Bud and Betty Micheels Artist-in-Residence

April 26 thru May 10, the Artist-In-Residence had their work displayed in the lobby of the University Library. This year the winners were Jennifer Ekstrand and Mary Overman.

Jennifer Ekstrand artwork investigated the removal of function in furniture products and instruction manuals of the world’s largest furniture manufacturer, IKEA. She chose the IKEA furniture because of the inherent beauty that the objects held. Using deconstruction and reconstruction she removed the function of the pieces and instructions to create a visual representation of buildings, scaffolding, and billboards.

Mary Overman’s work had a foundation in bioethics, the ethics of medical and biological research within cosmetic procedures. When doing her work she thought about the modesty and humility about what we know, what we can do to ourselves, and our capabilities of ascension.

One piece of artwork from each artist was selected to become a permanent item in the library’s collection.

Lugo Receives Outstanding Woman of Color Award

A Senior Academic Librarian at the University Library, Lelah-von Lugo, was presented with a UW System Outstanding Woman of Color award on April 4th, at the 33rd annual Wisconsin Women’s Studies conference. This statewide recognition is awarded to women of color that have advocated women’s issues and diversity within their communities.

Lelah was selected in 1988 to serve on the Senate of Academic Staff, as well as Equity for Woman Initiative and the Learning and Work Environment Subcommittee. In 2008, she was on the Curriculum and Pedagogical Transformation Team, the Sexual Harassment Education Committee, the Chancellor’s Advisory Committee on Minority Faculty and Staff and the Equal Opportunities in Education committee.

Lugo grew up in Santa Barbara, California and moved to Northeastern Wisconsin when she was a teenager. She has a bachelor’s degree in library science and history and a master’s degree in library science from UW-Oshkosh.

Barnard Award Recipient, Bill Johnston

Bill Johnston is this year’s recipient of the Barnard Outstanding Service Award. He was cited as being an excellent reference librarian, being helpful to anyone in need, being open-minded to individuals and methodologies, and relating well to the younger population on campus.

Written by Carol Hagness

Written by Christi Wasson
Ask-A-Librarian Instant Messaging

The majority of our college students use Instant Messaging (IM) as a communication tool. IM services are faster than e-mail and a convenient way to communicate.

Meebo Instant Messaging is now an additional method to quickly ask questions of UW-Stout reference librarians. Librarians swiftly respond during Reference Desk hours. IM is especially great for getting answers to short factual questions.

To instantly use Meebo, just click on the Ask-A-Librarian button or Meebo icon on the library website. It can be immediately used. Software does not have to be downloaded or an Meebo account created. Just type a question into the Meebo IM box and wait for the librarian’s response.

Consider setting up a personal Meebo account http://www.meebo.com to simultaneously logon to other IM accounts including AIM, Windows Live Messenger, Yahoo Messenger, Facebook, etc. If you have your own IM account, be sure to add ULreference!

Written by Jana Reeg-Steidinger

The Tower Yearbook Online

Did you know that the oldest Fraternity on Campus is Phi Omega Beta? The first chapter began in 1927 and recognized by the administration in 1929. In 1919 there was no yearbook published on campus because there was a paper shortage. During World War II there was a homecoming queen but no king because there wasn’t enough candidates due to the war.

This is all information that can be found by looking at The Tower, UW-Stout’s yearbook. The Tower was first published in 1909 and the last one was published in 1989.

The University Archives and Area Research Center staff have been working this past year on scanning and indexing The Tower and placing it on our webpage so interested parties can look up their family and friends from anywhere in the world. This project is near completion. There are 80 books in all.

Most of the interest in The Tower has been from Class Reunion Committees but some people are interested in looking up family that graduated or went to UW-Stout. One Stout graduate came in looking for a classmate – couldn’t remember their last name but remembered what they looked like and where they lived. So The Tower is also being used as a tool to reconnect with old friends, at least for those still not acquainted with Facebook.

The Area Research Center is part of a cooperative project by the Wisconsin Historical Society and UW-Stout to preserve the history of this great school and state.

Written by Robin Melland
Becca Peters, Carol Hagness, and Denise Madland attended the 2009 Library Technology Conference at Macalester College in St. Paul on March 18 & 19. The opening keynote speaker, Stacey Greenwell, Head of the Information Commons (called the Hub) at the University of Kentucky, presented “Applying the Information Commons Concept in Your Library.” She described an Information Commons as a place that is flexible, collaborative, and student centric. She also outlined the process her library undertook, including the successes and failures, to bring about these concepts to her library. The UW-Stout University Library has been applying the Info Commons concept to the first floor reference area by purchasing new soft seating and study tables, creating access to research and technical assistance, and providing scanners, computers, and high-speed printers.

Another session, “Making Your User Guides Relevant in 2.0 World” shared the experiences of librarians at Wartburg College, with the software LibGuides, powered by Springshare. UW-Stout’s Library has been on the same path, using LibGuides for the library subject guides since summer 2008. Improvements over the old subject guides include: tabbed pages for content areas, direct linking through the proxy server to subscription services (like EBSCOhost), the incorporation of search widgets for direct searches (E.G. Stout Library Catalog), inclusion of Meebo chat box for asking reference questions, and links to audiovisual tutorials teaching the use of databases. As Wartburg librarians also found, LibGuides are easy to navigate and promote the use of library resources on a 24/7 basis. An added bonus is the ability for librarians to create course specific guides, quickly and easily, in consultation with classroom teachers. Check out the examples by going to the library home page and clicking on Course Guides or Subject and Reference Guides.

Overall, the conference addressed applications of today’s technologies to improve services and access to library resources. Some of these the University Library has already embraced and promoted: online database and research tutorials, instant messaging, blog, book images in the catalog with links to reviews, “more like this” features in the catalog that link to additional resources, direct links to selected databases, and a federated search engine that searches several databases and the catalog simultaneously. Presenters showed how to make these even better! Some new ideas for us to consider: using Amazon’s Kindle for Interlibrary Loan services, incorporating cartooning into tutorials, incorporating more open source applications, redesigning library web pages with more interactivity and usability on mobile technologies, planning for the “next generation” library catalog, and working with faculty on embedding library resources into courseware. You can expect continuous improvements!

Written by Becca Peters, Denise Madland, & Carol Hagness

To celebrate National Library Week, the University Library provided bookmarks, bracelets, magnets, cookies and candy for our patrons. There was also two contests during the week. One involved guessing how many paperclips were in a jar. Nischal Shrestha won the paper clip contest by guessing 472 paper clips, the closest guess to the actual 486 paper clips in the jar. The other contest was to find out what a list of acronyms stood for. The winner of that contest was Meg Thomas. Congratulations to both winners!

Written by Christi Wasson
Most Challenged Books in 2008

Last year 513 challenges were sent to the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom. It is projected that for each challenge that is reported, there are four or five that remain unreported. That means that there could be between 2,052 and 2,565 challenges in 2008 alone. A challenge is defined as “a formal, written, complaint, filed with a library or school requesting that materials be removed because of content or appropriateness”.

1. *And Tango Makes Three* by Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell
   Reasons: anti-ethnic, anti-family, homosexuality, religious viewpoint, unsuited to age group
   EMC Juvenile Collection PZ7.R414 Tan 2005

2. *His Dark Materials* trilogy by Philip Pullman
   Reasons: political viewpoint, religious viewpoint, violence
   *Amber Spyglass, Subtle Knife, and The Golden Compass*
   EMC YA Collection PZ7.P968

3. *TTYL; TTFN; L8R, G8R* (series) by Lauren Myracle
   Reasons: offensive language, sexually explicit, unsuited to age group
   Order through Universal Borrowing!

4. *Scary Stories* (series) by Alvin Schwartz
   Reasons: occult/Satanism, religious viewpoint, violence
   Order through Universal Borrowing!

5. *Bless Me, Ultima* by Rudolfo Anaya
   Reasons: occult/Satanism, offensive language, religious viewpoint, sexually explicit, violence
   Main Stacks PS3551.N27 B56x

6. *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* by Stephen Chbosky
   Reasons: drugs, homosexuality, nudity, offensive language, sexually explicit, suicide, unsuited to age group
   Order through Universal Borrowing!

7. *Gossip Girl* (series) by Cecily von Ziegesar
   Reasons: offensive language, sexually explicit, unsuited to age group
   Order through Universal Borrowing!

8. *Uncle Bobby’s Wedding* by Sarah S. Brannen
   Reasons: homosexuality, unsuited to age group
   Order through Universal Borrowing!

9. *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini
   Reasons: offensive language, sexually explicit, unsuited to age group
   Main Stacks PS3608.O525 K58 2003

10. *Flashcards of My Life* by Charise Mericle Harper
    Reasons: sexually explicit, unsuited to age group
    Order through Universal Borrowing

Written by Christi Wasson
The House in the Night is the Caldecott Medal Winner

The House in the Night, illustrated by Beth Krommes, is the 2009 winner of the Randolph Caldecott Medal. The Caldecott Medal is awarded to the artist of the most distinguished American picture book for children. The Caldecott Medal is named in honor of 19th century English illustrator Randolph Caldecott and has been awarded every year since 1938.

According to ALA website, “Richly detailed black-and-white scratchboard illustrations expand this timeless bedtime verse, offering reassurance to young children that there is always light in the darkness. Krommes’ elegant line, illuminated with touches of golden watercolor, evoke the warmth and comfort of home and family, as well as the joys of exploring the wider world.”

Current and past winners of the Newbery and Caldecott Medals are available in the University Library’s Educational Materials Center. The EMC also has many of the Newbery and Caldecott Honor books. For more information contact EMC Librarian Cory Mitchell mitchellc@uwstout.edu

Written by Cory Mitchell

Gaiman Wins the Newbery Medal

The Graveyard Book by Neil Gaiman is the 2009 winner of the John Newbery Medal. The Newbery Medal is given to the most distinguished contribution to children’s literature in the United States. This award is conferred by the Association for Library Service to Children, a division of the American Library Association. The Newbery Medal, named for John Newbery, a children’s book publisher from the 18th century, is considered one of the most prestigious book awards for children’s literature.

The Graveyard Book is about a young boy named Nobody Owens who is adopted by the denizens of a graveyard after his family is murdered. Newbery Committee Chair, Rose V. Tervino comments, “A child named Nobody, an assassin, a graveyard and the dead are the perfect combination in this deliciously creepy tale, which is sometimes humorous, sometimes haunting and sometimes surprising.”

Written by Cory Mitchell
ATTENTION INSTRUCTORS! A new enhancement allows you to put EBSCOhost databases "front and center" by adding a search box right to your Learn@UWStout page! A special “widget” can give your students a quick and easy way to search EBSCO databases.

EBSCO’s new **Search Box Builder** makes it easy for you to create an EBSCOhost search box. This simple, step-by-step tool generates the HTML code that can be placed into a website. The **Search Box Builder** helps you customize your search box by asking you to identify which databases you wish to search, choose from available limiters, ex: scholarly (peer reviewed) journals, set your authentication parameters, and choose the most appropriate search box for your needs. The tool then generates the code that you can cut and paste to add to your website.

**Search Box Example:**

If you would like to learn how to add this widget contact Lelah Lugo (lugola@uwstout.edu; x1552) or Carol Hagness (hagness@uwstout.edu; x1892). We can provide you the step-by-step instructions and guide you in creating this new search enhancement.

Written by Lelah Lugo