



News Notes

May 27, 2008

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News

IMCA Collection Moving to Cartoon Research Library: The collection of the International Museum of Cartoon Art (IMCA) is moving to The Ohio State University Cartoon Research Library. The union of these two institutions will create the largest collection of original cartoon art in the world.

IMCA was established in 1973 by Mort Walker, the creative force behind *Beetle Bailey*, as the first museum dedicated to collecting and exhibiting cartoons. IMCA's collection consists of approximately 200,000 works, including original drawings from all genres of cartoon art (comic strips, comic books, animation, editorial, advertising, sport, caricature, greeting cards, graphic novels, and illustrations), display figures, toys and collectibles, and works on film and tape, CDs, and DVDs.

IMCA's operating history spanned nearly 30 years. The museum originally opened in 1974 in a converted mansion in Greenwich, Connecticut. Two years later, the museum relocated to a renovated castle in Rye Brook, New York, where the collection was displayed until 1992. At that time, the city of Boca Raton, Florida invited the museum to construct a 52,000 square foot facility as part of an effort to attract cultural institutions to Palm Beach County. The museum was a very popular attraction with critically acclaimed exhibitions and events and programs for the public. Unfortunately, in 2002, after six years of highly successful operation and the expectation of a long and similarly successful future, the inability of several major donors to fulfill pledges forced the museum to close.

Lucy Shelton Caswell, professor and curator of the Cartoon Research Library, said, "We are honored that the IMCA's board has placed its treasures in our care." Efforts are underway to provide increased space for the Cartoon Research Library that will include museum-quality galleries. "It is critical that we have state-of-the-art gallery space to display IMCA's collection appropriately," notes Caswell. A gallery in the new facility will be named in honor of IMCA founder Mort Walker.

The significance of the acquisition was noted in an editorial in the May 26 *Columbus Dispatch*:

Ohio State University's Cartoon Research Library is a little known gem on campus, holding more than 250,000 original print cartoon works and biographical information on many cartoonists. Now, the library stands to gain the visibility it deserves, as it picks up another 200,000 pieces from the defunct International Museum of Cartoon Art. This acquisition likely makes OSU's cartoon-art collection the largest in the world.

Entrusting the contents of his beloved museum to OSU, Mort Walker, creator of the Beetle Bailey comic strip, gave a huge vote of confidence to OSU curator Lucy Shelton Caswell and her staff. Now the Cartoon Research Library will look for space to expand from its few rooms in the Wexner Center for the Arts, the happy consequence of which will be that the public has much better access to this remarkable collection.

OSU Libraries Director Joe Branin said, "In receiving the collection of the International Museum of Cartoon Art, the Cartoon Research Library has substantially enhanced its standing as one of the premier research libraries. We are excited to make this outstanding collection available for scholarly study and for general appreciation in exhibits and other public programs."

RSS Feeds and Managing Information, June 17, 1 p.m., Science & Engineering Library, Room 390: This session is being presented by Eric Schnell.



Learning Collaboration Studio Launched May 21: Vicky Getis, director of the Digital Union, and Libraries' Assistant Director **Jim Bracken** join OSU President E. Gordon Gee in the official launch of the Learning Collaboration Studio at the Science & Engineering Library. The studio is a new joint venture between University Libraries and the Digital Union. The Learning Collaboration Studio is a unique space designed to provide a highly interactive learning space while familiarizing librarians with the opportunities and challenges faculty face. The event also marked the Digital Union's 4th anniversary with a showcase of projects from the facility's past year.

More event photos on page 5.

“Women in White Coats: Gender Equality in the Laboratory,” Science Café, Jessica Hanzlik (OSU's newest and first female Rhodes Scholar), June 4, 6:30 p.m., [South Campus Gateway Landmark Movie Theater](#), 1550 N. High St:

Culturally-prescribed gender roles tend to limit the access women have when studying science and upon entering scientific professions. Interestingly, there is a statistically significant difference between the percentage of female scientists in France and in the United States, with France being closer to parity. Jessica Hanzlik, OSU's first female Rhodes Scholar and Particle Physics phenom, presents the results of her interviews with French male and female scientists (from all levels of higher education) on how their opinions about French culture and tradition correlate with general, gender-specific trends in science. Hanzlik argues that working toward gender equality in the sciences is a valuable goal, both from the perspective of fairness, and from the perspective of increasing scientific innovation. You can purchase beer, wine, food, and other treats at the Theater; park in the Gateway parking ramp--\$1 for three hours.

Training Opportunities



- **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>

People

Personnel *Provided by the OSU Libraries HR Department*

VACANCIES

FACULTY

Cataloging Department - Cataloging Coordinator - 100% FTE - replacing Dunham

Collections, Instruction, and Public Services (CIPS) - Librarian/Interdisciplinary Social Sciences Subject Specialist - 100% FTE - New Position

Health Sciences Library - Assistant Professor (Education and Reference Services Coordinator) - 100% FTE - New Position

ADMINISTRATIVE & PROFESSIONAL

Serials and Electronic Resources Department - Administrative Associate 1 - 100% FTE - New Position

Health Sciences Library (Center for Knowledge Mgmt) - Systems Specialist - A&P - 100% FTE - New Position

Human Resources Department - Administrative Associate 2 - 100% FTE - New Position

STAFF

Health Sciences Library - (Office of Health Sciences) - Personnel Technician 2

In order to comply with University procedures, employees who are applying for listed vacancies must complete a Promotion/Transfer Request (form 8931, Rev 9/97) during the week of the first listing of the vacancy in the University Personnel Posting (green sheet). To ensure awareness of all vacancies which have been posted, applicants should consult the weekly green sheet rather than relying on the listing in NEWS NOTES Online and are encouraged to attach a resume and/or other supporting documents to the form. Prospective faculty and staff applicants who are absent during the five-day posting period and wish to apply should see Toni Morrison-Smith.

Library personnel can also review university employment opportunities at:
<https://www.jobsatosu.com/applicants/jsp/shared/frameset/Frameset.jsp?time=1206709374977>

Exhibits

Jeff Smith: Before Bone

Through September 5

Cartoon Research Library's Reading Room Gallery

To celebrate the opening of this exhibit and its companion exhibition *Jeff Smith: Bone and Beyond* at the Wexner Center for the Arts, the Cartoon Research Library will be open Saturday, May 10, from 1-5 p.m. This is the only Saturday the exhibit will be open.

Jeff Smith brought a much more polished feature to the campus newspaper than most student cartoonists. From its inception, *Thorn*, the title of Smith's *Lantern* strip which was named after its female protagonist, exhibited an unusual level of sophistication. The strip demonstrated very capable manipulation of layout and design coupled with time-honored comic strip narrative techniques. It is interesting to note that by his early twenties, Smith clearly grasped the power of epic narrative, even though the storyline of *Thorn*, while sophisticated and entertaining, was not linear.

The vantage point of a quarter century and the phenomenal international success of *Bone* make us see Jeff Smith's college cartoons in a different perspective than we did when they first ran in *The Lantern*. At The Ohio State University, the student newspaper describes itself as a "laboratory newspaper," and it served that purpose very successfully for Smith. He used *Thorn* both to hone his artistic skills and to experiment with several types of storytelling. From a sketchbook page to finished comic strips, this exhibition celebrates the education of a young man.

A signed and numbered catalogue limited to 500 copies is available. It reprints all of the *Thorn* comic strips in this exhibit and has an introduction by Jeff Smith, a foreword by his colleague Jim Kammerud and an essay by Lucy Shelton Caswell. The volume is available from the library for \$25 per copy. All proceeds from the sale of this catalogue will benefit the Cartoon Research Library.

Denman Research Projects

Through May 30

Science & Engineering Library

Check out the Denman research projects, currently on display in the Science and Engineering Library. These 50 posters depict the research of the best and brightest of the undergraduate students here at Ohio State.

Digital Union 4th Anniversary

