September 2005

Connections
Library News for Library Staff

UTA LIBRARIES

Volume 2, Issue 8

Celebrating UTA Teams

Bookmarks and libraries naturally go together, so when Information Literacy wanted to tell freshmen about our hours, bookmarks seemed to be a giveaway that would be useful both for the information and for the function.

To add some interest, we decided to make the bookmarks a collectible series that would change each academic year. We want to use the bookmarks as a tool to help generate some notice for the libraries and be something that would cause people to actively seek out the library to collect all five images. We also hope that it becomes something of an honor for someone or something to be selected and thus encourage professors and students to get to know us.

The bookmarks will be available at special events like Welcome Week, the Technology Fair in November, and freshman orientations. We would also encourage you to hand some out at any classes you teach. To get your set, contact

UTA Libraries

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON

Bookmark featuring David Eng, Movin Mavs.

Lea Worcester or Evelyn Barker in Information Literacy.

Our debut series features individuals from five UTA teams.

- Ashley Van Antwerp, Mavericks Volleyball. Named to the first team of the 2005 Southland Conference Preseason Team.
- David Eng, Movin Mavs. Gold medal winner with Team Canada at the 2004 Paralympic Summer Games.
- Grant Varnell, Mavericks Baseball. Named to the 2005 Hibernia Bank/ Southland Conference All-Academic Team.
- Terra Wallace, Mavericks Basketball. Named 2005 Southland Conference Tournament MVP.
- Robert Woods, Formula SAE. Honored by the Sports Car Club of America Foundation with the creation of the Dr. Bob Woods Cup for student drivers.

Response to the bookmarks has been positive and we have had people come to the library specifically to get a bookmark. Future bookmark series will feature different aspects of UTA life.

—Evelyn Barker

Connections

Bringing History to Local Schools

C. Jane Dees [left] and Evelyn Barker [right]. Presenting school kit resources to Fort Worth Museum of Science and History School Loan Kits program.

Reproductions from UTA Libraries' Special Collections, including an 1864 diary and money printed for the Republic of Texas, will visit Metroplex schools this fall as part of the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History's School Loan Kits program.

The collaboration between UTA Libraries and the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History (FWMSH) began in January 2005 after the UTA Libraries' Information Literacy department (IL) decided to expand its outreach programs to area K-12 students.

FWMSH has, for several years, administered a program which loans kits about historical and scientific topics to area schools, whether they are public, private, or home schools. The kits use artifacts, reproductions, books, games, photographs and letters to teach about historical topics.

The collaboration between UTA and FWMSH was ideal because it allowed UTA Libraries to connect with area schools and it allowed FWMSH to get new and varied material into their kits.

"We contacted FWMSH to see if they were interested in a partner, and happily they were," said Evelyn Barker, IL librarian. "We were both vaguely familiar with the other's holdings and our missions meshed naturally. We next found out what kind of kits they had and what materials were in there, then looked in our collections to see what would work well."

UTA Libraries completed the first phase of this collaboration in August with the delivery of several items for the FWMSH Texas Pioneers kit.
The original kit included artifacts like a butter mold, cotton cards, and a corn husk doll; books about hand shadows and string games; and a game centered on the Peters Colony wagon train.
UTA Libraries contributed reproductions of 19th and early 20th century photographs compiled by Special Collections librarian Cathy Spitzenberger; a reproduction of a diary written in 1864 and 1865 that details a trip from Boerne (near San Antonio), Texas, to Matamoros, Mexico; and reproductions of money from the Republic of Texas era. Along with the diary and currency, IL librarians Evelyn Barker and Lea Worcester created lesson plans and activities that support the TEKS standards used in public schools.

"One thing I noticed when I viewed the feedback forms for the existing kits was that teachers wanted lesson plans to go along with the kits," said Barker. "So when we selected our objects, we decided to develop lesson plans to go with them. This is something new for the FWMSH kits."

After creating the lesson plans and supporting materials, the UTA Libraries decided to make them available to all teachers through a series of web pages which support K12 teachers both in and out of the classroom <library.uta.edu/K12/tLink.jsp>. The teacher program, called T-Link, freely offers the lesson plans and all related material for download through the History's Lessons link <library.uta.edu/K12/historysLessons/>.

UTA Libraries and FWMSH plan to continue their collaboration. Existing lesson plans will soon feature ESL (English as a Second Language) components and work has already started on a new kit about the Civil War.

—Information Literacy

C.D.'s Picks

Science for Everyone
Recommendations for the non-scientist who loves science

Einstein 1905: The Standard of Greatness, John S. Rigden
QC16.E5 R54 2005
This is the final installment in my series of books by or about Einstein in celebration of the World Year of Physics 2005. Its author, John S. Rigden, will be speaking at several UTA events beginning September 15. Read ahead and you'll be prepared to ask intelligent questions when he appears.
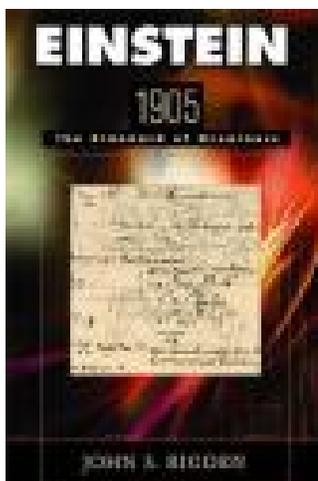
One hundred years ago this year, Albert Einstein published five papers that revolutionized physics. While the general public knows that Einstein was highly intelligent (indeed his name is synonymous with genius), few of us understand why. This book, which is directed to a non-scientist audience, illuminates the importance of his work.

Aside from a prologue and epilogue, the book contains a section for each paper—March: The Revolutionary Quantum Paper, April: Molecular Dimensions, May: "Seeing" Atoms, June: The Merger of Space and Time, September: The Most Famous Equation.

Each section describes the contents of the paper, how the concepts fit in relation to other scientists' work, and the significance of the paper on consequent scientific thought. The reader emerges with a clearer understanding of Einstein's work in the context of science, philosophy, and the greater human culture.

UTA Libraries holds six more titles by Dr. Rigden, including *Hydrogen : the Essential Element* (SEL: QD181.H1 R54 2002), *Most of the Good Stuff : Memories of Richard Feynman* (SEL: QC16.F49 A3 1993), and *Physics and the Sound of Music* (Central: ML3805 .R56).

**On the lighter side**
Non-scientific reading available from UTA Libraries

War Is a Force That Gives Us Meaning, Chris Hedges
Central: U21.2 .H43 2002
I realize that "On the Lighter Side" seems a rather inapt category in which to place this book. However, I didn't want to be limited in this column to solely light-weight reading. Reading this book has been a life-changing experience for me, and I want to share it with others.
Author Chris Hedges, currently a Princeton lecturer in
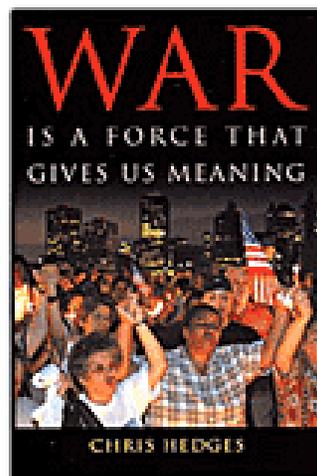
humanities and journalism, was a war correspondent who covered wars in El Salvador, Bosnia, Iraq, Israel, Kosovo, Sudan, and many other countries. Because he has a master's in divinity and a Ph.D. in humanities, he has developed a philosophy of war, based upon his

Connections

UTA Libraries' Information Round-Up

Josh Been [left]. Introducing students to GIS.

Summer heat and wilting leaves are a seasonal reminder of UTA Libraries' Information Round-Up. The event is part of UTA Welcome Days which is designed to help incoming students become familiar with the university and involved in the campus and community.

UTA Libraries' volunteers offered students instruction and fun activities such as marbling paper, creating a map of places where students spend Friday night, having their picture placed in an old west-style wanted poster, and entering contests.   One participant commented, "This is my first semester at UTA and I was able to enjoy the library. Now

Carleen Dolan and other volunteers. Serving lunch to over 200 students that participated in the Information Round-Up.

I don't have any fear about asking Q's."

UTA Libraries' participation in the campus-wide event was possible only because of the enthusiasm and work of over 50 library staff volunteers and many hours of planning. A

student's comment, "A really good way to involve students with the library!" on the event evaluation form is the best measure of the day.

—Lea Worcester

C.D.'s Picks (cont.)

own experiences, first-hand accounts, and writings on war that span many cultures and several millennia.

Certain themes appear throughout these disparate sources—the brutality and deception of war and the struggles of those fighting, covering, or simply trying to survive a war to maintain their humanity. Hedges also discusses why people become addicted to war, becoming a close-knit group of colleagues as they follow conflicts around

the world. And why those at home find meaning either supporting or opposing these conflicts.

The author's well-rounded approach—combining insights gleaned from historical, literary, and theological works with first-hand accounts and personal experiences—provides the text with great depth. One gets the sense that one is viewing this topic from a great many perspectives, over a great deal of time and through the eyes of many cultures.

Reading this book does not give the reader the same insight as someone who has experienced war, but I believe it comes as close as a book can come.

UTA Libraries has another title by Chris Hedges, *What Every Person Should Know about War* (Central: U21.2 .H45 2003).
—C.D. Walter

New Items for Library Exhibits and Displays

In recent years, the Libraries' has increased its efforts to reach out to the campus and community. We have positioned ourselves as a campus leader in technology through both our acquisitions and events like the Tech Fair, and we have become a place where students can access unique software like the 3D graphics program Maya.

Because we want to continue promoting this image, Information Literacy proposed to update the Libraries' presentation equipment in a 2004-2005 Action Plan.

The Action Plan was worded as follows:

Develop an integrated exhibit package that includes a multimedia presentation and physical exhibit of UTA Libraries' resources.

- Present a high-tech, sophisticated, modern look for our public displays at exhibits, fairs, and off-site visits

- Create a more portable physical exhibit

- Create presentations and exhibits that are appropriate to identified target audiences

The result of our action plan is that UTA Libraries has ac-

quired some sophisticated equipment that is available for all Libraries' groups to use to promote UTA and the Libraries. We encourage any department to use and experiment with the new equipment.

The equipment will be stored in the Information Literacy department and a reservation calendar will be available soon. The equipment available is:

- **17" Dell laptop for multimedia presentations.** Laptop includes speakers, extra battery, and rolling carrying case.

- **Portable sound system.** Includes wireless mike and speakers. System is size and weight of a laptop and is suitable for an audience of 200 people.

- **25" Heavy-duty roll laminator.** You can laminate something up to two feet wide.

- **6'x5' Pop-up tabletop display stand.** Easy to set up, has a rolling carrying case, and includes a light. You can create your own graphics (and laminate them) and Velcro them to the surface of the display.

- **Projector cart.** Cart has fixed shelves and casters. This was bought to move

the equipment around campus.

- **Outdoor pop-up tent.** 10'x10' size, includes "UTA Libraries" on the top. Also includes back wall and side rails. Comes in rolling carrying case.

- **Image service subscription.** One-year subscription to an image service where you can download high-quality photos.

- **UTA Libraries shirts.** These are denim with the UTA Libraries logo. These shirts are meant to be borrowed for special events like the Info Roundup or the Tech Fair, and then cleaned and returned so others may borrow them.

- **Collectible bookmarks.** These are a series of five images featuring UTA teams and Libraries information. The hope is to have a new series each academic year. See page one for article about bookmarks.

- **Miscellaneous display equipment.** Includes poster stands with literature shelf, folding literature rack for travel, acrylic literature rack for our half-size sheets targeted to

Connections

Promoting UTA Libraries

UTA Libraries has gained yet another venue to inform students about programs and resources. The Libraries was granted use of exhibit space in an University Center case near the MavExpress office for the fall semester.

The exhibit committee, chaired by Gretchen Trkay, elected to do five themed displays cover-ing library locations, services, GIS resources, and technology.

The August display focused upon library locations and used the theme "Passports to Knowledge" with travel related display items and passports.

—Lea Worcester

Exhibit detail: August UTA Librar-ies' display in University Center.

and the winner of the August puzzle is . . .

Loretta Barker for knowing that Catalog Kate was refer-ring to the fact that some com-mon words are pronounced differently when they are capi-talized.

Reader's suggestions included:

- Job, individual in the Bible; job, employment

- Lima, Capital of Peru; lima, type of bean

- Polish, relating to Poland; polish, to make shine

- Rainier, volcano in Washington; rainier, more rain

- Nice, city in France; nice, good or polite

- Herb, person's name; herb, aromatic plant for cooking (this is American English only)

Words that change their pro-nunciation and meaning when capitalized are a form of het-eronym. Heteronyms are pairs (or groups) of words that have the same spelling but dif-ferent pronunciation and meaning. Heteronyms can be a problem for database search-ers because they retrieve hits that are not relevant. For in-stance, a Google search for "nice" retrieves both the city and sites referring to good things. Experienced searchers anticipate that type of problem and avoid many of the false results by using synonyms and/ or Boolean NOT in their searches.

New Items for Library Exhibits and Displays (cont.)

specific majors, A-frame white markerboard, and cords and cord conceal-ors.

- **Giveaways.** For general purposes, we have 1000 fortune cookies. Inside the cookie, the message says "Confucius says 'Wisdom is found at UTA Librar-ies.'" The message also includes our web address. For special purposes, we bought a limited number of flash drives to give out as prizes.

We encourage you to come down, check the new equip-ment out and find great ways to use it.

—Evelyn Barker

Special Section: Keeping Up With Technology

Online Mapping: Google Maps, MSN Virtual Earth, & Yahoo! Maps

Katrina Information Map: A Google Maps mashup that allows viewers to geographically explore the impact of the hurricane both on the land and people.[1]

Have you seen the super-cool capabilities of Google Maps at <maps.google.com> or the July 25 release of MSN Virtual Earth on <virtualearth.msn.com>? If not check them out right now. They are in a race to create the ultimate online maps.[2] If you still use old generation mapping sites, such as Yahoo! Maps, Mapquest, or Mapblast, delete them from your bookmarks right away.

Hold on…wait a sec. First read this article. Then you can edit your bookmarks.

Maps are cool

They really are. Maps and GIS are gaining in popularity.[3] Why

has mapping become so cool? I am speaking of the mainstream meaning of cool here, not the traditional mapping/ cartographic (geek) definition of cool. In my opinion, there are two reasons. First, web mapping sites now include aerial and satellite imagery. Type in your address and see a picture of your house for free on the net. Second, and more importantly, end users have the ability to customize and adapt these web pages through the use of public web mapping Application Program Interfaces (API).[4] This means that you can incorporate the full functionality of Google Maps or MSN Virtual Earth in your own web page, blog, or other applica-

tion. The possibilities are virtually endless.

Customization with API

Basically, an API is a set of building blocks provided by a program's developers that allows users (you and me) to create adaptations of various features of the program, and even to integrate the program's features into our own applications. An API gives us the ability to tweak a program to do what we want. The Google Maps and Virtual Earth API adaptations are called mashups.

Still uncertain if you want to use this technology? Here are some examples of Google Maps mashups:

- **Sharing and updating information**. It is possible to update a map of New Orleans with information about hurricane damage or place information on a US map about resources you can offer survivors in maps linked from UTA Libraries' *Hurricane Katrina* GIS webpage at <library.uta.edu/ katrina>.

- **Traffic data.** Suppose that you were a big

Connections

Online Mapping: Google Maps, MSN Virtual Earth, & Yahoo! Maps (cont.)

Google Maps fan and wanted to view traffic data on Google. According the chart on page 11, this is only possible via Yahoo! Maps. Well, this adaptation can be done with API. Check out this adaptation: *Google-Yahoo Traffic-Weather Maps* at <traffic.poly9.com/>. Enter a city, state, or zip code in the filed to get a map with traffic conditions.

- **Combine with other applications.** It is possible to include Google Map functionality in Excel, PowerPoint, etc. An example of a map in Excel can be found at <www.automateexcel.com/index.php/2005/07/28/google_maps_in_excel?>

- **Public safety.** It is easy find names and photos of sex offenders at the *US Sex Offender Registry,* <www.mapsexoffenders.com/>.

- **Virtual sightseeing.** *Google Sightseeing,* www.googlesightseeing.com, has cool things that users found on Google aerial maps. More examples can be found at

Google Maps Mania, <googlemapsmania.blogspot.com/>.

- **Fun.** Of course, the single most popular Google Maps mashup is *Where are UTA Students Hanging Out On Friday Night?* at gis.uta.edu/fridaynight.

There are fewer examples of MSN Virtual Earth mashups because they have only been available since July.

- **Space stations.** The coolest adaptation is the *NASA Space Station Current Location* <www.vehacks.com/vehacks/nasaspacestation.htm>.

- **Photo sharing and tours.** *Virtual Heritage Walk* <citymap.nanaimo.ca/msn_demo/heritagewalk.php> is a virtual tour of places on Vancouver Island. Also see *Nikhil Kothari's Photo Map Prototype* <www.nikhilk.net/Prototypes/PhotoMap>.

So, if you have read this far, you must be asking two questions. First, is this legal? Second, how can I make use of an

API? Yes, this is very legal. Think of it as legal hacking. It might be a bit of work, but anyone can make use of these APIs for both non-commercial and commercial use. Recognizing that they need to get more users, Virtual Earth API just recently opened their service to for-profit users.[5]

Building a Map
There are some great tools out there allowing users like you and me to create our own Google mashups without any coding at all. It is so super-easy. The tool we will highlight is *myGmaps* <mygmaps.com/>, but there are many more. Another favorite of mine is *JShape - Google Map Control Panel* <www.jshape.com/GoogleMap> which allows users to incorporate GIS point shapefiles. Very cool. Also, see Community Walk <www.communitywalk.com.. For the *Where are UTA Students Hanging Out On Friday Night?* project discussed above, we used the *Google Maps Standalone Mode* scripts <stuff.rancidbacon.com/gmaps-standalone/>.

OK, we will create a map showing the 6 branches of the

Special Section: Keeping Up With Technology (cont.)

Online Mapping: Google Maps, MSN Virtual Earth, & Yahoo! Maps (cont.)

Arlington Public Library System and UTA Central Library. To sneak a peek at the end result, navigate to <mygmaps.com/show/0.0.8/?url=http://mygmaps.com/account/mapz/ArlingtonLibraries.xml> or look at the illustration to the right.

Steps

1   Navigate to *myGmaps* <mygmaps.com/>.
2   Create a new account. It is entirely free and non-intrusive.
3   Create a new map by clicking the "Create new map" link.
4   Name it ArlingtonLibraries
5   Enter a title and description if you wish.
6   Now in another browser window or tab, navigate to the Arlington Public Library branch directory <www.pub-lib.ci.arlington.tx.us/about/contact.htm>.
7   Copy and paste the addresses (including zip codes) of the 6 branches into the "Address Query" box and copy and paste the names of the libraries into the "Minipage HTML" box.
8   Now enter the UTA Cen-
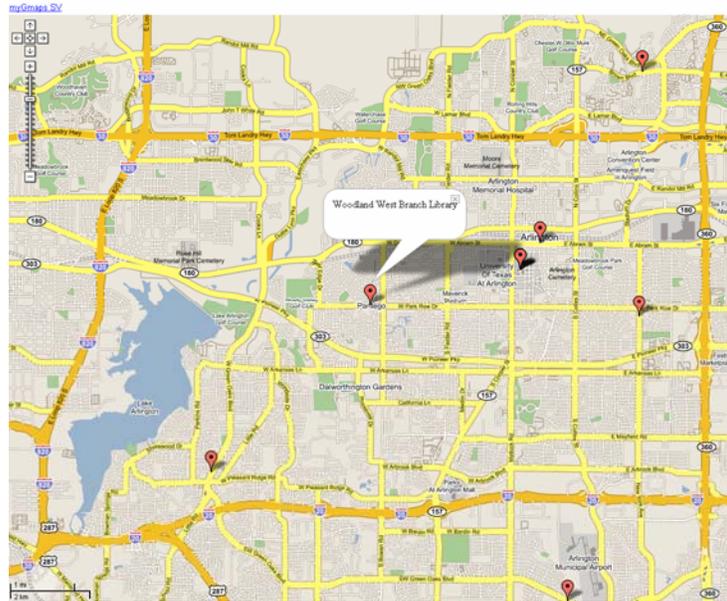
Arlington Public Library System and UTA Library in completed map.

tral Library address into Location 7. It is 702 College Street, 76019. Enter UTA Central Library as the name.
9   Scroll down and check the "Generate Map" box and click "Save."
10 Click "View" and voila, you are all set. You have created your very own Google Maps mashup!!

—Josh Been

Sources

1   *Katrina Information Map.*
2   Ricadela, Aaron. 2005. Microsoft and Google in race for online maps. *Information Week.* <www.informationweek.com/story/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=166401855>.
3   Thurston, Jeff. Digital Mapping: MTV in the Back Seat. *Vector One: A Spatially Related Blog.* <http://geovisualisation.com/WordPress/?p=39>.
4   *Webopedia.* <http://www.webopedia.com/TERM/A/API.html>.
5   Thota, Chandu. *Virtual Earth APIs available for commercial use (and they are FREE!).* [blog] <http://blogs.msdn.com/cthota/archive/2005/09/09/462841.aspx>.

Want to become an expert?

First, you need to access the API

- Google: www.google.com/apis/
- MSN: www.mp2kmag.com/mappoint/discussion/Virual_Earth_Map_Control_Script--7211.html

Second, you might need some help.

- The best MSN help can be found at the Via Virtual Earth site www.viavirtualearth.com, especially www.viavirtualearth.com/MyVirtualEarth/MapControlTest.html
- The best Google Maps help can be found at the Google Maps EZ site bluweb.com/us/chouser/gmapez/

Connections

Online Mapping: Google Maps, MSN Virtual Earth, & Yahoo! Maps (cont.)

Below is a breakdown on the features available on the Google Maps, MSN Virtual Earth, and Yahoo! Maps websites:

Function	Google Maps	MSN Virtual Earth	Yahoo! Maps	Notes
Address Matching (geocoding)	Y	Y	Y	All three services do this very well. Google's call-out box is more effective in pinpointing the found location than MSN's small blue box or Yahoo!'s red star.
Driving Directions	Y	N	Y	Virtual Earth cannot provide driving directions and boots you out to MSN Maps, an old-generation web mapping system.
Aerial Photos	Y	Y	N	Google photos, especially of the DFW area, are vastly superior to MSN's. Google uses the 2001 12-inch resolution aerials developed by NCTCOG. It appears as if MSN is using the USGS DOQQ, developed in the mid-90's. Both of these are freely available via the USGS Map Studio (http://gisdata.usgs.net).
Driving Directions with Multiple Stops	N	N	N	This feature is badly needed.
Local (Yellow Pages) Regional Search	Y	Y	Y	All three can do this, but Yahoo! is by far the least effective because you cannot keyword search, but are limited to their menu. Google and MSN permit keyword searching, but note that MSN will only search the visible extent while Google will search within a broader radius. MSN has a cool feature where as you explore (pan, zoom-in/out) the results of your local search will dynamically change.
Live Traffic Information	N	N	Y	Yahoo! is the only one of these three.
Scratch Pad	N	Y	N	This is the coolest feature of the MSN site. Users can build a list of locations that will store in a scratch pad that can then be emailed. Very nifty.
Locate Me	N	Y	N	Nifty feature only on MSN showing your location based on your IP.
Permalinks (permanent links)	Y	Y	Y	Permalinks are a type of URL that links to a specific information item and remains unchanged for a lengthy period of time.
API	Y	Y	Y*	All three offer public API services. *Yahoo! Maps API (http://developer.yahoo.net/maps/) is extremely limited in the features users can control.

UTA Libraries' Information Round-Up (cont.)

Ann Mitchell [right]. Demonstrating Libraries' resources to student.

Just having fun. Evelyn Barker and Donna Harrison photographed students against a desert background. The photographs were then placed in an old west-style wanted poster.

Barbara Hammond [left] and Joan Martinek [center]. Helping students make marbled paper.

August Library Staff Awards & Recognitions

The following awards were presented by Julie Alexander at the August 30 Staff Meeting:

- Applause Award. Patty Grubaugh

- Bright Idea. Suzannne Beckett

- Customer Commitment. Ellie Curiel and Julie Williams

- Celebrate You. (Volunteers for lounge duty, summer 05) Phuong Le, Jean Sherwin, Michael Hang, Ann Mitchell, Debbie Carter, Karen Hopkins, Brad Gulliford, Sue Sappington, Ginnie Pinkerton, Donna Harrison, Patty Grubaugh, and Mark Cook

- Hidden Hero. Jonathan Scott

Connections

Retirement Reception

Gerald Saxon and Kit Goodwin. Kit opening up a scarf presented to her by Gerald and Janis Saxon. The design is that of one of the maps in the Virginia Garrett map collection. This map was used in an exhibit at the Bullock Museum in Austin that Kit helped curate using many of the Garrett maps.

Photo: Maggie Dwyer

Jeff Stone and Kit Goodwin. Jeff giving Kit an ammonite (a local fossil) as a retirement gift.

Kit Goodwin

Photo: Maggie Dwyer

Special Collections staff (not all present). L-R, Blanca Smith, Gary Spurr, Ann Cammack, Cathy Spitzenberger, Maritza Arrigunaga, Kit Goodwin, Ann Hodges, Kit's daughter Melissa Fetch, and Brenda McClurkin. Missing: Carolyn Kadri.

Library Larry

Mark Mustacchio

Einstein's Miracle Year

In 1905 Einstein wrote five fundamental papers exploring light quanta, Brownian motion, and special relativity. These papers changed how we see our universe. Today, many regard 1905 as his *annus mirabilis*, or "miraculous year."

UTA is celebrating this centennial with lectures and exhibits sponsored by the Department of Physics, the Libraries, and Friends of the UTA Libraries.

UTA Libraries is also offering an online Einstein Trivia Challenge.   To take the challenge, go to <library.uta.edu/programsEvents/einstein/einsteinTrivia.jsp>. Participants who answer all 10 questions correctly will qualify for a drawing for one of 10 Einstein t-shirts.

Contributors to September Issue

- Evelyn Barker
- Josh Been
- Maggie Dwyer
- Mark Mustacchio
- C.D. Walter
- Lea Worcester

September 2005

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
			1	2	3 / 4
5 Labor Day	6	7 Census date	8 International Literacy Day	9	10 / 11
12	13	14 12:00-1:15. Focus on Faculty: Einstein's Revolutionary View of Time and Space—Parlor	15 11:45-1:15. Publishing Popular Science and Technical Books—Parlor	16 7:30-9:30. Einstein: Man or Superman?—Parlor Constitution Day	17 / 18
19	20	21	22 Autumn Begins	23	24 11:00-12:00. Parent's Weekend at the Libraries Banned Books Week / 25
26	27	28 Banned Books Week	29	30 Last day to drop with an automatic "W"	