Fisher Music Library gets an update

Visitors to Fisher Music Library in Marquis Hall will find the changes hard to believe. More than a cosmetic makeover, the facility now boasts new amplifiers, compact disk players, cassette tape decks, plus six comfortable new listening stations and two music composition computer workstations.

Over the past two summers, new windows, carpeting, lighting, and electropainted shelving to match new wall colors have transformed the library into a much more useful and inviting space.

"It's a great improvement over what we had," notes library supervisor Richard Atkins. "Both faculty and students are very positive about it. There is good lighting over each individual workspace now and more comfortable seating for students who have to sit for hours to listen to music assignments."

The library holds 2,500 music scores, over 500 compact disks, and 3,500 LP records and tapes that are being replaced with CDs whenever possible. "The compact disk is really an outstanding medium for music pedagogy," says head librarian Richard Doyle. "It's hard to break them, and the same passage can be played over and over, as the study of music often requires." He adds that Fisher Library is an interactive one that's directly related to the music curriculum.

"What's on the shelf is tied into a given course—everything from pronouncing dictionaries to musical theater scores."

Nearly all of this instructional music material now can be accessed by Stewart Library's computerized catalog system, so campus users can see immediately what's available.

Book sale yields over $500 for Schappert Memorial Fund

Coe's chapter of Mortar Board national honor society raised over $500 for the Brian Schappert Memorial Book Fund with a three-day spring book sale.

Coe President John Brown and Nancy Brown donated several boxes of books, including a portion of Nancy's collection of works by women mystery writers. Other books were gifts to the library that were either duplicated in Coe's collection or unsuitable for an academic library.

"It was really a fine event," says Library Director Richard Doyle. "The students did an excellent job."

Brian Schappert was a Coe senior who was killed while working the night shift at a local convenience store in September, 1989.

Supervisor Rich Atkins works at his new service desk in the refurbished Fisher Music Library. Framed photographs of music faculty and events, made by 1949 Coe graduate George Henry, will soon be added to the walls as a finishing touch.
BIBLIOPHILE

Zimmerman gift boosts children's literature collection

Ken Zimmerman of Columbus, Ohio, has given Coe's teacher education students new tools to bring classic stories to future generations of children.

With Zimmerman's $270 gift in memory of his wife, Mary Teeter of the Coe Class of 1928, Stewart Library was able to purchase the complete Rabbit Ears Video Tape Collection. Included are 29 videotapes depicting fairy tales, folk tales, and other timeless stories, such as "How the Leopard Got His Spots," "The Emperor's New Clothes," and "Thumbelina."

"This is an important acquisition for our teacher education students in elementary education," notes Library Director Richard Doyle. "When coupled with the children's works themselves, this collection will give prospective teachers a well-grounded background in the tales and stories so dominant in children's literature."

With $5,000 in an additional series of gifts, donor Zimmerman also has begun an endowment fund for book acquisitions at Coe in memory of his wife. He intends to add to this endowment each year until the fund reaches $10,000. At least 25% of the available income from this endowment will be used to purchase children's books, since that was Mary's special interest. The remainder will be used for other book purchases.

Mary Zimmerman was named Librarian of the Year by the Ohio Library Association in 1968. Prior to her death in 1991, she was a librarian in the Columbus Public Schools, later becoming head librarian of the Bexley Public Library. Mary also presented local radio and TV programs on children's literature and taught book selection courses at Ohio Dominican College.

"Although we typically establish endowments with $10,000 or more, this seemed like such an appropriate gift for our present desire to expand the children's literature collection that we will use 50% of the income until the principal can build to $10,000," explains John Bass, Coe's major gifts officer.

Coe Greens give cash, books, tapes

Students are getting an early start in their support of the library.

Coe Greens, a student environmental group, gave $136 for book purchases last spring, using money from their Student Senate operating budget.

Senior Heather Daniels, president of the Greens, notes the group also purchased four books and three videotapes on environmental subjects for the Coe library. The Green Encyclopedia, Almanac of the Environment, and The Green Consumer were among these new additions.

"We decided the one of the best ways to use the money we budgeted for education was to buy environmental books that can be used by the whole campus," says Daniels.

Internet is opening a marvelous—and overwhelming—world

Computer Services linked the Coe campus with a worldwide network this summer, as Mosaic browser software was installed to connect the college with the Internet—a network of networks.

"We have been all over the globe, including the Louvre and the Vatican Library, as well as our own public library," says Library Director Richard Doyle. He adds that even though the library staff worked closely with the Computer Services Office in selecting the search software, searching the Internet can be a bit overwhelming.

A database search service named First Search, for example, offers students and faculty access to 44 different databases, including nearly 30 million cataloging records for materials owned by OCLC (On-line Computer Library Center) libraries.

Electronic mail is also part of the Internet, allowing Doyle, for example, to be in daily correspondence with directors of private academic libraries through a directory maintained at Oberlin College. Coe faculty and staff, as well e-mail users around the world, can also correspond with Coe's library staff or search Coe's library holdings.

A December workshop on Internet reference services will show library staffs some of the best ways to take advantage of this telecommunication gateway.
Two new Grant Wood books include library murals

Coe's murals are among the illustrations in two books on artist Grant Wood, published in 1993 and 1994.

Wood's sister, Nan Wood Graham, wrote the 1993 book My Brother, Grant Wood, with editorial assistance from John Zug and Julie Jensen McDonald. In this book Coe's Boy Milking Cow is one of the illustrations, along with the story of how the murals came to be given to Coe by the Eppley Foundation of Omaha. The college's commissioning of Wood and Marvin Cone (both then high school students) to create stage scenery for Coe theater productions also is mentioned as an early recognition of their ability.

Kate Jennings' book Grant Wood was published in 1994. An oversize book of 60 color plates of Wood's work, it includes Farm Landscape from the library's Perrine Gallery.

Both books are in the Coe library collection.

Alumna author/painter Phyllis Larson visits

Phyllis Larson graduated from Coe in 1947 and was a home economist for the Ghiradelli Chocolate Company in San Francisco for 23 years. During her tenure there, she published a cookbook of 150 Ghiradelli temptations—ranging from Polk Gulch Spareribs and Black Bean Soup to sumptuous desserts. The book went into additional printings, and she has sent Coe's library autographed copies of the first and third editions of The Ghiradelli Chocolate Cookbook for the Alumni Collection.

Larsen, now a consultant, recently has been modifying Japanese recipes for American tastes.

She is also an accomplished painter and was on campus this fall for the opening of the Alumni Art Exhibition and Auction that was part of the 20th anniversary celebration of the Sutherland Dows Fine Arts Center.

"It was so much fun to be back at Coe again," Larsen said, noting that she is really impressed with today's campus.

Looking as if its owner has just stepped away for a few minutes, Marvin Cone's favorite reading chair can now be found among his paintings, tucked away in a corner of the library's Winnifred Cone Gallery.

This spring, Marguerite Gurekian of Boston, friend of artist Conger Metcalf, spotted the chair when Winnifred Cone was moving from the home she and Marvin had had on Fifth Avenue to her new quarters at Hallmar Center. Gurekian had the chair rebuilt and recovered as a gift to the college, and a friend of the college, Audrey Anderson, lent a small table similar to one the Cones had used. Marvin Cone Prof. Robert Kocher selected a few books from Marvin's library to put on the table, and Joan Kocher found a lamp similar to one that Marvin often read by.

The result can be found just around the corner to left of the entrance to Stewart Memorial Library.

Hamblin's Home to Iowa available for Christmas

"Home to Iowa," a LIFE magazine article the late Dora Jane Hamblin wrote in December, 1972, has been reprinted by the college as a tribute to Dodie. The article tells of her Christmas visit to her family home in Bedford, Iowa, some 30 years after her 1941 graduation from Coe.

Described as "the loving Christmas ritual of a journey into childhood," the story is available to anyone requesting it from the Coe College Development Office, phone 319-399-8555.
New endowment gifts provide income for library materials

Investment income from nearly $480,000 in endowed gifts given this year for the library already has begun funding book purchases.

The family of David G. Bleakley, a Cedar Rapids attorney who graduated from Coe in 1923 and was a Coe trustee for 18 years, established a memorial library gift in his name after his death in 1970. This year the initial bequest of $350,000 from that gift has come to Coe through the estate of his wife, Helen Burgert Bleakley (Coe '24), who died in November 1993. A second bequest from Mrs. Bleakley's sister, Leone Burgert (Coe '27) who died in April, will provide an additional $50,000 to the endowment principal. Helen Bleakley taught early business education classes at Coe, and Leone Burgert taught Cedar Rapids elementary students for more than 30 years.

Income from this fund will be used to acquire, repair, or replace books in the Coe library and to make these books available to the Coe community.

The family of Faye Beach Murdoch (Coe ’26) established a library endowment fund in her memory this year with a gift of $11,000 and plans to make further contributions to the fund annually. Mrs. Murdoch, who with her husband operated Murdoch Funeral Homes, was an avid reader. She died in September 1992.

The George L. and Gladys I Petrik Memorial Endowment Fund was established by a $26,500 bequest from Gladys Pudil Petrik (Coe '38), who died in March 1993. Mrs. Petrik was a teacher. She willed another $26,500 to Coe for a scholarship fund.

Finally, the $33,000 proceeds from the sale of the home of Winnifred and the late Marvin Cone (Coe '14) were placed in the Cone Endowment Fund for the Library by Mrs. Cone.

"These generous gifts will help us build an income base from which to purchase books for generations to come," notes Library Director Richard Doyle.