



UTA Library Notes

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON LIBRARIES

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High-Profile Road Trip for Virginia Garrett Map Collection

Whether you are the sort who orders a state map from www.traveltext.com to drive around Texas, or are an armchair traveler who luxuriates in the wealth of maps available online in virtual domains, travelers who wanted to take a road trip through time had a rare opportunity this spring when the Bob Bullock State History Museum's exhibit *Drawn from Experience: Landmark Maps of Texas* opened in Austin. This isn't your ordinary accordion-fold gas station map trip. Visualize instead a yellowed 1595 map by famed mapmaker Michael Mercator, with subtle pinks, greens, and yellows depicting political boundaries in the New World. This is just one of several dozen UTA maps that traveled to Austin this spring. Mercator's *America Sive India Nova*, along with Zebulon Pike's 1810 *A Map of the Internal Provinces of New Spain* and Alexander von Humboldt's 1810 *A Map of New Spain* were there. Also on view was Arrowsmith's 1842 *Map of Texas* in which he erroneously reports of the Texas Panhandle that "This tract of Country Explored by Le Grand in 1833 is naturally fertile well wooded & with a fair proportion of water."

These and other map heavyweights are all part of the Virginia Garrett Cartographic History Library in UTA Libraries' Special Collections. Drawn not only by talented cartographers for armies and travelers alike, but also by soldiers and presidents and printed for colonels and kings, the maps sent to Austin tell the complex story of Texas and its place in the New World. Nearly 60 of UTA Libraries' maps were on loan to the Bullock Museum, demonstrating not only what a fine map collection UTA owns, but what a fine collection is possible when ardent and dedicated collectors are also donors, who do their collecting with a large audience in mind. The exhibit ran from February 19 to June 5, 2005, in Austin, Texas. Of the important maps on display, some dating as far back as 500 years, the lion's share came from UTA. The exhibit was sponsored by Stewart Title Guaranty Company and the Summerlee Foundation, with additional underwriting from the Texas State History Museum Foundation.

The concept and planning for *Landmark Maps of Texas* took over two and a half years, according to Dr. Dennis Reinhartz, one of four UTA organizers of the exhibit. Reinhartz, a Professor of History,



UTA supplied 90 percent of the materials for the *Drawn from Experience* exhibit at the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum in Austin.

worked on this travelling cartographic collection with Kit Goodwin, an archivist in UTA Libraries' Special Collections, Dr. Richard Francaviglia, history professor and head of the Center for Greater Southwestern Studies and the History of Cartography, and Gerald Saxon, history professor and Dean of the UTA Libraries. They were joined by J.C. Martin, director of the Texas State Historical Association and former head of UTA Libraries' Special Collections from 1975 to 1979. Ninety percent of the maps in the exhibit came from the UTA collection, according to Reinhartz, who said that the remainder are on loan from the Nettie Lee Benson Center, the Library of Congress, and a few private collectors. The largest map in the exhibit was a digital version of the 1507 *Waldseemüller World Map*. The copy is provided by the Library of Congress, which bought the original at the cost of \$15 million. The importance of this map lies in its earliest mention of "America" on a printed map. In distinct contrast to this large view of the colonial world were the maps, or "pinturas," produced by

*...range the world over
by looking at a map,
without its costing them
a farthing, and without
suffering heat or cold,
hunger or thirst. . .*

Cervantes, *Don Quixote*,
book II, chapter six

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We Are Listening



Gerald Saxon

More than 900 people completed the survey out of a sample of 3,000 undergraduates, graduate students, faculty, and staff, for a completion rate of 30%. The results will help to guide the Libraries' strategic planning efforts for the near future.

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The UTA Libraries cares about its users and their experiences in using our resources and services. I don't think faculty, students, and staff will find a more user-centered organization on the campus—of course, I may be a bit biased but I hear this from all parts of the campus community. Historically the library organization has used a number of techniques to gauge user opinion and satisfaction, including focus groups, formal and informal surveys, retreats, anecdotal information, and observation, to mention a few. During part of the spring semester, we added another tool to help us better understand what our users thought about our services. From February 21-March 31, 2005, the UTA Libraries conducted the LibQUAL+ survey aimed at measuring user satisfaction with library services and facilities. In fact, UTA was one of 240 libraries around the world to use LibQUAL+ in 2005.

LibQUAL+ is a user-based assessment of library service effectiveness. It includes twenty-seven core questions that measure user perceptions and expectations of service quality in three areas: *information control*, which includes the amount, availability, and accessibility of information content in both print and electronic formats; *library as place*, which refers to the physical library and its facilities/spaces and whether they are comfortable, clean, and appropriate for study, learning, and research; and *affect of service*, which focuses on the competence and courteousness of library staff. The survey instrument provides gap analysis data between perceived level of service, that is the service the user believes he/she is getting from the library, and the minimum and desired level of service he/she would like. The survey measures the areas where the library is meeting minimum and desired levels of service and those areas where the library is either exceeding expectations or not meeting even minimum levels.

More than 900 people completed the survey out of a sample of 3,000 undergraduates, graduate students, faculty, and staff, for a completion rate of 30%. The results will help to guide the Libraries' strategic planning efforts for the near future. The survey is rich in information and is still being analyzed, but some preliminary conclusions can be drawn. First, the good news. Undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty all agree that library staff members instill confidence, are courteous, and give users the attention and assistance they need. These areas rated high across user groups. Not surprisingly, undergraduates, whose work isn't generally as information-intensive as that of graduate students and faculty, believe that the Libraries' holdings and information resources were easily accessible and adequate for their use, while graduate students and faculty rated the library high in providing spaces for group learning.

The areas that most need attention according to the survey are the library website, which most of the user groups believe could be improved, while undergraduate and graduate students expressed opinions that library space does not inspire study and learning and is not adequate for quiet study. Faculty and graduate students want more information resources accessible remotely and would like more easy-to-use access tools that allow individuals to locate information on their own. Faculty members also believe that the library needs more print and electronic resources with which to conduct their research and work.

Over the next several months the library staff will be looking at this data and developing objectives to address user concerns. Some actions are already taking place. For example, the Libraries' Web Advisory Committee, with input from our users, is studying the new website that came online in the fall 2004 and improving its navigability, look, and feel. Additionally, the library is increasing allocations for information resources in 2005-2006 in an effort to continue to grow and improve our holdings and to cover inflation—this is a trend that began several years ago, and we hope will continue well into the future. Library staff is also working to implement a federated searching tool called Metalib, which will allow users to easily search across multiple databases, simplifying searching in the process.

As far as the physical facilities are concerned, library staff has been working closely with staff from the university's Physical Plant to address issues of cleanliness and general maintenance. The custodial work in the Central Library, for example, has been outsourced, and more individuals are assigned to clean the building as a result. Also, bathrooms throughout the Central Library are being renovated and aesthetic tweaks to the entry of the building have been completed. The Library Collections Depository (LCD), a 15,000 square foot warehouse for the storage of library materials, is now being built on Davis Street. When the space is completed and materials are stored there, this will allow us to free up space in all of the libraries on campus—space we want to reallocate to better accommodate user needs.

The bottom line in all of this is that we listen to what our users tell us, and we act to meet their needs. Indeed, we actively solicit their thoughts, ideas, and input. LibQUAL+ is just the most recent example of this. I invite you to let us know how we are doing and how we can improve. Only through candid and honest feedback will we continue to make progress in our service program.

Gerald D. Saxon, *Dean of Libraries*
saxon@uta.edu

High Profile Trip

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American Indian artists under Spanish direction. These landscape maps were prepared as a portion of a report to represent the Spanish empire in the 16th century, according to Reinhartz. The pinturas are on loan from the Nettie Lee Benson Center, a part of the UT Austin Libraries. The *Waldseemüller* map visited UTA in 2002 as part of the Texas Map Society meeting and the biennial Virginia Garrett Lectures on the History of Cartography. The *Waldseemüller* map is also the oldest in the exhibit, the most recent is a 2003 map generated in the search for space shuttle debris.

Each curator selected the best examples available to illustrate their portions of the exhibit, representing an era in Texas history. The categories are "Exploration, Empire, and Enlightenment," "Age of the Entradas," "Republic of Mexico: Provincias Internas," "Republic of Texas," "U.S. – Mexican War," "Statehood," and "Federal Presence." Other maps are also exhibited under "Maps of the Gulf" and "Modern Mapping."

Traveling with old friends

When cartographic experts are given a chance to display such important works, it should come as no surprise that some of their particular favorite maps can be found in the exhibition. Each map curator had a story to tell and had a central map around which to work, or a favorite map that was included in the exhibit. For Gerald Saxon, Dean of UTA Libraries, that map was the Disturnell 1847 *Mapa de los Estados Unidos de Mejico*. This map "was based on earlier maps," in such a way that they simply "copied information from older maps onto the new one and published it as their own," according to Saxon. The resulting Disturnell map, borrowed wholesale from an 1828 map by White Gallager y White, "misplaced" El Paso by a half-degree to the north, resulting in years of boundary disputes. "The question was, do they start negotiations after the U.S.-Mexican War from where El Paso is on the map or where it is on the ground?"

According to Saxon, the settlement was ultimately a political one, with the 1853 Gadsden Purchase figuring prominently in the final outcome.

Politics of a different sort figured in the creation of Kit Goodwin's favorite map in the collection. The Special Collections archivist said, after commenting that choosing a favorite map is like "stating which of your children you love more," that the map that tickled her archivist's fancy in this exhibit is the *Map of the State of Coahuila and Texas* by William Hooker. The map appeared in Mary Austin Holley's 1836 book *Texas, Observations, Historical, Geographical and Descriptive*. "This is a little map, and most people won't ever look at it, but I love this



little map." Mary Holley was Stephen F. Austin's cousin, and after a trip to Texas, wrote the above-mentioned book. When it came time to choose the map, she learned Austin's publisher refused access so she was not going to be able to use her cousin's map. She approached journeyman cartographer Hooker to create a map to fill the void.

"What he did was put roads in there, and the miles between things. This is the first time I've seen any of that added. Usually they don't tell you how far you had to travel," Goodwin said, remarking

The 1847 *Mapa de los Estados Unidos de Mejico* (top) by J. Disturnell copied an earlier map and the mapmaker managed to misplace El Paso. The 1836 *Map of the State of Coahuila and Texas* by William Hooker was an early Texas road map. Both were on display in Austin in the *Drawn From Experience* exhibit this spring at the Bob Bullock State History Museum.

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Arlington Reads—And Meets Pat Mora, Who Writes (and Speaks)

Passionate and articulate about the importance of children's literacy and the importance of libraries, award-winning author Pat Mora addressed a standing room only crowd in UTA's Carlisle Suite on April 21 at the conclusion of the six-week "Arlington Reads" program. Mora read selections from *Tomás and the Library Lady*, her book based on the true story of young Tomás Rivera, of Crystal City, Texas, the child of migrant workers who became the first minority Chancellor in the University of California System. Mora has written over 20 children's books (several are in production) and seven books for adults.

The event was hosted by UTA's First Lady, Sally Spaniolo, and joining Mora to speak to the group was Karen Borta, co-anchor of CBS 11 News in Dallas and UTA alumna. This program was a part of Arlington Reads, a community-wide reading initiative that focuses on specific books, and is a collaborative project of the Arlington Public Library, University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington Independent School District, Tarrant County College, and Reading & Radio Resource.

For more information about Mora's books, visit <http://www.patmora.com/>. For more about Rivera, visit <http://www.education.txstate.edu/subpages/tomasrivera/>.



Pat Mora (left) and Sally Spaniolo raffle books after Mora's talk.



UTA Libraries' Mary Jo Lyons (left) and UTA alumna Karen Borta, CBS 11 evening news co-anchor.



Pat Mora (back row, center) was joined by Dr. Luis A. Rosado from the College of Education and Sally Spaniolo. The students are members of BESO, the Bilingual Education Student Organization.



The 15,000 square foot Library Collections Depository is being built this summer on land near the intersection of Mitchell and Davis on the west side of campus.

Library Collections Depository

The UTA Libraries has attempted for several years to negotiate remote storage facilities in which to store still-viable but infrequently-used materials, in order to make room for newer and more heavily used materials in the campus library buildings. Remote storage space was previously utilized in Austin, requiring anyone requesting materials in remote storage to wait a day or two to receive their items. A local solution to this storage problem has finally been found. Dean of Libraries Gerald Saxon has announced that a Library building will be built at 960 South Davis Street just south of the new art studio complex, and ground was broken in mid-April. The Library Collections Depository will include approx. 15,000 sq. ft. for library materials in a warehouse-type structure. The facility will be equipped with 16 foot tall shelves to maximize the storage capacity of the space. The building itself will be shared with the Office of Information Technologies.

According to Saxon, "Once the LCD is completed then we will begin the process of moving materials into the space from SEL, AFA, Central, and Special Collections. This will be a big job but the results—more usable space in Central and the branches—will be worth it." A task force, chaired by Carleen Dolan, Libraries' Facilities & Procurement Manager, has been planning the logistics for the move for many months and meets weekly. The building construction is expected to be complete in early 2006.

Focus on Faculty

Dr. Jonathan Campbell addressed a packed room with his talk "Venomous Reptiles of the Western Hemisphere" at the November 17, 2004 program. Campbell is a Professor and Chair of the Biology Department, and a member of the Academy of Distinguished Scholars (2004).

Dr. Jeanne Gerlach spoke about the evolution of UTA's College of Education at the February 2, 2005 meeting with a talk entitled "Building a College of Education: A Look at the Process." Gerlach is Associate Vice President for K-16 Initiatives and Dean of the College of Education.

On February 23, 2005 **Dr. Elizabeth Poster**, Dean of Nursing at UTA, spoke about the use of simulated patients (SMART Manikins/high fidelity human patient simulators) to overcome the current "patient bound" restrictions on student education and the development of essential competencies. She also discussed plans to build a Smart Hospital and Health System (SHHS).

In a talk that highlighted the Dec. 26, 2004 tsunami that hit Indonesia and several other Indian Ocean nations, UTA Associate Professor of Geology **Dr. Christopher Scotese** described the process that leads to tsunamis and the workings of supervolcanoes (such as Toba on Sumatra or Yellowstone in North America). Dr. Scotese's talk was on April 13, 2005, and included information about his award-winning PALEOMAP Project.

Focus on Faculty is a Speakers' Series established in 2002 to highlight the work and research of UTA faculty. It provides a forum for outstanding faculty to share their research and achievements with students, faculty and staff on this campus and with the citizens of Arlington. Invited speakers have received major awards for research, teaching or service. Every school and college is represented in a two-year cycle.

Six speakers are scheduled each year. Programs are held at noon in the Parlor of the Central Library, typically on the last Wednesday of the month. Light refreshments are served. Focus on Faculty events are free and open to the public.

For more information about this program, contact Tommie Wingfield at wingfield@uta.edu or call 817-272-2658.



Dr. Jeanne Gerlach (left), Dean of the UTA College of Education, speaks with librarian Tommie Wingfield, marketing and external relations manager for the library. Wingfield initiated the Focus on Faculty program three years ago.



Dr. Christopher Scotese (left) spoke with retired UTA math professor James R. Harvey after his talk about tsunamis and supervolcanoes.

Faculty Forum

Scholarly Communication in the Internet Age

In a program intended to help the university community recognize the growing crisis in scholarly communication, in which commercial publishers have turned the scholarly communication process into "a multi-billion dollar business," the Libraries hosted a brown bag lunch on March 9, 2005. The invited speaker was Rick Johnson, director of the Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition (SPARC).

Johnson, who joined SPARC in 1998, is responsible for the organization's overall program development. SPARC was conceived by the Association of Research Libraries, which is an alliance of organizations and research and academic libraries, all working to "correct market dysfunctions in the scholarly publishing system." The goal is to nurture the networked environment as a way to disseminate research by expanded competition and open access



to scholarly research. (Johnson recently announced his departure from the organization, but the agency's work continues.)

For more information about the talk and the slide program presented, visit <http://library.uta.edu/Main/scomm.uta>



The scholarly communication talk brought visitors to campus from around the region. Here Rick Johnson (shown in both photos) spoke with UTA's Richard Francaviglia (left photo) and Gerald Saxon (right photo).

Friends of the Libraries

As we report every year, the Friends of the UTA Libraries have concluded another successful year. As the organization grows and the UTA Libraries collections grow in size and stature, the gaze back over the year is sweet indeed. For not only is the group continuing to attract a variety of interesting speakers and new members, part of the collection itself in the form of the Virginia Garrett Cartographic History Library (VGCHL), which has grown under the auspices of generous Friends members, took a major step forward this year. Sixty maps went on the road to Austin to the Bob Bullock State History Museum for a well-received exhibition called *Drawn from Experience: Landmark Maps of Texas*. See the lead article for more information about the maps and items from the UTA collection that traveled from UTA to Austin.

Engaging programs throughout the year

The Friends of the UTA Libraries was chartered in 1987 to offer community support in the Libraries' drive toward excellence. Toward this end, the Friends have established a tradition of offering interesting programs. The 2004-2005 year of Friends' activities concluded with the April 22, 2005, presentation by **James Ward Lee**, author, folklorist, humanist, speaking on the topic "Reading Will Ruin You." Lee is acquisitions editor for TCU Press and a former chairman of the English Department at the University of North Texas. Lee proved that truth and fiction can be equally funny when they are dished up together with a generous helping of topical politics. At that same meeting the slate of officers for next year was presented and elected.

On March 6, 2005, the Friends had a Sunday afternoon presentation by **William Dunmire**, retired National Park Service ranger and former Chief of Interpretation for the National Park Service in the mid-1970s. Dunmire discussed his new book *Gardens of New Spain: How Mediterranean Plants and Foods Changed America*, published in 2004 by the University of Texas Press. Dunmire's wife Evangeline was the illustrator for this volume. The talk was followed by a book signing and a reception with several of the introduced plant foods mentioned in Dunmire's book.

For something a little different, the Friends took a couple of field trips. On January 29, 2005, they went to lunch at Joe T. Garcia's in Fort Worth, then visited the Amon Carter Museum to hear **William Reese** speak on the topic "Stamped with a National Character: Nineteenth Century American Color-plate

Books." Reese curated the exhibit that featured many seminal works that illustrate the art of book illustration in America.

One road trip wasn't enough, so several members of the Friends joined the UTA Honors College on their bus trip to Archer City, Texas, on February 26, 2005. The destination, of course, was **Booked Up**, Larry McMurtry's remarkable and extensive used book store that occupies several buildings around the Archer County courthouse square in the middle of town. (Archer City photos by Vance Wingfield)

The Friends holiday program was on December 3, 2004. Typically the last meeting of the year has a story teller or musical guest, and this year's meeting was no exception. The talent was provided by UTA's own music department, with the award winning choir under the direction of **Jing Ling-Tam**, professor of music at UTA and a choral conductor of international reputation. Tam and the choir were joined by tenor **Sam Savage**, who performed additional solos. He made his Carnegie Hall debut in 1996 performing the tenor solos in works by Leonard Bernstein and Adolphus Hailstork.

As mentioned in the last *Library Notes*, the first two meetings of the school year included talks by **Don Newbury** on September 24, 2004. Newbury is a philosopher, humorist, teacher, author, and former university president, whose books include *When the Porch Light's On*, *Life by the Seat of the Pants*, and *A Few Geese Short of a Gaggle*. On October 22, 2004, Texas historian and prolific author **Randolph Campbell**, whose most recent book is the new single volume history of Texas titled *Gone to Texas*, spoke about "The Search for a Usable Past" in the writing of Texas history, a history steeped in myth, folklore, braggadocio, and exaggeration.

In business conducted at the April, 2005 meeting, the following officers were elected for the upcoming year: Mary Ellen Emery, President; Bill Stallings, First Vice President; Judy Reinhartz, Second Vice President; Penny Acrey, Secretary; Brent Nicholson, Treasurer; Dorothy Rencurrel, Parliamentarian. LaVerne Knezek was elected to the Friends' Advisory Council. Members of the Advisory Council are: Shirley Applewhite, Penny Acrey, Richard Browning, Betty Clark, Charles Duke, Mary Ellen Emery, Jenny Hudson, Jim Johnson, LaVerne Knezek, Don Kyle, Brent Nicholson, Lisann Peters, Judy Reinhartz, Dorothy Rencurrel, Allan Saxe, Bill Stallings, Terry Wang, and Tommie Wingfield.

For more information about the Friends, visit <http://library.uta.edu/Main/friends.uta> or call 817-272-7421.



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1. Jing Ling-Tam (left) visited with Reuel Jentgen at the Friends holiday program.
2. Book bags in hand, Friends members went to Archer City to shop for books in Larry McMurtry's famous "Booked Up" used bookstore. (Photo by Vance Wingfield)
3. Ann Hodges (right) and Allen Townsend of the Amon Carter Museum.
4. Gerald Saxon spoke with UTA music professor tenor Sam Savage.
5. William Dunmire (seated) signed a book for Friends member Shirley Sheets.

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that "it's like the triple A [American Automobile Association] maps, but here's the same thing in 1836!"

For Dennis Reinhartz, the two editions of Abraham Ortelius Americas map from the *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum* were very important. "They show the results of the Spanish entradas into the Greater Southwest, and between them you can see what Ortelius came to know about the New World over time. And through him what parts of the Old World public came to know."

J.C. Martin favored some of the charts in the exhibit, in particular a 1646 chart called *Carta Particolare della Baia de Messico con la Costa* by an Englishman living in Italy, Sir Robert Dudley. This chart is in an atlas called *Secrets of the Sea* and "is one of the most beautiful charts I've seen. These are beautiful examples of the art of engraving."

Richard Francaviglia took a giant step from the previous Earth-bound mapmakers, and highlighted modern geographers and cartographers' understanding of Texas when viewed from space. His favorite map among these was a photographic rendering called "Texas From Space." This satellite map, on loan to the exhibit by Gerald Saxon, was produced by M-SAT Corporation of Rockville, Maryland, and dates from 1998. This map gave Francaviglia the big picture he needed to ground his examination of a collection of maps that add up to an environmental examination of Texas. Oil and gas production, tourism, and the most recent space shuttle disaster were all subjects of the maps

he selected. In his exhibit remarks, Francaviglia describes this map:

Viewing the earth from outer space was something that early mapmakers could only dream about. If a mapmaker could travel many miles above the earth, mapping it would be much easier as so much could be seen at one time. By the early 1960s, that dream became a reality. The stunning "Texas From Space" is a photographic LANDSAT image taken from an orbiting satellite 420 miles above the earth. This map represents a revolution in mapmaking.

Indeed, the entire exhibit *Drawn from Experience* represents many "revolutions" in mapmaking and Texas history. In her concluding remarks in an article about the exhibit in the spring 2005 edition of *UTA Magazine*, Goodwin notes "These maps reflect the advancement of scientific knowledge, the power and conquest of nations, the skill and artistry of famous mapmakers, and the technical mapping innovations that unfolded over centuries."

To see some of the maps mentioned in this article, visit the UTA Libraries virtual map library at <http://libraries.uta.edu/ccon/mapSearch.shtm>. The Virginia Garrett Cartographic History Library, founded in 1978, holds thousands of maps. Focusing on five centuries of exploration and mapping of the New World, the VGCHL places particular emphasis on the region of the Gulf Coast and the Greater Southwest. For more information, visit <http://library.uta.edu/Main/spcoMaps.uta>.

—Maggie Dwyer

Donors

The UTA Libraries receive many donations throughout the year, in the forms of books and journals and other materials, membership dues to the Friends of the UTA Libraries, and through the Adopt-A-Journal program. These individuals help the Libraries serve all users. This list represents donations and Friends membership dues made from October 2004 - March 2005.

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Among the treasures on view at the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum's exhibition, *Drawn from Experience: Landmark Maps of Texas*, is an extraordinary map that has been called "America's birth certificate." The digital reproduction of the one-of-a-kind map is from the Library of Congress. The map was produced in 1507 by Martin Waldseemüller. The St. Die priest, scholar and publisher compiled information for the map at a time of rapidly expanding knowledge of world geography that was spurred by the explorations of Christopher Columbus, Amerigo Vespucci and others. The Waldseemüller map is the earliest document known to contain the word "America" and to feature two major oceans, not just one. In addition, it does contain a landmass that will eventually include Texas! Plans are underway for the future housing of this Waldseemüller digital reproduction map at UTA for study and research.



Star Award and Student Awards



Dorothy Rencurrel presented the Friends of the Libraries STAR award to Mary Jo Lyons at the spring staff reception.



Kiran Bondalakunta was a winner of the Outstanding Student Assistant Award.



Danny Word was a winner of the Outstanding Student Assistant Award.

Every spring the UTA Libraries staff hold an award reception to recognize staff and student employees who have gone above and beyond their job descriptions in the work they do. This spring the **STAR** (Super Talent Appreciated and Recognized) award, funded by the Friends of the UTA Libraries, was presented to Information Literacy Program Coordinator Mary Jo Lyons.

Dorothy Rencurrel, President of the Friends, offered the following remarks at the presentation:

You have made your mark on the Libraries with your professional conduct, your drive to promote the Libraries, and your unmatched ability to bring out the best in your staff.

Around the UTA campus, you are noted for your involvement with the Freshman Interest Groups (FIGs) and Residential Learning Communities (RLCs). You serve as Chair for the Co-Curricular Programming Workshop. This workshop organizes service learning opportunities and co-curricular activities for the FIG and RLC students in KC Hall. For example, you directed the Penny Warz activity in the hall which collected \$350 for the Arlington Night Shelter. You also arranged a "Fireside Chat" with President Spaniola for FIG students.

Other programs Lyons has been closely involved with include Maverick Orientation, Advising and Registration (MOAR), Welcome Days (held at the beginning of the fall semester), and Arlington Reads. Rencurrel concluded her remarks with

Mary Jo, you empower your staff to make and execute independent decisions while unobtrusively following up with accountability and other status reports. You have created an infectious sense of independence and a drive towards excellence that has made all of your staff shine. Your adaptability, enthusiasm, and performance are models for us all and certainly put you in the "star" category. Congratulations!

The **Outstanding Student Assistant awards** are given to two students who excel in their jobs even with their busy schedules as students. This year there were two student awards. One was presented to Kiran Bondalakunta of Access Services, who has been there to take on new duties, help when his shift was short staffed and has worked past his shift when needed, and has worked the unpopular closing shift. Danny Word of Information Literacy received the second award, in acknowledgement of his "significant contributions in the GIS digitization project and development of innovative GIS workshop topics."



Graduate student Jennifer DeLong was the winner of the iPod in the drawing open to participants of the LibQUAL+ survey. Other winners of drawings for iPod Shuffles or Lexar jump drives were Gail Tipayamonti, Tracy Williams, Martin Chang, Totundra Grays, Okonkwo "Ugo" Nnanyelugo, Jason Perz, and Bimalkumar Shah.

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