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New Role for Fogler Library

It may only have been a supporting role, but when the Ghost Brothers of Darkland County, a Southern gothic supernatural musical written by Stephen King, debuted on Saturday, November 8, at the Collins Center for the Arts, Fogler Library was in the spotlight as the venue for the annual Collins Center Gala.

The changing role of libraries took on a new meaning as guests were treated to a Southern-inspired dinner in a transformed Reserve Reading Room on the library’s first floor. Table cloths, whimsical Gothic-themed decorations, and special lighting created a warm and welcoming dining room. Speakers included President Susan Hunter and Stephen and Tabitha King. While the focus was on opening night at the Collins Center, the event provided a unique opportunity for Fogler to expand its role in the community.

Dean of Libraries Joyce Rumery summed up the evening by saying, “The Gala showcased the role of Fogler library as a gathering place for our local community and served as an important collaboration with the Collins Center. Bringing people together to share ideas and celebrate an event like the debut of The Ghost Brothers of Darkland County is one of the ways we can, in turn, celebrate the importance of libraries.”

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Message from Dean Joyce Rumery

This year has special significance for the University of Maine, as we celebrate our 150th anniversary. The University has had a leadership role in the state for the past 150 years and the library has been a part of that history. As we look at our legacy and history, we are exploring our Special Collections for the photographs and other resources that give us a sense of our past. We have selected photographs for an exhibit of the building of Fogler Library and we are working on the papers in the collection to help make our history available to researchers. This is an exciting time as we celebrate our past but also look to the future for more ways to enhance the university experience for our students and to participate in the university community.

The Historical Atlas of Maine celebrations began in December and continued into this year. This volume is a wonderful example of the research and collaborations that take place at the University of Maine. We were pleased to be a part of this project and anticipate more celebrations, lectures, and programs around this remarkable achievement. The Atlas sold out of the first printing within weeks and we know that many are eagerly awaiting the copies that will be available this summer from the second printing.

The Gala that was held in the library this fall for the production of the *Ghost Brothers of Darkland County* by Stephen King was a great success and was appreciated by all attendees. The decorations and lighting gave the library a very different look and our guests were impressed by the changes. Library staff received many compliments on the library and the ability to transform a reading room into a welcoming dining venue.

As we move into the summer we will be looking at changes we can make within the library. We plan on better seating for our students and providing more spaces for group work and other types of study areas. This work is a part of our ongoing conversations with students about their needs for collaborative and other types of study spaces. We are constantly reviewing the library and our ability to change with the needs of our users. We will also make some changes on the first floor as we move staff into different areas of the library.

Also with this issue we are saying farewell to Gretchen Gfeller after her years of service to the university, the library, and particularly to the Friends. Gretchen is a strong advocate for students and the library, those qualities were demonstrated with her work at student open houses, with her idea to bring therapy dogs into the library, in her communications with the university community and others, plus her willingness to be where needed to represent the library. Although we are sorry to see her leave we also wish her a happy and fulfilling retirement.

I hope this newsletter finds you well. Please let us know if you plan to visit and we will give you a behind the scenes tour of the projects. We would love to have you see the changes we have made and the collections we have available for the students. Thank you for your support, we do appreciate your interest in the library.

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From the Editor

This is my last issue of *The Olive Tree*. I am retiring at the end of June after 35 years at Fogler Library, 16 of them as Friends Coordinator and editor of *The Olive Tree*.

It has been a fascinating, challenging, and rewarding journey. Thanks go to the incredible staff at Fogler Library, a dedicated and talented group with a sincere commitment to bringing the best library services and resources to all our users and to all of you, our loyal friends. I would also like to thank Elaine Albright, director and dean of libraries from 1983 - 2007 and Joyce Rumery, our current dean, for their unwavering support.

It is worth noting that the guest essay in my first issue as editor was entitled *Tradition and Technology: the Future of Books in a Digital World*, a new and confusing topic at the time as libraries sought to redefine themselves, and one which we continue to ponder. For my part, I believe that books and the libraries that house them are and will remain an essential part of our lives and communities. Libraries are the keepers of our stories, our hopes, our dreams. To quote Ray Bradbury, “Without libraries what have we? We have no past and no future.” And, I will add, without friends we have nothing. Thank you for supporting our library.

Gretchen Gfeller
Friends Coordinator
Editor, *The Olive Tree*
A new exhibit in the library’s Oakes Room gallery features several photographs documenting the building of Raymond H. Fogler Library. The cornerstone of the present Fogler Library was set in 1941 and construction began that year. However, World War II delayed completion of the building. “The Shell of the library was constructed in 1941–42, but WWII forestalled completion of the interior until 1947.” (Sara Martin, Historic Building/Structure Survey for the University of Maine.)

By that time, the collection had grown to 215,000 volumes plus government documents. In 1962, the building was named after Raymond H. Fogler for his service to the University of Maine.

The exhibit will remain open over the summer.
A View from the Top: Records of University of Maine Presidents

by Matthew Revitt

Have you ever wondered how the University of Maine presidents viewed the changes of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries? The records of the University of Maine presidents held by Fogler Library’s Special Collections give readers a snapshot of the major social issues of the day through the eyes of the presidents. This article will focus on World War II, space technology, the Cold War, and civil rights for African Americans and the LGBT community.

A memorandum from the University of Maine President Arthur Andrew Hauck describes students’ attitudes in 1940 toward war; their opinions were shaped by U.S. involvement in World War I and the call for aid from the allies fighting Nazi Germany (Statements & Articles, UA RG 0003.001.008.003, box 1, folder 8). It’s poignant that by 1943 we read testimonials and speeches from memorial services for 22 students and alumni killed during World War II (Memorial Services, UA RG 0003.001.008, box 2, folder 4). Hauck himself would describe the devastating effects of war in an interview with The Maine Alumnus (November, 1943) regarding his “Impressions of War-Time England;” the article also mentions meetings Hauck had with University of Maine graduates stationed in England (Newspaper And Magazine Articles, UA RG 0003.001.008.003, box 1, folder 7).

The space race captured the imagination the post-war generation, but in 1963 the U.S. faced a shortage of technical and scientific labor to help deliver on the country’s ambitious space program. The University of Maine, under the leadership of President Lloyd H. Elliot, sought to help alleviate these issues by submitting “A Proposal to the to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration To Establish a Graduate Center for Training and Research Related to Space Technology” with an operating budget of nine million dollars. Even in 1963, we see a contemporary problem of “the brain drain” in that one of the selling points of the proposal for establishing the Center in Orono was that the University of Maine make an unusually large contribution to the Nation’s “manpower” supply since 80% of its scientific and technical graduates leave the state after graduation. Tantalizingly, there is nothing in the folder to indicate what became of this proposal (Space Technology, UA RG 0003.001.009.002, box 1, folder 13). Another connection between the University of Maine and the space race can be found in 1974 correspondence between University of Maine President Howard R. Neville and Howard A. Keyo, the University’s long-serving Director of Public Information and Central Services regarding Astronaut Lt. Col. Stuart Roosa, the Command Module Pilot for the Apollo 14 mission, who was an honorary guest speaker at Wells Commons (Public Relations, UA RG 0003.001.012.002, box 1, folder 1).

The Cold War clearly dominated American consciousness for decades, and UMaine records reflect this. In 1964, the University of Maine participated in the study of the Cold War through membership on the American Security Council, contributing to the Council’s
Guidelines for Cold War Victory. The report included recommendations for how the U.S. and its allies could be victorious over communism, including in Southeast Asia where at the time U.S. troops were fighting in Vietnam (American Security Council, UA RG 0003.007.002, box 2, folder 24). There was also unrest on the home front, with University of Maine student and faculty campus demonstrations against the Vietnam War, described in correspondence from President Hugh Edwin Young (Correspondence, UA RG 0003.001.010.001, box 1, folder 1a). Such protests would result in President Winthrop C. Libby issuing “A Statement on Demonstrations” (1969) that would be approved by the Student Senate (Demonstrations – Statement On By Winthrop C. Libby, UA RG 0003.007.002, box 8, folder 8).

Civil rights was another issue which saw mass protests nationwide and would eventually result in the passing of the Civil Rights Acts (1964 & 1968). The University of Maine, like many other institutions, would strive to ensure they were fully compliant with both national and state civil rights and anti-discrimination legislation, as applied to things like admissions, housing, and fraternity membership. The quantity and detail of reference material and correspondence between University of Maine presidents Lloyd Hartman Elliot and Winthrop C. Libby and organizations such as the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) show how seriously the University handled the issue. In 1964 the University of Maine would host leading civil rights figure James Meredith, who in 1962 became the first African American to attend the University of Mississippi. In 1966 Meredith was shot by a sniper shortly after beginning a lone civil rights march through the South (Civil Rights, UA RG 0003.007.002, box 5, folder 13).

At a time when homosexuality was still illegal in many U.S. states, and one year on from Harvey Milk’s run for city supervisor in San Francisco, the University of Maine Wilde-Stein Club in 1974 hosted the First Annual Maine Gay Symposium which was about the issue of protecting the civil rights of the LGBT community. As can be seen in the correspondence President Howard R. Neville received on the Symposium, it was not a universally popular decision to host it on campus (“Gay Liberation”, UA RG 0003.007.002, box 14, folder 2).

This article has covered only a few of the many subjects that feature in the folders of the Office of the President Records. It will be interesting to see what historians of the future will view as the major social issues of today.

For more information or a chance to see the items in the University of Maine President Records, contact the Special Collections Department at 581.1686 or email <spc@umit.maine.edu>.
**Around the Library**

**New Reference Services Department**
As of January 1 the Reference Department and the Science and Engineering Center of Fogler Library have become one entity. The new department is called Reference Services. All services and subject librarians are located on the first floor in the Information Commons.

Services have not been reduced in any way. Patrons can receive assistance at the Help Desk in the Information Commons, by phone, chat, text, and email. Patrons can also still make appointments with their subject librarians for individualized research help. Instructors can still contact their subject librarians to arrange for library instruction sessions and/or Web guides for their classes.

This new configuration makes it easier for the subject librarians to collaborate, and sharing coverage of the Help Desk frees up time to focus on specific academic units.

If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Lewis, Head of Reference Services at <nancy.lewis@umit.maine.edu> or call 581.1613.

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Mystery, history, sci-fi, biography, and more are just a few clicks away. Visit the Maine InfoNet Download Library at <http://download.maineinfonet.org/>.

**Membership Offer for Faculty**

The loyalty, devotion, and generosity of University alumni, faculty, students, and friends made possible the construction of this library.

Since the construction of the Raymond H. Fogler Library a half century ago, students, faculty, and visitors have passed by this inscription which adorns the library’s central staircase. These engraved words are both testament and tribute to the many individuals whose outpouring of private support helped to build the University’s library into the foremost center for learning and research in Maine.

The important resources Fogler Library provides to users statewide and the vital part it plays as the heart of Maine’s academic community have long been recognized by alumni/ae and friends. Over the years a number of generous individuals have discreetly continued the tradition established by the library’s builders. Today, private support to augment public funding is critical as Fogler Library strives to maintain its leadership position in teaching, research, and public service.

We invite all UMaine faculty to become part of this tradition by joining the Friends at a special rate of $25. Your gift will help ensure the library’s continued growth and excellence. For more information contact Friends Coordinator Gretchen Gfeller. Voice: 581.1696 | E-mail: gretchen.gfeller@umit.maine.edu
Celebration for Newly Published Historical Atlas

The Historical Atlas of Maine, a new geographical and historical interpretation of Maine, from the end of the last ice age to the year 2000, culminates a 15-year scholarly project led by University of Maine researchers. The book debuted on December 10 at Osher Map Library at the University of Southern Maine and on December 11 at the Buchanan Alumni House at the University of Maine. The atlas was also the subject of a Maine Historical Society lecture by UMaine historian Richard Judd in Portland.


Historical Atlas of Maine tells the principal stories of the many people who have lived in Maine over the past 13,000 years — the history of Native peoples, European exploration and settlement, the American Revolution, Maine statehood, agricultural and industrial development, and the rise of tourism and environmental awareness.

The 208-page atlas features 76 two-page plates with a rich array of 367 original maps, 112 original charts and 248 other images — historical maps, paintings and photos — in addition to its text. The result is a unique interpretation of Maine, a rich visual record of the state’s history, and a major achievement in humanities research.

“The atlas is beautiful and that’s important,” says Hermann, founder and lead cartographer of Purple Lizard Maps, who worked on the project for 14 years. “A lot of atlases are dry and use a cookie cutter shape of a state throughout. We wanted to get away from that format. People are going to be impressed by the atlas’ accessibility. It is scholarly research presented in a beautiful, interesting, readable way that calls you to turn to the next page — and the next.”

In 1997, UMaine Professor of English Burton Hatlen had the idea to compile an historical atlas of Maine that would showcase the mission of a land grant institution and the strength of humanities scholarship. “I agreed with him that this could be a contribution to Maine and that we could set the bar for other state historical atlases,” says Hornsby, director of UMaine’s Canadian-American Center. “Maine could set the standard.”

Primary funding for the atlas project included $160,000 in seed money from the Maine Legislature in 1999 and a $293,500 National Endowment for the Humanities grant in 2003.

With Hatlen’s death in 2008, Hornsby and Judd led the final years of the scholarship, largely focused on historical geography, with significant assistance from UMaine graduate students.

Digital files of archival maps of Maine were gathered from archives from Ottawa, Canada, and Washington, D.C., to London, England, and Paris, France. Many important historical maps were made available by the Osher Map Library at the University of Southern Maine.

The atlas is arranged in four chronological sections. The two-page, full-color illustrated plates detailing the environmental, economic, social and cultural interactions that shaped the state and the region represent the extensive scholarship of 33 contributors.

“The Historical Atlas of Maine is an articulation of Maine. The book comes from Maine’s land grant university and is meant to be a gift returned,” says Michael Alpert, director of the University of Maine Press. “It celebrates Maine.”

The Historical Atlas of Maine will change the way people look at Maine history, says Judd, UMaine’s Colonel James C. McBride Professor of History, and a nationally recognized scholar and author on environmental history. It reflects international scholarship detailing the influence of French-American culture, starting with settlement of the upper Saint John River, and little-known segments of Maine history, including 19th-century Wabanaki petitions and land treaties.

“The atlas brings history to life in a truly multidimensional way and will put Maine on the map in more ways than one,” Judd says. “This is a pioneering effort in terms of scholarship — a new form of presenting materials, and it will have an impact nationwide.”

The first printing of the atlas is sold out, but more copies are on the way. Visit the University of Maine Press website for more information:
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Please make checks payable to The University of Maine Foundation and return to 5729 Fogler Library, University of Maine, Orono, ME 04469-5729

We appreciate your tax-deductible donations. Thank you for your support!

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