

Fall 2009

## Portland State Library Newsletter; Fall 2009

Portland State University Library

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# Portland State Library

Fall 2009 Newsletter

<http://library.pdx.edu>

503.725.5874



## Services to Help You Succeed!

You already know that we have books, journals, and great electronic resources. Did you know about all the other resources and services the [Library](#) has to offer? In addition to research help at the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Reference Desk, the Library also hosts academic advisors from University Advising, math and science tutors from the Skills Enhancement and Tutoring Center, and writing consultants from the Writing Center. Online, students can get help through live chat reference service or send us email. We also have a practice presentation room, and 21 individual and group study rooms. Our Dark Horse Comics collection is very popular for both recreational reading and coursework in Fine Arts. Almost 30,000 visitors per week come to the Library during the academic term, so stop by in person or online and see why the Library is so popular!

**New Family-Friendly Study Room!** The Library, in collaboration with the Helen Gordon Center and support from the Office of Information Technology, will open a family-friendly study room on September 28. The room augments the other 21 group study rooms and will accommodate two family groups, with workstations for students and children's furniture and books for the kids. The room will be available on a first-come/first-served basis and a key can be checked out at the Circulation Desk on the first floor of the Library.

Tom Raffensperger,  
Assistant University Librarian for Public Services

### *What's Inside*

- We Are Here to Help!
- Website-ings – Middle East Studies
- News from Public Access Services
- Portland State WorldCat
- Exhibit & Events
- History of Middle East Studies in the West Exhibit
- Donor Honor Roll



**GENEROUS GIFTS  
TO THE  
PORTLAND STATE  
LIBRARY**

**JULY 1, 2008 –  
AUGUST 31, 2009**

We would like to recognize our donors from the past year. Their contributions have made it possible for the Library to continue building strong collections and offering quality patron services that promote teaching excellence, classroom and lifelong learning, and outstanding scholarship. Our donor honor roll begins on page 7.

[Giving to the Library](#)

## We Are Here to Help!



Helen H. Spalding  
University Librarian

No matter how many times you begin a school term, there will be unexpected surprises. Education is all about learning new things and making changes for the better. At Portland State University, offices and classrooms have been moved, outside and inside spaces have been rearranged, familiar faces may be gone, and new ones have appeared. At the Library, each term brings new collections and services to help you succeed academically, professionally, and personally. We are here to help you navigate familiar as well as new avenues. Friendly, knowledgeable people are available in the Branford P. Millar Library when you visit or through chat, email, and telephone (503-725-5874) when you are further away. We hope you feel welcome in the Library and while visiting the Library Web site at <http://library.pdx.edu/>. The Library Web site is a great place to find updates on new collections and services, exhibits and programs. Just click on the “What’s New” link on the Library homepage. Welcome to a new Fall term and best wishes in finding success at Portland State University!

## Just Ask!

Construction will be taking place around the Library throughout the academic year and we will post updates on its progress. You also will find links to a wealth of resources, including the Portland State Library Vikat Catalog, and the SUMMIT Catalog to titles around the world as well as interlibrary loan services, research guides for specific subjects and courses, online books and journals, government information, copyright information, and more. Make use of the tutoring services, student study rooms, an equipped room for practicing your class presentations, and a new family friendly room, where you can study while watching your children. Any questions can be answered in the second floor Research Center, just ask! We are here to help!

Helen H. Spalding  
University Librarian

## Website-ings — Middle East Studies

**The Portland State Library is excited to present a unique exhibit in conjunction with the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the University's Middle East Studies Center (MESC).**

### **[PBS Global Connections: The Middle East](#)**

Global Connections offers you an overview of Iran through six themes: politics, religion, science & technology, geology, culture, and economics. One of the more interesting sections of the site is called “Connecting Questions.” These questions are used to “explore some of the big-picture issues affecting the Middle East,” for example “How were the modern nation-states of the Middle East created?” and “What factors determine the changing roles of women in the Middle East and Islamic societies?” Global Connections provides background information and a timeline for each question along with lesson plans for educators with links to other resources that would be of interest to students as well as faculty.

### **[Research Guide for Middle East Studies](#)**

*Portland State Library*

What print and online resources are available to you at Portland State Library? This research guide describes some of the core Middle East Studies resources that are in the Library or available through our journal and database subscriptions, and also includes an annotated list of some of the top web sites out there.

### **[Middle East Studies Internet Resources](#)**

*Columbia University Libraries*

A continually growing collection of Middle East and North Africa resources and research material available online, Columbia University Libraries organizes these electronic resources by region, country and subject. “The scope of the collection is research-oriented, but it also provides access to...sites with different or broader missions.” Resources include “electronic journals and news archives that specialize in the Middle East, electronic Middle Eastern art exhibits and information on scholarly organizations and activities.” Additional online resources are organized by subject, region and country.

# News from Public Access Services

When you first walk into the Branford P. Millar Library, you are greeted by a mute mosaic fish. But where are the people? Turn to the left, and you'll see the [Library Circulation Desk](#). This is the public face of the Public Access Services (PAS) department. In addition to checking out library books, you can pick up course reserves, DVDs and videos, music CDs, and holds from Interlibrary Loan (ILL), Summit, and the off-site storage facility. This is also where you find study room keys, white board pens, and headphones. And, don't forget the ever-popular Practice Presentation Room where you can practice your presentations, its key is found here, too.

We recently remodeled so that we can serve you more effectively. Note that the book drop area has moved to the west side or right of the Circulation Desk. The copiers also have moved, and now, are coin operated only – no more copy cards! The Interlibrary Loan department has moved to PAS. Those who wish to confer with them can just stop at the Circulation Desk. We will walk you to their new office.

Come see us and let us know how we're doing!



## *Portland State WorldCat*

*During fall term  
2009, we will  
beta-test our new  
Library catalog  
called, "[Portland  
State WorldCat](#)".*

*The new interface  
responds to searches  
with lists of resources  
in many languages.*

For more information about  
Portland State University Library  
visit <http://library.pdx.edu>

## Exhibits & Events

History of Middle East Studies in the West Exhibit  
September 19–December 10  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor, New Books & Exhibits Area  
Branford P. Millar Library

Portland State Library presents the documentary, Welcome to Iran!  
7 pm, Friday, October 16, 2009  
5th Avenue Cinema  
5th & Hall  
Portland, OR

Spotlight on Faculty Authors: Christine Rose & Gina Greco's translation of  
*The Good Wife's Guide: Le Ménagier de Paris: a medieval household book*  
4 pm, Tuesday, November 17  
Room 160, Branford P. Millar Library



# History of Middle East Studies in the West Exhibit

## September 19 – December 10



The Portland State University Library is excited to present a unique exhibit in conjunction with the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the University's Middle East Studies Center (MESCC). Curated by Professor Emeritus Jon Mandaville and alumnus Gary Leiser, the exhibit is entitled "History of Middle Eastern Studies in the Western World." Colorful panels will describe this history from its beginnings through the development of MESCC. The origins of the study of the Middle East region evolved from Orientalism, the European study of the areas speaking Arabic, Turkish and Persian. The exhibit distills the important developments in studies of the Middle East from the sixteenth through the nineteenth centuries.

The sixteenth century witnessed an increase in interest in the Middle East because of the expanding Ottoman Empire and growing trade with the Muslim world. In the seventeenth century, Turkish studies in Germany and Arabic studies in England were established. At the end of the century, the founding work of Orientalism, *Bibliothèque Orientale*, based on manuscripts from the royal library, was published in Paris and became the first encyclopedia of the Orient. In the eighteenth century, after a lull early in the century, interest in Orientalist studies were reinvigorated due to developing diplomatic and trade relations between Europe, the Ottoman Empire and other parts of the Middle East. At the end of the century, an important research outcome of Napoleon's invasion of Egypt was the *Description de l'Égypte*, which became the basis for study of the modern Middle East and Egyptology. Silvestre de Sacy, the founder of modern Orientalism, established the Société Asiatique in 1821 (the first scholarly organization focused on the Orient), completed translations from Arabic and instructed a new, influential generation of scholars.

Moving into the twentieth century, the advent of Middle Eastern studies replaced traditional Orientalism as a result of European imperialism and colonialism, beginning with the French conquest of Algeria in 1830. The study of Middle Eastern languages and cultures developed and new scholarly resources became available.

Middle Eastern studies in the United States primarily relied on imported European scholars until World War II. After the war, H.A.R. Gibb was



recruited from Oxford and established Harvard's Middle East Center in 1955. In 1958, the National Defense Education Act permitted government funding of Middle Eastern studies on a large scale in order to promote American influence in the country's "Cold War" with the Soviet Union for world prominence. Many Middle East Studies Centers were established from this initiative including



Portland State University's (then College) as one of twelve centers supported by the U.S. Office of Education. The MESC is the only center exclusively directed toward undergraduate education.

Kristen Kern, School of Fine and Performing Arts Librarian  
Art Wright, Photographer (Photographs, copyright 2008)

## **Finding Non-English Materials in the Library's Collection**

Did you know that the Library's collection includes books and other materials in several languages including Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Hebrew, Italian, Russian, and Spanish? To find these materials, limit your searches to specific languages in the [Library Catalog-Vikat](#). We have implemented special indexes that allow you to locate some of the Library's Chinese, Japanese, Korean (CJK), Hebrew, and Arabic language materials by typing your search terms in Arabic, CJK, or Hebrew characters. [Click here](#) to find out how to set up and use these vernacular languages.

Contributors: Jocelyn Duffy, Mike Flakus, Julie Guzzetta, Kari Hauge, Kristen Kern, Adriene Lim, Sudin Maharjan, Tom Raffensperger, Joshua Seaman, Helen Spalding, Kimberly Willson-St. Clair, Art Wright

## **Generous Gifts to the Library Donor Honor Roll**

**July 1, 2008 – August 31, 2009**

We would like to recognize our donors from the past year. Their contributions have made it possible for the Library to continue building strong collections and offering high quality patron services that promote teaching excellence, classroom and lifelong learning, and outstanding scholarship.

Please consider joining these dedicated Portland State Library Supporters by making a gift to today on-line at [Give to the Library](#) or call Aaron Pearlman at 503-725-4509. Thank you!

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### **Gifts in memory of Elsie Butler**

Helen Spalding & Karl F. Johnson

### **Gifts in memory of Gary Robinson**

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### **Gifts in memory of William D. Williams**

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*To make a gift in honor or memory of a loved one, please contact the Development Office at 503-725-4509.*



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*These funds help to support vital services, acquisitions and processing for specific subject areas and special projects. Thank you to the original donors to these funds and the additional donors listed below.*

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