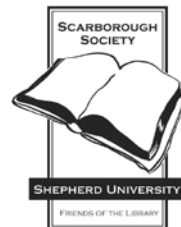


Scarborough Society

Newsletter Vol. 2, No. 1 • February 2006



Sheridan Named Scarborough Library Dean

John Sheridan was named the dean of libraries and information sciences at Shepherd University. He joined the university staff in October 2005.

Sheridan had been the library supervisor at Zayed University in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, since 2002. He served as the university librarian at Soka University of American in California (1999-2001), college librarian at Colorado College (1984-99), head librarian at Transylvania University in Kentucky (1977-84), technical service librarian at Knox College in Illinois (1975-84), and cataloging librarian and coordinator of technical services at the University of Nebraska at Kearney (1973-75). Sheridan was an ALA-USIA Bookfellow at the University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy in Kiev, Ukraine (December 1996-May 1997).

A graduate of a Jesuit high school, where he learned Latin and Greek, he received a B.A. in classics from City College of New York in 1970, an M.A. in classical studies from Indiana University in 1972, and an M.A. in library science from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in 1973. He proudly admits to being the first in his family to receive a college education and reminisces about the difficulties of getting his bachelor's degree during the unsettled campus life of the Vietnam era. By the time he began his master's program, he was on a path to teach the classics but quickly opted out when he realized he'd be teaching Latin to students who really did not want to learn the language. He then turned his attention to what had given him great pleasure as both an undergraduate and graduate student—library research—and opted to switch his career objective.

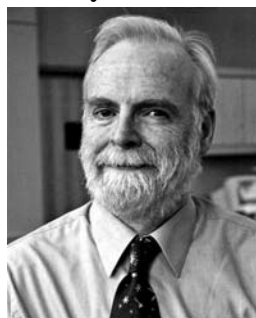
Sheridan brings with him 25 years experience in seven academic libraries on three continents, including full ad-

ministrative responsibility, information literacy, collection development, teaching, information technology, campus governance, scholarship,

and community service. In the area of information technologies, for example, he has supervised the process of selecting library computer systems, has worked in partnership with academic computing to simultaneously network the campus and acquire an integrated online library system, and has overseen the installation of an integrated online system in another country and trained a staff with little background in computers.

In the area of information literacy, Sheridan won a grant to integrate research skills into freshman composition courses, designed a library component for a new freshman studies program, and aligned librarians with particular departments to focus on information literacy and resulting collection development. He has taught information literacy units in pre-baccalaureate and general education curricula as well as for-credit courses. In addition, he developed a self-paced audio-tour of the library and converted a workshop on remote access to databases into an online tutorial. While in the Ukraine, he initiated a pilot project for library instruction in a master's program in international economics.

Sheridan says the big sea change in information retrieval of the past 15 or 20 years has been from trying to get as much information as you could to winnowing



John Sheridan

Al Henderson

Plans Underway for Scarborough Society's Fifth Annual Gala

Our Man in Havana, Graham Greene's comedic spy satire, will serve as the literary theme of the Scarborough Society Gala scheduled for Saturday, August 19, at the Clarion Inn in Shepherds-town.

Committee members for this event include Sara Lueck '67, Mary Jane Davis '60, Kathy Klein, Susanne Horner, Phyllis Smock, Jody Carter '75, Monica Lingenfelter, Cathy Nevy, Kathleen Kohler-Long, and Sharon Henderson.

This year's theme evokes images of vintage 1950s Cuba, the beauty of Havana, and the warmth of the people and their music. Greene's book tells the story of a bumbling vacuum cleaner salesman turned spy who conjures up convincing, but bogus, intelligence reports. The 1959 film, based on the book and shot in Havana, starred Alec Guinness, Noel Coward, Maureen O'Hara, Burl Ives, and Ernie Kovacs.

Corporate sponsors help underwrite the event's costs. Last year the event raised more than \$12,000 for the work of the Society.

Invitations to the dinner dance will be mailed in July to Scarborough Society members, guests, and friends of the University.

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Senior Billy Madert Awarded Scarborough Scholarship



Al Henderson

Billy Madert

Billy Madert, a senior in environmental studies, has received the 2005-06 Scarborough Library Scholarship sponsored by the Scarborough Society. This is the second year the scholarship has been awarded.

Society President Ray Alvarez '62 describes the work scholarship as a win/win situation. The Society developed the scholarship to benefit fulltime,

degree-seeking Shepherd students who demonstrate competence in information technology and a commitment to improving technology in the Scarborough Library.

Recipients of the scholarship are expected to attend and fully participate in the weekly student training program with library staff and spend approximately nine hours a week mentoring in the Scarborough Library.

Since receiving the \$2,500 scholarship, Madert has begun work on several Web pages displaying the photo history of the library, going all the way back to the beginning of the library in McMurrin Hall and on up to today. He's also putting some of the library's special collections online by digitizing them. He says he's always enjoyed computers and is basically self taught, but has taken courses at Shepherd in graphic design and photography. He anticipates using these and other computer/Internet skills in whatever career he may pursue, a definite plus in the job market.

All in all, Madert's skills and interests reflect the aim of the grant, as described by Alvarez: "The grant is a perfect fit in our mission to provide technology support and resources to the library, while providing an opportunity for deserving Shepherd University students to gain work experience and financial assistance."

A Maryland resident, Madert anticipates graduating at the end of this academic year. He likes working outdoors, which is reflected in his choice of major, but while at Shepherd he has developed an interest in politics. For the immediate future, he has a contract to be an assistant director of a boys and girls resident summer camp in southern Maryland. • *Al Henderson*

Special Thanks to Al Henderson

This issue of the Scarborough Society Newsletter is largely the work of Al Henderson, who stepped in to do the writing and the photography for most of the newsletter when your regular editor broke his leg in November. Thanks so much, Al, for all your help. • *Ray Smock*

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Frances C. McFerren

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A Message from the Membership Committee

The Shepherd University Scarborough Society, the friends of the library organization, has recorded another great year under the auspices of the Shepherd University Foundation. We currently have 173 members, and we are growing nicely.

Our member activities have been crowded with galas, lectures, technology seminars, receptions, dinners, and the continued enhancement of the Wall of Honor in the main reading room of the Ruth Scarborough Library. The purpose of the Scarborough Society is to support and strengthen the Shepherd University library system. We have added books to the collection, raised money for the technology components needed for a library in the 21st century, and provided a library scholarship in information technology.

If you have not already renewed your commitment to the Scarborough Library, this is the time to express your continued support by renewing your membership and assuring your continued recognition on the Wall of Honor. Remember, your membership entitles you to special library cards and privileges. Your name will be placed on the invitation lists for lectures, book signings, exhibits, musical and theatrical events, seminars, and receptions.

If you can, please consider raising your gift to the next level of participation. We thank you very much for your support in the past and look forward to many years of exciting advancements at Shepherd University. We have had a great start in our early years of operation, which can only be sustained and exceeded by your continuing support to this very worthwhile cause.

Dale Hicks '61
Membership Committee Chair

Sheridan Named Library Dean

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out the "wheat from the chaff," and in teaching students how to recognize the difference and to set life-long critical thinking standards for learning.

Sheridan considers himself first and foremost an educator. He has taught Foundations of Nonviolence, Idea of a Liberal Education, Latin, Sanskrit, Greek Literature in Translation, and cataloging. Sometime in the near future, Sheridan hopes to teach courses at Shepherd. In the meantime, he is taking turns at the research desk during various shifts to more intimately learn the needs of students, faculty, and the general public. He foresees no need for drastic changes in the library and feels, in his words, he's standing on the shoulders of those who preceded him at the Scarborough Library. • *Al Henderson*

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(continued from previous page)

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Susan Mentzer-Blair
Katherine Moler
Dr. John Moossy
Karen Sousane Murphy
Helen Boltz Murphy
Dr. Betty Myers
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John Sheridan
304/876-5312

Join Us for a Tour of the Constitution Center in Philadelphia May 5

The Scarborough Society will sponsor a bus tour to the highly-acclaimed National Constitution Center in Philadelphia's historic district on Friday, May 5.

The bus will depart from Shepherd at 8 a.m. Upon arriving in Philadelphia, the Scarborough Society group will go to City Tavern for a colonial-style luncheon in a private dining room at 11:30 a.m.

Following the lunch, the group members will proceed to the National Constitution Center where they will watch *Freedom Rising*, a 15-minute multimedia performance which includes a live actor, film, and video projection. Following the performance, group members will be free to visit the museum exhibits on their own.

Dr. Ray Smock, director of the Robert C. Byrd Center for Legislative Studies at Shepherd University, will accompany the tour and give an insider's talk about his work in creating the exhibits in the museum, especially his research that created the final exhibit—Signers' Hall—where 42 life-size bronze statues depict the moment of the sign-



National Constitution Center

National Constitution Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

ing of the Constitution in September 1787. Dr. Smock served as the model for the Benjamin Franklin statue in the exhibit.

The bus will depart Philadelphia at 4 p.m. and return to Shepherdstown at approximately 7:30 p.m.

The cost of the tour, including lunch and the entrance fee at the museum, is \$75 per person. Please contact Phyllis Smock at 304-264-0560 to sign up for the tour. Bus seating is limited so please sign up early. We must have a firm commitment to reserve your seat no later than March 1 in order to make all the arrangements.

To learn more about the National Constitution Center, visit the center's Web site at www.constitutioncenter.org.

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