Schurz Library Speaker Series: Conflicting Representations of Hmong Refugees in the United States

Please join the faculty and staff of the Franklin D. Schurz Library on Oct. 24 from 7:30 to 9 p.m. in the 5th floor library atrium as John Duffy, Assistant Professor of English at the University of Notre Dame, discusses Hmong-American culture and writings about them in contemporary journalism and in books such as our One Book, One Campus title, The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down.

“I think in writings by members of majority cultures about minority peoples such as the Hmong there are always particular strengths and weaknesses, insights and ignorance,” notes Duffy.

“The Hmong, in my view, have been misunderstood and misrepresented in much of the writing about them. I struggled with my own limitations in writing my book.” Duffy is the author of the forthcoming book, Writing from These Roots: The Historical Development of Literacy in a Hmong-American Community.

Writing From These Roots examines the development of Hmong-American literacy in the past 40 years, and the role of governments, missionary Christians, and the United States CIA in shaping Hmong literacy development and practices.

This event is part of the Library’s Schurz Library Speaker Series, which aims to provide speakers of intellectual interest to the campus and community related to the campus theme. All Schurz Library Speaker events are free and open to the public.

—photo from Dr. Duffy

Dr. John Duffy will speak at the Schurz Library, Fifth Floor, October 24 at 7:30 p.m. His topic will be "Writing Through the Looking Glass: Conflicting Representations of Hmong Refugees in the United States." The topic is related to this year’s campus theme "Dialogue and Diversity" and to the One Book, One Campus title.

Exciting Changes Coming to the Schurz Library

The Schurz Library has begun planning for an “information commons,” a one-stop research center which will allow students to access the library’s print and digital information resources and an array of integrated learning technology in one place. Most important, reference librarians, computer and multimedia production consultants will be available to assist students as they research topics, write their papers, tabulate data, design web pages, or develop e-portfolios or multimedia presentations.

As a first step, the Library has added software such as Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, and Excel to many of the reference computers. The Library will soon also add a scanner and collaborative workstations.

These changes will be just the beginning of a transformation of the library notes Director of Library Services Michele Russo.

“In the last decade, technology has dramatically changed the way students learn and do research,” Russo said. “Students now use the computer to do most of their work, from researching ideas to writing papers to preparing multimedia presentations.”

“But students also value collaboration, group work, and experiential learning. A sense of place is still important to them. It is the goal of the Schurz Library to create the new kind of space that better accommodates the needs of the 21st Century learner.”

Creating a full-scale information commons will take more time, but the Library is working with other units on campus to make this a reality and to fulfill one of the goals of the campus’s Strategic Plan.

The IU South Bend Libraries already have one library which makes use of extensive collaborative learning areas and in-depth graphic production assistance—the Learning Resource Center, located in Greenlawn 111. The LRC provides students with areas for group work and knowledgeable staff to assist students creating materials in Microsoft Publisher, PowerPoint, Print Shop, and more.

Please visit the Schurz Library News web log for future details about changes to the Schurz Library reference area.
Facebook & MySpace: Explore New Ways to Communicate

—By Vincci Kwong, Head of Web Services

Do you Facebook? How about MySpace? Or do you do both? Did you have any idea that these words were verbs? While both Facebook and MySpace provide similar services like blogs, groups, events, etc. they do have their own special features which attract people to sign up.

Recently, the Schurz Library set up Facebook http://iusb.facebook.com/p.php?id=197402579&l=648afdf4fff and MySpace http://www.myspace.com/fdschurz accounts. The Library has set up these accounts in order to better communicate with students.

It has been argued that relationships with faculty and staff are key to student retention. One of the goals of social networking sites is networking. With the library’s accounts on MySpace and Facebook we are able to reach out to students where they are spending their time, instead of always asking them to come to our space.

If you are interested in setting up a Facebook or MySpace account as another method of communicating with students or colleagues, here are a few tips:

Facebook:
- To register, go to: http://www.facebook.com/
- When searching for people, can only search 10 people at a time
- Unlike MySpace, can do searches by “classmate” or “co-worker”
- Better for storing/displaying images than MySpace
- “Mini-Feed” feature allows you to keep up with the latest news from those in your network

MySpace:
- To register, go to: http://www.myspace.com/
- No limit on number of people you can search for at once
- Unlike Facebook, can directly import address books from g-mail, yahoo, hotmail, or aol.
- Can see who in your network is online (and they can see if you are) through the “online” icon by your name

As you’ve probably seen in the news, privacy is one of the major concerns for social networking site. When you set up your profile at MySpace, every MySpace member can view it. This is not quite true with Facebook, since users can adjust their privacy setting so as to limit people’s ability to find them in searches or view their profile. Additionally, users can establish a “Limited Profile” in order to restrict the information you would like to share with a specific group of friends.

Both sites are free, so find one that works for you—and don’t forget to add the Franklin D. Schurz Library to your

Renowned Calligrapher Donates Art to Library

The Franklin D. Schurz Library recently received a gift from a prominent calligrapher in Japan, Ōshu Fujimoto.

The work, which is on permanent display in the Library’s fourth floor, is a haiku by poet Hakushu Kitahara, from the book Peony Tree. Translated, the poem reads:

“A Magpie is continuously singing on a Japanese Haji branch by her babies in the nest.”

The artist is the grandmother of Schurz Library student worker Naoko Fujimoto.

“I am most pleased and honored that we have received this exquisite work of art,” said Michele Russo, Director of Library Services.

“[Fujimoto] is one of the most prominent calligraphers in Japan and her work is in high demand.”

Scharz Library Student Circulation worker Naoko Fujimoto poses with a work titled A Poem by Hakushu Kitahara taken from the Book Peony Tree. The work was created and donated by Fujimoto’s grandmother, Ōshu Fujimoto, a prominent and in-demand calligrapher in Japan. The work will be displayed on the 4th floor of the Library.

—photo by the editor
Interlibrary Loan Comes to Rescue for Local Catholic Charity

People request items through interlibrary loan for many reasons—articles for papers or conference presentations, books or a hard to find music score for a dissertation, a video to show to a class. However, this past spring the IU South Bend Franklin D. Schurz Library’s Interlibrary Loan department handled a request that will help bring wireless Internet access to millions of displaced Ugandans.

Ted Pethick, IT project designer/coordinator and Administrator with the B.O.S.C.O. (Breaking the Silence project i.e. Battery Operated Systems for Catholic Outreach), needed a topographical map of Uganda in order to find the best potential wifi spots. B.O.S.C.O. is led by Gus Zuehlke, Director Liturgy/Music at St. Bavo’s Church in Mishawaka. The group is working to provide the residents of Northern Uganda’s Internally Displaced Persons Camps with wireless Internet access. The people in the camps live together in small huts without electricity and are extremely isolated. In many cases they are the victims of mutilations and kidnapping. The goal of this wireless Internet project is to give the residents of these camps the opportunity to communicate with the outside world.

Pethick’s work hit a stumbling block when he tried to access the needed topographical map. Only three libraries in the United States had the map, and one, UCLA, would loan it out. However, they stipulated that the map must be kept under library supervision. After attempting to photograph the maps, Pethick realized he needed a larger copier in order to make copies of the map. This is where Interlibrary Loan Supervisor, Maureen Kennedy stepped in and agreed to accompany Pethick to Kinkos so that he could make the copies he needed, while still satisfying UCLA’s need for the document’s supervision.

These maps were crucial to the project because “without the terrain information (Latitude/Longitude/ Elevation), there would have been no way to do an engineering survey to test the viability of this project,” notes Pethick. “Will it work, or is there a mountain between camps? The British Directorate of Overseas Surveys compiled the ONLY EXISTING MAP IN DETAIL OF THIS REGION IN 50 YEARS!”

“While we are committed to customer service in Interlibrary Loan, this project allowed us to feel like our service was making a difference in people’s lives,” said Kennedy. B.O.S.C.O. is now in their last stages of fundraising and deployed to Uganda in September.


The Schurz Report: IU South Bend Libraries Staff News

Congratulations to Vincci Kwong, who was elected as a representative-at-large to the Indiana University Librarians Association (InULA). The position is voted on by librarians throughout the Indiana University Library system.

Steve Sigety returns to Indiana University South Bend as a Cataloging Technician. He received his Master’s in Library Science here in 1996 and brings eight years of database administration experience in the banking industry to IU South Bend. Steve’s interests include books, games, film, spending time with his wife, Lori, a librarian, and volunteering for special events at the St. Joseph County Public Library. They share a house with three incredibly spoiled cats.

Please welcome Jason Sykes, who joined IMS as a Media Consultant. Jason previously worked at Manchester College as Director of Multimedia Services. In his free time, Jason enjoys watching hockey, particularly the Detroit Red Wings.

Please welcome Patti Gaul, who has joined the Library as an Administration Support Specialist. Patti like words, walking, writing and worshipping. Some of her favorite things are hills, humans and home. Patti notes that first “real” job was at Ohio University—Athens, Ohio and is happy to be working once again at an institution of higher education where the atmosphere energizes her.

Please welcome Nikki Stump, Interim Assistant Supervisor for the Learning Resource Center. Nikki graduated from IU South Bend in 2005 with a degree in secondary education, and has worked for the LRC for three years. Nikki has just sent her son off to school in Bloomington and enjoys spending time with her husband and a houseful of cats when not working or doing church projects.

Congratulations to Rosanne Cordell, Vincci Kwong, and Julie Elliott, who presented at the Indiana Library Federation District 1 conference October 3. Rosanne presented on “Law for Librarians” and Vincci and Julie presented on “Using Blogs, My Space, and Facebook to Promote Your Library.”
Come See the Treasures of the IU South Bend Archives and Special Collections!

The Archives and Special Collections invite students, faculty, staff, and members of the community to the first Archives Open House, October 19th from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. at the IU South Bend Franklin D. Schurz Library, second floor.

Alison Stankrauff, IU South Bend Archivist, will conduct two tours of the Archives, one at 4:30 p.m. and a second one at 5:30 p.m.

There will also be items from the Archives and from Special Collections out for display. These will include items of IU South Bend history, rare books, and items of local and Indiana history.

To top it off, there will be a reception including light refreshments on the river side of the second floor.

For more information, contact Alison Stankrauff at astankra@iusb.edu or call 520-4392.

Save the Date! Anne Fadiman Coming to Campus March 26, 2007

Please join us Monday, March 26, 2007 in Northside 158 from 7:30 to 9 p.m. as Anne Fadiman (right), author of this year's One Book, One Campus title *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down*, discusses the book and answers audience questions. A reception will follow.

For more information about One Book, One Campus, please visit the One Book web site: http://www.iusb.edu/~libg/onebook/.

Recent Additions to IU South Bend Archives and Special Collections Include Local Oral Histories, Web Site Update

There have been many new additions and updates to the IU South Bend archives this past year. Recent additions and updates include:

- The IU South Bend Civil Rights Heritage Center (CRHC) has donated materials to the Archives. Included in the collection are records from the 1990s to the present, as well as over sixty oral histories that the CRHC conducted with local leaders in the fight for civil rights. There are plans underway to digitize these important recordings, with hopes of preserving the histories and making them available to a wider audience through the Internet.

- South Bend’s Studebaker Museum donated a ten box collection of materials of Keith Knauss. Knauss is Professor Emeritus of Labor Studies at IU South Bend and very active in the Michiana labor movement. The collection contains materials documenting the closing of the Torrington factory in South Bend and includes materials also from the plant’s union, UAW Local 590. The collection spans from the 1960s to the 1990s. This collection is a further addition to the Archives’ IU South Bend Labor Studies Collection.

- There are additions to the Archives’ web site, including more campus-related collections and the Annie Bell Boss Collection inventory (Boss was a local women’s rights advocate and suffragette). See the Archives’ website at: http://www.iusb.edu/~libg/archives/index.shtml.

- Also from the Archives comes the IU South Bend Records Management Program: please donate your campus records to the Archives, whether you are a staff or faculty member or student donating departmental records, campus organizations’ records, or your own writing. Your donation helps to keep the record of the IU South Bend full and complete – don’t be forgotten!

To see more about the Records Management program see: http://www.iusb.edu/~libg/archives/recmgmt.shtml or contact the campus Archivist (and records manager!) Alison Stankrauff at astankra@iusb.edu or (574) 520 – 4392.