

# PROGRESSIONS

New York University Libraries Newsletter

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## NYUAD Library: One Year Later



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## NYUAD Library: One Year Later

When it opened its doors in fall 2010, NYU Abu Dhabi (NYUAD) already had a world class research library. From Day One, students and faculty had access to the hundreds of thousands of electronic books, journals, and databases in the NYU Libraries collections, available to the global NYU community. In the sciences and social sciences, most of the content needed by researchers is in digital form; and digital products are serving an increasing proportion of humanists' needs, as well.

But books and other print material remain essential to study and research, and over the course of its first year, the NYUAD library has acquired more than 10,000 print titles and counting. Texts range from Russian literature and Egyptian history to Persian art and Indian religions. "We are collecting in support of comparative study and multidisciplinary fields relevant to the school's global environment, such as Arab Crossroads, Interactive Media, and Urbanization," says Virginia Danielson,

associate director of the NYUAD library for collections and public services. "As the curriculum grows, our focus will expand with it."

Long term planning calls for the library to house 100,000 circulating items and up to 50,000 special collection items. Currently based in downtown Abu Dhabi, NYUAD will move in 2014 to nearby Saadiyat Island, where a campus, including a library, is currently under construction.

"The NYU Abu Dhabi library is just as we envisioned it," says Carol A. Mandel, dean of the Division of Libraries. "It is fully integrated with our online catalog, delivery systems for print material are fully functional, and librarians are engaged with faculty to make sure that all of their research and teaching needs are supported by the collections." (continued)



On the cover: Peter Ndiccu (NYUAD '14) left, with academic coach Kevin Maghami (CAS '10); downtown Abu Dhabi; two views of the NYUAD library; NYUAD staff members (left to right) Diana Chester, Ron Berry, Laura Andersen, Beth Russell, Jill Barr Walker, Maria Chavez, Bonnie Sutherland, Jayson Cabrera, Renji Jacob.

This page, top: In July, NYUAD library staff held an open house for the university community to introduce them to library resources and services. At left: On a November trip to New York, Virginia Danielson, NYUAD library associate director for collections and public services, visited in Bobst Library with Ree DeDonato, New York-based librarian for Abu Dhabi collections.

Page 3, top: During a November visit, Guo Weilu (left), executive director, Working Panel for NYU Shanghai, and East China Normal University (ECNU) Vice President Chen Qun toured Bobst Library with Dean Mandel and Lucinda Covert-Vail, director, Public Services. Bottom: In Shanghai, Yu Haixian, executive dean of the ECNU Library, presented Mandel with a facsimile of a 1696 volume of woodcut engravings with poems by Emperor Kangxi. The original is in the ECNU Library. Looking on are, at left, ECNU Library Deputy Dean Zhang Jingbo; interpreter Wang Zhengji, center; Covert-Vail; ECNU Professor Zhao Zhongjian; and Peter Schilling, associate vice president in Global Technology Services at NYU.

In 2014, the new NYU portal campus in Shanghai will join NYU New York and NYUAD as a degree granting institution of the global network university, and Mandel and her team have begun planning the library. There will be similarities to the NYUAD project, but also differences. “Most significantly, Shanghai is already rich in libraries and research collections, including the western language collection of the excellent public Shanghai Library,” says Mandel. “We will be focusing on resources in English and other languages to create a complementary collection.”



Photo: Elena Olivo



Photo: Kevin Wang



Photo: Karen Karbiener

Marvin Taylor, top, discusses the papyri collections in Fales Library as students examine samples.

## Papyri in Mylar: Hands on in Fales

FAS Master Teacher Karen Karbiener brought her Cultural Foundations I classes to Fales Library this fall to enliven their exploration of cuneiform and other ancient forms of writing and reading. Marvin Taylor, head of Fales, allowed students to handle papyri and fragments of medieval manuscripts. “These objects are perfect for hands-on examination,” he said. “The medieval items enable the students to experience the tactile properties of vellum, which is calfskin. The papyri are encapsulated in Mylar, an inert plastic, so they are protected.” Karbiener says her students enjoyed the experience, which she hopes will help them to “consider their books differently—as art objects as well as literature.”

## MIAP Team Wins Award in Italy

Alice Moscoso, media preservation specialist in the Libraries’ Barbara Goldsmith Preservation and Conservation Department, is part of an NYU team honored at the 2011 Cinema Ritrovato Festival of Bologna. The others are Dan Streible, TSOA professor of cinema studies, and three 2010 graduates of the Moving Image Archiving and Preservation program (MIAP)—Walter Forsberg, Stefan Elnabli, and Jonah Volk. Moscoso works on preservation projects with students from MIAP, which Streible co-directs.

The team was recognized for Most Original Contribution to Film History for their DVD, *Orphans 7: A Collection of Orphan Films*, a compilation (available in Bobst Library’s Avery Fisher Center) of amateur, industrial, and activist films, many of which have been preserved in conjunction with the MIAP program. The team is now completing a second DVD of orphan films and videos, curated on the theme of outer space.



Photo: Elena Olivo

Alice Moscoso

The Cinema Studies department is home to the biennial Orphan Film Symposium, co-founded by Streible in 1999. See [www.nyu.edu/orphanfilm](http://www.nyu.edu/orphanfilm) for information on the 2012 symposium, April 11-14 at Museum of the Moving Image in Astoria, Queens.

## Collections Update

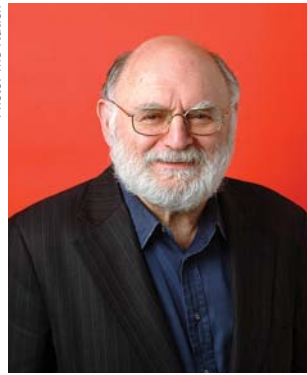
Fales Library has acquired a two-volume copy of perhaps the world's most famous work on gastronomy, Brillat-Savarin's *Physiologie du Goût* (Paris, 1825). It complements the first English language translation of the work, *The Physiology of Taste* (Philadelphia, 1854) already in the collection. Both were purchased with funds donated by the Les Dames D'Escoffier/Carol Brock New Acquisitions Program, initiated by the New York chapter of Les Dames d'Escoffier.

For its renowned Lewis Carroll collection, Fales has acquired a rare set of 1929 "Cosway Bindings" of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and *Through the Looking-Glass*. (Richard Cosway was an English miniaturist painter of the Regency era.) Each Moroccan leather cover is inset with a miniature painted on ivory. The purchase was made with the help of a gift from The Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation.

Photo: Elena Olivo



Photo: The Nation



Tamiment Library has acquired the papers of **Victor Navasky**, long-time editor and then publisher of *The Nation*. Described as "one of the reigning voices of the intellectual left" by *The New York Times*, Navasky is chairman of the *Columbia Journalism Review*. His best known book, *Naming Names*, explored the damage caused by the McCarthy-era Hollywood Blacklist. His papers trace the history of *The Nation* and a journalistic career committed to civil liberties and social justice.

The 5,500-member **New York Taxi Workers Alliance**, founded in 1998, has donated its archive to Tamiment Library as part of a New York State Archives program to survey records of the Asian/Pacific/American community. The records reflect the complex relationship between the union's economic demands and larger social justice concerns.



Photo: Tamiment Library

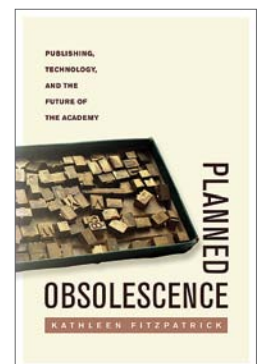
## From NYU Press: A New Look at Publishing in Today's Academy

How does scholarly publishing fit within the structure of the contemporary university? In her new book, Kathleen Fitzpatrick, co-founder of the digital scholarly network MediaCommons ([mediacommons.futureofthebook.org/](http://mediacommons.futureofthebook.org/)), considers the question in light of the increasing use of digital archives, social networking tools, and multimedia. Fitzpatrick is a pioneer in using digital tools for peer to peer review; naturally, she put *Planned Obsolescence* to the test.

"Open review played a very important role in the development of the book, and a number of the discussions that took place in the text's margins are now

represented and cited in the print version," Fitzpatrick says. "MediaCommons also learned a lot from that process, and we're currently putting those lessons to work in a Mellon-funded study of best practices in peer-to-peer review."

Reviewing *Planned Obsolescence* in *The Times*, Cambridge professor and open access publisher Alessandra Tosi wrote, "[Fitzpatrick's] optimism is fuelled by faith in the digital medium as a communication tool able to empower academics and readers alike."



## Service Update

**BobCat gets a makeover:** The Libraries' catalog keeps getting better at making research more productive. A new search interface makes it easier to find everything from books to articles to databases, an Ask a Librarian widget appears on every tab, and there are more context-specific help options than ever.

**LibGuides for everyone:** NYU Libraries Research Guides are subject-specific online sites with curated information on subject areas from art to technology. They gather together scholarly work, bibliographies, tools, links, lectures, news, and other resources all in one place. LibGuides received 659,000 visits last year.

**Mapmaking made easy:** Libraries staff have been conducting training sessions for the very popular databases Social Explorer and SimplyMap, which allow users to easily create a thematic map using a wealth of pre-loaded statistics and data. (Click: It's 1830, and Boston and Philadelphia are clearly the US population centers. Click: It's 1870, and New York and San Francisco are catching up.) These datasets cover a huge variety of research topics and areas, from ethnicity to carbon emissions, so they work for researchers in all disciplines.

**Getting started with confidence:** NYU undergraduates are often assigned papers that require a level of research once expected only of graduate students. Bobst Library Instructional Services makes the process less daunting. Every fall and spring, students (grad students, too) can make an appointment online to get one-on-one assistance in developing a research strategy for their topic and finding relevant library materials.

**Direct delivery to PhD students:** In 2010 the Libraries began offering delivery service as a convenience to faculty who need library materials. Now the service has been extended to doctoral students as well. And

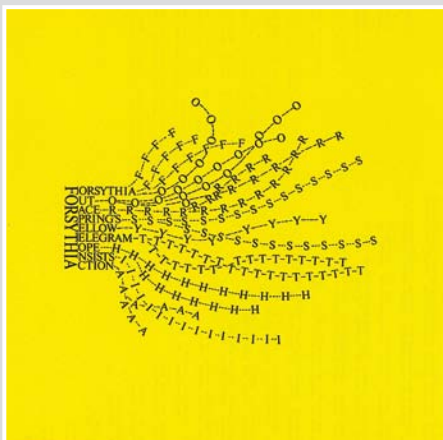
bringing Brooklyn and Washington Square even closer: library users at NYU-Polytechnic can have materials delivered there from Bobst Library and Courant. Requests can be made online in BobCat with the "GetIt" link. For more information, see [library.nyu.edu/services/deliveryservices.html](http://library.nyu.edu/services/deliveryservices.html).



Photo: Kristin deNeve

**A chance to be heard (and to win):** The staff at the "Welcome Week" table in the Bobst Library atrium provides a wealth of vital information for new students every semester. This year, students who stopped by were asked to take an online opinion survey that will help shape policy about study spaces. In exchange, their names were entered into a raffle. Steinhardt graduate student Ariana LaBarrie (left) and CAS sophomore Pria Shah won iPads for sharing their opinions.

## Exhibition: Concrete Poetry to Feed My Mind: Images from the Fales Library & Special Collections at NYU



November 2, 2011-January 31, 2012  
NYU 2031 Open House Gallery, 528 LaGuardia Place

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, noon-5 p.m.  
Thursdays, 2-7 p.m.  
Saturdays and Sundays, 1-4 p.m.

Concrete poetry was a name for a host of post-World War II literary experiments in visual and linguistic communication. Curated by Marvin J. Taylor, head of the Fales Library, the exhibition pays tribute to Mary Ellen Solt (1920-2007), a leader in the concrete poetry movement. Taylor took the title from a lyric in Lady Gaga's "Black Jesus:": *Concrete poetry to feed my mind / old symbolism was left behind.*

## Muldoon Speaks of Skunks and Armadillos

The Libraries' 2011 Fales Lecture on April 26 was given by Paul Muldoon, Howard G. B. Clark Professor at Princeton University, Chair of the Peter B. Lewis Center for the Arts, and poetry editor of *The New Yorker*. His topic was a set of letters between the poets Robert Lowell and Elizabeth

Bishop that pertained to "The Armadillo," a poem Bishop wrote for Lowell, and "Skunk Hour," a poem Lowell wrote for Bishop, both published in the late 1950s. Reading closely between the lines of the letters and deep into the word choices of the poems, Muldoon wittily and eloquently ruminated on the friendship between two of America's most celebrated poets. The Irish born Muldoon, whose many awards include a Pulitzer Prize, was from 1999 to 2004 a professor of poetry at the University of Oxford. Among his many publications are twelve collections of poetry.



Photo: Oliver Morris

## Gleick's *Information* Draws a Crowd

Distinguished science author **James Gleick** generally comes to Bobst Library to quietly conduct research for his awardwinning books and articles, but on October 5<sup>th</sup> he drew a standing room only crowd of faculty, students, and fellow *Friends of Bobst Library* to hear him discuss some of the

issues illuminated in his latest bestseller, *The Information: A History, A Theory, A Flood* (Random House, 2011). Afterward, Gleick signed books for a long line of readers.



Photo: Elena Olivo

## New Faces

Photos: Elena Olivo



### Candace Stuart, Librarian, Graduate Programs, School of Continuing and Professional Studies

Formerly: Director, NYC Libraries, Berkeley College

Education: MLS, Syracuse University; BA, Sociology, Ithaca College

In this newly created position, I am establishing new connections and strengthen existing relationships with SCPS faculty and graduate students. I am also identifying ways to broaden the reach of the Midtown Center's Jack Brause Library, where our goal is to provide students in all of the SCPS programs at midtown with the same excellent service we have long provided to our real estate students there. We hope to add resources and reconfigure our physical space to better mirror the library support available to students at Washington Square.



### Chela Scott Weber, Associate Head for Archival Collections, Tamiment Library & Robert F. Wagner Labor Archives

Formerly: Director of Library & Archives, Brooklyn Historical Society

Education: MLIS & Certificate of Archival Administration, Wayne State University, Detroit; BFA, Cornish College of the Arts, Seattle

I am working to create better access to and visibility for Tamiment Library's unique and rich collections, with a particular focus on developing a strategy for addressing archival processing and descriptive backlogs. I am also collaborating with colleagues in Preservation and Digital Library Technology Services on projects addressing preservation, digitization, and access to our oral history collections, and exploring how best to handle born-digital materials in the archives.

# Librarians and Grad Students Mix it Up

A sure sign that the fall semester has begun is the reception for graduate students hosted annually by the NYU librarians. This year, on September 15, nearly 400 students came to Bobst Library to meet the subject specialists who will help them find and use Libraries resources. At left, below, Pamela Bloom,

librarian for the performing arts and for the TSOA Interactive Telecommunications Program, converses with a student. Below right, students speak with Susan Jacobs (at right), librarian for nursing and health sciences.

Photos: Elena Olivo



## Virginia Danielson, Associate Director of the NYUAD Library for Collections and Public Services; Interim Director of the Library

Formerly: Richard F. French Librarian of the Loeb Music Library, Harvard University

Education: PhD, Ethnomusicology, and MA, Music, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign; BA, Music, Lawrence University, Appleton, WI

The library at NYUAD is being built from scratch in a very dynamic environment based on collaboration with an evolving faculty and the curricula its members are developing. As research becomes increasingly fundamental to undergraduate scholarship, our electronic collections will be critical to students as well as to our outstanding faculty. My role is to help shape the collections and services of the NYUAD library into long-term programs to support the teaching and research needs of the Global Network University.



## Daniel Lovins, Head of Knowledge Access Design and Development (KADD)

Formerly: Librarian for Metadata and Emerging Technologies, Yale University Library

Education: MLS, Southern Connecticut State University; MAR, Philosophy of Religion, Yale Divinity School; BA, Philosophy, Earlham College, Richmond, IN

The KADD team is responsible for designing, implementing, and evaluating metadata processes to provide intellectual access to NYU library resources in all formats. We work with Knowledge Access & Resource Management Services (KARMS) and other staff throughout the Libraries to refine existing systems and develop new approaches to make it easier for our patrons to find and use the library's collections.

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SAVE THE DATE!

Tisch School of the Arts/NYU Libraries Moving Image Archiving & Preservation program

## 8th Orphan Film Symposium *Made to Persuade*

April 11-14, 2012

Museum of the Moving Image, Astoria, NY

[www.nyu.edu/orphanfilm](http://www.nyu.edu/orphanfilm)

## Meet our Supporter: Dalia Carmel

For decades, Dalia Carmel combined world travel with her love of cookbooks. The result was a collection so vast it made her sprawling Manhattan apartment seem cramped. In 2005, she called Marvin Taylor, head of the Fales Library, to come and take a look. “He handled each book like it was a baby,” Carmel says. Then she sent a breathtaking gift: 250 cartons of cookbooks from around the world.

“Those volumes represent every ethnicity and ingredient,” Taylor says. “Their research value is enormous.” Even Carmel was surprised by the collection she built. “You buy one book at a time, then one day you realize you have a picture of an entire nation, all its regions,” she says. She continues to donate to Fales—the total is up to some 11,000 volumes—but her bookshelves are far from empty. It won’t be easy to part with a particular favorite: small, modestly bound recipe books put together by women of churches, synagogues, and other religious and community organizations. Carmel has also held onto books from her favorite regions.



Dalia Carmel at home with one of her photographs

“I love Turkish cooking—lots of lemon, garlic, tomatoes, thyme, lamb, wonderful rice dishes,” she says. A widow since 2003, Carmel was born in Israel and came to the United States in 1960. She worked for El Al, the Israeli airline. Kashmir and Bali are favorite destinations; Morocco is on her to do list. A serious photographer, she takes classes at the International Center of Photography and roams her neighborhood, camera in hand.

Carmel is revered for her role in the publication of *In Memory's Kitchen*, a collection of recipes compiled by Mina Pachter in Terezin, a Nazi prison camp in Czechoslovakia. Pachter starved to death in the camp, but the notebook was smuggled out to her daughter, who gave it to Carmel. “When I leafed through it, aromas floated up to me, an onion kuchen, a chocolate torte,” she recalls. “I felt passionately that it must be published.” Carmel championed the book until Rowman & Littlefield brought it out in 2006.

Photo: Sally Cummings



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Send correspondence to:  
Newsletter Editor  
Library Administration  
70 Washington Square South, 11th Fl.  
New York, NY 10012  
or e-mail: [sally.cummings@nyu.edu](mailto:sally.cummings@nyu.edu)

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Editor: Sally Cummings  
Editorial assistant: Ann Harding  
Designer: Kristin deNeeve