Writer in Residence Marisa Silver to teach workshop

Marisa Silver, bestselling author and Walter Stiern Library PG&E Writer in Residence, will be teaching a creative writing workshop on Wednesday, June 18, from 9 to 4. She also held a reading from her bestselling novel, Mary Coin, in April. Tuition for the workshop is free. Those interested can pick up an application in the library administrative office or on the library’s website. Contact Eileen Montoya for information on the event at 654-3042.

Marisa Silver is a Los Angeles based novelist, short story writer, and former filmmaker. She directed several successful films before she changed her focus to literature and became a writer, publishing her first short story in The New Yorker in 2000. A collection of short stories, Babe in Paradise, was published the following year and was named a New York Times Notable Book of the Year and an LA Times Best Book of the Year. In 2005, her novel, No Direction Home, was named a LA Times Best Book of the Year and

Library addresses health care shortage with new program

Stiern Library has entered into a partnership with the Bakersfield Adult School in an effort to address the chronic shortage of health care workers in the San Joaquin Valley.

With funding from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, librarian Ying Zhong will be heading a project that provides resources, research assistance, and a tailored training program on the use of medical information resources to Bakersfield Adult School nursing students. “Reaching out to the Unreached—Building a Health Information Hub in the Central Valley” is a project that will equip future vocational nurses and other health care workers from the Adult School with the skills they need to locate and use information in journal databases, books, and publicly available medical resources through the National Library of Medicine.

“This is another of the many outreach efforts the library is involved in,” said Curt Asher, Interim Dean. “Ying is taking the library out to the community and helping people find solutions to problems.”

Ying is the CSUB web services librarian and works closely with the Department of Nursing. She developed the project with Adult School nursing teacher Susan Handy. Ying wrote the proposal,
Library getting facelift: Renovation will proceed over summer

Renovation of the Stiern Library continues this quarter as crews work to finish the construction of the new Historical Research Center, which will contain a gallery, conference room, rare books room and archives on the second floor. The library has added faux wood flooring to the first floor, which replaces the worn carpeting, brightens the room, and improves the learning experience.

Over the summer the renovations will continue, including new chairs and tabletops to replace many worn furnishings. “The old furnishings have served us well for 20 years, but it’s time to replace the vandalized or worn-out materials with something new,” said Curt Asher, Interim Dean.

Asher said that the historical research center is going to be a major research hub of those interested in the history of the Southern San Joaquin Valley, as well as a training center for student volunteers and interns interested in learning skills in oral history, digital preservation, archives management, and the conservation of books and other items.

The library intends to hold a grand opening for the Historical Research Center in the fall.

IN BRIEF

NBC Learn among new resources being added

A database from NBC News that contains more than 15,000 news videos will be available through the library. The archival news footage brings the world’s most important historical events of the past century to life for students. The videos can be embedded into online learning management systems and shared in social media, as well as serving as fodder for lectures, research, and instruction.

“We’re grateful to CSU Chancellor Tim White for funding this important resource for us,” said Curt Asher, Interim Dean.

“This database will enhance the learning experience for students at CSUB.”

Well organized and carefully documented by news editors and librarians, NBC Learn is a vast collection of primary source research material that can be accessed easily and incorporated into instruction in many new ways. NBC Learn will work with faculty to map playlists of digital content to their syllabi.

Wiley Resources expand eBooks

The library recently purchased more than 2,000 science and anatomy eBooks through the science publisher, Wiley, in a special consortium purchase. The eBooks purchased or subscribed to by the library over the past year have brought the total number of eBooks available to students at CSUB to more than 120,000.

Local poets read at Walter Presents

Five local poets read from their work at Walter Presents in April in the Dezember Room.

Two Stafford Betty Creative Writing Award winning students, Gerald Horowitz and Ashley Fischer, also read from the poems that brought them their awards.

The poets offered a range of styles. English professor Dr. Marit MacArthur, who organized the event for the library, read from her work. Also reading were CSUB Dean of Arts and Humanities Dr. Richard Collins, Bakersfield College professor emeritus Nancy Edwards, local poet Portia Choi and CSUB English professor Matt Woodman.

The library intends to make local poetry an annual Walter Presents event.

Library, School of Ed partnership

With support from the School of Social Science and Education, the library will be adding a number of new teacher education resources to its collection in support of the doctorate in education program it shares with Fresno State.

Zhong presents poster session on nursing librarianship

Nursing librarian Ying Zhong introduced a best practice model for promoting and using R2 Digital Library eBooks in nursing teaching and research from a librarian’s point of view at the 17th Annual CSU Symposium on University Teaching at CSU San Marcos on March 8, 2014.

Walter Stiern Library is one of the three CSU libraries that currently provides users access to R2 Digital Library. R2 Digital Library provides current eBooks and a platform that allows librarians, faculty, and students to communicate with each other effectively. Faculty can recommend books for purchase, create their own bookmarks and course links, and integrate the content into Blackboard. Students also benefit from the convenience, currency, and the interactive features offered by this cost-effective resource, Ying said.
Why eBooks?

The Walter Stiern Library currently owns over 120,000 eBooks. This number continues to grow and for many reasons. We are not simply purchasing eBooks as a trend nor are we implying that print books will disappear. In some disciplines eBooks are much more cost effective than print books. The Nursing Department at CSUB, for example, prefers using books that are no older than five years. Purchasing eBooks for this department helps their collection stay current more easily by quickly replacing outdated eBooks.

Providing students online access to eBooks from anywhere they have an Internet connection is another benefit. This opens up more options for our distance learning students at the Antelope Valley campus and our students who commute and aren’t always able to come into the library. It is easy to find eBooks within the library catalog. A simple search in our library catalog will return eBook titles mixed in with all of our other materials.

One purchasing model the library sometimes uses is called user driven acquisition. What this means is, thousands of eBook titles are listed in the library catalog but are only purchased if a student selects one of the titles. This program allows the library to purchase eBooks based on student preferences and needs. Textbooks can be another use for eBooks in the library. Faculty has the option of using non-traditional resources, such as eBooks or electronic course packets, as their textbooks. We can help faculty find quality eBooks and other online resources to use as textbooks for their students at low or no cost to the students. Many faculty on campus are participating in such options and are saving their students hundreds of dollars while still offering high quality course materials.

While the library still continues to buy print books, we feel it is important for our users to be aware of the benefits of both print books and eBooks. As we recognize that these different formats have various uses, the library will purchase what best suits our users and their needs. If you have questions about our eBook collection please free to contact Sandra Bozarth sbozarth2@csub.edu. We would be happy to discuss any concerns or suggestions regarding the collection, how to access eBooks or our Affordable Learning program for selecting eBooks as textbooks.

Writer (continued from page 1)

... came out, which was followed by her next novel, The God of War, in 2008. Her current novel, Mary Coin, is a fictional account of the Dust Bowl migration based on the iconic Migrant Mother photograph. The New York Times bestselling book has been described as “a soaring work of imagination, dedication, and history.”

Shortage (continued from page 1)

... which was funded in April. She plans to establish a training site at the Bakersfield Adult School. “By attending the library training sessions, Bakersfield Adult School students will have better understanding of academic nursing literature, current research trends, and National Library of Medicine resources,” Ying said. “They will gain the skills and expertise to access, evaluate and use health information.”

The project’s importance cannot be overstated. Kern County is a national leader in heart disease, obesity, diabetes, and numerous other illnesses and conditions. The preventable nature of many of these illnesses emphasizes the desperate need for health information and education in the Kern County community.

Tales from the Vault: How the Roadrunner became our mascot

Welcome to the inaugural edition of “Tales from the Vault,” a quarterly column that will highlight unique items found in the Walter W. Stiern Library Archives. Today’s interesting find comes to us from a recent inquiry about how CSUB adopted its mascot, the Roadrunner. According to former CSUB Athletic Director, Rudy Carvajal, the idea for the Roadrunner came from a group in Buttonwillow. Carvajal notes that “Vicky Houchin,” daughter of Dutch and Patty Houchin, “and… Jim Freyberger’s daughter… developed the nickname Roadrunners.” The bird was also the mascot for Buttonwillow Elementary School. In November 1970, the Roadrunner was presented to Cal State Bakersfield Students for consideration. There were, however, other mascots put up for consideration, 33 in all. Those included on the final ballot were the Aardvark, the Roadrunners, El Cid, the Cobra, and the Condors. We all know who won, but what you may not know is that the final vote was between the Roadrunner and El Cid with “Rowdy the Roadrunner” winning 368 to 157.

This story and many others are waiting to be told. If you want to learn more about the history of CSUB, the Archives has many sources at your disposal. Come visit us! You never know what you’ll discover!
To become a member of Stiern Associates, go to www.csub.edu/library and select the “donate” link at the bottom of the page.