As often happens over the summer in academia, things change. The library and its staff are no strangers to making changes when fewer classes are in session, whether it is the relocation of physical resources, or adding or removing resources. One of the many major changes during this summer was an upgrade of the library’s catalog interface. As of the writing of this article, the upgrade is complete, but the potential enhancements are a work in progress.

You may be asking yourself why the library decided to change the catalog. There are a few reasons. First, and perhaps most important, the library catalog upgrade gives the library much more flexibility in how it displays information. For example, we have the potential to highlight specific information like the call number and location to make it stand out more. Another possible alteration is a new pop-up window that will show up when the item you are looking at is an electronic resource. Rather than hunting for the URL as a ‘linked resource’ like you had to in the old version, you will be directed to the proper resource by a pop-up window.

One of the new possibilities that I am most excited about is the ability to text call numbers to your cell phone by clicking a button in the catalog and inputting a phone number. Cell phones seem ubiquitous for today’s college students and getting them (or me for that matter) to write down the full call number and its location is difficult.

The last catalog modification that I will highlight is the fact that the color scheme will be changing. The previous version of the catalog had a yellow and bluish-purple color scheme. Right now you should see a sky blue with grey scheme, but do not fear, that is not the final iteration of the catalog color scheme. When it is finished, the library will be incorporating colors from our Website into the catalog. We believe this will help our users make a seamless transition into the catalog.

In order for you to get a better understanding of the new catalog’s potential, take a look at the catalog screenshot. You will not see all of the changes outlined above tomorrow or the next day, but you will see small upgrades over time. Please be patient with us as we make this transition. If you have any questions/comments about this article or the changes detailed here, please send them to library.reference@uwec.edu or call 715-836-3858.
The library’s list of databases has changed significantly over the last six months. As you will see, we have added many new databases and no longer have access to some old standards. There are even a few databases we now have access to that are replacing subscriptions of items we used to receive only in print. In addition to a listing of the databases that have been added, a brief annotation describing the resource is included to help make sense of the item.

In these tight financial times, you may be asking yourself how the library can add so many new databases. The vast majority of these databases were added through the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction’s Badgerlink. When this is the case, you will see a (B) after the name of the database. Others were added because we cancelled standing orders subscriptions. In non-library lingo, that means we cancelled print subscriptions to resources that we purchased on a regular basis and moved them to electronic access.

The library also received an offer to upgrade Academic Search Premier to Academic Search Complete, and in return receive six other databases at no additional charge. After reviewing the offer from the database vendor, we decided to move forward and purchase the upgrade and six additional databases. In return, the library received Academic Search Complete, Environment Complete, Film & Television Literature Index with Full Text, Nursing Reference Center, Political Science Complete, SocINDEX with Full Text, and SPORTDiscus with Full Text. Many of these additional databases filled holes in our database coverage and/or are industry leaders for their subject discipline. Some even allowed us to cancel other subscription databases, saving the library money.

We did lose some significant databases, and these decisions were not easy to make. Encyclopaedia Britannica Online is a standard reference item that, when we cancelled it, made many librarians squirm, knowing that the library no longer had access to this database. However, the state of the budget and the changing nature of information caused us to re-evaluate this resource. We had no choice on other cancellations because funding was being cut at a higher level and/or the items were...
duplicitative of another subscription resource. For those databases to which we no longer subscribe, a brief rationale is provided on why the library cancelled the subscription. Additionally, other databases that provide similar or the same information are listed.

Overall, we believe that these additional databases more than make up for the databases we lost or we chose not to renew. Please feel free to contact us with any questions/comments on the addition or deletion of these resources: library.reference@uwec.edu or 715-836-3858.

Databases Added

- **Academic Search Complete**
  This resource represents an upgrade from Academic Search Premier. It is the largest multidisciplinary database to which the library subscribes and is a good starting point for student research.

- **Alt HealthWatch (B)**
  An alternative health database with full text, focused on complementary, alternative and integrated approaches to health care.

- **Auto Repair Reference Center (B)**
  Contains auto repair information on most domestic and import vehicles.

- **Book Collection Nonfiction (B)**
  This set of three databases (elementary, middle school, and high school editions), provides abstracts and selective full text of popular nonfiction books for the various school ages indicated above.

- **Consumer Health Complete (B)**
  A database for consumer health information.

- **Educational Administration Abstracts (B)**
  Includes bibliographic records covering areas related to educational administration, including educational leadership, educational management, etc.

- **Environment Complete**
  Contains abstracts and full text information on fields related to the environment. This includes agriculture, ecology, energy, environmental technology, environmental law, etc.

- **Film & Television Literature Index with Full Text**
  Contains information on the study of film and television. Its content ranges from film and television reviews to film & television theory.

- **History Reference Center (B)**
  Contains full text of hundreds of non-fiction books dealing with the topic of history.

- **Humanities International Complete (B)**
  An interdisciplinary database, this resource provides scholarly information in the humanities with full text data and abstracts from hundreds of books, journals, and other published resources.

- **Lexi-PALS Drug Guide**
  A database of Patient Advisory Leaflets that provides education on medications for patients.

- **Literary Reference Center (B)**
  A database for literature that contains information from books, journals, encyclopedias and other reference works.

- **Literature Criticism Online**
  Contains virtually the entire collection of ten standard literature reference resources published by Gale. The library will continue to receive a subscription to Children’s Literature Review through this database instead of in print.

- **MAS Ultra - School Edition (B)**
  Specializes in providing information to high school students.

- **MergentOnline**
  Find in-depth business and financial information such as company financial data, annual reports, industry information, country profiles, etc.

- **Military & Government Collection (B)**
  Find current news pertaining to all branches of the military and government.

- **MLA Directory of Periodicals**
  The MLA Directory of Periodicals contains all information available on the journals and series on the bibliography’s Master List of Periodicals.

- **Newspaper Source Plus (B)**
  Replaces ProQuest Newspapers. It contains full text to more than 1,500 newspapers.

- **NoveList (B)**
  Fiction readers can find the perfect novel with this reader’s advisory service.

- **NoveList K-8 (B)**
  Younger fiction readers can find the perfect novel with this reader’s advisory service.

- **Nursing Reference Center**
  Provides access to information which is similar to that which was provided in MD Consult and Mosby’s Nursing Consult. You can find clinical evidence and knowledge on conditions and diseases via a nursing-specific graphical interface.

- **Political Science Complete**
  A full text database containing reference books, conference papers, and journals.

- **Professional Development Collection (B)**
  Designed with professional educators in mind. It contains full text access to hundreds of education journals.

*continued on page 4*
Databases No Longer Available

- **Encyclopaedia Britannica Online**
  The library believes that there are many free resources available on the Internet (e.g., *Wikipedia*) as well as printed encyclopedias in the library (*Encyclopedia Britannica*) that sufficiently cover this resource.

- **Kraus Curriculum Development Library**
  This database’s information was outdated and usage statistics showed us that it was not being used often. We recommend using the *ERIC* database, or freely available resources like *Educator’s Reference Desk*.

- **Library Literature & Information Science Full Text**
  The library receives *Library, Information Science, and Technology Abstracts (LISTA)* for free. To help cut costs, the librarians decided that LISTA is a sufficient resource for finding library related information that could be requested through interlibrary loan.

- **Marketline**
  This database’s information is being duplicated in many of the business databases like *MergentOnline*, *LexisNexis*, and *Business Source Premier*. The library has resources in the reference collection that provide some information that Marketline had.

- **McLatchey Tribune Collection**
  A Badgerlink database, this resource was cancelled and replaced by *Newspaper Source Plus*.

- **MD Consult**
  The UW System cut funding for this database. It has been replaced by *Nursing Reference Center*.

- **Mosby’s Nursing Consult**
  The UW System cut funding for this database. It has been replaced by *Nursing Reference Center*.

- **Physical Education Index**
  Because of the addition of *SPORTDiscus with Full Text*, the library chose to cancel this database. Physical Education Index did not have any full text like the new *SPORTDiscus* database has, making the replacement database much more valuable.

- **Proquest Newspapers**
  *Newspaper Source Plus* has replaced this resource. Also consider using *LexisNexis* for your newspaper information needs.

- **Proquest Wisconsin Newsstand**
  *Newspaper Source Plus* has replaced this resource. Also consider using *LexisNexis* for your newspaper information needs. The library also subscribes to the *Leader Telegram Archive* which will give you coverage of the local Eau Claire paper.

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**How to Access Databases**

- Begin in the middle of the library home page
- Click Find Resources-Databases
- Choose the first letter of the database name
- Or type in the name of the database
- Click on the database title

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*Virtual Library*
“This is a White Women’s organization. Exalting the Caucasian Race and teaching the doctrine of White Supremacy. This does not mean that we are enemies of the colored and mongrel races. But it does mean that we are organized to establish the solidarity and to realize the mission of the White Race. All of Christian Civilization depends upon the preservation and up-building of the White Race, and it is the mission of the Women of the Ku Klux Klan to proclaim this doctrine until the White Race shall come into its own.”

So reads the opening paragraph of Ideals of the Women of the Ku Klux Klan, a pamphlet published by the Ku Klux Klan (KKK), date unknown. The Women of the Ku Klux Klan, an auxiliary group for wives of KKK members, at one time had an active chapter in Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin. A fragment from the pamphlet can be found on the University of Wisconsin Digital Collections Website at digicoll.library.wisc.edu/WI/subcollections/WiscKKKAbout.html. It is part of the digital collection titled The Ku Klux Klan in Northwestern Wisconsin, 1915-1950.

The Ku Klux Klan in Northwestern Wisconsin, 1915-1950 is a digital collection of records, pamphlets, newspaper clippings, ephemera, and artifacts. These materials document a popular movement that most Americans would rather forget – a so-called “reform” movement driven by xenophobia and bigotry. In the post World War I era, however, the Klan was a popular and widely accepted organization that played a significant role in the social life of some American communities, including the Grey Eagle Klan #14 of Chippewa Falls.

The KKK advocated racism, patriotism, nativism, and anti-Catholicism. Although largely gone from Wisconsin by the late 1920s, the Klan persisted through the 1940s in northwestern Wisconsin. As evidenced by the materials in the collection, areas of Klan activity included Chippewa, Clark, and Pierce counties. The main focus of the KKK in this geographic area was anti-Catholicism and nativism. Material included in the digital collection has been drawn from the Wisconsin Historical Society, McIntyre Library and the UW-River Falls Chalmer Davee Library.

The print version of the Chippewa Falls records are located in Special Collections and Archives at McIntyre Library and can be found in the collection titled, Women of the Ku Klux Klan, Klan 14 (Chippewa Falls, Wis.). Included are photocopied of meeting minutes, financial reports, communications from the Wisconsin Realm Office and from Imperial Headquarters, along with miscellaneous items such as order forms to be used when ordering items such as “measurement blanks for robes and helmets, the Musiklan song book, klan seals,” and “fiery crosses with three candles and base to match” from the Realm Commander, Invisible Empire, in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Most of the records, however, deal with routine matters such as transmittal of Klan #14 dues to the headquarters office, dates for Klan picnics, and other social matters.

The State of Wisconsin Collection, of which the KKK collection is a part, brings together, in digital form, two categories of primary and secondary materials: writings about the State of Wisconsin, and unique or valuable materials that relate to its history and ongoing development. The collection includes published material as well as archival materials. The materials were digitized from a variety of formats including books, manuscripts, sound recordings, photographs, maps and other resources deemed important to the study and teaching of the State of Wisconsin.
It’s a scorching hot summer day, and all the kids I know are outside playing and enjoying their summer vacation. I used to crave a summer like this — full of fun and play. Instead, my summer days consisted mainly of gardening. Growing up, I spent most, if not all, of my summer days helping my parents on our farm. With over 10 years of gardening experience, I have confidently learned how to actual garden, I am tending to my professional life, which I like to think of as “Mai” Library.

Most people know that plants require tending. Before the planting process even begins, however, one must decide what should be planted and where. For me, in my garden of life, I’ve chosen to “plant myself” in library and information studies. When I studied abroad in Thailand, I realized my passion for saving and providing access to information. When I went to the mountains of Thailand to visit the Hmong villages, I especially took interest in the efforts to collect and preserve information about my culture. This interest helped me to choose library

Plants and humans alike will encounter wet, dry, windy, or humid days that may stunt their growing process. To overcome these environmental challenges, one must find ways to support one’s foundation or roots. Recently, I had the opportunity to begin the tending stage of my life. I was selected as a LAMP (Library and Information Studies/Science) Access Midwest Program (LAMP) scholar. LAMP is a regional alliance of ten universities in the Midwest. It recruits students from historically underrepresented groups to enter the field of library and information studies and provides them with mentoring, internships, and financial assistance in the form of fellowships. Since its establishment in 2007, there have been 29 LAMP scholars. As a first year LAMP scholar, I have had the chance to begin networking with people studying library science as well as professional librarians. During a bus ride to DePaul University in Chicago to attend a campus library tour, Amani Ayad, the visiting program coordinator of LAMP, stressed the importance of networking and getting to know people. Networking, she explained, helps professionals support themselves in their career fields. I believe this and I am happy to have already met so many great people; they are my “fertilizer” and will help me to become strong in my field. For further information about the LAMP program, see: www.lisaccess.org.

In addition to being a LAMP scholar, I was also selected as a 2009 American Library Association (ALA) Spectrum scholar. As an ALA Spectrum scholar, I was awarded $5,000 and a $1,500 traveling stipend to
attend the 2010 ALA Annual Conference in Washington D.C. The ALA Spectrum Scholarship Program was established in 1997 and is a part of ALA’s national diversity and recruitment effort. It was developed to address the problem of underrepresentation of ethnic librarians within the profession while serving as a model for ways to bring attention to larger diversity issues in the future. According to the ALA Spectrum Website, the program is also “improving service at the local level through the development of a representative workforce that reflects the communities served by all libraries in the new millennium.” Currently, there are 608 ALA Spectrum scholars. For further information about the ALA Spectrum Scholarship program, see: www.ala.org/spectrum. Additionally, to match the funds from the ALA Spectrum Scholarship, I was awarded an Advanced Opportunity Fellowship (AOF) at UW-Madison. This fellowship covers all my tuition and fees along with a stipend of $12,375, a welcoming check of $600, and health insurance.

Nurturing a garden or one’s career is not an easy task. It may take many attempts before a successful outcome can be achieved. Yet through support, tending and care, the process can become less burdensome. In a workshop session at the ALA annual conference in Chicago this year, I met Jay Jordan, the CEO and President of the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC). In his presentation on international librarianship, he quoted an old Swahili saying, “to go fast, go by yourself, to go far, go together.” I find this statement to be true. By gardening and gathering produce for the farmer’s market, I have come to realize that one person cannot do everything alone. Rather, a whole team (or in my case, family) working together makes a garden a success. The networking and building connections that I did this summer will help me create a new professional “family” for my career. I hope this is only the beginning in the growth and development of “Mai” Library.

From the Director’s Desk

By John Pollitz, pollitzj@uwec.edu

There have been two major changes in university personnel who work very closely with McIntyre Library since the last issue of Off the Shelf. Andy Phillips, whom I reported to, accepted a new position as academic dean and provost at the United States Naval Academy. Last spring, Mike Wick was asked to serve as vice provost and graduate dean. Mike will be our advocate in Academic Affairs and I will be working closely with Mike as library faculty and staff develop new services aimed at supporting the educational needs of our students and the teaching and research needs of our faculty. This summer, campus also saw the arrival of our new provost and vice chancellor for Academic Affairs, Pat Kleine. She comes to UW-Eau Claire from Eastern Connecticut State University. As leader of UW-Eau Claire Academic Affairs she will play a very important role in the future of the library.

In June I became the chair of the Council of University of Wisconsin Libraries (CUWL). In August the CUWL group met in Green Lake for a two day planning retreat where we discussed the future of library services and how UW System libraries can find more ways to cooperate and be more efficient. Every library in the UW System has experienced budget cuts as part their university’s need to address state budget deficits. Librarians have always been good stewards of our budgets but the current economic demands that we find more ways to squeeze our budgets.

Over the coming year we will be investigating ways to collaborate on operations and manage our collections in order to preserve our services, yet control costs. Library directors went into the planning retreat agreeing that despite hard economic times we would look for opportunities to enhance services. A primary feature of the retreat was a report from a CUWL taskforce that had been investigating ways to enhance the discovery of library information resources. We learned about exciting new discovery interfaces from vendors that provide access to books, articles, digital collections and university resources. We also had a demonstration of an interface based on open source software that programmers at UW-Madison have been developing. CUWL directors will be evaluating these resource discovery interfaces with an eye towards making it easier for students and faculty to find the information they need for their studies and research.

In other news, the American Library Association Office of Information Technology Policy has developed a Web based service, the Fair Use Evaluator, www.librarycopyright.net/fairuse/. It is designed to help faculty and students better decide if their use of copyrighted material falls safely within fair use guidelines. Persons using the Website answer a series of questions based on the four fair use factors: purpose, nature of the material, amount of material used, and the effect use will have on the value of the copyrighted material. They can then print out a document that records the process they have taken when deciding whether to use or not use material. This promises to be very helpful to faculty as they develop supplementary readings for their classes. A link to the site has been provided on the university copyright Webpage.

And finally, we have an announcement about an improvement to our library facility. I am happy to report that our three public elevators and one staff elevator are scheduled to be replaced this coming spring and summer. Replacement of the first two elevators will begin in the spring and once those are complete, the second two elevators will be replaced during the summer when fewer students are on campus. This project is welcome news because our current elevators are prone to breakdowns and run on outdated mechanics.
"I have a hard time getting my students to use resources beyond what they find with Google or Wikipedia," is a concern that instruction librarians hear repeatedly from faculty. One contributing factor identified in the library literature is that "when [students] fail to find library resources tailored specifically to their information needs, they most often move to other, simpler, more familiar information resources, such as Google and Yahoo." (Gibbons, 2005).

In an effort to help address this concern, McIntyre Library now offers new course and research guides. McIntyre librarians are using Springshare’s LibGuides content management system to create research guides tailored specifically to student information needs. The software, rapidly becoming a staple on library Websites, offers a flexible, robust, and relatively easy method for creating online guides customized for specific assignments, courses, disciplines or research tasks. With LibGuides librarians can create user guides containing standard text and links, but can also easily incorporate interactive and social networking tools such as embedded video and audio, integrated search and chat boxes, polling, user comments, RSS feeds, and Facebook applications. Because the software makes it easy to do so, librarians have been prolific in building a bank of targeted guides for a number of research needs. For example, if students need to find book reviews, identify scholarly journals or research a company, there are guides to help them. If students have papers to write for English 110, Biology 309 or Psychology 271, there are guides developed—in consultation with teaching faculty—to support their research assignments.

To browse the rapidly growing bank of guides, click on “Course and Research Guides” from the library’s homepage, www.uwec.edu/library. You can then browse the guides by title, subject area, course number, librarian name or how-to topic. If you think that such a guide would be just the ticket in getting your own students to harness the power of research tools beyond those they know, contact your liaison librarian. For the list of liaisons, see www.uwec.edu/Library/infolit/libra.htm. Or contact the McIntyre Library reference desk at 715-836-3858, or email library.reference@uwec.edu.

Whenever a new edition of a writer’s manual comes out, a lot of librarians grumble. We are frequently asked how to cite something while staffing the reference desk. I’m sure a lot of faculty grumble too; having to learn a new style when you just got comfortable with the old one is time consuming and causes grading papers to move slowly. Despite those issues, a new edition has great benefits in today’s digital age. A new edition means many of the technology-related items that an old edition did not include are now included in the new edition. For example, the 7th edition of the *MLA Handbook* specifically mentions blogs in its index and tells you to cite blog posts as a nonperiodical publication work cited only on the Web. That’s just one example of the changes in the new edition. What the rest of this article will do is detail other major changes.

The most significant difference, in my opinion, is the move away from underlining titles of books, plays, poems, databases, etc. to italicizing these works. However, MLA gives no rationale for why they moved away from underlining other than the fact that it is “more visually pleasing if sometimes less distinctive.”

The second noteworthy difference between the 6th and 7th edition of the *MLA Handbook* is the requirement for citations to indicate their format. It is no longer expected that print is the default medium or format from which someone got their information. Therefore, toward the end of every citation you’re going to have the word Print, Web, Radio, CD-ROM, etc.

For files found on the Web (e.g., a Microsoft Word document linking to a professor’s pre-print journal publication), in place of the Web, the new edition requires that digital files be identified by their file type. The *MLA Handbook* recommends formatting the citation by following the guidelines for the type of work and in place of the medium information (see above) put information on the type of file. So, for the pre-print document example above, you would put “Microsoft Word file” (without quotes) at the end of the citation.

Another significant change in the 7th edition is that there is no longer a requirement to give the URL in the citation for a resource found on the Internet. More specifically, the *MLA Handbook* says it “no longer recommends” including the URL. One might infer that because URLs tend to be quite lengthy, the MLA chose to remove that part of the citation. Also, their new requirement to list the medium would indicate how to access said material. With proper citation information like author and title, a Web search engine could probably find a given Website, blog post, etc. just as easily.

The *MLA Handbook* now requires all journals cited to include the volume and issue number. In the previous edition, you were only required to cite the issue number if the journal paginated each issue separately. The MLA decided that to aid in the ease in finding resources in print and online, it would require the issue number at all times for journals.

There are a few other revisions worth mentioning. These are: revising the guidelines for citing articles in reference works, revising how to cite newspaper articles, how to cite graphic narratives/novels, and a clarification on the capitalization and punctuation of titles of published works.

Watch for the article in the March 2010 issue of *Off the Shelf*, where the 6th edition of the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* will be featured.

If you have any questions, please contact the McIntyre Library reference desk: library.reference@uwec.edu or 715-836-3858.
Meet McIntyre Library’s Diversity Intern

Andrea Stepanik is McIntyre Library’s first diversity intern. The internship, funded by differential tuition, aims to introduce UW-Eau Claire students of diverse backgrounds to careers in librarianship. Andrea, a senior public history major / library science minor, was born in South Africa and immigrated with her family to the United States in 1989. She returned to South Africa in 2008 to travel and work with a sports facility management business that partnered with a similar South African business. Andrea also volunteered to transcribe oral history interviews about the Rivonia Trial, the trial that resulted in the imprisonment of Nelson Mandela from 1964 to 1990. She is interested in international perspectives on archives management, and archives in developing African countries. Welcome, Andrea!

Family Friendly Study Room Relocated

The McIntyre Library family friendly study room, last highlighted in the March 2009 issue of Off the Shelf, has moved. Formerly located on the 2nd floor of the library, the family friendly study room can now be found in the IMC, on the lower level of the library. It is conveniently located near the children’s book collection.

The room is available on a first-come, first-serve basis to students or staff accompanied by a child. The room key can be checked out with a Blugold card at the library circulation desk. The facility contains a computer, printer, television, VCR, and DVD player, in addition to furniture, toys, videos, crayons and coloring books.

Check Out Our Trial Databases

On the library home page, click

→ Popular Links  → Research  → Trial Databases

For the last three years Anna Knutson has been staffing the reference desk during the week and on Saturday afternoons. While Anna is still answering questions at the reference desk on Saturdays, her new LTE position and duties as reference assistant now bring her to McIntyre Library Monday through Friday mornings. When she’s not at the library, she is making strides toward finishing her master’s degree in information studies at UW-Milwaukee. She also continues to put her BA in theatre from Lawrence University to use at the Fanny Hill Dinner Theatre, where she will be appearing in “A Nice Family Gathering” through November 1.

Welcome back, Anna.

Kong Yang worked for us as a student library assistant for five years. Kong has returned to the library as an LTE, and he will be working Sunday through Thursday evenings. He will be staffing the reference desk in the evening, then supervising the circulation desk until the library closes at 1 a.m. Kong graduated from UW-Eau Claire in May 2009, with a major in biology. Kong enjoys paintball, basketball, and church activities. Welcome back, Kong.
Reference assistant Joy Hopkins resigned in May 2009 to move to Portland, Oregon. In the short year that she worked in the library, she accomplished much. She hit the ground running! In May 2009 she received her master’s degree in information studies from UW-Milwaukee. We really miss Joy, and wish her the best in her new career.

Nancy White, LTE evening circulation supervisor, retired in May 2009. Nancy worked for us while she was a returning adult student, and for more than seven years as an LTE. We appreciated her willingness to work those late hours in the library. Nancy’s retirement plans include travel.

Periodicals assistant Micky Sitzman retired from McIntyre Library in October 2007 after 30 years in the UW System. Micky died April 9, 2009, after an extended struggle with breast cancer. Our condolences go out to Micky’s family.

Nine years ago I moved from Wisconsin to Oakland, after a decade at UW-Eau Claire McIntyre Library as university archivist and head of special collections. Since I edited Off the Shelf for nine years, my good friend Mary Hayden thought it would be of interest to compare my time at McIntyre Library with my current life as a technical writer in the San Francisco Bay Area.

It’s been a wild ride. Commuting from Menomonie to Eau Claire was a dry run for the craziness of three and a half million people commuting in all directions around and across San Francisco Bay every day. I’ve crossed four of the five local bridges from the Dumbarton Bridge to the San Rafael Bridge for jobs since 2000! Editing OTS, writing pathfinders, helping develop the first library Website, and managing the special collections department has helped me get several jobs, including my current position with Wells Fargo. The best (and hardest) part about editing OTS was helping writers tighten their prose without hijacking their style. In my jobs here I’ve often been tasked with editing coworker’s writings, which I’ve done as unobtrusively as possible. I would say I have been most valued for my efforts to do this kind of editing, along with creating style sheets, writing up “mini-procedures” for software, and acting as a one-stop-shop for shared information (once a librarian/archivist, always one).

The blossoming of the Web since 1995, plus sites and services like Facebook, eBay, blogs, Craigslist, instant messaging, wikis, and ubiquitous email have changed everything in the communications world. Marketing, Website, online help, user guide, and corporate content has to be snappy, inviting, clear, and concise. That’s the challenge everywhere.

Quitting a reliable and very enjoyable job at McIntyre Library to seek my fame and fortune (yeah, right) in California was the right thing for me. Tech writing has apparently kept my mind functioning. Life is good and never dull. I can’t ask for much more than that.
Support McIntyre Library

Your gift to McIntyre Library will enhance student learning experiences and provide valuable library resources. There are several ways that you can support the library’s outstanding learning environment.

- The McIntyre Library Associates Fund (0210) provides funding for print, multimedia and electronic collections; leisure reading; listening and viewing collections (gifts of any amount).
- The Library Advancement Fund (1182) provides funding for cultural programming and art exhibits, technology, furnishings, artwork and purchases that enhance the library building and its services (gifts of any amount).
- The William D. & Laurene L. McIntyre Fund (0071) helps build library print and electronic collections, funds large sets and more expensive acquisitions (gifts of $500 or more).
- Other funding opportunities support various collections, provide furnishings, ensure preservation and digitization of collections, and replace and upgrade the equipment in our teaching lab. For complete details, see: www.uwec.edu/fndn/programs/library.htm
- The McIntyre Library Special Collections Fund (1882) supports our work in preserving the history and traditions of the university (gifts of any amount).

Thank you for considering a gift to UW-Eau Claire’s McIntyre Library. For more information about McIntyre Library or our specific needs, visit the McIntyre Library Web site, e-mail Library.Director@uwec.edu or call 715-836-3715.

I wish to support McIntyre Library through my tax-deductible gift.

Name __________________________________________ Address ____________________________________________
City __________________________________________ State __________________________________________ Zip __________
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Enclosed is my check for $_________________________ Foundation Code_______________
(Please make check payable to UW-Eau Claire Foundation, Inc.)

☐ I wish to make a pledge to be fulfilled over a period of up to five years. Please have a member of the Foundation staff contact me.

☐ I wish to make my gift using electronic funds transfer on a monthly or quarterly basis. Please have a member of the Foundation staff contact me.

☐ My employer (or my spouse’s) will match this gift. Employer___________________________

There are several options for designating your gift. See the information above or online at www.uwec.edu/fndn/programs/library.htm

Undesignated funds will be credited to the Library Advancement Fund (1182).

Submit donations to:
UW-Eau Claire Foundation, Inc.
Schofield Hall 214, 105 Garfield Ave.
Eau Claire, WI 54702-4004.

Give online at: www.uwec.edu/fndn/giving.htm

Questions?
- Visit the McIntyre Library Web site
e-mail Library.Director@uwec.edu
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