

# @SMCL

Spring 2009

## SPOKEN WORD LP RECORDINGS: NEW FORMATS, NEW OPPORTUNITIES

By BROTHER RICHARD LEMBERG, FSC

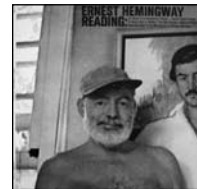
For more than 60 years, audio recordings were available primarily in long-playing phonograph record format (known as LP's). Spoken word recordings, such as plays, poetry readings and short story readings, were almost always available only in LP format. Their major consumers were usually libraries, and the Saint Albert Hall Library was no exception, purchasing more than 100 spoken-word recordings in the 1960's and 1970's. Unfortunately, few of these recordings are used by a student population which now knows little about LPs. Some recordings owned by the Library are of historic importance (e.g., Ernest Hemingway reading from his works; an in-depth interview with the artist Diego Rivera, the complete 1953 production of Othello, starring Paul Robeson), yet in the age of the audio CD and iPod, they have been sadly neglected. None are available for purchase on CD or mp3.

Three years ago, I discovered the availability of new technology (the Ion USB Turntable) which could play an LP recording, transfer the sound to a computer file, remove extraneous noise from the recording and save it as an mp3 file. The recordings could then be played on a personal computer or external device, such as an iPod or other mp3 player. With the assistance of students Anthony Hernandez '09 and Stephanie Olano '10, the Library has made great progress in transferring its spoken-word LP collection to mp3 format. We have completed more than 60 recordings and are now cataloging these recordings and making them directly available and downloadable through ALBERT.

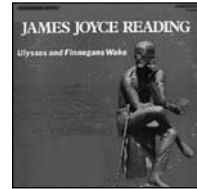
To access cataloged recordings, search ALBERT using "SMC Call Number;" enter the phrase Online MP3 and you will be presented with catalog records of completed recordings.

Patrons can listen to the recordings or download them for their later use. We hope to have the entire spoken-word collection completed by the end of fall semester 2009.

The Library staff takes great pride in making these valuable recordings which were once difficult to access readily available to the Saint Mary's College community.



**Hemingway, Ernest. Ernest Hemingway Reading.** New York, N.Y.: Caedmon, 1965.



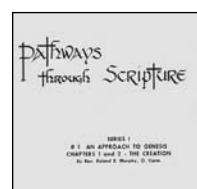
**Joyce, James, and Cyril Cusack. James Joyce Reading.** New York: Caedmon Records, 1971.



**King, Coretta Scott. My Life with Martin Luther King, Jr.** New York, N.Y.: Caedmon, 1972.



**Milton, John. Paradise Lost. Read by Anthony Quayle.** New York, N.Y.: Caedmon, 1957.



**Murphy, Roland Edmund. An Approach to Genesis Chapters 1 and 2 - the Creation. Pathways through scripture, series 1 no. 1.** New York: CBA Audiovisual, 1964.

**Rivera, Diego. Diego Rivera On Record, in Spanish.** New York, N.Y.: Caedmon, 1958.

**Sartre, Jean-Paul. No Exit. With Donald Pleasence, Anna Massey, Glenda Jackson, Howard Sackler, and Paul Bowles.** New York: Caedmon, 1968.

**Shakespeare, William. Othello. With Paul Robeson, Uta Hagen, José Ferrer, and Edith King.** [New York]: Columbia, 1953.

## BOOKS AND BICYCLES

By ALLE PORTER

The Library has taken several initiatives this year to lessen its impact on the environment. Recycling bins have been placed in the public areas on all floors of the building. Public computer stations, printers and photocopiers are turned off at night to reduce energy use. Office supplies made out of post-consumer materials are purchased whenever possible. And something else is happening outside of the Library on the streets and on the trails. Several employees are leaving their cars at home and riding their bicycles to work to save money, get exercise and spare the air.

Periodicals and Processing Assistant Alex Guinan-Blanney rides five miles to work along the Lafayette-Moraga trail. He says that riding his road bike only takes about 10 minutes more than driving his truck.

"Riding my bicycle to work is one of the best parts of my day," says Alex.

Administrative Assistant Chris Riedel hops on her hybrid bicycle when the sun is shining and pedals to campus throughout the spring and summer months. One very hot summer day, Chris remembers stopping in the shade to cool off.

"Two little girls immediately ran up to me with their lemonade in hand



Alle and her transportation.

slows down everything," says Alle.

Electronic Resources Manager Dave Hansen rides his road bike from BART through the busy streets of Moraga. But the traffic along the town's winding roads doesn't bother him.

"Every cyclist should be comfortable riding on the road, with or without traffic present. Traveling on the road, in any form of transportation, requires a certain trust of the law, of other motorists and of yourself," says Dave.

and proceeded to fill up my empty water bottle," recalls Chris.

Chris only had a \$5 dollar bill, and she gave it to the girls and told them to call it a day.

"Their screams of joy were heard throughout the neighborhood. It was a kick! Of course, they made a habit of waiting for me after this episode. Needless to say, I now carry coins when taking that particular route home," says Chris.

Electronic Reserves Manager Alle Porter rides the bus, BART and her red road bike, sometimes all in the same day. She carries a spare tube in case she needs it and, after four years of practice, can change a flat tire in less than 10 minutes.

"I'm a little slower when it's raining, but the rain

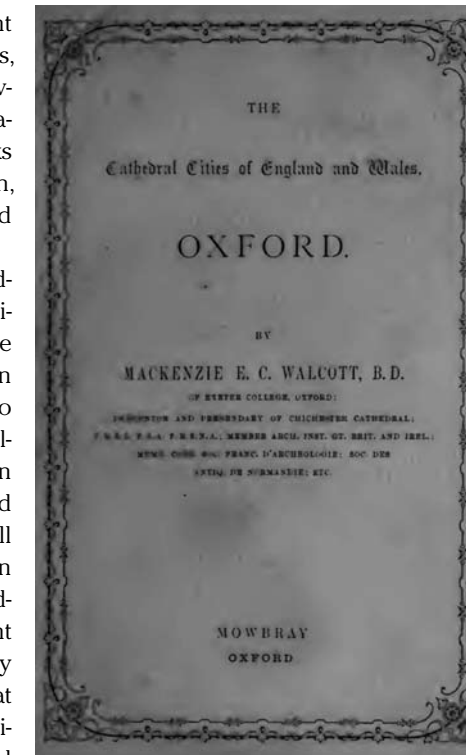
## WELL-TRAVELED NEWMAN COLLECTION HOME AT LAST

By HANNAH THOMAS

Over the past few years, one of Saint Mary's College Library's special collections, "Cardinal Newman and His Times," has traveled to Canada and back as part of an international collaborative project to digitize works by and about Cardinal John Henry Newman, the great 19th-century English scholar and theologian.

The National Institute for Newman Studies (NINS, <http://www.newmanstudiesinstitute.org>), based in Pittsburgh, is the definitive resource in the United States for information on Cardinal Newman. One of its goals is to build a comprehensive "Newman Knowledge Kiosk," including an online collection of digital images of Newman's own and Newman-related works. This resource will combine the resources of NINS' Newman Research Library with those of three world-class Newman collections: those of Saint Mary's College of California, the Kelly Library at the University of St. Michael's College at the University of Toronto and St. John's Seminary Library, which is owned and operated by the Archdiocese of Boston.

The Newman Collection at Saint Mary's was first organized and developed by former Brother Thomas Loomer and deceased special collections librarian, Andrew Simon. It now comprises nearly 5,000 items including 1,200 tracts and about 500 volumes of bound periodicals. About half of this collection consists of Newman's own writings and of books about him, while the balance deals with the theological, philosophical and social context in which he lived: the Oxford Movement & Tractarianism, the first and second Vatican Councils, Ultra-Monism, Reformation history and theology, English & European church history, Catholicism and anti-Catholicism in England (the "no-popey" literature), Oratorianism, Newman's educational theory, Kulturkampf in



One of the 5,000 digitized items.

the German-speaking states following the Vatican Council, etc.

The "Cardinal Newman and his Times" collection at Saint Mary's is part of the Library's focus on the College's Catholic tradition. For a fuller description of the scope and importance Saint Mary's collection, see the thoughtful summary by Martin Cohen on the Library's webpage: <http://library.stmarys-ca.edu/about/special/newman/>

With funding from NINS, the College's Newman Collection was sent to University of Toronto for scanning and cataloging. The last shipment of books returned to Moraga in October 2008. All these materials are now fully represented in the Library's Albert catalog and most are available on the Internet. Books excluded from scanning include very recent publications still covered by copyright, as well as books too large or too fragile to place on the scanners. The catalog records in Albert provide links to the scanned versions - search the title: Newman Collection to see the full list.

The Newman Knowledge Kiosk envisioned by NINS is not yet a reality. In the

meantime, the scanned images are publicly available at the Internet Archive website: [www.archive.org](http://www.archive.org). The first and most important benefit of online access to these materials is that the content of this collection is now available worldwide to researchers, many of whom will never travel to Moraga. For example, "Mores Catholici or Ages of Faith, Volume 4" has been downloaded nearly 3,000 times since 2006. A second (and less obvious) benefit of special-collections digitization projects is preservation. Because many types of research inquiry can be served by reference to the digital versions, this reduces handling of fragile originals and conserves them for future generations.



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## COLLEGE'S COMMITMENT TO IMPROVING RESOURCES AND SERVICES CONTINUES

By TOM CARTER

The current recession, the worst in more than a generation, created new challenges for the College. Next year's budget, approved by the Board of Trustees in January, reflects these stormy times.

The budget priorities support the College's education priorities, which Brother President Ronald Gallagher says are "to enhance our academic excellence, identify more efficient and effective operating practices, maintain momentum on key strategic initiatives, protect the excellence of the student experience and keep the College affordable for students." You can read more of his budget message at <http://www.stmarys-ca.edu/about-smc/president/messages/item-display.html?ID=2951>

The budget includes increasing Library support, especially for collections and staffing, for a fifth consecutive year. This will allow the Library to maintain the momentum we have generated towards improving resources and services through a ten-year funding plan.

However, the Library budget is affected, having to cut 8 percent of all non-salary budget lines, excluding the book, database and periodicals lines. Also, one vacant part-time staff position will not be filled and its salary money will return to the College. The Dean and senior Library leadership will carefully examine the remaining staffing allocation to make sure it is in line with the Library strategic plan and other planning documents.

## STAFF BOOK PICKS



**Batman: The Dark Knight Returns** / Frank Miller, with Klaus Janson and Lynn Varley  
Book Stacks:

2nd floor, 741.5 M613

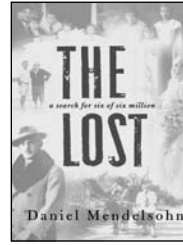
An aging detective, psychotic clown and a teenage girl dressed like the Boy Wonder are only a few examples of the diverse cast in Frank Miller's hit graphic novel. "The Dark Knight Returns" delivers and displays the Caped Crusader as a vigilante running from the fuzz while protecting Gotham from the real villain. – Chris Garcia, senior, Business Administration



**The Sputnik Sweetheart: A Novel** / Haruki Murakami; translated from the Japanese by Philip Gabriel  
Book Stacks:

2nd floor, 895.63 M9312ss

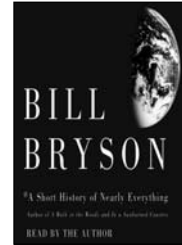
If you have not read a Haruki Murakami novel, I recommend you pick this one up today. "Sputnik Sweetheart" will draw you into a world where the ordinary and the fantastic coexist and interact, creating beautiful metaphors that will linger in your mind. Highly unique. Do you dare read it? – Ingrid de la Jara (acquisitions manager)



**The Lost: A Search for Six of Six Million** / Daniel Mendelsohn; photographs by Matt Mendelsohn  
Book Stacks:

2nd floor, 973.04924 M522

A search for six relations who were killed during the Holocaust spans multiple continents and races against time before all the witnesses die. What I especially liked was the author's fervent belief that by discovering their fate, his relations were no longer "lost" and no longer statistics. – Sue Birkenseer (reference librarian)



**A Short History of Nearly Everything** / Bill Bryson  
Book Stacks:

2nd floor, 500 B848

Bryson attempts to understand and answer the oldest and biggest questions about the universe and ourselves. – Tom Carter (dean, Academic Resources)

## LIBRARIANS' ROLE ON ACADEMIC SENATE COMMITTEES EXPANDS

By Margaret Brown-Salazar and Sue Birkenseer

As librarians, our work extends beyond the Library to the Saint Mary's College community. Our duties include serving on institutional committees that review and assess Saint Mary's policy, curriculum and programs. Specifically, librarians are members of the Undergraduate Educational Policies Committee (UEPC), the Graduate and Professional Studies Educational Policies Committee (GPSEPC) and the Program Review Committee (PRC). For a number of years, librarians were non-voting members; this academic year, as campus committees were restructured, librarians were designated as voting members.

Librarians draw on library culture and expertise to guide our contributions to committee work. We interpret the Saint Mary's mission, vision and strategic plan in relationship to providing Library services and resources for curricular support and the information literacy requirements of the community. We work as resource specialists in collaboration with our faculty designing library collections, reference services and research instruction on both course and program levels. Our work allows us to see the College not only through the vantage of our disciplines but universally, cross-disciplinary and interconnecting. Our expertise encourages us to access a wide range of background information as issues are identified, discussed and acted on.

Our ability to perform our work as librarians is improved by our service on campus committees. As we collaborate with faculty on institutional issues, we can look at our campus, its guiding principles and its culture in a broader sense; it permits us to view our community from a faculty perspective. Committee work allows us to know our faculty differently, to understand the complexity of their work in their classrooms, in their programs, in their departments and in their schools. We are allowed to see them not only as experts in their fields but also to collaborate with them as Lasallian brothers and sisters. We are enriched as we pool our time, our talent and our energy to build and continue excellence on our campus.



## POSTER PRESENTATION AT ACRL

By Sarah Vital



Sharon explains the project to an interested conference attendee.

In fall 2007, Sharon Radcliff and I embarked on a research study into the topic development phase of the student research process. Using a volunteer section of English composition, we focused on the following two questions in our research: 1. How do students develop a workable topic/thesis for a research paper assignment? and 2. What specific barriers and problems do students encounter in this phase of the research process?

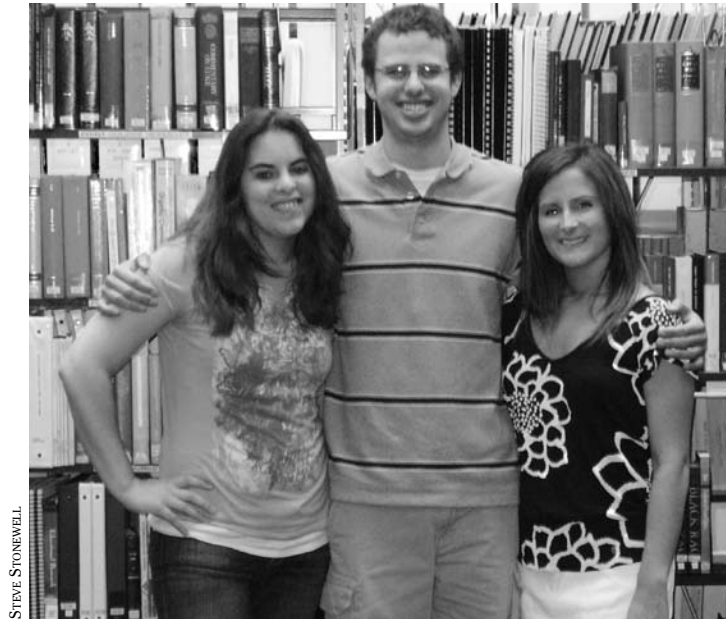
We used several methods to determine answers to these questions. First, students were asked to keep a structured journal for all research activities during the two weeks they worked on their proposals. These journals, plus the students' pre-journal free-write (or, a written record, completed in class, of their free-flowing ideas) and topic proposals, were collected and analyzed. Six volunteer students recorded "think alouds" in which they verbalized their thoughts as they worked on their topics and did research for their proposals over a two-week period. Three sets of approximately one-hour "think alouds" were collected for each of the six students, and were transcribed and analyzed. Finally, four one-hour focus groups were conducted with groups of students from the class to hear their thoughts on the process.

This brought in a lot of rich data, and started to reveal some interesting patterns. We presented a preliminary report of findings and some recommendations this past March as a poster at the 14th National Conference of the Association of College and Research Libraries in Seattle, Washington. Results were also shared with the Saint Mary's faculty in the English Composition program. A final report will be posted on the Library's website.

For more information on the study, check out a webpage which includes materials used for the project and a Power Point summary of key findings and recommendations: <http://library.stmarys-ca.edu/services/faculty-staff/projects/topicdevelopment/index.html>

## LIBRARY BIDS FAREWELL TO THREE GRADUATING STUDENT EMPLOYEES

By Alle Porter



Siobhan, Chris and Dominica are all moving on to great things.

At the end of the academic year the Library will say goodbye to three student employees who have worked at the Circulation Desk for several years.

Chris Orme, an Integral major hired in 2006, hopes to go to the Middle East to do some social work for the Christian Brothers. Afterward, he will attend law school.

"Or now, if I don't get the job," says Chris.

Chris frequently contributed to the departmental memos that communicated important information to other student employees, and he says that he will most miss the close friends he's made in college.

Siobhan Williams is a psychology major who has worked at the desk since her freshman year. She's in the process of applying to graduate schools at Saint Mary's and also in the U.K. in Child/Adolescent/Family Counseling Master's Programs.

"If by some strange stroke of fate I don't get into any of them, I'm hoping to find a good job helping children in need," says Siobhan.

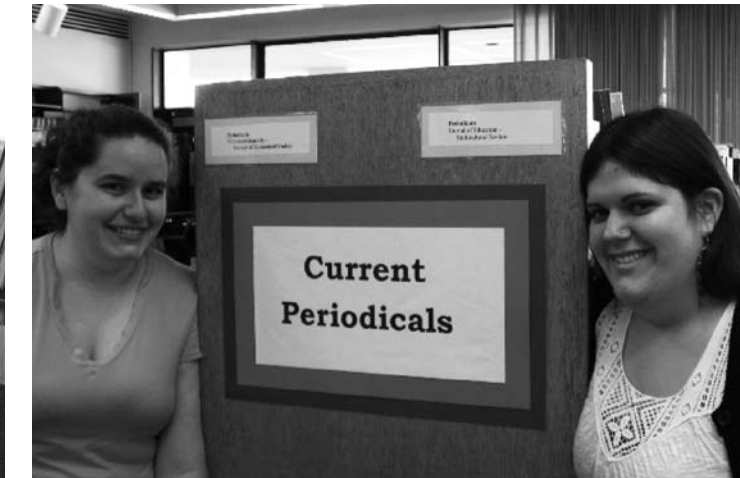
Siobhan often worked at the Library over the summer and enjoyed collaborating with individuals throughout the department, including periodicals and interlibrary loan. She will miss her friends and "the tight-knit community that is Saint Mary's."

Dominica Goyhenetche has worked in the Library since she was a freshman and is looking forward to her new job at Hood and Strong in San Francisco. Dominica spent hours each week processing books borrowed from other libraries and always enjoyed interacting with the more eclectic patrons of the community.

"What I will miss most about Saint Mary's will be my friends and roommates and working at the Library," says Dominica.

## BEHIND THE DOORS

By Diane Nolting and Linda Wobbe



Erin, Breanne (above) and Myha (below) help Collection Services work smoothly.

Have you ever wondered what goes on in the backrooms of the Library? Much of the staff works there, and the Collection Services department is fortunate to have three wonderful and dedicated student assistants this year to help with a myriad of activities. You won't see them as often as the numerous students who man the front desk, but they are vital to our day-to-day operations of processing books and periodicals, binding, database work and even a little basic book mending.

Breanne Benedict is a sophomore psychology major. Erin Bradley is a senior majoring in English and minoring in East Asian studies. Both have been with the Library for two years. Erin has applied to the Master's in Library Information Science at San Jose State University. Myha Do is a graduate student in the MFA program, and will complete her thesis in creative writing (fiction) this spring. Myha is a Buddhist nun at the Dharma Realm Buddhist Association, a temple in Ukiah.

Breanne and Erin do the hands-on work of binding the periodicals, which requires much patience and time. They process our new materials, such as date and property stamping, labeling and other detailed work, and they spent a lot of time creating the new blue and red signs for periodical locations.

Myha prepared the "Cardinal Newman and His Times" special collection books for their trip to the University of Toronto for scanning. She reviews the condition of each book before and after the scanning process is complete, and carefully packs them for transport and storage in our off-site facility at DataSafe. As this project nears completion, we are grateful for Myha's careful handling of these treasured books.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CHANGES IN STAFF ROSTER

The Cataloging & Acquisitions Department bid farewell to Rita Kindle at the end of January. Rita had served as acquisitions assistant for three years, purchasing all the new books and videos for the library collection. In a very rapid turnover, the Library was pleased to fill this position with a library assistant already on staff. Ingrid de la Jara officially moved to the full-time position on March 2. She has stepped right into the flurry of spring semester rush purchases and the regular business of the acquisitions desk. Welcome, Ingrid!