

# FROM THE STEPS of Adams Library



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Rhode Island College

Spring 2011



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**Y**our library is a vibrant place. My colleagues and I are thrilled to see you studying in groups, alone, or simply discussing issues pertaining to a wide array of subjects of interest to you. The library is truly an extension of your classroom. It is in fact a giant classroom full of resources of many kinds; books, journals, electronic databases, music on cd, movies on dvd, artwork and much more. It is also a delight to see you attending the many lectures and cultural programs here at your library. We want your college experience, with all the instruction you receive in your various classes, to also include the library experience. For those of you now finishing your first, second or third years, I hope we will be seeing you again. You enrich us by your presence, yet, we look forward to strengthening our resources and our activities to better address your academic and intellectual interests. For our seniors, we are glad that you are graduating and now standing on the verge of your careers. I hope that James P. Adams Library has been a part of your wonderful college years and memories. Congratulations!

I would like to share with you what one of our students, Kaitlyn Dunnack (Class of 2014) soon to be a nursing student, said about the library. "Whenever I have a paper to write, I'm never without the book or the article I need." Kaitlyn is also a tour guide and she said when giving tours to prospective students she brings them to the library and tells them about our resources and our programs.

I am grateful for my colleagues' team spirit in serving our students and in strengthening the library as a relevant partner in our academic endeavors. We thank our students for voting Adams Library number one in services on the Student Satisfaction Survey. The picture above is of the great reading room on level 1A where electrical upgrades are taking place. This is the first step and the upgrades will continue all over the building. We thank our President Nancy Carriuolo, for approving these upgrades. Our students and others will have more outlets when using laptops. Enjoy the seventh issue of this newsletter. Give us your feedback and if you have any news or any writing that you would like to publish, please forward them to us; we will be glad to include them. Please continue to visit the library often! ~Hedi BenAicha, Director

[hbenacha@ric.edu](mailto:hbenacha@ric.edu)



# Our Staff

## Coming Full Circle Corrine Fortune, Supervisor in Access Services

By Debra Thomson



That smiling face that you see behind the Circulation Desk is our own Corrine Kilpeck Fortune, who came to us 10 years ago by way of Chicago's Northeastern Illinois University Library and Roger Williams School of Law Library. Her arrival at RIC brings her full circle, back to her roots in Cranston and her early college years at RIC. Corrine's journey back to Rhode Island took 26 years, but we are all grateful that she finally made it back "home."

Corrine's desk is opposite the Circulation Desk, where she can instantly offer assistance with a smile to any student or faculty member who has a question or problem. Her patron-centric attitude with regard to her work is evident in her insistence upon being on the front lines of library service. Corrine spends most of her working hours supervising the front desk, training the student workers, and assisting patrons.

More than any other aspect of her work, Corrine loves working with the student employees. She proudly exclaims, "I have had well over 1,000 student aides," and she stays in touch with many of them, attending their weddings and keeping photos of their children, years after they have left the college. Kieran Ayton, now an adjunct librarian in Adams Library, says of Corrine, "I remember how wonderful Corrine was to me when I was a student worker and how great she is to work with now!"

Corrine and her husband Ralph have always welcomed the students into their home, and made them feel like part of their family. Ralph is a RIC alumnus, Class of 1972, and recently retired after more than 30 years as a Special Education Teacher for the Providence School System. He is also recently retired



Corrine Fortune with husband Ralph while on vacation

from his rock band, "Fortune," which played in local colleges and pubs for many years. He was Corrine's first love, back in the early 1970's, and when Corrine returned to Rhode Island they picked up where they left off so many years ago. They are now married and have a comfortable home near the Cranston neighborhood where Corrine grew up. "We are living happily ever after," Corrine declares with a smile. ■

## BEST WISHES, CAROL!



*After 35 years at Rhode Island College, Carol Hryciw-Wing retired on March 5, 2011. We thank Carol for her dedicated service to RIC and to Adams Library and wish her the best on her future endeavors.*

## What Goes Around Comes Around!

By Kresten Jespersen

The story begins with Neil Hodge as a high school student lamenting the



Lisa Smolski presents Neil Hodge with her late fathers camera

break-in of his car while at a music session downtown at Providence's AS220. The thieves took everything in the car including his much loved and newly acquired Nikkormat. "It was the best camera I ever had, Kresten," Neil explained to me while learning the ropes of digitization. At the time we were working on the Smolski Collection together: 8000 superb slides of urban architecture and geography and more than 370 Op-Ed pieces by Chet Smolski, Professor of Geography for forty years at Rhode Island College. The acquisition of the slides and writings after the passing of Prof. Smolski by Marlene Lopes, Head of Special Collections, were just in the process of being digitized by students at Rhode Island College under my supervision. The project, initially seeded by the Smolski family, was an initiative of the Director of the Library, Hedi BenAicha. Neil was my assistant. We were both Nikon fans as it turned out.

Neil proved to be a powerhouse of a team member, so after the Library won a Rhode Island Council of the Humanities grant, he was a logical choice to present the research skills acquired by the student team at a workshop "Space and Place: Magic Picture Show" publicizing the Smolski Collection, one of the requirements of the grant. The workshop by Dr. Howard Foster, Jr. and Dr. Kresten Jespersen, sponsored by both the Rhode Island Council of the Humanities and the Royal Society of the Arts on October 14, 2010 was attended by Mrs. Theresa Smolski, Chet Smolski's widow and by members of the Smolski family. Neil's dad, Matthew Hodge, a RIC alumnus and former student of Professor Smolski, was in the audience. The stage of coincidence was set. Neil then wowed the audience by his visual research and by his facility with Google Earth. And it came out that the Smolski images were taken with a Nikkormat, Chet's favorite camera! Would Neil like to have it, Mrs. Theresa Smolski offered at the end of Neil's demonstration? A grateful Neil was presented with the camera in my office several days later, and the bonds between the Hodges and the Smolskis at Rhode Island College strengthened now through three generations of lives: Chet, Matthew and Neil.

So a tale of loss many years ago becomes a triumph of coincidences, fortuitousness and redress. Thank you Theresa Smolski for the power of gifting and Chet Smolski for the enduring gift of education! ■

The screenshot shows the James P. Adams Library website for Rhode Island College. At the top, there are navigation tabs: ABOUT LIBRARY, RESEARCH, SERVICES, LIBGUIDES, DIGITAL COMMONS, and GET HELP. Below these is a banner with the library's name and logo. The main content area features a search bar with the text "Search the HELIN Catalog of RI College Libraries for Books, E-books, DVD's, CD's and more!". There are also tabs for CATALOG, ARTICLES, JOURNALS, RESERVES, and GOOGLE SCHOLAR. On the left, there is a "Card Activation" section with a barcode and a "Hours" section listing operating times. On the right, there is a "REACH INSPIRE CONNECT" section with a photo of Hedi BenAlcha, Director, and contact information. At the bottom, there is an "ASK US" button and a "Need Help?" section.

## Take A Sneak Peak at the New Library Webpage!

Soon we will be unveiling our fresh new look!

By Kieran Ayton

**Navigation** On the library homepage, tabbed search boxes are available to help you find books, articles, reserves and more! Navigation links have moved from the left column (old website), to drop down menus at the top of the screen (new website). Popular Online Resources can be found under the "Research" drop down menu. Checking your library account and requesting library materials from other institutions can be found under the "Services" drop down menu.

**Card Activation** One of the first things you will notice on the left column of the new website is the card activation link. This allows RIC students, faculty, and staff to apply online to activate and renew their library patron accounts. This is very important because your account must be active to use the library's online resources like databases and e-books.

**Ask Us!** The library has a new online reference service called **LibAnswers**. Use the Ask Us Button to submit any question to us, whether library related or campus related. We will send you a reply via email. We also have a searchable database of frequently asked questions (<http://www.ric.libanswers.com/>)

The screenshot shows a feedback form titled "Give Us Your Feedback!". It includes a table for rating various services on a scale from Excellent to Needs Improvement. Below the table is a text box for comments and suggestions. The form is for RIC Undergraduate Students.

Please rate the following:	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Needs Improvement
Library Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Library Study Spaces	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Library Collections and Databases	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Library Website	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please leave us your comments and suggestions:

I am a: ☐ RIC Undergraduate Student ☐ Staff

Submit

Please use our feedback form on the home page, send us questions via LibAnswers, or comments to Kieran Ayton ([kayton@ric.edu](mailto:kayton@ric.edu)). We would like to thank Karen Rubino and Kevin Middleton of Web Communications for their help in the redesign of the library web site and in keeping us within the College brand.■

## OTHER TECHNOLOGY UPGRADES

### Reserves Online Request Form *By Brian Baker*

Faculty can now submit requests for course reserve processing via a new online form from the library website under the "Services" drop down menu. This new form makes it easier and faster for faculty to have material from the library's online resources processed for their course reserve lists and incorporates electronic formats such as e-books, e-journals, and streaming media as well as traditional formats. Faculty can also use this method to submit reservations for DVDs and videos needed for use in class. Processing requests are routed to [adamsreserves@ric.edu](mailto:adamsreserves@ric.edu) and faculty will receive confirmation after a successful submission is completed.■

### Printing and Photocopying Upgrades *By David Maine*

For the start of the spring 2011 semester, a major upgrade relating to network printing and photocopying has been implemented. Library users who need to print or copy may now use their RIC ID cards to photocopy or print from the network. Campus points (monetary value) may be added onto an existing ID card or onto a card purchased at the new card dispenser located in the 3rd floor computer/photocopying area. Cards may also be re-valued at the new dispenser. Implementing this new system was the brain child of Dennis Sousa, manager of Campus Card in the Student Union and we thank him for this improvement that will benefit all users of the library!■



# Huckleberry Finn and the “N Word”

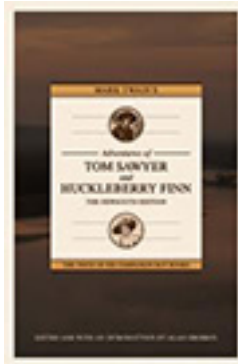
By Carla Weiss

Mark Twain’s *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, a standard of American literature, is required reading in many American high schools. Although the novel has been praised and analyzed by many literary critics since it was published in 1884, it has also continued to be challenged and banned by many libraries and schools. Initially it was condemned as promoting immorality, using coarse and ungrammatical language, and featuring characters who were bad role models. More recently the book has been accused of endorsing racial bias and stereotype, rendering it as humiliating and insulting to African American students, and contributing to a low self-esteem. The book, set in the mid 1800s, relates the adventures of Huckleberry Finn, who is fleeing his father, and his friend Jim, a runaway slave, as they set off on a raft on the Mississippi River. Eventually Jim is captured, and Huck helps him escape.

According to some critics, Twain employed satire in his novel to expose the hypocrisy of the racist elements in the South, including having his characters use the words “nigger” many times throughout the story. Other critics claim that there is enough ambiguity in the plot and the interactions of the characters to doubt Twain’s condemnation of slavery.

The latest controversy surrounding the book is that Alan Gribben, a professor of English at Auburn University at Montgomery, after teaching Twain for decades, has edited a new edition of *Huckleberry Finn* which substitutes the word “slave” in every instance where Twain used the word “nigger,” and replaces the word “Injun” with “Indian.” He explains that his purpose is to get past the problems caused by the words so that students can concentrate, instead, on the work of literature.

Please look at the libguide ([http://ric.libguides.com/Huckleberry\\_Finn](http://ric.libguides.com/Huckleberry_Finn)) *Huckleberry Finn* and the “N Word” for news, articles, videos and library resources about the publication of this new edition and let us know what your opinion is. Is editing what is now offensive language from a classical work of literature an effort that should be praised or is it censorship?■



## Journey to a Soul: Reflections on Poetry by Ellen Morais

Reading a poem is like opening a door into a world only its author has seen. It is like standing before a portal that beckons you on a journey to share in a moment or a feeling. Poetry itself is a lyrical language of metaphor and emotion crafted with artistry and rhythm. Like a painter choosing her palette, a poet selects her words with the utmost care knowing that the wrong expression could ruin the mood, upset the tempo, or lose the reader’s interest.

Like fingerprints or brush strokes, poems leave us with traces of difficulties faced and hints of aspirations and desires. Through the ages they have served as evidence of how people loved, fought and died. Words can unite and divide us. And when woven into poetic verse can evoke intense emotional reactions. It is used by lovers and politicians alike, and exists in a realm all around us. It is in the music we listen to; at times demanding our attention from refrigerator magnets and ads. It sleeps in our hearts and springs forth from the quiet stirrings of our souls and so often lives in secret journals never to be discovered. For me, it has been a way of processing the events of my life, a safe haven to voice my inner most thoughts and fears or express my longings and joys.

April is National Poetry Month. In its honor, visit your library and read some poetry, attend a reading or discussion or better yet, try your own hand at it. You might be surprised at what you unearth.■

### “Muse” by Ellen Morais

*Rousing me from sleep she whispers of wonders*

*Paints worlds I’ll never see*

*Urges me to write them down before like dreams they fade to ether*

*I am her slave, entranced by the artistry of her words*

*Like a symphony to my weary soul, the places they conjure*

*I can’t help but indulge her every whim*

*So I give myself over*

*Let her flow through me like electricity burning onto this page*

*In this way, she is always with me,*

*My muse.*

## NATIONAL POETRY MONTH

### April 13, 2011 12:00-2:00 pm Student Poetry Readings

Love to play with words? In honor of National Poetry Month the library is hosting WORDPLAY, an afternoon showcase of Rhode Island College student poets reciting poetry. Students are invited to read their own poems or those by their favorite poets. Interested? Contact Brian Baker at 456-8182 or by email: [bbaker@ric.edu](mailto:bbaker@ric.edu)



### One Prompt One Poem One State, 30 Days of Poetic Adventure

The Library has partnered with thepoetryloft.org and is participating in the Writing Across Rhode Island write-a-thon. Write a poem in the voice of someone you know (your mother or your childhood friend, the waitress at a local diner, etc.). Imagine what this person might say or incorporate things you’ve heard the person say to construct a poem made up entirely of the person’s actual, now re-arranged words. The trick, of course, is to take another’s spoken language and to transform it into a poem. The prompt was given by RIC professor, Cathleen Calbert, and is inspired by her poem, *Listening to My Mother in the Alzheimer’s Wing*. For more information: [http://www.thepoetryloft.org/WARI\\_Write-a-thon.html](http://www.thepoetryloft.org/WARI_Write-a-thon.html)

The prompt was given by RIC professor, Cathleen Calbert, and is inspired by her poem, *Listening to My Mother in the Alzheimer’s Wing*. For more information: [http://www.thepoetryloft.org/WARI\\_Write-a-thon.html](http://www.thepoetryloft.org/WARI_Write-a-thon.html)

To learn more about National Poetry Month: <http://ric.libguides.com/Poetry>

As part of the Library Lecture Series,  
please join us for:

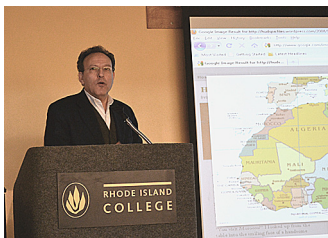
## Huckleberry Finn and the “N” Word

A Panel Discussion by RIC Professors of English,  
Joseph Zornado and Zubeda Jalalzai



**Wednesday, April 6th**  
**4:00-6:00 pm**  
**Fortes Room**  
**Light refreshments**





## THE JASMINE REVOLUTION

Tunisia recently captured the world's attention with its successful and peaceful overthrow of the country's dictatorial President. Library Director Hedi BenAicha, a native of Tunisia, gave a lecture about the history of Tunisia and the recent revolution, on February 3rd in

the Fortes Room. Students, faculty, and administrators were in attendance to hear Hedi describe Tunisia's recent political history and the events that led to the revolution. Hedi also noted that the other nearby countries are taking Tunisia's example and beginning to create their own nonviolent revolutions, and he expressed hope that this part of the world will have more democracy in the future. A lively question and answer period followed his remarks.

~ Debra Thomson



## TRANSFORMING CITIES: A VISION FOR PROVIDENCE, RI

A panel discussion inspired by

the Chet Smol-ski archive digitiza-tion project, took place

on Thursday, September 30, 2010 in the Fortes Room, Adams Library. The discussion was sponsored by the James P. Adams Library, Rhode Island College, the Fellows of the Royal Society for the Encouragement of the Arts (RSA) and the Rhode Island Council on the Humanities. Panelists included moderator Kevin Flynn, associate director for RI Division of Planning; Barnaby Evans, creator and executive director, WaterFire Providence; Marti Rosenberg, policy specialist, the Providence Plan; Mac Woodward, architectural historian; and William D. Warner, architect and urban designer. The panelists spoke of the changes to the physical structure of the city, as well as the necessity to continue to work toward a "renaissance" for the city's social and cultural life.

Providence has undergone three major redevelopment and relocation projects in recent years; relocating the train tracks and the train station, uncovering and moving the confluence of two rivers, and most recently, re-designing and relocating the intersection of routes 195 and 95. One of the panelists remarked that there are few, if any, major relocation projects that could still be undertaken in the city. While we may have experienced the beauty of the rivers during WaterFire, or the frustration of being stuck in traffic during the reconstruction of Rt. 195, we seldom think about the overall effect of these projects on the downtown area and its residents.

~ Debra Thomson and Kresten Jespersen



## THE HARLEM RENAISSANCE ON FILM

On November 10, 2010 Dr. Daniel Scott III, Professor of English and African American Studies at RIC, presented a lecture on the Harlem Renaissance and it's representation in film. Dr. Scott used film clips and literature written by famous Harlem Renaissance authors to describe how African Amer-

icans were portrayed in the early 1900s and 1920s.

I was particularly affected by the *Birth of a Nation* film clips that Dr. Scott

showed and how the film's impact was so profound across the United States. I had never seen or heard of this film and was astounded at its racist portrayal of African Americans in which African American men are portrayed as unintelligent and sexually aggressive towards white women. This film also portrayed the Ku Klux Klan as a heroic entity. Released in 1915, *Birth of a Nation* was the highest-grossing film of the silent film era and the first film shown at the White House. President Woodrow Wilson was quoted as saying "...like writing history with lightning. And my only regret is that it is all so terribly true." This part of Dr. Scott's lecture made it so very clear how far we've come in the 100 years since this film's release but also how much more we have to do to combat racism in the United States. ~Brian Baker



## "THE HOME OF HAPPY FEET: A MUSICAL TRIBUTE TO HARLEM'S SAVOY BALLROOM"

was presented by Dr. Steven Kane on February 28th in the Fortes Room. "Music has been central to my life since early childhood," he explained, "Aunt Rosie opened the Roseland Ballroom in Taunton, Massachusetts," so his appreciation of

music began at a very young age. Kane's comments about the history of the Savoy Ballroom and the musicians and bands that played there were interspersed with samples of musical tracks from the greats; Chick Webb, Ella Fitzgerald, The Jimmie Lunceford Band, The Savoy Sultans, and the great Duke Ellington's orchestra. The audience of jazz lovers, from students and faculty to administrators, began to accompany the music with toe tapping which soon spread to their fingers, knees, and shoulders and before long the room was moving to the beat that the Lindy Hoppers danced to more than 50 years ago. As promised, it was a toe-tapping experience.

~ Debra Thomson

## BETSEY MACDONALD'S "SENTIENT BEINGS"

Can you tell whether your pet is happy, excited,



frightened or in pain? Do animals express their feelings with sounds, or with body language such as a wagging tail or flattened ears? If animals have feelings or consciousness, if they are sentient, does it follow that breeding and raising animals in captivity for the purpose of slaughtering them for food is an act of extreme

cruelty? If it is, how can human beings justify or rationalize eating meat? These are the types of questions raised by Betsey MacDonald (MA '09) through her artwork and her master's thesis (available on DigitalCommons@RIC: <http://digitalcommons.ric.edu/etd/36/>). Her presentation in the Fortes Room on October 27th challenged those attending to examine these issues.

Betsey's paintings of magnificent horses, cute pigs and gentle cows contrasted with her paintings of slaughtered animals to make her point that humans who eat meat have a "disconnect" between their knowledge of the realities of the slaughterhouse and the meat on their plate. The audience was engaged and appreciative. Two students who attended this program later said that although they had never previously considered vegetarianism, Betsey's presentation gave them some new insights that they would certainly consider.

~ Debra Thomson

A new libguide with more details about our lecture series is on it's way. Bookmark this link and check back often for updates: [www.libguides.com/Library\\_Lectures](http://www.libguides.com/Library_Lectures)



# In the Archives

## The House Without Windows

By Marlene Lopes

Images from the Special Collections copy of *The House Without Windows* donated by Martha Bacon Ballinger

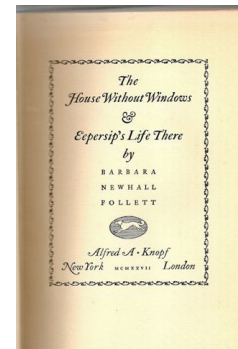
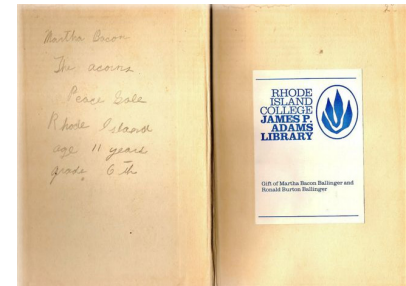
Recently Leigh Kelly Mournighan, of Access Services, approached me with an interlibrary loan request. "I know that you will not lend out a Special Collections book, but lately we've been getting a lot of requests for this one. It's strange!" The book was *The House without Windows* (Knopf, 1927) by Barbara Newhall Follett.

We retrieved the book and saw that it was a work of fantasy, the story of Eepersip, a young girl who is drawn further and further into the natural world until she becomes "the spirit of Nature – a sprite of the meadow, a naiad of lakes, a nymph of the woods." That the future Professor Ballinger had kept this book from childhood, as we saw from her penciled signature, was interesting to us, but why were so many asking for it now?

A Google search provided the answer. Barbara Newhall Follett was a home-schooled genius who began typing her manuscript when she was 8 and, at 13, saw it published to warm reviews. She continued writing, led a rather tragic life, and then, at the age of 26, she walked away from her husband and was never seen again.

Long out of print, *The House without Windows* is a rare book with an asking price of more than \$500 (or \$275 for the 1968 paper reprint). Our library, thanks to Martha Bacon Ballinger, is one of the few that owns a copy. Professor Ballinger authored several books for young people, as well as two adult novels, two volumes of poetry, and more. We can only wonder how much she as an 11-year old reader was influenced by this book.

The links below tell her story. They lead you to the article by Paul Collins that started it all and to his December 18, 2010 interview on National Public Radio (NPR) that captured the public's attention as well as a review of a book by a psychologist who treats this story as a case history of a child prodigy. ■



### Quick Links



**NPR story (with link to the broadcast)**

<http://www.npr.org/2010/12/18/132135938/barbara-newhall-follett-disappearing-child-genius>

**Lapham's Quarterly** <http://www.laphamsquarterly.org/essays/vanishing-act.php?page=all>

**Barbara Newhall Follett papers at Columbia University (a guide)**

[http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/archival/collections/ldpd\\_4078771/index.html](http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/archival/collections/ldpd_4078771/index.html)

**Barbara Newhall Follett (Wikipedia entry)** [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barbara\\_Newhall\\_Follett](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barbara_Newhall_Follett)

**Book review** <http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,835766,00.html>

## From Special Collections: Education in Rhode Island By Phaedra Grande

Special Collections has expanded its holdings on vocational education with the integration of the papers of Dr. Edward J. Melucci, the former Vocational Director for the City of Pawtucket's Career Development Project. Previously a history teacher at Tolman High School, Dr. Melucci also served as Guidance Director at Pawtucket Vocational High School. His personal and professional papers and other assorted materials cover the development and success of the vocational program developed by the school system and Model Cities Agency in

Pawtucket during the late 1960's to 1974.

This collection contains a wealth of information for those seeking to learn more about the history of vocational education in Rhode Island. It also reveals attitudes concerning education during this time period in the United States, and shows how current programs today have been created to fit the needs of students and the community. A separate series on the planning and building of the Davies Vocational School in Lincoln is also included. Photographs, newspaper articles, correspondence and

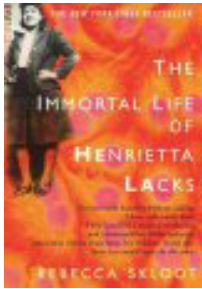
reports comprise the bulk of the collection.

The Dr. Edward J. Melucci Papers were originally donated to the Curriculum Resources Center where its director, Professor Emeritus David C. Woolman, prepared an extensive inventory. Building upon his work, Phaedra Grande, a Master of Library and Information Science student at URI and Special Collections intern at RIC, has reorganized the collection and created a finding aid that enhances accessibility to these important papers. ■

# Book Reviews

## ***The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks***

by Rebecca Skloot (Crown, ©2010)  
A Review by Judith Stokes

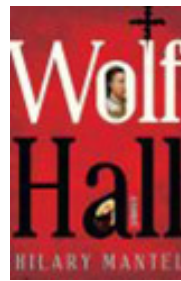


*The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot tells the story behind the HeLa cell line – biological material that enabled tremendous medical advances, starting with polio vaccine, including cloning, gene mapping, and in vitro fertilization, and continuing into present research. The persistence of the cancer that killed Henrietta Lacks at the age of 30, in the “colored ward” of the Johns Hopkins Hospital, was the key to its unique ability to survive in laboratory cultures, but Skloot wanted the whole story of the poor African American mother of five who died of that cancer in 1951. At the time, doctors thought nothing of using a patient’s tissue for medical research without her knowledge or consent. The tumor removed from Henrietta Lacks’ cervix was labeled with an abbreviated version of her own name, yet when her identity was later revealed, researchers still had no concern about the effects on her family.

By the time Skloot began her research, the family had long been aware that their mother’s remains had been taken from her and made the object of millions of dollars of medical commerce, while they remained uninformed, uninsured, and unable to afford any of the medical treatments made possible by their mother’s loss. During the 1970s, researchers had contacted the family, wanting to take DNA samples from Mrs. Lacks’ children, without informed consent, leaving them with just enough information to feel used and swindled. Skloot’s persistent attention to Henrietta’s daughter, Deborah, and her willingness to share all that she discovered, finally provided Skloot with the contacts to reconstruct the life of the whole person of whom a part lives on, even now. ■

## ***Wolf Hall***

by Hilary Mantel (Henry Holt & Co., ©2009)  
A Review by Carla Weiss



*Wolf Hall*, winner of the 2009 Man Booker Award, as well as the National Book Critics Circle Award for Fiction, is a fictionalized account of Thomas Cromwell. Cromwell served under King Henry VIII of England from 1533 to 1540. Mantel weaves an impressive narrative tracing Cromwell’s rise from his humble beginnings as the son of a blacksmith to become chief advisor to the King. During this time, he was an active negotiator in the political and religious maneuverings surrounding the legality of the annulment and repudiation of the King’s 20-year marriage to Catherine of Aragon. Cromwell was instrumental in carrying forth the argument that the King should have a complete right of spiritual jurisdiction to be the supreme head of the Church, thus leading to a break with Rome and the influence of the Catholic Church.

Written in the present tense and from the view of the protagonist, the novel is long and dense, but with wonderful detail of the time period. The author’s description of Cromwell’s household, the clothing, food, and customs of the 16th century is vivid. She captures the spirit, the look and the feel of London. As London prepares for the coronation of the new queen there were “*So many fountains flowing with wine that it’s hard to find one flowing with water. And looking down on them, the other Londoners, those monsters who live in the air, the city’s uncounted population of stone men and women and beasts. . .*”

The intrigues and plotting in the royal court and the intricate complex conversations among the characters reveal the dangerous path taken by Cromwell and others in his milieu. The novel ends before Anne Boleyn’s trial and beheading, which occurred several years before Cromwell met the same fate. ■

## ***Honoring Our Donors***

By Ellen Moraes



**Above:** Library Purchasing Manager & Gifts Coordinator, Debra Thomson poses with Greg and Chris Stevens of Pat’s Italian Restaurant before the sunflower mural they donated to Adams Library. **Below:** Professors Karl Benziger and Tony Carlino playing guitar.



On February 7, 2011 President Carriuolo gave opening remarks at a reception honoring several donors who recently made gifts to the Adams Library. The President was joined by Library Director, Hedi BenAicha; Special Collections Librarian/College Archivist, Marlene Lopes; and Library Purchasing Manager/Gifts Coordinator, Debra Thomson. In attendance were the Vice President of College Advancement, James Salmo; Major Gifts Officer, Maggie Dooley and members of the library staff and the RIC community. The donors were acknowledged for their gifts; Greg and Chris Stevens of Pat’s Italian Restaurant for the lovely sunflower mural; Mark and Brenda Bocchini, for a large screen & state of the art projector; and long-time friend of the College and the library, Joseph R. Muratore for the commissioning of artistic renderings depicting Rhode Island landmarks. Each donor was presented with a certificate of appreciation. Plaques have also been placed in the room acknowledging the gifts which have enriched the Fortes Room and made it more conducive for teaching and learning. Light refreshments were served while those gathered enjoyed the musical performance by RIC faculty members, Karl Benziger and Tony Carlino. ■



**Above:** Hedi BenAicha with Brenda and Mark Bocchini and President Carriuolo. **Below:** Marlene Lopes, Joseph Muratore, President Carriuolo and Hedi BenAicha.



## The E Column: Link Resolvers and DOI

By Judith Stokes

For some years, e-resources have been identified in most citation styles by the inclusion of a URL (Uniform Resource Locator) at the end of a citation. For example:

Mi, J. & Nesta, F. (2005). The Missing Link: Context Loss in Online Databases. *Journal of Academic Librarianship*, 31(6), 578-585. Retrieved from <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/B6W50-4HJS5CM-1/2/a7fdd7f1f2629586d1d18fd5ddc26ed6?&zoe=raall>

However, it has become increasingly evident that the changeable nature of URLs often renders them useless. The latest edition of the APA Manual advocates inclusion of the new standard Digital Object Identifiers (DOI) whenever they are available, because they provide an unchanging searchable designation for journal articles. A DOI is a unique string of characters that is assigned to a journal article by the publisher, for example: 10.1016/j.acalib.2005.08.010.

Often a DOI can be Googled effectively. However, when combined with the URL of the DOI System link resolver, <http://dx.doi.org>, it will be redirected to the original version of the specified article. For example: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.acalib.2005.08.010> will take you directly to the article on the publisher's website. Hence, a new citation format:

Mi, J. & Nesta, F. (2005). The Missing Link: Context Loss in Online Databases. *Journal of Academic Librarianship*, 31(6), 578-585. doi:10.1016/j.acalib.2005.08.010

What is a link resolver? It is software that "reads" URLs that conform to a standard format for bibliographic citations, called OpenURL, and "translates" them into the kinds of URLs that publishers use. A link resolver needs constant updating. Adams Library subscribes to a link resolver service ("Serials Solutions 360 Link") that specializes in keeping up to date with these changes. OpenURL is "open" in the sense that anyone can use it, so over the last several years, major database publishers have implemented the standard, enabling Adams Library to offer those "Check the library" links you see under citations whenever you search our databases. ■

## Children's Book Collections at Rhode Island College

By Carla Weiss

The Curriculum Resources Center, housed on the fourth floor of the James P. Adams Library, opened in 1959 and until 1995 was located in the Horace Mann building on campus to serve the school of education. The primary mission of the Center is to support pre-service and in-service teacher education at Rhode Island College. The objective is to enable students and teachers to locate, review, and apply up-to-date materials in the development of lessons, instructional units, and curriculum guides.

The Curriculum Resources Center collection includes print, non-print and electronic resources used in American schools from pre-school through grade 12. The focus is on tra-



Juvenile and Young Adult literature on level one additional and innovative methodologies, as reflected in guides and instructional material from local, state, and national sources. Particular emphasis is placed on resources related to teacher education programs at Rhode Island College. Most resources circulate for review, evaluation and classroom application. These resources include children's literature related to themes and topics in K-12 curriculum; instructional resources, and other applied aspects of school curriculum; newsletters (print and online) concerned with K-12 curriculum; textbooks in pupil and teacher's editions with supportive materials; media (audio-CD, DVDs, and web based resources); visual aids (art prints, charts, diagrams, graphs, maps, photos, and study prints) for pre-school and K-12 classrooms.

In addition, a collection of juvenile and young adult literature is located on the first floor of the Library in the PZ call number area.

Another site on campus for children's books and materials is the Henry Barnard School Library/Media Center which has a collection of intermediate and primary books, guided reading materials, a reference collection, computer access, audiovisual hardware, and an online catalog. The Henry Barnard School is Rhode Island College's laboratory school for pre-school, kindergarten, and grades 1- 5. Please see the libguide (<http://ric.libguides.com/content.php?pid=144286>) for borrowing policies. ■



### April Events:

- |            |  |
|------------|--|
| April 1-15 | <i>Rhode Island in the Civil War</i> , an exhibit provided by the Rhode Island Historical Society on display on the main level |
| April 6th  | <i>Huckleberry Finn and the "N" Word</i><br>4:00-6:00 pm in the Fortes Room  |
| April 8th  | <i>Exhibiting the Civil War in RI</i> presented by Morgan Greffe, RI Historical Society<br>3:15 pm in the Fortes Room          |
| April 13th | <i>WordPlay: Student Poetry Readings</i><br>12:30-2:00 pm in the Reinhardt Room  |
| April 27th | <i>Green Business Practices and the Future Workforce</i> presented by Glenn Bachman<br>12:30-2:00 pm in the Fortes Room        |



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PLEASE VISIT US ONLINE!

<http://digitalcommons.ric.edu/fromthesteps/>

