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Sandy Slater  
*University of North Dakota*

Wilbur Stolt  
*University of North Dakota*

Curt Hanson  
*University of North Dakota*

Betty Gard  
*University of North Dakota*

Randy Pederson  
*University of North Dakota*

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One can state without any hesitation that the kindness and generosity of the people of Norway has made the Bygdebok Collection possible. Gifts have been donated by numerous individuals, historical societies, community organizations, and local governmental agencies, in addition to the University of Oslo Library’s gift of seventeen volumes.

Locally, the Nodak Mutual Foundation recognized the research value of the Bygdebok Collection in 2000 with a generous grant of $2,000 to UND’s Nordic Initiative that resulted in an additional 33 volumes representing 17 Norwegian parishes. From the onset, District Four of North Dakota Sons of Norway, Gyda Varden Lodge, has lent monetary and gift book support, and most certainly, Arne Brekke has lent his expertise, personal connections, gift books, even shipping assistance, to the Collection to fulfill his vision of making the Chester Fritz Library’s Bygdebok Collection one of the finest in the country.

From 1995 to the present, the Chester Fritz Library has provided significant resources for the acquisition of nearly 250 additional volumes. The Family History Room in Special Collections houses this extensive Collection totaling more than a 1000 bygdeboks. The Collection also contains many town history books, published emigration listings, and several yearbooks that contain genealogical information.

To commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Bygdebok Collection, the Library and UND’s Nordic Initiative sponsored an international conference, “Norwegian Heritage in the United States: Resources and the Research Experiences” October 10-11, 2005 in Grand Forks, ND. The conference brought together speakers and panelists from Norway and the United States to discuss the resources available to scholars and genealogists interested in Norwegian family history and immigration to the United States. Participants from 12 states, one Canadian province and Norway gathered for an enlightening exchange of information and the sharing of common interests. The Conference succeeded in increasing the knowledge of resources and furthered discussion on Norwegian heritage. Future conferences are expected to expand the discussion initiated at this event. In addition to the Library and Nordic Initiative, conference sponsors included the Norwegian-American Foundation, Grand Forks Visitors and Convention Bureau, Brekke Tours and Travel of Grand Forks, Grand Forks Sons of Norway Lodge, and Scandinavian Airlines.

The Chester Fritz Library has also published a guide to its bygdebok holdings and remains committed to acquiring these valuable resources in the future and to enhancing this premiere collection, one of the largest in the United States.
**DIGITAL ACCESS FOR DIGITAL NATIVES**

Technology is at the core of most activities students do today. We see them with their cell phones, tablets, and laptops that bind them together. They are chatting, playing games, working, listening to music, and networking. Students use technology for both work and play, and they expect it to be available everywhere. Their expectations cannot be met not only in the Chester Fritz Library. Students are as likely to check their email as they are to check out a book. To meet these expectations, the library needs to be responsive to students' technological needs. The library has introduced several new services for finding and using information.

The latest innovation is the Digital Scanning Center which opened in September 2005 in two areas of the Library, the Periodicals Department and Special Collections. The Scanning Center contains the equipment and software to scan books, paper documents, microforms, maps, or photographs. Nearly any original document, whether library materials or personal resources, may be converted into a usable electronic file format, and software in the Center. Items may be scanned and edited with Adobe Acrobat or Photoshop, or directly into Microsoft Word documents. The Scanning Center utilizes ABBYY Fine Reader optical character recognition (OCR) software to convert paper documents, or Acrobat PDF's, into usable electronic data files. The Center offers researchers an opportunity to make their own electronic copies of scholarly resources and images. It also allows the Library to assist the University with the resources needed to build a "collection of record" in art. In 2005 alone, a total of 766 art books were purchased through these funds. They covered a wide variety of art subjects, from archeological studies to the latest in artistic developments, from the Myers Trust have continued to provide the Library with the funds from these funds. They covered a wide variety of art subjects, from archeological studies to the latest in artistic developments, from the Myers Trust have continued to provide the Library with the funds. They covered a wide variety of art subjects, from archeological studies to the latest in artistic developments, from the Myers Trust have continued to provide the Library with the funds. They covered a wide variety of art subjects, from archeological studies to the latest in artistic developments, from the Myers Trust have continued to provide the Library with the funds. They covered a wide variety of art subjects, from archeological studies to the latest in artistic developments, from the Myers Trust have continued to provide the Library with the funds. They covered a wide variety of art subjects, from archeological studies to the latest in artistic developments, from the Myers Trust have continued to provide the Library with the funds. They covered a wide variety of art subjects, from archeological studies to the latest in artistic developments, from the Myers Trust have continued to provide the Library with the funds. They covered a wide variety of art subjects, from archeological studies to the latest in artistic developments, from the Myers Trust have continued to provide the Library with...
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Text and Art Retrospective provide historical and ongoing subject indexing to major, wide-ranging art periodicals. A subscription to Grove Art Online provides updating and enhancement to the Library's physical copy of the outstanding 34 volume reference work, Dictionary of Art, also acquired through Myers funds. The Library also has taken advantage of the savings offered by becoming a charter member of the ARTstor database, a digital library of art images acquired from curated collections of art, architecture and archeology housed in a number of important museums. ARTstor serves as a valuable resource for both faculty and student research.

The exceptional growth in the Library's art book collection would not have been possible without the generous gift of a committed UND alum. Eugene Myers' focused gift is an extraordinary example of what is possible. His gift has allowed the Library to move one particular collection to a caliber normally held only by much larger university libraries. The added advantage is that since most of the books can be borrowed through Interlibrary Loan, the benefactors of his generosity are not only UND faculty and students, but the world at large.

Betty Gard, Head, Reference & Research Services

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to locate and examine these archival materials using a web browser. However, some materials may never be digitized and for those items a researcher has access to a Scanning Center to make "on the fly" reference copies for their personal research projects.

Besides the Digital Scanning Center, which was made possible with funding from the UND Student Technology Fee Committee, the Chester Fritz Library has completed other technology projects through various partnerships. In cooperation with Information Technology Systems & Services (ITSS), the Library provides students using laptops a wireless network to access the Internet. The Uniprint printing system provides easy, no-fee printing for students using the Library. This project leveraged a partnership with Student Government, the Student Technology Fee Committee, and ITSS in September 2002.

Although the aforementioned services are used by students while in the Library, some innovations are designed to bring library services to the student. An EZproxy server was implemented during the 2004 Fall Semester. The EZproxy server allows students and faculty to gain easy access to electronic subscription databases and journals from any off-campus location. This project was completed with the assistance of ITSS. All three services, the wireless network, UniPrint, and EZproxy have been well received by students and faculty. The Chester Fritz Library will continue to partner with other departments to offer new services that will provide students with a quality educational experience.

Randy Pederson, Head, Library Systems & Services

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evidentiary value, usually ephemera. Both approaches present a significant downside, destruction of the scrapbook as a whole, and thus its artifactual value, and all possibilities of internal relational dating as seen in the Franta scrapbook. The Department of Special Collections does its utmost to preserve this record as a whole using acid free folders and boxes or wrapping with scrimmeweave, and storing in an environmentally controlled archive vault. Basic conservation procedures are undertaken, including interleaving acid-free paper to prohibit acid migration, but the concept of the scrapbook as a whole is never forgotten.

Special Collections provides researchers access to its scrapbooks through the finding aid/inventories it creates for each manuscript collection. Accurate descriptions of the title, subject, date range, and contents of each scrapbook allow easy access while decreasing unnecessary handling.

Today we are witnessing a new era in scrapbooking, currently a very popular past-time. The overwhelming force behind this trend is the documentation of family history. What is crucial is the presence of historical context, which will prove extremely valuable to both future descendants of the family, as well as future social and cultural historians examining the nature of life in the early 21st Century. Dated photographs and news clippings, full identification of people, and explanation of events are critical.

The modern scrapbooker has no shortage of acid-free embellishments available to help tell the story of the first day of school, the summer vacation to Glacier, or a high school graduation. What makes the "modern" scrapbook different is that it is purposely designed to last for generations. Long term preservation is stressed in every aspect of the scrapbooking industry, from the use of digitally scanned copies rather than originals, to acid-free paper, cardstock, and adhesive, to special plastic page protectors that allow paging through the scrapbook without wear and tear. The Department of Special Collections looks forward to preserving this next generation of scrapbooks.

Curt Hanson, Assistant Archivist, Special Collections

Sandy Slater, Head, Special Collections

Lux et Lex
Chester Fritz Library
University of North Dakota
Grand Forks, ND 58202
(701) 777-2189
Fax: (701) 777-3319

Director of Libraries: Wilbur Stolt
Editor: Sandy Slater, Head, Special Collections
Technical Support: Curt Hanson, Assistant Archivist, Special Collections

Contributors: Sandy Slater, Wilbur Stolt, Betty Gard, Randy Pederson, Curt Hanson

Library home page: www.library.und.edu