsansky’s** recent publication, *Quaker Aesthetics*, was written up in the February 16 *Philadelphia Inquirer*. She also reports publication of an article on teaching in the January 2003 issue of the Organization of American Historians’ *Magazine of History*. A recent issue of *Friends Journal* published her review of Margaret Hope Bacon’s recent novel *Year of Grace*. Emma has just served on the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission’s Fellow Selection Committee, is participating in the

*Continued on p. 6*

*Staff News and Announcements . . . continued from p. 5*

Smithsonian Institution's symposium on the Underground Railroad on March 1, and is speaking on Quaker women for the Daniel Boone Homestead historical site on March 16. On top of all that, Emma confides that she is getting married in Barnegat Light, N.J., on May 17.

**Norm Medeiros**, Coordinator for Bibliographic and Digital Services, presented "Managing Administrative Metadata: the Tri-College Consortium's Electronic Resources Tracking System" at the Association of College and Research Libraries Annual Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina. A paper about ERTS appears in the January 2003 issue of *Library Resources & Technical Services*.

**Diana Franzusoff Peterson**, Manuscripts Librarian and College Archivist, presented a paper at Wellesley University in September 2002 at a conference of historians and archivists on the topic "Haverford College, Quakers and China Missionaries," examining the scope of the College's holdings relating to the missionary work in China of people connected to Haverford, including William Warder Cadbury, Rufus Jones, Robert Simkin, and M. Wistar Wood.

Circulation Services Specialists **Jess Poland** (Reserves) and **Liz Romano** (Evening Supervisor) both completed their masters degrees in Library Science in recent months – Jess from the University of Pittsburgh and Liz from Drexel University.

**Margaret Schaus**, Reference Librarian, gave a paper in December 2002 at the second Ancient Studies, New Technology conference at Rutgers University. Her talk, "Beyond the Print Index Model," concerned the various recent additions made to *Feminae: Medieval Women and Gender Index*, including links to full-text journal articles, connections to individual records in other online Web sites, records for other publication types including dissertations, and new services for users such as a patron alerting service.

In January 2003, Margaret spoke to the Classical, Medieval, and Renaissance Discussion Group of the Western European Studies Section at the midwinter American Library Association meeting in Philadelphia. She discussed the many changes to *Feminae* in the last five years and solicited suggestions for improvements.

– Mike Persick is  
*Acquisitions Librarian & Assistant Catalog Librarian*



**PUBLISHED BY THE LIBRARY OF HAVERFORD COLLEGE**

Haverford, PA 19041  
610-896-1175  
<http://www.haverford.edu/library/>