Gumberg’s 4th Floor Makeover - Phase II

By Maureen Diana Sasso, Director, Information Services

The second phase of Gumberg’s fourth floor update has transformed the public computer area into a comfortable lounge. Relocating the computers to the perimeter allowed for the addition of soft seating, ottomans and small tables. The new chairs are on wheels to make it easy for students to move them when they want to work alone or in groups. New carpet in Duquesne red and blue sets off the space from the rest of the floor. The windows are covered in solar film to reduce glare and heat loss. The new wraparound counter was designed to hold four new “Xpress” computers designated for quick lookups and quick printing.

Next on the agenda for the fourth floor is the redesign of the printing areas to alleviate congestion and prepare for Web printing in spring 2014. On the short term wish list are new study tables and chairs, and collaboration tools that would modernize the space and facilitate group study.

Incremental improvements are being funded by the Gumberg Library Endowment fund and Duquesne’s capital budget. The University is looking for ways to fund a major renovation of the floor including a new HVAC system, ceiling, lighting, restrooms, an updated classroom and staff work areas.
Dr. Albert C. Labriola Memorial Library Fund Celebration

On Oct. 31, 2013, Gumberg Library hosted a special event in the Power Center Ballroom to celebrate the launch of the Dr. Albert C. Labriola Memorial Library Fund. The program included tributes from alumni and faculty. The library displayed new titles purchased with the fund as well as selected scholarly works by Dr. Labriola. In addition to these books, the Duquesne University Press had copies of Labriola’s The Bible of the Poor and The Mirror of Salvation, as well as his edited volume, Milton in the Age of Fish, and his last volume of Milton Studies. To purchase copies of these titles from the Duquesne University Press, call 412.396.6610 or visit www.dupress.duq.edu.

To help grow the fund, visit www.duq.edu/labriolafund. For more information, email Dr. Laverna Saunders at lsaunders@duq.edu.

Bringing the Unique Treasures of Gumberg to Light

By Robert Behary, Systems Librarian

A recent trend in academic libraries is to take special and unique items hidden deep within special collections and expose them to the world through digitization. Gumberg Library began digitizing uniquely Duquesne resources over five years ago and the collections have been growing ever since. This past year alone, the Pittsburgh Catholic newspaper, the premier chronicle of Catholic life in the Diocese of Pittsburgh, crossed a digital threshold. More than 100 years of the newspaper are now available, including the earliest issues in 1844 through the Pope Pius XII years of the 1950s.

New digitized items have also been added to the Spiritan Collection. In a partnership with the Center for Spiritan Studies, the library has added new subject headings and tables of content that make searching and accessing the collection easier than ever.

For these and other treasures, visit http://digital.library.duq.edu and see all that we have to offer.

University Archives Displays Feature Unique JFK Memorabilia

The display, located on the first floor of Gumberg Library, was created in support of Passing the Torch: An International Symposium on the 50th Anniversary of the Assassination of President John F. Kennedy, held October 17-19 at Duquesne University and hosted by the Cyril H. Wecht Institute of Forensic Science and Law.

Materials in the display included several photos, a special inaugural program signed by Jacqueline Kennedy, a signed letter from President Kennedy and much more. The items displayed remain part of The Honorable Michael A. Musmanno Papers.