

# Bindings

SPRING 2001

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Shana Leino, graduate student in *The Structure of the Handmade Book* practicum, shown with Gary Frost, University Conservator, examining a 14<sup>th</sup>-century missal. A missal is a book containing the Mass services for the year. This one is thought to be of Italian origin. Read more about the Conservation unit at the University of Iowa Libraries on pages 4-6.

**THE PAGES** of a book are held together by its binding. Sewn together, one after another, each page adds to the book, creating a whole. *Bindings* represents the continuing relationship between alumni and other supporters of the University of Iowa Libraries, its students, and faculty.

# From the University Librarian

## Nancy L. Baker



PHOTO: REX BAVOULETT, UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

One of my greatest pleasures since my arrival at Iowa last summer has been the opportunity to chat with so many of you about the University Libraries. I have frequently been asked my priorities for library fundraising. In our planning for the University's Comprehensive Campaign, we have identified five core priorities that I would like to share with you. (The order is entirely random.) I would welcome your thoughts and reactions to these priorities.

### Library Innovation in Support of Teaching and Learning

The University of Iowa is, first and foremost, an institution of higher education, i.e., an instructional institution. The University Libraries has been a campus and national leader in the creative use of technology to foster excellence in teaching and learning. The Libraries' most significant technological contributions have centered around two major service centers: the Information Arcade in the Main Library and the Information Commons in the Hardin Library for the Health Sciences. Building on these accomplishments, the Libraries wants to continue to be a leader in the integration of print and digital library resources into the fabric of the curriculum. In addition, as the University's curriculum

changes and new areas of study are introduced, the Libraries must be able to respond by acquiring core collections, in print and/or digital format, in these new disciplines.

### Library Support for Cutting Edge Research and New Research Directions

The University of Iowa has long engaged in cutting-edge research throughout its eleven colleges. The Libraries must be able to support these initiatives as quickly as they arise. Research interests often shift directions, and the Libraries must have the funds to respond quickly with the necessary supporting research publications. Collections in sciences, technology, and the health sciences are especially costly. Research is also becoming more interdisciplinary and global in focus. The University has been building collections in East Asian, African, South Asian, Latin American, Russian, Eurasian, and Eastern European studies for some time. We must ensure that these, as well as our other research collections, remain truly distinguished.

### Preservation of the Printed Artifact

Libraries are one of society's primary "custodians of our culture." One of the major responsibilities of the University

Libraries is archiving published knowledge. Regrettably, much of this knowledge has been published on perishable materials—acidic papers with fragile bindings—making it especially difficult to insure that these publications will be available to future generations. The University of Iowa Libraries is committed to the preservation of the printed artifact and is fortunate to have a strong preservation program with skilled conservators. However, such conservation work is labor intensive, requiring special skills, supplies and equipment. A preservation fund will provide the additional resources for skilled personnel, equipment, supplies, and special training to help insure that the University Libraries can preserve its printed collections. As more publications are only made available in digital format, libraries are facing new challenges in the long-term preservation of digital collections.

### Manuscripts, Archives, and Special Collections

Rare books, archives, and other special collections are what distinguish a research library from other kinds of libraries. These are the laboratory tools of historians, literary scholars, and other humanists and social scientists. Processing these collections to make them accessible to researchers

is essential and can be especially labor intensive. This fund would provide additional resources for acquiring and processing unique and invaluable collections. The University of Iowa Libraries is especially interested in building on its current strengths, such as the Iowa Women's Archives, the Writer's Archives, historical health sciences, culinary arts, and the book as art, craft, and object. At the same time, we are also eager to move in new directions that are especially appropriate to the University's new and emerging research interests.

### Television and Film Studies

The moving image is to the 20<sup>th</sup> century what printing was to the 15<sup>th</sup>; it is increasingly at the core of our lives and culture. We have been shaped by moving images. To understand the past and create the future, tomorrow's students and scholars, in all disciplines, must have access to the primary materials that document the creation, distribution, and use of moving images. As libraries collect the record of print culture, so must they also collect the record of film and television. The Television and Film Studies collections will enable the University of Iowa Libraries to establish the necessary range and quality of materials for teaching and research, and to provide suitable storage for, and access to, these materials. An environmentally controlled vault for long-term storage of film and video is needed, and state-of-the-art equipment, including carrels for viewing film and video, is essential. With its already considerable assets in terms of people and collection, the Libraries has the opportunity to play a key role in providing access to rich materials related to television and film. The Libraries is well placed to establish itself in a position of preeminence in this field, building on the strength of existing collections by working with the very large number of UI alumni who are in the television and film industry.

# The University of Iowa Libraries on the Move

The University Libraries collections were housed in many locations before assuming the current organizational form as a Main Library and 11 departmental libraries. The first University library consisted of two boxes containing approximately 50 books sent from New York by Amos Dean, the newly appointed president of the University. The boxes were labeled the "Dean Library" and stored in a four-foot-square room.

Subsequent locations included the Old Capitol building, Schaeffer Hall, and North Hall. When lightning struck North Hall on June 19, 1897, the ensuing flames destroyed the bulk of the collection. Efforts were made to reestablish the library "temporarily" at Macbride Hall. The collection remained at Macbride until the current Main Library building opened in 1951. In 2001, as the University Libraries system prepares to celebrate the acquisition of the 4-millionth volume, issues concerning facilities and space for storage continue to challenge librarians.



The general collections of the University of Iowa Libraries (then State University Library) in Macbride Hall, c. 1910. From the University Archives at the University of Iowa Libraries.

### Corrections from the Fall 2000 newsletter

*Back Page of the Honor Roll Insert:* Julie Englander is not from Amherst, Michigan, but rather Ann Arbor, Michigan.

*Page 8, Honor Roll Insert:* The grant supporting the Rural Women's Project Archivist at the Iowa Women's Archives was from the Iowa State Historical Society Inc., a separate organization not affiliated with the Iowa State Historical Society.

*Back Page of the Newsletter:* Nicholas Meyer graduated from the University of Iowa in 1968, not 1964.

# Conservation and the 21st Century Library

The University of Iowa Libraries Conservation Program



Sara Langworthy and Kristin Baum, students in the Center for the Book program, examine an "antiphony," a liturgical book intended for use in the choir.

The Libraries' books, and a variety of other materials in its collections, are available to faculty, researchers and students thanks to a wide range of preservation and conservation efforts. Conservation, a unit of the Preservation Department, focuses on special projects such as stabilizing and protecting rare documents and manuscripts, and on education, training, and research. Founded by the late Bill Anthony in 1984, the program has drawn international recognition through the accomplishments of Anthony and of those who followed: Pamela

In the recent past, conservation meant preserving paper materials, perhaps film and some magnetic holdings such as audio-tape. However, with the explosion of new formats, the challenge to preservation librarians has become more complicated. Inherent in the increasing number of operating programs, multimedia systems, and viewing apparatus, is the sudden obsolescence of these formats. Think 8-track tape, and multiply by a thousand.

The Conservation area at the University of Iowa confronts these issues through practice, education, and forward thinking. Frost and his assistant Anna Embree work

“Where are your books...that light bequeathed to beings else forlorn and blind!”

*William Wordsworth, poet, 1888.*



Taesang Lee, a graduate student in Education Administration, is shown placing a stack of books in a press to set the joints in the covers.

Spitzmueller (now Chief Conservator for Special Collections at Harvard) and Gary Frost, the current University Conservator.

Gary Frost came to the University of Iowa Libraries in July 1999. With a national reputation in both conservation practice and education, he continues and extends the work of his predecessors. Frost is a meticulous artisan with a strong interest in technology and preservation theory. His interests range from the history of book structure to the future of the book as an information delivery technology. He believes that traditional book collections and digital resources will enhance each other and that the library will model this synergy of books and bytes to the larger information community.

on a variety of unique conservation projects. He teaches *The Structure of the Handmade Book*, a practicum course for career-oriented students in the book studies. The practicum helps develop student career skills in library preservation and book conservation, preparing a new generation to work in libraries, museums, in private enterprise and as book artists. The conservation unit also includes the book repair division of the Preservation Department, headed by Susan Hansen. Susan's operation keeps books in the general collections available on the shelves and performs minor repairs, such as for torn pages, to more elaborate interventions such as a *reback*, where the book spine is replaced.



Graham Goetz, a student worker in the book repair unit of the Preservation Department, adheres a book spine. Goetz is a junior studying cinema who enjoys the creative aspects of the job.

## “The future of the print book is being played out in the library.”

Gary Frost, University Conservator, UI Libraries, 2001

The future will involve planning for an increasingly demanding information environment. In the past, preservation and conservation became involved only after the fact, when a manuscript or book had been damaged. But now, in a constantly changing environment, library professionals must develop strategies that anticipate preservation needs for both print and digital formats and continuously revised and interlinked on-line publications. So much for the notion of the sleepy library—in so many ways, libraries are positioned on the frontier of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

For more information about the Conservation program at The University of Iowa Libraries, contact Gary Frost, University Conservator, at 319.335.5908 or email [gary-frost@uiowa.edu](mailto:gary-frost@uiowa.edu).

If you would like to support the activities of the Conservation program, please contact Deborah Dreusicke, Director of Development for the University Libraries, at the University of Iowa Foundation, 319.335.3305 or [deborah-dreusicke@uiowa.edu](mailto:deborah-dreusicke@uiowa.edu).

## Preservation Tips for the Home

**PRESERVING VIDEO AND AUDIOTAPES:** Periodic review is important. Materials should be assessed at regular intervals and backups or duplicates made as necessary. New, more archival formats may also be considered at this time. For instance, video and audiotape should be dubbed (copied or “refreshed” into the same formats) every 10 to 25 years. The family historian or collector may also choose to explore DVD formats or other new, more archival technologies at that time.

**KEEP THE ORIGINAL SOURCE MATERIAL.** Never, never discard the original source material, whether that is an 8mm film, video or photographic print. Presentation and duplication technologies continue to improve, and originals—not copies—define the resolution and detail of content.

### **AVOID DRAMATIC FLUCTUATIONS IN TEMPERATURE AND HUMIDITY.**

The ideal conditions for most materials are below 70° Fahrenheit and below 55% humidity. However, perfect conditions are not nearly as important as avoiding dramatic fluctuations in humidity and temperature. Which would be the best choice for your family photo albums, the attic or basement? Probably the living room, where it is more likely that a moderate climate will be maintained. For very rare or valuable materials, a safety-deposit box in a climate-controlled bank may be your best choice.

**PHOTOCOPY AND COMPUTER PRINTS:** Both laser printers and photocopiers, including color copiers, use stable pigments that are fused to the paper. The variable here is the paper stock; choose papers that are thin and smooth and rated for “laser” printing. Ink jet printing is dye-based and will need more care in storage to avoid light or water damage.

**PASS IT ON:** The family historian can instill the value and importance of preservation in younger people.



# Bookbinding Models at the University of Iowa

The Conservation facility houses a unique collection of bookbinding models that serve as study samples for teaching and research on the handmade book. Bookbinding models are blank books created by skilled binders to demonstrate historical, contemporary, and experimental techniques of book structure. While it is not unusual to have bookbinding models available in a teaching facility, the range and quality of the models available here is exceptional. There is currently an effort to catalog and develop these holdings, making this the first comprehensive collection of this type in the United States.

The original models in the collection were created by the late Bill Anthony, University Conservator (1984-1988), who was known for his binding models. Additions have been contributed by Mark Esser, one of Anthony's apprentices, Pamela Spitzmueller, former University Conservator, and Gary Frost, the current Conservator. Recent donations from Bernadette Dowling, the former Mrs. Bill Anthony, and Dominic Riley, a fine bookbinder, have increased the historical range of these holdings. Frost hopes to continue building the collection and establish a nationally distinctive, world-class resource that would link the UI Conservation Department to book studies programs worldwide.

Frost says that tactile interaction with the models is an important educational tool. Because the student is able to experience the kinetic qualities of structure and mobility—what a binding mechanism feels like and how it works in three-dimensional space—it impacts that student in a lasting way. The range of models exhibits techniques that would have been used in the first centuries through modern times in



(left to right) Mary Beth Slonneger and Julie Leonard with bookbinding models in the Conservation department facility. Slonneger and Leonard are students in the UI Center for the Book certificate program. They are shown here during a session of *The Structure of the Handmade Book* practicum taught by Gary Frost, University Conservator.

both ancient and contemporary cultures spanning Africa, Asia, Europe, and North America. Examples vary from simple, early codex models with side-stitched covers, and fine bindings covered in elaborately tooled leather in the modern craft tradition, to experimental models that explore concept over functionality.

A grant from the University of Iowa Arts and Humanities Initiative Program is sponsoring research and production of historical prototypes from traditional Greek and Armenian bookbinding. Additional support is essential to making the collection comprehensive. The Conservation Department would like to offer honorariums to binders so that complicated historical forms can be commissioned. These models are expensive and time-intensive productions. An interested donor can support the project at different levels by sponsoring specific projects or a graduate assistantship to develop and document the collection.

If you would like additional information on the bookbinding collection or other conservation projects, contact **Gary Frost, University Conservator**, at 319.335.5908, [gary-frost@uiowa.edu](mailto:gary-frost@uiowa.edu), or visit the Bookbinding Models @ University of Iowa web page: <http://www.lib.uiowa.edu/conservation/models/INDEX.html>.



Examples of bookbinding models from the collection

If you would like to discuss ways to support this project, please contact **Deborah Dreusicke**, Director of Development for the University of Iowa Libraries, at 319.335.3305 or [deborah-dreusicke@uiowa.edu](mailto:deborah-dreusicke@uiowa.edu).

# UI Parents Support Libraries Refurbishing Project

STUDENTS WILL ENJOY A MORE COMFORTABLE STUDY ENVIRONMENT AT THE MAIN LIBRARY

The University of Iowa Libraries will be refurbishing the undergraduate study area on the second floor of the Main Library, thanks, in part, to a gift from the University of Iowa Parent's Association.

The Libraries has been seeking support to purchase new furniture for several years. Facilities expenditures are difficult to fund—state allocations rarely include budgets for such upgrades, and private assistance is often targeted towards collections and services. The seating in current use has been in service for more than 25 years and is now worn and threadbare. It was the students themselves, those who use the space on a daily basis, who ultimately prompted these improvements.

Appeals by both individuals and student groups to the University administrative offices encouraged broader attention on this issue. President Coleman acknowledged these concerns in a presentation to the Parent's Board in February 2000. The Board responded by granting \$15,000 to the Libraries. This represents nearly half of the Association's annual budget allocated for projects and programs that enhance a student's experience on the UI Campus.

Jim Pavlacic, a UI Parent's Association Board member from Peoria, Illinois, was present at the February meeting. He says, "As a member of the Parent's Board, I have been privileged on several occasions to hear President Mary Sue Coleman's passionate plea that the continual upgrading of the library should always be 'priority one.'" He adds, "Accomplishment cannot be expected of our students without a first-rate library—it's just that simple. As parents, what better way is there for us to send this important and timeless message to the next generation than by supporting this vital resource?"



Libraries' staff members Janice Simmons-Welburn, director of Central Public Services, and Gary Grout, head of Facilities, pose with the old furniture that will soon be replaced on the second floor undergraduate reading room of the Main Library. Simmons-Welburn and Grout are coordinating the refurbishing project.

Below: Illustrations of chairs from *Furniture Designed by Architects*, by Marian Page, 1980.

Janice Simmons-Welburn, Director, Central Public Services for the University Libraries, notes, "The gift of \$15,000 from the University of Iowa's Parent's Association sends a clear message about the importance of libraries in the learning experience of students. While there are numerous other University entities that they could have selected, we feel honored to be the recipient of this gift."

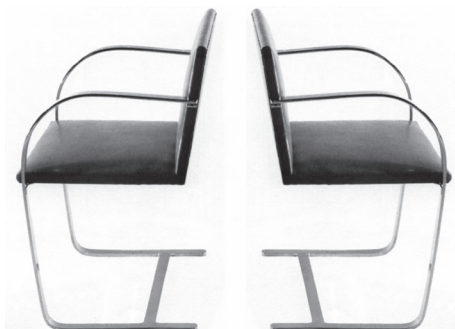
"Libraries represent an important resource for students during their course of study at any university," Simmons-Welburn continued. "For college students, much learning occurs outside of the classroom, and we think libraries are a good place to cultivate knowledge. In addition to the numerous print and electronic resources

that we have to offer, we also serve as a gathering place and as a source of employment for students."

The Parent's Association was established in 1955 to help parents learn more about the University and its goals. In turn, this provides parents with a better understanding of the opportunities the University is providing in the education of their students.

For additional information about the Parent's Association, contact Jane Hoshi, Assistant Director of University Communications & Outreach, at 319.384.0017, [jane-hoshi@uiowa.edu](mailto:jane-hoshi@uiowa.edu), or visit the Parent's Association web site at: [www.uiowa.edu/~parent/](http://www.uiowa.edu/~parent/).

If you are interested in supporting other refurbishing or renovation projects at the Main or branch libraries, please contact Deborah Dreusicke, Director of Development for the University Libraries, at 319.335.3305 or [deborah-dreusicke@uiowa.edu](mailto:deborah-dreusicke@uiowa.edu).



# Giving Voice to the Past: The University of Iowa Oral History

**A**dditional chapters of the University of Iowa's history are being collected and preserved as part of an ongoing oral history project conducted through the University Libraries. The current phase of the project describes changes, events and milestones at the UI from the first-person perspectives of UI administrators, staff and faculty reflecting on the decades of the mid-20th century through recent times.

First suggested by President Willard "Sandy" Boyd, the University Oral History Project was initiated in 1976 by then graduate student James Beilman. Among those Beilman interviewed were President Howard Rothmann Bowen (1964-69); Susan Hancher, wife of President Virgil Melvin Hancher (1940-64); professors John Gerber, English, and Himie Voxman, Music; and Lois Boulware of Student Health Services and University Hospitals and Clinics. Additionally, Bob Engle interviewed Philip Hubbard, a former administrator and professor emeritus in the College of Engineering. Libraries staff transcribed the interview and transferred the audio onto a stable format.

The current oral historian, Linda Yanney, earned a Ph.D. in American Studies at the UI, a distinct advantage, as she was already familiar with the earlier project and many of her subjects. This phase commenced in January 1999 and builds on Beilman's work, while taking into consideration some of the changes the University community has experienced in the intervening decades.



**Tools of the trade, recording equipment, tapes, and the fine art of conversation.**

As in the earlier project, many senior and emeritus faculty are being interviewed. However, Yanney is also seeking the perspectives of some who have shaped the University in other ways—as trade unionists, or civil rights organizers, for example, or simply line teachers and staff who keep the University running each day.

Yanney has interviewed Willard "Sandy" Boyd, former UI President (1969-81) and current professor of Law; Mary Jo Small, a former UI administrator; Jean Martin, motor pool; Wallace Tomasini, professor and former director of the School of Art and Art History; and Ted Wheeler, former UI track coach. She spoke with Sam Becker, professor emeritus, Speech and Communication Studies, who has held multiple administrative posts, including Chair of his department and interim

Provost. He talked at length about his undergraduate years working in the studios of WSUI and his graduate studies with such UI legends as Clay Harshbarger.

Although there are well-documented stories about the UI's history and civil unrest here during the Vietnam War, none capture the tenor of the times like the oral recordings, Yanney says. Susan Boyd, wife of "Sandy" Boyd, recounted that life for the families of UI administrators was strained as anti-war sentiment grew. She reminisced about student-led demonstrations, which at times became so frequent and disorderly that some administrators were forced to move their families from their homes.

Bill Decker, associate vice president for research and former director of Information Technology Services, told about his beginnings at the UI, which as a youngster included trips to the UI band camp, then later his experiences as a band member. Included in his interview are anecdotes about the largely unnoticed camaraderie between the band and football team.

Yanney says her goal is to complete 60 interviews, but she says there's no way to really complete the project since the UI's history will continue to unfold. She says she found in the Libraries' sound archive some 23 earlier cassette tapes that are now being brought up to archival quality.

The Oral History Project is being conducted through the University Archives, the division of the Special Collections Department that is the



# Project

repository of University history. The Archives collection includes records of the Graduate College, speeches of the UI Presidents, Opera Theatre programs, and blueprints of University buildings—even such artifacts as the canes once carried by students of Law and Engineering. These materials are a rich source for the history of the University. Yanney adds, “What is not always apparent in documents is the meaning surrounding them or the values and interests of the people involved. The strength of oral history is revealing some of the rich context of our communities.”

Funding for the Oral History Project has been intermittent, but thanks to a private contribution and a matching donation from the UI Foundation, the project is currently funded through March 2001. Additional funding is sought to continue the project past this date. This is an opportunity to preserve a unique source of University history in the words and voices of those who helped to make it. For additional information on how you can **become involved**, contact **Deborah Dreusicke**, Director of Development, University of Iowa Foundation, 319.335.3305 or [deborah-dreusicke@uiowa.edu](mailto:deborah-dreusicke@uiowa.edu).



## *Professor Emeritus Jerry Kollros with Linda Yanney, University Oral Historian*

YANNEY: Do you continue to do research and writing?

KOLLROS: Yes. Why not? (laughs)

YANNEY: It's just what you do, it's who you are...?

KOLLROS: Yes, it's what I want to do. Exactly. I have some stuff piled up here that's waiting to be written, yes. I mean, I've done the work, where I have to look at slides and get data together and put it together in tabular form and what have you...

YANNEY: So research is something you never intend to stop?

KOLLROS: As long as I...as long as I can still look through a microscope, yes, exactly...

Excerpts from a recent interview conducted by Linda Yanney with Jerry Kollros, Professor Emeritus, Biological Sciences, in his office. Among his many contributions to the UI community, Professor Kollros served as the first President of the UI Faculty Senate. He came to the University of Iowa in 1946 and continues to carry out research in frog embryology. His work explores the influence of the hormonal environment on the stages of development with implications that extend beyond frog species.

Yanney says, “The Kollros interview documents the growing involvement of faculty in University government above the departmental level, one of the many changes the World War II generation initiated in American colleges and universities.”

## Special Events



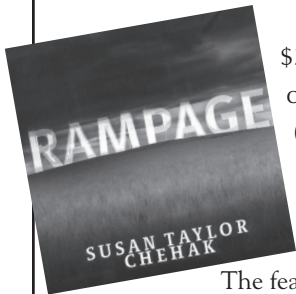
PHOTO BY TOM CHEHAK



### IOWA CONFIDENTIAL: TWO NATIVE IOWANS DISCUSS WRITING, TELEVISION AND LIVING IN LA

Guest Speakers: Susan Taylor Chehak, fiction writer, and teacher Tom Chehak, screenwriter and producer  
May 4, 2001

\$35 per guest covers catering expenses (The dinner menu will be based on a California theme)



The featured speakers for the 2001 Friends Event are Susan Taylor Chehak and Tom Chehak, a married couple who are Iowa natives and University of Iowa alumni. With experiences ranging from that of attending the Madeira School (the posh girls' boarding school in D.C. whose headmistress was Jean Harris of the murdered Scarsdale Diet Doctor fame) to learning how to write screenplays in the company of stuffed "Lassie" dogs, these speakers promise to be very entertaining.

Tom and Susan both grew up in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and have known each other since they were toddlers. Tom graduated from the UI with a degree in filmmaking, and Susan earned an MFA in fiction at the

Writer's Workshop. After marrying, they moved to Los Angeles, where Tom has worked for *The Mary Tyler Moore Show*, written for *The Tony Randall Show* and WKRP in Cincinnati,

directed episodes of the FOX TV series *Alien Nation*, and worked as an executive producer for *Diagnosis Murder* starring Dick Van Dyke on CBS. He is currently developing pilots for various networks.

Susan Taylor Chehak has published five novels and numerous short stories. With the publication of *Rampage*, 1998, which is set against an Iowa landscape, critics started to describe her work as "Midwestern Gothic". Susan teaches fiction writing at the Writer's Program at the UCLA Extension and regularly teaches in The University of Iowa Summer Writers Festival. She recently published a guide to writing titled *Don Quixote Meets the Mob*.

## Outreach Events

### A TOUR OF SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AND THE CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA LIBRARIES

Alumni College: Friday, June 8, 2001  
Special Collections: 1:00-2:15 PM  
Conservation: 2:30-3:45 PM

For more information call the UI Alumni Association 1-800/469-2586 or email [staci-prohaska@uiowa.edu](mailto:staci-prohaska@uiowa.edu)

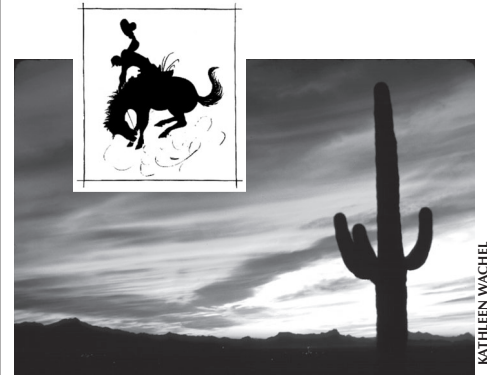
Alumni! Come view the treasures in the Special Collections Department and explore the fascinating world of conservation. David Schoonover, curator of rare books, will discuss some of the Libraries' unique holdings, and Gary Frost, University Conservator, will give a tour of the Conservation facility. Examples of rare books and manuscripts will be available for viewing.

## Exhibitions

### INTO THE SUNSET: VIEWS OF THE AMERICAN WEST

February through May 2001  
North Exhibition Hall, Main Library

The West that captured the imaginations of Americans and foreigners alike was the vast land beyond the Mississippi River known as "Louisiana." When President Thomas Jefferson purchased this territory from Napoleon in 1803, the West was not just a geographic region. It was, and still is, a concept of the mind, of the spirit, often more mythic and imaginary than real. This exhibition examines the complex perceptions of the American West that have developed both from experience and the imagination.



KATHLEEN WACHEL

What is myth and what is real? Historians and other scholars have built careers defining the real West. This exhibit presents a taste of the West to tickle your fancy, to inspire your imagination, and to encourage your thoughtful consideration.

*Into the Sunset* is offered in association with *Lure of the West: Treasures from the Smithsonian American Art Museum*, exhibited at the University of Iowa Museum this past Winter.

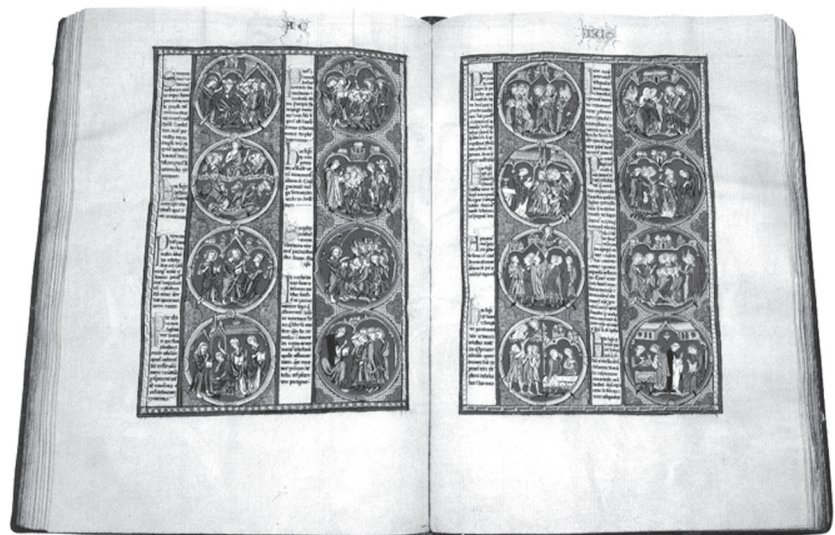
# The Bible of St. Louis

13th Century (1226-1234 AD) from the Cathedral of Toledo.  
Reproduced in facsimile

**L**ouis IX of France gave this magnificent Bible in three volumes to Alfonso X of Spain in the 13<sup>th</sup> century. Considered one of the most expensive and beautiful of all the painted manuscripts crafted in Europe, it was made when Louis IX was a teenager and is venerated as a saintly relic at the Cathedral of Toledo.

A high-quality facsimile is being reproduced with vibrant images on handmade paper with a texture and thickness similar to the original parchment. Published in Barcelona, this extremely accurate facsimile of an original artistic creation will enable students to understand what a medieval masterpiece looks and feels like. Each page contains a rectangular space that is divided into four vertical columns of uneven width—two columns of text and two columns of images, totaling eight images per page. Contained in these three volumes are more than 5,000 miniatures depicting religious scenes that reflect the world view from an early 13<sup>th</sup>-century perspective: men and women, social groups, their vices and virtues, apparel, customs, beliefs, games and ideals.

The University of Iowa was able to subscribe to the project at a reduced pre-publication price, and volume I is now available for use in Special Collections. Funds to purchase the Bible were made available, in part, through the UI Division of Sponsored Programs. This was in response to a request from faculty in the UI Departments of History and Art and Art History. The Bible of St. Louis will stimulate and support research in medieval studies, art history, religion, The Center for the Book, and other related academic departments. It is an important addition to the Libraries collections as the originals are located in Toledo, Spain (where they are not generally accessible), and no microfilm, web-based or photographic record of these manuscripts exists. Moreover, a faithful reproduction is significant, as color symbolism was important in high and late medieval art, and the treatment of color in these manuscripts opens new areas of research for students.



The Bible of St. Louis, opened.



Maria Sklodowska-Curie

## WOMEN IN SCIENCE

June through September 2001  
North Exhibition Hall, Main Library

Women have always made important contributions in the sciences, and not just in supporting roles. Most people have heard of chemist Maria Sklodowska-Curie (1867-1934), who won the Nobel prize twice, and Florence Nightingale (1820-1910), who was an accomplished mathematician in addition to her famous nursing career, but others remain relatively unknown. As the 20th century moved towards end, more and more women found access to careers in

the sciences.

A comprehensive list would now include thousands and thousands of names. Women in Science explores the contributions and accomplishments of these pioneering women from ancient times into the present.



vacuum tube, c. 1940

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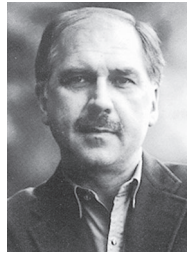
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# The David Morrell Collection

David Morrell is a best-selling author and a former professor of American Literature at the University of Iowa. He left the UI to pursue a career as a full-time writer in 1986. His 1972 debut novel *First Blood* introduced the character John Rambo, inspiring a series of novels and films, the latter starring Sylvester Stallone. His other works include the spy thriller

*The Brotherhood of the Rose* and the high art suspense of *Burnt Sienna*, which depicts the relationship between an artist and a model. With more than fifteen million copies in print, Morrell's novels have made an impact on popular culture here and across the globe. His work has been translated into 22 languages including Thai, Latvian, Korean and Icelandic.

The University of Iowa Libraries is the primary repository for Morrell's writings, thanks to the generosity of the author. While the papers of well-known writers are often in high demand and sold for market value, Morrell, who made his first donation of work to the Libraries in 1988, continues to make these gifts on a regular basis. Comprised of hardback and paperback books in English and various translations, as well as manuscripts, proofs, dust jacket designs, videotapes, audiotapes, filmscripts, type-scripts and research papers, the collection reveals the development and range of his published work and its worldwide appeal. It has particular significance as a resource for teaching and research in a wide range of disciplines from creative writing to international studies and cinema.



The cover of a 1988 Japanese language edition of *Rambo III*. The cover art features Sylvester Stallone as John Rambo.

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