Can you define the American Dream? Is the dream evolving? Is it different for every individual? Is it an exclusively American idea or does it resonate around the world? Where in the library would one go to do research about it, and what materials would one look for? Has this dream become an obsolete concept? Or is it timeless? Is its study more timely than ever, helping to examine our identity, our actions, and our shared global future?

Gay Dannelly, Hesburgh Libraries’ associate director for resources and collection services, points to recent studies and other documents. Most of these reveal different definitions of the American Dream; alternatively based on the ability to lift one’s family to new levels of prosperity, or one’s freedom from the shackles of prejudices and unjust restraints, or access to the rewards of one’s talent and hard work.

Dannelly points out that the American Dream, as experienced by various generations and groups of Americans, is a helpful lens through which to examine the stories of immigrants in today’s world, at a University that has served and celebrated the hopes of this nation’s newcomers. Many academic disciplines offer complementary, international perspectives on the phenomenon.

So how can the Hesburgh Libraries expand their resources to explore the American Dream more comprehensively and compellingly? That question has been answered in large part by a recent, generous endowment. It gave birth to the Joe and Gina Prochaska Family Initiative on the American Dream.

(continued on page 4)
From the Director...

Bringing Users and Knowledge Together

It is a pleasure to announce the start of planning for the renovation of the Hesburgh Library. The University has selected Shepley Bulfinch Richardson and Abbott, a renowned Boston architectural firm with numerous awards for design excellence. The firm has designed many research libraries including the recent expansion and renovation of Perkins Library, Duke University, where the design “repositions the library as the centerpiece of a dynamic learning and research community, creating a balance of spatial types and environments that will support the University’s evolving needs and uses.” As we plan for the renovation of the first and second floors of the Hesburgh Library, we too have an unprecedented opportunity to redefine the teaching, learning and research environments in the Libraries. In this issue, Denise Shorey, associate director for User Services, introduces some of the ways in which we will transform the physical library (see page 3). In the end, the integration of library resources, services and users in revitalized spaces will enhance support for the University’s goals of offering an unsurpassed undergraduate experience and becoming a preeminent research university.

The convergence of new technologies for delivering information and the “beautiful bones” of the building allow us to think creatively and plan, not only for the present, but also in anticipation of future needs. We can reconfigure spaces so that, for instance, humanities scholars have a digital laboratory where they can explore resources and contribute to scholarship at the highest level. We can take advantage of new principles of pedagogy and new modes of learning by designing many types of spaces for learning, whether collaboratively at tables, socially in highly visible areas, over a cup of coffee, or in quiet spaces for reflective work. We can create easy and clear access to services -- designed around users’ needs and with their input -- as well as to resources and collections, using this opportunity also to highlight our special collections. Very importantly, we can use this opportunity to rethink ourselves as an organization, reconfiguring departments and locating them where they are most effective, both for users and the enhancement of internal communication and our working environment.

Our continuing commitment to excellence is exemplified by what happens today to enhance student learning and faculty research through library collections and access to knowledge. In these pages, we have highlighted some of the Libraries’ most distinguished collections such as those supporting Latin American and Irish Studies. Although perhaps less visible in a physical sense than are the print collections, immediate desktop access is provided by the Libraries to the content of 45,000 journals as well as to thousands of books and other materials owned or licensed in digital format. Recognizing the impossibility of purchasing all content, we have, over the last several years, significantly expanded library services to provide what are sometimes referred to as “just-in-time” collections. In response to individual requests from students and faculty, the Libraries obtain specific content for them. Often, the requested item is delivered to the requestor’s desktop within two to four hours! Based on disciplinary needs and with everyone being served, the library collections and timely delivery of content, acting together, enrich the intellectual experience of students, faculty and all who come to Notre Dame. Carol Brach, engineering librarian, speaks to the success of this new program in this issue (see page 6). We will continue to enhance access to content and expanded timely desktop delivery, thereby ensuring the premier user experience.

The library faculty and staff bring talent, knowledge and an exceptional commitment to excellence in creating library services and collections at Notre Dame. Through our work together we will move forward with vision and confidence to create an even richer learning, teaching and research environment throughout the Hesburgh Libraries system.

Jennifer A. Younger
Edward H. Arnold Director of Hesburgh Libraries
An Endowment at the Competitive Edge

The Hesburgh Libraries and students of business, including undergraduates and graduate students at the Mendoza College of Business, are among the beneficiaries of a distinctive gift that Notre Dame received this year from a generous—and anonymous—Donor.

This benefactor says he wanted to make a special expression of his gratitude to Notre Dame for the education he received and for the “vast professional alumni network which has helped me immensely in various business and professional communities.” As a result, the Libraries now have an “entrepreneurial spirit endowed business librarian” position supporting the ever-increasing needs at Mendoza and at the college’s Mahaffey Business Information Center (part of the Hesburgh Libraries).

The endowed business librarian position carries no benefactor’s name, but it does reflect the anonymous donor’s recognition of changing times in the professional world, where he says “information is power” and there is a torrent of data available.

“Librarians are unsung heroes to a certain extent,” says this unsung benefactor, who decided to bestow funding that would help both the Libraries and business students. “I felt it was important to do something with respect to business students who need to be able to process a tremendous amount of information” as part of “a practical approach to business education.” For motivated students teamed with a highly skilled guide to the universe of facts and databases, “it can be a very collaborative situation,” he points out.

The generous individual behind the new position is anonymous, but the holder of the new position is not. He is Stephen M. Hayes, the former “business services librarian,” who has overseen the Mahaffey Center since it opened in 1995 and who has become known at Mendoza as an expert in and teacher of what he calls “competitive intelligence.” He has also been part of teams teaching case studies in business research and a new “research challenge” initiative for undergraduates.

Hayes calls the endowment of a business librarian position “visionary,” recognizing and nurturing a connection between the development of entrepreneurial skills and the mastery of information that supports good judgment. This collaborative approach to research goes beyond merely “answering a question” with the limited knowledge gleaned from an Internet search engine.

The endowment will immediately support the expansion of the Libraries’ business resources in support of Mendoza’s aspirations. Hayes says he will be involved in a number of collaborations to stay at the cutting edge of corporate responsibility, sustainability, and the role of information in those pursuits as they are conducted in the realms of corporations, entrepreneurship, and academia. An endowed business librarian can contribute to “producing the best-quality students as well as moving the College forward and the University forward in support of its mission.”

Bringing Users and Knowledge Together: renovation of library spaces

Remember This...

• The Hesburgh Library has been slated for renovation for years, and “phase one” involving the lower level is completed. “Phase two” involves the first and second floors, and it will entail substantial structural updating following a year or so of input from users. Expect the physical changes to begin in earnest in 2010.
• The first and second floors are each about two acres in size. The space should be used with maximum effectiveness and efficiency, especially in the context of all the library’s other floors and the other resources—including computers—that students and scholars can use in their research around campus.
• Various kinds of spaces provided within a library (beyond merely shelves of books) have become more important as students have experienced learning that is more collaborative, technologically enabled, independently focused, or open to entrepreneurial interactions.

Consider This...

• Different kinds of “learning spaces” and working environments allowing various forms of usage—collaborative groupings, one-on-one studying, casual and open to interaction, quiet privacy.
• New approaches to “service points” where staff members are on duty to help users—instead of the reference, circulation, and reserved-book desks, maybe consolidate the desks and departments, create an “information commons” meeting multiple needs.
• Encouraging interdisciplinarity and user-friendly access to specialized materials, designating spaces for research of both the free-wheeling and intense kinds.
• Being imaginative with spaces like the main concourse on the first floor as a thoroughfare that allows people to be easily drawn more deeply into the library.

“The renovation is going to be much more than simply the replastering or structural rethinking of the building. It’s going to help us ask, What’s the role of the library? It’s going to enhance our role in a visible and tangible way.”

—Denise Shorey

Denise Shorey, associate director for User Services, leads the Hesburgh Libraries’ renovation initiative.
“... I tell you dear Father rather than give up this struggle I am willing to spend the balance of my days on the tented field and suffer the last drop of blood to run from my veins.... I hope every man in our illustrious country will resolve to give the last cent he is worth in defense of his home and residence, his family altar and the graves of those who have gone to their resting place ....” Rufus Alexander Barrier 20 April 1863

The struggle Barrier alludes to is, of course, the American Civil War; his “illustrious country,” the Confederate States of America. The passage comes from a letter written when Barrier was a captain in the Confederate army, commanding Company H of the 8th North Carolina Infantry Regiment, near Petersburg, Virginia. It is one of a remarkable group of 123 Civil War manuscript letters presented to the Hesburgh Libraries’ Department of Special Collections by Beverly O’Grady (SMC ’63), who with her husband Robert O’Grady (ND ’63) has long been a prominent benefactor of the Department and the University. Beverly O’Grady is in fact a great-granddaughter of Rufus Barrier; the letters were preserved as a group by four generations of the Barrier family, of Mt. Pleasant, Cabarrus County, North Carolina, before arriving at Notre Dame in 2007. The Barrier Family Letters are now the cornerstone of the O’Grady-Barrier Collection, an ongoing effort aimed at supplementing Special Collections’ existing, largely Northern, Civil War manuscript holdings with items of Southern origin. Since 2004 the O’Gradys’ generosity has allowed for the acquisition of more than 200 Confederate manuscript groups and other primary sources, making this a new area of strength within the Department.

Most of the Barrier letters were written either by Rufus Barrier (1836-1876) or by an older brother, William Lafayette Barrier (1834-1864), during the men’s years of service in the Confederate States army.
adressee is usually their father, Mathias Barrier, in Mt. Pleasant. Rufus Barrier was a farmer by vocation, who enlisted in the 8th North Carolina Infantry in 1861 and served for the duration of the war, ultimately rising to lieutenant colonel and command of the regiment. William Barrier was a dentist, who from 1861 until his mortal wounding in May 1864 served in Company F, 1st North Carolina Cavalry— one of the storied cavalry regiments in the army, veterans of more than 160 engagements under J. E. B. Stuart and other commanders. Each brother’s letters cover the full period of his military service, and so provide a relatively seamless account of his long years in the field.

Many factors contribute to the Barrier letters’ importance as a research resource. Confederate letters are far less common than Northern ones—especially groups of this size, preserved in their place of origin, and never subjected to the disruptive influences of the market. Both brothers served in famous, hard-fought regiments—indeed, Rufus commanded such a regiment—and the letters certainly do not lack for significant military content. Notable in this regard is an 11-page letter of William Lafayette Barrier describing the battle of Gettysburg (where William received a saber wound to the head in the great cavalry fight of 3 July 1863). Both brothers’ writings are literate, and more than a little opinionated. Indeed, Rufus is capable of considerable rhetorical vehemence, whether directed at “King Abe” and the “yankeys” or at Southern politicians and speculators who might undermine the efforts of the soldier in the field. And as a North Carolinian, he has little love for his near neighbors to the south, countrymen though they be:

“The whole air [of South Carolina] is thickened with myriads of sand flies musquetoes nats and various other insects that are entire strangers to anything I have ever seen. If ever you imagined yourself in the land of Egypt in the days of Pharo when the locusts were turned loose upon him then you can form a feint idea of what we have to suffer here on James Island in the mighty kingdom of South Carolina. If I were able I should cut a canal around the whole state and float it off to some unknown southern ocean. (24 March 1863).”

Just as the Barrier letters were preserved intact over the generations, so too were the envelopes in which the letters were sent. These envelopes—which students of postal history call covers—supplement our knowledge of the letters, to be sure, but they are also important in their own right, as postal and cultural artifacts. Most bear Confederate stamps and postal markings; some are embellished with patriotic images—a common practice, North and South, early in the war. Once received, the Barrier letters were deacidified in the Libraries’ Preservation Department, to halt the deterioration of the paper. Those in need of repair were mended by the conservator, Liz Dube. Digital images of the entire collection were then made, in the Department of Special Collections, under the supervision of Sara Weber. Future work will involve the mounting of these scans on the Web, accompanied by textual transcriptions, like those Civil War manuscripts currently accessible on the Special Collections Web site at www.rarebooks.nd.edu/digital/civil_war/index.shtml.

By George Rugg Curator, Special Collections

Newly Dedicated Collection A Boon to Prepare Educators

The University’s distinguished mission in preparing future teachers received a substantial boost this year from the estate of Michael Pressley, the founding chairholder of the Notre Dame Chair in Catholic Education. The estate gifted to the Hesburgh Libraries Pressley’s entire educational library—a collection of some 15,000 volumes spanning the psychology, sociology, spirituality, and theology of education. The collection was dedicated on July 13, 2008, in the Hesburgh Library.

Pressley, a professor of psychology who died in May of 2006, was the first director of the Master of Arts in Teaching Program in Notre Dame’s Institute for Educational Initiatives. The institute’s best known initiative is the Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) program training young people as teachers in Catholic schools. ACE’s new master’s degree program in Catholic educational leadership is another one of the initiatives benefiting from the generous Pressley benefaction—one of the greatest private collections of Catholic educational books in the country.

Plaque in Hesburgh Library honors the late Michael Pressley, whose estate donated his library of resources for the study of education.

By Hughes, Chair of Catholic Education.
Bringing Users and Knowledge Together: a search and discovery tool to build community

Remember This...

• The Hesburgh Libraries have an effective, user-friendly online catalog currently integrated into their website. But analysis is constantly under way to keep up with new generations of technology and new possibilities for connecting users with resources. As reported in the spring 2008 edition of Access, Notre Dame has been participating in a multi-party project to develop a next generation search and discovery tool. But the University has not staked everything on the timing and quality of that project. Earlier this year, the Libraries purchased a system called Primo, deemed to have significant long-term potential. It may serve as an alternative for or supplement to other products being developed, and it will usher in some immediate gains when it is phased in around March 2009.
• Underlying the new interface will be a more comprehensive index than is currently available. It will combine the library listings from Notre Dame, Saint Mary’s College, Holy Cross College, Bethel College, and the Kresge Law Library. It will start out as a compilation of roughly 3.5 million items from those institutions, with more being added, such as collections of manuscripts, graduate student dissertations and theses, and archival collections.
• With a single search interface to discover and access all these different materials, various small but valuable collections, previously little-known or hard to find, “will be much more visible to the community” because of the new online accessibility, says Pascal Calarco, who manages the Primo implementation project together with Mark Dehmow. He says the hope is that “more of the collections will get used,” thus making research and study more efficient and cost-effective.

Consider This...

• The new system being launched next year will be suitable for expansion into new capabilities. We anticipate including access to the University of Michigan’s growing online inventory of digitized books—an inventory being compiled in connection with the broader global-library vision of Google. We also will be adding the records of the Center for Research Libraries in Chicago, a rich research collection of which the Hesburgh Libraries are a member.
• More intuitive searching will make it more likely that the user will find something relevant on the first page of results generated by the new system’s search engine.

“We don’t want it to be very jarring. We’re not going to take the current format away…. We’ll make this transition as seamless as possible.”
—Pascal Calarco

Bringing Users and Knowledge Together: “Just-in-Time”

The “literature” needed by a student or scholar seeking help from the Engineering Library might be a Japanese patent or a European building code standard or an obscure U.S. government report, just as easily as it might be a book or a journal article. Many of the library users’ needs are urgent—perhaps crucial input as a research grant application deadline approaches—and many are not easy to locate by using the library catalog, databases, and other full-text resources.

These are among the good reasons to have a specialized, on-site library with a knowledgeable staff serving the engineering community, but they’re also good reasons for the Hesburgh Libraries to have invested in a multi-faceted and state-of-the-art infrastructure for interlibrary loans and electronic access to the full text of e-journal articles, says engineering librarian Carol Brach.

Amid a growing research agenda for all segments of the campus community, including undergraduates, the Engineering Library’s annual requests for interlibrary loans and other engineering documents have more than doubled in ten years, from 1,166 to 2,343. The library staff’s technology-related skills and the automated capabilities of new systems and library services have combined to generate very fast responses to library users’ requests.

Response time for interlibrary loans, using the new system called RapidILL, is no more than 24-48 hours, often much less. Ten years ago, Brach recalls, there were often much longer lag times, even though fulfillment efforts included partnering with engineering-specialized vendors. “Then, we were working with a paper-based system, combining fax and hard copy delivery via mail.”

By participating in RapidILL, Notre Dame has combined forces with members of the Association of Research Libraries (ARL), so some facility somewhere can nearly always fulfill an engineering (or other) request quickly, by providing a digital scan of a paper or article. Those who request documents are notified by email that their document is ready, and they can download it from the Libraries’ website. It’s called, colloquially, “Just-in-time” delivery.

“Interlibrary loan has been completely reinvented,” says Brach. “This has helped us to become a success story.”

But Brach notes that the human touch can speed responses to an even higher degree. A library specialist reviews each RapidILL request to make doubly sure that the document is neither part of the Hesburgh Libraries’ resources nor available online. Some documents may be instantly downloadable from a website but at a cost. Such purchases are funded by the Chicago Rivet Foundation Library Collection in Engineering in Memory of John A. Morrissey, a Hesburgh Libraries endowment.

Today’s technology and the well-informed use of it are saving money and enhancing research at Notre Dame, says Brach, and resource sharing provides the key. “The Engineering Library can now provide rapid access to articles from journals we don’t have in our collection alongside instant access to our subscribed journals, most of which are electronically based.” Nowadays Brach says, obtaining the resources and services of the Engineering Library can be a bigger plus without a bigger place.
Reference librarian Jessica Kayongo has been accepted as a Fellow in the Association of Research Libraries’ Leadership and Career Development Program (LCDP) for the class of 2009-2010. LCDP is an 18-month program which prepares midcareer librarians from underrepresented racial and ethnic groups to take on increasingly demanding leadership roles in ARL libraries.

Congratulations to Marcy Simons who, after 20 years of service to the Libraries in stacks management, circulation and reserves, has been appointed head of Access Services at Ball State University. Simons earned her MLS from Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis in 2008.

Joseph W. Thomas was presented with the 2008 Rev. Paul J. Folk, CSC, Award at the President’s Dinner on May 20. The award is given annually in recognition of exemplary contributions by a Notre Dame librarian. Thomas serves as head of Technical Services, the largest unit within the Kresge Law Library. Recognized as an “excellent administrator, a very knowledgeable librarian and a terrific colleague,” Thomas is playing a critical role in the Law School building and renovation process. He has been active in the American Association of Law Libraries and is past chair of both its Technical Services Special Interest Section and the Price Index Advisory Committee. Thomas also served for three years as editor of Technical Services Law Librarian.

The Hesburgh Libraries’ online catalog, or OPAC (online public access catalog), was listed as an example of best practices for “search interface, including retaining search keys and searched terms” in “Revitalizing the Library OPAC: Interface, Searching, and Display Challenges” by Jia Mi and Cathy Weng, Information Technology and Libraries, March, 2008, pp. 5-22. Congratulations to the members of the Libraries’ Screen Design Committee who manage the catalog interface.

Head of Access Services, Sue Dietl, retired in June after more than 33 years of service to the Hesburgh Libraries.

Melodie Eiteljorge, senior administrative assistant in the Hesburgh Libraries’ administrative offices, retired in April after 20 years of service to the Libraries.

Kenneth Kinslow accepted the new position of resource delivery librarian in July. As a member of the newly configured Resource Access & Delivery (RAD) Department, Kinslow will be responsible for future development and innovation of interlibrary loan and document delivery services. He has served the Libraries as supervisor in the Interlibrary Loan unit and most recently as acting head of the Resource Delivery Department. He earned a Ph.D. in American literature from the University of Notre Dame and an MLS from Indiana University.

Andrea “Andy” Langhurst has joined the Hesburgh Libraries as licensing/serials order librarian in the Electronic Resources & Serials Access Department. She comes to Notre Dame from GE Global Research in Niskayuna, New York where her position entailed licensing, copyright, e-resources support and budget management. Langhurst earned her MLS degree from the University of Iowa.

Collette Mak joined the Hesburgh Libraries in August as head of the Resource Access & Delivery (RAD) Department. Mak comes to Notre Dame from INCOLSA (Indiana Cooperative Library Services Authority) where she was director of Library Products. She has a BA and MLS from the University of Michigan.

The Hesburgh Libraries’ fifth librarian-in-residence is Phuongkhanh “Khanh” Nguyen. Nguyen earned her MLIS in June 2008 from San Jose State University. In 2005 she was awarded a stipend from the ARL Initiative to Recruit a Diverse Workforce and a Spectrum Scholarship. She holds an associate’s degree in library technology from Santa Ana College and an undergraduate degree in economics from the University of California, Irvine. The focus of her residency, which began September 1, is emerging technologies.

Jennifer Parker has been appointed architecture librarian, effective August 1. Parker was art and architecture librarian at the University of Colorado at Boulder. She received her MLS from the University of Maryland in 2003, and holds a BA in art history from California State University, Long Beach and an MA in art history from the University of Virginia.

Denise M. Shorey has been appointed associate director for User Services, effective July 14. Shorey has held library public service positions at several academic institutions, including Princeton, the University of Southern California, and most recently at Northwestern University where she was instrumental in the design and implementation of their InfoCommons. In addition to her MLS from Rutgers University, Shorey has a BA in language and linguistic studies from the University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica, and a graduate diploma in international relations from the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago.
On Exhibit...

Freedom of Christ and Freedom to Read: The Index of Prohibited Books since the Enlightenment
August 22 to December 19, 2008
Open to the public

The Christian Church’s impulse to censor what it felt to be dangerously incorrect can be traced to the Acts of the Apostles. The first official condemnation of specific books dates back to the fifth century. The rise of printing and the Reformation presented the Roman Catholic Church with a new challenge in the 16th century. Doctrines contrary to papal teachings were produced much more frequently and disseminated much more rapidly. In response, bishops began to produce lists of authors whose works could not be printed, sold, or owned anywhere within their dioceses. Wishing to bring these scattered lists under centralized control, the Vatican instituted its Index Librorum Prohibitorum or Index of Prohibited Books.

The exhibit traces the birth and development of the Index from the 16th century into the modern era, culminating in its abandonment in 1966, with an emphasis on the last two centuries. There are examples of prohibited books in several different subject areas. Several pamphlets from the Catholic Pamphlet Collection have been reproduced to demonstrate how the principles of the Index were deployed to encourage American Catholics to avoid indecent films and books, both fiction and nonfiction.

The display of a broad range of examples of prohibited works illustrates the nearly impossible task of delineating what may be harmful to the morals of an individual reader. It should also be noted that nearly all of the works displayed were collected and housed by Notre Dame, even as they were prohibited. In this light, the abandonment of a structured list of prohibited works in favor of a more general admonition that faithful Catholics should avoid books that may be harmful to their spiritual development seems inevitable.

By Ben Panciera
Rare Books librarian

A Web Portal Opens Wide for Catholic Research

Scholars who study the Catholic Church are expectantly watching the virtual “construction site” where a project team led by the University of Notre Dame is building a major research portal on the Internet.

The “Catholic Research Portal” can be found in its nascent form through the Catholic Research Resources Alliance at www.catholicresearch.net, but its hoped-for emergence in 2009 as a significantly expanded collection of information will be a big boon for students of Catholic intellectual life, Catholic social teaching, and more.

“The aim of the Portal is to create greater access to rare, unique, and infrequently held research materials drawn from many different institutions—as wide a sweep of institutional holdings as we can gather,” says associate librarian Alan Krieger, who is one of several representatives of the Hesburgh Libraries on various committees assembling the Portal.

Jennifer Younger, the Edward H. Arnold Director of Hesburgh Libraries, chairs the project's board of directors. That board comprises key library officials from eight Catholic universities, including Boston College, Catholic University of America, Georgetown, Marquette University, St. Edward's University, Seton Hall University, and the University of San Diego, alongside Notre Dame.

Notre Dame librarians’ extensive involvement is “an example of how the Hesburgh Libraries help fulfill the University’s mission,” says another Notre Dame representative, librarian Eric Morgan. The Portal will make a difference by making research on various Catholic subjects easier, he says—not always by making digitized versions of scholarly resources available with a click, but at least by describing the hard-copy collections held at various institutions and pointing scholars toward locations they might not have thought of.

Those developing the Portal foresee an increased visibility and sharing of an array of resources from many more institutions, including colleges beyond the current eight, seminaries, organizations with Catholic resources, and religious orders. The content will span official Church documents, scholarly works and records of relationships with the secular world relevant to various disciplines. The resources Notre Dame has added to the collection include papers of 19th century convert and Catholic intellectual Orestes Brownson, for example.