Discover historical U.S. government information at King Library

Did you know the U.S. Navy explored the Amazon in the late 1840s? Artists came along on the expedition and drew architectural renderings of important buildings. Those renderings, along with thousands of other historical U.S. government documents, are available through SJSU’s King Library.

In 1962, the King Library became a partial depository for federal and state documents. A depository is created when the government designates a library as a place to hold copies of its publications. The library then provides free access to these primary sources to the public. The King Library’s government documents collection, mostly located on the library’s lower level, includes publications such as laws, hearings, and statistics. Over the last five years, much of the information has been made available online through the library’s catalog and online databases.

What can you find in the library’s collection that you can’t find through free government information online? Recently people have found resources on such diverse topics as studies on AIDS, China, and the global market, teenage eating disorders, and child rearing.

The library also subscribes to a database called U.S. Congressional Serial Set, which contains primary historical resources such as annual reports of agencies, presidential messages, vetoes, and State of the Union addresses. Serial Set traces the women’s suffrage movement, expeditions, military endeavors, scientific developments, agricultural advances, and U.S. legal developments. The database can be useful for students of U.S. history and others who are interested in the evolution of the United States. Together, Serial Set and the American State Papers database, which includes earlier legislative and executive documents, cover the important events of our country from 1789 to the late 1950s.

In the future, librarians hope to make the coverage of U.S. government history more complete by adding the Congressional Record Online as well as an online version of the Monthly Catalog, an index to U.S. documents that predates the internet era. These publications will help make the King Library a major resource for government information in the South Bay.

Above | Surprises in the library’s government documents collection include a sketch of the Cathedral of Lima (Peru), rendered by an artist accompanying the U.S. Navy on an Amazon expedition in the late 1840s.
Welcome to the fall 2008 issue of Academic Gateway, the university library’s newsletter for faculty!

Over the past several months, we have been busy building collections, providing information literacy instruction, consulting with researchers, and providing other services in support of teaching, learning, and research. Library faculty members have started their second academic year organized in liaison librarian teams. This team structure permits our librarians to best serve the largest number of faculty and students even though we are experiencing a record number of retirements and other staffing changes.

Please look through our list of coming events and exhibits, and plan to attend yourself or perhaps invite your students to attend. During the fall 2008 semester, the library has hosted a wide range of lectures, author visits, and special exhibits, and we’ll continue to do so in 2009. I hope that you have had the opportunity to bring your classes to the library for instruction and to experience the library’s new smart classroom. Read more about this learning space on page 4.

The library continues to develop collections, both print and digital, so that student and faculty researchers will have a rich and scholarly selection of information resources to provide the foundation for their scholarship. Just a few of the library’s more than 200 databases are highlighted on page 5. Read about American Film Scripts Online, BNA Tax Management Portfolios, Health and Psychosocial Instruments, South and Southeast Asian Literature, Oxford Islamic Studies Online, and many other databases now available in the library and via remote access from your office, home, or other offsite locations. Our print collections continue to grow as well with the acquisition of many resources now only available in print. If you would like some assistance in finding your way through the library’s vast resources, contact your liaison librarian. For a full list of liaison librarians and academic departments, visit http://www.sjlibrary.org/about/contacts/sjsu_specialists.htm.

As always, I appreciate your support of the university library and welcome you to contact me if you have any questions or suggestions for ways that we can better serve you and your students.

Ruth Kifer
SJSU Library Dean

DID YOU KNOW? During the 2007–2008 academic year, nearly 72,000 people passed through the doors of the King Library every week.

Introducing Marianne Quarré Dean, new library development director

I am a multigeneration Californian, and my family is based in the San Francisco Bay Area. My father had a love for the land, and he was in the cattle business when I was born in Bakersfield. My mother (aged 81) is still an avid horsewoman who trail rides several times a week in the coastal range of the mid-peninsula...all the time with her lipstick in place and hair perfectly coiffed!

I attended high school on the mid-peninsula and graduated from UC Davis with a degree in design. After working for architects for a few years and realizing I was not going to be the next Philip Johnson, I returned to school for an MBA from the Darden Graduate School of Business at the University of Virginia. A few years later, I earned a development director certificate from the University of San Francisco. I have been working in the nonprofit world for many years as a professional and volunteer. Most recently, I served as the major gifts officer at Santa Clara University’s School of Law.

Having been at SJSU only since the middle of August, I have been amazed at the transition from the quiet summer session (as quiet as an urban campus can ever become!) to the bustling fall semester, with more than 100 languages being spoken on campus. While many universities just encourage students to study abroad to become “global” citizens, SJSU is already global!

The most rewarding experience has been getting to know the King Library and working with Dean Ruth Kifer. Every week reveals another wonderful aspect of the library that helps me more fully appreciate the extraordinary vision that went into creating this collaboration between SJSU and the City of San José and that continues to guide its future.

I look forward to speaking with each and every one of you, either as a group or on a one-on-one basis, about your love and commitment for this institution. If it has been a while since your last visit or you have friends who would love to experience this remarkable place, please contact me and I would be pleased to arrange a tour.

Marianne Quarré Dean
SJSU Library Development Director
(408) 924-1474
Marianne.Dean@sjsu.edu

DID YOU KNOW? Last year SJSU librarians conducted 726 class presentations, teaching research skills to more than 18,000 students.
“Coming events and exhibits

For more information on these public events, visit the Special Collections website at http://www.sjlibrary.org/research/special/special_coll/.

“My Neighbors: A Photographic Exhibition”
Through January 31, 2009, second-floor exhibit area
Photographer Joe Claus presents 100 black-and-white photos of the diverse small businesses and the proprietors who run them in San José. Shot within a four-block radius, “My Neighbors” celebrates the small business owners of San José who are often overshadowed by the large businesses in the area. For more information, call (408) 547-7326.

“Women and Social Movements in San José”
January 12–April 5, 2009, Special Collections Lobby, fifth floor
A joint collaboration between SJSU Special Collections, the California Room, and the Sourisseau Academy, this exhibit will draw from combined collections that document women’s social organizations in San José from 1900 to the present. Some of the collections highlighted include the YWCA, the Women’s Club, the Women’s Christian Temperance Union, the Del Monte Cannery Coffee Club, the Willow Glen Book Club, the League of Women Voters, and the Chinese American Women’s Club.

Preview of Mozart’s “Cosi Fan Tutti”
January 27, 2009, noon, Schiro Program, Room 550
Performed by Opera San José and sponsored by the Beethoven Center.

“Water for Elephants” exhibit, a BFA Senior Seminar assignment
Through January 31, 2009, fourth-floor exhibit area
An exhibition of concept art based on the Campus Reading Program’s fall selection, Water for Elephants, by Sara Gruen. The exhibit is presented by senior SJSU animation and illustration students, who were challenged to develop work appropriate for either a feature-length live action or animated adaptation of the book. These projects will be included in the portfolios students develop to represent them when they apply for work in the screen arts.

“East Meets West in My Art” exhibit
February 1–28, 2009, fifth floor
Contemporary Chinese American artists from the Bay Area exhibit paintings, sculptures, and photographs.

“The Dust Also Rises” exhibit
March 1–April 30, 2009, fourth-floor exhibit area
Twenty photographs depicting various scenes in Western China by Amber Hsu.

“Beyond the Map: Migration and Homecoming”
March 2–31, 2009, second-floor exhibit area
A collection of oil-on-panel paintings and collaged drawings (pen and ink on paper) by artist Rebekah Goldstein. The pieces show a personal connection to landscapes and places we consider “home.”

Preview of Georges Bizet’s “Carmen”
April 7, 2009, noon, Schiro Program Room 550
Performed by Opera San José and sponsored by the Beethoven Center.

“Schulz’s Beethoven, Schroeder’s Muse”
Exhibit: May 1–July 31, 2009, fifth floor
Presentation: May 6, 2009, 7:00 P.M., Room 580
A collaboration between the Ira F. Brilliant Center for Beethoven Studies and the Charles M. Schulz Museum, this exhibition portrays the connection between the “Peanuts” character Schroeder and his idol, Ludwig van Beethoven. The exhibit explains why Schulz chose certain compositions to feature in his strip, and explores how his strips not only provide insights into the lives of Schroeder and his friends, but also serve as a biography of Beethoven.

A related First Wednesdays lecture on Schroeder and Beethoven will be presented by William Meredith, PhD, on May 6. Admission is free, but seating is limited.

University scholars share their knowledge through lecture series

The University Scholars Series provides an opportunity for SJSU faculty members to share their recently published research. Several talks are scheduled for the coming months:

February 24, 2009, noon–1:00 P.M. “Mentoring and Making It: A Guide for Newcomers to the Ivory Tower,” by Elena Klaw, Department of Psychology.

March 17, 2009, noon–1:00 P.M. “Cool Cuisine: Taking the Bite Out of Global Warming,” by Eugene Cordero, Department of Meteorology.


This popular noontime series, cosponsored by the provost’s office, the campus bookstore, and the King Library, is held in the library. Admission is free.

For more information on the University Scholars Series, contact Elisabeth Thomas at (408) 808-2193.
New library classroom offers high-tech learning space

Teaching SJSU students the necessary skills to find information, evaluate the source, and synthesize what they have found in such a way that they can successfully complete a research paper or tackle any real-life problem is what university librarians do every day. These information literacy skills are required of all SJSU graduates as they enter the information-rich world of work in Silicon Valley.

With this mission in mind, in fall 2008, the SJSU librarians, working closely with the library information technology staff, designed an up-to-date teaching and learning space to actively engage students in research. The new classroom is equipped with the latest technology, large “smart” touch-screen monitors, laptops, and clustered tables on wheels to capture the imagination and energy of students while they learn how to navigate digital information. The classroom has been a hit with students, faculty, and librarians, who enjoy the flexible learning space with embedded digital information resources.

Keep up-to-date with library’s RSS feeds

The King Library now provides a number of RSS feeds to help you stay current on library happenings. You can subscribe to news feeds that cover:

- The newest university library materials, by subject area
- Upcoming events at the library
- Newly acquired nonfiction, children’s books, movies, or audio books
- The latest Cultural Heritage Collection materials
- And much more

Choose from dozens of feeds, and you’ll regularly receive the latest information on your areas of interest.

RSS, or “really simple syndication,” provides a quick and easy way to retrieve online content from multiple websites without having to search each site for updates. You collect the kind of news you want—whether it’s a headline, an abstract, or a full story—when you want it. It’s a great way to take advantage of technology without having to wrap your brain around the constantly changing world of the internet.

To subscribe to the library’s RSS feeds or learn how to view information through a personal feed reader, visit the King Library’s website (http://www.sjlibrary.org) and click on the RSS Feeds button.

There are two ways to access the library’s RSS feeds:

- You can set up your own feed reader. Examples of feed readers are Bloglines, Google Reader, and My Yahoo!
- Alternatively, you can view feeds through your web browser. Many web browsers have the ability to read RSS feeds built in. If yours does not, you can easily download add-ons and pull library feeds into your bookmarks or toolbar.

Either way, you can get the latest library news right on your desktop.
More new databases available to aid research

Databases provide access to full-text information, images, and even video in many disciplines, and the SJSU library continues to add new online resources for faculty and students. The resources below can be found through both the library’s online catalog and the Articles & Databases web page at http://www.sjlibrary.org/research/databases.

NEW DATABASES

American Film Scripts Online contains the text of 1,000 film scripts—more than 100,000 scenes of human experience—along with a biographical database of directors and writers. Extending back to the earliest silent films and progressing to the present, the collection presents the medium’s reflection of American attitudes and life.

Applied Science & Business Periodicals Retrospective: 1913–1983 contains more than 4.5 million articles published in more than 2,000 periodicals. The database includes the complete content of Industrial Arts Index, published from 1913 to 1958. Later content comes from Applied Science & Technology Index and Business Periodicals Index.

ASME Digital Library, from the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, includes the full text of all ASME journals from 1990 to the present. ASME’s conference proceedings and e-books are searchable, but are not available in full text.

The open access Biodiversity Heritage Library (http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org) provides natural history and herbaria library collections for immediate research and for multiple bioinformatics initiatives. For the first time, this important content is available to a global audience through a web-based interface.

Biography Index Retrospective: 1946–1983 includes 623,000 articles and book citations, interviews, and profiles related to 300,000 history makers. The database covers writers, artists, statesmen, sports figures, politicians, religious leaders, scientists, educators, military leaders, teachers, actors, business people, and more.

BNA Tax Management Portfolios includes the following subsets on tax regulations, codes, and comprehensive resources: estates, gifts and trusts, international or foreign income, U.S. income, and multistate income.

Cabell’s Directory of Publishing Opportunities: Educational Directories gives detailed information for journal article submissions in all areas of education. Content includes contact information, manuscript guidelines and requirements, acceptance rates, and specific subject areas.

The open access Civil Rights Digital Library (http://crdl.usg.edu/voci/go/crdl/home/) delivers web-based educational content on the civil rights movement, and promotes an enhanced understanding of the movement by helping users discover primary sources and other materials from libraries, archives, museums, public broadcasters, and others.

Dance in Video includes 47 streaming videos of dance productions and documentaries by influential performers and companies of the twentieth century. Selections cover ballet, tap, jazz, contemporary, experimental, and improvisational dance as well as forerunners of the forms and the pioneers of modern concert dance.

Databases provide access to full-text information, images, and even video in many disciplines, and the SJSU library continues to add new online resources for faculty and students. The resources below can be found through both the library’s online catalog and the Articles & Databases web page at http://www.sjlibrary.org/research/databases.

HRAF World Cultures, the Human Relations Area Files Collection of Ethnography, is a full-text database that contains information on the culture and social life of ethnic groups throughout the world.

Health and Psychosocial Instruments (HaPI) features unpublished information-gathering tools discussed in clinical journal articles, such as questionnaires, interview schedules, tests, checklists, rating and other scales, coding schemes, and projective techniques. More than two-thirds of the materials are in medical and nursing areas such as pain measurement, quality-of-life assessment, and drug efficacy evaluation.

Opera in Video is a streaming video database that contains about 250 important opera performances, captured on video through staged productions, interviews, and documentaries. Selections represent the world’s leading performers, conductors, and opera houses.

OregonPDF in Health & Performance provides more than 10,000 graduate dissertations and theses related to health, performance, and physical activity. Areas of interest include biochemistry, dance, exercise physiology, kinesiology, obesity, recreation, sports marketing, sports medicine, and sports psychology.

Oxford Islamic Studies Online includes more than 3,000 reference entries, chapters from scholarly and introductory works, Qur’anic materials, primary sources, images, and timelines. Users can search and browse by era, topic, or geographic region.

Proquest Historical Newspapers: The San Francisco Chronicle (1865–1922) provides comprehensive coverage of the San Francisco Chronicle, including full text and complete page images.

South and Southeast Asian Literature includes fiction, short fiction, poems, interviews, and manuscripts written in English by writers from South and Southeast Asia and their diasporas, beginning in the nineteenth century. Countries represented include India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, the Maldives, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, and Fiji.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information about these and other online resources, contact your department’s liaison librarian.

DID YOU KNOW? About 4,000 SJSU students now use the library’s RefWorks service, and this number is growing every day. To start building your own RefWorks citation collection, visit http://www.sjlibrary.org/research/databases/.
Fifth anniversary celebration marks five years of successful collaboration

In February 1997, San José mayor Susan Hammer and San José State University president Robert L. Caret announced their intent to collaborate on a library that embraced lifelong learning through its vision and presence. During the planning phase, the library was strategically designed to welcome the community through its Fourth Street entrance, and students via the campus entrance facing historic Tower Hall. In August 2003, the library officially opened its doors and librarians greeted students, staff, faculty, and the community with a standing ovation on the first floor beneath the Koret Atrium.

To share its continued success with the entire community, the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library kicked off its fifth anniversary celebration on September 6, 2008. Opening ceremonies in Caret Plaza included congratulatory speeches from university and city dignitaries, including San José City Council member Sam Liccardo, SJSU provost Carmen Sigler, SJSU library dean Ruth Kifer, and San José Public Library director Jane Light. Festivities continued with performances of music and dance by Sandoshin Taiko, Vo Vinam Martial Arts and Lion Dance, and Las Cruces Baile Folklorico.

Visitors also participated in lively discussions in the library’s fifth-floor Special Collections area. William Meredith spoke on “The World of Beethoven,” bringing Beethoven’s music to life through demonstrations on five instruments: the Sperrhake clavichord, Dulcken fortepiano, Broadwood grand fortepiano, Jakesch fortepiano, and harpsichord. In the Steinbeck Center, staff member Sttos Tez intrigued the audience with his talk on “The Salacious Steinbeck,” drawing parallels between John Steinbeck’s life and his contributions to the literary world.

The “Five on Fourth” celebration continued throughout the month with an exhibit on the history of libraries in San José, musical concerts, activities, and a University Scholars Series presentation featuring SJSU professor Randall Stross on his new book, Planet Google.

The celebration was cosponsored by San José State University, the City of San José, and the San José Redevelopment Agency, with generous support from the Friends of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library.
The King Library’s Cultural Heritage Center and California Room have received a California State Library grant to launch a two-year digital storytelling project. The project gathers digital stories from local residents, including stories on Chicano/Latino events, places, and individuals, and stories about the communities surrounding San José Public Library branches.

This joint university–public library effort will be comanaged by Kathryn Blackmer Reyes of SJSU’s Chicano Heritage Center and Stacy Mueller of the San José Public Library’s California Room. The grant provides equipment, software, and other resources to support the recording, editing, and presentation of participants’ stories. To view stories online, see http://digitalstorystation.com/. Have a story to share? Contact Kathryn Blackmer Reyes at kathryn.blackmerreyes@sjsu.edu or Stacy Mueller at stacy.mueller@sjlibrary.org.

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission has awarded the library’s Special Collections & Archives unit a grant of $151,704 to make accessible all the permanent archival collections. The grant supports a full-time archivist, Erin Louthen, to survey, catalog, and encode the collection inventories of 80 manuscripts and university record collections. Finding aids will be published in the Online Archives of California at http://www.oac.cdlib.org/. Shu-Hua Liu was selected as an American Library Association 2009 Emerging Leader. In January, Liu will attend the association’s midwinter conference in Denver to receive leadership and problem-solving training, obtain an inside understanding of the organization’s structure, and network with peers from across the nation. She will then work on projects online with other emerging leaders for six months, completing the program with a poster presentation at the association’s next annual conference. Afterward, she will serve the profession in a leadership capacity by accepting a term of service in the association’s office or on an association committee, roundtable, task force, or project team.

Diana Wu presented at the Chinese American Librarians Association conference in Taiwan this fall. The presentation on United States academic librarianship focused on embedding information literacy into the curriculum, strategic planning, university accreditation, Web 2.0 applications, and return on investment.

Dean Ruth Kifer is pleased to announce the appointment of Mary Nino as interim associate dean for scholarly resources and library operations for the 2008–2009 academic year. In this capacity, Mary will collaborate closely with John Wenzler, the library’s newly appointed associate dean for digital futures. Nino has been at SJSU since 2002 as the university library’s coordinator of strategic planning and community outreach librarian. She has received both a master’s degree in library and information science and a teacher-librarian credential from San José State, in addition to earning a BA in English and a single-subject teaching credential from Santa Clara University. She strongly believes in the transformative power of libraries and has a broad background in the field, having worked in academic, public, community college, and school libraries.

This year’s Steinbeck Fellows are Jasmin Darznik, Cristine Gonzalez, and Cora Stryker. Sponsored by the Martha Heasley Cox Center for Steinbeck Studies, the Steinbeck Fellows program offers new writers of any age and background a fellowship to finish a significant writing project. Fellowships are currently offered in creative writing and in the study of Steinbeck’s life or work.

The 2008–2009 fellows read from their works-in-progress as part of the King Library’s First Wednesdays lecture series in November. The fellows’ next presentation will be held in the spring. For more information on the Steinbeck Fellows program, visit http://steinbeck.sjsu.edu/fellows.

Wenzler has a BA from the University of California at Berkeley, an MLIS from San José State University, and a PhD in American history from the University of Rochester. He also has prior experience at Innovative Interfaces, Inc., and at U.C. Berkeley’s Bancroft Library.