New Logo “Says It All” for the Libraries

It began last year when the University Libraries of Notre Dame were renamed the Hesburgh Libraries, giving the several different libraries that serve on-campus constituencies a stronger sense of unified identity. Then came the challenge to express that identity in a shared logo.

A library faculty/staff committee, chaired by Felicia Smith (read more about her on page 5), convened and conferred with visual arts and marketing communications experts from AgencyND in the Office of Public Affairs and Communication.

Now, the logo is ready to be unveiled, and its meaning is ready to be celebrated.

“We wanted to build an identity around the man whose contribution to the University is unparalleled,” says Smith. “With the library system now named after Father Hesburgh, the choice to use his image seemed not only a logical choice, but more importantly, the appropriate one.”

As President Emeritus of the University and as a major figure in the history of American higher education, Father Hesburgh has come to represent the forward-looking commitments to research, scholarship, and dynamic student life that are lived out every day in the libraries of the campus. He has also come to represent the complete, interdisciplinary approach to education that Blessed Basil Moreau, C.S.C., founder of the Congregation of Holy Cross, described as educating the heart as well as the mind. It’s appropriate for Hesburgh to be the unifying image for libraries that reach out to varied communities of interest and specialization around the University and contain such a bounty of varied information, beckoning to the University.

(continued on page 7)

Words and Music for Scholars
Harmonizing with Benefactors and Goals

Several books in the Samuel Hazo poetry collection, such as this one by Seamus Heaney, are inscribed by their authors.

Scholars in fields that range from literature to liturgy, from medieval studies to modern worldviews, from hymns to Hispanic verse, will benefit from new Hesburgh Libraries acquisitions made possible recently by the President’s Circle. That group comprises some of the University’s most generous donors of unrestricted funds, entrusting the resources to President Rev. John I. Jenkins, C.S.C., to invest in Notre Dame’s distinctive mission and strategic priorities.

The interdisciplinary mandate to invest in seeking God, studying the world, and serving humanity comports with Father Jenkins’ decision on the two latest allocations from the President’s Circle funds to the Libraries. He announced that over $1 million drawn from the robust annual giving of Circle members will allow the acquisition of a sacred music collection and the Samuel Hazo Collection of Modern Poetry.

(continued on page 8)
From the Director...

Looking Ahead to Renovation

New years bring new beginnings. I am delighted to announce that the library renovation planning is actively underway. At the heart of our thinking is the renovation mission statement, below. It boldly states our ambitions and guides us in setting high goals. As we progress, we will keep you informed (see page 7).


Mindful of its heritage as a research library, and conscious of its special legacy to current and future scholars, the Hesburgh Library is renovating the first and second floors to fulfill its vision of the library as a gateway to knowledge and intellectual endeavor and to enhance its organizational capacity to meet changing user expectations more efficiently. This renovation will transform collections, services, and spaces in a way that will establish the University of Notre Dame as the preeminent Catholic research institution in the world.

The first and second floors serve as the Library’s gateway to scholarship. Whether using the print collection, digital resources, or working with others to create and use digital material in new ways (see page 3), researchers will use the Library to meet and engage with their peers in ways that facilitate their scholarship. The Library will also meet the academic needs and collaborative learning styles of today’s students — and tomorrow’s scholars — by providing a variety of flexible learning and social spaces.

The renovation will also enable organizational transformation through an enhanced working environment for staff, improved workflows, and new synergies between departments. The end result will be revamped service configurations, opportunities for new campus partnerships, and heightened visibility of the Library.

Rethink, reshape, reconfigure, respond: these are the watchwords that will guide the Hesburgh Library in its transformation into a library of the 21st century.

With warm wishes from Our Lady’s University,

Jennifer A. Younger
Edward H. Arnold Director of Hesburgh Libraries
With the coming renovation of the Hesburgh Library’s first and second floors, it is anticipated that new digital services can be incorporated within the transformation of its physical space. To that end, a subcommittee of the Library Services and Programs Committee is charged with investigating options that enable faculty and graduate students to explore how new media and technologies can enhance and complement their research.

Services of this nature aim to support what is generally referred to as “digital scholarship,” an emerging sphere of academic activity that looks to maximize the use of computer and Internet technologies in order to discover, organize and present new knowledge. While this activity was once the exclusive domain of the quantitative “hard” sciences, it now extends to the social sciences and humanities as well. In fact, academic libraries are playing an increasing role primarily in support of the computing needs of these latter areas since their scholarship does not require the large and high performing computers that are often used by the hard sciences. Nevertheless, meeting the computing research demands of these “softer” sciences has become increasingly significant as the use of digital and Internet technologies becomes more ubiquitous and portable and access to digitized texts and data more prevalent and preferred.

While the renovation provides a fortuitous opportunity for us to begin to address these needs with a dedicated space, “centers” for digital scholarship have been operating in many university libraries for several years now. These centers support a wide range of services and products and generally reflect partnerships between the library and other information technology units. While some provide services in a physical space and others from within a virtual one, it is apparent that most centers grew out of a single project or perceived institutional need and developed into something more extensive over time. Therefore, our own planning for such a center has included assessing other campus technology units as possible partners as well as developing initial scenarios that can accommodate both flexibility and growth.

These scenarios extend across a service continuum that runs from initial consultation to the full production of digital tools and resources. Most centers for digital scholarship focus primarily on digitizing and presenting texts and artifacts that are unique to their own collections or faculties. Many centers support geographic information systems (GIS), data visualization software and audio-visual production facilities. Less common is the hosting of comprehensive research databases since they often require extensive collaboration and an ongoing commitment to their maintenance. The development of experimental products (e.g., semantic textual analysis) occurs on a limited scale, primarily at “labs” dedicated to this work that are often headed by researchers devoted to the study of technology’s impact upon scholarship (e.g., the Maryland Institute for Technology in the Humanities at the University of Maryland and the Institute for Advanced Technology in the Humanities at the University of Virginia). A few centers, notably George Mason’s Center for History and New Media, are developing new software tools to collect, manage and present historical research.

Consideration of space, equipment and expertise is also an important part of evaluating the feasibility of any one of these services. The space of most centers is flexible enough to accommodate three basic types of use: 1) a production area for center staff equipped with the appropriate software and hardware (possibly scanners, map plotters, poster printers, video editing workstations, recording areas for podcasts, etc.); 2) a collaborative area for one-on-one consultation; and 3) a larger area for groups, whether they be formal classes or workshops on the nature and impact of digital scholarship. In addition, the space should be staffed by individuals who have a high level of technical proficiency, knowledge of research processes, and a curiosity about emerging trends and tools in digital scholarship.

In the end, the size, configuration and staffing of a space devoted to digital scholarship in the renovated Hesburgh Library will depend on a projection of services that is based on the collaboration of its anticipated partners and the Libraries’ commitment to the funding of the equipment and expertise necessary to provide these services. Nevertheless, while actualizing digital scholarship at Notre Dame will require both flexible collaboration and careful planning, the most critical element will be the energy of creative and intelligent people who can anticipate the significance of new knowledge, which remains, after all, the goal of scholarship, digital or otherwise.

*By David Jenkins*
Sanctuaries of Art in Rome Inspire Long-Distance Research

Marsha Stevenson, the arts, architecture, and media librarian who decided that there was a knowledge gap in Rome that deserved the Hesburgh Libraries’ attention. During a visit to that city last year, Stevenson learned that one church she entered—hardly one of the more famous sites of Christian pilgrimage—contained three paintings by 17th-century painter Peter Paul Rubens.

“That’s what got me started on this project,” she says. She began her hunt for more information about the art treasures from past centuries—examples of the Church’s patronage supporting great painters—hidden, or resting largely undocumented and unappreciated, in buildings that receive few visitors or padlock their doors.

Stevenson started her “Church as Art Patron” inquiry by looking for sources listing and describing Rome’s panoply of churches. She also searched electronically to learn which of the world’s libraries was collecting information about the art works those churches contained. Her findings about the city’s more obscure churches were scant, although she found a wiki website accumulating a comprehensive church list, an Italian-published book containing varying amounts of detail (not necessarily artistic) about numerous churches, and only a few libraries with substantial collections actively documenting the art of these sacred, still-standing archives.

As a major global resource on Church geography and history, Notre Dame proved to be doing its part, Stevenson pointed out. “We have books on about half of the Roman churches.” But her interests as an art librarian led her to envision a broader and deeper collection for the Hesburgh Libraries. “I feel like I’m on a mission: Can we get material on the art in all 400 churches?”

She took her first steps toward that goal last fall, going to Rome and physically visiting 87 churches, many of them relatively obscure. Indeed, a third of them were closed when she arrived—either because of their hours of operation or because they have been largely shuttered due to lack of staffing and funding. One had held its last Mass the week before.

“I started to wonder if more were going to be closing,” Stevenson said, noting that questions and emotions about the fate of artworks welled up inside her. “So many of the churches are so beautiful,” she commented. With a sense of urgency, she approached officials and guides in each open church, and they usually relished the chance to give her something—typically post cards or pamphlets, occasionally books, sold only locally—picturing and describing the art inside.

Moreover, her visits to local bookstores in the churches’ neighborhoods, asking if they had any information, sometimes bore fruit. The simple resources she obtained may not be sophisticated, comprehensive works, but they contain rare, first-hand information, said Stevenson. “This is original documentation that can enable scholarship in this area.”

She hopes that the modest haul from her first round of church checks will grow into a new pool of knowledge worthy of being called a “collection” that can be posted on the Web, thereby attracting interested researchers to Hesburgh Libraries. To reach that critical mass, “I need to visit more churches” and secure “documentation as complete as I can get.”

In the meantime, this librarian can remind a lot of people that research may be great fun, even when the information is anything but centralized. She says of her personal venture into long-distance detective work, “I just love doing this.”
Outreach Can Take Learners—and their Librarians—Far

Where is the Hesburgh Libraries’ outreach librarian reaching out to today?

The question has become more and more pertinent, with a widening range of answers both serious and humorous, since July 2007. That was when Felicia Smith completed two years of service as librarian-in-residence and joined the full-time staff of the Information, Research and Instructional Services (IRIS) Department—with a mission to represent both the next generation of librarians and the Libraries’ expanding involvements.

Smith’s portfolio of outreach initiatives is limited only by her imagination. Here are a few samples of where you might find her:

- Notre Dame students taking First Year Composition classes might find themselves introduced to library research protocols by a guest librarian dressed as a pirate. That’s Felicia, so she can make some points about digging for informational treasure and about avoiding information piracy, that is, the violation of copyright law.
- Students likewise have been able to meet Felicia’s avatar at the Web’s virtual community site, Second Life. The Notre Dame presence at the site, coordinated by the Kaneb Center, has an island dedicated to the Hesburgh Libraries, where visitors can accept intellectual challenges such as finding where in the library a particular book should be located.
- Visitors to YouTube can watch a “commercial” that Felicia produced for RefWorks, the Libraries’ online bibliographic software. You can find the video at www.youtube.com/watch?v=lwrOX9KNQEc.
- Smith works closely with the Institute for Latino Studies, serving as the Libraries’ subject liaison for Latino studies. She also can sometimes be found doing her shift rotation at the reference desk on the first floor of the Hesburgh Library. Users of rest rooms in that building might occasionally see Smith’s handiwork in the form of “Info 4 Life” stall notes—a version of bulletin-board posting borrowed from the residence halls. In the Library, the interesting tidbits remind patrons about the diversity of facts available—“not just for homework, but for all facets of life,” she says.
- Young people serving time at South Bend’s downtown Juvenile Justice Center improved their reading skills last summer by following along with Felicia in classes she volunteered to teach. The classes were based on The Freedom Writers Diary, a book filled with powerful writing by young people reflecting the life challenges—from discrimination to gang violence to drug abuse—they face growing up. So that the 60 teenagers could retain and read their books outside class times, the Hesburgh Libraries paid for copies of the Diary, as well as journals in which the kids could write their own thoughts.

The stories of youthful pain, doubt, and anger resonated with the juvenile center residents, says Felicia. “It was really intense.” But she stressed how the residents, whom she dubbed “Freedom Readers,” could learn from the Diary writers’ mistakes—“to become better, stronger people.” Details of Felicia’s work with the young people will be published later this year in an American Library Association publication, Librarians as Community Partners: An Outreach Handbook.

Felicia aspires to deliver messages of support and hope as part of her mission of educational outreach. She says her own background, which includes growing up in a neighborhood troubled by gang violence and experiencing a good education and even international travel, gives her hope, and her chosen career in the information sciences is a great way to spread that hope through service to young people.

Prior to her library career, Felicia worked as a criminal defense private investigator in Chicago. She earned an M.A. in Library and Information Science from Dominican University.

“Librarians are in a unique position to combat the arrested development of society,” she says. They can bring basic skills, such as a love of reading, and the power of important stories to people who will gain motivation when they “see new possibilities.”

Felicia’s connection to the world of libraries might help spread her hope even more broadly. She hopes to incorporate e-books into her teaching at the Juvenile Justice Center this summer and to report at an international librarians’ conference in Milan in late August on whether her reading students gained more from e-books than from paper editions.
From Manuscript to Microphone: Granting a Web-streaming Wish

Two of the Libraries’ many partners for innovative collaborations are the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), a grant-making federal agency, and the Indiana State Library, which oversees some grant procedures and establishes statewide priorities for libraries. Notre Dame’s latest collaboration with these groups will move the Hesburgh Libraries into the realm of producing educational audio and video content to be distributed over the Internet.

The initiative, supported by a modest federal grant through the Library Services and Technology Act, is a boost for the Libraries’ internal efforts for the ongoing professional development of library faculty and staff, says librarian Laura Bayard, head of Documents Access and Database Management.

A majority of the several webcasts planned for production in the coming year will be for internal use. But at least one will be for external audiences, perhaps offering instruction on using government documents.

The initiative this year might be called a “proof of concept” phase leading to more ambitious programming and productions later, says Bayard. For now, the government funding has helped to purchase basic equipment (left), such as a mixing board, software, a streaming server, and TV monitors, plus the engineering expertise needed to configure the system and learn how to operate it.

“The learning curve for this is pretty high,” Bayard acknowledges. But it’s important for libraries to have such outreach and internal development capabilities in their toolkits, and it’s one way to keep pace with the visual learning styles and skills of library users, especially today’s students. No wonder the Indiana State Library’s latest statement of priorities stresses telecommunications and related technology.

Granting New Stimulus to German and Russian Literatures

A grant awarded to the Department of German and Russian Languages and Literatures by the University’s Graduate School in the amount of $135,000, with $15,000 added by the College of Arts and Letters, is providing a “shot in the arm” to library collections in these two disciplines. Robert Kusmer, liaison for German language and literature, and David Jenkins, liaison for Russian language and literature, in consultation with the faculty of the department, are now well along in the process of submitting orders for titles to be acquired in their respective areas.

The methodology being used in this endeavor is essentially the same as that developed by Jenkins to expend the Libraries’ Fiesta Bowl proceeds for history, though on a smaller scale. The process is based on the use of software called WorldCat Collection Analysis. This tool allows us to compare Notre Dame’s library holdings to those of the top American research libraries within broad disciplinary categories, as defined by Library of Congress classifications. A list of titles not held by the Hesburgh Libraries is then generated and used as the starting point of an acquisitions plan.

While seemingly straightforward, the process is multi-faceted and fairly time-consuming. It involves several “layers” of analysis of our local holdings to confirm “non-ownership” and to eliminate from consideration unwanted variant editions or unneeded manifestations of titles (for example, as independent publications when we own them as part of collected works).

In conjunction with such a review, of course, every effort is made to align the list of potential purchases with areas of faculty research. This is a process complemented by the librarians’ own subject expertise. The final “piece of the puzzle” is put into play during the actual acquisitions process: not all of the titles desired will be available, even on the antiquarian market. Further, the price of each item will vary widely, especially when out of print titles are involved. Thus, the number of items that can be purchased will be hard to predict.

All in all, this is a fascinating, if lengthy, exercise in applying funding, computing power, and subject expertise to the “problem” of faculty research needs. By so doing, we have every expectation that the Hesburgh Libraries will augment their reputation as an essential and competent partner in furthering the goals of the University.

By Robert Kusmer
Michelle Hudson has traveled from Seattle to South Bend to take the position of data services and economics librarian in the Information, Research, and Instructional Services Department (IRIS). Hudson is a recent MLS graduate of the University of Washington, where she pursued areas of professional interest including academic librarianship, reference and user services, the social and natural sciences, emerging technology and libraries, and graphic and web design.

Barbara “Pete” Pietraszewski, is the new assistant business services librarian, joining the Hesburgh Libraries faculty and the Mahaffey Business Information Center team from her former post at the University of Michigan. There, she served the Ross School of Business and its Kresge Business Administration Library. Pietraszewski earned her MLS in 2000 from Indiana University, Bloomington. Welcome back to this former staff member!

Joanne (Jo) Bessler was elected vice-chair/chair-elect of the Library Leadership & Management Association/Library Organization and Management Section (LAMA/LOMS). The Library Organization and Management Section supports the LAMA strategic plan by investigating issues pertaining to efficient library operations in all types of libraries and disseminates information on leadership and management issues to all its members, ALA members, and all librarians.

Sherri Jones (top) and Jessica Kayongo have co-authored an article in a recent edition of College and Research Libraries. The article, “Identifying Student and Faculty Needs Through LibQUAL+: An Analysis of Qualitative Survey Comments,” extracts important insights from the written comments in a study the co-authors performed with Notre Dame faculty and students in 2006.

New Logo “Says It All”
continued from page 1

faculty and students alike.

Even the type font used in the logo deserved to have special meaning at this time when the Hesburgh Libraries are honing their identity more sharply and spreading their messages of service and relevance more widely.

The font that was chosen, from among three choices provided by AgencyND, was Perpetua. A principal reason for the choice is close to home. It is a design created by Eric Gill in the 1920s, says Sara Weber, who was also on the Libraries’ Marketing and Outreach Committee. The Hesburgh Libraries happen to hold a collection of Eric Gill-designed materials, including both proof sheets from the design of Perpetua and a copy of the earliest book printed using that typeface, showing off its “classic elegance” combined with a “more modern appearance” than some other choices, she explains.

With the logo’s color choice linking it to the University Mark, the “brand identity” of the Hesburgh Libraries will now combine distinctiveness and solidarity with the University’s legacy, its values as a learning community, and its appreciation of a “classic” figure whose vision helped to launch the main library building and helped to set the entire library system on a track toward a bright future.

Hesburgh Library Renovation: Status Report No. 1

Here’s a look at where we are in the process of planning the renovation of the first and second floors of the Hesburgh Library:

- The renovated floors will have a variety of spaces, including areas for quiet or collaborative work, plus an “information commons.” This will include reading rooms, a computer cluster, a place for digital scholarship, and librarians to assist in interpreting data and to enable the process of learning, teaching and research.
- A café and restrooms will be located on the first floor.
- The first and second floors will remain open during the construction. Services and staff will remain available. Service points will move as determined by the construction schedule.
- Staff offices will move to temporary locations during the construction. But our collections will move only once—to their permanent locations in either the tower or the lower level of Hesburgh.

Please go to http://renovate.library.nd.edu for renovation information as it becomes available—or go to “Hesburgh Library Renovation” at facebook.com.
On Exhibit…

“Writing Against War”
An Austrian Author’s Dream for Peace

In mid-February, Notre Dame became the first stop on the United States tour of an exhibit that had already triggered in Europeans varied recollections and reflections about the experience of war and the vocation of writing. Visitors to the mezzanine level of the Hesburgh Library might have been drawn into this multimedia presentation, “Writing Against War,” when they saw words calling for peace appear letter by letter on a large screen while simultaneously they heard the clacking sound of them being typed, or when they read the poster honoring Ingeborg Bachmann (1926-1973) as “one of Austria’s most celebrated modern writers.”

The exhibit, which had been traveling throughout Europe since 2003, sought to focus Notre Dame visitors on a central statement—“I want the war to end.” One could see in the available books, displays, videos, and other media how that phrase dominated Bachmann’s life and times and resonated in her poetry, novels, radio plays, and other writings.

“Writing Against War” had its opening at Hesburgh Library on Feb. 12, with a reading by Peter Filkins, a poet and Bachmann translator on the Bard College faculty. Notre Dame assistant professor of German, Anita McChesney, organized this stop for the traveling exhibit. On-campus sponsors included the Nanovic Institute for European Studies, the Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts, the College of Arts and Letters, and the Department of German and Russian Languages and Literatures. The exhibit was provided by the Austrian Federal Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

WORDS AND MUSIC FOR SCHOLARS
continued from page 1

The collection of sacred music will support Notre Dame’s Master of Sacred Music degree program, which involves a collaboration between the theology and music departments. The program, established in 2005, has already enhanced Notre Dame’s standing in the field of sacred music, and the University last year announced that two renowned specialists in sacred music and liturgy will join the music and theology faculties here.

The two specialists, Margot Fassler and Peter Jeffery, have accepted endowed positions in music history and liturgy, and in medieval studies, respectively. Father Jenkins has called the two newcomers, joining Notre Dame by the end of this year, “seminal appointments” for the University.

Jeffery will hold the Michael P. Grace Chair in Medieval Studies. Fassler, who is Jeffery’s wife, will be the Keough-Hesburgh Professor of Music History and Liturgy. The Keough-Hesburgh professorships were established in 2006 to help Notre Dame attract the finest Catholic scholars in their fields.

Meanwhile, acquisition of the Samuel Hazo Collection of Modern Poetry will support a rapidly developing area in the College of Arts and Letters and will advance the Hesburgh Libraries toward becoming an important destination for learning, teaching, and research in modern poetry.

The Hazo Collection is named after a Notre Dame alumnus who returned to his alma mater last year to receive an honorary degree saluting his own contributions to literature. Samuel Hazo, now an emeritus professor of English at Duquesne University, was the founder and long-time director of the International Poetry Forum. He has been a National Book Award and Pulitzer Prize nominee. His outstanding collection of books by renowned poets, both American and foreign, will support the University’s work in English and Latin American literature. The holdings in Latin American literature include works by legendary poets Jorge Luis Borges and Octavio Paz.