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Senator William H. Cohen’s Congressional Papers: A Major Contribution to the Library

Dear Bill: Attached is a summary of the facts supporting the conclusion that President Nixon willfully evaded portions of his proper federal income taxes for the years 1969 through 1972. Supporting documents are also included. I am convinced that this evidence presents an overwhelming case against the President’s fitness to remain in office. I strongly believe that the committee must call the President to account for this abuse of office and violation of his oath to “take care that the laws be faithfully executed.” If his actions go unchallenged, I fear that they will inevitably subvert and corrode our tax system.

(Excerpts from a letter to Congressman and member of House Judiciary Committee Bill Cohen from Edward Mezvenski, Iowa’s 1st District Congressman regarding the Nixons’ unlawful claim of tax deduction for his contribution of papers.)

While many offenses have been charged against the President..., the undersigned desire to bring to the attention the seriousness and full constitutional implications of the secret war in Cambodia and Laos during the years 1969, 1970, 1971... The Constitution is clear on war powers: it is the Congress that is authorized to declare war, not the President. (Taken from the Lawyers Committee’s Brief to the House Judiciary Committee regarding the secret war in Cambodia as constituting an impeachable offense.)

More than 1500 boxes of similar documents relating to the current Secretary of Defense’s career on Capitol Hill will be available for public inspection and enjoyment at the Fogler Library very soon. The University of Maine and Fogler Library have been in the limelight since last fall when William S. Cohen, the retired Senator, donated the voluminous collection of his congressional papers of 24 years to the University. The collection is housed in Fogler’s new climate-controlled library annex. The papers include notes, speeches, official documents, press releases, committee reports, and news articles, as well as Cohen’s handwritten scribbles and pictures. These will be made available to interested readers in paper and in electronic formats, accessible over the Internet, as soon as an archivist finishes the inventory and catalogues the material.

According to Mary Casserly, Collection Development Division Head, Fogler Library, “This is the most significant collection of contemporary papers the Library has ever received. It will be a valuable source of information for researchers interested in the politics, history and sociology of the late 20th century.” Elaine Albright, Dean of Cultural Affairs and Libraries, points out, “The Senator’s direct involvement in the Watergate hearings, the Armed Forces Committee and the closing of air force bases in Maine will result in a record and perspective of our times that may not be available elsewhere.”

Continued page 2
U.S. Patent and Trademark Depository Library Update

If you are thinking of inventing a new product or opening up a new company, the best place to check its originality is the Fogler Library Science and Engineering Center where the first and only Patent and Trademark Depository Library (PTDL) in the state of Maine has been in operation since December 1993. The Depository includes patent and trademark databases, U.S. patents from 1974 to present, and related reference materials.

A new Pentium workstation and laser printer from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) has enabled faster searching and the ability to view and print U.S. patents from USAPat, the PTO’s newest CD-ROM product.

The Library receives subscriptions to all new CD-ROM products from the PTO. A similar product for trademarks will be available soon. The U.S. patent file spans over 200 years and includes more than 5 million patents. The collection tells the story of world science and technology since 1790, and the evolution of society. The library is in great need of funds to purchase all of the backfiles before 1974.

Resources in the PTDL are used to:
- conduct preliminary patent searches to assess the novelty of an invention;
- evaluate the state of the art of a technology; develop new, or improve upon existing products and processes;
- locate sources of expertise;
- survey markets; monitor and forecast activities of competitors;
- study a time period, the history of technology, or societal changes;
- compile mailing lists and databases; locate inventor’s or manufacturer’s addresses;
- identify the owner of a trademark; determine whether a trademark has been registered; and
- satisfy your curiosity.

Science and Engineering Librarian, Michael J. White, has been awarded a fellowship to work with PTDL Program Office in Arlington, Virginia (a network of 80+ libraries) to learn about the patent and trademark process firsthand, build expertise in patent and trademark searching, and make connections with U.S. PTO staff, intellectual property experts and other PTDL libraries.

Telephone and e-mail requests for copies of patents are accepted and, for a fee, patents are copied and faxed or mailed. The staff of the Science and Engineering Center will assist you in using these resources. First time users of the workstation should make an appointment with Center staff for a personal instruction session. Please call 581-1678 to schedule an appointment or for further information.

Information on the PTDL can also be viewed via the official University of Maine homepage.

Who’s Reading What

Marquita Hill, Cooperating Professor, Department of Chemical Engineering
- One River, Explorations and Discoveries in the Amazon Rain Forest by Wade Davis.
- Naturalist by Edward Wilson.
- A Daughter of the Samurai by Etsu Sugimoto.
- The Color of Water by James McBride.
- Pearl S. Buck, A Biography by Peter Conn.

Sam Garwood, Division Head, Technical Services, Fogler Library
- Killer Angels by Michael Shaara.
- Paddle to the Amazon: the Ultimate 12,000-Mile Canoe Adventure by Don Stankell.
- The Two Sides of Love by Gary Smalley.
- Executive Orders by Tom Clancy.

Readings on Black History Suggested by Gretchen Gfeller
- My Bondage and My Freedom by Frederick Douglass.
- Up From Slavery by Booker T. Washington.
- Invisible Man by Ralph Ellison.
- The Souls of Black Folks by W.E.B. DuBois
- Native Son by Richard Wright.
- I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou.

Web Training at the Library

Jennifer McLeod, Campus Web Information System Coordinator; Gretchen Gfeller, Reference Department; and Jim Bird, Head.

Friends of the Library Web Page for Friends with WWW Access

Gretchen Gfeller and Jerry Lund, Library staff members, have created a Friends of the Library Web page (http://libinfo.ume.maine.edu/Friends/FriendsTop.html) which provides a description of the Friends, information on benefactors, a schedule of events and projects, and a membership form. A future plan is to include the newsletters on the Web.

Science & Engineering Center and other staff members are currently providing three types of computer training:

1. Internet Workshops: Traditional library instruction limited to campus affiliates only.

Sessions 2 and 3 are open to the public for a fee. The sessions are running at full capacity and there are waiting lists for some sessions. For further information please call: 581-1675, E-Mail: Gretchen_Gfeller@Voyager.umeres.maine.edu, or Online: http://libinfo.ume.maine.edu/classes/spring97.html
A Digital Library Meets Challenges of Information Technology

Like many academic libraries keeping pace with information technology, Fogler Library is participating in a shift from the model of a research library based only on print information to one which encompasses digital information. Designed to meet the needs of users outside the library walls, the system is envisioned to:

- Create and provide resources in digital format, located both locally and remotely;
- Provide a uniform single point of entry to all genres of scholarly resources with navigational assistance, powerful search tools, and transparent connections;
- Provide high quality support services including consulting, a comprehensive workshop series, and online tutorials;
- Provide effective software and online learning resources integral to the effective use of digital resources and the World Wide Web; and
- Provide for the long term maintenance of digital information within the library.

The digital library will meet users' needs by establishing a repository of electronic scholarly materials that advance teaching and scholarship, and tools for use with it. It will meld the storage and retrieval power of computing, the communication capabilities of electronic networking, and the structures and practices of physical libraries and archives.

URSUS, the University of Maine System Libraries Information System, which was created in 1986, will evolve as a part of a digital library information system that will provide uniform and unified access to the world of electronic resources. A steering committee of library staff members chaired by Marilyn Lutz, Assistant Director of Information Systems, is actively working on this shift to a digital library. The library staff is collaborating with a variety of partners to develop digital resources and to provide access to them.

Spatial Odyssey and Archives Image Database are two examples of such collaborative projects. Spatial Odyssey, an electronic publication which provides World Wide Web access to the full text of geographic information systems conference proceedings contributed by leading professional organizations, is a collaboration with the National Center for Geographic Information and Analysis (NCGIA) and the Department of Spatial Information and Engineering. Archives Image Database provides network access to images of research materials from two archival collections: Fogler Library Special Collections and the Maine Folk Life Center.

Many faculty at the University have less need to visit the library, because URSUS has already made it possible to request books from their computers, which are then delivered to their offices through the campus mail.

Dr. V.K. Balakrishnan, Professor of Mathematics who also runs an extracurricular Kumon Math Program for the children in the area, has mixed feelings about a digital library. He is scared that computer desks will takeover the bookshelves. He enjoys walking up to the library almost every day. He gets some exercise and catches up on all the interesting journals and magazines to which he does not subscribe.

Sara Speidel, an herbalist and a mother of a 12 year old girl, considers a digital library a sensible change in this age of information revolution, and one that is required for the University to remain competitive with rest of the world. She enjoys the thought of having fun by getting a printout of her favorite articles right from her home.

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WE NEED AND LOVE YOUR TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS!
Thank you for your support.

The Kings Support to the Library

Fogler Library received the original manuscripts of their last few books from the best selling authors, Stephen and Tabitha King. The Kings also donated $3,000 to the Friends of the Library. Very recently, the Kings brought a spiritual and moral boost to the University by giving a check for $1 million to support new faculty positions and student scholarships. The Kings have pledged an additional $1 million in each of the next three years. Both Stephen and Tabitha King are University of Maine graduates, 1970 and 1971 respectively. They were awarded honorary doctoral degrees in 1987.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Advisory Board Meeting, April 17, 1997, 2:00 pm, Lynch Room, Fogler Library.

Alumni Reception, May 30, 1997, 2:00-4:00 pm, Patio, Fogler Library Mall Entrance. The theme for this year’s gathering is “Fogler Library – Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow.” Wine, cheese and other refreshments will be served. Attendees will be treated to a building tour and a special multimedia presentation.

An Open Meeting will be held during the summer. The theme will be, “Bring a Friend to Meet the Friends.” The time and date will be announced soon.

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The Collection of Fogler Library and the library at the Darling Center which together comprise the University of Maine Libraries, numbers 881,700 bound volumes, more than 1.4 million microforms, and 2 million government (U.S. Federal, Canadian, Maine State, and Agricultural Experiment Station) documents. The libraries currently subscribe to 5,400 journals and have standing orders for an additional 1,500 annual publications.

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