The University Libraries’ Brinkerhoff Earth Resources Information Center, also known as the Brinkerhoff Geology Library, houses a vast collection of materials that support research and teaching in the fields of geology, geophysics, physical geography, geological engineering, and mining and petroleum geology. Although well known for its collection of books, journals, and government publications, the library’s collection also includes a large quantity of maps and aerial photos.

The Brinkerhoff Geology Libraries’ map collection is the largest in the state and a crown jewel for the university. Located in the Barlow and Haun Map Room, the collection includes more than 140,000 geological maps, physical and political maps, climate maps, forest and park maps, land use and ownership maps, people and culture maps, transportation maps, vegetation maps, and energy and natural resources maps, as well as copies of many of the historical maps that are also found in the Emmett Chisum Special Collection.

Another integral part of the collection includes approximately 140,000 aerial photographs. Aerial photographs are a valuable tool used by researchers to assess historical...

...Continued on page 8
It has been an exciting fall with a number of activities highlighting the Libraries within the university community. We dedicated the W. R. Coe Library in November celebrating the addition and renovation of the building. It has been a long two years of construction and we are very pleased to be nearly finished with the project. We still have furniture that is being replaced and minor construction tasks but the majority of the work is completed and students are enjoying the new spaces.

The dedication honored W. R. Coe’s commitment to the university with his donation to build the original 1957 Coe Library. Senator Hank Coe, grandson of W. R., spoke at the dedication providing us with a glimpse into the life and principles of a man devoted to higher education. We were also graced with remarks by Governor Dave Freudenthal, ASUW President Matt Haigler, Library Development Board Chair Bobbalu Hoefer, and UW President Tom Buchanan. It was a fun celebration of the university community. If you were unable to attend the dedication, you can view a video overview of the construction project and completion at: www.youtube.com/user/coeref.

During October, we also celebrated the installation of Rolling Flower, a sculpture by James Surls commissioned for the upper atrium of Coe Library. James worked with the UW Art Museum and the Libraries in developing this original piece that evokes the wind and tumbleweeds of Wyoming.

Funding for Rolling Flower was provided by the Wyoming Art in Public Buildings Legislation that sets aside construction funding for art in new buildings.

In addition to building news, the Libraries have focused on stretching state funding to cover collection costs after a 50% budget reduction within the collection budget as a result of university budget cuts. Revenues from a tuition increase in 2010 will partially restore some collection funding and our faculty librarians will be working with the teaching faculty on evaluating the collection in the spring to determine if journal reductions will be required. Private funding is assisting the Libraries in purchasing some book materials and demonstrates the impact of donations during difficult economic times. Thank you to all of our friends who have donated to library endowments and funds that support the research needs of our students and faculty. Your support complements state funding providing for improved services and collections.

I hope 2010 is a happy, healthy, and productive year for you and I personally appreciate the support and encouragement you have provided to UW Libraries this past year and throughout our Coe Library construction project!

Respectfully,

Maggie Farrell, Dean
UW Libraries
Dawning of a New Era: remarks of a UW Provost

By Myron Allen, UW Provost
November 19, 2009—W. R. Coe Library Dedication Ceremony

Since 1928, scholarly excavations have uncovered no fewer than six libraries in the ancient city of Ugarit, on the shores of the Mediterranean in what is now Syria. These collections date from 1200 BC. They consist of tablets inscribed in four languages and seven different scripts.

My point is twofold. First, libraries and learning have been joined at the hip for well over three thousand years. Second, for as long as we have any evidence, learners have had to negotiate a wide array of modes of dissemination. Those of us who struggle with today’s rapid changes in information access are clearly heirs to the Bronze Age. I imagine gray-haired professors of that era marveling at their students’ ability to multi-task: “How can these kids possibly read hieroglyphics while writing their assignments in cuneiform?” Cranky administrators undoubtedly complained that the emergence of Akkadian over Sumerian was the beginning of the end of literacy and intellectual refinement.

Thanks to the vision of our state officials, Dean Maggie Farrell, Vice President Robert Aylward, and a team of faculty members, students, architects, and engineers, UW can now claim some of the finest, most forward-looking, and most welcoming of learning facilities in the region. The old guard among us can marvel at our students’ abilities to search a database while listening to a podcast, and we can grouse about the apparent demise of literacy and intellectual refinement in the cyber-world of blogs and tweets. But, as UW’s beautiful new building proves, the most noble of human enterprises is still thriving after all these millennia, and the business of learning is as complex and challenging as ever.

Thank you all for your support. I hope you all get to enjoy our new information oasis for many decades to come.
Leaving a Legacy: how one donor is making a difference

By Nancy Marlatt
Marketing Coordinator

The first time University of Wyoming History Professor Michael Brose met non-traditional student Nathaniel T. Lamar, he quickly realized that Lamar knew a lot about Japanese History.

“He knew a great deal more than the textbooks offered,” Dr. Brose says.

While working as a professional plumber and master pipetiter for the university, Lamar enrolled in classes that fed his passion for Asian History. He took every course that UW offered on Asian History, beginning with a Japanese historical survey.

“Any teacher finds students like Lamar to be the pure fulfillment of every reason that we get into teaching in the first place,” says Dr. Brose.

After leaving UW for other work, Lamar contacted Dr. Brose to make a “humble donation” to help purchase library materials, especially those related to Japanese and Asian history.

“Lamar’s gift is especially vital to continue to purchase the most important books for our use here at UW,” Dr. Brose says. “Any gift, no matter how small or humble, is important to us, the teaching faculty.”

Lamar is now employed by the U.S. State Department as a master pipe fitter stationed at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow, Russia. And without fail, he continues his commitment and dedication to supporting UW’s students in Asian studies through a monthly donation to the libraries.

“That small gift has grown and is a sure testament to the high ideals and character of Nathaniel Lamar,” says Dr. Brose.

Any gift, no matter how small or humble, is important to us, the teaching faculty.

Asian Studies Books @ University of Wyoming Libraries

A sample of the collection


The Great Wall of China is a collection of essays by authors from China, Australia and North America that explore the social, cultural, technological, and architectural significance of the Great Wall of China. Included are six moving interviews with people living along the course of the walls.


Heller divulges the richly diverse works of the early Himalayan art collection of the Ashmolean Museum. The collection includes Buddhist metal sculptures and other works of religious art from the Himalayan regions of Tibet and Nepal prior to 1959.


Wasserstrom, a Professor of History at the University of California, Irvine, enlightens us with tales of his journeys from nineteenth–century China into the future and from Shanghai to Chicago, St. Louis, and Budapest.


Chef Morimoto introduces his trademark cuisine, which blends Japanese color combinations and aromas with such multicultural elements as traditional Chinese spices, simple Italian ingredients, and French style, along with more than 125 recipes for signature dishes.
W Libraries’ now has space dedicated for its expanding digital program on the first level of W. R. Coe Library. Digital Resources Librarian, Dennis Moser, and Library Assistant Cynthia Kellogg are building the university’s digital repository with an integrated, cohesive set of digital materials for research and pedagogy appropriate to a research institution.

The growing digital repository will hopefully draw the attention of UW faculty members and shall highlight graduate/undergraduate research projects. One such digital project came from communication and journalism student Joshua King, a recipient of the Larsh Bristol Memorial Award in Journalism for 2009. King documented the spread of the Mountain Pine Beetle throughout southeastern and south-central Wyoming. He collected photographs, audio interviews, and correlating GPS data. His photography exhibit, A Slow Hurricane, was featured in the Wyoming Union this past Fall. University Libraries has received more than 2,250 digital images, audio interviews, and corresponding GPS data from King’s research. Moser and Kellogg began work on King’s raw digital collection by transcribing the audio interviews into online text documents, as well as creating audio MP3 files for easy online listening. In addition, their work encompasses the creation of web-ready images from the original high-resolution photographs and then linking them geographically via Google Maps. The end result is a fantastic collection of digital images and audio interviews correlating with geographical data.

Although the digital cataloging of the collection is still underway, you can view a sampling of the transcripts, photographs, and MP3 audio interviews online at http://uwlib5.uwyo.edu/omeka/.

For more information about the digital collections at UW Libraries, contact Dennis Moser at (307) 766-5592 or by e-mail at dmoser5@uwyo.edu.

Mountain Pine Beetles: a collection of photos, interviews and GPS data

By Dennis Moser, Digital Resource Librarian

Aerial photograph showing the spread of Mountain Pine Beetle infestation in southeastern Wyoming, summer 2009. [Photo by, Joshua King]

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Jeffrey Alford, a UW Alum, is the author of numerous cookbooks including Beyond the Great Wall: Recipes and Travels in the Other China and Seductions of Rice: A Cookbook.

JEFFREY ALFORD
APRIL 16th • Noon
Laramie, WY

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Rolling Flower: a Surls sculpture in the library

By Jennifer Mayer, Fine Arts Librarian

Rolling Flower, a sculpture by James Surls, was recently installed in William Robertson Coe Library. The 400-pound sphere consists of hand-carved wooden petals attached to a metal frame. Installation of Rolling Flower was made possible by the state of Wyoming’s Art in Public Buildings legislation that allocates a percentage of construction costs to purchase artwork for a new state-funded facility.

James Surls’ sculptures are in collections of major art museums across the nation. His work has shown at the Museum of Modern Art, the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, and the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York. Described as visionary by The New York Times, Surls is well-known in the art world. He has worked as an arts administrator and educator and he founded the Lawndale Art Center in Houston, Texas. Surls’ sculpture In Circle was recently displayed in the Laramie, Wyoming exhibition Sculpture: A Wyoming Invitational.

To learn more about Surls’ artwork visit his Web site at www.jamessurls.com.
Brinkerhoff Geology Library: collection of maps and aerial photos . . .

Continued from page 1

... changes in land use, habitat, or preservation planning and also as a base in map preparation and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) applications. Over the years, faculty and researchers from the Geology and Geophysics Department and the Geography Department have donated more than 120,000 black and white aerial photos from around Wyoming. Coverage spans from 1936 through the 1990s, with most taken between 1950 and 1980. In addition, a recent acquisition includes photos taken of 30 Wyoming towns and cities from between 1990 and 2007 that was donated by the Wyoming Department of Transportation.

The Brinkerhoff Geology Library is named after Zachary Brinkerhoff, Jr. and his son Tom Brinkerhoff (a UW alum). Although the library’s focus is Wyoming and the Rocky Mountain region, the collection also includes national and international materials. Located in the Geology Building on the UW campus, the library is open to the public. Visitors are welcome in–person or online at www-lib.uwyo.edu. We encourage schools or other groups to schedule an appointment so we can prepare curriculum appropriate materials in advance of your visit.

UV student, Haley Brown, looking through Aerial photographs. (UW Photo)