From the Director...

Welcome new students, returning students, and faculty. This past summer has been one of much activity, and changes abound in the library. Initially, you may have noticed that the library has a new home page. After a year of interviewing students and faculty, the home page was redesigned to be more easily navigated and to offer more direct access to content, including the library catalog and the Trinity Online Resources. We have also added new content and research tips to assist our users.

If you visited the library this past summer you would have noticed the scaffolding under the skylight in the 1977 building atrium. The project to repair the skylight in the atrium area started on July 15 and is expected to last until early October. The scaffolding was removed in mid-September when the overhead portion of the project was completed. We are pleased to have this project nearly finished as the leaks from the skylight over the past few years have become increasingly worse. I would like to thank the facilities staff for making this repair a priority this year.

Many of you who have used the Watkinson Library over the years will remember the “tired” look of the main reading room. If you have not visited the newly renovated Watkinson reading room and exhibition space, you are in for a treat. With this...

...continued on page 2

Watkinson Library Renovation

By Dr. Jeffrey Kaimowitz, Head Librarian – Watkinson Library

The public spaces and conservation and workroom areas of the Watkinson Library on the A-Floor of the Raether LITC have been completely renovated through the generosity of a number of donors. Cornerstone gifts were presented by the late John M. K. Davis H’72 for the Davis Reading Room and The Booth Ferris Foundation for general purposes. Leadership gifts were made by the late Dorothy Clark Archibald and The Thomas L. and Dorothy Clark Archibald Fund for the Archibald Conservation Room, Andrew R. Taussig ’73 for the Taussig Reception Area, and William Bronson P’88, James F. English, Jr. H’89 GP’09, Nancy D. Grover P’87, James B. Lyon, the late John C. Parsons H’64, Richard Scheuch, and Henry M. Zachs ’56 for general purposes. Other donors include Alice M. DeLana, Henry A. DePhillips, Jr., Barbara Donahue, Hugh Macgill, and Robert H. Smith, Jr.

Charney Architects, led by architect Richard Charney and interior designer Kim Thibault, have given the Watkinson Library a whole new look. Overhead ductwork and pipes are now masked by a gently curving ceiling, new lighting illuminates the space, and all new furniture complements the updated appearance. Other improvements include a total redesign to the entry way with a glass enclosed “teaser” case outside the Watkinson and strikingly handsome glass doors. The Taussig Gimbel reception area, facing the entrance to the library, contains an imposing stone-topped reference desk with computer and sign-in stations. To the right of the desk is the now more conveniently located Trumbull Exhibition Space, named for the Watkinson’s first Librarian, James Hammond Trumbull. The John M. K. Davis Reading Room, just to the left of the reception area with its four reading tables wired for power and data and shelving for periodicals, reference books, and the Norton Downs Walter Scott Collection, offers an inviting and attractive ambience for library users. The Ostrom and Alice Enders Audubon Room, besides housing a portion of the ornithology collection, affords enhanced facilities for classes visiting the Watkinson with flexible seating, readily available power and data, and a built-in screen. The Archibald Conservation Room provides improved, more spacious storage and work spaces than previously available.

We invite you to visit the Watkinson Library and check out our new, impressive space.
Library’s New Web Site
By Patricia Bunker, Reference Librarian/Reference Coordinator

According to the ancient Greek philosopher Heraclitus, nothing is permanent except change, an observation that seems to be especially true in the 21st century — and the library world is no exception. With the launch of its new Web site in July, the Trinity College Library inaugurated its latest change: a new online public face. A committed group of librarians spent a year consulting and developing ideas for an improved Web site, and we are all very pleased with the result. In addition to an updated look, the home page now provides immediate access to the catalog and to many other functions. TOR (Trinity Online Resources), as well as to many other functions. TOR itself has been completely redesigned and new content added, and the reference and instruction librarians are looking forward to using the enhanced functionality in their teaching this fall. The new design has also made navigation more straightforward and intuitive. For those of you who want to keep informed of the latest events and happenings in the library, our library news blog will keep you up to date.

The library staff is very happy with the new Web site, and we all agree that it represents a positive change. We invite you to pay it a visit and hope you find it to be as user-friendly as we do.

From the Director...
continued from page 1...

renovation completed in early June 2007, the public spaces of the Watkinson Library are now truly reflective of its world class collection of treasures.

Another new feature in the library is the installation of a turnstile for easier access to the Library and Information Technology Center. All Trinity students, staff, and faculty can use their ID’s to pass through the turnstile and enter the building. Visitors with the appropriate identification will be asked to sign in and be admitted at the Circulation desk. This was a recommendation made by the Student Government Association last fall, and I am pleased that we were able to implement it over the summer.

You will also notice that most of the computers in the library and in the student computer labs now require password authentication to gain access to the internet and Trinity’s Online Resources (TOR). This change comes as part of the overall security measures taken by the College to improve safety on campus. To accommodate visitors to the library we have set aside several computers on Level A with guest access privileges.

As many of you know, the library like most other areas of campus has received a budget cut for FY2008. This means that we will have to cancel more journals and reduce our book budget to cover the annual price increases of 6 percent to 8 percent for ongoing subscription expenses. An additional factor that will make this year particularly difficult is the unfavorable exchange rate for pounds and Euros which will raise the price for our European purchases even more dramatically.

At this time when resource sharing is becoming even more important, Trinity College Library is fortunate to have received, in conjunction with the Wesleyan University and Connecticut College libraries (CTW), a $350,000 grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The purpose of the three-year grant is to conduct an analysis of the three library collections and to develop plans for collaborative collection management. This promises to be an exciting and worthwhile endeavor that will help us to share our collections even more effectively.

I would like to close by wishing all of you a happy and productive academic year and thank you for your support of the library during the past and in the year ahead.

Dr. Richard S. Ross
College Librarian
Teaching with Library Resources
ARTstor Image Database
By Nancy Smith, Visual Resources Librarian

Who at Trinity can be credited for almost single-handedly raising Trinity’s ARTstor usage stats for the spring 2007 semester? Who has created an ARTstor personal collection of 870 images organized by topic? Who was lauded as “the most proficient ARTstor user on campus” in congratulatory remarks upon her retirement?

Dr. Patricia Byrne, associate professor of religion, now emerita, can be credited with all of the above and says that she’s happy to serve as the Trinity “poster person” for teaching with ARTstor. Pat recently taught her image-intensive seminar, “Early Christian Art and Text,” using ARTstor instead of the PowerPoint she taught with four years before. She found that ARTstor enabled greater student access and interaction with the course materials, and reports that her students liked using it. When asked about the investment of time and effort to learn ARTstor, Pat quickly insists that the advantages to the students far outweigh any disadvantages - “Advantages to the students were huge. Students were able to access all of my own images, to enlarge and zoom, and to review images 24/7.”

Within ARTstor, Pat created a course folder to which she and her students could add images. She also created an ARTstor “personal collection” to hold her own non-ARTstor images, enabling her to integrate those personal images with ARTstor images. Standing at the lectern in her McCook classroom each week, Pat opened ARTstor, then displayed the images she had pre-selected and placed in the course folder. Students followed along on their own laptops, connected wirelessly to the same images — able to pan and zoom as Pat described the significance of a particular manuscript detail. Images remained available in the course folder for student review and for use in student course assignments. Students used ARTstor to create class presentations during the semester and to present their term paper research at the end of the course. In addition, three of the students were religion majors and found ARTstor useful in working on their theses.

Although experimenting briefly with the ARTstor offline presentation tool, Pat ended up teaching all semester while connected to ARTstor via the campus network. Perhaps a braver soul than many of us, Pat reports never experiencing connectivity problems, nor problems with load speed when the entire class simultaneously accessed the same images.

Congratulations, Pat, on your technology accomplishments, and thank you for sharing your ARTstor experience.

More Online Newspapers
—Past and Current
By Doris Kammradt, Head Librarian—Collection and Bibliographic Services

Trinity College Library has recently expanded its collection of online newspapers. Building on a prior collection of Early American Newspapers, Series I (1690-1876), we have added Series II and III that cover over 350 newspapers published across the United States up to 1922. This will be a rich primary source for students and faculty researching social, political, economic, cultural and scientific developments in 19th-century and early 20th-century America.

In support of Trinity’s international and language programs, the library has started to subscribe to NewspaperDirect PressDisplay which provides over 400 newspapers in full-page, fully illustrated display from more than 60 countries in 35 languages. Updated daily, newspapers stay in the database for 60 days. Many articles have a sound component and can be listened to in the original language. We anticipate that this new resource will be widely used for following domestic and international news.

And the Winner Is . . .
By Jessica Smith, Outreach Librarian

Each spring, the Trinity College Library awards a prize for the top student book collector(s). This award, the Jerome P. Webster 1910 Student Book Collectors Contest, is given to the student(s) who best exemplifies the heart of a true book collector. In application, students must submit an essay on their collecting philosophy, a complete bibliography comprised of at least 35 titles, and present a number of their books as a sample of the collection.

In spring 2007, the selection committee awarded just one recipient with the Webster Book Prize. For the evident insight and passion of someone whose love of a specific kind of book, manga, has clearly led to the creation of a book collection in celebration of it, the Jerome P. Webster, Class of 1910, Student Book Collector’s Prize was awarded to Genevieve Gadenne ’09. Manga, literally translated, means “whimsical pictures.” It is the Japanese word for comics and print cartoons.

This prize is made possible by the Library Associates. We congratulate Genevieve and thank her and all of this year’s applicants for their interest and participation in this annual contest.
The Trinity College Watkinson Library Associates invite you to a lecture, 

"Books into Building: The Role of Illustration in 19th-Century Architectural Design,"

by Kathleen Curran, Associate Professor of Fine Arts, Trinity College.

Tuesday October 30
4:30 p.m.
Joslin Family 1823 Room
Raether Library and Information Technology Center

This lecture coincides with the current exhibition in the Watkinson Library: From Aquatint to Photogravure: Architectural Illustration in the 19th Century, which features some of the most influential books on architecture from the period. The exhibit covers a wide variety of printmaking methods, including engraving, etching, lithography, and photographic processes, and includes works by John Ruskin, Charles Garnier, contemporary photographers, artists, and architects.

This exhibition was curated by Sally Dickinson, special collections librarian, and will be on display until January 15, 2008.

For more information, please visit the Watkinson Library’s Web site at: http://library.trincoll.edu/research/watk/ or call (860) 297-2268.