



Books illustrated by Arthur Rackham, clockwise from top left: Washington Irving's *Legend of Sleepy Hollow*, 1928; J. M. Barrie's *Peter Pan in Kensington Gardens*, 1906; *Aesop's Fables*, 1912; and one of Arthur Rackham's homemade Christmas cards, 1911.

## Clarke Historical Library showcases prestigious Arthur Rackham exhibit

### Illustrator's work a jewel of the Clarke Library Children's Collection

London-born artist and illustrator Arthur Rackham is considered one of the greatest illustrators to ever put ink to pen, and now his playfully intricate and richly textured world is coming to the Clarke Historical Library.

Rackham (1867-1939) was well-known for his illustrations of such books as J. M. Barrie's *Peter Pan of Kensington Gardens* (1906), *Aesop's Fables* (1912), Washington Irving's *Legend of Sleepy Hollow* (1928), and *The Arthur Rackham Fairy Book* (1933).

The Clarke Historical Library's recent acquisition of this nationally recognized collection represents more than half of the works Rackham is known to have published, and it contains almost all of the works for which he was the sole illustrator. The collection was purchased from Wright State University with funds from the Friends of the Library.

"To this day, Rackham is a dearly beloved illustrator. *Peter Pan* was popular when it was first published, but the edition illustrated by Arthur Rackham became a phenomenon," said Frank Boles, director of Clarke Historical Library. "Rackham's *Pan* was the equivalent of today's Xbox 360 in that both serve as platforms that take illustration to new heights; although of the two, I have to admit, I prefer Rackham."

**"Rackham's true genius was that, in his art, he epitomized what many people already saw in nature and exaggerated it to the point where it became mythic."**

– Anne Alton, professor of English

# Dean's Column

## REFERENCE POINT

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Address questions and suggestions to:  
Office of the Dean  
Park Library 407D  
Central Michigan University  
Mount Pleasant, MI 48859

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Tom Moore

## Park Library: An unrivaled campus center

On the cover of this issue of *Reference Point*, there's an article on our Clarke Historical Library's exhibit, which focuses on the delightful works of the English illustrator, Arthur Rackham. The Rackham exhibit, which runs through July 28, promises to attract an appreciative audience, and it's the latest in a series of wonderful exhibits in the Clarke Library that have highlighted aspects of this marvelous treasury ranging from Native American portraits to Ernest Hemingway's Michigan connections and, more recently, the history of the Michigan oil and gas industry.

The Clarke Library exhibits are a key aspect of a broader academic-cultural program of the Libraries, involving regular art exhibits, film series, speakers, and much more. These offerings and activities valuably complement the more essential physical and virtual library collections and services that are the centerpiece of all that we do at the Charles V. Park Library.

Currently, for example, in the Baber Room there's *Journey*, an exhibit of large, colorful, spiral-form paintings by Kathy Jones of CMU's Department of Art. In the Extended Hours Study, there's a fascinating set of ceramics and prints by Lauren Longton, a junior art major. And in our third floor exhibit gallery there's a moving display of photos and text providing accounts and reflections relating to the two atomic bombings of Japan at the end of World War II. These exhibits, together with our growing permanent collection of artworks, establish a rich and vivid visual environment in Park Library.

In our Library Auditorium just about every day there are speakers, panel discussions, films, and media presentations sponsored by the Libraries or, more often, by a host of CMU academic departments, schools and colleges, and campus offices and organizations. Poets, artists, storytellers, and visiting scholars often appear, and occasionally a Michigan governor or U.S. senator as well. Days and evenings in our meeting rooms and group study rooms, clusters of campus leaders

and students gather to discuss, report, debate, and learn. Baber Room receptions frequently provide a unique setting for the social side of academic events. In 2004-2005 our three largest rooms alone were used by 500 groups, which combined consisted of about 30,000 people.

The cumulative addition of all these enriching activities and programs to our primary, scholarly information services and study facilities makes Park Library a campus center unrivaled in breadth and diversity of academic and cultural engagement opportunities. I appreciate that this puts our library at CMU firmly in a grand tradition of libraries going back at least to ancient Alexandria.

Great libraries have been and continue to be centers for study and learning, development and preservation of knowledge, and exchange of ideas and cultures. I'm proud that since 2002 our new Park Library offers many of the academic and cultural attributes of "place" that have made libraries so valuable across centuries and societies.

I hope you enjoy this issue of *Reference Point*, which will tell you much more about what's going on at Park Library. Feel free to share your comments, or let us know if you'd like added information.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Moore". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Tom Moore  
Dean of Libraries

# Thomas handles everything from book triage to student safety

## Access Services staff keep track of library's physical needs

Diane Thomas oversees all physical aspects of Park Library, from tracking down stray books to securing the premises at night.

"I do a lot of troubleshooting that involves anything to do with the maintenance of stacks and books, periodicals and magazines, copiers, microforms, reserves, book checkout, study rooms, and security," Thomas said. "I also do book triage, which means I determine which books can be repaired in-house and which ones need to be sent out to the bindery for repair.

"Basically we make sure everything is where it should be."

Thomas has worked for Park Library for 29 years. She began working there as a student employee within Access Services.

"It's always a challenge to make sure the library is running smoothly, and sometimes I need to think a step ahead," she said. "We always have to have a contingency plan in place for the what-ifs or unforeseen circumstances."



## Student employees make everything possible

Thomas says that, without the 70-plus student employees and the section supervisors in Access Services, her job would be almost impossible.

"I wouldn't be here if Park Library wasn't as great as it is, but the main reason I've stayed is because of the student employees," Thomas said. "I like getting to know them and sharing their lives. They become a big part of my life, and I miss them when they leave.

"In turn, Access Services student employees tend to develop a strong relationship with Park Library and leave with many different life skills," she said. "Most student employees find the

work in Access Services satisfying, so they remain with us their entire college career."

Senior social science major Matt Matthews has worked for Thomas in Access Services for four years.

"It has been a great experience. Diane is a great supervisor who genuinely cares about her students," he said. "She is a great asset, helping us learn to balance work, class, and other extracurriculars. I've learned how to work with a diverse group of people, be it patrons, coworkers, or supervisors." •



Many of the student employees like the work they do in Access Services so much, they stay throughout their entire college careers. Pictured from the left, Ashley Carland, Connie Fitzpatrick, Jill Berry, access services coordinator Diane Thomas, Nate Jarvie, Stacie Carlson, Chan Phillips.



More than 70 student employees in Park Library's Access Services keep the library running smoothly, from opening the doors in the morning to making sure that everyone is out of the library at closing.

# Park Library to celebrate National Library Week, April 2–8

## Stump the Librarian

Here are three “Stump the Librarian” questions from last year:

- Can you specify a few links that provide information related to the technical explanation of the speech recognition process in artificial intelligence?
- How thick does neoprene sheeting need to be in order to repel hazardous biochemicals such as anthrax?
- What was Oscar Wilde’s favorite tree?

Answers to these questions (and others) can be found online at [www.lib.cmich.edu/libraryweek/answers.htm](http://www.lib.cmich.edu/libraryweek/answers.htm)

Park Library will celebrate National Library Week with a number of fun events designed to highlight its great services.

“The idea this year is to get people to come in and enjoy fun activities that will have them learning about the library as they use it,” said Associate Dean of Libraries Anne Marie Casey. “For some of the activities we will offer the incentive of a small prize, like a gift certificate, and contestants will be entered in a larger drawing for a gift that we have solicited from local merchants.”

First sponsored in 1958, National Library Week is a national observance sponsored by the American Library Association and libraries across the country

each April. It is a time to celebrate the contributions of the nation’s libraries and librarians and to promote library use and support.

This year some of Park Library’s activities will include:

- Stump the Librarian
- Guess the number of book jackets in the display case
- Answer the Riddle, in which contestants will use the library to solve clues
- A short survey about what users need from the library
- Computer training sessions

In conjunction with National Library Week, the second annual CMU Book Recognition event and reception will be held on April 6 from 3:30 to 5 p.m. in the Park Library’s Baber Room. Faculty, staff, and emeriti who authored, coauthored, edited, translated, or illustrated a book published in 2005 are eligible for recognition. •



## Famous “librarians”

A few of history’s famous librarians might surprise you.

**Giacomo Casanova, 1725-1798.** Italian adventurer, autobiographer, and famous lover. He worked as a librarian for Count von Waldstein in the Chateau of Dux in Bohemia in 1785.

**August Strindberg, 1849-1912.** Swedish playwright and artist. Before achieving fame with the novel *The Red Room* (Röda Rummet), he was an assistant librarian at the Royal Library in Stockholm.

**Pope Pius XI, 1857-1939.** He served 19 years as a member of the College of Doctors of the Ambrosian Library in Milan and then became its chief librarian. In 1911 he reorganized and updated the Vatican Library. Four years later he became the library’s prefect.

**Mao Tse-Tung, 1893-1976.** Chairman of the Chinese Communist Party. He worked as an assistant to the chief librarian of the University of Peking.



J. Edgar Hoover

**J. Edgar Hoover, 1895-1972.** Head of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. His first job was as a Library of Congress messenger and cataloger.

# “Mid-Michigan Reads” brings communities together

Ray Bradbury's *Fahrenheit 451*, the landmark novel about censorship and defiance first published in 1953, soon will draw several communities together in Mid-Michigan Reads – the area's first community reading program.

Initiated by Lise Mitchell, the director of Mount Pleasant's Chippewa River District Library system, Mid-Michigan Reads will include Central Michigan University, Mid Michigan Community College, and the public libraries of Harrison and Clare.

The program is scheduled for early March through April 8 and will feature lectures, discussions, and other events, including a showing of Francois Truffaut's 1966 film version of *Fahrenheit 451*.

“This kind of one-book reading program has been done all over the country, so we thought we'd get going on our own,” Mitchell said. “It's a nice way to engage adults and get people within and from different communities talking. We're excited and fortunate to have CMU's support and will draw on their resources, students, and faculty members, who will be able to speak to different aspects of the book.”

Pamela Grudzien, head of technical services at Park Library, sees this collaboration as the first of what will become an annual event.

“This program has a lot to do with oral traditions, keeping memories and stories alive through storytelling, which ties in with the Michigan Story Festival,” Grudzien said. “It's a very cool event, and we're excited to be part of it.”

## Committee chooses *Fahrenheit 451*

Mitchell, Grudzien, and others in the planning committee narrowed down their book selection from a list that included Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Zora Neale Hurston's *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, and F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*.



“Through conversation we decided *Fahrenheit 451* was a good book to start with because it lent itself to a variety of programs and discussions. Next year the community will be involved in selecting the book through a voting process,” Grudzien said.

Lise Mitchell, front row in blue shirt, and Pamela Grudzien, front row in red shirt, worked together to coordinate the area's first Community Read program. “Mid-Michigan Reads” will feature Ray Bradbury's *Fahrenheit 451*.

**“I've always been so completely devoted to libraries and books and authors that I couldn't stop to consider for a moment that I was being foolish. I only knew that writing was in itself the only way to live.”**

– *Fahrenheit 451* author Ray Bradbury  
(from raybradbury.com)

Mid-Michigan Reads will play well into CMU Dean of Libraries Tom Moore's mission to make Park Library a cultural center.

“This will draw people in and make the public aware that they are welcome here,” Grudzien said. “This isn't just a place for CMU students and faculty, but for everyone.”

The committee is in the process of soliciting funds from several sources including local Friends of the Library groups, Michigan Center for the Book, and the Michigan Humanities Council.

The committee already has secured program funding from the Friends of Veterans Memorial Library and the Mount Pleasant Area Community Foundation's Robert and Geraldine Kraphol Literacy Fund.

Additional sponsors are welcome. •

# Park Library a vibrant and relaxing community at night



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1. Sophomore Alison Comer goes through her Spanish flashcards in the quiet of Park Library's stacks.

"I love Park Library and its atmosphere. Usually everyone there is working hard, and it's a great place to relax and do my homework and study. Now that I live off campus I come about every night to take advantage of the great resources."

2. Taryn Sutton, left, and Jill Reinbold go to Park Library at night. When they study with other people, Sutton always reserves a study room by presenting her student ID at the Book Checkout Desk.

"It's nice to be able to talk to people and study with someone else or a group of people in a study room. You still get the quiet library aspect, but you don't have to worry about disturbing others."

3. Deborah Caraway and Nicholas Hewlett help each other look up classes for next semester.

4. Chad Burroughs searches the stacks for his research paper about the 1967 Detroit riot. He goes to the library at night twice as much as he does during the day.

"It's the best atmosphere for studying on campus."

5. Jennifer Calliea, far left, works on a media campaign for her advertising media campaign.

"The library is peaceful enough to work in at night – not desolate and eerie like some libraries. I like how there is a lot of room to work and I have my own space, yet I can still see other people."

6. Ming Xu, left, and Cecily Shi spend most of their time on the computer when they work at the library. Ming Xu said he likes coming here at night because it is quiet and relaxing.

7. At night many CMU students get together at Park Library to work on group projects. These students discuss a project for their communication in leadership course. •

# Finding information psyches up reference librarian

## Nighttime chat sessions enlighten online students

Off-campus Reference Librarian Dan Gall uses nighttime chat sessions to augment tutorials for online students and to add a personal touch to the learning experience. He answers questions that range from book mailing costs to identifying specific databases.

"This kind of personal touch on the chat rooms is irreplaceable; it's that extra step toward giving CMU students the best service we can give them," Gall said.

Gall finds the chats with his students quite lively, and the anonymity gives shier students the chance to express themselves. Currently, he is working with three online instructors in the M.S.A. program. Of these, two prefer scheduled chats while the third prefers discussion boards that students can access at their convenience.

"I try to answer questions in the order in which they are asked," Gall said. "There are often 15 to 25 participants per session, and every time one person types something and hits 'enter,' it pops up on everyone else's screen. The chat sessions and discussion boards are ways for them to share ideas and interact with each other, and they often have really good things to share."

Theoretically, these sessions can occur at any time in the day, but generally most off-campus students work during the day, so the evening is a better time for class meetings and online chats.

"For my part, I think they see me as a pleasant surprise — some librarian who takes the time to offer helpful information. I think they appreciate that we go out of our way to work with them, whether it's in person or online," Gall said. •

Dan Gall goes to great lengths to get the information his off-campus students are looking for by finding information in databases, among the stacks, and on the Web.

"With this job, I learn something new every day," Gall said. "I get psyched about being a reference librarian because it's cool. Today I helped a master in education student look into virtual field trips and discovered that you can go online and tour Bosnia from the safety of your own home."

Gall draws on his background in journalism and history to dig deep through the reference materials to which his distance-learning students have limited access. In one case he spent time more than three weeks providing materials science formulas to a student in Traverse City because she was unable to come to Park Library in person.

## Have Internet, Gall travels

Gall is one of six Off-Campus Library Services librarians who travels to CMU classes around the country, as well as Canada and Mexico, to teach research skills and offer library orientations to off-campus students. He spends an average three or four days each month traveling to different locations in Michigan. He also has traveled to CMU locations in Georgia, Virginia, Ohio, North Carolina, and Louisiana.



Gall goes a step further by "traveling" to online classes, where he follows online tutorials for library orientation with chat sessions or discussion boards so the students can ask questions and get a more personal experience.

"Tutorials are convenient, but no tutorial is going to anticipate all the students' questions," Gall said. "I'm proud of the good working relationships I've developed with teachers working online."

Gall enjoys the particular challenges of working with distance education students.

"I'm impressed with their dedication," Gall said. "On a campus there is an academic culture, and the emphasis is on taking classes, getting the degree, and studying. Away from campus, the emphasis is on jobs, families, and all the pressures of daily life without the support of fellow students."

For the most part, Gall's contact with students is by phone or e-mail. At a recent graduation reception given for distance-learning students, one woman gave Gall a big hug when she realized he had been the librarian who had helped her many times in her research.

"It's so exciting when I learn how much I've helped someone in getting a paper or presentation done. But it can be tricky. I never decide for them what is good, bad, or interesting. I doggedly get them the information, but it's their job as students to evaluate the information," Gall said. "There's a lot of cool information in the world, and I'm here to help the students find it. Along the way, I get the chance to learn a little bit about a lot of things." •





# Writing Center shines a light for students

**“I get psyched about being a reference librarian ... There’s a lot of cool information in the world, and I’m here to help the students find it.”**

– Dan Gall, off-campus reference librarian



Dan Gall chats online with distance-learning students from many locations throughout North America, including Michigan, Virginia, Georgia, and Mexico.

Since 1997, Central Michigan University’s Writing Center has helped students and faculty make writing the core of a solid college education. Its satellite location at Park Library has offered a source of help for students at night.

“The Writing Center is an open place where intellectual discussions and comfortable one-on-one learning come together,” said Mary Ann Crawford, CMU English associate professor and director of the Writing Center. “The center at the library is a convenient location. Students are already there at night, and if they need help they can drop in.”

Journalism senior Maria Carter has been a student consultant at the Writing Center for three years.

“I work with students, just helping them rather than evaluating or telling them what to do,” Carter said. “We’re investing in writers and giving them something that is very important.”

## Students learn while consulting

Crawford believes the evening hours at the library location are especially helpful for nontraditional students because it is within walking distance, and they can come in at the last minute. English graduate student Yang Min first came to the Writing Center for help. Now she is one of its almost 40 consultants.

“I came from China to study English literature and language. I got a lot of help from the Writing Center because I wanted the correct language and words. Consultants helped me with everything from grammar to getting me on the right track with a thesis,” Yang said.

Being a consultant is itself a learning experience.

“I have learned so much about all sorts of subjects just by reading and helping students in their areas of interest,” Carter said. “And even though I’m a consultant, I still use the Writing Center for my own papers.

We focus on what can be done – it’s about the power of positive language.” •

**“I came from China to study English literature and language. I got a lot of help from the Writing Center because I wanted the correct language and words ...”**

– Yang Min, English graduate student and current Writing Center consultant



# Graduate pledges lifelong commitment to Park Library

Assistant General Counsel for the University of Michigan, Stan Bies, '72, recognizes that his Central Michigan University education and the hours he put in studying at the library helped shape his career.

In turn, he and his wife, Sandra, make yearly donations and have earmarked a portion of their estate for Park Library.



"We are very committed to CMU and Park Library. It's the hub of the campus. It's a place that's not just about books – it's about the information and the facilities, and it's where students of all different backgrounds come to learn," Bies said.

Stan Bies

As an economics major, Bies spent long evenings at the library, and it paid off for him. After graduating from CMU, he worked for the Internal Revenue Service before earning his law degree from Catholic University in Washington, D.C., and a master's degree in taxation from Georgetown University. He worked as a lawyer in private practice and for corporations before taking his current position at the University of Michigan.

"I wanted to work in the nonprofit sector for a while as a way of giving back to higher education," he said.

Over the years Bies has watched Park Library expand and, as a member of the university's campaign committee for the library, gives his time and talent in developing ways to raise money.

"Park Library is well beyond being just a place to study – it's performing a much broader service for the university," Bies said. "It's the heart of the university. By pledging a gift specifically to the library, I feel I'm helping every CMU student." •

## Friends luncheon to feature Broder

Join us April 13 for the next Friends of the Library luncheon, featuring Pulitzer Prize-winner David S. Broder, columnist and national political correspondent for the *Washington Post*.

Broder is a regular commentator on CNN's *Inside Politics* and makes frequent appearances on NBC's *Meet the Press* and *Washington Week in Review*. He is author or coauthor of seven books.

Broder and his wife, Ann, also are donors to the Clarke Historical Library. They recently have given valuable historical documentation about Michigan's Beaver Island by Ann's mother, Helen Collar, to the library and have supported the transcription of it for use by researchers.

Broder received an honorary doctor of humane letters degree from CMU in August 2003. •

Continued from page 1

## Arthur Rackham exhibit

### Collection blends professor's literary passions

Central Michigan University professor of English Anne Alton spent several months developing the catalogue copy for the Rackham exhibition in the Clarke Historical Library.

"Arthur Rackham was one of the most significant artists and illustrators of his day. His books and artwork sold very well during his lifetime – and even better after his death," Alton said. "Rackham provided in each of his pictures an idiosyncratic vision of the world seen through the lenses of his own particular imagination.

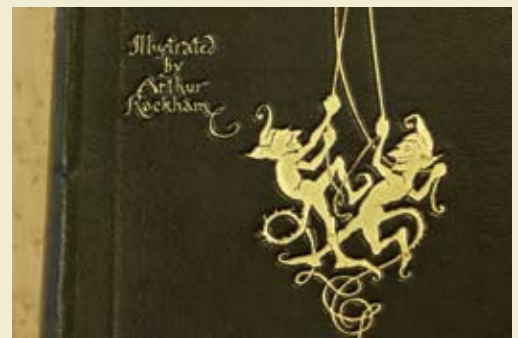
"Rackham's true genius was that, in his art, he epitomized what many people already saw in nature and exaggerated it to the point where it became mythic."

The collection, which includes a small selection of original art, has special significance for Alton in that it combines her two areas of expertise – Victorian and children's literature.

"This is an incredibly good, hands-on collection. It's wonderful to have the opportunity to work directly with the materials in the collection, which include a variety of deluxe signed editions and British and American first trade editions," Alton said. "This exhibition highlights Rackham's significant contributions to children's literature, fairy tales, music, and British, American, and European literature."

The Rackham exhibit opened to the public Friday, February 24, with a presentation about the collection in the library at 4 p.m. by Alton and Mary Lou White, Wright State University professor emeritus.

The Rackham exhibit will close July 28. •



# Library offers faculty members valuable resources for research

As the heart of Central Michigan University, Park Library serves as a crucial support for faculty research. Staff members work hard to provide the best tools and materials to help achieve research excellence. They are sharp, flexible, and tenacious.

“Park Library supports three important aspects of the university’s new *2010 Vision* campaign: teaching, learning, and research,” said Tom Moore, dean of libraries. “In support of CMU’s research activities, we are building collections and watching where the university and the faculty are going academically. We are willing and able to assist toward the university’s challenging goals.”

The following CMU faculty members are just a few who have benefited from the outstanding service Park Library offers.

## **Stephen Wagner** Associate Professor, Department of Psychology

“I do meta-analytic research. This involves combining the results of many studies that have been conducted on a particular topic. The library has helped me in numerous ways with this research. They have made tremendous advances in making journal articles and dissertations available in full-text form over the Internet. When a source is not available at our library, the process for making an interlibrary loan request has been made convenient on the library’s Web site. The statistical procedures for conducting meta-analyses have evolved over time, and the librarian for the social sciences, Rui Wang, has been very responsive to my acquisition requests for the latest textbooks on meta-analysis. She also designed a training session on conducting literature searches for a graduate seminar I did on meta-analysis. She worked with me to design the content of the training to ensure that it was advanced enough to be useful for graduate students.”

## **Jean Toner** Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work

“Library staff has been enormously supportive to me as a new assistant professor in my efforts to implement training and socialization of my 100-level students into library research processes. In keeping with *Vision 2010* priorities directing efforts toward increased opportunities and application of research experiences, integrating such training into course content at such an early stage has contributed to our university goal of fostering



excellence in undergraduate student research. I look forward to continuing such efforts and to expanding a collaborative relationship in support of my own research agenda.”

## **Dillip Mohanty** Professor of Chemistry

“For the past 19 years I have relied exclusively on librarian David Ginsburg and the staff of the Interlibrary Loan department. All of them have been friendly, efficient, and highly professional in helping me with my research. It would have been very difficult to accomplish what I, and hence CMU, have been able to do to date without their continuing support. My hat’s off to all of them.”

## **Anne Alton** Professor of English

“Robert Faleer and Aparna Zambare, two reference librarians, have been incredibly supportive, and the Interlibrary Loan people always track down anything I need.”

## **Rui Wang** Reference librarian, social sciences bibliographer

“I work with faculty members who give their students assignments that require them to conduct in-depth research. I go to the classroom and show the students how to set up research strategies.” •

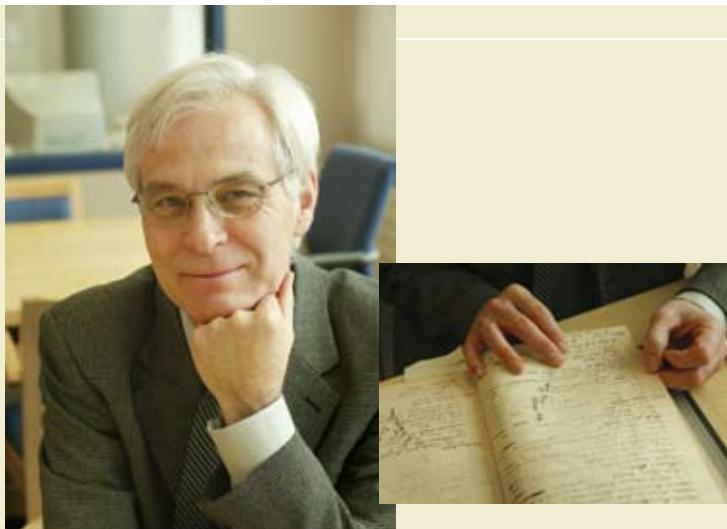
Rui Wang, a Park Library reference librarian, helps familiarize students in Jean Toner’s social work class with researching specific topics using various social work databases.

# Clarke Historical Library welcomes new reference librarian

In January the Clarke Historical Library welcomed its new reference librarian and bibliographer, John Fierst.

Fierst, who most recently served as the head of public services at the Capital Area District Library in Lansing, brings an extensive background in research, writing, editing, and project management to his position with the Clarke Historical Library.

He received his M.A. in history from the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, Canada, and his M.L.S. from Kent State University in Ohio.



John Fierst

"I had done research at Clarke Historical Library before, so I had a special interest in the collection before coming here. It's an ideal fit for me," Fierst said. "Park Library is absolutely wonderful, and getting the chance to see what's here has been quite amazing."

Before coming to Michigan, Fierst was editor and project director of the John Tanner Project, a grant-funded initiative to develop a new annotated edition of Tanner's *A Narrative of the Captivity and Adventures of John Tanner during Thirty Years Residence Among the Indians*. This narrative was first published in 1830 and is a primary source in the study of Anishinabe history and culture. It provides a different perspective on the early years of the Canadian fur trade because it was written from the Native American point of view.

Prior to this project, Fierst served for several years as research librarian at the James J. Hill Reference Library in St. Paul, Minnesota – one of the most comprehensive business libraries in the country.

Fierst has knowledge of Great Lakes history and library reference services, and he has written a number of successful grant proposals, including a National Endowment for the Humanities award for the John Tanner Project. His professional affiliations include the American Library Association, the American Historical Association, and the Association for Documentary Editing.

As reference librarian, Fierst's duties include management and oversight of the reading room and promotion of the Clarke Historical Library's collections through public outreach, exhibits, and other educational programs. He also is responsible for adding to and maintaining the Clarke Historical Library's book and periodical resources.

Fierst succeeds Jeff Hancks, who has assumed the directorship of the Western Illinois University Archives and Special Collections. •



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