Suggestions or
comments about our
newsletter?

Contact
haydenm@uwec.edu
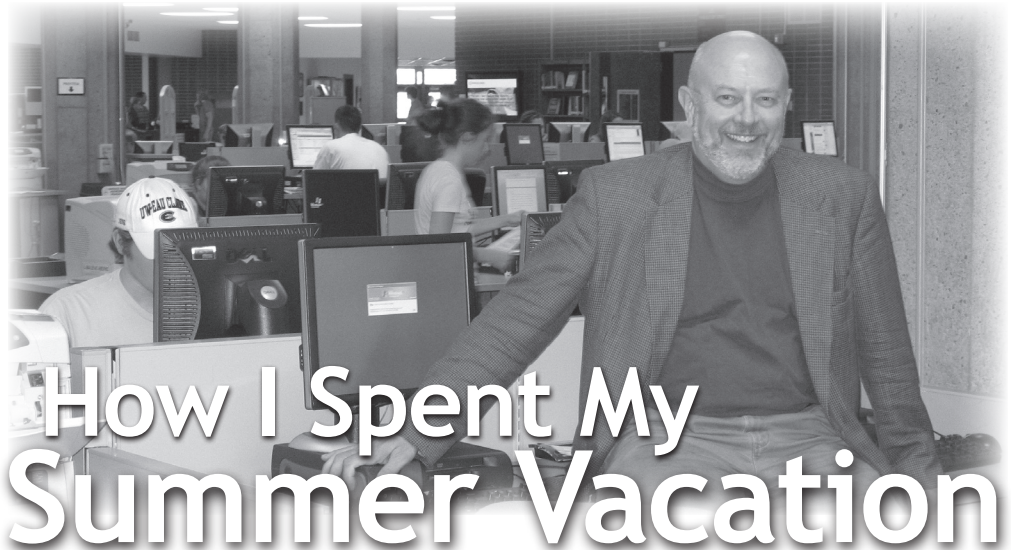
How I Spent My Summer Vacation

by **John Pollitz**, *pollitjh@uwec.edu*

This summer, my wife, Aracely, and I watched all of our worldly possessions get packed in a huge truck. We loaded up our two cars with our cat, Cupcake, and all of the things we could not live without and took four days to drive across country from Corvallis, Oregon, to Eau Claire. This spring I was hired to be the new director of libraries at UW-Eau Claire. I spent the late spring and summer preparing for the move, packing up books, clothes and dishes, and wrapping up projects at work. For the last two years I was the associate university librarian for public and innovative services at Oregon State University. Prior to that, I spent seven years as library director at St. Ambrose University in Davenport, Iowa. My wife and I both have deep roots in the Midwest. Although I enjoyed my time out in the Pacific Northwest, I am thrilled to be back in the Midwest and can't wait for winter and lots of snow. We moved into a beautiful bungalow house within walking distance from campus. This summer I have enjoyed riding my bicycle to campus. My wife and I were both impressed with the beauty of Eau Claire and the surrounding area. Our two daughters live in Milwaukee, so we will be visiting that city often throughout the year.

Like many librarians I came to the profession as a second career. I have been a librarian for 17 years, having received my MLS from the University of Iowa in 1990. Throughout my career I have focused on advancing libraries technologically, and teaching students to think critically about information and become more effective users of all the information that technology makes available to them. I have an MA in Latin American history from the University of Denver and got my BA in history and education from Southern Illinois University. As the director of libraries at UW-Eau Claire it is my responsibility to be an advocate for the library and to ensure that the faculty and students at our university have the resources they need, wherever their intellectual inquiry takes them. McIntyre Library is particularly rich with electronic and print resources which are the result of innovative leadership and prudent stewardship in the past. I intend to continue that tradition. I am also very aware that people are the most valuable resource of any library. The people who work at McIntyre Library are a creative, dedicated and service oriented group. I see my role as providing the environment where creativity and dedication can lead to innovation and expanded services to our students and faculty. ∎

University Archives Goes Digital

by **Colleen McFarland**, *mcfarlcd@uwec.edu*

This summer the university archives entered new territory – the world of electronic records. The most recent additions to Archives Series 333, the History 489 capstone papers, have been digitally archived through MINDS@UW. As the UW System digital repository, MINDS@UW collects, preserves, and provides access to research and instructional materials at the UW colleges and universities. Faculty, staff, and departments affiliated with UW-Eau Claire may submit a wide variety of "born digital" materials for inclusion in MINDS@UW, including research posters, student theses, conference papers, datasets, photographs, and oral interviews. Once entered into the MINDS@UW collection, the materials are made available to the public via the Internet.

Archives Series 333 presented itself as a logical place to make the transition from paper to electronic archives. Like almost all student written work today, the History 489 capstone papers are "born digital," or created as an electronic file rather than a paper document. Additionally, many of the papers address local or regional history topics. When submitted as paper files to the archives, they sit largely unknown and unused by the general public. As part of the MINDS@UW collection, however, the papers may be browsed through the MINDS@UW host site or discovered through Google, AlltheWeb, and other general search engines. Because the repository uses permanent URLs (or PURLs), students may include links to their work on resumes and personal Web sites. Best of all, the UW System is committed to the long-term preservation of the electronic files. There are no more worries about losing or breaking CDs or technical obsolescence of file formats for either the students or the archives staff.

Interested in learning more about MINDS@UW and the possibilities of digital archiving for your or your department's "born digital" materials? Point your browser to http://minds.wisconsin.edu or http://uwdcc.library.wisc.edu/minds/ and take a look. Then contact Colleen McFarland, head of special collections & university archivist, for more information. ∎

Nursing Learning Resources Cataloging Project Nears Completion

The "Nursing Learning Resources Cataloging Project," the goal of which is to catalog media housed at the College of Nursing and Health Sciences Learning Resources Center, is nearing completion. Catalogers Cheryl Cutsforth and Randall Olson were busy this summer on the library third floor, cataloging this healthcare related collection with the help of nursing media specialist, Robert Lieske, and student cataloging assistant, Yer Lor.

"This project will greatly improve access for our faculty to the LRC collection" said Lieske. Approximately 250 videos, DVDs and CDs have been cataloged to date and more will be cataloged as they are purchased. The items are housed at the LRC and can be viewed there. Selective checkout is limited to College of Nursing & Health Sciences faculty and students. The LRC is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. – 9 p.m. and Friday from 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. The facility is not open over the weekend. ∎

The books on display were purchased in Carol's honor with McIntyre Library staff donations.

In Memory of Carol Lonning

Library staff donated funds to purchase books in memory of library assistant Carol Lonning, who died in January 2007. Carol was passionate about horses and worked with children, so it is fitting that eleven children's and young adult books are now available for checkout in the IMC. ∎

Check out these movies

Funds for new DVDs have enabled us to add to our collection. To locate the latest purchases, go to the library home page, click on Movies in the middle of the page. In the Sort box, click the arrow and choose Publication Date: Newest First.

Start popping the corn and enjoy.

Warning:
Children in the Library!

by Kati Tvaruzka, *tvaruzke@uwec.edu*

You may have noticed the not-so-quiet pitter-patter of little feet around the library over the past several months, and it's not because we have a rodent problem. Instead, the instructional media center (IMC) has opened its doors to children of all ages by providing programs and events for children and families. While some programs are geared towards a specific audience, most are open to all UW-Eau Claire faculty and staff and we invite you to bring the entire family to the library for some fun with a kiddy-lit flair. Many events are also open to the general public.

As a former children's librarian it's not in my nature to be quiet! In an effort to get a more varied audience using the collections in the IMC, I offer story time sessions for the Children's Center and others in the university and Eau Claire community. These are typically held the last Wednesday of each month of the academic year at 10:00 a.m. in the IMC. The sessions last about 30 minutes and are geared to preschool age children. If you're looking for a quiet place to study or relax, don't make it the IMC during these sessions because we do like to make a lot of noise, as each session includes rhyming and movement activities, songs and music, and of course, books just great for reading aloud. It's very rewarding to see UW-Eau Claire students joining in, and I encourage participation by all ages. In March we had guest readers from around the world when the students in ESL 201, Integrated Skills, presented a variety of stories and activities for the young crowd. This proved to be so popular for children and adults alike that we'll continue this each semester. A session with a new crop of international students was held on Wednesday, October 24 and the next will be on November 28.

The IMC has hosted other fun programs, including a cool collaboration with the Reading Partners program last March to celebrate Dr. Seuss' The Cat in the Hat's 50th birthday. Over 50 children and parents attended this event that featured a library scavenger hunt, Dr. Seuss activities and Cat in the Hat cartoons and treats. This summer we hosted our first reading program for children in collaboration with Upward Bound and Reading Partners. As part of Upward Bound's community service requirement high school students paired up with children in the Reading Partner program for one-on-one leisure reading activities. The program was so well-received that we plan to host it again next summer. Watch for a special program to be held in the IMC during Children's Book Week, November 12-18.

As the educational reference librarian, I'm always looking for new and innovative ways to work with faculty and students, and to get people using the collections in the IMC. If anyone is interested in collaborating on a project or program, would like to hold an event for youth in the IMC, would like to incorporate your curriculum to include hands-on storytelling experiences, or would like to work with me to find ways to get your students involved, please contact me at tvaruzke@uwec.edu or 836-4522. ∎

Distance Education and the Library

by Jill Markgraf, *markgrjs@uwec.edu*

You're out of sight . . .

but not out of mind. That's the message the library would like to convey to students and faculty who learn and teach at a distance.

UW-Eau Claire currently offers more than 150 distance education courses a year, the majority of them offered online. Other technologies, such as videoconferencing, are used as well. Our distance education course offerings are identified in the class schedules at http://www.uwec.edu/registrar/classSched.htm. Additionally, UW-Eau Claire, in collaboration with other UW institutions, has developed an online database of all distance education offerings in the system. DistanceLearning.Wisconsin (http://distancelearning.wisconsin.edu/) is a "gateway to information about the courses and programs offered via distance learning by the UW System campuses." The site also provides a wealth of information about distance education technologies, admissions, registration, financial aid and student services, plus links to campus libraries.

As students have the opportunity to study at times and places convenient to them through distance education, they are increasingly in situations where a visit to the library is not possible. However, recognizing that library instruction and research—and the attendant skills in finding, using and analyzing information—are an integral part of students' college experience, the library continues to develop services that students can access from wherever they are.

New developments in distance education offerings pose challenges in services designed to support them. For example, inter-campus distance education programs such as the online MBA or the collaborative nursing program include students who are registered at several UW System institutions, but enrolled in a course originating at UW-Eau Claire. These students may not have the UW-Eau Claire user accounts required to log on to library resources like e-reserve or library databases. To address this situation, McIntyre Library provides a temporary username and password that enables non-UW-Eau Claire students taking UW-Eau Claire courses to access library resources for the duration of the course. Instructors teaching courses that fit this description should contact the library for logon information for their students.

As the trend in distance education is to move away from a synchronous model — where students and instructors meet at the same time — alternatives to the traditional face-to-face library instruction have emerged. Traditionally, a librarian would meet with a distance education class when they came to campus for an orientation session or during their scheduled class time via the technology being used to deliver the course. In the online environment, where students and instructors rarely come together at the same time, efforts to provide students with library instruction have evolved. Among the strategies used by McIntyre librarians are these:

- The librarian becomes a participant in the D2L classroom, monitoring and posting to research-related discussion threads. This approach is especially useful in library research-intensive courses.

- Online instructional tools are developed and made available to students and to faculty, who may wish to link to them from their online classrooms. McIntyre librarians have begun developing short, targeted video tutorials and plan to build on this collection. Examples can be viewed at http://www.uwec.edu/library/distance/deill.htm.

- Librarians are available for individual consultation via phone (our toll-free phone number is 877-267-1384) and email library.reference@uwec.edu. Some librarians are using newer technologies such as instant messaging, Facebook accounts and blogs as alternatives for communicating with students. In addition, librarians are experimenting with RSS technology to push information to students via customized library support Web pages:
  - http://www.uwec.edu/markgrjs/courses/business.htm
  - http://www.uwec.edu/markgrjs/courses/cj.htm.

In addition to access, instruction, and consultation services, the library offers document delivery for distance education students. These students are defined by the library as students who are enrolled in distance education courses or programs, do not have classes that meet on campus, and live outside of the Eau Claire area. For students who meet these criteria, the library will mail books and scan and email journal articles. These services are offered at no charge to the student.

Librarians may never see DE students, but these services illustrate the library's commitment to making library access for them as equitable and comparable to that of the on-campus student as possible. For more information on McIntyre Library services that support distance education, please see http://www.uwec.edu/library/distance. ∎

Collaborative Imperative:
Working with Others
Strengthens All

by Christopher Cox, *coxcn@uwec.edu*

Libraries can't exist in a vacuum. They need to listen to their users but also work with them to offer creative and necessary services. We've been pursuing collaborations with other academic departments and university groups, as well as community organizations, on three fronts: exhibits, collections and programming.

Exhibits:

This past August, the library partnered with the Heyde Center for the Arts in Chippewa Falls to host a travelling exhibit from VSA Arts of Wisconsin. The exhibit, mounted in the Grand Corridor and on the fifth floor, celebrates the art of adults with disabilities, and features VSA award winners between 2003 and 2007. The library will be working with the Heyde Center and other local art organizations to host additional exhibits, including another already scheduled for next summer.

In a sequel to last year's "Burials, Baths and Beyond," the library and the department of geography and anthropology will again be mounting an exhibit of photographs of archeological sites provided by the University of Hartford Art School titled "Sanctuaries from Asia to the Americas." This Minnie Goldenberg photography exhibit celebrates the work of students in Israel, Egypt, Mexico, and Peru. Stop in the library to view it in November.

Collections:

Roughly a year ago the library began working with University Centers and Barnes and Noble to implement an improved circulation system for textbook rental. The system utilizes the same integrated library system (ILS) software the library uses, Ex Libris' Voyager, and allows students to more quickly borrow and return textbooks. Students can find out what textbooks and library materials they have borrowed by clicking on the "My Accounts" link from the library home page and then logging into their Voyager/UB account. There have been multiple technical challenges to overcome to bring this service to our campus and the real test of the service will come at the end of fall semester when students return their textbooks.

Over the summer we were approached by Ellen Mahaffy, assistant professor in the department of communication and journalism, to see if we might be interested in assisting her in circulating still cameras for her CJ 284: Introduction to Photography course. The library developed a process by which the cameras could be circulated to students enrolled in the course; we developed guidelines for student use and procedures to check them out and also verify that all pieces were returned. We are now circulating nineteen cameras to CJ 284 students, with each camera loaned for three days with no renewals. This new service is an experiment and we hope it will be valuable to both students and faculty alike.

Programming:

The library has begun preliminary conversations with assistant professor Allyson Loomis to explore future collaborations between the library and the English department to bring authors to campus, similar to the readings conducted in previous years by Elizabeth Willis and Patricia Hampl. More information will be forthcoming.

The library is always looking for ways to better serve students, offering them additional collections, resources or experiences that can broaden their academic horizons, stimulate their minds and help them to succeed. If you or your department have an idea for a possible collaboration, please contact Christopher Cox at coxcn@uwec.edu. ∎

From the Director's Desk

By John Pollitz, *pollitjh@uwec.edu*

This year UW-Eau Claire has embarked on an ambitious strategic planning process. In September members of the various strategic planning work groups were on hand at three days of "charrettes," where the university community was asked to attend and lend their comments to the six broad areas of planning. As all of this was developing it became clear that whatever direction the planning process took it would have a significant impact on McIntyre Library. As the planning process proceeds, any plans that we devise for McIntyre Library will be guided by the overall university strategic plan. Many of the library faculty and staff attended the charrettes and added their ideas to the long lists of suggestions from members of the UW- Eau Claire community. There are a number of areas within the various work group reports where McIntyre Library can play an important role.

The proposal that has created the most questions and discussion has been the Group 1 proposal that every UW-Eau Claire graduate will have an international experience. Whatever direction this proposal takes, McIntyre Library is well poised to support students as they travel and research internationally. Our proxy server allows students to access our databases from anywhere on the globe. Our book collection has benefited from a history of international education, but if our focus becomes even more concentrated on internationalizing education at UW-Eau Claire we will need to develop our collection with material and resources to reflect that new emphasis.

The second work group focused on transforming learning and recommended radical curricular reform. As the campus investigates ways to become more intentional in all areas of education, McIntyre Library can play an important role. As I read a proposal to establish interdisciplinary colloquia I wondered, "What department on campus provides better support for interdisciplinary learning than the library?" We have had years of experience building collections that foster investigation across subject boundaries, discovery of new concepts and connecting threads of ideas together. Librarians will need to be thinking about how best to tailor our services and collections to meet the needs of a changing learning environment. Our technology will need to become more sophisticated in order to better facilitate cross-disciplinary access to collections and databases. Librarians will be focusing their efforts in helping classroom faculty develop learning opportunities that fully tap the rich resources that have been acquired and licensed over the years.

Work Group 3 discussed ways in which the university should develop its engagement with the community. McIntyre Library is already very active in this area. As a depository for federal and state documents our charge is to provide all citizens of our region with free and open access to government information. Our special collections department is heavily used by the public for genealogic and local history research. As an area research center (ARC) for the Wisconsin Historical Society we provide a rich collection of primary source documents that preserve the history of our region for the benefit of students and the public. Another way that we reach out to the community is through the story times that have been held in the instructional media center (IMC). These have attracted families from the campus community as well as families from Eau Claire. In recent years we have collaborated with the local public library and local arts organizations and we will continue to grow these collaborations with the Eau Claire community and the region.

The strategic plan documents reflect a strong desire to increase the diversity of our campus community. A large university library can be a daunting place for all students and can be another large hurdle placed in front of students of color as they adapt to a new and often unfamiliar environment. Library staff and faculty need to work closely with colleagues in other programs on campus whose priority is helping students from diverse backgrounds reach their educational goals. The Office of Multicultural Affairs, the Bridge program, the Academic Skills Center and the McNair Program all offer services that interconnect well with our information literacy program. ∎

Gale Reference Titles Move Online

by **Mimi King,** *kingm@uwec.edu*

During the 2006 spring semester, the reference collection was rearranged to accommodate the teaching lab in L1033. More than 116 shelves were removed, and although 1,000 titles were relocated, space is still extremely tight. In order to relieve the space problem, McIntyre Library has acquired fifteen Gale Virtual Reference titles to replace print titles in the reference collection. Here they are, listed by discipline:

Cinema History:	History of the American cinema (10 volumes)
Communication & Journalism:	Encyclopedia of communication and information
Criminal Justice:	Encyclopedia of genocide and crimes against humanity Encyclopedia of espionage, intelligence and security
Economics:	Gale encyclopedia of U.S. economic history
Environmental & Public Health:	The Gale encyclopedia of children's health infancy through adolescence
Foreign Languages:	Encyclopedia of food and culture
Management:	Business plans handbook
Marketing:	International directory of company histories (80+ volumes)
Philosophy & Religion:	Encyclopedia of American religions Encyclopedia of occultism & parapsychology
Psychology:	Encyclopedia of drugs, alcohol & addictive behavior
Theater:	Encyclopedia of clothing and fashion Contemporary theatre, film and television
Women's Studies:	Encyclopedia of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender history in America

You can find these new online resources in the library catalog or you can use the reference collection's Subject Encyclopedias link http://www.uwec.edu/Library/reference/subEncy.htm. Clicking on any discipline will bring up a list of encyclopedias (both online titles and titles in the collection) of interest to scholars in that discipline.

The link in the catalog record for the Gale Reference Titles listed above will take you to the online resource and a search screen for the contents of that title. The search results include html pages for online browsing and linking to related topics, along with text and pdf files of the entry to download for research/citing purposes. We hope you will use this as a teaching tool with students in your field or to encourage cross-discipline discovery. Contact library.reference@uwec.edu or call 836-3858 for additional information. ∎

WisconsinEye

by **Leslie Foster,** *fosterla@uwec.edu*

Interested in the workings of the government in Wisconsin? Want to form your own opinions first-hand, without the bias and interpretation of others? If so, the WisconsinEye Public Affairs Network is for you.

According to its stated mission, WisconsinEye "provides access to the public policy debate and decision-making process without editing, commentary, or analysis and with a balanced presentation of points of view ..." Since May 2007 this private, non-profit corporation has been filming Wisconsin governmental events and activities and has been making its streaming video available free of charge through its Web site http://www.wisconsineye.com/, its broadcast channel in the Charter and Time Warner cable systems, and through a Capitol press room pool feed. This site is indexed and archives of previous videos are maintained.

WisconsinEye coverage includes:
State Assembly
State Senate
Joint Finance Committee
Committee on the State Budget
Selected joint, standing and statutory committees
Governor and Lt. Governor
State Supreme Court (since 09/07)
Selected state agencies
UW System

While WisconsinEye's material is protected by federal copyright laws, that protection is limited by a "fair use" clause which allows use of its videos for teaching, scholarship and research. In addition, the corporation has agreed to transfer its archives to the Wisconsin Historical Society upon dissolution or liquidation of the corporation. These valuable primary sources should remain freely accessible to the public for the forseeable future.

Visit http://www.wisconsineye.com/ to see what's up in Madison these days! ∎

University of Wisconsin Digital Collections RSS Feed

by **Mimi King,** *kingm@uwec.edu*

Since its beginning in early 2000, the University of Wisconsin Digital Collections Center has worked collaboratively with UW System faculty, staff, and librarians to create and provide access to digital resources that support the teaching and research needs of the UW community. The UWDCC documents the UW System and State of Wisconsin, and provides access to rare or fragile items of broad research value. The UWDCC has also partnered with cultural heritage institutions and public libraries throughout Wisconsin to create digital resources.

Resources are free and publicly accessible online. These resources are loosely organized into collections that span a range of subjects including art, ecology, literature, history, music, natural resources, science, social sciences, the State of Wisconsin, and the University of Wisconsin. Digital resources include text-based materials such as books, journal series, and manuscript collections; photographic images and slides; maps, prints, posters; audio and video.

Now you can sign up to receive information and news about the University of Wisconsin Digital Collections automatically. The "New Resources at the University of Wisconsin Digital Collections" RSS feed contains frequently updated content. When you subscribe to this feed, updated information from the feed is automatically downloaded to your computer and can be viewed in Internet Explorer and other programs. Follow this link to subscribe to the UWDCC RSS feed: http://uwdc.library.wisc.edu/News/rssAbout.shtml. ∎

Databases and Titles Added

by **Janice Bogstad,** *bogstajm@uwec.edu*

New databases and online journal titles have become available through the library. Factors such as funds from student technology fees and state-wide cooperative purchases have enabled us to add several powerful databases to our list of those accessible to all faculty, staff and students of UW-Eau Claire.

ARTSTOR: Funds transferred to us by the student technology committee allowed us to purchase ArtStor, a massive online collection of visual materials in the plastic arts. The material has been developed from originals in museums and in major art books, but also from archeological and anthropological sources. You will find vivid images of the painting and sculpture of renowned artists throughout history, and also of ancient wall paintings and more recent Chinese fan paintings. The resource will be of great use to the teaching of art and art history, as well as history, English, anthropology, and other fields where visual images will enhance teaching. An excellent feature of ArtStor is the ability to vastly change the size of images, to enlarge or reduce, to change the back-lighting quality and to make small printouts. There are also special features that faculty can use, through password access. Contact Janice Bogstad, head of collection development at 836-6032 for details of how you can create your own sub files.

JSTOR SUPPLEMENT: We were also able to add another set of full text back files of journals to our JSTOR collection. This supplement to our existing collections will continue to expand over the next two years, giving us even more resources.

EDUCATION RESEARCH COMPLETE (ERC): see article on this page.

SAGE JOURNALS: We are also pleased to announce that, through a UW System cooperative agreement, we are able to add current, full text access to more than 440 SAGE journals. Our agreement allows us to purchase the online access to the entire SAGE collection for the price of our current paper subscriptions, thus increasing our SAGE holdings by 400 titles. Look for some of the titles we couldn't provide in the past by searching this database, or through the online catalog.

BUSINESS REFERENCE (GALE), and more: Finally, we were able to continue our conversion of appropriate reference sources from paper to electronic form with an attractive implementation package from Thompson Gale. We converted three business sources which were previously updated yearly to an online version which is updated more frequently. These include the *International Business Plans Handbook, The International Directory of Company Histories* and the *Wards Business Directory*. Each of these titles can now be accessed through the online catalog, by title, or through the library Web pages. At the same time, we added the Gale Virtual Reference suite. See article on page 7 ∎

New Education Database

by **Kati Tvaruzka,**
tvraruzke@uwec.edu

We're pleased to announce the acquisition of a new education database, Education Research Complete, a great online resource for education research. Education Research Complete (ERC) is the world's largest and most complete collection of full text education journals, with indexing and abstracting for over 1,780 journals and full text available for more than 870. ERC also includes full text for 71 books and monographs, and full text for numerous education-related conference papers.

The database includes scholarly research and information relating to all areas of education, on all levels from early childhood to higher education. It also covers all educational specialties, such as multilingual education, health education, and testing. In addition, ERC contains vast resources in the areas of curriculum instruction as well as administration, policy, funding, and related social issues.

Using ERC is quite simple; it's an EBSCO product and students are familiar with this platform from using Academic Search Elite and ERIC, as well as many others. Feel free to contact me at tvaruzke@uwec.edu or 836-4522 if you'd like more information about ERC, or if you'd like to schedule an information literacy session for your classes where I can demonstrate ERC and other education research techniques. ∎
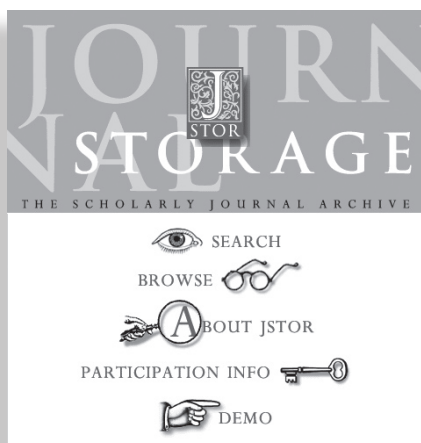
Welcome to our new director of libraries, **John Pollitz.** See John's introduction on page one.

Chris Cox, assistant director of libraries, has now taken on administrative responsibilities for all public service areas: reference, circulation, interlibrary loan and periodicals. Chris, an assistant professor, has been at McIntyre Library since August 2004 and has served as our assistant director and interim director of libraries. He came to McIntyre Library from his position as a reference/instruction librarian at Worchester Polytechnic Institute in Massachusetts. ■

Librarian **Karen Pope** retired on July 5, after 15 years in the library. The early part of Karen's career here was in the government publications department, where her creative abilities helped others appreciate and use government documents. In 2001 Karen became information literacy librarian, and in this capacity she built an outstanding program that now serves over 4,000 students a year, with almost 200 courses that include a library instruction component. Karen was also active in organizations dealing with gender equity and environmental issues at both the university and in the region. She was the co-chair of the chancellor's advisory committee on the status of women since 2004, and was been active in the AAUW, ALA/GODORT, and other organizations. She has recently been working on a book, *American Paj Ntaub*, with Houa Moua. Karen plans to continue spending time with her parents and to pursue a second career as a social justice information activist. Best wishes for a great retirement, Karen. ■

Heidi Conde is our new collection development assistant. She has worked at the UW-Parkside library and in public libraries in Madison and Monona. Heidi's formal education is in earth science, math, and law. She was an environmental enforcement specialist, a natural resources educator, a consumer specialist, and has taught math and geology to adults. She moved back to Eau Claire to be with her daughter, Giselle, who will attend UW-Eau Claire this fall, and her daughter, Aurora, who graduated from UW-Eau Claire in 2006 and teaches music in Chippewa Falls. Heidi plans to return to school herself. She enjoys reading (of course!), being outdoors, dancing, music, travel, and amateur astronomy. ■

Micky Sitzman, library assistant in the periodicals department, resigned effective October 2007 after 30 years in the UW System. Micky transferred from UW-Stout in August 2006. In the short time she was at McIntyre Library she streamlined the check-in process for journal and newspapers, made a significant dent in the backlog of LHRs (local holdings records), assisted us in finding alternatives such as thermal binding when our tack binding machine broke, and much more. Micky intends to spend her time working in her garden, on her house, and with her children. We will really miss you, Micky. ■

Library Systems Librarian **Stephen Elfstrand** has taken a new position as the executive director of PALS, a Minnesota program that provides automated library services for Minnesota state colleges and universities, and other libraries across the state. Steve began work at McIntyre Library in 1998 and had

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Special Collections Open on Sunday

ACADEMIC YEAR HOURS

Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.

Saturday Closed

Sunday 1:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m.

a significant impact on technology in our library, as well as the UW System. One of Steve's strengths was his willingness to experiment with systems and other projects, such as assisting in the development of Voyager as a universal borrowing platform, an e-reserve repository, and the recent bookstore rental project. During his tenure here, he also accepted the management of the library circulation and equipment checkout services. His love of jazz and expertise in the field aided us as we sought to expand our library jazz collection. Best wishes for a great future in Mankato, Steve! ∎

Mimi King retired from the library on September 7. Mimi was hired in 1991 as head reference librarian and provided leadership and mentoring in that position. She has been active in service to the campus community and in the regional and national library community. Mimi served a key role in promoting information literacy on campus. In 1991 she was appointed to the *Off the Shelf* editorial committee and began writing reviews of listservs, electronic bulletin boards and newsgroups. These were followed by her reviews of reference CD-ROMs, then instructions about the new NOTIS library catalog. In 1995 her column (the Virtual Library) debuted, and our readers came to depend upon her to cover the myriad changes in databases that occurred with ever increasing frequency. She probably reviewed, at least once, each of the 144 databases that we now offer. Best wishes for a wonderful retirement, Mimi. ∎

We will miss **Karen Bronshteyn,** who most recently served as our interim information literacy librarian. In August, Karen began her new position as the college librarian at Anoka Technical College, in Anoka, MN. She will be closer to her Elk Lake, MN home. During her 18 months as a reference librarian at McIntyre Library, her accomplishments were noteworthy. Karen received a UW System Race and Ethnicity grant to lead a discussion of the book "Iran" for the UW-Eau Claire community, she taught Russian 102, and she received a NET grant to pilot a program of information literacy assessment for English 110 students. Karen is looking forward to reducing her impact on the environment and the extra time to be with her family. Best wishes, Karen. ∎

Welcome to **Erin Wetzel,** our new cataloging assistant. Erin is not exactly new to the library, as she worked for us as a student library assistant for five years in several departments, including cataloging, reserve, and circulation. In May 2007, she graduated from UW-Eau Claire with a BA in music and theatre arts. Erin says her hobbies include reading, ultimate Frisbee and Frisbee golfing. She also recently helped design costuming for the Merry Widow. ∎

Ann Hofmeister is our new LTE at the reference desk. She has her BA in special education from UW-Eau Claire and is working on a master's degree in that field, with a focus on emotional behavioral issues. Ann has taught kindergarten through adult learners and also worked at Brotoloc Health Care Systems. In addition to her job at the library, she is currently employed at Eclectica on Grand. She loves being outdoors camping and canoeing, and is a "big book person." ∎

The Saturday afternoon shift at the reference desk is again handled by LTE **Anna Knutson,** who can also be found staffing the desk at other times during the week. Anna is currently enrolled in the UW-Milwaukee School of Information Studies, and continues to perform at Fanny Hill Dinner Theatre. ∎

Nancy White is the LTE you will find at the circulation desk during the late evening shift and alternate weekends. Nancy has covered this 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. shift for several years and we are happy to have her back. ∎

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