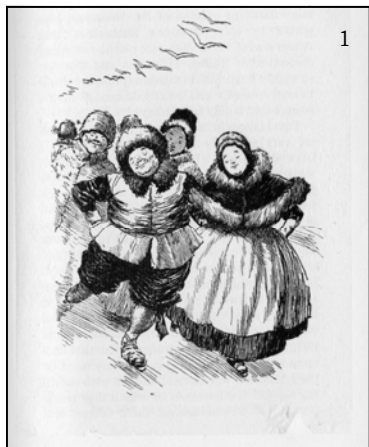


FBI returns stolen books

by Associate Professor Karen Kearns
Head of Special Collections



A selection of books stolen from the ISU Library was recently returned to the library by the FBI. The thief, James Lyman Brubaker of Great Falls, Mont., pleaded guilty to the theft and was sentenced to 30 months in prison, 3 years of supervised release, and more than \$23,000 in restitution.

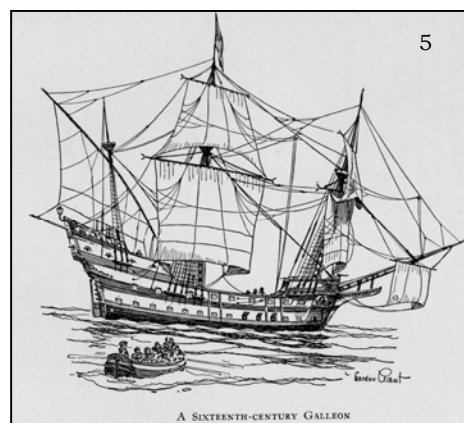
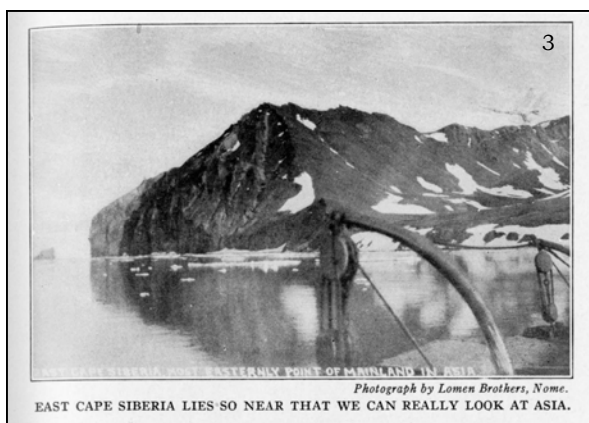
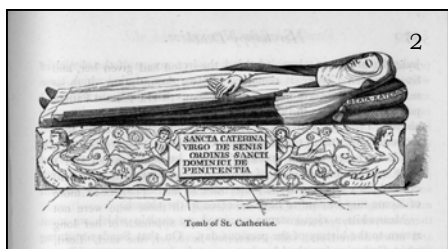
Brubaker's thefts went far beyond the Eli M. Oboler Library. At the time of his arrest in December 2007, Brubaker was found with over 1,000 books as well as over 20,000 individual pages of maps and other documents he had sliced from books. The FBI estimates they were taken from at least 100 university and local libraries across the western and mid-western United States as well as several locations in Canada. The breadth of Brubaker's thefts far

exceeds other recent publicized incidents of library theft. In 2005, map dealer E. Forbes Smiley stole from a half dozen libraries. Gilbert Bland, another map dealer, struck 19 libraries in the 1990s before being caught.

Brubaker was arrested with help from a librarian at Western Washington University who recognized missing items being auctioned on eBay. It was estimated he grossed almost \$500,000 from sales on the website in 2007.

Among the books returned to the Oboler Library are several heavily illustrated art and architecture volumes including a portfolio of plates depicting Renaissance architecture in Spain, as well as volumes related to the history of Alaska and the North American Indian.

For more information, please see the *Smithsonian* magazine article published in April 2008.



1. "The people of North America according to Petri" from Washington Irving's *Knickerbocker's History of New York*, 1893.
2. "The tomb of Saint Catherine" from *The History of St. Catherine of Sienna and Companions*, by Augusta Drane.
3. From *Uncle Sam's Attic: the intimate story of Alaska* by Mary Lee Davis.
4. From *Alaska Beckons* by Marius Barbeau. The ISU ownership mark was removed from below the image.
5. From *The Life of Sir Martin Frobisher* by William McFee.

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- ISU-Meridian Health Science Center library center
- Library welcomes students

Library works with faculty to implement journal cuts for 2010

*by Professor Sandra Shropshire
Associate University Librarian
for Collections & Technical Services*

As it was becoming clear early last spring that the university would need to make cuts in its state-appropriated funding, the Library was also beginning its annual journals review process. Normally this review has included notifying faculty of the journal subscriptions currently held for their departments and asking them to review the lists to confirm ongoing need. Due to the circumstances, the Library this year also asked faculty to prepare for a journals cut. Based on preliminary calculations assuming an average of 7 percent annual journal inflation rate and on information received from the Idaho legislature, the Library asked faculty to assume a 25 percent journals cut, to rank their decisions, and to convey their decisions to the Library by the first week of May.

Library bibliographers met with their departments to discuss the journal cancellation process and to answer any questions, and faculty members met to discuss options. All departmental journals lists were ranked and returned to the Library and were publicized by the end of finals week of spring semester. It was not until late June 2009 that the Library received its budget for fiscal year 2009-10 and, after making the necessary calculations, determined

that the degree of the journals cut would not be as severe as had originally been anticipated.

The final cut required was 10 percent to each subject journal fund. As an additional measure, the Library cancelled any other print journals noted in the departments' original 25 percent cancellation lists that were electronically duplicated by other library resources and transferred funds freed up by this change to the affected departments' book budgets. Approximately one-half of university departments were affected in this way. The Library notified faculty of the results of the cancellation process in early August and created a page on its website providing detailed information on this process. Book budgets experienced no mandatory cuts for this year.

This journal cancellation process was implemented in an across-the-board manner, which is important to mention in light of a concurrent Library initiative. The Library has been asked to make its method of allocating collection funds more objective and fact-driven. Such a method will consider factors such as journal pricing, journal publication rates, numbers of faculty and graduate students using the journal, and research activity, among other factors. This study has been

ongoing since April 2008 and has included intensive work with Library vendors, the University Library Committee, the University Statistician and the Library's bibliographers. The Library plans to test the new allocation method during the current fiscal year, with an eye toward implementing it in fiscal year 2010-11 which begins in July 2010. One probable and significant result of this change will be a relative shift in Library support among the departments, and it may dictate the course of future journal cuts.

The Library last called on the faculty to help implement a journals cut for fiscal year 2007-08. This was for a 3 percent cut, and was due, not to a state budget crisis, but to a policy change. This change resulted in the discontinuation of annual inflationary support for library materials, most of which are subscription-based, and thus, are an ongoing cost. The change also affected the libraries at the University of Idaho, Boise State University and Lewis/Clark State College, and remains in effect today.

Library supporters may be aware that academic journals typically experience an 8-10 percent annual inflation rate. This situation is well-documented, has stood as a pervasive concern among academic librarians for nearly two decades, and was recognized among the leadership in Boise until fiscal year 2007-08. The Idaho academic library community has yet to receive clarification on why this change came to be and continues to push for its reversal.



Message from Kay Flowers, University Librarian and Dean

Elsewhere in this newsletter, you will read about the library's final decisions on the journal cut. I would like to take

this opportunity to remind you that regardless of the size of the journal budget, the library is committed to finding and delivering the information needed to support research and

instruction in the university community. This delivery support is provided by interlibrary loan. Interlibrary Loan, or ILL, is a service for obtaining materials not owned by the library. Libraries everywhere realized long ago that they could not collect everything; therefore, ILL services were created to facilitate borrowing among libraries. In the last 10 years,

the use of technology has increased the efficiency and speed of ILL services. Requests can be placed online, many items are received within a week (sometimes within days), and articles can be delivered online (not books, yet). I encourage you to use this inexpensive service to obtain needed materials. Let the library be part of your research program.



New ISU-Meridian Health Science Center's Library Center

*by Associate Professor Marcia Francis
Director, Idaho Health Sciences Library*

The ISU Libraries have partnered with the Meridian Joint School District #2 to share library space at the new ISU-Meridian Health Science Center. The shared library/media center is located adjacent to a large, sunny study area and the Renaissance High School cafeteria.

Four computers are available for ISU researchers and located in two study rooms within the Media Center. ISU wireless Internet access also is available in the Media Center and adjoining

study spaces. A small collection of ISU reference and circulating books is available and may grow as donated materials are still under review.

Renaissance High School librarians and two ISU-Meridian employees, Stefanie Shadduck and Dana Wheeler, currently staff the library. Hours are limited but may expand in the future (See <http://www.isu.edu/library/services/hours.htm#boise> for details.) Services, such as research assistance, interlibrary loans, document delivery, and book loans continue to be provided upon request by library staff in Pocatello.



Marcia Francis, Director of Idaho Health Sciences Library checks out the computers in the study rooms.



ISU Librarians welcome students

by Spencer Jardine, Coordinator of Instruction

At the beginning of fall semester, librarians and staff left the building to welcome students back to campus and into the Library. Students moving into the Rendezvous Housing saw librarians and received brochures, maps, workshop schedules and bubble gum from them. A few accepted invitations to tour the Library for the first time. On the first and second days of classes, librarians also staffed an information tent on the corner of 9th Ave. and Martin Luther King Jr. Way, offering directions, handing out campus maps and bubble gum.

This year's Student Involvement Fair proved to be another success, and many students received informative library brochures. Some were surprised to hear that the Library remains open Sunday through Thursday until midnight. Others were happy to get pens with the Library's name, phone number, and web address. A few more students took advantage of the free Library tours on the third day of classes. Finally, at the Quadastic Blowout (a party on the Hutchinson Quadrangle), students gladly accepted glow-in-the-dark bracelets with the encouragement to come visit the Library. Happily, many students responded that they spend time each day studying in the Library.

Librarians are glad to have students back inside the Library.

Number of general database searches: 2008-09

- Academic Search Complete: 164,372
- Web of Science: 30,004
- MLA International Bibliography: 28,861
- ERIC: 24,438
- Education Research Complete: 23,585

FBI Recovers Stolen Library Books

story on page 1



Kurpie costume of Poland from *National Costumes* by Lepage-Medvey.



"The Descent into Hell" from Mrs. Charles Heaton's *The Life of Albrecht Dürer*.

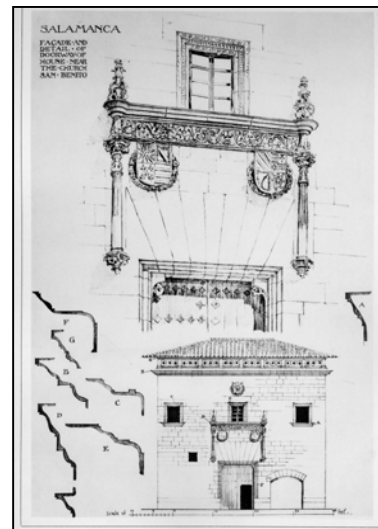


Plate showing details of a house in Salamanca from a *Portfolio of Renaissance Architecture and Ornament in Spain* by Andrew Prentice.



Between the Lines

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