THE LATEST INTELLIGENCE

Russell Bowen was one of Lauinger Library's most generous donors. His extraordinary collection of books on intelligence, spying, and covert activities amounts to almost 18,000 titles, and a substantial endowment fund which he also gave enables us to continue to collect, as well as ordinary works in the field, such more rarified items as the first edition of Baring's Clavis diplomatica (Hamburg, 1738). The Bowen Collection is deservedly well known, and on two occasions Fulbright scholars from Great Britain have spent a semester at Georgetown in order to make extended use of its riches.

Now, thanks to the generosity of Elizabeth Bancroft, the Bowen Collection will undergo a dramatic expansion, the result of her recent gift of nearly 5,000 printed items dating primarily from this decade, but including a substantial number of earlier books as well. The most notorious of these is undoubtedly the first edition of Compton Mackenzie's Greek Memories (1932), withdrawn from publication as being in violation of Britain's Official Secrets Act. Among the fictional works in the gift are a fine American first edition of Ian Fleming's The Spy Who Loved Me (1962) and the much rarer Pauline vom Potomac: General Siegels Spionin, an 1863 translation of Charles Alexander's classic Pauline of the Potomac, acquired for the collection two years ago by purchase. A number of the more modern works carry inscriptions from the author to Ms. Bancroft, some with accompanying letters as well.

(continues on page 6)
What's Your Opinion?

Libraries find it useful from time to time to find out from their users what's good and what's bad about their collections and their services. Last May 267 students and faculty filled out surveys for us, and a further 21 took part in four focus groups which met to discuss the issues in the survey. Here's what we found:

✔ Use of the library
  42% visit the library daily
  47% come in weekly

✔ Study space
  65% prefer to study in the library rather than elsewhere
  68% consider individual study space superior or good
  51% consider group study space good
  45% think the noise level is fair to poor

✔ Collections
  71% think the book collection is superior or good
  82% find needed information always or most of the time

✔ Most important library resources
  30% printed books
  16% online full-text resources
  15% printed journals
  13% online indexes and abstracts
  8% audiovisual materials

The five most important services provided by the library, with ratings running from 21% to 13%: photocopiers, individual study space, reference assistance, reserve books for courses, and group study space.

And what should be our priorities?
Again, in declining rank order: better photocopiers, more books, more online full-text resources, more journals, and longer library hours.

But a common refrain was expressed quite pungently by one undergraduate in an added comment: Too much talking. Get tough on noise!

Cartoon by Eric Smith
NEW LIBRARY CLASSROOM

Thanks to the generosity of the family of Wilbert B. Dubin (F'47, G'50 and '53), librarians now can provide interactive instruction in library research techniques in the Wilbert B. Dubin Memorial Classroom, a completely renovated room on the first floor. An endowment fund has also been established by the family to provide for future equipment updates and maintenance.

The classroom has 24 networked Pentium II computers with flat-screen monitors, allowing students to practice techniques demonstrated by the instructor. The computers are linked by COMWEB, a “monitor, keyboard, mouse network,” which allows the instructor to orchestrate the tempo of instruction. Most of the workstations line the walls of the room, with an additional six located in its center, these removable to permit different classroom configurations. The instructor can project the image on his/her monitor to all workstations, thus giving each student a front row seat. Likewise, when a student finds a promising website or has found useful results in a periodical index, the results can be shared with the whole class by projecting the students monitor view to the other workstations.

The teacher’s podium includes a computer, CD-ROM drive, COMWEB controls, digital chalkboard, a VCR, and audio controls. Both computer screens and the VCR can be displayed on the room’s large front screen. The digital chalkboard allows the instructor to “draw” on any computer or video image for emphasis. In addition, a document camera allows the instructor to project an image of any object on the front screen, whether a chart or graph from a book, a slide, or a three-dimensional object.

The renovation included a new lighting grid, new acoustical finishes for sound control, and flexible lighting which makes it easy to see screen images while providing ample light to take notes or view other materials being discussed.

A GOOD FRIEND

Edith S. Mayfield died peacefully in Bethesda on August 1st, just over a week before what would have been her 88th birthday. Following the death of her husband John, Edith became the librarian of the Army and Navy Club. She served for more than a decade on our Library Advisory Council.

During that time she distinguished herself by the continued generosity of her gifts, providing Georgetown with strong collections of the works of Lord Byron, A. C. Swinburne, and Robinson Jeffers, as well as a wealth of other literary and historical books and manuscripts.

She was a gracious hostess with a ready wit, and we will miss her.
NEW LIBRARY ENTRY POLICY

Georgetown University Lauinger Library
Lauinger
MARY SMITH
Expires: December 31, 1999

Over the summer the library instituted a new entry policy that requires visitors to display a photo ID card. People without GU identification are also asked to sign in and indicate their purpose in using the library.

These changes were made in response to a series of incidents last spring involving non-Georgetown library users. The library remains open to all, and we hope that Associates and others will understand that the new policy seeks to ensure that the library environment is conducive to tranquil study and research.

THE OTHER PHILBY AND ROBERT HEADLEY

Almost forgotten in the scandalous publicity that surrounded his son’s treason and defection to the USSR, Harry St. John Bridger Philby (1885-1960) comes to mind most recently perhaps in the book he shares with his son Kim, Anthony Cave Brown’s *Treason in the Blood* (Houghton Mifflin, 1994).

But St. John Philby was noted as an Arabist, explorer, and writer in his own right. He went to the Middle East during World War One and rapidly made a name for himself; following the war he spent some years exploring Saudi Arabia and writing a series of books that opened up the unknown Arabian peninsula to readers around the world. His own copies of many of these works, such as the rare *Southern Nejd* (Cairo, 1919, printed in 100 copies) and *Rub al ‘Kali* (London, 1932), together with a substantial number of books from his library, including Wellsted’s rare *Travels in Arabia* (London, 1838) now reside at Georgetown, part of the gift of books and papers of Robert W. Headley donated by his daughter, Hope Headley.

Robert W. Headley became one of the first Fulbright scholars following World War Two, studying in Oxford and Cairo. As an Arabist he had a distinguished career with Aramco and later with the CIA, serving as station chief in Oman for some years in the 1970s. His library, totaling more than 700 volumes, provides a valuable resource for the study of the history, language, literature, and culture of the Arabian peninsula, with special emphasis on Saudi Arabia, Oman, and Yemen. His remaining papers, together with a large number of maps, document some of his work in Arabia (and Morocco) and form a valuable supplement to the collection of printed materials.

*SOUTHERN NEJD.*

JOURNEY TO KHARJ, AFLAJ, SULAIYVIL, AND WADI DAWASIR IN 1918.

By H. St. J. B. PHILBY, I.O.S.

Printed and issued by the Arab Bureau, Cairo, for official use only.

CAIRO:
GOVERNMENT PRESS.
1919.

An early Philby work on Arabia
LIBRARY CELEBRATES CAMPAIGN KICKOFF

Dinner in the Pierce Reading Room for more than 100 Library Advisory Council members, other contributors, and library staff marked the beginning of the public phase of Georgetown’s Third Century Campaign on October 9th. Susan K. Martin, University Librarian, announced that the library has already received more than $11 million towards a revised goal of $30 million for the campaign.

A Friday seminar on the Berlin airlift, sponsored jointly by the library and the Center for German and European Studies, was very well attended, and the library sponsored on Saturday a series of technology showcases. The big hit of the weekend, however, was the “big” sale of out-of-scope books on Saturday afternoon on Healy lawn. Former head librarian Joe Jeffs and former College dean Royden Davis, S.J., were among those who were delighted to help the library by finding for a thousand or so volumes good new homes.

BOOKER PRIZE FUND ANNOUNCED

Now 30 years old, the Booker Prize is without doubt the most prestigious literary award for writers in the English language. Thanks to the generosity of Thomas J. Healey (C'64) and the Healey Family Foundation, the library will be well-equipped to collect the printed works and manuscripts both of Booker winners and of those short-listed for the award since its birth in 1969.

The library already has a significant collection of the works of Paul Scott, the 1977 winner for Staying On. But the current use funds and parallel endowment provided by the Healeys will enable the development of strong collections for each of the dozens of authors whose work has made the envied and heatedly debated short list. The Georgetown collection itself is mentioned on page 14 of boooker 30 a celebration of 30 years of the booker prize for fiction 1969-1998 (Booker, 1998).

ON READING

Your family sees you as a lazy lump lying on the couch, propping a book up on your stomach, never realizing that you are really in the midst of an African safari that has just been charged by elephants, or in the drawing room of a large English country house interrogating the butler about the body discovered on the Aubusson carpet.

Reading is an escape, an education, a delving into the brain of another human being on such an intimate level that every nuance of thought, every snapping of synapse, every slippery desire of the author is laid open before you like, well, a book.

– Cynthia Heimel
JOIN THE ASSOCIATES

Readers of this newsletter who are NOT already members of the LIBRARY ASSOCIATES can receive more information on how to join by contacting Ms. Marianne Green. Write her at the library address, or call her at (202) 687-7446, or fax her at (202) 687-7501.

Programs are always STIMULATING, and the benefits are GREAT!

A NOTE OF APPRECIATION

We thank all those friends of the library who have donated books, manuscripts, or other library materials since June, 1998. Among them are:

* **Anthony Cave Brown**
  Additional manuscripts and research files on intelligence matters

* **Colin Campbell**
  Books on public policy and current affairs

* **Michael Crocker**
  400 photographs of interest in Saudi Arabian history

* **Eleanor D. Tydings Ditzen**
  Books of memoirs and biography

* **Francis D. Flannagan**
  Autograph letter of Gen. Lucius Clay concerning the Bay of Pigs

* **Francis Gallagher**
  Books on history and literary works by Sean O'Casey

* **Paul Hume**
  Books on music, musicians, and performers

* **Mark Samuels Lasner**
  Facsimile edition of Coventry Patmore's The Angel in the House

* **Robert K. Newman**
  Fine print by Chester Leich

* **Daniel Schorr**
  Modern literature and books on current affairs

THE LATEST INTELLIGENCE (continued from page 1)

Her gift goes well beyond books and journals, however. More than 100 videos provide both documentary and fictional looks at various aspects of spying and the Cold War; more than 50 talking books are included, too, a number read by their authors. Audio CDs provide theme music from James Bond movies; instructional CDs provide introductions to such topics as the Vietnam War, to the Kennedy assassination, and to the Watergate scandal. A series of wooden wall plaques records the emblems of the most significant intelligence agencies around the world; small sculptures record the likenesses of Felix Dzerzhinsky, "Wild Bill" Donovan, and Russell Bowen; and a set of 15 nesting boxes record those of each of the heads of the various Russian secret service agencies from Dzerzhinsky to the near-present. A variety of other related items round out the gift, but the dress cap and other small mementos of Russell Bowen's service in the military make a fitting tribute to a great collector and generous donor.