International Jazz Collections moves to UI Library

This summer the UI Library welcomed the International Jazz Collections from their off-campus base on 6th Street into the University of Idaho Library, in anticipation of a planned administrative merger with Special Collections & Archives in 2007 that will allow the IJC to continue its mission of jazz education after the expiration of its grant funded operation. Jazz archivist Michael Tarabulski, manager of the Jazz Collections’ daily activities since the move, has been named an adjunct UI Library faculty member. Jazz and Special Collections personnel have been working closely this past summer and fall reorganizing office and collections storage spaces and providing reference services from the new combined Reading Room. The International Jazz Collections boasts world class jazz history archival and artifact collections of many great Jazz artists and critics, including Lionel Hampton, Leonard Feather, and even Kooskia, Idaho, native Lee Morse.

“I’m motivated. The spirit hits me and I just keep going and don’t stop. The more I play, the more I can invent, the more ideas come to me.”
—Lionel Hampton

Lionel Hampton, courtesy of the International Jazz Collections.

Publication and distribution of this newsletter is made possible by gifts from the Library Associates of the University of Idaho Library. Contributing Editor: Nathan E. Bender, Library Associates Secretary-Treasurer.
As always, thank you for your continuing support of the University of Idaho Library.
New Reading Room Boasts Longer Hours

On August 21, a new combined Reading Room service began as a result of space constraints and a desire for easier public access, located in the former Government Documents first floor reading room, now shared by Special Collections & Archives, the International Jazz Collections, and the U.S. Government Documents collection. For researchers accustomed to use of the Special Collections and Archives, the new reading room means no more having to walk down stairs to the lower level of the library. Increased staffing from the IJC also allows for the shared reading room to be open during the lunch hour, so that researchers no longer have to fit their noontime schedules with that of the library staff. New tables and chairs have been purchased by the UI Library to support increased public services within this shared reading room, and new displays are being shown in IJC exhibit cases.

Staffing Changes in Special Collections

Julie Monroe was recently hired in the Special Collections & Archives as a Library Assistant. Julie has long worked with Latah County and Idaho history at the Latah County Historical Society and has authored three books on Moscow and Latah County history, including a new release Images of America: Moscow (Arcadia, 2006).

Anar Imin, after nearly a decade of dedicated service as Library Assistant to Special Collections, joined her family in their move to Olympia, Washington. Stacey Karn, UI Library Associates staff-person who served as Towers contributing editor for many years, is now spending time with her new family. We wish both Anar and Stacey all the best in these new life ventures and thank them for their considerable contributions in support of the Library and the Library Associates.

Looking at: Jazz, America’s Art Form

A UI Library sponsored national jazz history program, “Looking At: Jazz, America’s Art Form,” will premier this winter on the Moscow campus. UI Librarians Rochelle Smith and Gail Eckwright are overseeing this Jazz film history discussion series that will then be featured at over 43 libraries throughout the United States. This project is made possible by a National Video Resources grant, funded through the National Endowment for the Humanities, in partnership with the American Libraries Association Public Programs Office. This program is distinct from but complementary to the annual UI Jazz Festival.
Warren Owens, 1921-2006

Warren Owens, Dean of Library Services Emeritus, died of a stroke in Moscow November 17, 2006. Warren was dean from 1968-1987. Prior to taking the position at the UI, he was director of libraries at Temple University in Philadelphia. Warren was dean at a particularly challenging time in the library's history, when a growing enrollment and state budget shortfalls combined to stress the library's ability to serve the university. In spite of the challenge, Warren's work laid the foundation for development in the nineties. Shortly before retired, he was gratified when the Board of Education approved a request to fund the addition to, and remodeling of, the library building, a goal he had worked toward for ten years. His foresight in joining the Washington Library Network and budgeting toward the conversion of card catalog records into electronic form made today's digitally-based library possible.

The family has suggested that memorial contributions be made to either the Latah County Library District or to the University of Idaho Library Associates.

-- Ron Force, Dean Emeritus

Dean Ron Force Honored

Ron Force, who has served nearly a quarter century at the UI Library, the last sixteen years as Dean, was honored on the occasion of his retirement with a lively library faculty-staff event on September 22, and again on November 2 with the planting of a “Red Sunset” maple tree across from the UI Library main entrance. The honorary tree planting was funded by private donations of UI Library personnel and the Library Associates as a mark of respect for and recognition of decades of distinguished leadership and service to the Library, University, and State of Idaho.

Thank you to Summer/Fall 2006 Donors

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