

News Notes

February 5, 2008

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News

From President Gee—the State Budget: *Governor Strickland announced a series of decisions aimed at closing the significant budget deficit confronted by Ohio. In that announcement the Governor reaffirmed his commitment to higher education and to Ohio State by preserving funding for universities and colleges, while making difficult choices in other areas of state government.*

I would like to personally thank Governor Strickland, Chancellor Fingerhut, and leaders of the Ohio General Assembly for their continuing support for affordable and excellent public higher education. The Governor's decisions demonstrate a real commitment to ensuring Ohio's long-term economic health through investment in Ohio State and other state-supported universities and colleges.

We at Ohio State have a substantial responsibility. We must continue to attract and retain the best and brightest students and faculty, provide a world class education, conduct cutting-edge research, attract outside investment, and partner with institutions, business and industry to turn innovative ideas into real-world solutions for the public good. And we must do so while being wise stewards of our resources.

I believe we represent Ohio's best opportunity for a prosperous future. Today's announcement is a vote of confidence in that belief, and I look forward to all of us working together to fulfill Ohio State's enormous promise and responsibilities to the citizens of Ohio.

General Staff Meetings Coming Up: Meetings this month will be Wednesday, February 20, 10-11:30 a.m. at Ackerman Library, Room 5826, and Thursday, February 21, 1:30-3 p.m., Science & Engineering Library, Rooms 070/090. Be watching for a "liball" email with a meeting agenda.

Hidden Benefits Brown Bags, Tuesday, February 19, 11:30 a.m., Science & Engineering Library, Room 070/090; Wednesday, February 20, 11:30 a.m., Ackerman Library 5826: These brown bags are designed to help Libraries' faculty and staff learn about benefits, discounts and other perks that many university employees don't realize are

available to them. Michele Bondurant from Human Resources will give us some information about what is available. All staff and faculty are invited to attend. Sponsored by the Committee on Faculty Benefits, Privileges, and Responsibilities (CFBPR).

34th Annual Conference, Academic Library Association of Ohio (ALAO), Friday, October 24, 2008. The conference will be held in southwest Ohio at the Roberts Convention Centre near Wilmington, Ohio. The theme this year is: "Connecting the Campus: Linking Users, Institutions, and Information." For a description of the conference theme and examples of possible topics for presentations and posters, open the attached "Call for Proposals." The proposal form itself is available at <http://www.lib.muohio.edu/alaoprop/>. Please consider submitting creative, practical and thoughtful proposals to stimulate lively discussions with our colleagues from around the state.

Lectures

Cultural Explosion, with designer/author Rosemary E. Reed Miller, Thursday, February 28, 6:30 p.m. refreshments, 7 p.m. program, Campbell Hall, Columbia Gas Lounge, 1787 Neil Ave.; parking available in the garage behind Campbell Hall; tickets, \$15; students free: Miller will discuss her book "Threads of Time, The Fabric of History, profiles about African-American designers and dressmakers from 1850 to the present. See the flyer on page 2 for complete details.

Training Opportunities



Click! Have you heard of social networking or del.icio.us and wondered what it actually means? Why are people talking about Facebook and blogs, and why do we need to know about what students are doing with them? How can this be relevant to your daily work, and why should you care?

OSUL offers a multiple-part training course on these technologies and applications for library employees, faculty and staff. Click [here](#) for the full list of sessions. Register today! Questions? Contact [Rebekah Kilzer](#)

- **Training Calendar:** <http://library.osu.edu/sites/staff/training/calendars.html>.
- **Human Resources/Organization & HR Consulting Information:** <http://hr.osu.edu/ohrd/index.asp>
- **Meeting and Events Calendar:** Marilyn Willhoff maintains a calendar of all known events and regularly scheduled and special meetings for each month. The calendars are available on the Staff Information page under the first category of People, etc.; they can also be accessed directly at the following URL: <http://library.osu.edu/sites/staff/comcal.html>.

in partnership with OSU, presents it's annual

Cultural Explosion



Designer and author Rosemary E. Reed Miller, will present her book, *Threads of Time, The Fabric of History*-Profiles about African American designers and dressmakers from 1850 to the Present.

Did you know:
African American designer, Ann Lowe designed the wedding dress for Jackie Kennedy? It is the most photographed wedding dress in American history. People Magazine voted the wedding dress as the most beautiful dress ever. The New York Times covered the 1953 wedding, wrote about the dress but did not mention the designer. When Franklin Mint made a doll with a replica of the wedding dress, they listed the artist as 'Oleg Cassini.' A small detail, but typical of the problem of documenting the contribution of African Americans to American history.

Reed-Miller has spotlighted this small, but interesting area of achievement in her book which profiles 22 women including Rosa Parks, Zeldia Wynn, who designed costumes for the Dance Theatre of Harlem and Elizabeth Keckley, who designed for Mrs. Abraham Lincoln.

- A Black History Month Program featuring Rosemary E. Reed Miller, together with a panel of African American designers

February 28, 2008

The Ohio State University

Campbell Hall - Columbia Gas Lounge

1787 Neil Ave Columbus, OH 43210

Parking available in the garage behind Campbell Hall

Tickets \$15.

Students Free with ID

6:30 PM - Refreshments

7 PM Presentation

followed by Reception


Sponsored in part
by OSU Historic
Costume & Textiles
Collection

RSVP by 2/25 to
614.292.3090

For more info. or to
reserve tickets, contact
Gayle Stregre via e-mail at
Stregre.2@osu.edu

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People

Spot Bonus

Jim Muir/Information Technology received a spot bonus for his work on the interactive campus map used for Instruction's "Head Hunt" game, creating a complex database, tracking demographic information and game usage. Jim's advanced programming for all these activities created a user-friendly look and a robust platform.



Rick Brown retires: Rick Brown wrapped up his career at OSUL last month, celebrating with family and friends. From left: Guests enjoy the fine hors d'oeuvres; Rick and Yvonne Brown perform at the party; Rick talks with Sue Rahnema.



Three new colleagues bring unique skills to the OSU Libraries: Every OSU librarian has an area of expertise that is invaluable to the faculty and students with whom they work in conducting research and learning. From English and Japanese to chemistry and astrophysics, librarians benefit from specializing in a specific field of research. At the same time, faculty benefit in working with librarians with such specific expertise.

As the nature and magnitude of research changes, university faculty members have expressed a need for support from individuals schooled in their area of expertise. In response, OSUL recently made a new and innovative series of hires of three individuals with graduate degrees in various sciences who are not yet librarians. **Jessica Page, Florian Diekmann and Belinda Hurley** began working at OSUL in January.

The three new OSUL staffers will be earning their MLS degrees as a condition of their employment.

Jessica Page, a Master's graduate from University of Pennsylvania in ecology with a focus in plants and fungi, actually contemplated working in a university library before being recruited to do so. She went to Kent State University's Library Information Program to see if work in a library would interest her. She originally discovered her interest in research at her old job, where she worked for Ohio's Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), focusing much of her time on getting

information for various groups. Jessica is simultaneously excited and nervous about her new position – she admits being not quite sure what she will be doing, and knows she is something of an “unknown quantity.” Jessica’s hobbies include scuba diving, knitting, and running, which she confesses is done slowly and for short distances.

Florian Diekmann, OSU’s newest expert on agronomy, is certainly well educated in his field. In addition to his degree in agricultural economics and PhD in agronomy and crop sciences from the Technical University of Munich, Florian also attended the University of Missouri, University of Kiel, and Ohio State. He is intrigued by the management of knowledge and how it applies to bright people. In addition, Ohio State’s diversity was a large selling point in his decision to come here. He is excited to be able to learn what the faculty wants and adapting the library and its resources to further meet their needs. Florian would love the opportunity to join with some faculty in research. He clearly has a strong background in agronomy, admits not being as strong in social, applied, or other physical sciences with which he will also work. Florian describes himself as an avid sailor.



Jessica



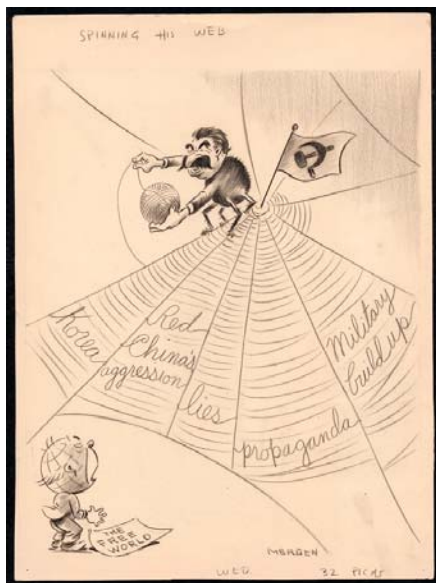
Florian

Belinda Hurley, who received all of her education here at Ohio State, is the library’s expert on chemistry and corrosion. She cites the diversity and her love for the university as two of the biggest draws for remaining on campus. Brenda has always been passionate about libraries. Very optimistic about her job, she asks, “What is there to be worried about?” Belinda is intrigued by the fact that there are clear goals for her job, but not a clear path set in front of her. She will remain simultaneously active in both her field and the library. In her field, she will be involved in some teaching capacity, although she is currently unsure what that will be. Belinda walks a lot and enjoys sewing.

In discussing the new approach, Library Assistant Director Jim Bracken points out that each specialty – economics, political science, entomology, and, more literally, Chinese – has its own unique language. If the librarians can “speak the language,” they can added value to the research support they provide, ultimately making it more successfully. Ohio State is in a league with the most cutting-edge research universities in the world. In order for its research to remain cutting-edge, it needs cutting-edge librarians.

by Stephen Lipton

Exhibits



Anne Mergen: Editorial Cartoonist

Through April 11

Cartoon Research Library

Anne Mergen's editorial cartoons chronicle history from the Great Depression through the Cold War. During that time, she was the only woman in the nation working as an editorial cartoonist. Mergen was born in Omaha, Nebraska, in 1906. She studied commercial art in Chicago before moving to Miami in the mid 1920s to work as a fashion advertising artist for a local department store. When the *Miami Daily News*, part of the Cox newspaper chain, hired her as its editorial cartoonist in 1933, she was the only woman editorial cartoonist in the United States, a status that continued until her retirement in 1956.

She continued to have cartoons published as late as 1959. She had a home studio and all of the contemporary press coverage about her career celebrates the fact that she drew

her editorial cartoons only after fulfilling her duties as wife and mother to two children. In addition to being published in the *Miami Daily News*, her cartoons were published in other Cox newspapers including the *Atlanta Journal* and the *Dayton News*. The editorial cartoons in this exhibit range from Mergen's take on Goebbels' propaganda to the advent of nuclear power. She was a thoughtful commentator on the events of her time and her work merits wider recognition.

Anne Mergen died in 1994. The cartoons in this exhibition were donated to the Cartoon Research Library by her grandchildren, Matthew Bernhardt and Christine Hoverman. The Anne Mergen Collection at the Cartoon Research Library contains almost 600 original editorial cartoons documenting her work. This exhibit is free and open to the public.

The Little Black Dress: A Fashion Icon

Through May 10

Historic Costume & Textiles Collection

Is anything more iconic or versatile than the little black dress? Sixty of the collection's little black dresses will be on display through May 10. The Little Black Dress exhibition illustrates its namesake's many facets from its beginnings in the late 1920's through the end of the 20th century. Dresses range from the classy and eternal cocktail dresses from the 50's and 60's to the funky styles of the days of disco. Classic pieces that echo the timeless sentiments of Audrey Hepburn in *Sabrina* and *Breakfast at Tiffany's* are featured alongside eclectic pieces, such as the dress featuring a design of the Eiffel Tower fashioned from silver buttons by Patrick Kelly, the first African American to show in Paris. Many of these dresses are created by some of fashion's most well-known and respected names including Christian Dior, Oscar de la Renta, Calvin Klein, and Chanel, the designer credited with "inventing" the little black dress. Two are creations from the minds of Irene Lentz Gibbons and Gilbert Adrian who made their reputations designing for MGM in Hollywood's golden years. The exhibition is located on campus in Campbell Hall's Geraldine Schottenstein Wing at 1787 Neil Avenue. For gallery hours and parking information, visit [Historic Costumes](#) and to schedule a tour of 10 or more, call 292-3090.