FROM THE DEAN’S DESK - Outstanding Librarians in the Spotlight

Each member of the Library faculty and staff brings specialized skills to serving the university faculty, students, and community patrons of the Library. Our catalogers, Jean Sparks and Joyce Keys, were honored at a special Library staff meeting on November 3. Good catalogers require years of training and experience and a wealth of knowledge about the intellectual heritage and life of the institution they support. Jean and Joyce are very good catalogers. They do not work in the public eye, but the benefits of their work have impact throughout the world. Jean and Joyce develop the intellectual content of the Library, on behalf of our university community and the entire international research community. Jean and Joyce oversee development of the university bibliographic catalog and contribute our records, as one of 9,000 member institutions, to WorldCat, the international bibliographic database with in excess of 57 million records.

Jean Sparks began her career in the Library as secretary to the Library Director. On completion of her Master’s degree, she took on the role of Government Documents Librarian. I would venture to say that Jean became one of the most highly skilled government information reference librarians in the State of Florida. The faculty and students of the School of Aeronautics regard Jean, their Library Information Advocate, as the expert in information retrieval and collection development. Jean has served on the Faculty Senate as Senator, Senate Secretary, and member of the Welfare Committee. It is not unusual for Jean to work from early morning to 11 PM or midnight to get the job done. She has raised four splendid children and in her spare time she hangs out with a group called Interesting Women. And Jean is, above all, a most interesting woman.

Prior to joining us in 2001, Joyce Keys worked at Kettering University in Michigan, driving herself through rain, sleet, and snow to the cataloging classes that would help her to become a first-rate professional cataloger. She noticed the word “Florida” in our recruitment notice for a cataloger, and brought her talents and expertise to us. During a prestigious military career, Joyce was named the U.S. Army Soldier of the Year. Joyce is President-Elect of the Space Coast Grant Professionals Network and a member of Toastmasters. As a Hospice volunteer, Joyce cares for and comforts seriously ill patients, and she reads to them.

Jean and Joyce manage a complex technical operation with contract catalogers and student assistants. Quietly and behind the scenes, they are leaders, teachers, and outstanding professionals.

I am delighted to bring them into the spotlight.

SPRING 2005 GRADUATE RESEARCH WORKSHOP – DATES ANNOUNCED

The Evans Library’s Spring 2005 graduate research workshops will be held on Thursday evening, February 17, on Friday afternoon, February 18, and on Saturday morning, February 19. These free workshops will take place in the Library’s Link Multimedia Room. Registration deadline is Monday, February 14. More details and a registration form may be found on the Library Information Network (LINK) under “Library News” or at the Service Desk.

DISPLAYS

“Health Matters” is the focus of the latest federal depository display on the third floor of Evans Library. Diet, exercise, stress, substance abuse, sexually transmitted disease, and pain are just a few of the subjects covered by a variety of books, pamphlets, periodicals, congressional hearings, reports, and other government publications. Provided free is a flyer listing government sites devoted to some of today’s hottest topics in health.

Also brand new is a first-floor display of information resources related to a popular cross-disciplinary topic - fractals. “Fractals Rock!” includes books, government publications, journal articles, Internet site references, and real-life examples of this colorful self-repeating geometry. This two-month display is complemented by an exhibit of fractal art created by local engineer Frank Milordi, also known as the artist FAVIO. With connections to Florida Tech’s physics and space sciences, engineering, and mathematical sciences programs, this multi-case display educates and entertains.

UPCOMING LIBRARY HOURS

This month the Library will extend its hours to support preparation for final examinations.

- On Friday, 12/3, and Saturday, 12/4, the Library will stay open until midnight.
- From Sunday, 12/5, through Thursday, 12/9, the Library will stay open until 2:00 a.m.
- On Friday, 12/10, and Saturday, 12/11, the Library will stay open until midnight.
- From Sunday, 12/12, through Thursday, 12/16, the Library will stay open until 2:00 a.m.
- The Library will be open 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., December 17.
- Break hours, effective Saturday, December 18, are:
  - Monday - Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
  - Saturday and Sunday: CLOSED

The Library will close at noon on Thursday, December 23, and will reopen on Monday, January 3. Break hours will be observed Monday, January 3, through Sunday, January 9.

Regular semester hours will resume when classes begin on Monday, January 10. These are:
- Monday - Thursday: 8:00 a.m. - midnight
- Friday: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Saturday: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Sunday: 10:00 a.m. - midnight

FACULTY REQUEST CARD REMINDER

by Tom McFarland
Assistant Director, Administration

This year’s allocation of money for selecting books and other one-time purchases for the Evans Library collections has been distributed by the Library’s Information Advocates to their counterparts in the academic departments and schools. Faculty are encouraged to complete and submit a yellow curriculum-based book request card for each desired title or to use the Faculty Purchase Request form under Services on the LINK.