

Fall 2011

## Portland State Library Update: News for Supporters and Friends; Fall 2011

Portland State University Library

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## Welcoming the Interim University Librarian

Professor Lynn Chmeir has had a distinguished career at several academic libraries at institutions across the Pacific Northwest, including Linfield College, Washington State University in Pullman, and Clark College.

Lynn has been a library leader in the Northwest and is dedicated to advancing the library profession and making a difference for students and faculty. As President of the Oregon Library Association, she helped establish the Oregon Chapter of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) as the Academic Division of OLA. At Linfield College, she was one of the seven founding members of Orbis which has now become the Orbis Cascade Alliance, a consortium of 36 publicly and privately funded academic libraries in Oregon and Washington. The Alliance provides an online catalog and borrowing service that supports our growing student population and faculty research. Lynn is committed to excellent scholarship, first-rate instruction and has been a visionary leader.

*“When I got a call about serving as Interim University Librarian at PSU, I just couldn’t turn down the opportunity to serve this vibrant institution. I knew that interesting things were happening here and now I am experiencing first-hand the real excitement of a library faculty and staff that is truly committed to providing excellent collections and exceptional services. It is a privilege to be here this year.”*

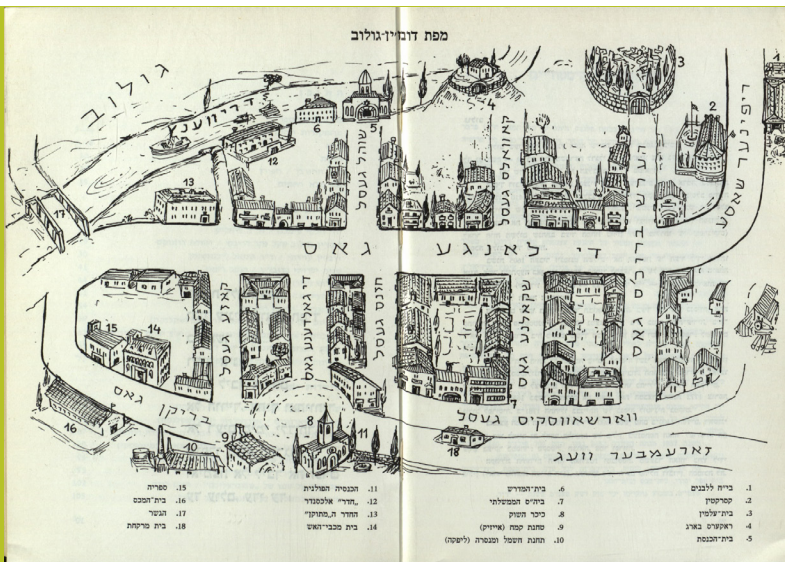
Lynn began her Portland State appointment on July 6th and will serve until a permanent University Librarian is appointed. A national search is now underway under the leadership of Dean Barbara Sestak, School of Fine and Performing Arts.

*We are fortunate to have Lynn lead the University Library through this transitional year as we continue to provide excellent services for students and faculty at Oregon’s largest university.*

# Focus on Collections: Judaic Studies

The University Library supports the curricula and research of the Harold Schnitzer Family Program in Judaic Studies. Judaic Studies examines all aspects of the history, religion, culture, and social and political formations of the Jewish people. It enhances our understanding of world history, and

Conservative, Orthodox, and Reform Judaism. The collection includes works on Jewish contributions to literature, the visual arts, music, and cinema, as well as materials on Jewish history, and on Jewish identity, in Israel and in the diaspora, particularly Europe and the United States. The collection also provides resources for



Map of Dobryn-Golub (Ayarati: sefer zikaron la-'ayarot Dobzín-Golov [My town: a memorial book for the towns of Dobryn-Golub], 1969

allows critical insight into a vital strand in the tapestry of world culture. The program offers the opportunity for students of all backgrounds to explore a rich civilization that is both nourished by ancient traditions and shaped through creative encounters and ongoing interactions with other cultures.

The Judaic Studies collection at the University Library provides resources for study of the culture, history, and religion of Jewish peoples. It focuses on the Modern period including demography, migration, socio-economic aspects, literature, Haskalah, Israel, the Holocaust, Jewish nationalism, Jewish socialism, and modern anti-Semitism.

The Library's collection maintains a broad foundation in a range of subject matter within the field, including materials on the principles, theology, and history of Judaism, on the sources of Jewish religion such as the Talmud, Mishnah, and Bible, among other works, and on

the study of archaeology, Hebrew, and works on women and Judaism, feminist theology, and gender studies.

We have been able to grow our collection due to the generosity of many alumni, community members, and faculty and staff donors. The University Library and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences is pleased to share that Philanthropist Lorry I. Lokey recently created the Lokey Library Fund. Mr. Lokey will match funds raised toward this fund up to \$150,000. The Lokey Library Fund will bolster the Jewish and Israel Studies collection through the acquisition of critical resources that our students and faculty require to push their intellectual boundaries and create new knowledge. We are most appreciative to all of our library supporters and hope you will consider donating to support the University Library through this fund, or many other exciting opportunities to make a difference for our students.

Learn more about the Yizkor Book Collection: [library.pdx.edu/yizkor.html](http://library.pdx.edu/yizkor.html)



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Soccer match,  
Konin Yizkor book

## *Of Place and Memory:* The Yizkor Book as a Window into a World

September 16-December 16, 2011

Special Collections announces the fall exhibit “Of Place and Memory: The Yizkor Book as a Window into a World Destroyed” at the Portland State University Library. This exhibit tells the stories of Eastern European Jews and their communities destroyed in the Holocaust. It is the result of a first-time collaboration between the University Library and the Harold Schnitzer Family Program in Judaic Studies.

Yizkor books were assembled by survivors from all over Eastern Europe to document their lives, those of their lost family members and friends, and their obliterated shtetls (towns). Part memoir, part family tree, part family photo album, Yizkor books tell not only of a people and culture destroyed, but also of a people’s renewal and post-1945 regeneration that followed in Israel and the Diaspora.

The University Library’s Special Collections is the steward of 136

Yizkor books—the largest collection of its kind in the Pacific Northwest. Its Yizkor holdings include a volume dating back to 1929, published in Pinsk well prior to World War II, as well as unique copies not yet included in the recent digitization project undertaken by the New York Public Library’s Dorot Jewish Division. “Of Place and Memory” is curated by Natan M. Meir, the Lorry I. Lokey Assistant Professor of Judaic Studies, with assistance from Cris Paschild, Head of Special Collections and Carolee Harrison, preservation specialist. Current History and Judaic Studies student Shayla Vondrachek also contributed to the exhibit. “For researchers, Yizkor books are a precious resource, providing a glimpse of everyday life in the shtetls that were home to so many Eastern European Jews before the Holocaust,” Meir.

“ Though many of the books have a strongly nostalgic strain, their collage-like quality makes them a genre of their own, and they are fascinating both in and of themselves as well as because of the vanished world that they memorialize.”

Natan M. Meir,  
Lorry I. Lokey Assistant  
Professor of Judaic  
Studies

If you would like to make a gift to the Lokey Library Fund, please contact Jennifer Wilkerson ([jwilk@pdx.edu/503.725.4509](mailto:jwilk@pdx.edu/503.725.4509)).

Your gift will be matched dollar for dollar. Please consider supporting the Jewish and Israel Collection and make a difference today!



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## Focus on Spaces: *The Learning Ground*

With construction almost complete, the University Library's renovated computer lab, the Learning Ground, features a range of technologies and workspaces for students. The space encompasses the north wing of the Library's first floor, including the Office of Information Technologies (OIT) computer lab on the first floor plus an additional 850 square feet of computing and group study space.

When the project is finished, the updated space will feature an expanded computer lab, upgraded computer tables, improved assistive technologies, window seating conveniently located for access to power, wireless printing, technology support, and a new experimental area designed to offer innovative technologies for student collaboration. This experimental space has been conceived as a student-focused space for group study and experimentation with new technologies.

This project is a joint effort of the University Library and OIT, and is funded by both departments and the Student Building Fee Committee on behalf of the

Associated Students of PSU (ASPSU).

Overall, the updated space is made up of 3 distinct areas:

- Window study spaces: A counter running along the front window of the Library, with a number of stools for seating, ready access to power outlets, and a great view of the park blocks.
- Experimental collaboration space: Adjacent to the computer lab, this space offers a range of technologies aimed at fostering student collaboration, including wall-embedded LCD displays, touch-screen monitors, floor-to-ceiling writeable wall surfaces and whiteboards, and a variety of seating and workspaces. All LCD displays and monitors may be used with personal or library laptops (available at Circulation).
- Computer lab: Featuring 58 computers (both Mac and PC), 3 high-speed printer/scanners, quick-print kiosks, flatbed scanners, and improved assistive technology workstations, this area will continue to be one of the most welcoming and busiest computer labs on campus.

## Construction Timeline

June-July 2011:  
Computer lab was shut down and computers moved offsite.

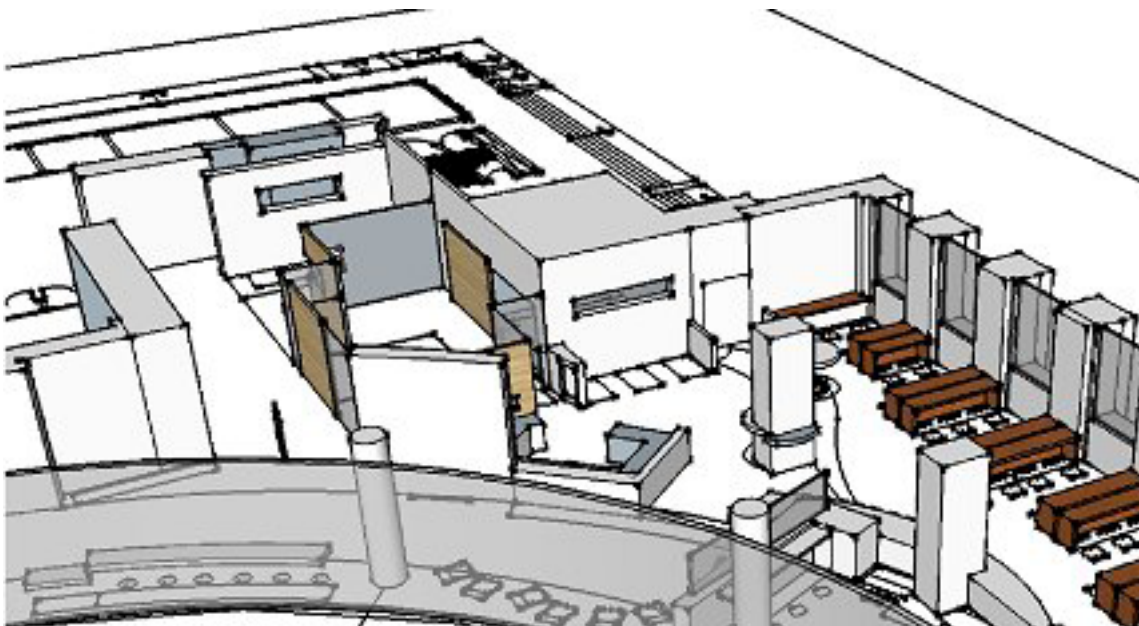
August 1, 2011:  
Construction began.

August 31, 2011:  
The construction team began building the walls that will frame the computer lab.

September 26, 2011:  
The computer lab re-opened with about half of the computers.

Mid-October 2011:  
The computer lab fully re-opened with all the computers.

Mid-November 2011:  
The experimental space will open; expected completion of all construction.



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Ray Anne Lockard '69  
Head of the Frick Fine  
Arts Library at the  
University of Pittsburgh

## Focus on Student Success: Librarian Mentorship

As educators, we strive to make a difference in the lives of our students. We hope to make a difference for even just one student, to help her reach her full potential. Often, we lose touch with these students as they navigate their post-PSU careers and lives, but every once in a while a mentorship becomes a lifelong friendship.

Carlyne “Carlie” McCallister was the Head of the Library’s Education Department during the mid-1950s. Carlie began her tenure at PSU Library while it was still in “Old Main,” now Lincoln Hall. Carlie founded the Education collection in the Library that continues to serve the needs of the University’s students and faculty. Carlie made her mark on the profession of librarianship through her work on the Knapp Project. This project was the first national education program administered by the Association of School Libraries and founded the relationship between the PSU Library and Portland’s high schools that initiated the growth of public school libraries.

Carlie was highly regarded in the profession and was beloved on the PSU campus. Alumna Ray Anne Lockard worked for Carlie and recalls, “my interest in librarianship was definitely the result of being a student assistant at the PSU Library. I was surprised to hear her and another librarian tell me they thought I would make an excellent librarian.”

Every day, our librarians help students to see their full potential and to achieve the success we know they can.

Ray Anne pursued librarianship as her career because Carlie opened her eyes to a field where she could excel and make a difference. Carlie set the standard for librarianship and Ray Anne turned to Carlie throughout their 40-year friendship for advice and guidance. Ray Anne credits Carlie for changing her path in life, and it is no doubt that Ray Anne’s dedication to her friend equally influenced Carlie.

Carlie McCallister died in March 2011 at the age of 84. Her legacy certainly lives on in the memories of her many colleagues and students, but it is most vibrant in the life of Ray Anne Lockard as she works to provide critical learning experiences for her students at the University of Pittsburgh where she is the Head of the Frick Fine Arts Library.

Ray Anne has taken the lessons she learned from Carlie and strives to make a difference in the lives of her own student assistants. She is invested in her profession and proud of the work librarians do every day in service to their students. Her dedication to excellent service is unparalleled, her passion for libraries sincere and it all began at the PSU Library with one librarian, Carlie McCallister.

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[library.pdx.edu/studentfund](http://library.pdx.edu/studentfund)



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## Portland State University Library: The Impact of Giving

The Portland State University Library gratefully acknowledges the support of our many alumni, staff, faculty, and community members in helping us achieve excellence. We are able to do more because of the generosity of our supporters.

The University Library serves as Portland's only comprehensive academic library and we continue to make an impact on our users because of our passionate donors. Our mission has never been more critical during a time of challenging budgets.

Portland State University is grateful for every donation, large and small. Your support makes a difference to our students, faculty and staff every day.

The *Portland State Library Update* is published bi-annually to promote the services, collections and programs of the Portland State University Library.

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We invite you to visit our full donor honor roll online:  
[http://library.pdx.edu/support/donors/honor\\_roll.html](http://library.pdx.edu/support/donors/honor_roll.html)

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