John G. Palfrey Appointed as New Head of Harvard Law School Library

John G. Palfrey ’94, JD ’01 has been appointed associate dean of library and information resources and a tenured professor of law, Dean Elena Kagan JD ’86 announced on April 30.

Palfrey is currently executive director of the Berkman Center for Internet and Society and a clinical professor of law. In his new position, he will be responsible for expanding the Library’s reach and services and finding new ways to use digital technologies to enhance the Law School’s scholarship, teaching, and other activities. Palfrey will remain a faculty director of the Berkman Center for Internet and Society.

“John is the perfect person to ensure that the Harvard Law School Library is as important an institution in the 21st century as it has been in the past,” said Kagan. “His extraordinary understanding of how digital technologies can facilitate scholarship and teaching, his deep commitment to making information and knowledge accessible, and his inspired leadership of research institutions all make him uniquely qualified to assume this great responsibility. Everyone who honors the Harvard Law School Library—who appreciates what it has done and what it can do to advance learning in the world—should feel a sense of joy about this appointment.”

“I couldn’t be more excited to take on this new challenge,” said Palfrey. “The Harvard Law School Library is an extraordinary institution, with a proud tradition and a bright future. I’m so grateful to have the chance to work with the staff, students, and faculty of the Harvard Law School in this job during our transition to a digital age.”

continued on page 3

Stuart M. Shieber to Lead HUL’s Office for Scholarly Communication

Stuart M. Shieber ‘81, Harvard’s James O. Welch, Jr., and Virginia B. Welch Professor of Computer Science, will serve as director of the University’s new Office for Scholarly Communication (OSC). Harvard University Provost Steven E. Hyman made the appointment, which he announced on May 22 with Robert Darnton, Carl H. Pforzheimer University Professor and Director of the Harvard University Library (HUL).

“As chair of the Provost’s Committee on Scholarly Communication, as director of the Center for Research on Computation and Society and faculty co-director of the Berkman Center, and as author of the open-access motion in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Stuart has already established a vision and leadership in the vital area of open access,” said Hyman. “With Stuart at the helm, Harvard’s Office for Scholarly Communication has the potential to exert worldwide leadership in promoting open access and in moving the academic world toward a more sustainable publishing system.”

The impetus for Shieber’s new appointment and launch of OSC was the Faculty of Arts and Sciences (FAS) of Harvard University adoption of a policy that granted the University the right to make FAS faculty members’ scholarly articles freely available everywhere in the world. Shieber authored the policy motion that passed unanimously.

Shieber emphasized that “dissemination of the knowledge that our scholarly activities generate is central to the mission of the University. The OSC has the potential for unparalleled expansion of the scope of that dissemination, to the benefit of our faculty, the Harvard community, academia, and the public. I am honored to be given the opportunity to lead Harvard’s efforts in this endeavor, and hope that Harvard’s activities in promoting scholarly communication can be exemplary for the academic community as a whole.”
Heather Cole Retires

In a career spanning nearly four decades, Heather Cole, librarian of the Lamont Library, has overseen tremendous change in library practices and services—from building up an extensive reserves reading program to piloting a 24-hour/5-day library schedule—all in support of the undergraduate experience. This June, Cole will retire after 38 years in the Harvard College Library.


“Heartly and my many colleagues in Lamont and throughout the Harvard College Library have relentlessly promoted the cause of library services to undergraduates. Nothing I have done, or might have hoped to do, would have been possible without the active and willing participation of untold numbers of co-workers who meant, like me, to improve the information-seeking results of the undergraduates that we meet every day, as advisers, instructors, supervisors, and mentors,” said Cole.

Under Cole’s direction, staff at Lamont and the former Hilles Library collaborated on collection development, converted their card catalogs retrospectively, began automated circulation in HOLLIS, and contributed to the design of the initial automated reserves processing module in HOLLIS. Staff in the two libraries actively pursued instructional opportunities with academic departments that were known for large undergraduate enrollments. In 2004, Cole facilitated the relocation of the Morse Music Library from Hilles to Lamont, where it was integrated as Morse Music and Media. When the Hilles Library closed in June 2005, Cole oversaw the disposition of the original Hilles collection, culminating in the donation of 140,000 volumes to Sun Yat-sen University in China. She collaborated in planning a new undergraduate service point, the Quad Library, which opened on the first floor of the Hilles building in September 2005.

During Cole’s tenure, she has overseen myriad physical changes to the Lamont building itself in support of the learning experience, including the renovation of the Ginsberg and Donatelli Reading Rooms; the development of the Larsen Room, HCL’s first interactive teaching/learning space; and the technology upgrade in the Forum Room to allow for computer-based auditorium-style presentations.

She collaborated on planning for recent significant programmatic changes as well. In the fall of 2005, Lamont adopted its current 24/5 schedule, and in 2006, the Lamont Library Café opened in the former Reference Room. In 2007, units from the Social Sciences Program moved from Littauer Library to join Lamont Research Services staff to form a combined team and service point referred to as Research Services at Lamont.

In the spirit of understanding and connecting with undergraduates, Cole was the first Harvard librarian to serve as a freshmen adviser. She has served as the administrator for the Visiting Committee Prize for Undergraduate Book Collecting since its inception in the 1977–1978 academic year, and in 1999 advocated for the annual Freshman Open House as a way to introduce new students to library services.

Cole is a member of ALA and ACRL and over the years has participated in many Harvard committees in service to the Office of the President, the FAS, the College, and Lowell House, among them the Interviewing Committee for the post-graduate Traveling Fellowships.

Robert Darnton, Carl H. Pforzheimer University Professor and Director of the University Library, has announced that Theresa Smith and Trini Thai-Parker are the recipients of this year’s Bryant Fellowships.

Theresa Smith, paper conservator for special collections in the Harvard University Library’s Weissman Preservation Center, received the award for her project, “Historical Bleaching of Ingres Drawings at the Fogg Art Museum.” She explained her project as follows: “The Fogg Art Museum has the largest collection of drawings by Jean-Auguste-Dominique Ingres (1780–1867) outside of France. During his lifetime, the gradual adoption of machines for papermaking, the use of lower-quality fibers, and the introduction of acidic sizing caused a decrease in paper quality. Created between 1804 and 1865, the Fogg drawings record this transformation. Damage from light, stains, and foxing have compounded the problem. In the 1930s, several chemical-bleaching methods were employed to treat the drawings. This project examines the possible connections between the current darkened condition of the drawings, their paper manufacture, and previous bleaching treatments.”

Trini Thai-Parker, reference librarian for foreign, comparative, and international law at the Harvard Law School Library, was also awarded a fellowship. Her project is entitled “The Moody Sisters and Their Contributions to the Harvard Law School Library.” Said Thai-Parker of her work, “This is an oral history project concerning two sisters and former librarians at the Harvard Law School Library: Myrtle A. Moody and Margaret M. Moody. They worked at the library for 38 years, from 1943 to 1981, and played an important role in assisting the library to acquire and make accessible a wide range of legal materials, especially in the areas of foreign and international law. Through such efforts, the HLS Library still maintains its reputation for having one of the largest and finest collections of law in the world. Through interviews with Margaret Moody herself and many other people who worked with her and her sister, I hope to be able to create a more complete portrait of these women and document the contributions that they made to the HLS Library and to law librarianship in general.”

The recipients were chosen by Bryant Fellowship jury members Michael Austin, Annie Jo Cain, Marilyn Morgan, and Ann Robinson. That jury, which was appointed by the Professional Development Committee of the Librarians’ Assembly, recommended two members of Harvard’s library community for Bryant awards.

For more information on the Bryant Fellowships, contact Bette Viano, director of human resources in the Harvard University Library, at 3-5650 or viano@harvard.edu, or visit http://hul.harvard.edu/resources/bryant.html.

Smith, Thai-Parker Receive Bryant Fellowships for 2007–2008

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Palfrey is the co-author of a forthcoming book focusing on the theories behind this new project entitled *Born Digital: Understanding the First Generation of Digital Natives.*

Currently a visiting professor of information law and policy at the University of St. Gallen in Switzerland, Palfrey is also a co-principal investigator on the OpenNet Initiative, which seeks to identify and document Internet censorship around the world. He recently traveled to Turkey to speak with government officials about the legal risk.

Palfrey joined the Harvard Law faculty as a lecturer on law in 2003. Prior to coming to HLS, he practiced Internet law, Internet law, and private equity transactions. Palfrey also served as a special assistant at the US Environmental Protection Agency during the Clinton administration. Palfrey holds an AB from Harvard College and an MPhil from the University of Cambridge in addition to his JD.

Palfrey succeeds Harry S. Martin III, the Henry N. Ess III Librarian and Professor of Law, who has served as head of the Harvard Law School Library since 1981.

**Rapid Response Saves Rare Library Collections**

Heavy rain on the night of Saturday, March 12, caused a large drainpipe to rupture in Pusey Library. Over 500 gallons of water poured into the Harvard Theatre Collection stacks and seeped through the floor, flooding the three levels beneath it. Hundreds of original drawings of costume and set designs, hand-painted theatrical backdrops, and early American manuscripts and books, including the Emily Dickinson family library (from Houghton Library, the University’s rare book repository), were all at risk.

Damage to materials was less extensive than it otherwise might have been. With a flood watch set by the National Weather Service, the Harvard College Library (HCL) had arranged for security staff to conduct additional tours of the stacks over the weekend to monitor the libraries for water leaks. When the pipe burst at approximately 7:30 pm, one of those guards discovered and reported it. Within twenty minutes of the report, HCL Operations was on site, with the Library Collections Emergency Team (LCET) arriving shortly after.

Operations concentrated on stemming the flow of water from the pipe, vacuuming standing water from the affected floors of the library, and lowering humidity levels in the building. HCL Operations director Paul Bellmoot and team member Andy LaPlume choreographed a custodial cleanup crew that was able to get to work quickly by drawing upon a well-stocked emergency supply closet containing wet vacs, dehumidifiers, folding tables, sheets of plastic, paper towels, and myriad other supplies anticipated for such emergencies. A moving crew was brought in after midnight to move the rain-soaked backdrops and prepare a staging area where they could be unrolled to dry.

At the same time, the LCET, assisted by Houghton librarians Susan Pyzynski, Rachel Howarth, Heather G. Cole, Susan Halpert, and Joseph Zajac; and staff members from the Office of the College Librarian, Rebecca Graham and Beth Brainard, moved collections out of danger and began treating damaged materials.

LCET is on call 24 hours a day to provide assistance in emergencies that threaten University library collections. It includes conservators and preservation librarians in the University Library’s Weissman Preservation Center (WPC) and in HCL’s Preservation and Imaging unit. WPC project conservator Heather Hendry was the team lead Saturday and, together with Cara McGinnis, the Houghton preservation librarian, coordinated salvage and treatment efforts on site with four other LCET members: Pamela Spitzmueller, Heather Hamilton, Theresa Smith, and Debra Cuoco.

Finding space to lay out the extensive number of materials, many of them oversized, proved a particular challenge. After employing the full supply of emergency folding tables, LCET members moved out into the main level of Pusey Library, using the corridor floors and every possible tabletop in the reading rooms of the Theatre Collection, the Harvard Map Collection, and the Harvard University Archives; the floor of Houghton’s Edison and Newman Rooms; and a space under construction in Lamont Library. Level 1 of Pusey Library and all adjacent reading rooms were closed to the public until mid-week to allow materials in those spaces time to dry.

From the time the pipe burst on Saturday night until 6:30 the next morning, the Pusey stacks and adjacent areas were a flurry of activity. Rapid response in a water emergency is essential not only because of water damage to the collection and building, but also because of the serious potential for mold. At room temperature there is only a small window for drying and dehumidifying the environment before mold begins to grow. Once it sets in, every single piece in the entire area must be disinfected and thoroughly vacuumed to remove mold spores. While water-damaged materials can be treated, mold often renders them impossible to salvage.

This situation would have created a particularly difficult job because of the nature of the rare materials stored in that part of the library. The building infrastructure would have required the same time-intensive treatment. Fortunately, the library response teams beat the clock...
Staff Activities

Laura Farwell Blake and Elizabeth McKeege, research librarians in Widener Library, Harvard College Library, presented a paper at the 6th Annual Columbia University Libraries Reference Services Symposium in March entitled “Get Out There, But Don’t Close the Desk Yet: Librarians in the Classroom, on Campus, on the Street, and, Yes, Even in the Library.”

Henrique Balbino Coelho, technical services library assistant in the Spanish/Portuguese Division of Harvard College Library Technical Services, was selected as a 2007–08 Spectrum Scholar by the American Library Association’s Office for Diversity. Coelho, who is working toward his degree at Simmons, will receive $5,000 in scholarship funding for his studies. The annual Spectrum Scholarship Program’s major drive is to recruit applicants and award scholarships to American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, and Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander students for graduate programs in library and information studies.

Mary Daniels, special collections librarian at the Frances Loeb Library, Harvard Graduate School of Design, was among the participants in a panel discussion on the use of landscape architecture archives in the studio and classroom, sponsored by the Landscape History Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians. The discussion took place at the Society’s annual April meeting in Cincinnati.

Laura Linard, director of Historical Collections at Knowledge and Library Services, Harvard Business School, gave the keynote address at a seminar entitled “Business and Corporate Archives: The Argentinean Situation—Current Status and Future Perspectives” in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on March 26. The event was organized by Harvard Business School, Business History Group; Universidad de San Andrés, Buenos Aires, Argentina; and the Centro de Estudios Históricos e Información, Parque de España, Rosario, Santa Fe, Argentina. Attendees included archivists, historians, librarians, and representatives from private archives and companies.


Nicola Mantzaris, stacks assistant in Widener Library, spent 10 days in Nicaragua in January volunteering at the San Juan del Sur (SJDS) Biblioteca Móvil, a lending library and bookmobile that provides books to the townspeople as well as to smaller outlying communities. Nicaraguan libraries typically do not loan out books, so the program’s purpose is to encourage lending, especially to children. As one of five Simmons students on the trip, Mantzaris spent time in the village of San Juan del Sur, visited other libraries, and traveled with the bookmobile. She helped encourage children to use the library by reading to them as well as playing games and doing arts and crafts projects. She also visited communities currently without a library program to promote the setup of one using SJDS Biblioteca’s carefully packaged “library in a box” that includes basic items to begin a lending program. Mantzaris is working toward her MLSIS at Simmons.

Anna Rakityanskaya, Slavic librarian in Widener Library, presented a talk entitled “The Slavic Collections at Harvard University Libraries” at the Council for Slavonic and East European Library and Information Services (COSEELIS) annual conference in Oxford, United Kingdom. The trip also included visits to the European collections of the British Library, the Library of the School of Slavonic and East European Studies at the University College of London, and the Russian collection at the London Library.

Andrés Riedlmayer, librarian in the Ecuadorian Likewise and architecture in HCL’s Fine Arts Library, recently published two articles: “Ottoman Copybooks of Correspondence and Other Miscellanies as a Source for Political and Cultural History” (Acta Orientalia Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae, 61.1-2 [2008]; 201–214) and “Crimes of War: Crimes of Peace: Destruction of Libraries During and After the Balkan Wars of the 1990s” (Library Trends, 56.1 [2007]: 107–132). At the November 2007 annual meeting of the Middle East Studies Association (MESA), Riedlmayer, as president of the Turkish Studies Association, organized a joint panel with the Society for Armenian Studies entitled “On Han Dink and Armenian-Turkish Relations.” In another session at the MESA conference, he presented a paper, “Conversion Stories, Tales of Viziers, and Ribaah Anecdotes: Multiple Layers of Narrative and Language in a Bosnian Manuscript.”

Jeffrey Spurr, Islamic and Middle Eastern specialist in the Fine Arts Library, published an article, “Iraqi Libraries and Archives in Peril,” that appears in the volume The Destruction of Cultural Heritage in Iraq, edited by Peter Stone and Joanne Farchakh Bajjaly. At the annual meeting of the College Art Association (CAA) held in Dallas in February 2008, Spurr presented a paper, “Devastation and Revival: The Story of the Iraq National Library and Archive Following the 2003 Invasion.” He was also invited to organize a special session, “Iraqi Libraries and Archives in a Time of Invasion, Chaos, and Civil Conflict: Status and Prospects,” at the Middle East Studies Association (MESA) conference in Montreal in November 2007, where he gave a talk entitled “Good Intentions, Stymied Attempts, and Dimmed Hopes: Efforts to Rehabilitate Damaged Iraqi Libraries and Archives.”

Janet Steins, associate librarian for technical services and collections in Tozzer Library, HCL, has been appointed subject editor for anthropology for Resources for College Libraries (RCL). RCL in print and the electronic resource RCL Web, jointly produced by ACRL and Bowker, are successors to the 1988 multivolume Books for College Libraries. A highly selective core list of titles in all subjects, RCL identifies works supporting a traditional liberal arts and sciences curriculum at colleges and small universities.
New Access for Music Manuscripts in America

Staff members of the RISM project at Harvard coined the term “RISMatic” for any music manuscript eligible for inclusion in the international RISM database, a project led in the US by Dr. Sarah Adams. Under her leadership, this premier resource for music scholars, the Rijksmonument voor Muziekschriften (RISM), is about to be significantly enhanced through the addition of nearly 700 RISMatic manuscripts. This long-awaited project comes about through the benefits of the Mellon Foundation, the cooperation of Yale University and the Juilliard School, and the efforts and talents of Adams, director of the US RISM Office, housed in HCL’s Loeb Music Library.

The two-year project will complete a portion of the ambitious RISM database known as Series A/II: Music Manuscripts After 1600, which includes nearly 600,000 records of manuscripts and represents more than 19,500 composers and contains 31 countries. Missing from this series were more than 550 music manuscripts from Yale—it was the only major music manuscript collection in the US not cataloged in RISM—and some 138 important and rare manuscripts from the Juilliard collection, ranging from the late 17th to the 20th century. Past efforts to include the Yale materials had resulted in long delays, and, ultimately, it was Adams—involved with RISM since 1995—who managed to gently coax the project forward, navigating longstanding issues, and securing both the availability of the Yale materials for cataloging and the funding from Mellon to complete the project.

“For RISM, the largest cooperative program in musicology worldwide, it is very important to include the Yale materials because they constitute one of the best and most distinguished collections of music manuscripts and early prints in the country,” said Christoff Wolff, Adams University Professor and Curator of the Isham Memorial Library. Since 2004, Wolff has also served as the president of RISM’s Commission Mixte, the group that oversees the RISM Central Editorial Office in Germany and much of the organization’s international activities. In contrast, added Wolff, the 2006 gift of the Juilliard collection makes it brand new to scholars, to whom it had never before been available. “So it’s a wonderful opportunity to round off, for the time being, the American RISM project by adding the oldest and newest to its database researched by musicians and scholars alike.”

The addition of these two collections brings the database effectively to completion. “It has become a critical and essential tool in the preparation of musical editions for which it is important to locate all the surviving sources of a work in order to determine the authoritative text that best represents a composer’s intentions,” Adams said.

Ultimately, the RISM database will need occasional updating because institutions will continue to acquire manuscripts. However, RISM plans to surmount this issue by implementing a new software program that will enable librarians to electronically submit data on newly acquired items directly to the RISM database. Adams, who will travel to Germany shortly for software training, will serve as the lead person in the US for using this software.

Founded in 1949, RISM is cosponsored by the International Musicological Society and the International Association of Music Libraries. It encompasses both printed and manuscript music, writings about music, and theoretical works, and includes monodic, liturgical sources, songbooks, treatises and methods, and books and periodicals on music.

Harvard’s role in the organization began in 1984 when the US RISM Office moved from the Library of Congress to Loeb Music, where it serves as the principal information center for queries about RISM data from the United States. In addition to Adams, Wolff has played a key role in the enterprise, working along with Loeb Music’s former director John Howard to bring RISM’s tools into the digital age and to secure considerable NEH funding for the cataloging of...
Emilie Codega
Information Research Specialist (April)
Information Services
Knowledge and Library Services
Harvard Business School

Emilie Codega came to HBS from PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) in Boston, where she was manager of Financial Services, Research and Analytics, US Knowledge Services Organization (KSO). Before assuming this role she worked as a senior researcher, Financial Services, Research and Information Services, KSO and as a research associate and knowledge manager, US Investment Management Group. She is also the chair of the Boston/Cambridge Programming Committee for the SLA Boston Chapter. She holds an MSLIS from Simmons and a BA in history from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

Meghan Dolan
Information Research Specialist (May)
Information Services
Knowledge and Library and Library Services
Harvard Business School

Meghan Dolan has worked since 2004 as the head of Numeric Data Services/ e-resource coordinator for the social sciences in HCL’s Social Sciences program. Prior to that she was a data reference librarian in the Social Sciences Program. She holds an MLIS from the University of Texas at Austin and BA degrees in art and Spanish from University of Redlands. While in graduate school, she completed internships as a patent researcher at George and Donaldson, LLP, and as a library assistant at IBM and Motorola. She is the author of the “Population Studies” chapter in Magazines for Libraries (2004, 2005, and 2007 editions) and co-author of the “Informatics” chapter in the 2007 edition of Magazines for Libraries.

Timothy Fenn
Staff Assistant (April)
Office of the Librarian
Harvard College Library

Previously, Timothy Fenn worked at Boston University School of Law in both the Dean’s Office and the Office of Finance and Facilities. Most recently, he worked for the US Postal Service. He attended Northeastern University, where he studied art and graphic design.

Francesca Giacchino
Assistant Head of Circulation (April)
Widener Library
Harvard College Library

Francesca Giacchino previously worked for Babson College’s Horn Library as the access services coordinator/coordinator for information desks. She has a BA in English literature from the University of New Hampshire.

Michael Hemment
Head of Research and Learning Technology (April)
Widener Library
Harvard College Library

Michael Hemment’s position as head of scholarly research initiatives at Widener Library has been reorganized into this new role. He will support HCL librarians in using technology for teaching and for the development of online learning tools and research guides, as well as develop and implement training opportunities and events for librarians to share best practices for innovative uses of technology. Other responsibilities include building strategic alliances with other educational technology departments at Harvard and beyond, such as the Instructional Computing Group, OIS and iCommons; collaborating in the design, development, integration, and evaluation of new digital tools for teaching and learning; providing outreach and consultation support to HCL units and librarians working on curricular design and digital initiatives; organizing HCL-sponsored technology workshops, staff training sessions, and conferences; and leading the HCL iSites Management Team and HCL PITF program. He will continue his liaison role to the Department of the Classics and the Committee on Medieval Studies.

Jessica Hollingshead
Acquisitions Assistant (February)
Dumbarton Oaks Research Library

Jessica Hollingshead has experience in academic library acquisitions as well as in commercial bookstore acquisitions and customer service. She has a BA in psychology from Colorado College.

Adam Johnson
Senior Systems Support Engineer (April)
Information Technology Services
Harvard College Library

Adam Johnson’s new position reflects his role in providing leadership in the area of desktop computer technology and in the analysis and use of tools and methods for managing the creation and deployment of software installations. He facilitates the Workstation Development Team and plays a key role in the configuration and development of support models for a variety of specialty desktop systems in HCL.

Sarah Kasten
Acquisitions Assistant (March)
Tozzer Library
Harvard College Library

Sarah Kasten also works as a CONSER assistant at Harvard University Library, where she assists with cataloging serials and maintaining bibliographic data. She has a BA in environmental studies and economics from Bard College, and is currently working towards her MSLIS from Simmons.

Richard Lesage
Technical Services Librarian for the African and Asian Unit (April)
HCL Technical Services
Harvard College Library

Richard Lesage has worked for HCL in different capacities since 1997, most recently as the preservation cataloger and digital projects librarian at Widener Library. He holds bachelor’s degrees in theology and philosophy from Gregorian University in Rome, a master’s in theology from Institut Libre de Philosophie et de Théologie in Paris, and an MSLIS from Simmons.

Anton Lipar
Library Assistant (March)
Slavic Division
Widener Library
Harvard College Library

Previously, Anton Lipar worked as a junior museum assistant at the City Museum of Nitra, Slovakia. He received an MA in museum studies from the University of Constantin Philosopher in Slovakia.

AnnMarie Ostrowski
Conservation Technician (March)
Weissman Preservation Center
Harvard University Library

AnnMarie Ostrowski has worked since 2003 as a conservation technician in HCL’s Preservation and Imaging Department. She held conservation technician internships both at Haverford College’s Magill Library and at the Margaret Clapp Library of Wellesley College. She has completed various bookbinding and conservation workshops and holds a certificate in bookbinding from the North Bennet Street School.
Samira Panjaki
Library Assistant (April)
Fine Arts Library
Harvard College Library
Samira Panjaki previously worked at the Harvard Law School Library as an assistant for Islamic and Middle Eastern materials. She has a BA from Boston University and an MA from Oxford—both in art history.

Al Qurataro
Technical Support Analyst (February)
Information Technology Services
Harvard College Library
Al Qurataro’s new title recognizes his role in developing and testing software installation and update packages, participating in product evaluations and analysis as an active member of the Workstation Development Team, and maintaining working knowledge of Lenovo’s desktop/laptop technologies.

David Schroeder
Web Development Manager (March)
Web and Intranet Services
Knowledge and Library Services
Harvard Business School
David Schroeder came to the Business School from AOL, where he was senior technical manager, audience operations for AOL International. Prior to that, he was a senior technical analyst for AOL Web Services and Publishing. Before joining AOL he worked at Digital City, Inc., as senior software engineer, managing the technical development of web-based publishing systems for Digital City and Moviefone. In 2004 he co-founded iPodMyPhoto.com, a custom graphic design service, and iPodMyBaby.com, a boutique baby apparel site with products sold both online and via a network of retailers. He has a BS in political science from Fairfield University in Connecticut.

Grace Wu
Team Leader for Processing (April)
Harvard–Yenching Library
Harvard College Library
Grace Wu has worked for over 15 years at the Harvard–Yenching Library as a library assistant in the Chinese Acquisitions and Reference department. She graduated from Guangdong Radio and TV University in China.

Alison Thornton
Cataloging Assistant (March)
Office for Information Systems
Harvard University Library
Most recently, Alison Thornton worked as a web analyst at Thompson CompuMark, and prior to that for five years at National Braille Press, Inc., as a customer service representative. While studying at Colorado State University she worked in the Access Services department of Morgan Library, as an assistant to the library technician and a circulation student monitor. She has a BA in sociology from Colorado State University and an MSLIS from Simmons.

Benjamin Tobin
Staff Assistant (April)
Office of the Librarian
Harvard College Library
Prior to joining HCL, Ben worked at Harvard as a staff assistant in the Earth and Planetary Sciences Department. He holds a BGS in the history of art from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Rebecca Wingfield
Collection Development Specialist (April)
Open Collections Program
Harvard University Library
Rebecca Wingfield was a lecturer at Harvard from 2004 to 2007 in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, and before that a postdoctoral teaching fellow. She has held various teaching and research positions at Brown University, Boston College, and Harvard Business School. She also served as an editor for the Modernist Journals Digitization Project at Brown. She has a BA in English from Boston College, and AM and PhD degrees in English language and literature from Brown.

Shining Zou
Library Assistant (March)
Harvard–Yenching Library
Harvard College Library
Shining Zou has worked at Harvard for the past five years as a teaching assistant in the East Asian Languages and Civilizations department. She holds a BA in Chinese language and literature from Beijing Normal University in China.

Interview:
Terry Martin

TM
We have a collection—and by collection I mean both analog and digital resources—that is broader and deeper than just the current needs of the people now at the Law School. The fact that we’re able to respond to broader scholarly interests is a major attraction for hiring top people. Dean Kagan has been very aggressively pursuing top people at other law schools, and some of those people are coming to Harvard because we have unique resources here. The library is a magnet—certainly in the areas of foreign and comparative international law and legal history. But we recognize that we provide legal information to scholars from other faculties and, by hosting visiting scholars and an active digitization program, to scholars around the world.

LN
What do you think that the next ten years will bring to the Law Library?

TM
When we first talked with Google about digitizing everything in the Harvard collection, I thought this would be wonderful. We’d get this done in five years, I’d retire, and everything would be online.

Well, it hasn’t turned out to be that way. We decided not to digitize anything in copyright—or anything that was too big, too small, too fragile, or too complicated. We took most of our rare books off the table. We are down to a very small percentage—maybe only 5% of the collection.

As far as legal materials are concerned, there are some very special problems when you’re trying to digitize the law. You can find the official code on a government web site or from Lexis or from some free access sites. But are they all going to be the same? Have they all been authenticated by the state and backed by the state? If the code changes, how can you see what it was two years ago—the point at which your client is accused of violating the law—rather than the law as it is now?

In the analog world, it’s easy to keep these codes in book form and to identify them—though the research process at the front end is complicated. In the digital world, the research process is quite easy, but it sometimes can be hard to identify what it is exactly that you’re looking at. So there are issues in electronic publishing of official texts that are still to be worked out. But I’m pretty convinced they will be, and it’ll be interesting.

What I just don’t know is the role of government, commercial publishers, the role of do-gooders, the role of libraries, and how they exactly come together. It will be an intricate dance, and if you’re dancing with Elsevier, you can expect to get your toes stepped on, but it doesn’t mean you shouldn’t be out there trying to take the lead.

continued from page 8
Interview: Terry Martin

Harry S. (Terry) Martin III is the Harvard Law School’s Henry N. Ess III Librarian and Professor of Law. Appointed to his Harvard position in 1981, Martin was born in Connecticut and raised in Minnesota. He received his AB from Harvard in 1965, his JD from the University of Minnesota in 1968, and his MLS from the University of Pittsburgh in 1971. Earlier this year, he announced his plan to step down as the librarian of the Harvard Law School in June 2008. Following a sabbatical year, he will retire in June 2009. Terry Martin was interviewed for Library Notes on April 23.

LN
In 1981, you came to Harvard by a circuitous route: by way of Hartford, Minnesota, West Africa, Liberia, Pittsburgh, the University of Texas, and Georgetown. Can you synthesize your journey for us?

TM
My father was a French teacher. He kept getting new jobs. I was 15 before we repeated Christmas in the same house. Eventually we settled in Minnesota, my mother’s home. My father’s family had all gone to Carleton but I was the first to come to Harvard as an undergraduate.

After Harvard, I went to the University of Minnesota Law School, reconnected with my high-school girlfriend, and got married. This was during the Vietnam War, so there was a choice between joining the Army and going into the Peace Corps. My wife and I preferred the Peace Corps, so we spent two years in Liberia, where I taught at the law school. I was assigned to teach a legal methods course, but the school had no law library. So I tried to set up a basic law collection.

I chatted with the dean of the University of Pittsburgh library school, who was a consultant to Liberia’s library system. He offered me a scholarship to go to Pitt, so I did. After library school, I surveyed the available jobs and saw one at the University of Texas. I was hired after a phone interview, threw everything in a U-Haul, and we drove to Texas. Spent five years there. It was a very good experience, followed by five years at Georgetown—and then Harvard called me and I came up and looked.

At that point, [the Harvard Law School Library] was a vast, early-19th-century library—and it was already 1981. The place was un-air-conditioned, the roof leaked when it rained, and the collection was scattered over 30 different stack areas—from basements in dorms to attics of classroom buildings.

The catalog—it was actually the three catalogs—filled the main reading room. There were 12 or 13 different serial check-in systems. It was very primitive.

I returned to Georgetown, and thought, “This is nonsense.” Later, the Harvard dean called and asked, “Are you enjoying yourself at Georgetown? Is it still interesting for you? Could you see yourself getting bored in five years?”

Actually, I could. Then he asked, “Could you see yourself getting bored at Harvard?” I said, no, probably not. “Why don’t you give it a try?” So I said to myself, “I’ll give it ten years.”

LN
You’ve certainly exceeded that: you arrived 27 years ago. You’re a librarian and a professor of law. Was yours a dual appointment from the outset?

TM
Yes.

LN
Is that traditional in law libraries?

TM
It is. Since the ‘50s, the American Bar Association, which is the accrediting agency, and the Association of American Law Schools have preferred that the libraries be run by a professor. Then they added on the requirement that the director of the library also have a library degree. That’s been the pattern. It’s now starting to break down a little bit as it’s difficult to maintain excellence in both fields.

LN
How does it play out in your role as teacher and librarian?

TM
I was very interested in law technologies, so, at first, I was teaching a course in advanced legal research. Later, I worked with a professor from Northeastern on a course on artificial intelligence and the law. When the time came to renovate Langdell Hall and make it primarily a library building, I didn’t teach very much for four or five years until the renovation was over.

My wife, who was working at an African art gallery, had been bringing home interesting legal questions, and I realized that nobody was teaching art law at Harvard, so I suggested it to the dean, who thought that it was a great idea. Art law touches on almost every area of the Law School curriculum: intellectual property, censorship, copyright issues, buying, selling, recovering, protecting art, restitution of looted art or art taken during colonial times.

And since at the Law School Library we have our own art collection, this was not unrelated to my day job, if you will. Dean Roscoe Pound—when he was dean from 1916 to 1936—thought there should be a museum of the law, and it should be at Harvard. But Pound was a collector, trained as a botanist actually, and I think he just got the collecting bug in his system. He was happy to spend money on portraits and wigs and seals as well as rare books and manuscripts.

LN
I knew about the rare books and the portraits, but not about the other cultural property.

TM
What we call the realia. We have the death mask of Oliver Wendell Holmes. We have the ammunition box that he used to carry his lunch to the Supreme Court. We have a nice jewel-encrusted sword from King Faad of Saudi Arabia. We have some of the physical exhibits used in the Sacco and Vanzetti case. Lots of interesting things acquired perfectly legally and ethically, but a few of them might raise questions today. We have a lot of Catherine the Great’s imperial library, because the Soviets sold it off. Now, the Russians would like it back, but you know, we paid good money for it and we’re going to digitize it so that everybody can get access to it.

LN
Who uses the treasures?

TM
Maybe a third of the researchers come from legal history, but the majority are people doing other kinds of historical research. The history of the Trans-Siberian Railway was written in our rare books room, for instance, from our complete run of the Imperial Gazette.

LN
In your retirement announcement, you said “The library has been transformed from a collection-driven institution to a service center.” Can you expand on that?

TM
When I came we had the biggest academic law collection in the world—almost as big as the Library of Congress. The collections were very rich, but weren’t particularly well organized. Just processing the materials, figuring out how to store them and how to find them was the focus. When you got a book for somebody, that was the end.

When we renovated Langdell, we closed the building for 14 months and moved most of the collection into storage. We closed down Special Collections and transferred everybody there into the interlibrary loan/document delivery unit. We set up a small, working library—the kind you’d find in a Wall Street law firm—in Pound Hall.

For that year, our job was to get people what they wanted. We couldn’t say, “You’ll find it in that purple book on the fourth shelf.” Instead, we took substantive questions and responded with information. That was a real turning point for us. As a result, we came to recognize that the collection was not just books and that people looking for books were opening conversations. We learned to transform those conversations into reference interviews. And now, we view the collection as a tool, where, in the past, we viewed the collection as an end in itself.

LN
Referring again to your retirement announcement, you’ve said that “A librarian must balance the need to develop resources and policies that support research, teaching, and services while recognizing the responsibilities of a great research university to the general world of scholarship.”

continued on page 7