Welcome Dean Murray-Rust!

Catherine Murray-Rust began as the new Dean of University Libraries on July 1. “It is a pleasure to work with the library staff, faculty and administrators from across campus to build on the strong tradition of library service at Colorado State,” she says.

Dean Murray-Rust brings a wealth of experience in libraries including 21 years at Cornell University in reference services, technology, and library administration. Most recently, she served as associate university librarian for public services and innovative technology at Oregon State University where she played an active role in policy making, organizational planning, outreach and technological development. At Oregon State, she focused on the application of digital technology to the problems of preservation and access, especially in the areas of natural resources and archives, and the creation of a print repository for the academic libraries in the Pacific Northwest.

Dean Murray-Rust was attracted to Colorado State University Libraries by its reputation for leadership in installing new technology, its creative service environment and its fortitude in dealing with one of the most devastating natural disasters in American research library history. “We’re in a wonderful time for libraries,” she says. “Digital technology can really transform how we deliver information and recognition is growing of the importance of preservation of both digital and print collections.”

Beyond her extensive administrative experience, Dean Murray-Rust participated in the UCLA Senior Fellows program in August. She was one of fifteen top managers of academic research libraries selected following a nationwide competition. The UCLA program covers policy issues in higher education, the research library environment, and leadership.

Dean Murray-Rust graduated with a bachelor’s degree from Mount Holyoke College and holds her graduate diploma in library and information studies from the University of London. She completed graduate course work and management training at Cornell University and the University of Dar es Salaam in Tanzania. She is professionally active in the American Library Association, the Greater Western Library Alliance, and the Association of Research Libraries.

Colorado State University Federal Depository Centennial

In 1903, the present Colorado State University Library was officially designated as a depository that automatically receives select publications from U.S. governmental agencies. From modest beginnings, the depository has grown to approximately one million items, with emphasis on agriculture, public lands, and water resources.

Over the years, the federal government has experimented with publishing in a variety of formats, including microfiche and CD-ROMs. Currently, the emphasis is on online access. The Government Printing Office estimates that as much as 95% of all items issued will be strictly electronic within five years. Online access obviously enhances the value of government publications and improves their accessibility. It is certain that the 21st Century depository will look quite different than that of the 20th Century. For more information, please contact Doug Ernest, Doug.Ernest@colostate.edu.
The Trail to Colorado:  
The Germans from Russia Collection Goes Online

One of Colorado State University Libraries unique resources is the Sidney Heitman Germans from Russia Collection. The late Dr. Heitman extensively researched this population, the second largest ethnic group in Colorado, and the collection supported his Germans from Russia in Colorado Study Project undertaken here in the late 1970s. The materials, housed in Morgan Library’s Special Collections, provide extensive accounts of the Germans from Russia immigrants in Colorado and information on their local settlements.

A Colorado Digitization Program’s Western Trails Project grant funded a new Web site with selected primary source materials from the collection that support CSU programs. These digitized resources include oral history tapes, transcripts, and photographs that illustrate the immigrant experiences of the Germans from Russia in northern Colorado <http://lib.colostate.edu/gfr/>.

The complete collection includes books, journal articles, maps, theses, dissertations, photographs, oral history tapes, transcripts, government publications, family histories, and manuscripts. Although some materials are in German, most are written in English.

Future plans for site development include adding more oral histories and some audio extracts. The Libraries will also be working with local educators to ensure this effort benefits Colorado’s K-12 community by demonstrating the value of primary resources in teaching and learning.

Contact Dawn Bastian at dawn.bastian@colostate.edu if you have questions about this important collection.

Exciting New Service

The Library is now offering online reference assistance all day, every day, with “AskColorado,” a one-year statewide project for Colorado residents funded by federal Library Services and Technology funds. Launched in September, forty-one Colorado libraries of all types are working together to answer questions immediately using real-time chat software. The Library homepage’s AskColorado icon links directly to this easy-to-use virtual reference service. Assistance in Spanish is also available 24/7. This latest innovation in reference services supports our ongoing effort to increase access to library assistance and information to the University community, regardless of time or location. University students, staff and faculty who are doing comprehensive research should still contact subject librarians or the Reference Desk for in-depth assistance. Other academic libraries involved in this effort include: Auraria Library; Colorado State University, Pueblo; Fort Lewis College; Mesa State College; University of Colorado Health Sciences Library; University of Denver Law Library; University of Colorado, Boulder; University of Denver; University of Northern Colorado; and Western State College. AskColorado will be closed only on major holidays such as Christmas, Thanksgiving, and New Years Day. For more information, please contact Allison Cowgill, Allison.Cowgill@colostate.edu.

USB Flash

Library staff are urging students to use USB flash media instead of floppy disks which are very susceptible to data loss and corruption. Any computer (Mac, PC, or Linux) with a USB port can access files that are stored on flash media, and the storage capacity is much greater. While the old floppy format was limited to 1.5 megabytes, flash media capacities now range from 32 megabytes up to 2 gigabytes, all in a device that is smaller than a ballpoint pen. Stop by Morgan Library’s Electronic Information Center (EIC) and ask our staff for a demonstration of this new storage technology. For more information contact Lindsey Wess, EIC Manager, lwess@manta.colostate.edu.
Employee News

Susan Hyatt has joined the University Libraries as the Director of Development. Susan brings extensive background in fundraising, grant writing, and libraries. She has worked in a variety of fund raising capacities with American Youth Hostels, National Endowment for the Arts, American Architectural Foundation, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation, all located in Washington D.C. Susan has also worked with library information resources at the Smithsonian Institution National Museum of American Art and the National Building Museum in Washington.

Susan has a B.A. in Anthropology from the State University of New York, Oswego, and a Masters in Library and Information Science from the Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. She is also an adjunct faculty member at Regis University, Denver, where she teaches an online grant writing class and is involved in developing curriculum for a Masters in Nonprofit Management.

Susan is thrilled to be working in a job which allows her to combine her interests in fund raising and libraries. She is looking forward to collaborating with library staff and library donors to build additional resources for expanding library materials and services. Susan may be reached by email at Susan.Hyatt@colostate.edu or by phone at 491-6823.

Patrick McCarthy is the Library’s new Coordinator of Instruction. Prior to his arrival at Colorado State, Patrick was Manager of Instructional Services and Distance Education at the University of Northern Colorado (UNC) Libraries. While at UNC, Patrick was involved in electronic classroom planning, web-based instructional design, and outreach instruction for UNC’s Center for Urban Education in Denver. His educational background includes a B.A. in political science from University of Wisconsin, Whitewater and a Masters in Library and Information Science from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. Patrick is currently a Ph.D. candidate in Colorado State’s School of Education Interdisciplinary Studies program where his program of study combines the fields of education leadership and library science.

Patrick is excited about the library instruction program at Colorado State and looks forward to working with colleagues and faculty across campus to expand library instruction activities in concert with the University curriculum. He is enjoying getting to know people in Fort Collins, and especially appreciates his new home which is within walking distance of the campus. You may reach Patrick by email at Patrick.McCarthy@colostate.edu or by phone at 491-1881.

New Assistive Technology Rooms

There are four new assistive technology rooms on the first floor of Morgan Library. Before their recent completion, all related equipment was located in one large room that had become increasingly crowded and noisy. Each new room has a networked personal computer that is dedicated to a specific set of assistive technology applications. While users can work individually in private, each room has enough space to accommodate three people. Available applications include: Internet access; Microsoft Office; OmniPage OCR software; JAWS screen reader; TextHelp literacy support; Duxbury Braille translation, Dragon Naturally Speaking dictation software, and JAWS screen readers. The rooms are available whenever the Library is open. Reservations can be made by calling 491-1535 or by stopping at the nearby Electronic Information Center’s assistance desk. For more information, contact Lindsey Wess at lwess@manta.colostate.edu.
The Art of Vladimir Chaika

Colorado State University’s Morgan Library presents an exhibition titled “Contemporary Russian Posters: The Art of Vladimir Chaika” from September 8 – December 5, 2003 in the First National Bank Gallery. The exhibit celebrates the 13th Colorado International Invitational Poster Exhibition (CIIPE) and was organized by the library with assistance from the artist and the CSU Department of Art.

Vladimir Chaika was born in Kapustin Yar, Astrakhan Region of Russia in 1955. Today he lives and works as an independent artist in Moscow. Chaika was the 1995 Colorado International Invitational Poster Exhibition Honor Laureate. <http://lib.colostate.edu/news/chaika/>

International Poster Collection

The Archives and Special Collections Department has added digitized images of the newest exhibition posters to its website which now contains over 1,600 poster images. Visit the International Poster Collection website at <http://lib.colostate.edu/posters/>.