

New Online Resources for the Arts and Humanities

The Library has recently made available online a number of important new works to support of humanities scholarship. Certainly the most significant of these is the *Evans Digital Edition*. This new service, offered by Readex and the American Antiquarian Society, will provide Cornell students and scholars with online access to the full text of more than 36,000 items published in North America on all subjects between 1639 and 1800. These represent all the materials listed in Charles Evans's authoritative *American Bibliography*. The entire collection, which is fully searchable, is now available from the database home page (which can be found through the Library catalog), but we intend to add individual records for all items into the Cornell Library catalog, so that users will be able to click directly from the catalog citation to the full text. This new addition to the Library's holdings will mean that anyone studying any aspect of the history of North America before 1800 will have immediate access online to much of what was published.

The Library has also purchased the electronic version of *Harper's Weekly Magazine*, one of the most-important American periodicals of the second half of the nineteenth century. The online version makes accessible the full text of this publication (including advertisements) from 1857 (its first year of publication) to 1912. Here one will find literary works, as well as very important writing on the political and cultural events of the time.

On the European side, we can now provide the growing *Digital Library of Classic Protestant Texts*, which, when completed, will contain 1,100 key works of Protestant theology from the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. The Library has previously had access in paper to only a small subset (ca. 15%) of these works, so the availability of this new full-text database will significantly enhance our holdings in this important area.

Finally, in the area of new bibliographical tools, the Library has subscribed to the *World Shakespeare Bibliography Online*, which includes citations for several hundred thousand books, articles, book reviews, productions, films, and audio recordings on Shakespeare published between 1968 and 2003. Plans are to expand this bibliography, not only prospectively (adding citations for new publications), but also retrospectively by systematically extending coverage for materials published before 1968. The bibliography

aims to be truly international, containing citations for publications from all over the world in ninety-two languages.

Another recent bibliographical addition to the Library is *Art Index Retrospective*, an international index to publications on art from 1929 to 1984. A companion database, *Art Full Text*, provides full indexing (and specially written abstracts) for art periodicals from 1984 to the present, as well as full-text access to many articles published since 1997.

Learning and Teaching with Technology Expo II

October 13-14, 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
G01, G10 Biotechnology Building

Technology provides today's instructors with exciting new tools to enhance learning and teaching—tools that students are increasingly demanding. Please join us to learn more about the many campus-based services that are available to help you integrate technology into your teaching. You'll get to view demonstrations by faculty who are already using technology, including projects that have been funded by the Faculty Innovation in Teaching Grants Program. You'll also be provided with information on instructional design, multimedia content development and management, integration of digital library resources and services, Web hosting and maintenance, video production, videostreaming, Webcasting, and Videoconferencing, and assessment of impact on student learning.

For program schedules and more information, visit ltxpo.cornell.edu or contact ltxpo@cornell.edu.

Sponsored by Cornell Information Technologies, Cornell University Library, the Center for Learning and Teaching, Communication and Marketing Services, and the School of Continuing Education.

A&HL Newsletter is available online at www.library.cornell.edu/iris/reports.html



Arts & Humanities Library News



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Fall 2003

Envisioning the Future of Olin Library

When Olin opened in 1961 as the graduate research library, its stacks were restricted to faculty and grad students with undergraduates gaining access by invitation only. For other library users, books were paged from the stacks while they waited

for their numbers to light up on the marquis above the circulation desk. In 1993 the stacks were opened to all, and Olin switched from being the graduate library to one serving arts and humanities students and scholars. Today, Olin is a nexus for cross-disciplinary research. Of the 3,551 respondents to the Library Building Hours and Services Survey conducted last fall, 28% of faculty, 16% of graduates, and 32% of undergraduates identified Olin as their most often used library.

- 105 faculty, from 26 departments in A&S and 7 other colleges, identified Olin as their most often used library
- 124 graduates, from 27 departments in A&S, and 10 other colleges, identified Olin as their most often used library
- 351 undergraduates, from 29 departments in A&S and 6 other colleges, identified Olin as their most often used library.

Having celebrated its forty-second birthday, Olin is in need of a facelift and some life-sustaining surgery. Its deficient HVAC system has to be replaced, and fire suppression/fire detection systems must be installed. Earlier this year the University approved funding to allow the Library to embark on the schematic design for life safety and environmental improvements as well as renovating floors 3 to 8 of the

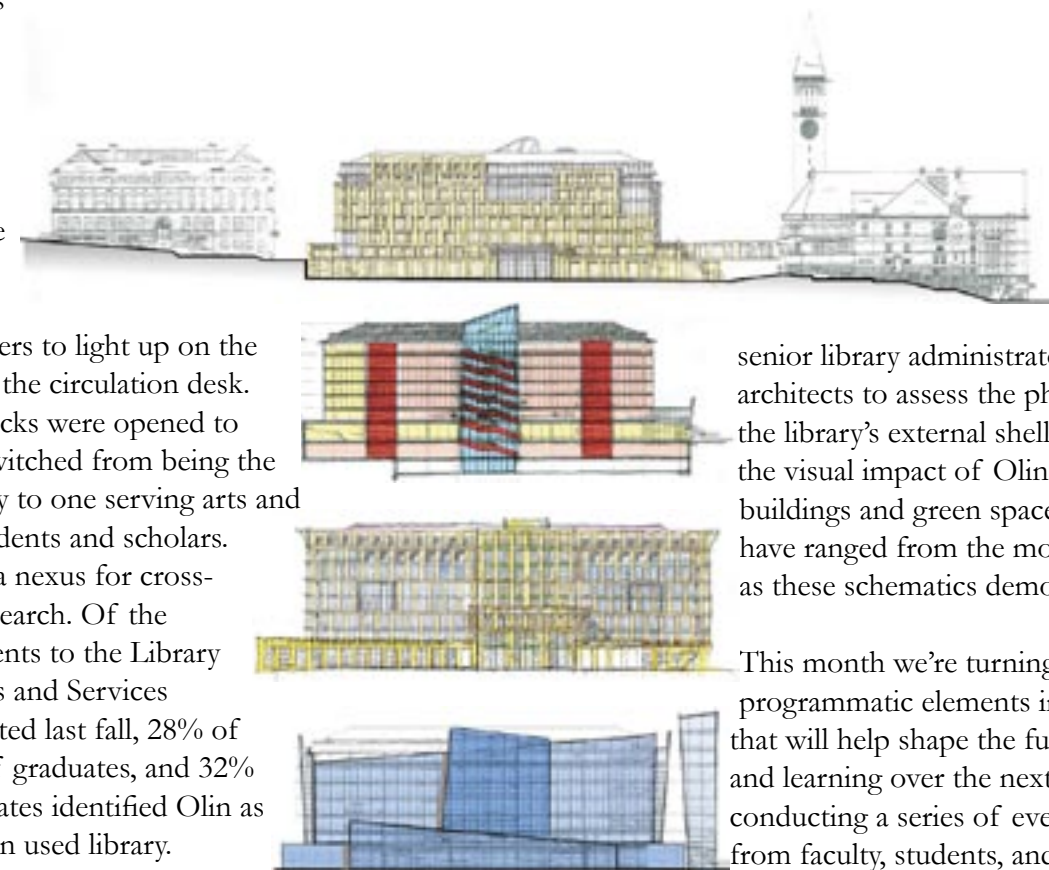
Olin "stack tower." In an ancillary effort, plans are also under way to construct an addition to the Library Annex to provide greater storage capacity for our growing collections. These planning efforts will lead to the development of design scenarios that will better define the projects, identify the areas of greatest need, and allow for more accurate cost estimates.

Shepley Bullfinch Richardson and Abbott (SBRA) was chosen as the architectural firm for this design phase. Over the summer

senior library administrators met with the architects to assess the physical condition of the library's external shell and to consider the visual impact of Olin on the surrounding buildings and green space. Design alternatives have ranged from the modest to the dramatic, as these schematics demonstrate.

This month we're turning our attention to programmatic elements in the Olin stack tower that will help shape the future of scholarship and learning over the next fifty years. We are conducting a series of events to solicit feedback from faculty, students, and staff in this analysis, as highlighted in the schedule of events below.

We'd appreciate your thoughts on the future of Olin and suggestions on how we can communicate with you and your colleagues during this critical planning phase.



ENVISIONING OLIN'S FUTURE: SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Sept 11	Focus groups with invited library staff
Week of Sept 15	Exhibit outside Libe Café Questionnaire soliciting input distributed in Olin and via the Library Gateway
Sept 18	Illustrated talk by Sarah Thomas, University Librarian, on trends in library architecture, titled "The Library as an Asset in Community Building: Library Facilities and Organizations in the Information Age." 4:00 pm, Kroch Library Lecture Room Light refreshments will be served.
Sept 25-26	Focus groups with faculty and grad students

Political Communications Web Archiving

The Internet has become an immediate and accessible communication channel for political parties, activists, popular fronts, and other non-governmental organizations (NGOs). These communications are the digital-era counterparts of the posters, pamphlets, and other forms of “street literature” that have long provided historians and policy analysts with indispensable data on political activities and social and ideological trends. Web-based political communications, however, tend to be produced sporadically and to change and disappear rapidly. Unless these digital messages can be preserved and archived in a format that will be accessible in years to come, their value as original source material for analysis and research will be lost.

Web archiving and digital preservation are key research areas at the Cornell Library. The Library is exploring appropriate approaches for collecting and preserving Web-based political communications through a project funded by a \$445,000 grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and coordinated by the Center for Research Libraries. The project includes participants from three other universities and the Internet Archive. The Cornell research team is using a test set of approximately fifty Web sites selected

for preservation by the Curator of the Echols Collection on Southeast Asia. The project will produce a framework and general specifications for ongoing, sustainable archiving in terms of resource management, curatorial practices, and technological requirements.



HR now!: human rights network at www.hrnow.org, one of the web sites included in the test set for the project.

New Current Periodicals and Newspapers Reading Room Opens

We are very pleased to announce that the Current Periodicals and Newspapers Reading Room has been moved to Room 101, Olin Library. This room offers beautiful views of Uris Library as well as access to over 1,500 domestic and foreign current periodicals and the most recent issues of 117 selected newspapers. All periodicals and newspapers were previously located on the basement level. The move to the first floor will offer a readily accessible location and a more pleasurable atmosphere.

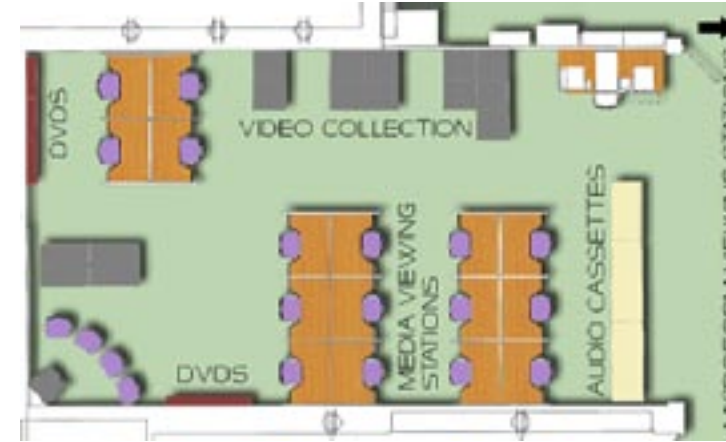
As well as renovating the room and relocating the current issues, we are purchasing new tables and comfortable soft seating, which we hope to install by late September. The room was open to the public on the first day of classes, August 28. It is designed as a quiet reading room for consulting the collections housed there, and we have implemented a policy of no food/drinks, cell phones, or laptop computers in the room.

The newly organized Newspaper Stacks, housing the back issues of newspapers, is now located in the lower level. We will be adding more user seating and tables in this area in the coming months.



Olin Library Media Center

The audio and video collections of Uris, Olin, and Kroch Asia have been consolidated and relocated to the lower level of Olin Library. The microfiche collection was moved to the space formerly occupied by the newspaper reading room, which now has new counters and upgrading microform reading and printing equipment.



Our goals for the relocation and consolidation included making these collections more accessible, providing some room for collection growth, and ensuring greater staff coverage to assist readers using machine-dependent collections. In addition to being staffed all hours that the library is open, the video collections are now browsable, and the playback equipment will be improved. Until recently, support for audio/visual resources was scattered across Olin, Kroch, and Uris. Additionally, the main media room in Uris was not accessible to handicapped patrons and was not consistently staffed. We have ordered new A/V furniture, which we expect to arrive in mid to late September.

Selectors for Olin

Three librarians have assumed the responsibilities of Yoram Szekely, who retired in July, for selection of materials for the *Olin stacks collection*:

Marty Crowe (mjc4; 254-8607): general and comparative religion, Christianity, and mythology

Patrick Stevens (pjs3; 255-3530): Judaica

Kizer Walker (kw33; 254-1375): Classics, ancient Near East, and archaeology

This month, *Ida Martinez* (im58; 255-3680) became the selector for Latino studies.

A complete list of all Cornell Library selectors is accessible under “Collection Services” on the Library’s main Web page, www.library.cornell.edu.

Recent Location Changes in Library Services and Collections

Over the summer a number of location changes occurred in Olin Library, which are identified below.

Library card purchase, ID card problems, overdue fines & billing questions	Olin 116	5-5069
Graduate carrel assignments & locker assignments	Olin 213	5-5068 (Kim LaMorte)
Media Center (all A/V equipment & collections from Uris, Kroch Asia, & Olin 8th floor)	Olin B12	5-6785
Older Newspapers	Newspaper Stacks (Olin basement)	

Reference Department Welcomes New Faculty

Reference librarians have welcomed new faculty in arts and humanities to Olin Library and introduced them to the rich resources and services available to them here. Highlights of the meetings that have already occurred include descriptions of library services for faculty, a tour of Olin and Kroch libraries, an overview of the Library’s online environment, and discussion about faculty research and curricular needs, course plans, and expectations. All new and continuing faculty are welcome to meet with Reference staff at any time. To arrange a visit, contact *Ida Martinez*, reference librarian, at im58@cornell.edu or 255-3680.

