Clarke Historical Library’s current exhibit, “The Presidency,” captures more than 200 years of dramatic presidential election campaigns. While it offers a wide collection of legal documents, political cartoons, books and authentic presidential signatures, library student employee Amber Wright is hoping visitors pause and reflect on the importance of what they’re observing.

“I want people to visualize standing in a room where documents that physically went through the hands of every U.S. President are hanging on the wall,” says Wright, who is studying music and art history. “That’s great, that’s amazing, and you are instantly connected to that history dating back hundreds of years.”

More than 100 artifacts will be displayed through January 2013. The display room will be constantly updated with new items as they relate to the 2012 presidential election. Janet Danek, CMU University Libraries coordinator of exhibits, is excited about the upcoming additions.

“The exhibit is historic at the moment, but during the election it will be more of a history-in-the-making showcase,” Danek says. “Things will be changing during the course of the election campaigns, so there will be much more to see.”

Some of the featured pieces include political cartoons. Since the turn of the 20th century, political cartoons have been used to humiliate candidates or to persuade readers toward a particular point of view.

“The exhibit shows the continuity within American politics,” says Frank Boles, Clarke Historical Library director. “The idea that the president is incompetent is not a new idea. It’s more of a standard for political cartoonists, and viewers who tour the exhibit can see how it appears during election season.”

Danek says the exhibit will introduce visitors to the immense wonders of history and provide excellent examples of the many unique things that Clarke Historical Library has to offer.”
Updating resources to enhance users’ experiences

Growth and progress in libraries happen like growth and progress in other service organizations: through constant commitment to improve the service experiences and success of clientele. In the CMU Libraries this means working hard today so that students, faculty, staff, and visitors have even better library services tomorrow.

It’s a ceaseless process. Across the range of library collections and services that we provide – in Park Library and electronically through our websites – our librarians and staff are engaged in dozens of efforts to increase the positive impact of what we do on teaching, learning, and research at Central Michigan University.

One big effort underway now is the redevelopment of our University Library, Clarke Historical Library, and Global Campus websites. In addition to converting these sites to operate under a new university-wide web software platform, we’re also enriching them to provide greater ease of use and research power. Through use of a highly sophisticated "discovery layer," a single search on a topic from the website homepage will identify the books, journal articles, videos, and other items now requiring knowledge of multiple databases and multiple separate searches.

An especially gratifying aspect of this initiative for us in the Libraries is that the "discovery layer" will reveal more of the excellent resources, sometimes hard to uncover by inexperienced researchers, present in our vast print and digital collections. This will help students especially get greater academic benefit from CMU’s large cumulative investment in library collections.

Just about everywhere one looks in the CMU Libraries there are projects underway to review, streamline, add to, or reorganize in quest of greater results and efficiency in meeting the library needs of the CMU community. Many of them are driven by the ineluctable dynamism of technology, but all of them are directed toward achieving excellent library service for each individual library patron.

An especially significant example of adding to library services is our intensifying preparations to support CMU’s new College of Medicine, for which the initial class of students will arrive next summer. As you’ll see in this Reference Point issue, we’ve recruited our first medical librarian, Bradley Long, and he and others, including medical faculty, are determining collection needs and planning purchases of a large array of digital resources. The Libraries will, of course, provide services to medical students and faculty on the Mount Pleasant campus, as well as provide them digitally to students and faculty at clinical sites elsewhere.

I hope you find in this current issue of Reference Point plenty of examples of growth and progress in the CMU Libraries. Please don’t hesitate to contact me or other members of the library staff if you have questions or comments.

Tom Moore
Dean of Libraries
University of California, Berkeley, Professor Emeritus Robert Knapp felt at home when he pulled a chair up to the Clarke Historical Library table and began poring through past Clare County homestead maps. This is a common activity for Knapp each time he returns to Michigan, visits his alma mater and utilizes its resources to research his family’s or the region’s history, depending on what his project is at the time.

“You can’t take history away from a historian,” says Knapp, a 1968 CMU graduate who was valedictorian of the mid-year graduating class. “I wanted to do research on the logging history of the Clare area, but when I started poking around I became more and more interested in the town itself. I’m currently working on a book about the 1938 murder of Isaiah Leebove, who was linked to the Purple Gang and killed in the bar at the Doherty Hotel.”

Knapp had returned to campus earlier this year to speak at the Friends of the Libraries Annual Luncheon and came back in early November to receive CMU’s Distinguished Alumni Award.

He says he never would have dreamed that the university where he grew up and earned his degree would recognize him in such a way. In addition to graduating from CMU, Knapp also attended the lab schools here because his dad, Austin, was a political science professor, and his mom, Gail, was a history department secretary.

“It was such a surprise and is such an honor,” Knapp says. “I know my father and grandmother, both CMU grads, would be proud. And I have never lost my affection for Central, Mount Pleasant and Clare.”

At the Friends of the Libraries luncheon, Knapp spoke on “Ordinary People of Ancient Rome: The Empire’s 99%.” His presentation was based on his most recent book, “Invisible Romans.”

Knapp says that he taught a course on Roman civilization at the University of California, Berkeley, and over time he became dissatisfied with the textbooks’ focus on the elite such as Julius Caesar and Augustus. They were the one percent, but there was little about the other 99 percent, according to Knapp.

“This 99 percent were the ordinary people, and ordinary people drive any culture,” he says.

In developing the book, Knapp says he discovered there are several sources that provided glimpses into the lives of invisible Romans, including New Testament Gospels and Epistles, books of ancient dream interpretations, astrological texts, and epigraphy on the gravestones.

“I was able to knit the strands together enough to tell their stories,” Knapp says. “I didn’t want it to be a dry, scholarly book, I wanted one that was carefully grounded in the facts, but entertaining as well as informative.”

“Invisible Romans” was published by Harvard University Press and has been featured in publications including The New Yorker magazine and the Washington Post.
Bradley Long doesn’t have a medical degree, but he still is a pivotal player in the team developing CMU’s College of Medicine curriculum.

Long is the first medical librarian hired to serve students and faculty in the College of Medicine, which will have its first class of 60 students begin in August 2013. His involvement supports curriculum decisions as well as developing the library’s medical school collection.

“I’m an active participant and am at the meetings not only to listen to the faculty’s needs but to help them to understand my needs as a librarian so we can work together on behalf of the quality education of the students,” says Long, who began working in June. “And as much as the medical librarians are here for the students, we’re also here to help the faculty.”

This type of active engagement will continue when the second medical librarian is hired later this academic year and classes start next summer.

“We’re going to be embedded with the students during group learning sessions,” Long says. “This will help to show them the library is more than the books and journals and that the most important thing is that the librarians are there to meet their information needs.

“I’ve become a jack of all trades in the health sciences,” he says. “You don’t have to know everything about everything, you just need to know where to find it.”

Long has concentrated his career on serving as a medical librarian after earning his undergraduate degree in health sciences at Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania and his Master of Science in Library Science degree at Clarion University of Pennsylvania.

Medicinal purpose

Librarian advances College of Medicine learning, resources

Bradley Long

College of Medicine doctors already are working on advanced research projects.

The medical library in the College of Medicine Building is referred to as the Learning Commons.
A new tool for CMU students studying science and medicine is the Journal of Visualized Experiments. This peer-reviewed online journal posts research content and recorded experiments. As a valued resource noted for presenting visually captivating experiments, the Journal of Visualized Experiments facilitates understanding a variety of experimental techniques.

“This journal is a great resource that shows people how to do different kinds of experiments,” says Matthew Ismail the library’s director of collection development. “Students can benefit from watching the videos over and over, rather than just watching it once in a classroom setting.”

Ismail hopes that students will utilize this resource and benefit from the experiments and in-depth descriptions provided. The videos in the Journal of Visualized Experiments vary according to complexity and are designed to be viewed in a 10-minute timeframe. Steps and content of every experiment are listed to the right of each video, giving students a step-by-step breakdown of procedures as experiments unfold.

Students can access more than 1,000 experiments from the Journal of Visualized Experiments any time by using the libraries’ catalog. Videos can be stopped, restarted and shared, allowing students to view the information at their convenience.

“The Journal of Visualized Experiments is an important tool in the library due to the significance and growth of the health professions, neuroscience and medical programs at CMU,” says Ismail. “When supporting these programs, an online journal such as this one is a very useful resource.”

CMU subscribed to the Journal of Visualized Experiments in the spring of 2012. Since then it has received positive feedback from many faculty members.
Donor support helps to keep Libraries current

While academic libraries always need plenty of books and journals – in physical and digital forms – libraries today also need plenty of technology. Many contemporary library services are provided through or supported by technology and have costs about which many people are unaware.

I’d like to share with you a few examples of the technology-related services of the CMU Libraries, and their costs, and thereby suggest some opportunities for donors to help keep library technology and services current.

Park Library offers 360 computers for student use. These heavily used machines, which have features and software most students’ own computers don’t have, are replaced every four or five years at a cost of almost $500,000. Though this is financially challenging, it is essential to the Libraries’ ability to provide excellence in service. We try to set aside dollars, including donor funds, annually.

Our five heavily used, mediated group study rooms, booked free of charge and on a first-come, first-served basis, have large display screens to allow several students to view one student’s laptop to aid learning and collaboration. The cost to mediate one group study room is about $5,000. Mediating more of our 21 rooms would benefit more students.

The 144-seat Park Library Auditorium, an impressive setting in high demand by departments and groups from across campus, received a complete upgrade in 2011 to repair and enhance its audio-visual capabilities. At a cost of $100,000, the upgrade has vastly improved the quality of experience for both presenters – including prominent visiting speakers – and attendees alike. We know that in several years another round of auditorium upgrades, large or small, will be necessary, and assistance from donors in developing a fund in advance to support it would be an excellent way to ensure future quality for all who enter the auditorium.

The “Dean’s Column” in this issue of Reference Point notes the exciting implementation of a “discovery layer” that will significantly enhance access to the Libraries’ research collections. However, the column doesn’t mention that even after a large implementation expense this marvelous new tool comes with an annual cost to the Libraries of about $60,000.

There’s a long list of other technology-related needs in the Libraries that grows steadily even while our university budgets don’t: converting our large teaching collection of films from VHS to DVD, since VHS players are becoming nonexistent; purchasing software upgrades for our book checkout system; and, of course, building digital collections of books and journals to keep up with the curriculum and student demand for 24/7 access.

As you can see, each need is an opportunity for designated charitable support with gifts large or small. For those who give, I can assure in return the personal satisfaction of knowing your contribution will benefit students and faculty across all academic areas.

If you’d like additional information, please contact me. I look forward to helping you determine how your financial support can best meet the needs of students and faculty and also satisfy your philanthropic wishes.
Number of Library Facts

61
Individual and group study rooms available for students, faculty and staff

5,000
Cubic feet of manuscripts and finding aids at Clarke Historical Library

98.7
Hours the library is open in an average week during the academic year

2
Time in the morning Extended Hours Study hours end

197
Course indicator for library introduction and information research course

1,300,000
Park Library’s print volume storage capacity

3
Ways to search for journal articles using the Global Campus Library Services (database by subject, database by name, find a specific known article)

More than
27,000
Journal titles available digitally and in print

2,655
Park Library patron seating capacity
With the cadence and conviction of an established storyteller, Bob Kohrman turned an 1873 piece on the Michigan grayling – a long-since extinct fish – into poetic prose.

"Its back is of dark-grey color, and its sides are covered with fine whitish silver scales running in well-defined lateral lines, and dotted with shining diminutive black spots a half-inch or so apart, especially about the shoulders," Kohrman read from his original copy of Charles Hallock's quintessential angling book, "The Fishing Tourist."

There are nearly four pages about the grayling in this book that hooked Kohrman, a CMU College of Science and Technology dean emeritus, into the fish's short-lived story. The grayling, for which the northern Michigan city is a namesake, was discovered in 1865 and died off in the Upper Peninsula by the mid-1930s.

"I became interested in the grayling in the early 1980s, wondering where did it exist? How did it become extinct?" Kohrman says.

"Reading about the grayling in 'The Fishing Tourist' was enough to whet my appetite to learn more about it."

Kohrman's quest led him to build a timeless personal angling collection of extremely rare periodicals, books and other printed publications that he plans on donating to Clarke Historical Library.

"Both interests involve solving a puzzle, and bit by bit you put the pieces together until you have the answers," he says.

**Among nation's best collections**

Through his steadfast pursuit of understanding the Michigan grayling, Kohrman concluded it became extinct for several reasons, including that it was overfishes following the state's tourism focus on the sport. Moreover, in the late 19th century it had to compete with planted non-native trout species and the state's commercial logging business that disrupted the grayling's ecosystem. Kohrman's papers on a portion of his research are included in the current and forthcoming issues of The American Fly Fisher, the refereed journal of the American Museum of Fly Fishing.

Kohrman's personal angling collection will complement the already extensive materials at the Clarke, which include The Reed Draper Angling Collection.
Summers in Michigan, clear lakes, warm evenings and picturesque sunsets.

Ernest Hemingway enjoyed the beautiful landscapes, great fishing and the freedom from care for many summers in Michigan. Members of the International Hemingway Society joined in the renowned author’s love for the state by spending time this summer in northern Michigan for the 15th Biennial Conference in Petoskey.

“The conference was a wonderful opportunity to showcase resources regarding Ernest Hemingway’s life in Michigan,” says Frank Boles, Clarke Historical Library director.

CMU Libraries were among sponsors of the conference, which featured the exhibit “Hemingway in Michigan” in downtown Petoskey and closed with a banquet at the Bay Harbor Yacht Club. This conference provided attendees opportunities to view selections from CMU Libraries’ extensive collection of Hemingway materials, including letters, photographs and several unpublished stories.

“The conference really helped the Hemingway Society understand Central’s resources,” Boles says.

The conference also helped the library advance its relationship with the Michigan Hemingway Society.

“This provided us another opportunity to work cooperatively to promote Hemingway’s life in Michigan,” Boles says.

In addition to a rich collection that includes materials depicting Hemingway’s boyhood adventures in northern Michigan, the Clarke Historical Library also holds one of the state’s premier collections of Michigan local history material. This collection documents much about northern Michigan between 1900 and 1920, the years Ernest Hemingway frequented its streams and forests.

The Draper collection features books on the “gentlemanly art” of fishing. It was a gift from the late Reed Draper (1928-2004), former president of the National Automobile Dealers Association and owner of the Draper auto dealerships in Saginaw.

In 2007, Kohrman authored an annotated description of the Reed Draper Collection that was published by the Clarke Library.

“The Clarke Library’s collection of angling books and ephemera is among the best in the Midwest, rivaling similar holdings at major research universities,” he says. “The acquisition of my personal library will significantly augment this outstanding resource.”

While a portion of the historic documentation is preserved in electronic formats, Kohrman says there are no substitutes for the original materials. Sometimes the scanning doesn’t accurately capture all the words or the collections are incomplete.

“We learn from our history,” Kohrman says. “Having this information teaches us lessons from the past that are important to our future.”
Core
Library fundamental

The library helped to shape Central Michigan University's students and campus since the institution was established on Sept. 13, 1892.

As CMU this year celebrated 120 years since opening its doors as Central Michigan Normal School, the library has remained a constant resource throughout the past 12 decades.

“The library traditionally has been held as the intellectual core,” says Frank Boles, Clarke Historical Library director. “Without it, research would be extremely difficult, if not impossible.”

The library’s original location was in the basement of “Old Main,” the first building constructed for the normal school. According to the Clarke Historical Library website, Old Main’s cornerstone was laid on Nov. 15, 1892, but a fire of unknown

CMU Libraries’
exhibits and events calendar
lib.cmich.edu/exhibits

‘The Presidency’
Historical look at the United States presidency, including legal documents, political cartoons, books and authentic presidential signatures

• Through January 2013
• 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday at Clarke Historical Library
• clarke.cmich.edu

Native American Expressions
Featuring Native American-inspired arts and crafts

• Through December 2012
• Baber Room, Park Library

Primary Visions: Foundation Art
Students’ Exhibition
Representing student work produced in CMU’s Department of Art and Design Foundations Program

• Jan. 2-31, 2013
• Third Floor Exhibit Area and Extended Hours Study and Student Gallery, Park Library

Drilling for Brine: The Dow Chemical Company Mount Pleasant Plant, 1903 – 1930
A glimpse into the company’s brief Mount Pleasant operation

• Feb. 4 through June 2013
• 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday at Clarke Historical Library
• clarke.cmich.edu

National Undergraduate Student Print Exchange and Exhibition
Fifth annual exhibit featuring prints created by nationwide students

• March 1-29, 2013
• Extended Hours Study and Student Gallery, Park Library

Rural Impressions
Highlighting works by contemporary painter Alan Maciag

• March 25 through May 6, 2013
• Baber Room, Park Library

Ten decades on Facebook
In addition to CMU President George E. Ross’ State of the University Address on Sept. 13, 2012, and a special reception that followed, the university celebrated its anniversary in a way it never has before.

Using Facebook Timeline, CMU gave its fans an online opportunity to experience the university’s 120-year anniversary, debuting a decade of history every Monday until catching up to the present on Sept. 10.

The project was designed to bring together generations of CMU Chippewas for a celebration of the university’s role in individual lives and the state as a whole.

“Social media has expanded how we communicate,” says Sherry Knight, interim associate vice president of university communications. “Using Facebook and Twitter, we’re connecting alumni, friends and supporters from throughout the decades and across the world to celebrate CMU’s legacy.”

Visit CMU’s Facebook Timeline at www.facebook.com/cmich.
origin destroyed the building on Dec. 7, 1925, along with its 30,000-volume library. “I shall never forget the all-gone feeling I had inside me standing two or three hundred feet from the fiercely blazing structure,” Anna Barnard, then head of the foreign language department, wrote of the fire. “I all at once realized that I was looking straight through and seeing the woods beyond.”

The only books to survive were those checked out by faculty and students. But the library, as with the school itself, aggressively moved forward and evolved to fit the needs of the students.

Instrumental to student learning from 1892 to 2012, the library has continued to expand and evolve, moving from Warriner Hall to Ronan Hall and in 1969 to its current location in the Charles V. Park Library.

It is named in honor of a Central librarian who served students from 1931 to 1956. The current library is actually the second Park Library on its site since a building constructed during the late 1960s was gutted, expanded and reconstructed 60 percent larger. It contains more than one million books and 33 miles of compact shelving to meet the needs of more than 20,000 students.

“The library commits to digital resources, providing materials online 24/7,” Boles says. “Everyone benefits from the change of a ‘book warehouse’ to an actively engaging resource, providing a range of services onsite and online.”

And the library continues supporting and shaping CMU’s student learning today and will do so decades into the future.
The Charles V. Park Library, in its various facilities over time, has promoted learning and provided services to ensure success of CMU students for a half century. The CMU proctoring center is no exception.

The library proctoring center complements a similar facility available at CMU’s Global Campus headquarters on the north side of Mount Pleasant. It is used to administer tests for students in online classes.

“The new proctoring center is right in the heart of campus, making it an extremely convenient location for students who are enrolled in online classes,” says Marnie Roestel, manager of student services for CMU Online. “It is a natural fit with the additional services that are offered in the library.”

The newly expanded center opened in June 2012 and has a larger testing space and flexible exam times for students. The original library proctoring center was launched two years ago, but it quickly became too small as more students are enrolling in online classes and the demand for proctored exams has increased.

Compared to fall 2011, undergraduate enrollment in online classes for fall 2012 has increased by 13 percent. Last year, CMU Online proctored 4,077 exams, more than half of which took place at the library. With growing requirements of proctored exams, the center is an important service in Park Library. The expansion of the center benefits students as well as CMU Online and Global Campus staff.

“Using the online proctoring center comes with many advantages for students,” Roestel says. “Students can log right into Blackboard and take their exam in a quiet area free from distractions.”

The new center is open Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. During the week of midterms, the center is also open Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

“The expanded online proctoring center located in Park Library is responding to the increase in students enrolled in online classes.