

Nota Bene News from the Yale Library

Coffin Papers Open for Research

The Reverend William Sloane Coffin, Jr. stands as one of the most controversial figures in Yale's history. While serving as chaplain of the university from 1957 to 1975, he became a highly visible civil rights and peace activist. Coffin joined with others in many forms of protest against racial segregation in the American South and against the Vietnam War, and he was arrested several times. He was one of the "Freedom Riders," a group of black and white activists who rode interstate buses in the South to challenge segregation laws. During the Vietnam War, he gained national attention after his arrest with four others, including Dr. Benjamin Spock, on charges of conspiracy to aid draft resisters. Coffin's actions supplied inspiration and leadership to his supporters and to those involved in common causes; to his detractors, his political activism and arrests reflected poorly on the university.

In the summer of 2000, Coffin donated his collection of personal papers to the Yale Library. The Manuscripts and Archives Department of Sterling Memorial Library is pleased to announce that the collection has been fully processed and is now open for research. The papers comprise a major resource for scholarly inquiry into protest movements of the 1960s and 1970s. They consist of correspondence, topical files, speeches, sermons, writings, audio and video recordings, and other materials created and collected by Coffin primarily during his tenure at Yale. The collection documents Coffin's participation in many social and political movements, including civil rights, Vietnam War protests, amnesty for draft resisters, disarmament, and international relief work. Specific groups that are particularly well represented include Operation Crossroads Africa, the Peace Corps, and Clergy and Laity Concerned about Vietnam. The collection also includes Coffin's correspondence with many prominent individuals, including Ralph Abernathy, Daniel Berrigan, Kingman Brewster, A. Whitney Griswold, Coretta Scott King, Martin Luther King, Jr., Joseph Lieberman, Jeb Magruder, George McGovern, Bill Moyers, Ralph Nader, Reinhold Niebuhr, Fred Rogers, Sargent Shriver, and Benjamin Spock. —th



William Sloane Coffin, Jr. speaking in front of the Department of Justice, 1967. From the collection of his papers in the Manuscripts & Archives Department.

Exhibit Chronicled Peace Movement

In January, the Manuscripts and Archives Department at Sterling Memorial Library mounted an exhibit called "*Give Peace a Chance*": *Selected Documents from the Antiwar and Disarmament Movement*. The display drew on the holdings of Manuscripts and Archives to highlight materials related to the history of grass roots organizing for peace in the United States from World War I to the present. Material from collections of personal papers, organizational records, and the Yale University archives, including publications, posters, fliers, correspondence, photographs, and speeches, documented the work of groups and individuals who opposed armed conflict and nuclear weapons throughout the twentieth century.

The exhibit illustrated the complexity of the peace movement with pacifist, religious, internationalist, economic, anti-militarist, human rights, and social justice perspectives. It also displayed numerous tactics employed by peace advocates, such as demonstrations, publications, lobbying, civil disobedience, political organizing, and direct actions.

The antiwar groups, protests, and demonstrations of the Vietnam era figured prominently in the display. Selections from the papers of William Sloane Coffin, Jr., the Yale University chaplain at the time, documented mobilizations, draft resisters, conscientious objectors, and the work of groups such as Vietnam Summer and Americans for Reappraisal of Far Eastern Policy. Items from the Yale archives, the H. Stuart Hughes Papers, the Movement (Protest) Collection, and the Kent State Collection documented local and nationwide campus unrest of this period.

Other movements represented in the exhibit included the Coalition to Stop Trident, a Connecticut based organization active in the 1970s and 1980s. In addition, material from the collections of peace activists Florence Kitchelt, Elizabeth Page Harris, and Chase Kimball represented the peace movement during the interwar years. – th



Ask! live

In October 2002, the library launched a pilot program that allows members of the Yale community to exchange online text messages with Yale reference librarians in real time. Titled “Ask! live,” the new interactive reference service is available by selecting “Ask! a librarian” from the Quick Links section of the library’s Web site (<http://www.library.yale.edu/>).

Through “Ask! live,” librarians can help individuals find books in Orbis, navigate the library’s many electronic resources, identify useful Web sites, and answer questions about users’ research. They can also send live Web pages to a user’s screen, and both the user and the librarian can view and interact on the same Web page. At the end of the session, users receive an e-mail transcript of the session that includes a list of the online resources that were suggested or visited.

Staffed by librarians from across the university, “Ask! live” is designed to help individuals who want to ask a reference librarian a question when they are not near a phone, do not want to disconnect from the Internet to place a call, or do not want to give up their library workstation to go to the reference desk. The service works from any Internet-connected computer. Summer hours for the service are Monday through Friday, 1:00-5:00 pm. The pilot will be evaluated at the end of June, but the service will be available at least through August. –lzb



Canadian missionary Virgil C. Hart poses with a Buddhist priest in Omei, Sichuan, ca. 1888



Missionary Photo Archive

The Yale Divinity Library is participating in a three-year Getty-funded project to create an Internet Mission Photography Archive (*impa*). Along with five other archival repositories in the U.S. and Europe, the Divinity Library will digitize photographs from its missions-related archival and manuscript collections and contribute the images and accompanying descriptions to a central Web-searchable database hosted by Digital Archive of the Archival Research Center at the University of Southern California.

The proliferation of Christian missionary societies devoted to overseas evangelism was one of the most important social movements of the nineteenth century. By the middle of that century, most Protestant denominations and many Catholic orders in North America, Britain, and Europe had established such organizations. By World War I, missionaries were an established presence wherever Western influence had penetrated; they were sometimes participants, sometimes antagonists, and almost always alert observers of the global political and economic transformations of the period. Missionary photographs taken between 1850 and World War II represent an important scholarly resource for art historians, scholars of religion, historical sociologists, visual anthropologists, area specialists, and geographers. The usefulness of these collections to date has been limited by their unorganized state and inaccessibility, distributed as they are across many separate mission repositories.

The **impa** database will enable searching across the photograph collections of the Yale Divinity Library, the Catholic Foreign Mission Society of America (Maryknoll), the School of Oriental and African Studies at the University of London, the Norwegian Missionary Society, the Leipzig Mission, and the Herrnhut Moravian Church archives. An important goal of the project is to develop standards and best practices for digitizing, describing, and delivering the images over the Internet. This is a pilot project; it will establish the baseline for an ongoing effort that will continue long after the initial undertaking is completed. –mls

Library Explores Scholarly Journal Alternatives

Yale University Library has joined BioMed Central (**bmc**), a startup publisher of online scholarly journals in the United Kingdom, as an institutional member. **bmc** is an independent organization committed to providing “open access” to peer-reviewed biological and medical research. Under the terms of membership and in return for an annual membership fee of approximately \$5,000, electronic article submission charges (the equivalent of page charges in the print journals world) are waived for Yale researchers who submit an article to one of **bmc**'s 60 fledgling peer-reviewed journals. Accepted articles become available for free through the Internet to readers worldwide. These articles are also immediately archived for permanent access in the U.S. National Library of Medicine's free “PubMed Central” electronic service.

The Yale University Library's **bmc** membership is part of its exploration of alternative **stm** (scientific, technical, and medical) journals. The library joins other institutions and scientists who are creating and/or testing new ways of delivering published research results.

The increasing focus on alternatives results from the extraordinarily rapid increase in the price of **stm** journals over the last twenty years. Initially, high price increases prevailed for printed titles, with the expectation or hope that electronic publication would reduce prices to institutional subscribers because delivery costs would be reduced to near-zero in the electronic environment. These hopes have so far failed to materialize.

As a consequence of relentless **stm** journal price increases, coupled with the prominence of for-profit publishers in the journals arena, some in the journals information chain have espoused the notion of open access. The movement has gained in favor in the last five years, for it advocates that scientists and students

should be able to read any and all published articles without any price barriers whatsoever. Ideally, such access could be achieved if the publisher of a journal is able to reduce costs and deliver the content for free (as with some smaller journals that are fully supported by labs or universities) or where the publisher is able to secure sponsorship from libraries, universities, funding agencies, donors, or patrons of the journals—the mode fostered by **bmc**.

In these early days of Internet publishing, it is difficult to predict what long-term costs of publication, support, and archiving will be. Meanwhile, the Yale Library is participating in a widening diversity of new pricing and delivery modes, including discounted consortial pricing, pricing based on new definitions such as **fte** counts or simultaneous users, “package” deals, and institutional repositories for locally created works of scholarship. BioMed Central is one of only a handful of publishers that allows the library, in effect, to prepay page charges for faculty. The utility of this experiment will become clearer over the next few years. –aso



Nancy Redding and Sandra Weber, **sml**'s expert book-shifting team

Overflow Overdrive

During three years of intensive renovations in the Sterling Memorial Library stacks (1995–1998), many parts of the collection were cleared to make way for an air control system whose ductwork replaced entire sections that once housed books. According to estimates, the stacks lost the equivalent of one entire floor of space for the installation. The new system ensured the survival of the collection for many years to come but forced the creation of a sub-location known as “overflow.”

Overflow books and their organization have become an important component of managing the book stacks.

The summer of 2000 saw the beginning of a major project to return overflow books to their original locations. Such shifting projects require a staff of talented people who can stand the test of continual motion, lifting, bending, and pushing while adhering to strict details of shelf sequence.

Sterling Library is blessed with a world-class collection of books. It is also fortunate to have employees like Nancy Redding and Sandra Weber, the library's expert shifting team. Over the past year they have successfully tackled numerous complex shifting projects. At last count they were responsible for having shifted over 1 million books and having re-shelved thousands of overflow books in their original sequence without mistakes. – avr



Leonard Bernstein embracing Aaron Copland. From the Oral History, American Music Archive.

OHAM Records in Orbis

Oral History, American Music (**oham**) is the only ongoing project dedicated to collecting and preserving oral and video memoirs of outstanding musicians of our time. It is an independently funded organization allied with the Yale University School of Music and Library. In addition to assembling invaluable primary source materials, **oham** functions as an archive where the tapes and transcripts are housed and can be used by scholars, arts producers, and the media.

oham staff worked under the direction of Ken Crilly, Music Librarian, to catalog its collection and to create records in Orbis. These records are now available to users worldwide.

In the early seventies **oham**'s founding director Vivian Perlis established oral history as a valid method of musi-

cological research and biography. Employed at the Yale Music Library, Ms. Perlis interviewed those who knew composer Charles Ives and preserved the resulting tapes to complement the Ives Papers at the library. At the time, there was no comparable project to document creative musical figures by means of tape-recorded interviews, and **oham** was founded to address this need. "Major Figures in American Music," the core of the collection, consists of more than 300 interviews with composers and musicians themselves. Other series present many secondary sources about one important artist, such as Charles Ives, Duke Ellington, or Paul Hindemith. A collection of videotapes adds a visual dimension to sound. **oham**'s complete holdings range from individual memoirs to collections such as the **wqxr** Great Artists Series and the Margaret Fairbank Jory composer interviews to a Blues collection.

For more information and a list of holdings, visit **oham**'s Web site at <http://www.yale.edu/oham/>. – evc

Hebraica Holdings Now Online

The retrospective conversion of Yale's Hebrew-script card catalog is now complete. In three months last fall, some 21,000 3 x 5 cards were converted into machine-readable electronic records. The entire collection of Yale's Hebraica holdings, approximately 50,000 titles, can now be searched and browsed online via Orbis.

Quality review is currently underway, and the results have been excellent so far. Throughout this process, maintaining the integrity of cataloging data has been the highest priority.

The timing of this achievement is opportune. Recent advances in cataloging software now allow Orbis, for the first time, to display non-Roman scripts to readers. In the near future, readers will be able to enter non-Roman script directly into Orbis dialogue boxes to retrieve search results—also in non-Roman script. Polyglot readers will no longer have to memorize rules for romanization, and the precision and effectiveness of their searches will improve dramatically. – dl

Digital Collections and Online Books

Two new links recently debuted on the library's Web site:

Digital Collections (<http://www.library.yale.edu/libraries/digcoll.html>) provides a browseable list of digital collections created by the Yale Library and/or involving Yale Library materials. These collections cover a range of materials, including slides and photographs,

full-text medical theses, statistical data, historical legal documents, manuscripts, and even papyri. Several of the collections provide digitized versions of materials unique to Yale.

Online Books (<http://www.library.yale.edu/ebooks>) allows for title, author, and publisher searching across several of the library's subscription online book collections. As online books become easier to use and more popular with readers, the library is subscribing to an increasing number of online book collections, such as Ebrary (covering all disciplines), Books 24x7 (computing and information technology), and Books@Ovid (medicine, nursing, and pharmacology). The new Online Books page provides a convenient entry point to these various collections. –jl



Conversion of Near East Collection Complete

The in-house retrospective conversion of the holdings of the Near East Collection is now complete (see article in *Nota Bene* xvi.3). The project surmounted the difficulties of finding adequate bilingual (Arabic and English) staff for short-term employment and training this staff to produce online full-level records in both Romanized and vernacular forms.

These holdings included serials and monographs cataloged according to the Old Yale Classification System and the Library of Congress System as well as an important number of volumes which had temporary records and which were shelved according to the accession numbers provided by the Library of Congress office in Cairo.

A total of 40,568 records have been converted to online format and updated to current cataloging standards. Arabic fields were added to all pre-1990 records originally downloaded from the Research Libraries Information Network database. – ss



Anniversary of Fortunoff Archive

In October 2002, the Fortunoff Video Archive for Holocaust Testimonies marked its 20th anniversary with a conference entitled “The Contribution of Oral Testimony to Holocaust and Genocide Studies.” The conference brought scholars, survivors, and supporters of the Archive together for a number of special events. Hadassah Lieberman opened the conference and Yale President Richard C. Levin introduced keynote speaker Elie Wiesel, who addressed the topic, “The Imperative of Testimony: Speaking of Unspeakable Evil.” Scholars from France, Israel, the United Kingdom, Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, Canada, and the United States presented papers during a two-day series of panels. Participants viewed *Witness: Voices from the Holocaust*, a documentary based on the Fortunoff Archive testimonies and broadcast by pbs. Writers Aharon Appelfeld, E.L. Doctorow, Irving Feldman, and Thane Rosenbaum discussed “Holocaust Literature: Freedoms and Responsibilities” at a symposium sponsored by the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library. The conference was organized by Geoffrey Hartman, Alice Prochaska, and Joanne Weiner Rudof. – jwr



Skana the killer (orca). Haida mythology, by Johnny Kit Elswa, dated 1883. This drawing is part of the Franz & Kathryn Stenzel Collection of Western American Art, currently featured in an exhibit at the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

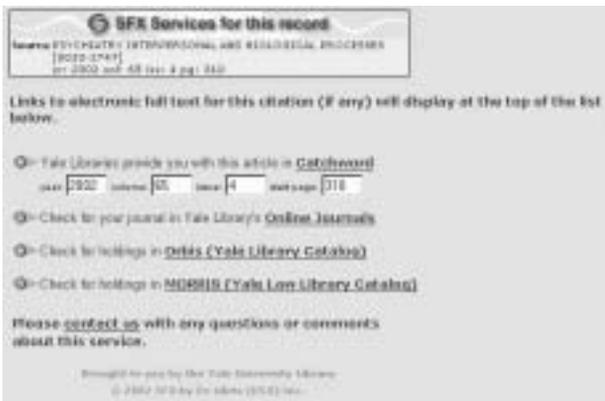


Getting Full-Text Articles with SFX

The library offers an exceptional selection of both databases and journals in digital format via the Web. Until recently readers could not go directly from a citation in an online indexing service to the full text of an online article. Multiple steps were required to move between these otherwise convenient electronic resources. Several factors contributed to this problem, including lack of cooperation between publishers, incompatible file formats, and problems with dead links.

The advent of Yale sfx Links has in many cases simplified the movement from citation to article. The linking service performs most or all of the steps formerly taken by the reader. It finds the full text of the article itself if available. It will also, with a single click, search for the journal in Yale's list of online journals, Orbis, or Morris. This process is made possible by the Openurl, a Web link that encodes the essential components of a journal citation in a generic format that can be easily passed between databases.

To understand how the process works, assume that a researcher finds in PsycINFO a citation to a useful article. He or she clicks on the button for "Yale sfx Links," and an sfx Services menu appears:



The reader can click on Catchword to get the full text of this article. If sfx cannot locate the full text in an Openurl-enabled source, clicking one of the other links will search for the journal in local databases or library catalogs. – kjp, kfb



Historical Reference Room Refurbished

Through a generous bequest of Kent Ellis '43s, '50 MD, the Medical Historical Library reference room, now the Kent Ellis '50, M.D. Historical Reference Room, was completely refurbished with new shelving and cabinetry, new furniture, shades, and lighting, refinished floors and doors, and a new Oriental rug. It is a small and elegant room used by researchers studying rare materials from the Historical Library. Funds remain from the bequest

for the acquisition of new books in the history of medicine. A dedication ceremony held on January 22 was attended by Dr. Ellis's three children, Steve Ellis, Karen Ellis Roberts '73, and Brad Ellis '75. Dr. Ellis was a prominent radiologist on the faculty of the College of Physicians & Surgeons of Columbia University. His major interests were in chest and cardiovascular radiology including pediatric cardiology and congenital heart disease. – taa



Peter M. Jones, Librarian of Kings College, Cambridge and a medieval scholar, is a fellow this year of the Beinecke Library and the Whitney Humanities Center. He is examining a medieval manuscript in the Ellis Reference Room.



Cataloging Rare Materials

An invitational working conference on the cataloging of rare materials was held at the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library in March 2003. Organized by members of the Bibliographic Standards Committee of the Rare Books and Manuscripts Section of the Association of College and Research Libraries and sponsored by the Beinecke Library with support from the Yale University Library, the conference convened twenty-five participants from institutions across the United States and Great Britain for the purpose of revising Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Books, the rules used to catalog printed materials in library special collections.

Position papers and proposed rule revisions generated by the conference have been posted at the Web site of the acrl/rbms Bibliographic Standards Committee (<http://www.folger.edu/bsc/>) and an electronic distribution list has been set up to facilitate discussion of these proposals within the special collections community (<http://mailman.lib.byu.edu/mailman/listinfo/dcrb-l>). This summer, an editorial team will begin work on a draft of the revised rules, to be called Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Materials, for submission to the Library of Congress. – ml t



Amos Alonzo Stagg, Yale All-American and winningest football coach at the University of Chicago, was Financial Editor of the *Yale Daily News* in 1888.

The Daily on Display

The *Yale Daily News* celebrates itself as “The Oldest College Daily” – 125 years last January 28 – with an exhibit in the nave of Sterling Memorial Library through June 30. The exhibit traces more than 60 *News* alumni to, naturally, careers in journalism, including the managing editors of the *Wall Street Journal* and the *Washington Post*. More than three dozen authors are on display, including past *News* chairmen John Hersey, William F. Buckley, Jr., and Calvin Trillin, as well as David McCullough and John Knowles. Notable “Newsies” who went elsewhere include Kingman Brewster and A. Whitney Griswold, Associate Justice Potter Stewart, presidential contender Joseph Lieberman, *Doonesbury* creator Garry Trudeau, Red Sox general manager Theo Epstein, Senior Trustee on the Yale Corporation John Pepper, and Amos Alonzo Stagg. Still another section of the exhibit describes outreach to New Haven – *News* editors tutoring student editors of high school newspapers in weekly classes at their schools. The *News* as incubator is manifested in a spread of spin-offs, among them the *Yale Alumni Magazine*, started by the *News* as a weekly in 1891, and the campus radio station, started as wocd (now wybc) more than 50 years ago. The story of the *News* itself runs through the display, spanning 125 years from a facsimile copy of the first edition – four pages, tabloid size – to the modern online edition on the screen of a laptop. Scattered between are tips from the *News* Style Book: Eschew “hopefully,” do not attach adjectives to “unique” and, please, don’t write “whether or not.” It’s enough to say “whether.” –rem

Alumni Film Festival

The University Archives collaborated with the Association of Yale Alumni (aya) to have a film festival during the 2003 reunion celebrations. It was the second such event sponsored by Manuscripts and Archives and was a result of the positive responses from the first film festival in January co-hosted by Stephen Cohen and Diane Kaplan.

Jennifer Julier, Assistant Director for Yale College Classes at aya, helped select the films to fit the times and interests of the returning alumni. Nearly all films selected were part of Manuscripts and Archives’ film festival earlier this year. Other films that might have been more pertinent would first have required preservation and would not have been ready in time for the reunions.

Screened were: *Bright College Years* (1970), *The Year They Liberated Yale* (1971), *Transition Year* (1978), *Moving of the Library* (1932), *Small College* (1952), and *This Decade at Yale* (ca. 1957). The above films, as well as many others, are always readily available for vhs viewing in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room. –sec



Nota Bene is published during the academic year to acquaint the Yale community and others interested with the resources of the Yale libraries. Please direct comments and questions to Susanne Roberts, Editor, Research Services and Collections Department, Sterling Memorial Library (phone: 432-1762, e-mail: susanne.roberts@yale.edu).

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Calendar of Exhibits

ARTS LIBRARY

The Reflected Lives of Jackson Pollock and Harry Jackson
through August

BEINECKE RARE BOOK LIBRARY

James Swan, Châ-tic of the Northwest Coast: Paintings and Drawings from the Franz and Kathryn Stenzel Collection
through July 19

DIVINITY LIBRARY

Learning About the World: Missionary Books and Magazines for Children
through August

MEDICAL LIBRARY

Tool Kits for Our Patients: Innovative Medical Contributions by Yale Scientists
through August

STERLING MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Newsworthy! 125 Years of the Yale Daily News
through June

Boer and Briton: Selections of Boer War Ephemera
through June

Sample of Arabic and Persian Calligraphy
July through August

Lost Treasures from Iraq
July through August

Please see our Web site:

<http://www.library.yale.edu/NotaBene/nbhome.htm>
for a complete listing of exhibits.



From the Bookplate Collection

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