

University Of Washington
Faculty Council on University Libraries
2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m., May 8, 2013
Special Collections Conference Room, Allen Library - South

Meeting Synopsis:

1. Call to Order and Approval of the Agenda
2. Review of Minutes from April 17, 2013
3. Dean's Update
4. Conservation Strategy
5. Truman: New Book/Old Desk
6. Adjourn

1. Call to Order and Approval of Agenda

The meeting was called to order by acting Chair Lattemann at 2:30 p.m.

2. Review of Minutes from April 17, 2013

The minutes from April 17th were approved as written.

3. Dean's Update

Migration to Shared Integrated Library System

Wilson reported that the migration to a shared integrated library system is moving smoothly. They are planning to move to the new system by the middle of June. This was a topic for last meeting so Wilson provided a brief background. Wilson thanked FCUL for the advice and feedback provided to the SLIS communication team.

Odegaard Undergraduate Library

Construction at Odegaard Undergraduate Library is proceeding very well. Wilson scheduled a special VIP tour of the library for next meeting on June 12th. Wilson provided an update of project milestones.

Literary Voices Fundraising Event

Wilson reported on Literary Voices, a fundraising event that brought together donors and area authors. The keynote speaker was Garth Stein, author of the book *The Art of Racing in the Rain*. Wilson reported proceeds from the Literary Voices event will go toward the \$1.25 million challenge grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to fund a new Senior Conservator position in its Preservation Services Division. The Mellon Foundation grant includes \$1 million as a permanent endowment and \$250,000 to establish the new position. The Libraries will raise \$1 million over three years to match the award which will generate funding to support the position permanently.

4. Conservation Strategy [Exhibit A]

Stephanie Lamson, Head of Preservation, and Kate Leonard, Conservation Manager, provided a brief background of UW's conservation program and explained why the new Senior Conservator position is essential. Lamson also explained that previous recipients of this grant include Duke, Columbia and the University of Illinois.

Tour of conservation

Lamson and Leonard showcased different items that had been conserved and items needing conservation, thereby demonstrating what the new Senior Conservator will bring to the Libraries.

Items introduced to the council included:

- The Nuremberg Chronicle
- Johnson's Dictionary
- Example of a Northwest explorer's daily journal
- Artwork of Eddie Saito
- Mining map from Roslyn, WA (1924)
- Bird's-eye illustration of the Alaska-Yukon Exposition
- Panoramic photographs
- Falklands Palace Cabinet (made in 1630 and shipped to Seattle in 1909)

During the tour Lamson and Leonard discussed preservation techniques, bindings and treatments of books and paper. These are all examples of the importance of having a new staff member dedicated to preserving original documents because these materials do not age well. Sometimes their office receives old and damaged pictures and the best they can do is stabilize the material to ensure no future damage will occur. For example, the mining map from Roslyn was delivered to them with tape on it which will require special techniques to remove.

The new lab to support this work will be located on the 5th floor of Suzzallo and will cost approximately \$2 million to retrofit and equip the new work space. The current lab is located in the basement of Suzzallo and lacks the updated equipment and room specifications (such as venting) needed to effectively conduct their preservation work. The lab is planned to be a shared facility employing 2.5 FTEs, interns and student assistants which is why the larger space is ideal for training and conservation. Lamson mentioned that there are no other research institutions that have a separate conservation lab other than Harvard.

5. Truman: New Book/Old Desk – Presentation by Dick Kirkendall

Tour of Truman Desk

Kirkendall provided a tour Harry Truman's Senate desk and provided a history of the politics that surrounded Truman at the time he used the desk. The desk was also used by Scoop Jackson and was eventually given to the UW by the City of Everett for safekeeping. After several years the City of Everett decided to transfer the desk to a more secure location which was then sent to Special Collections where it now resides. It is fitting that the desk is in Special Collections as that is where the Jackson papers are housed.

Presentation of New Book

Kirkendall provided a background of his new book *Civil Liberties and the legacy of Harry S. Truman*. The book was published in February and is part of a larger project spanning back to when he joined the University of Missouri faculty in 1958. The book is a multi-authored book which is something he has done quite often as 6 of his 14 books are multi-authored. As an editor, Kirkendall selected the topics in the book and recruited authors he believed were doing interesting work. He set the guidelines for the authors and appraised their chapters, but did not act as the copy editor.

The reason he began focusing on Truman came by accident. While teaching in a liberal arts college in Connecticut, Kirkendall applied to the University of Missouri because he wanted to work at a public university west of the Mississippi. The Missouri historians wanted to strengthen their doctoral program by taking advantage of the fact that the Truman Library was about to open. Over the next 15 years Kirkendall developed a graduate program and recruited a good group of students with the help of the National Defense Education Act. He mentioned that Truman himself was in the library every day and was always available and approachable. Truman's presence gave Kirkendall opportunities to introduce his graduate students to both the library and to Truman. Additionally, Truman would meet with high school kids, speak about the importance of civic responsibilities, and attend social events connected with library. Kirkendall mentioned that he once asked Truman why his goal in Korea changed in the middle of the conflict, and the former president responded "Young man, my goal was constant from the beginning to the end. Go home and read your history books." So he went home, did his research, and was finally convinced Truman was right. The objective was always peace and Truman pursued it in a variety of ways.

During his time at Missouri Kirkendall oversaw a very successful doctoral program. Most of the dissertations that he reviewed were all connected with Truman. Eventually, one of the doctoral graduates produced what historians believe is the best biography of Truman. After his years as a Missourian he was able to contribute to development of programs in the library as a member of the library's Board of Directors most of the time from 1973 to 2008.

Kirkendall took on the task of developing the book on Truman and civil liberties in response to a request from the director of the Truman library, and Truman State University Press published it as the ninth volume in a series on Truman's legacy. Truman State University is an interesting story. The school began as a teacher's college, became a regional university and in the 1980s changed their name to Truman State University. One day at a Truman Library event a colleague introduced him as an expert on Truman. The University president asked if he could step in as the commencement speaker if President George W. Bush had to pull out. President Bush eventually did pull out and Kirkendall made the commencement speech.

Kirkendall reported that his chapter in the new book shows that Truman presented himself as champion of civil liberties during a very difficult time when the emphasis was on national security. The picture on the book cover is of Truman in 1951 speaking to the American Legion, an organization that included many members who supported Senator Joseph McCarthy and others like him. That speech focused on reminding them that their constitution is in harmony with America's constitution and they have an obligation to live up to that. The essays in this book supported the introductory chapter in some ways but challenge it at other points. For example, the chapter on the FBI demonstrated that Truman should not have been as supportive for J. Edgar Hoover since he was feeding information to McCarthy with a motive to destroy the liberal left.

The process of authoring this book has helped him think about another book that he is currently working on, "Harry Truman's Quest for Peace". Peace topped Truman's agenda; everything else fell into secondary positions. Truman's argument for civil rights, for example, included the idea that Americans must improve our record in that area in order to strengthen the US around the world. The new book project seeks to explain why peace was on top of his agenda and proposes that the situation he faced was not the whole answer and that we must also consider who he was as a person. He was heavily influenced by war, beginning with family stories of suffering during the Civil War and including his

participation as a soldier in World War I. Another example was his participation in France in 1918. The book will also argue that Truman was a man of religious faith and that faith also influenced his work as president. His introductory essay to his 2004 book discussed Truman's Farewell Address and noted that he made little mention of domestic accomplishment but spoke mainly of international relations. This led to his study of Truman's quest for peace. The book will also show why Truman was so optimistic that US would prevail in the Cold War. During his second term, Truman responded to criticism of his handling of the Korean War by arguing that the Bill of Rights, if treated with respect, gave people strength that communist countries did not have.

A questioner asked what Truman would say about North Korea right now. Truman would probably say be very clear about intentions. Before the war began Truman's Secretary of State gave poor advice saying publicly that our line of defense did not extend to South Korea. That statement probably helped the North Koreans get support from Stalin for an invasion.

Truman was exposed to a lot of experiences during World War I which shaped him throughout his life. One clear example is his attitude towards religion. Truman was religious, but not overly attached to one denomination. He was born into a Baptist family and joined that church when he could, but he went to a Presbyterian Sunday School as a boy and later married an Episcopalian. He seems to have been anti-Semitic and anti-Catholic before 1917, but after he entered military service that year, he worked closely with a Jewish sergeant and was most favorably impressed with him, so much so that he went into business with him after the war. Furthermore, he formed a lifetime friendship with a Jesuit priest who was the chaplain of the regiment in which Truman served and who would become the chief of chaplains in the European theater during WWII. In addition, nearly all of the men in the artillery battery that Truman captained were Catholics and he formed strong and lasting friendships with many of them. In short, by the time he left France in 1919, he had become quite ecumenical in his religion while remaining a member of the Baptist Church.

6. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by acting Chair Lattemann at 4:00 p.m.

Minutes by Grayson Court, Faculty Council Support Analyst, gcourt@uw.edu

Present: **Faculty:** Lattemann (acting Chair), Hill, Leveque, Nicoletta
President's Designee: Wilson
Ex Officio: Barker, Redalje, Kirkendall
Guests: Stephanie Lamson, Kate Leonard, Fugate

Absent: **Faculty:** Cooper, Gillis-Bridges
Ex Officio: Mills, Gebhart

Building Conservation Capacity at the University of Washington and in the Pacific Northwest

Mellon Foundation Senior Conservator endowment matching gift opportunity: press release and examples of need

UW Libraries receives \$1.25 million for senior conservator position

Contact: Stephanie Lamson, Head, Preservation Services

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The University of Washington Libraries has received a \$1.25 million challenge grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to fund a new senior conservator position in its Preservation Services Division.

The Mellon Foundation grant includes \$1 million as a permanent endowment and \$250,000 to establish the new position while the Libraries raises \$1 million over three years to match the award, which will generate funding to support the position permanently.

The Libraries has begun a nationwide search for the individual who will take on the role of senior conservator in early 2013.

Stephanie Lamson, Libraries Head of Preservation said, "The creation of the senior conservator position is an incredible opportunity for the Libraries and will dramatically increase our capacity to care for the fragile rare books, manuscripts, maps, and drawings in our special collections." She continued, "It will allow us to complete more complicated conservation treatments in-house and expand our education and outreach efforts, enabling us to build on partnerships with other libraries, archives, and museums in the region."

"The University Libraries is grateful to the Mellon Foundation for their generous support and vote of confidence in our institution," stated Lizabeth (Betsy) Wilson, Dean of University Libraries, adding, "There are few efforts more important than preserving UW's internationally significant collections while simultaneously helping to educate the next generation of conservators - at the University of Washington and beyond."

University of Washington President Michael K. Young, remarked that he "is grateful to the Mellon Foundation for enhancing the capacity of our University Libraries to sustain and grow the invaluable services and leadership they provide to the vast western region of the United States."

The University of Washington Libraries is a network of more than 16 academic research libraries serving three campuses: Seattle, UW Bothell and UW Tacoma. Major facilities include Suzzallo and Allen Libraries, Odegaard Undergraduate Library and the Health Sciences Library, as well as subject-oriented libraries including Art, Built Environments, Drama, East Asia Library, Engineering, Foster Business, Mathematics Research, Media Center and the Music Library. Its collections exceed 7 million catalogued volumes and more than 100,000 Libraries-licensed online journal titles. Services include 24/7 online reference services.

Building Conservation Capacity at the University of Washington and in the Pacific Northwest

Mellon Foundation Senior Conservator endowment matching gift opportunity: press release and examples of need

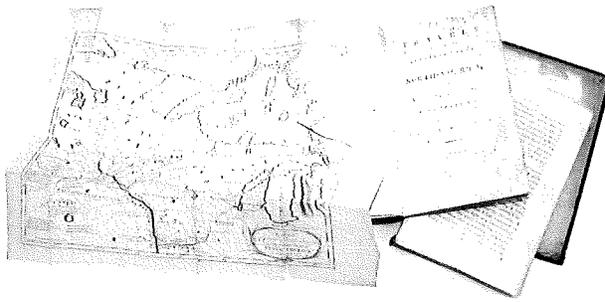


Figure 1. Carver, *Travels through the interior parts of North-America*, 1778.

broken textblock, detached leather boards, torn foldout

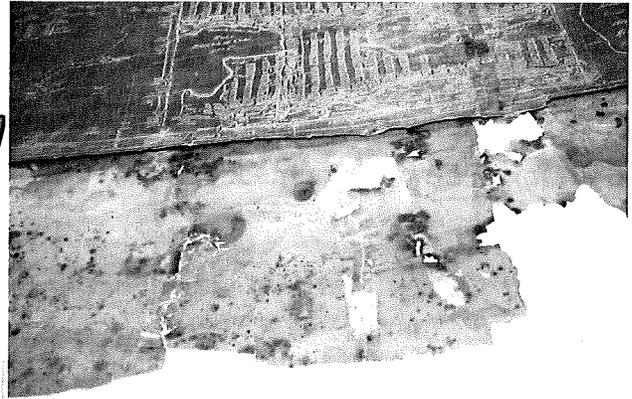


Figure 2. Roslyn Cascade Coal Company, 1922.

blueprint with environmental damage, tape staining, and loss

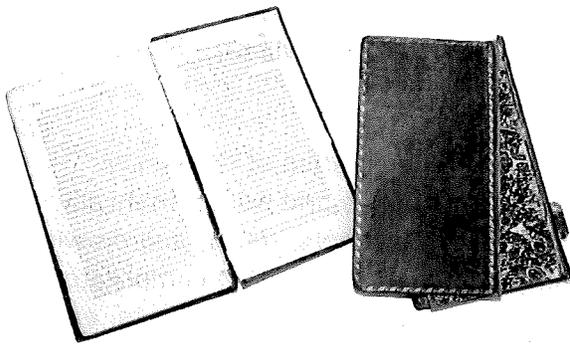


Figure 3. La Pérouse, *A voyage round the world*, 1798.

broken textblock, detached leather boards



Figure 4. Cook, *A voyage to the Pacific ocean*, 1784.

detached boards, tape damage, filled corners

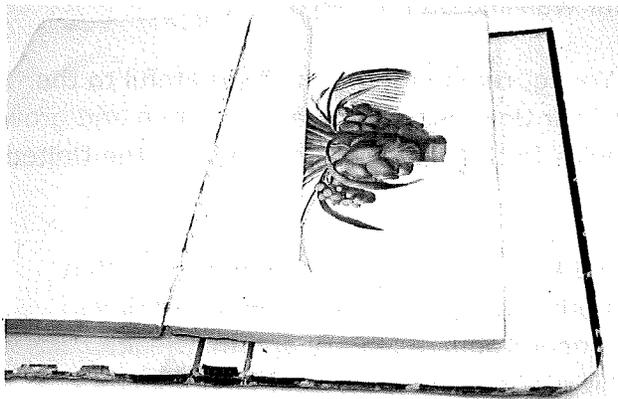


Figure 5. Choris, *Voyage pittoresque autour du monde*, 1822. Expedition commanded by Otto von Kotzebue.
detached boards, textblock damage

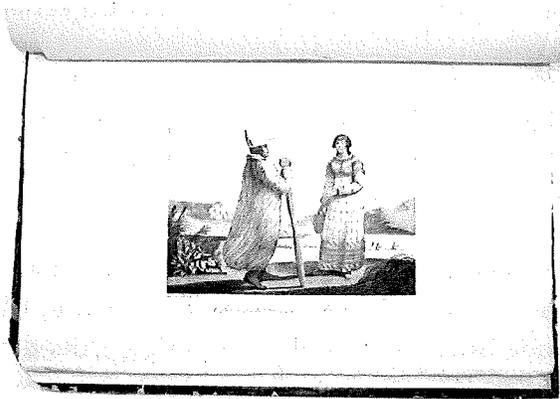


Figure 6. Choris, *Voyage pittoresque autour du monde*, 1822. Expedition commanded by Otto von Kotzebue.
plate: Costumes des habitants des Iles Aliutiennes