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# Special Editions

Newsletter of The Friends of the Albin O. Kuhn Library & Gallery

Number 4

Winter 2008-2009

## Message from the Chair

It is very appropriate that the Library and Gallery are named in honor of Dr. Albin O. Kuhn, who presided so effectively over the founding and early development of UMBC. A university vitally needs a good library. UMBC is fortunate to have a handsome library building towering over the campus and housing a continually expanding collection of printed and electronic materials needed for teaching and research.

UMBC also is fortunate to have, within the Library building, an impressive Gallery where exhibitions are held and valuable photographs, recordings, and other artistic and historical materials are maintained, contributing to the life of the university and the community.

The Friends are individuals who join together to support the operations of the Library and Gallery. The Friends sponsor public lectures and presentations and an annual evening of dinner and theater. Moreover, they fund special needs of the Library and Gallery that are not covered by the regular university budget. These have included acquisitions of important books and photographs, costs of preserving deteriorating materials, enhancement of students' study space, and various other projects promoting the missions of the Library and Gallery.

Many who belong to the Friends are or have been students at UMBC or members of its faculty, staff, or administration. Others not directly connected to the university have joined the Friends simply because they recognize the Library and Gallery as worthy of support. Please consider joining the Friends, if you are not yet a member.

-- Stephen F. Barker



## Another Successful Book Sale

The Library's annual book sale was a success. Students, friends, and supporters explored the troves of materials to find that special book. \$3,789.56 was raised. Your support is greatly appreciated. The proceeds will fund materials and services that will be used by UMBC Library patrons. Many thanks to the Collection Management staff for their energy and enthusiasm.

We provide quality services, resources, and technology to meet your information needs.  
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## Friends Come Together

On October 8 The Library Friends gathered for the BookNotes program at the library. Terry Bouton, Associate Professor of History at UMBC spoke about his 2007 book, "Taming Democracy: The People, the Founders, and the Troubled Ending of the American Revolution" The event attracted more than seventy-five attendees.

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Services and Resources Visit us at  
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## Become a Friend

*Friends of the Kuhn Library & Gallery Group is a nonprofit, volunteer group dedicated to the support and advancement of the Library. If you wish to become a friend of the Library & Gallery, see*

<http://aok.lib.umbc.edu/adm/friends/friends.php>

*Checks are payable to UMBC Foundation. Send to*

*Dr. Larry Wilt, Director  
Albin O. Kuhn Library & Gallery  
The University of Maryland, Baltimore  
County  
1000 Hilltop Circle  
Baltimore, Maryland 21250*

*If you know others we should ask to join the Friends, or if you'd like to be a volunteer in the Library & Gallery, please call us at 410-455-2356 or send E-mail to [wilt@umbc.edu](mailto:wilt@umbc.edu)*

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## Robert Fichter Archive Arrives at UMBC

The Friends of the Albin O. Kuhn Library & Gallery generously have provided support to move the Special Collections to a new level. With funds from the Friends, the archive of renowned artist/photographer Robert Fichter has been moved to UMBC where it will be processed and made available to researchers. Fichter is noted for his satirical images that "record, amplify, distort, and simplify the poor, glad, sad, radiant universe."

Born in 1930 in Fort Myers, Florida, Fichter grew up on the West Coast of Florida and graduated in 1963 from the University of Florida where he studied with renowned photographer Jerry Uelsmann. He earned his M.F.A. in 1966 at Indiana University where he worked with Henry Holmes

Smith. Following graduation, he was hired as an assistant curator at the George Eastman House International Museum of Photography where he worked from 1966 to 1968 before joining the faculty at UCLA. His time at UCLA included close association with photography program head Robert Heinecken who was famous for his multi-media, pop culture approach to art and photography. In 1972, Fichter joined the faculty of Florida State University at Tallahassee, Florida, where he rose to full professor. Mr. Fichter's work has been shown numerous times including at George Eastman House, Light Gallery and Robert Freidus Gallery in New York, Center for Creative Photography at University of Arizona, the Brooklyn Museum, and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. His work is in the collections of the National Gallery of Art, the High Museum, the Los Angeles County Museum, the Columbus Museum of Art, the California Museum of Art, and the Center for Creative Photography. Included with the archive are works by other artists including Robert Heinecken and Jerry Uelsmann. The archive will become available to researchers in two years.

-Tom Beck

## Meet New Staff



**I am Shu Qian**, a new Science Reference and Instruction Librarian at Albin O. Kuhn Library & Gallery. I graduated with a Masters degree in Library and Information Studies from the College of Information at Florida State University in August, 2008.

Before pursuing librarianship, I had spent plenty of years studying and teaching mathematics. My interest in information literacy was developed when I worked as a research assistant at a biology lab. Most recently, I worked as a graduate assistant at Goldstein Library at Florida State University, mainly providing circulation and reference service.

I am very glad to be working in the reference department and serving the campus community of UMBC. I hope to participate in the library's information literacy initiatives, assist with programs, promoting library services and serve on committees both for library and on campus. I will try my best to provide useful and informative reference service and instruction sessions to patrons; also, I hope and assist them in finding and using information more efficiently and effectively.



**Tricia Mott**

I started at the UMBC library as an Acquisitions student employee in 2003. At first it was just a job, but the longer I worked here the fonder I grew of the library environment. All of the library employees are so wonderful to work with. I continued as a student employee for 4 years while I earned my B.A. in biology. Over these four years it became apparent to me that I enjoyed my job and that I'd rather seek employment in a library than a scientific laboratory. My supervisors urged me to consider library school and after doing some homework of my own I decided it was definitely the way I wanted to go. Toward the end of my 4<sup>th</sup> year I became a staff member in the Acquisitions department. I'm currently working as the Special Ordering Technician and am still aspiring to library school. As soon as I get a few things out of the way I hope to begin the application process



**My name is Robin Martin**

and I am the new Library Technician for the Special Collections Department of the Albin O. Kuhn Library & Gallery. I have worked in Special Collections as a student worker for the last year and was granted an internship in the Gallery over the summer of 2007.

My task here in Special Collections is to provide assistance for students and visitors as they make use of the many collections housed within this facility. I maintain departmental statistics and the vast collection of Photographic and Science Fiction serials. During my studies here at UMBC I have also had the opportunity to intern with *The Lost Towns Project* in Annapolis and have taken part in the Field School held at *Port Tobacco* this past summer in La Plata. I will be graduating this December with a Bachelors of Art Degree in Ancient Studies and History, and my hope is to continue my education in the field of Archaeology or Public History.



**I am Lindsey Loeper,** the new Special Collections Archivist at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. I began at the Albin O. Kuhn Library in October 2007 as a

Visiting Librarian in Special Collections and I am very happy that my position has transitioned to one that is more permanent.

As the Special Collections Archivist I oversee the University Archives, the Center for Biological Sciences Archives, and personal, regional, and institutional archival collections. A large part of my job this past year has been in gaining greater control over the archival collections through the implementation of PastPerfect - this has been a great way to discover the varied and fascinating collections in our holdings. Increasing accessibility to our collections is a main goal of mine and two projects that I am the most proud of our improved online finding aid web pages and

the creation of catalog records for processed collections. I also enjoy working with the historical materials in the University Archives, including photographs, publications, and the development of the Theatre Department Production Materials collection in our Digital Collections. Future projects will include the processing of UMBC departmental records and photographs, the Baltimore Sun Archives, and the papers included in the Center for Biological Sciences Archives.

I received a B.A. in American Studies from UMBC in 2004 with a concentration in Community and Diversity; in 2007 I completed requirements for the Archives, Records, and Information Management program and a M.L.S. from the College of Information Studies at the University of Maryland, College Park. Prior to returning to UMBC in October 2007 I worked in the Special Collections department at the National Agricultural Library, and the Reserves and ILL departments at the Eisenhower Library at Johns Hopkins University. My projects at the National Agricultural Library included processing and revising an extensive set of personal etymology research papers, inventorying a collection of Smokey Bear advertising artwork and memorabilia, and the development of a bibliography of NAL's holdings by and about Carl Linnaeus.



**I'm Austin Smith.** I'm currently working as the billing technician for the Circulation department. I graduated from UMBC in 2005 with a BA in

Philosophy. Later, I returned to the university for post-baccalaureate studies in Computer Science, and began working as a student assistant in the Circulation department. I quickly realized that I prefer books to computers, and decided to apply for a staff position here. I've found the library to be a very positive work environment, both as a student worker and staff member. Looking

forward to broadening my knowledge about libraries, I plan to pursue a master's degree in Library Science.

## The Man Behind Our Name

The UMBC Library was dedicated in 1982 to honor Albin Owings Kuhn, the founding Chancellor of University of Maryland Baltimore County.

**Albin Owings Kuhn** was the first chancellor of UMBC. A University of Maryland graduate (B.S., M.S., Ph.D.) he had been professor of agronomy and head of the agronomy department at what is now the University of



Maryland, College Park, and executive vice president of the University of Maryland, which included campuses in College Park, downtown Baltimore, and the Eastern Shore.

In 1965, Kuhn was given the responsibility for developing the newest member of the University of Maryland System. He and his family moved on to the campus grounds. Their small gray house became the command center - residence, office, architects' and builders' outpost, student and faculty way station. Its porch was the catalog center for the library's nascent 20,000 volume collection. (The building was later demolished to make way for library construction.)

Kuhn was officially chancellor of both UMBC and UMAB, a position he held from 1967 until the University's second commencement in 1971. At that point, as each campus was acquiring individual leadership, he left UMBC to serve as chancellor of UMAB. As a retrospective in the 25th anniversary commemorative issue of UMBC Review noted, "It is remarkable

to think that Kuhn built UMBC, but worked only one half day every day to do it." (Source [www.umbc.edu/library](http://www.umbc.edu/library))

## McNaughton Collection Arrives



The Library now has a distinct collection aimed at offering the UMBC community varied, timely, popular fiction and non-fiction in an **easy-to-browse location** in the Library's first floor rotunda. The titles cover a wide range of genres: **literary fiction, science fiction & fantasy, mystery, romance, western, biography, and non-fiction.**

The collection of 200 books will be supplemented until the collection reaches 400. After that, twenty titles will be rotated out for twenty new titles each month. The Reference Department will carefully select books that are of interest to UMBC students, staff, and faculty.

The collection circulates to current UMBC students, faculty, and staff. Patrons may borrow up to five titles from the McNaughton

collection at a time. Each title circulates for twenty eight days, with up to one renewal.

If you have questions, contact Katy Sullivan, Assistant Head of Reference Phone: 410.455.3604 Email: [sullivan@umbc.edu](mailto:sullivan@umbc.edu)



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## Photographs of James L. Amos

January 28 - March 23, 2009

The Albin O. Kuhn Library Gallery presents *Photographs of James L. Amos: Geographic, Illustrative, and Personal*, opening on January 28th and continuing through March 23rd, 2009.

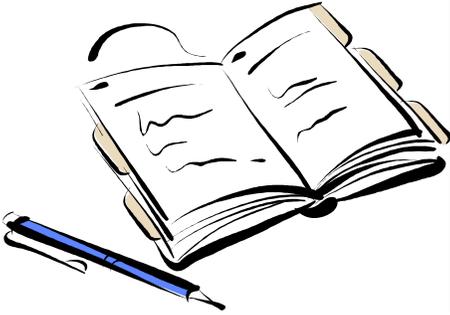
## Events 2009

### Forthcoming Literary Events at UMBC

May 2: Theatre with Dinner: "Metamorphoses" by Mary Zimmerman, directed by Eve Muson

Date TBD: Poetry & Imagery: readings and images in honor of the publication of the 2009 edition of "Bartleby", UMBC's creative arts journal, to be co-sponsored by the Departments. of English and Visual Arts

TBD: The Friends have suggested to UMBC's Climate Change Task Force the possibility of co-sponsoring a series of programs on climate change



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*Albin O. Kuhn Library & Gallery*  
**UMBC**  
*1000 Hilltop Circle*  
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