Library Team recaptures cardboard canoe race trophy with fastest time of the day

A cardboard canoe representing the Library returned to the waters of Cedar Lake during the Engineering Department’s annual cardboard canoe race, held on Friday, October 3rd. Because the library lost the department trophy the previous year, the team of builders and rowers was determined to regain the trophy. Nine student Library assistants under the direction of Becky Hayes, Circulation Services Manager, designed and built the Library’s entry. The well-built cardboard canoe, expertly paddled by two student Library assistants, Aaron Ikehara and Valentina Blackburn, not only completed the entire course but did it in the fastest time of the day, winning back the University departmental competition trophy. Our thanks to Aaron Ikehara, Jill Conway, Brad Latario, Drew Snead, Valentina Blackburn, Ben Shorey, Katie Krizo, Lauren McIntosh, and Rachel Latario for the time and effort committed to the design, construction, and piloting of the Library’s canoe.

Library book cart drill team delights those at the Homecoming parade

On Saturday, October 4th, the Centennial Cartwheelers made their third appearance in the Homecoming parade. This highly skilled book cart drill team entertained those along the parade route with the precision routines led by Sergeant Major Andi Mounts, Assistant Circulation Services Manager. The team was supported by a cast of Library personnel and family members who distributed candy along the route. The book trucks were re-engineered to look like Snoopy’s dog house, with Snoopy as the Red Baron riding on top, wearing his aviator hat and goggles, his scarf flying in the wind. The cartwheelers were dressed with matching aviator hats and goggles with blue and white scarfs. This effort, directed by Greg Martin, CMC Librarian, involved several months of preparation, including drill team practices in the Library parking lot, costume design, the transformation of book trucks into flying dog houses, and the efforts of many on the Library staff.
Library scores high on LibQUAL national library assessment survey

This past spring 596 students and 91 faculty and staff at Cedarville participated in the international library survey, LibQUAL+. The 2008 LibQUAL+ survey, administered by the Association of Research Libraries (ARL), has tracked the opinions and comments of more than 157,300 users. These users rate the service provided at their own libraries, as well as their minimum and desired level of service for 3 dimensions of service: effect of service, information control and library as place.

This is the third time that Cedarville University has participated in the total market survey. Previous surveys were completed in 2002, and 2005. In each survey the CU students, faculty, and staff have indicated an increase in their desired levels of service, but their perception of the service provided by the Centennial Library has increased as well.

This year, as in 2005, the Centennial library participated with a consortium of CCCU libraries. This group of 13 libraries (Azusa Pacific, Biola, Calvin, Covenant, Eastern Nazarene, George Fox, Greenville, Northwest Nazarene, Oklahoma Christian, and Union), created additional survey items important to us as a group and also received group results for the CCCU libraries as a whole. It is exciting to be a part of a group of libraries that are recognized by their users for providing excellent service. As a whole, the CCCU libraries all rated higher in the perceived level of services than the average of all College and Universities.

What did the survey tell us?

Each item was answered three times, first to determine minimum level of service, then the desired level of service, and finally the service provided at the local library. In the four items below, the Centennial Library exceeded the expectations of our users:

- Informing me of useful library services
- Employees who deal with users in a caring fashion
- Giving users individual attention
- Willingness to help users

The following items received the highest scores for the desired level of service:

- Modern Equipment that lets me easily access needed information
- Employees who are consistently courteous
- A library web site enabling me to locate information on my own
- Making electronic resources accessible from my home or office
- Print and/or electronic journal collections I require for my work

The following items received the lowest scores for perceived level of service, but none fell below the minimum level of acceptable service to our users:

- Making electronic resources accessible from my home or office
- Print and/or electronic journal collections I require for my work
- Library space that inspires learning
- A library web site enabling me to locate information on my own
Since the 2005 survey, the perceived level of service has increased for nearly all items. Three items were almost equal to the 2005 responses: “Making electronic resources accessible from my home or office,” “A library website enabling me to locate information on my own,” and “Easy-to-use access tools that allow me to find things on my own.” One item had a lower rating in 2008 than in 2005, “Making information easily accessible for independent use.”

What's next?

Cedarville students, faculty and staff have indicated a desire for courteous employees, and the library’s scores for personal service received at the Centennial Library often exceed expectations. The training and emphasis at the Library on providing "good customer service" is obviously having an impact. Other items that were “high desired’s” include:

- A library website enabling me to locate information on my own
- Making electronic resources accessible from my home or office
- Print and/or electronic journal collections I require for my work

Since these items also appear as “low perceived service,” the Centennial Library will be evaluating the best ways to address these concerns.

Faculty and students across all disciplines were well represented in the 2008 survey, and we appreciate all those who took the time to share their opinions about the service they receive from the Centennial Library.

Two rare books by John Calvin added to the Bible Heritage Collection

In preparation for a future exhibit in the Biblical Heritage Gallery in the Center for Biblical and Theological Studies, two rare books by John Calvin were recently purchased for the Library’s Bible Heritage Collection. John Calvin, along with Martin Luther, is considered to be among the most significant forces in the Protestant Reformation in the 16th century. The first book purchased, a commentary by Calvin on the Psalms is written in Latin and was published during Calvin’s lifetime in Geneva, Switzerland. This almost 900 page book, a second edition printed in 1564, retains its original covers, spine, and silk ties. It is interesting to note that this book was once owned by Davis Giddy in the early 19th century, a member of the British Parliament, President of the Royal Society, and an acquaintance of William Wilberforce, whose efforts ended slavery in the British Empire early in the 19th century.

The second volume purchased, a commentary on Genesis translated into English, was printed in 1578 in London after Calvin’s death. This book of over 900 pages retains its original leather covers. A remarkable feature of this copy is that almost 130 pages of the text are hand written, apparently filling in missing pages. A previous owner certainly valued Calvin’s work highly enough to make sure he had a complete copy of this book.

In 2009, the world will celebrate the quincentenary of John Calvin, who was born on July 10, 1509. This acknowledgment, along with these two additions to the Library’s collection, will be included in an exhibit on the Reformation during the 2009 Fall semester in the Biblical Heritage Gallery.
The Centennial Library's third annual dinner and program for CU students interested in library science careers was held on Monday, November 10 in the Stevens Student Center. More than 20 students had an opportunity to mingle with University and area librarians as well as current graduate students to give perspective about library careers and graduate school programs. Following the dinner two presentations were made. The first was by senior English majors April Price and Sharon Waltz, currently enrolled in the Library internship course, sharing their experiences from the Fall semester. The second presentation was by Sarah (Brahler) Clark, a 2007 Cedarville Criminal Justice major who is currently enrolled in the Graduate Library School at Kent State University and works in the University Advancement division, sharing her career decision path and information about her first semester in graduate school.

If you know of any students who might be interested in a career as a librarian, please contact Julie Deardorff, Director for Library Collection Services, for more information. Students from all undergraduate majors are eligible to apply to graduate school for the MLS degree.

The Centennial Library internship program is designed to allow student participants to explore the library profession as a career choice. Interns participate in a variety of activities which allow them to become familiar with the operations and services of an academic library. They are also introduced to other types of libraries based on their personal interests. The internship is intended to help participants to determine if their interest in the library field is strong enough to pursue a master's degree in library science (MLS), to gain experience which will help them in graduate school, and to make them more attractive in a competitive job market. The program was piloted in January 2007 with the first student enrollee and is currently being offered for the third time.

The Fall 2008 Centennial Library interns are senior English majors April Price and Sharon Waltz. Both are enrolled in English 4230: Independent Study-Library Science Internship, a 3 credit course. The interns are supervised by Julie Deardorff, Director for Library Collection Services. April and Sharon have both worked at the Centennial Library as Student Assistants for the past few years, April in the Curriculum Materials Center and Sharon in Circulation Services. The internship program allows them to build upon that experience through a variety of activities, projects, reading and writing assignments, and interactions with librarians and library staff. April and Sharon have attended a conference for academic librarians, taken field trips to school and public libraries, explored what it means to be a Christian librarian, and examined current issues in the field.

Faculty who know of students who might be interested in future internships should contact Julie for more information. Students from all undergraduate majors are eligible.
Centennial Library Scholarship Award in Library Science Available

The Centennial Library is again seeking applicants for the its scholarship award in Library Science. This Award, presented annually at Honors Day if applicants are available, was established by the Centennial Library faculty to encourage and actively support the next generation of library and information specialists, and especially to encourage those who seek careers in library service and also those who will fill the future library faculty ranks of Christian colleges and universities. The cash award is available to senior applicants, and is made directly to the institution in which the recipient is enrolled for graduate study in Library and information science. The first award was presented in 2000, and since then six other scholarships have been awarded, the most recent in 2008. The Award brochure can be accessed online. Applications for the award are available in the Library Administrative office with a submission deadline of February 15, 2009. Faculty are encouraged to identify students who might be interested in a Library science degree and direct them toward this opportunity. Questions can be addressed to Julie Deardorff, Director of Library Collection Services, who provides oversight to the Library career development program.

CMC hosts author of children’s books

Children’s author and illustrator Will Hillenbrand visited the Centennial Library on November 13. Addressing approximately 30 students, faculty, and staff in the Curriculum Materials Center, Mr. Hillenbrand spoke about the importance of story in the lives of young people. He stressed the responsibility of teachers and parents to engender a love of story and reading in young children and suggested ways to encourage children to use their imaginations while listening to a story. Mr. Hillenbrand showed examples of his work and explained the processes by which he creates his stories and illustrations. Hillenbrand’s books include Down by the Station, Asleep in the Manger, Kiss the Cow, and The Biggest, Best Snowman. The audience was treated to a sneak preview of illustrations from several of his upcoming books, including Don’t Slam the Door! A reception was held in the CMC following his presentation. Mr. Hillenbrand’s visit to Cedarville was made possible by Rebecca Stroble, elementary librarian for the Xenia Community Schools.
University Faculty in Print
Recognizing Faculty Scholarship

John Whitmore, Associate Professor of Geology

This book is a collection of research articles addressing a variety of questions about the Bible and creationism with biblical and logical answers from a variety of experts. John Whitmore’s chapter addresses the question of whether millions of years are required to explain the rock formations that we see or are there other possibilities. He discusses sedimentary rocks, rock layers, types of erosion, fossil formation, coal formation, and reef formation to support his conclusions of more rapid processes. John concludes that conventional geologists are recognizing that catastrophic (shorter) processes can form many parts of the geologic record.

University Alumni in Print
Carrying the Torch to Their World

Marla Taviano, (Class of 1997)

In this book, Marla answers some challenging questions for the first-time stay-at-home mom. These are questions about staying at home and not working outside the home, about how to relate to people who freely offer advice, about how to sense how the husband is doing in his new role as dad, about how to respond to the desire of grandparents to advise and help, and about how to react to the feeling of personal dreams being put on hold. Marla says that “God calls some people to change the world in big chunks, some in bite-sized pieces. May we be faithful to follow wherever and however He calls. And may we be joyful and contented when He asks us to change our world one diaper at a time.”
Library Holiday and Semester Break Hours

The following are the public hours for the Centennial Library for the Thanksgiving and Semester breaks. Please plan your schedule accordingly.

Thanksgiving Break

- **November 26**: Close at 3:00 p.m.
- **November 27-30**: Closed
- **December 1**: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- **December 2**: Resume regular hours

Semester Break

- **December 12**: Close at 5:00 p.m.
- **December 13-14**: Closed
- **December 15-19**: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- **December 20-28**: Closed
- **December 29-31**: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- **January 1-4**: Closed
- **January 5**: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- **January 6**: Resume regular hours