2006–2007 Highlights
Mary Couts Burnett Library
**Collections**

**Texas Legation Papers**

TCU now has the Texas Legation Papers which are the official records of the Republic of Texas embassy in Washington DC from 1836 to 1845. When Texas entered the Union and closed its Legation office in 1845, the Legation Papers were cataloged and archived for shipment to Austin. The 266 documents in the collection contain personal letters, financial arrangements, proposals for Texas annexation to the U.S., descriptions of boundary issues, and relations with the Indians, relations with Mexico, and the Treaty of Velasco, in which the independence of Texas was secured from Mexico.

Left in the care of a clerk in the Washington office of the Texas Adjutant General, the papers remained there until 1859, when Sam Houston, after completing two terms in the US Senate, had the archive shipped back to Texas along with his personal effects. Because of the mixed personal and official nature of the shipment, the Legation Papers were inadvertently delivered to Houston's home rather than to the state archives in Austin.

Sam Houston died in 1863. In the midst of the Civil War and the confusion of settling his estate, the papers were forgotten and lost. They resurfaced in 2004 in the estate of a private owner. The Texas Attorney General determined that the Legation Papers were official records of the Texas government and must be turned over to the State Library & Archives Commission.

First, however, the Texas State Library granted the Texas State Historical Association the opportunity to auction depository and display rights for the collection to a state-approved institution for a period of five years. TCU has acquired these rights through the generosity of Mary Ralph Lowe (TCU class of 1965), the Lowe Foundation, and Houston oilman J.P. Bryan (a descendent of Moses Austin, a collector of Texana, a past president of the Texas State Historical Association, and a past TCU parent), as well as a commitment of University funding.

Having been out of view for 161 years, the Legation Papers have never been available to scholars or the general public. Dr. Gregg Cantrell, holder of the Erma & Ralph Lowe Chair in Texas History at TCU, has already planned an ambitious agenda of original research, and for the next five years, scholars of Texas and U.S. history from across the country will come to TCU to examine and study this important collection.

Access to the papers will boost the work not only of historians, but also of scholars in disciplines that draw on history (political science, sociology, geography, etc.). The University, the Center for Texas Studies, and the Lowe Chair in Texas History will receive a considerable boost in stature and reputation as a result of TCU being a depository for this rare and singular archive.

*Courtesy of the Center for Texas Studies in the TCU AddRan College of Humanities and Social Sciences*  
(http://www.texasstudies.org/LegationPapers.htm)
Special Collections Processed

Grace Halsell Papers
Records of Denton Ray Lindley as vice president of Texas Christian University
TCU Scrapbook Collection
Edwin Lee Stiles Papers
Records of the TCU Staff Assembly
Records of Brachman Hall
Records of the Ranch Management Program
Jerome A. Moore Papers
Records of the Greater Southwestern International Airport
Jarvis – Van Zandt Family Papers
Henry A. Foster Papers
Records of the TCU Building Fund, 1948 Campaign

Special Collections New Accessions

Records of the Ranch Management Program
Records of the TCU Staff Assembly
Records of the Chancellor’s Office
Edwin Lee Stiles Papers

Edward Dave Oliphant Papers
William Walker Papers
Jarvis - Van Zandt Family Papers
Lorraine Sherley Papers

Rare Book Collection Additions

Resistance is Useless: Portraits of Slaves from the British West Indies by D.R. Wakefield
What a Word Dreamt, Versions of Aztec Poems by Peter Everwine
France by Suzanne Thomas
Ancestor by Suzanne Thomas
Miniature Leaf Books and Papermaking in the Phillipines: overseas file 664 from the Archivo General de Indias, Sevilla, Spain
A sphinx’s field guide to questionable answers by Michael Kuch
Disasters of love: a defense of Delilah; a poem, intaglios & lithographs by Michael Kuch

Items Purchased 2006 - 2007

Databases

- 19th Century Newspapers - primary source newspaper content from the 19th century
- Newspaper Direct Press Display - over 500 newspapers in 70 countries in 37 languages
- American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) Humanities Ebook - e-book database with more than 1500 titles adding about 300 titles per year with subject strengths in history, economics, politics and women’s studies.
- Orlando - women’s writings in the British Isles
- Archives USA - information about primary source materials from 5,581 US manuscript libraries, societies and other repositories
- Ancestry.com - U.S. and United Kingdom census data, ships’ logs and passenger indexes, vital records and social security death index records, WWI draft registration cards, maps, genealogy reference books, and more
- JSTOR Arts & Sciences V Collection - 120 titles including a number of important literary reviews and state historical journals.
- Short Story Index - indexes more than 84,000 stories, and includes the full text of more than 1,600 stories
- IBIS World - comprehensive collection of hundreds of Industry Market Research reports
- Irish Women Poets of the Romantic Period - poetry of, and biographical and critical essays about, 50 Irish women writing between 1768 and 1842

Historical Recordings Project Restoration

Safe Sound Archive in Philadelphia begins contracted work to clean, preserve, and transfer to CD approximately 135 acetate discs by TCU students and faculty from the years 1949-1959.
Newly Hired Staff

**Associate Dean of the Library**
Tracy Hull became the new Associate Dean for the Mary Couts Burnett Library in June 2007. Tracy comes to TCU from Drexel University in Philadelphia where she was the W.W. Hagerty Library’s Head of Information Services. Before Drexel University, Tracy was employed at Georgia State University’s Pullen Library as the Head of Liaison and Research Services and at Duke University’s Lilly Library as the Resource Education and Drama Librarian. Tracy’s educational background includes a Master’s degree in Library Science and a Master’s degree in Art History from the University of Illinois.

**Head of Reference**
Brenda Barnes became the new Head of Reference March 2007. Brenda had served as the Government Information Librarian at the TCU Library since July 1986. She had also worked as the Interim Head of Reference since June 2006.

**Systems Librarian**
Walter Betts became the new Systems Librarian for the Mary Couts Burnett Library in August 2006. Previously, Walter was Systems Librarian for the Dallas Independent School District (the 13th largest district in the nation) and the Irving Independent School District (the 2001 National School Library Media Program of the Year). Walter’s educational background includes a Master’s degree in Library Science from Texas Woman’s University and a Bachelor’s degree in Saxophone Performance from the University of Texas at Arlington. In addition to his duties at TCU, Walter is an adjunct professor at TWU, teaching systems analysis and cataloging.

**Business Reference Librarian**
Diana Boerner became the new Business Librarian in the Reference Department in June 2006. Diana comes to TCU from Tarrant County College where she also served as a Business Reference Librarian. Prior to beginning a career as a librarian, Diana worked at Pizza Hut Corporate as a Food Scientist in the New Product Development department.

**Science Reference Librarian**
Jeff Bond became TCU’s Science Reference Librarian in June 2007. Previously, Jeff served as a reference and instruction librarian for the William Allen White Library at Emporia State University in Emporia, Kansas. Jeff received his Master of Library Science degree in August 2006 also from Emporia State University, and holds undergraduate degrees in music education and mathematics from Kansas State University.

**Interlibrary Loan Supervisor**
Kay Edmondson was promoted to Interlibrary Loan Supervisor in January 2007. She has been a Library Specialist in the TCU Interlibrary Loan office for the last 15 years.

**Library Specialist, Periodicals**
Karen DeWysockie became the new Library Specialist in Periodicals in March 2007, bringing Periodicals experience from the library at Southwestern Baptist Seminary.
Are You Mobile?

Check out the TCU Library’s new website for mobile devices: [http://lib.tcu.edu/m](http://lib.tcu.edu/m)

Unveiled in the spring the Library now has a portal for mobile devices. Using your Java-enabled smart-phone, you can access basic information about the library (hours, contact information, etc.) as well as a streamlined version of our catalog. Results from the Google-like keyword search will display location and availability information for items in the collection.

Digital Microform

A new digital microform machine makes possible the scanning of microfilm and microfiche to a computer file. Researchers can then send the file to their own file storage for printing or reading later. With many films and fiches the quality can be degraded but with the digital image you can adjust the image with software better than with the mechanical elements of standard microform printer machines.

50 Laptops

In addition to the over 100 computers available in the Information Commons Computer Lab there are 50 laptops available for use in the Library on FrogWave (campus WiFi network.) These laptops circulate within the library for up to three hours. This has extended computing into areas that could not be otherwise equipped with standard computing.

Library Instruction

Over 1600 students in the fall and another 755 in the spring received classroom instruction in the use of the library and the vast array of print and electronic resources. Countless others received one on one instruction. In addition to instruction on using resources students are taught important concepts in information literacy. Learning how to evaluate information content for authority, accuracy, purpose and currency is crucial to becoming information literate.

Staff Assembly

The library has four representatives on the 65 member staff assembly. The mission of the Staff Assembly is to promote communication and understanding, provide a forum for the expression and exchange of ideas, and address concerns of the Staff with the goal of fostering a superior University.
Events

Bistro Renovation

Bistro Burnett, Sodexo’s food and beverage service available in the Library was expanded during the summer 2006. Two new grab-and-go coolers were installed along with an additional cash register. Bistro Burnett has similar hours to the Library and stays open when the Library is open 24 hours during Finals Week. Bistro Burnett is located conveniently within the Library’s lobby and now serves sushi in addition to sandwiches, pastries, fresh fruits, Starbucks’ coffees and teas, and other beverages.

Faculty Speak

Each semester the library hosts an opportunity for faculty to present their current works and research.

Dr. Gregg Cantrell

Gregg Cantrell, Professor of History, and Erma and Ralph Lowe Chair in Texas History presented in the Fall on the loan of the Texas Legation Papers to TCU. The Texas Legation Papers are the official records of the Republic of Texas embassy in Washington DC from 1836 to 1845.

Dr. Fred Erisman

Fred Erisman’s Boys’ Books, Boys’ Dreams, and the Mystique of Flight is a scholarly study of the boys’ aviation series books published from 1910-1950 that shaped at least two generations’ views of aircraft and American life. He reveals the part played by the book and their authors in spurring the American nation’s fascination with flying. For the book, Dr. Erisman did research in the extensive juvenile collection at the University of Minnesota and then at the National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution, where he held the Charles A. Lindbergh Chair of Aerospace History.

Friends of the TCU Library Annual Banquet

At this year’s banquet, the 35th, held in the Dee J. Kelly Center in April the Carol Jim Renshaw Award was given to Dr. Paul Boller, who has been a supporter of the Library for many years. In addition to giving his personal papers, correspondence, writings and course material he also contributed his collection of Wizard of Oz books. An author of many books including the current Presidential Diversion, he has also been a speaker for the annual spring banquet, two FacultySpeak evenings and several staff in-house sessions.

Glenna Odom received the Friend of the Year Award for her many memorial and honorary gifts to the Friends. She has been a member since 1972 when she and her husband Dr. Keith Odom were instrumental in beginning the Friends organization.

Timothy Egan was the keynote speaker and received the 4th biennial TCU Texas Book Award for his work The Worst Hard Time: The Untold Story of Those Who Survived the Great American Dust Bowl.
Library Turnstile Entry Statistics

Each year since 2000 has seen an increase in the number of students coming to the library. The Visit category represents the total number of students that have visited the library and the Issued IDs represents the total number of student IDs issued by TCU. We see between 83% - 88% of the student body each fall semester in the library.

Interlibrary Loan Statistics

TCU borrowed 2,458 items (books, microforms, etc.) and received 4,485 articles from other libraries. TCU loaned 3,291 items (books, microforms, etc.) and sent 5,267 articles to other libraries.

Friends of the TCU Library

Friends of the TCU Library purchased 18 chairs, 4 loveseats, and 26 tables for the Reference Room. Chairs are pictured to the right.

Top 5 Items Checked Out

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Book Title</th>
<th>Audio</th>
<th>Work</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Janet Evanovich</td>
<td><em>Twelve Sharp</em></td>
<td>Claude-Michel Schönberg</td>
<td><em>Les Misérables</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fannie Flagg</td>
<td><em>Can’t Wait To Get To Heaven</em></td>
<td>Giuseppe Verdi</td>
<td><em>Requiem</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harlan Coben</td>
<td><em>Promise Me</em></td>
<td>Yo-Yo Ma</td>
<td><em>Classic Yo-Yo</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeffery Deaver</td>
<td><em>The Cold Moon</em></td>
<td>Renée Fleming</td>
<td><em>Night Songs</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Higgins Clark</td>
<td><em>Two Little Girls in Blue</em></td>
<td>Ludwig van Beethoven</td>
<td><em>The Complete Piano Sonatas</em></td>
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Information Commons and Frog Pods

Information Commons Desk pictured to the right combines Library Reference Service and Technology Resources Residential Network Services. Far right is one of the Frog Pods, a space allowing groups of students to work on projects together using a single computer on dual monitors to provide better visualization and work space.
Mission, Vision and Values

Mission Statement:

The Mary Couts Burnett Library provides information resources for inquiry, intellectual discovery, and the development of life-long learning skills in a people-centered environment.

Vision Statement:

To be a dynamic gateway to global information for a diverse academic community.

Core Values:

Service - excellence, inclusiveness, and dedication in serving our diverse stakeholders

Integrity - adherence to principles, attentive to ethical considerations, and respectful of confidentiality

Access - Optimal, uncensored, and equitable access--whether independent or facilitated--to worldwide information and services

Innovation - novel, flexible, and creative approaches to services, technologies, and resources

Teamwork - superior results through cooperation and mutual respect

Environment - comfortable, safe, and convenient spaces conducive to study, work, teaching, and research

Scholarship - knowledge management, promotion of information literacy, and support for intellectual endeavor

Resource sharing - expanded opportunities through collaboration with internal and external partners