Our hats off to UT Dallas Facilities Management

McDermott Library paid tribute to its colleagues in UT Dallas Facilities Management for numerous upgrades during the 2010 Spring semester. These functional improvements and visual perks have made the library a more pleasant place to study, work and visit. See pages 3-4.

McLemore Awards set for May 17 . . . Page 8
Chip Pitts event a big staff effort . . . Pages 5-6, 9-10
New Name Badges debut in May . . . Page 7
Congratulations are in order for Professor Sheila Amin Gutierrez de Pineres, above, who has been serving as Interim Dean of Libraries since February. Provost Hobson Wildenthal has named her Dean of Undergraduate Studies at UT Dallas. She expects to hold down both positions until a new Dean of Libraries is hired.

The program and invitation created for Special Collections’ “Air America: Upholding the Airmen’s Bond” symposium in April of 2009 was lauded for its visual design by the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) Southwest District IV.

Congratulations to the Special Collections staff of Paul Oelkrug, Thomas Allen, Patrizia Nava and Carole Thomas plus other library personnel who worked on the campus wide project that drew more than 500 people to the Conference Center Auditorium.

The symposium was organized to recognize the donation of 10,000 copies of newly-declassified documents about Air America from the Central Intelligence Agency to the Civil Air Transport-Air America Archive in Special Collections.

Air America representatives came from across the country to attend. Library staff also enjoyed barbecue at Sonny Bryan’s in Richardson with many of the CIA documents staff.

Artwork for the program and invitation was executed by Graphic Designer Laura Ehrich of the UT Dallas Office of Communications for McDermott Library and Special Collections. The program received an Achievement Award in the category of Visual Design-Special Pieces. The judges were impressed and stated that the design is a “good concept with nice texture.”

Overall the Office of Communications collected 11 awards at the CASE district conference in Austin TX in late March.

CASE is an organization for professionals in alumni relations, marketing, communications and development. District IV consists of 270 member organizations from Texas and surrounding states.
Summary of Spring improvements
A report from Sheila Amin Gutiérrez de Piñeres, PhD
Interim Dean of Libraries at The University of Texas at Dallas

- New alarms have been placed on all the exit doors. These new alarms are part of a larger effort to make the library more secure for the staff, our patrons, and our materials.

- The Police Chief is in the final process of interviewing guards and we should have a guard on duty in the library soon.

- Those who work in the late evenings/early mornings now have a safer parking option. If you work past 10 p.m., at 9 p.m. you can get a temporary parking permit from circulation to move your car to the purple lot out front.

- For those who park in the purple lot - the parking group has agreed to block off metered parking first then the purple spots on days when there are special events in the McDermott Suite.

- Special thanks to all those who worked hard to get the books from Mrs. McDermott’s private collection processed and shelved in the front meeting room of the McDermott Suite. They look fantastic. We were pleased to see Mrs. McDermott visit campus in mid-May.

- Be aware there will be a number of special events in the McDermott Suite during the next 3 weeks. There will be many sightings of the President and his cabinet. UT System and Regents will also be in our library on May 5th.

- Special thanks to everyone (the entire library played some role in this) who moved, donated furniture, and participated in spring cleaning and making the Group Study Rooms possible. The rooms were all checked out by students within 30 minutes on opening day, May 3.

- We held a successful grand opening with cookies at 11 am on Monday May 3rd. There was an excellent turnout of staff. Most of you were able to sign the special thank you poster we presented to Facilities Management.

- There are new large blue bean bags on each floor for students to use and move around.

- The plants in the lobby should now be upright and pruned. If any of you know of plants that are as hearty as the ones we have but flower please let me know as I am in search of flowering plants/trees that will survive in the lobby.

- The Information Literacy room will be getting a facelift as new equipment will be installed.

- Special Collections generously provided more display cases for the lobby thereby expanding our visibility. Take time to stop and look at what they have to offer.

- As far as I know occupants of the library basement (first level,) and the Multi-cultural Center will begin moving out in mid-August. The move will continue in stages.

- As far as I know there are no plans to move anyone else into the basement other than the book store and even it might not be moving in . . . As you know this is UTD and things change daily.

- There is new language software which will allow faculty, staff, and students to learn a new language at home. Check out TellMeMore.

- Those slow laptops - well it turns out the problem wasn’t our laptops but a configuration change by IR that resulted in slow internet connections. LITS is working to solve this problem.

- If you have special news or have received an award or recognition let me know so we can share the news.

- Weekend cleaning of the common areas and the restrooms should begin soon. If you notice the new cream waste receptacles filling up let us know so we order more.

- In Spring 2010, the Library successfully partnered with Interdisciplinary Studies to offer and teach its first course. The course is on the schedule for summer and fall. We are on our way to getting information literacy into the mission of the University.

- For National Library Week this year we had a successful event and a large audience for the Chip Pitts presentation in the Conference Center.

Thank you to everyone for your dedication to the library and to UT Dallas.

Sheila Amin Gutiérrez de Piñeres, PhD
Interim Dean of Libraries
RECENT LIBRARY ENHANCEMENTS

UT Dallas Facilities Management swiftly coordinated several recent improvements at the library this spring including four new group study rooms in time for Spring finals, pleasant trash bins, professional landscaping and drainage on the north entryway, and upgraded security doors on all levels. Our heartfelt appreciation to the Facilities Management crew.
National Library Week @ UT Dallas

Staff Effort Made Chip Pitts A Hit During Library Week

To observe National Library week, the library presented Chip Pitts, lecturer at law at Stanford Law School and Oxford University, a Professorial Fellow at Southern Methodist University Law Institute of the Americas, and the former chairman of Amnesty International USA. He spoke about “Privacy and Technology: Protecting Autonomy in a Transparent World.”

The audience contained a high number of UT Dallas students, particularly from the government classes of Senior Lecturer Brian A. Beary in the School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences.

Several library departments worked together on the event including Administration, Public Relations, Reference, Cataloging, and Special Collections.

Above, Chip Pitts delivers his talk about the threat emerging technology poses on individuals’ right to privacy.

At left, UT Dallas students line up to have their tickets validated for class credit. The library used Eventbrite, an on-line event registration system.
National Library Week @ UT Dallas

Executive Vice President and Provost Dr. Hobson Wildenthal samples the check-in area at the Conference Center with Chris Edwards manning the Librarians on the Loose table and Carol McGee manning the check-in table.

Dr. Wildenthal welcomes Chip Pitts back to campus.

Chip Pitts enjoys a box lunch and discussion with UT Dallas students, faculty, and library staff in the McDermott Library administration conference room after his talk.

Dr. Ellen Safley, right, presents Chip Pitts with a framed image of McDermott Library signed by the staff in appreciation of his National Library Week program.

See the entire Chip Pitts presentation on the McDermott Library website. On the home page go to Unique Collections and click on “Treasures @ UT Dallas, Digital Library.” At the bottom you will find Communities in the Repository - click “McDermott Library.” In the middle of the page you will see “National Library Week.” Click there, then on the Chip Pitts title. The two files at the bottom will open with Windows Media Player.
McDermott Library
Professional Dress Guidelines

These recommendations were developed by the Dress Guidelines Committee and based on safety needs and commonly accepted standards of professional casual dress. These recommendations are for casual business attire including all full-time and part-time library staff as well as student employees.

Recommended for Men:

1. Shirts or casual shirts with a collar (e.g. polo shirt), worn separately or under a sweater or jacket.
2. Shirts should be tucked in unless designed to be worn out.
3. No T-shirts with slogans and screened graphics.
4. Khaki pants (e.g. Dockers-please use belt loops), neat jeans,* socks with closed shoes.

Recommended for Women:

1. Skirts, dresses, sun dresses (with jacket/sweater), dress pants, khaki pants, crop pants, neat jeans*.
2. Blouses, T-shirts (plain or with school letters) worn separately or under a sweater or jacket.
3. Shirts should be tucked in unless designed to be worn out.
4. No T-shirts with slogans and screened graphics.
5. Conservative tank tops are acceptable under blouses, sweater or jackets.

Not Recommended:

1. Jeans with holes, frayed hems or bleached steaks.*
2. Flip flops, midriff baring tops, tube tops or camisoles (unless worn under a blouse), leggings, bib overalls, warm up suits, shorts, mini-skirts, hats, sleepwear, and T-shirts with slogans and screened graphics.

Although these guidelines were developed by the committee, it shall be up to the discretion of the supervisor to address instances of inappropriate attire. If the issue cannot be resolved, it will be referred to the appropriate department head and, if necessary, through the organizational structure.

New Look Library Name Badges

All library staff will be furnished new oval name badges during May. The library has acquired an Overlay Print System package from the Cawley Company of Manitowoc WI. The system will allow us to produce badges for anyone on the spot. Plus, we will be able to reuse badges.

The system includes a Brother P-touch labeling machine that produces names in black on clear tape that is applied to the badge. The name is printed on the underside of the tape to prevent smearing.

This is the same system now being used by the campus Development Office, Communications Office, and the School of Interdisciplinary Studies.

The badges are magnetic with a backplate and border of metallic green. The library and university name form an arc over the library logo that shows the official university colors of Pantone green (PT 348) and Pantone orange (PT 159).

These will replace the dark green and orange badges with the old UTD logo of nine years ago.

- Reported by Tom Koch

The new Group Study Rooms that debuted on May 3, 2010 as shown by these 3rd level rooms on opening day.
Two library staff members will be honored at the annual Ethel Ward-McLemore Awards for Library Excellence dinner at Canyon Creek Country Club in Richardson TX on May 17.

The late Ethel McLemore worked in geophysics and conducted research in the Geological Information Library from an office in McDermott Library. Impressed by the professionalism, knowledge and concern of the library staff, she created an endowment in 1989 for the awards presented in her name.

All library staff and retired employees are invited to the dinner. The recipients and nominated by their peers, professors and staff from across the UT Dallas camps. Selections are made on outstanding contributions to UTD libraries.

The 2010 McLemore Committee consists of Mark Middaugh, Jach Ross, Carol Oshel, Susan Kutchi, and Tom Koch.

Author, Air Safety Expert to Present 2010 Jalonick Lecture 4 p.m. June 19

Lynn Spencer, author of “Touching History: The Untold Story of the Drama that Unfolded in the Skies Over America on 9/11,” will present the 2010 George Jalonick III and Dorothy Cockrell Jalonick Memorial Distinguished Lecture on Saturday, June 19 from 4-5 p.m. The lecture will be held in the McDermott Library Auditorium (MC 2.410) on the UT Dallas campus. The program is free to the public but seating is limited. A reception for all will follow in Special Collections located on the third level.

The lecture title is “The 9/11 Air Response: Chaos & Improvisation during an Unanticipated Transition to a Military-Controlled National Airspace.” Spencer’s book is considered the definitive account of air events of 9/11 and was the culmination of three years of research, on-site visits and interviews with pilots, controllers and the highest echelons of the military and government.

A former flight instructor and pilot, Spencer is an aviation consultant who specializes in safety risk management and aviation security issues. She is an aviation expert and commentator for CNN and CBS while serving as a Senior Aviation Safety Analyst for the Federal Aviation Administration.
Q&A WITH CHIP PITTS

Emerging Technology Poses Threat to Individuals’ Right to Privacy

Although privacy concerns imbue the Bill of Rights, the founding of the U.S. Republic and our constitutional history, increasingly ubiquitous surveillance, social networking and targeted behavioral marketing all puts privacy under attack as never before, said Chip Pitts, an international privacy advocate and human rights lawyer who spoke at UT Dallas in a free public presentation on April 12 at the UT Dallas Conference Center (CN 1.112).

As a part of the National Library Week celebration at UT Dallas’ McDermott Library, Pitts, talked about “Privacy and Technology: Protecting Autonomy in a Transparent World.”

Pitts recently responded to questions dealing with topics he addressed during the UT Dallas presentation. He is a lecturer in law at Stanford Law School and Oxford University, a Professorial Fellow at the Southern Methodist University Law Institute of the Americas, the former chairman of Amnesty International USA, former Chief Legal Officer of Nokia, Inc. and founding executive of technology companies in Austin and Silicon Valley.

What are examples of dangerous technological intrusions into our lives?

We are getting to the point in history, with powerful, miniaturized surveillance cameras and other storage devices and databases, where our lives are continuously surveilled in secret and the data is copied, stored, shared, and used with few constraints. The resulting power and control raises unprecedented risks of true totalitarianism even beyond anything in Orwell’s “1984.” This is happening beneath the radar screen and conscious awareness of most citizens, with the assumption that “it can’t happen here” and that the technologies are simply benign or inevitable, without much that ordinary citizens can do about them. In fact technologies such as the Bush-era warrantless surveillance of phone calls, emails, and websurfing (continued by the Obama administration), miniaturized cameras everywhere from cell phones and computers to various public and private spaces, body-scanners at airports and beyond, RFID chips, biometrics and many other intrusive new technologies indeed are neutral technologies in and of themselves – they have benign and important positive applications as well as potentially malevolent applications. But without citizen awareness and action to insist on adequately protective policies, as history has shown, we will only continue to see more and more errors and abuses as the technologies are used not merely for the public interest but for narrow private interests of accumulating and using power to control and manipulate aspects of our daily lives.

How do those methods violate our basic freedoms?

People sometimes forget that our nation was born largely out of reaction to privacy invasions (customs collections by inspectors bursting into colonists’ homes, inspections of private correspondence and safeboxes, etc.) by King George III’s agents, directly catalyzing the events that led to the Declaration of Independence and the American Revolution. By invading our privacy and personal spaces, the modern analogues of such methods risk infringing most of the core provisions of this country’s Bill of Rights as well the associated international human rights protected under treaties our country helped to create and has signed. Without the freedom to gather information in the absence of government censorship – or surveillance that leads to self-censorship – basic Fourth Amendment liberties of privacy in “persons, houses, papers, and effects” will be violated – but so will First Amendment freedoms of speech, conscience, expression, press, assembly, and petition, and Fifth Amendment rights of due process of law that are violated when people are taken out of context, targeted, or pulled aside without objective reasons. Sixth Amendment rights to be informed of the nature and causes of accusations and confrontation witnesses against you may also be implicated, as may Ninth Amendment rights retained by the people and other fundamental freedoms such as equal protection of the law and the related freedom from discrimination. These core freedoms all reflect similarly fundamental values of liberty/autonomy and equality/dignity that have historically defined this nation’s identity, culture, democratic self-government, power/influence, security and success – and we
Absolutely: not only is there nothing wrong with surveillance methods that meet constitutional standards, but such surveillance is essential, i.e. methods that are reasonable, fact-based (as contemplated by the Fourth Amendment’s probable cause requirement), and independently checked (as required by the warrant requirement). The problem arises when surveillance methods are dragnet, unchecked, and out of step with the common sense requirements of our fundamental law -- the Constitution and Bill of Rights. Such overbroad methods are actually counterproductive, in that they result in a deluge of irrelevant information that distracts law enforcement and wastes scarce resources, as they simultaneously tend to stigmatize and thus alienate vulnerable populations on whom we often depend for invaluable intelligence.

As a staunch opponent of the Patriot Act, how do you assess privacy concerns when it comes to libraries?

Under the Patriot Act, the government can try to obtain not only business and medical records but also library records - to see what books and materials you have been checking out – what you read, listen to and view on digital materials. Many of the Patriot Act’s provisions include and are premised on overbroad definitions of terrorism – allowing potential indefinite detention, flouting due process instead of adhering to speedy trial guarantees. But although librarians may seem to be unlikely “Patrick Henrys,” they have been among the staunchest defenders of privacy and related liberties since 9/11. Their professional oath and standards rightly guarantee patron privacy, for without that people will self-censor and the nation will suffer from the resulting lack of intellectual stimulation, innovation, democratic self-government, security and progress. Librarians have courageously stood up against government agents coming even after hours to demand records unconstitutionally. But librarians shouldn’t have to take such personal and professional risks. Unfortunately, in an example of “mission creep” many of us predicted, the Patriot Act has been and will continue to be used mainly against ordinary Americans accused of crimes unrelated to terrorism, and against those who disagree with government policies or happen to be immigrants or of the Muslim faith.

Is there benefit in some surveillance methods to thwart terrorism?

Absolutely: not only is there nothing wrong with surveillance methods that meet constitutional standards, but such surveillance is essential, i.e. methods that are reasonable, fact-based (as contemplated by the Fourth Amendment’s probable cause requirement), and independently checked (as required by the warrant requirement). The problem arises when surveillance methods are dragnet, unchecked, and out of step with the common sense requirements of our fundamental law -- the Constitution and Bill of Rights. Such overbroad methods are actually counterproductive, in that they result in a deluge of irrelevant information that distracts law enforcement and wastes scarce resources, as they simultaneously tend to stigmatize and thus alienate vulnerable populations on whom we often depend for invaluable intelligence.