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Behind the Scenes: Planning for the Spring Reception



Tom Wilding
Spring Reception 2004

Planning for the spring reception began in December when we set the date and contacted Richard Francaviglia, Friends of the Library President, who would be announcing the STAR award. After Spring Break, the Spring Break Entertainment Crew—Trevia Lyday, Debbie Cornell, Sunday Phillips, and a member of the original Entertainment Committee, Donna Kelley—began working. We later enlisted Mark Mustacchio and Randy Casebier.

We wanted something fresh, bright and fun for the theme. When someone mentioned a luau – we knew instantly that

was the answer! We also discussed the traditional corsages that all the service awardees would receive and how most of them were never worn. That’s when we decided to buy small bud vases and flowers instead. Debbie took on the task of finding the small vases and arranging the flowers.

The podium would be the main attraction, because that’s where the awards would be handed out. So, tiki torches on the corners! Mark designed surf boards for each column in the atrium and Randy was our music man. Treva’s daughter lent us the hammock strung between the potted palms in the atrium.

The table centerpiece was the hardest to decide on. Thanks to Treva and Sunday we had so many options to choose from: a glass bowl with water and a floating flower, surrounded by shells; a small pot with sand and shells; or a vase with fern leaves and tropical flowers. Different elements

were suggested: pineapple, coconut, fishnet, leis, and little drink umbrellas.

Because of the tropical luau theme, there had to be fruit. So we went searching for recipes and ideas. Polynesian fruit salad, fruit kabobs, and pig roast. Wait, we can’t do a pig roast? With the construction in the back, where would we put it? Okay, we had to settle for cocktail wieners in barbecue and teriyaki sauce.

Thanks to everyone on the committee for the hard work. I hope everyone enjoyed the reception!

— Krystal Schenk

(for more about the Spring Reception—see pages 11 & 12)



Connections

The W Files: Music, Politics, and Family Secrets



“...such incidents as the hip gyrations of Elvis, ‘satanic’ messages in Heavy Metal, and a recent ‘wardrobe malfunction’ have raised racial, religious, and/or sexual fears...”

Throughout the history of Rock ‘n’ Roll, such incidents as the hip gyrations of Elvis, “satanic” messages in Heavy Metal, and a recent “wardrobe malfunction” have raised racial, religious, and/or sexual fears in parents, politicians, teachers, and other authority figures. Within less than 50 years, these controversies have subsided into relatively harmless pop trivia. Yet, a classical composer who died over a century ago remains controversial, primarily due to his anti-Semitic polemics and appropriation by the Nazis.

In a fascinating lecture at the University of North Texas, musicologist and historian Dr. Gottfried Wagner discussed the operas and writings of his great-grandfather Richard Wagner (1813-83), and their influence on German politics and culture. At its best, Wagner’s music can overwhelm listeners with its beauty. However, Dr. Wagner pointed out that his great-grandfather used opera to convey his outlook on politics and culture. Thus, it becomes difficult to separate the music from the composer’s worldview. Still, many contemporary Wagnerites try to separate the music from Wagner’s politics, which pro-

moted a strong German nationalism free of “impure” influences.

Jews received the brunt of Wagner’s attacks, beginning in 1850 with the publication *Jewishness in Music*. Even though some apologists say that this was his only explicit attack on Jews, Wagner attacked Jews in many other writings throughout his life. Usually codified within their texts (and perhaps the music), negative portrayals of implicitly Jewish characters also became prominent in Wagner’s later operas. Ironically, Wagner received help in the beginning of his career from Jews. Some even speculate that his stepfather Ludwig Geyer may have been Jewish, and that Geyer was actually his biological father. In fact, a “lost father figure” obsession pervades many of Wagner’s operas.

To celebrate “pure” German culture, Wagner built an opera house in the German town of Bayreuth during the 1870s solely for performances of his operas during an annual festival. When Wagner died in 1883, his wife Cosima (1837-1930) took over management of the festival. Until her death, she courted sycophants and

“scientific” racists who parroted her anti-Semitic views, which were even more radical than those of her husband.

An English orphan adopted by a German, Wagner’s daughter-in-law Winifred (1896-1980) took control of the festival after the deaths of her mother-in-law and husband in 1930. Raised in an anti-Semitic household, she viewed Adolf Hitler as a savior for Germany and began to support him after his attempted coup in 1923. It also helped that Hitler had admired Wagner since he was a boy, and tried to model himself after the composer. Winifred also used her position to promote Hitler’s cause to power brokers in Germany. After Hitler came to power, Winifred frequently hosted “Uncle Wolf” at the Wagner house in Bayreuth until the downfall of Nazi Germany.

After World War II, Winifred was forbidden from administrative duties at Bayreuth due to her associations with Hitler. This fell to her sons Wieland (1917-66) and Wolfgang (1919-). With the early death of the more visionary brother Wieland, Wolfgang (also Gottfried’s estranged father) completely took over the

Racing Frogs: Students Discover Libraries Are Fun



Helen Hough Explaining Basic Origami Folds to Webb Elementary School Students

Over 107 students and teachers from Webb Elementary School included Central Library in their UTA campus visit during International Week. On April 1st, the library resounded with voices

and laughter as the 6th graders learned about the library's multicultural resources. Library staff members captivated their attention during a demonstration of the Athens 2004 Olympics homepage, chal-

lenged their trivia skills with questions about minority famous firsts near the mural on 2nd floor, immersed them in southwest history in Special Collections, and entertained everyone using an origami paper frog folding project in the atrium. Immediately after creating their jumping frogs, most of the students had a frog race on the tile floor under the supervision of teachers and library staff.

“...most of the students had a frog race on the tile floor...”

The success of their visit was due to the efforts of sixteen individuals from seven program areas serving as tour guides, docents, and content specialists with only a few days notice.

—the Editor

The W Files: Music, Politics, and Family Secrets (cont)

festival. In collaboration with his mother until her death, Wolfgang employed obstructionist tactics to cover up the anti-Semitic, xenophobic, and Nazi-tainted history of Bayreuth. Potentially damning documents, including letters, photographs, and film reels, have become “unavailable.” For his efforts to open records to his family's past, Dr. Wagner has become *persona non grata* with the Wagners in Bayreuth.

Dr. Wagner concluded his lecture by saying that he would not want to see performances of his great-grandfather's operas stop. However, he stated that they should confront the odious ideology behind the beautiful music. Dr. Wagner also called upon scholars of the next generation to use an interdisciplinary approach to contextualize his great-grandfather's music and writings, as well as their legacy. One can only hope that the

complete Bayreuth archives will become available to the public someday, if the “unavailable” documents have not vanished already.

Recommended Reading

Wagner, Gottfried. 1999. *Twilight of the Wagners: The Unveiling of a Family's Legacy*. New York: Picador. (Architecture and Fine Arts Library: ML 429 .W134 A3 1999)

—Jason Neal



Connections

SEL's Earth Day 2004 Activity



Jason Neal & Barbara
Howser

Spring time is a difficult time for me to be employed full-time. Although it helps when I walk into my favorite greenhouses and nurseries. It helps because I could spend a fortune on seeds, plants, organic gardening supplies, etc. I am in a “catch-22” situation, you see. If I didn’t work full-time, I could garden during my favorite time of the day in spring – the morning. But then I could not buy new plants at nurseries or the various plant sales

held throughout the spring.

Donna Kelley counseled me on how to overcome my “spring fever” this year with a solution inspired by Earth Day Week 2004. We provided a hands-on, green-thumb, get-your-hands-dirty kind of fun morale-boosting activity for SEL staff and student assistants to celebrate Earth Day. Donna and I provided the supplies and instructions to staff, who were eager for a change of pace.

We planted seeds and divisions of existing plants in little paper cups, signed our names, labeled what we planted, and dated them. When our plants have sprouted, we can take them home and plant them in our gardens. I guess the one whose seeds sprout first gets to taste Darras Blevins’ first home-grown potato. Our student assistants who live in dorm rooms will take their plants home to give their Mothers on Mother’s Day.

—Barbara R. Howser

SEL: Celebrating National Library Week—ALA “@ Your Library”

Exhibit Title: “**Spend Time @ the Science & Engineering Library**”

Ask some people to think about time and they retort with “What’s that?” Unfortunately, time is one commodity that many people are short of. The intent of the exhibit is to give viewers of the exhibit food for thought: what is time, how time-keeping came about, how time is used in various

disciplines, and how time is taught in the classroom. The exhibit includes a listing of phrases in which the word “time” is used, but is not exhaustive. Artifacts include various brands and styles of wristwatches, alarm clocks, a stopwatch, an hour glass, and two themed wall clocks.

Of the many things this curator learned while doing research for this exhibit was that

in 1883, the four time zones of the continental U.S. were created at the instigation of the railroad industry. “When traveling [by train] to the east or to the west, a person would have to change his or her watch by one minute every twelve miles.” [from the US Library of Congress American Memory Project 'Today in History Archive' for November 18.] —Barbara R. Howser

Kudos to..

Brian Moffit and **Larry Lassiter** have each helped me so much. I would be lost without them. Larry spent several hours fixing problems with my Outlook calendar while Brian went out of his

way to help with a “fix” so that I could use Windows XP at home. —Jean Sherwin, Stacks Manager

The *Kudos* column is a forum for informal recognition of

contributions and services by fellow staff members and departments. To submit a “Kudo”, send an e-mail to Lea Worcester at lworces-ter@uta.edu or phone (817) 272-5747. —the Editor



Suggestion Box

The online suggestion box, linked from the UTA Libraries Intranet Homepage, is a forum for Library staff to make anonymous suggestions to the Administration. The following are submissions for the last of March and month of April 2004. If you are interested in past submissions, you can find them at <http://rocky.uta.edu/intranet/>.

Q. Bookdrop (thread continued from March issue): - 3/24/2004

We should unlock the book-drop all the time. It makes better service sense. We can have one library staff member to walk the few feet outside a couple of times a day rather than to have hundreds of people walk the additional distance into the building when they have already walked to the library. Besides, it is often difficult to find the book drops cut into the circulation desk, particularly when it is busy and people are standing in the way. When people can not find the inside book drops they think they have to return the books to the staff personally, causing it to be even more busy.

A. Book drop suggestions - 3/25/2004

Access Services will discuss these suggestions in our next staff meeting.

-- Sue Sappington

Q. Thank you - 3/26/2004

Thanks, Admin, for my shirt. I really liked it. (Great taste!)

Q. Web updates - 4/1/2004

I like the chart that Sarah sent on the status of the new web design, but it only covered three months. Can we see the rest of the chart going back to the beginning of the project in the summer of 2001? I think it would be interesting to see the whole history of this big project.

A. Re: Web updates - 4/1/2004

Thanks for the comment on the chart I e-mailed out yesterday. I'll send out another chart that includes the full range of dates that are available in that format, namely Dec 2003-May 2004. I hope you can understand that the time that I would devote to recreating the activities of Summer 2001-November 2003 for the project chart is better spent on web site redesign tasks. Feel free to contact me directly at sjones@uta.edu with any questions or concerns about the web site redesign project.

(NOTE: Sarah created a webpage with the web design chart at <http://www3.uta.edu/>

library/redesign/ . —the Editor)

Q. DMC closing on Good Friday - 4/9/2004

I don't think DMC should have closed down this afternoon. The sign says it's closed by order of President Spaniolo. His message didn't make an exception for the library but Central is still open. DMC shouldn't be claiming that he "ordered" them to close. They

should be open like the other service areas are.

A. Re: DMC closing on Good Friday - 4/12/2004

I apologize for the inconvenience that the closing of the DMC may have caused our customers on Friday afternoon. In the future the DMC will adhere to the library's practice of keeping service points open regular hours (with a skeleton staff) on holidays like last Friday. --Marie Irwin

Q. Responses to suggestions - 4/13/2004

Sometimes responses to suggestions/questions appear to be apologies for why or why not something is done a cer-



“When people cannot find the inside book drops they think that they have to return the books to the staff personally...”

Connections

Suggestion Box (cont)

“...pizza is regularly delivered to students while they work.”

tain way, when I suspect that the questioner is asking for a simple, logical response. Example: questions were asked concerning a "mandate" that employees attend the presentations of the new Dean candidates. Perhaps a simple "yes" or "no" would have sufficed, explaining that "yes", attendance was required, or "no", attendance was not required. A narrative about why anyone would or would not want to attend was not necessary. Trying to ease communications with this observation.

Q. Trashiness of lobby - 4/15/2004

I have a suggestion for improving the overall appearance of the library. We should not allow students to bring in food or drink, and we should not have a Java City anywhere in the building. I know, I know, I am a coffee junkie too, but this is the first library I have ever been to or worked in where pizza is regularly delivered to students while they work. And I know people would try to

sneak stuff in, but we encourage the problem by having an open-door policy. Today in the basement there was a bucket of half-eaten chicken. It's gross. A change in library policy could mean an improvement in the overall look (and smell) of the library building, and would ease the job of the housekeeping staff. Thanks for listening.

A. Re Trashiness of Lobby - 4/19/2004

You are right that if we could keep all food and drink out of the library then it would be a cleaner facility. The proverbial horse, however, is out of the barn on this, and Java City is a very popular service for students and faculty. In fact, before Java City and Sam's were built on the first floor, library inhouse use was on the decline. With their opening a few years ago library use has increased. Rather than close a popular service, the library is setting aside some money to use to hire additional cleaning services for the Central Library as an experiment. We are hoping once we have con-

tracted for additional cleaning that staff and customers will see a difference in the cleanliness of the building.

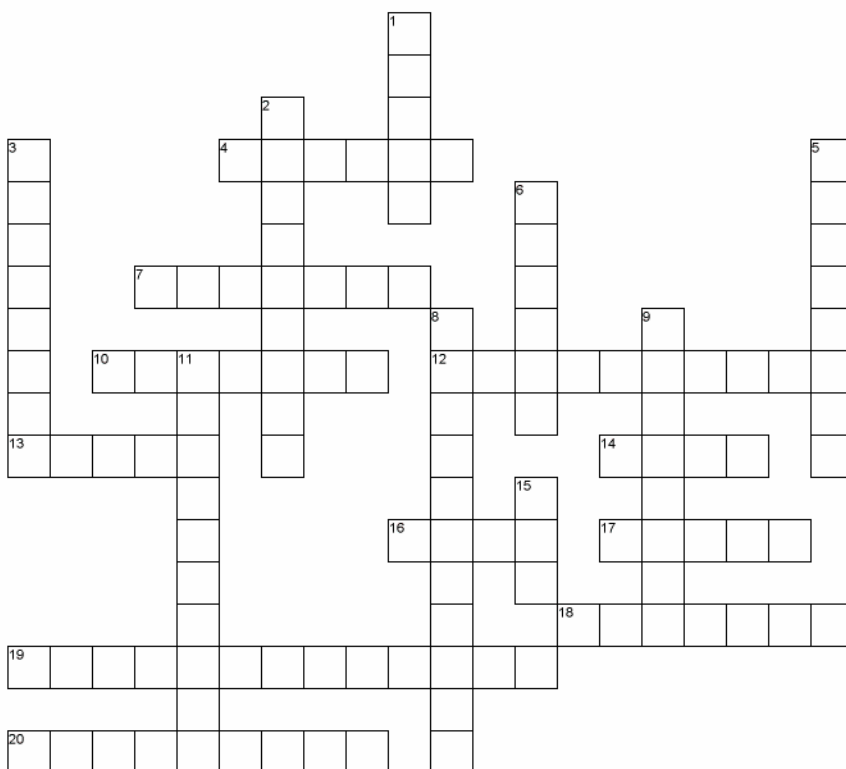
—Gerald Saxon

and the *Winner of the Library Riddle Contest is....*

Jeff Stone in Access Services!

for guessing that the instrument is an umbrella. Umbrellas go up when the barometer drops rapidly and it rains—conversely, they go down when the barometer rises and the rain stops. Thanks to everyone that e-mailed me their answer this month.—the Editor

UTA Libraries Trivia—Crossword Puzzle Challenge



www.CrosswordWeaver.com

Use your knowledge of UTA Libraries and library terms to fill out this puzzle. To enter the monthly contest, send your solution to Lea Worcester, Information Literacy by May 26. The answer will be in June's issue.

TIP: Many of the answers are on UTA Libraries' Web site and the Internet.

ACROSS

- 4 beverage served by library staff during finals
- 7 an option in the toolbar of a Web browser that causes the currently displayed Web page to be retrieved from its original remote address
- 10 a term for an item returned to the library in such poor condition that it cannot be placed back on the shelf for circulation
- 12 from the Latin word *cunae* meaning "cradle"
- 13 new UTA Dean of Libraries
- 14 an acronym for Library Administration and Management Association
- 16 computer that serves as source of data for other terminals or computers
- 17 software intended to harm the computers connected to a network, usually created by persons with malicious or hostile intent
- 18 a work of fiction complete in itself, which extends the narrative back in time from the beginning of a previously published work
- 19 Web-based electronic reference service at UTA Libraries
- 20 two languages

DOWN

- 1 extend the period of time for which a book or other item is loaned by the library
- 2 the exclusive legal rights granted by a government to an author or composer to publish, produce, sell, or distribute copies of a literary, musical, dramatic, artistic, or other work
- 3 web-based bibliography and database manager that allows users to create their own personal database by importing references from text files or online databases
- 5 ability to read and write with a minimal level of proficiency
- 6 an acronym for the Superintendent of Documents classification
- 8 a person who loves and treasures books
- 9 popular interest periodical
- 11 collection in Central Library featuring popular books
- 15 second largest component of UT system

The winners of this and other contests in Connections will be determined by putting all of the correct answers in a "hat" and randomly drawing the winner. Winners will be announced in the next publication and treated to a lunch at the end of the semester where they qualify for entry in the grand prize drawing.

—the Editor

Connections

Wedding Announcement



Mark Cook & Kris Swenson married on Wednesday, April 07, 2004. A reception was held in their honor Saturday, April 17, 2004 in the evening at the home of Dennis and Beverly Swenson.

—Kris Swenson

New Face at AFA



Hi! I recently moved to the DFW area from San Angelo, TX. I worked at the Angelo State University Library in the Circulation Department and graduated from ASU with a B.A. in English in 2002.

I enjoy scrapbooking, playing the flute, and martial arts. My husband Andrew attends Dallas Theological Seminary.

—Angee Calvert

SEL Reference Source Spotlight

ISO 9000 Handbook TSI 56 .I838 2003

This is a practical, comprehensive guide to the ISO 9000 series of international standards. It provides detailed analyses and practical imple-

mentation strategies of the ISO 9000, QS-9000, and ISO 14000 standards. It also addresses the broader subjects of product liability, conformity, and assessment. The resource section describes the details of quality systems registration

and of obtaining standards and directives. It also gives a listing of registrars, profiles training services and consultants, and lists publication, software, networks, and database resources.—Jim Collins

Contributors to the May Edition

- Angee Calvert
- Jim Collins
- Barbara Howser
- Mark Mustacchio
- Jason Neal
- Antoinette Nelson
- Sunday Phillips
- Krystal Schenk
- Jean Sherwin
- Kris Swenson

LSA DVD Raffle and Staff Lounge Shower



- Anne Mitchell takes home the DVD player
- Carol Bryrne won her choice of dinner tickets for two (Spring Creek or El Chico)
- Treva Lyday also won a pair of dinner tickets for her very creative gift wrap (the Lounge Lizard starring in a poster on the left)
- Donna Harrison won the door prize, a teddy bear

— Jean Sherwin

SEL Exhibits

Future Exhibits

To commemorate the 100th anniversary of his birth, the Science and Engineering Library will hold an exhibit dedicated to surrealist artist Salvador Dalí. Although an unusual choice for an exhibit in SEL, Dalí actually had a keen interest in science. This is most apparent during his “Atomic Period” (1945-60), when Dalí incorporated scientific principles into some of his paintings.

Rejecting the Freudian psychology that influenced his earlier paintings, Dalí embraced the “uncertainty” of quantum physics. Under this influence, he even did an “atomic” decon-

struction of his iconoclastic “melting clock” painting *The Persistence of Memory*. Dalí also continued to rebel against the conventions of modern art by painting in a style reminiscent of Renaissance artists, but informed by new scientific sensibilities.

The exhibit will remain on display in the Science and Engineering Library through the end of May.

Recommended Reading:
Kropf, Joan R. 2000. *Salvador Dalí: The atomic period, 1945-1960*.

—Jason Neal

International Week exhibit at SEL.

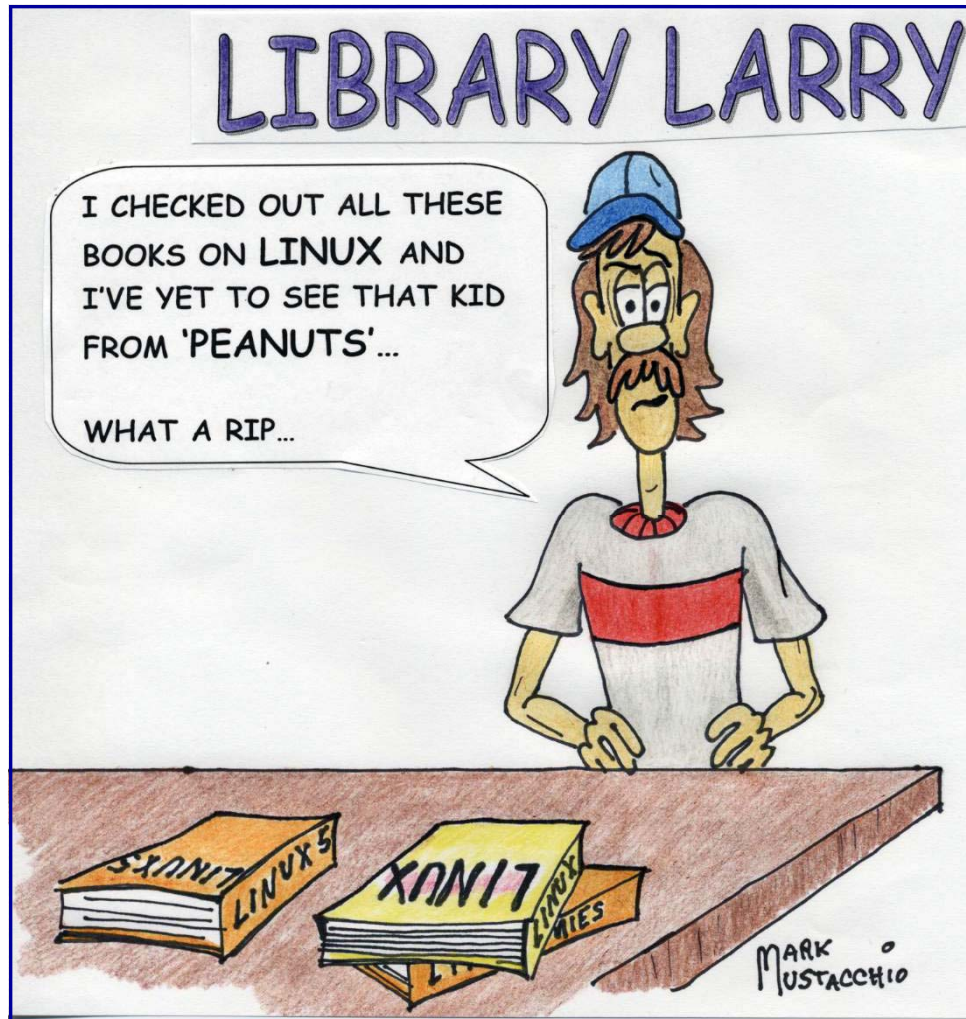
SEL staff celebrated International Week (March 29-April 2) with an exhibit displaying loaned items of cultural significance by students from their native countries. Handcrafted items from India such as wall hangings, cushion covers, rugs and purses were also on display on the wall and top Reserves shelf behind the Information Services desk. Countries represented were India, Romania, Syria, and China. Both displays have received wonderful comments from the patrons, especially the display behind the service desk.

—Antoinette Nelson

“My lifelong love affair with books and reading continues unaffected by automation, computers, and all other forms of the twentieth-century gadgetry.” Robert Downs in *Books in My Life*

Connections

Library Larry



Spring Reception—2004



UTA Libraries—Staff Awards



S.T.A.R. Award—Joshua Been
Information Literacy



Outstanding Student Assistant
Award—Maureen Kelly
Access Services—ILL (Borrowing)



Outstanding Student Assistant
Award—Dennis Perkins
Special Collections

Do You Speak the Lingo?

I think we all should. This column will list terms and definitions we all could use. This month's feature is the Cataloger's cant.

Monograph vs. Serial. A **monograph** is an account or description of a single thing, or class of things; a special treatise on a particular subject of limited range. Books are monographs. A group of books, each with its own distinct title but related to one another by having a collective title applying to the group as a whole is a **series**. The individual volumes may or may not be numbered. Monographs can also be published as a **set (monographic set)**; a multi-

volume work. It is a sequence of books that are published in a definite number of volumes. A **serial** on the other hand is a publication which is intended to continue indefinitely. This includes periodicals such as magazines, journals, newspapers and books such as almanacs and yearbooks which come out every year.

Journal vs. Periodical. A **journal** is a scholarly publication containing articles written by leaders in current research of a discipline. A journal includes articles that are well-documented and researched. A **periodical** is a publication that is issued at a regular interval such as monthly or quarterly.

Periodicals include magazines and journals and the terms are often used interchangeably. When a number of issues of a periodical are bound into a single volume with a hard cover, it becomes a **bound periodical**.

Sources

- Gonzalez, A. 2002. *Terms that will help you use the library.* www.maag.yzu.edu/help/definitions.htm.
- Thornton-Jaringe, Judellen. 2004. *Library terminology.* www.unl.edu/libr/rpg/glossary.html.
- Lexico Publishing Group. 2004. *Dictionary.com.* dictionary.reference.com/.

—Sunday M. Phillips

Corrections

Grammatical errors in *UTA Dissertations* in the April 2004 edition were editing mistakes and not the writing of contributor Jim Wellvang.

UTA

Libraries

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Connections is the library staff newsletter published on the first business day of each month. The newsletter introduces new staff members, highlights departments, reports on library staff events, and is a forum for items of interest.

Suggestions and contributions are welcome. Please contact:

Lea Worcester, Editor
817.272.5747
lworcester@uta.edu

May 2004

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Sat/Sun |
|---|---------|--------------------|----------|--------|---|
| | | | | | 1 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 Cinco de Mayo | 6 | 7 | 8 9 |
| National Historic Preservation Week | | | | | Coffee Service— Begins at 10:00 p.m. |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 16 |
| UTA Libraries' Coffee Service - coffee served 11:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. | | | | | |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 30 |
| Look for Staff Birthday Cake—Staff Lounge | | | | | |
| 31 Memorial Day | | | | | |

Connections is archived online at:

<http://libraries.uta.edu/connections/index.htm>