Gumberg Library Awarded Muslim Journeys Bookshelf Collection from NEH, ALA

By Dr. Laverna Saunders, University Librarian

Duquesne University’s Gumberg Library is one of 840 libraries and state humanities councils across the country selected to receive the Bridging Cultures Bookshelf: Muslim Journeys from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the American Library Association (ALA). The program aims to familiarize public audiences in the United States with the people, places, history, faith and cultures of Muslims in the United States and around the world.

The Muslim Journeys Bookshelf includes books and films organized by six themes: American Stories, Connected Histories, Literary Reflections, Pathways of Faith, Points of View and Art Architecture and Film. These titles were selected with the advice of librarians and cultural programming experts, as well as distinguished scholars in the fields of anthropology, world history, religious studies, interfaith dialogue, the history of art and architecture, world literature, Middle East studies, Southeast Asian studies, African studies and Islamic studies.

For information and discussion guides to use with these new materials, go to http://guides.library.duq.edu/muslimjourneys. All resources are on reserve at the Gumberg Library circulation desk under course instructor name: Saunders and course name: Muslim Journeys.

Major support for the Muslim Journeys Bookshelf was provided by a grant from Carnegie Corporation of New York. Additional support for the arts and media components was provided by the Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Art.

Find out more by contacting Dr. Laverna Saunders at lsaunders@duq.edu or 412.396.6136.
In conjunction with the promotion of the One Book for 2013, People of the Book by Geraldine Brooks, Gumberg Library hosted the One Book, One Community event, Passover Seder and the Haggadah. The featured speaker was Dr. Aaron Mackler an associate professor of Theology at Duquesne University. Guests learned about and sampled some traditional foods from the Passover Seder, a once-a-year family ritual celebrating the Israelites’ Exodus from Egypt and their freedom from slavery. The lunch culminated with a tour of the Rabbi Herman Hailperin Collection on Gumberg Library’s second floor. The tour was led by librarian Ted Bergfelt, who highlighted unique books in the collection including one dating back to the 1400s.

Among the fifty attendees were community partners Charity Leonette from the Allegheny County Library Association (ACLA), Martha Berg from Rodef Shalom Congregation in Oakland, Susan Melnick and Rachel Colker from the Rauh Jewish Archives at the Senator John Heinz History Center and Miranda Nixon from the University of Pittsburgh.

One Book, One Community “kick off” Event at Gumberg, March 19

Ted Bergfelt, reference and instruction librarian, reveals special items from the Hailperin Collection.

Dr. Laverna Saunders, University librarian, welcomes guests to the One Book lunch event.

Martha Berg, archivist, answers questions about the collection of Haggadoth found in the Rodef Shalom Archives.

Miranda Nixon, preservation coordinator at the University of Pittsburgh, explains the tools and materials used in book conservation.

Guests listen attentively to Dr. Mackler’s explanation of the Passover Seder.

Charity Leonette, marketing and community partnership coordinator (ACLA), greets guests and describes the history behind the One Book, One Community Program in Pittsburgh.

Dr. Aaron Mackler shares his knowledge of Passover traditions, ancient and contemporary, along with the symbolism of the food of the Seder.
Annual Phenomenology Symposium
The Simon Silverman Phenomenology Center
Presents the 31st Annual Symposium
April 29-30, 2013  |  9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  |  Africa Room, Student Union

About the Event

Over 50 years after his death, we may be still only beginning to know Merleau-Ponty’s thought and its significance for the contemporary world. While historical research into Merleau-Ponty’s thought is crucial, the Simon Silverman Phenomenology Center’s 31st Annual Symposium on “Merleau-Ponty Into the Future” will take a different approach.

We will ask not what Merleau-Ponty’s thought was or even is but what it might become. Merleau-Ponty will be brought into conversation with registers such as aesthetics, psychology, ecology, geopolitics and feminism. We will explore how Merleau-Ponty’s thought might flower anew in such fields, and how such registers might themselves take new directions through engagements with the possibilities opened by Merleau-Ponty’s thought.

Speakers include:
Galen Johnson, University of Rhode Island
Gail Weiss, The George Washington University
Laura Doyle, University of Massachusetts, Amherst
David Abram, Alliance for Wild Ethics

This event is free and open to the public. To register, contact phenomenology@duq.edu or 412.396.6038.
Library Staff News & Publications

Congratulations to Ted Bergfelt, reference and instruction librarian, on his promotion from Librarian I to Librarian II. The promotion process for library faculty includes the development of a professional portfolio that documents effectiveness in librarianship, scholarship and service. The portfolio is examined in accordance with professional standards and criteria by a peer review committee and the University librarian before going to the Provost.

Kudos to Tanya Frederick, circulation student coordinator, who received a staff award at the Holiday Staff Awards Luncheon on December 21, 2012 for outstanding service and extra effort. This is the first time a Gumberg Library employee has been selected for this coveted award.

University archivist Thomas White appeared on the local television show Pittsburgh Now on PCNC on December 19, 2012. White discussed his latest book Gangs and Outlaws of Western Pennsylvania with host Chris Moore. The book details the exploits of notorious regional outlaws from the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. This book and others of regional interest by Thomas White are available in the Duquesne University Barnes and Noble Bookstore.

Ted Bergfelt, reference and instruction librarian

Tanya Frederick, circulation student coordinator

Thomas White, University archivist
Student Award Winner(s) for 2013 will be announced during NLW!

The Student Endowed Scholarship was founded by Gumberg Library employees as part of Duquesne University’s previous capital campaign to recognize the contributions of student workers to the accomplishment of the library’s mission. Any student aide currently employed in the library, who has been employed in the library for two or more terms and plans to return to work in the library the following term, is eligible to apply. Fundraising for the scholarship endowment is ongoing. Gift information is available on the University’s website. Anyone wishing to contribute should specify that their gift is intended for the Gumberg Library Student Endowed Scholarship.

This year, Gumberg Library sponsored the first Gumberg Library Award for Undergraduate Research—a cash prize of $250. Posters accepted for Duquesne University’s 2013 Undergraduate Research and Scholarship Symposium (URSS) will be considered for the Gumberg Library Award for Undergraduate Research. A committee of library faculty and administrators will judge relevant posters based on the posters’ intellectual merits and demonstration that the research presented meets the standard of its field.

Stop by! BOGO Spring Book Sale

April 15 – April 19
PNC Atrium, Student Union
10 a.m. - 6 p.m. (4 p.m. on Friday)
Benefits the Maureen Sullivan Curriculum Center

Our mission is to promote and support literacy, both at home and in our communities. Each customer is asked to donate a book of their choice to support PreK-Grade 8 summer reading programs in the local community. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Danielle at buck@duq.edu.

See you at the Benefits Fair, April 17

Stop by the Gumberg Library and Curriculum Center tables for giveaways and gift basket drawings.

Cathy Tuoccy, acquisitions accounting specialist and Paula Toncheff, acquisitions ordering specialist

Spring Guitar Recital, April 17

Music Therapy Student Performance
Curriculum Center, 5th Floor, Gumberg Library, Noon
Light refreshments will be provided.
Just a Reminder

24 Hour Study @ Gumberg Library
From 7 a.m. Monday, April 22 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, April 30

Gumberg Library thanks the 2012-2013 Student Government Association Library Committee for their support, especially Zachary Zeigler, president, and Shannon Smith, vice president of academic affairs. SGA hosts a final exams study break in the library each semester.

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