



BOOKNOTES

A Quarterly Publication of the

FRIENDS OF THE ECKERD COLLEGE LIBRARY

Volume IV, Issue 2

CHAIR'S CORNER

by Shari Watson

By the time you read this, some of our fall holidays will have come to pass, and the remaining ones are nearly upon us.

My sincere thanks to Board Member Eddy Burns, who has agreed to coordinate this and the subsequent issue of Booknotes, with the always able assistance of Margie Laughlin. And we especially thank former Booknotes staff members Stan Chesnut and Patricia Brown for their efforts during the past four years. Eddy indicates that for the recent Summer issue, we had more copy than we could print, so several articles are being carried over to the current issue. What good news that we are eliciting so many articles that we run out of space to print them. This is definitely a tribute to the Booknotes' staff. Many thanks for all the hard work each and every one of you does.

The library is currently showing **Jim Crane's exhibit** Retrospective: Paintings, Collages, Drawings and Cartoons. This wonderful exhibit will run through January 4, 2010.

Friday, January 22, 2010 will see us hosting another **Friends dinner**. **Denise Duhamel**, author of numerous books and chapbooks of poetry will be our guest speaker. She is a winner of the National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship and has been anthologized widely, including in four volumes of *The Best American Poetry* (2000, 1998, 1994, and 1993). Ms Duhamel teaches creative writing and literature at Florida International University in Miami where she has worked with several graduates of Eckerd College. She will be on the Eckerd campus as a guest of our annual WRITERS IN PARADISE. I hope to see you at the dinner.

DIRECTORS MESSAGE

by Jamie Gill

You may have seen in the St. Petersburg Times that, with a total of 1,842 full-time equivalent students, Eckerd College had its largest fall enrollment ever. All these students have a very different library experience than even those of a few years ago. This fact is apparent to me every fall as I fill out our statistical surveys. I can see how the Eckerd College Library has progressed in various areas and how we compare to other liberal arts institutions. I would like to share some of these statistics, so you too can see how many things are changing at the Eckerd College Library.

- Not all that many years ago, students and faculty had access to a handful of electronic databases. We now subscribe to, or have access to, over 100 databases covering all subject areas from humanities to social sciences to the natural sciences.
- The library once subscribed to nearly 1,000 print magazines and journals. We now receive only 519 titles in print, but the Eckerd College user has access to 22,226 different periodical titles online – and that total continues to increase.
- In addition to our growing book collection, the library provides access to hundreds of e-books from Oxford University Press, Credo Reference, and the Gale Virtual Reference Library. If you click on "Reference Shelf" on the Eckerd College Library web page (<http://www.eckerd.edu/library>) you will see that from this web page, Eckerd College

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ECKERD AUTHORS: DR. HELEN PRUITT WALLACE



Resisting Pathetic Fallacy

I know it means nothing,

the limp sparrow

fallen by the window
on this, the anniversary
of your death. I study
his open black beak,

broken neck, hyphenated lids,
how wind still shirrs
his downy feathers.

But having known you,
your brazen heart,
what should I think

when a breeze
drops a petal
from a window box
bursting with impatiens—

the red bloom

lighting on his breast?

Having audited two of Peter Meinke's poetry classes at Eckerd in the 80's, assistant professor Helen Wallace is now thrilled to be teaching Creative Writing here where the literary arts continue to thrive under Professors Sterling Watson and Scott Ward. In her classes, students approach writing as a process, a craft they hone through a lot of reading and revision. She agrees with the poet Philip Larkin who once suggested writing the poem "becomes like trying to remember a tune you've forgotten. All corrections are attempts to get nearer the forgotten tune."

Wallace, whose first collection of poetry, *Shimming the Glass House*, (<http://static.ashland.edu/aupoetry/>) won the Richard Snyder Memorial Poetry Prize and was published in October 2008, teaches poetry and nonfiction in the residential program as well as the Program for Experienced Learners (PEL). Her book has since been awarded a 2008 Florida Book Award and was a finalist for the Eric Hoffer Prize. According to the poet and National Book Award finalist, David Kirby, "the poems in this wonderful book have roots deep in the old silent America: Dickinson's bedroom, Thoreau's little patch by the pond. Yet life thrives here in all its gorgeous and messy abundance..."

Wallace earned her Ph.D. in English/Creative Writing from The Florida State University. She and her husband, Peter, raised their two children, Daniel and Hannah, in St. Petersburg, and her mother-in-law, Martha Rudy Wallace, is a trustee emeritus of the college. According to Wallace, engaging readings, a student-run lit magazine, and Writers in Paradise, the annual conference held on campus that attracts top-notch

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ECKERD COLLEGE

www.eckerd.edu/library/friends

FOL FUNDS ENHANCE LIBRARY

(PART II)

By Helene Gold, Associate Professor of Electronic Services, Librarian,
Web Developer

In addition to enabling the library to acquire ARTstor, as related in September Booknotes, FOL funds also provided a second online digital collection, Contemporary Literary Criticism.

Contemporary Literary Criticism Online is the complete digital version of the classic print literature reference collection, which contains hundreds of volumes, and thousands of individual essays, of literary criticism from the 19th century to present. The first print volumes were published 30 years ago and it is rare to find an academic library without multiple stacks of CLC in its reference collection. Essays provide interpretation and analysis of literary works in addition to relating how understanding politics and social conditions of the time influenced writers and their work.

The addition of Contemporary Literary Criticism Online strengthened our literature program by allowing greater ease of access to this information and by providing off-campus access to an important scholarly resource, which is especially helpful to students studying abroad or faculty on sabbatical leave. Also, Contemporary Literary Criticism Online provides a more scholarly, structured environment for our students to perform research at the college level in the area of Literature, replacing unstructured, less-scholarly web searching (such as Google or About.com). FOL certainly got great value for their \$6,000 contribution to purchase CLC for EC Library. \$6,000 of FOL funds was used to pay part of the \$9,800 one-time joining fee which allows the Eckerd community to access the entire collection beginning with volume one.

In addition to the two funded purchases (ARTstor and Contemporary Literary Criticism Online), an additional \$14,000 was made available in spring 2008 to be used to strengthen our print book collection in preparation for the upcoming SACS accreditation process.

Director's Message Continued

faculty and students can use the Oxford English Dictionary online, look up foreign words, and find information on topics from music to business - and much more.

These titles are available to anyone in the library and to all Eckerd users, whether they are in their dorm rooms or in another country. The amount of information available electronically is staggering. This makes the librarians' roles of teaching students how to use the wide range of library resources and how to choose the best information for their research an even more important responsibility.

If you haven't visited Eckerd College Library lately, please come in and see how much we have to offer - and take the opportunity to chat with one of the reference librarians!

BOARD ACTIVITIES

by Margie Laughlin

NEW MEMBERS: It is with great pleasure that we welcome new Friends: Mr. Peter Rudy Wallace and his wife Dr. Helen P. Wallace; Dr. Angela Baisley; and Mr. Roy W. Duttweiler. Friends have access to electronic and print material within the Library, and borrowing privileges upon presentation of their Friend's library card. To become a member of Friends, please call Connie Pearson at 864-8336 or visit the Library website at www.eckerd.edu/library/friends.

EVENTS: November 12, 2009: Fall meeting of the Board of Directors of the Friends of the Library. The Board welcomed new members Signe Oberhofer, Tom Oberhofer, Eileen Deegan, and Sandra Ripberger. Friday, January 22, 2010: Visiting Writers in Paradise author Denise Duhamel will be the featured speaker at our annual dinner, to which all Friends will receive an invitation. (See the Director's message.)

PATRICIA BROWN

by Shirley Crane



Board member Patricia Brown lived in Michigan prior to moving to Florida in 1986 with her husband, Stan, who is now deceased. While on vacation, Patricia and Stan visited Eckerd College and decided to move to St. Petersburg so that Patricia could complete her studies at Eckerd. Both became involved in ASPEC, and what was meant to be a two-year sojourn turned into 18 years. Patricia obtained her master's degree from USF and became a college educator. Now retired for the second time, Patricia enjoys reading, traveling, and playing the organ at Maximo Presbyterian Church. Her special hobby is arranging travel, and she occasionally plans and leads group trips to places such as the Netherlands where Patricia's mother was born, as well as other European and domestic destinations.

An attractive study area on the second floor of the Armacost Library is named for Patricia and her late husband, Stan Brown. Patricia joined the Board of Friends of the Library in 2006 and is active in the production of Booknotes.

Wallace Continued

faculty and participants, all point to Eckerd's expanding literary profile. But, says Wallace, "all of the arts are strong at Eckerd—theatre, music, visual arts—they feed off each other. Ours is a rich creative environment, and one that embraces life-long learning. We've got great students of all ages here, and on top of that," says Wallace, "our president's a poet; that's hard to beat."



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