

Scarborough Society

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From the President's keyboard...

When a dedicated group of Shepherd supporters started the Scarborough Society eight years ago, we were faced with diminishing support from the state of West Virginia for operating the University. By focusing on the library, that was then undergoing a major renovation, we decided to embark upon a mission to "...enhance the learning opportunities for our students and communities."

We believe we are accomplishing that mission. By pooling our membership dues and hosting the annual Gala, we have successfully raised more than \$300,000 for the library and its programs. We have provided funds for computers and technology equipment for student use, added important reference and instructional materials, funded internships, provided support to bring a successful author and artist program to our campus, and funded other programs that enhance the library's service to the students and the community. Last year we joined forces with the Shepherdstown Film Society to provide free films and lectures that enrich and connect students and community members. We have set aside more than \$100,000 of the raised funds to create several endowments to offer future funding to the library in support of its programs and staff. As we consider requests, we continually ask ourselves the question, "How does this enhance the learning opportunities for our students and communities?"

As I annually sign the membership renewal letters, I am moved by the many members who have been with us since our inception in 2002. I hope that indicates you approve of our stewardship of your gifts. I am also impressed by the demographics of our membership base. Predictably, most are from the local area—West Virginia, Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, and the District of Columbia—since the overwhelming majority of our alumni (approximately 75 percent) reside within 100 miles of the University. However, we have a number of members representing other states—Michigan, South Carolina, Illinois, California, North Carolina, New York, Florida, and Ohio. That kind of support is so heartening. Thanks to all of you who have chosen to lend your support to a great cause.

As we look forward to the future, we need to continue our vigilant support of Shepherd's excellent library. The situation addressed eight years ago hasn't changed: the state of West Virginia continues to reduce its level of support (it is currently less than 20 percent). The need for additional funds to support a first-class institution remains. Thanks for your past support, and I hope to see you on campus or at the Gala to thank you in person. ■



Ray Alvarez '62

Interim library dean is a woman of many talents

Serving as the interim dean of libraries at Shepherd, Dr. Laura Renninger is also the dean of teaching, learning, and instructional resources and a full professor in the music department. Under her leadership, the faculty and staff have embarked on a new strategic planning process. By the end of the 2010-11 academic year, the Scarborough Library will have a new mission, new core values, a new vision and new goals.

"I am very excited to be serving as the interim dean of libraries at Shepherd," Dr. Renninger said. "The faculty and staff are a pleasure to work with, and I'm delighted to be able to serve Shepherd in this capacity."

As dean of teaching, learning, and instructional resources, Dr. Renninger oversees several University programs including the Common Reading program, the First-Year Experience program, academic support services, student support services (TRIO), new faculty training and learning communities, University assessment, instructional technology, audio-visual media services, and academic advisement.

Dr. Renninger is an accomplished musician who has had a diverse range of musical experiences and has won several awards. She currently serves as the accompanist for the Shepherd Three wind trio. She has a strong interest in promoting world music on campus and coordinates the Shepherd Gamelan (Balinese ensemble), the first non-Western ensemble to be established at Shepherd.

Dr. Renninger received her bachelor of music degree in piano performance from Miami University, Miami, Ohio, and both her master of music and Ph.D. degrees in musicology from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. She came to Shepherd in 1999.

In her free time—when there is some—Dr. Renninger enjoys cooking, swimming, walking, scrapbooking, and biking. Her very favorite thing is being a mom. She resides in Shepherdstown with her husband, Dale, son, Ty, and daughters, Katarina and Natalia. ■



Dr. Laura Renninger

Society members Lex and Pam Miller value library connection

Lex and Pam Miller are avid fans of classic films and active participants in the life of Shepherdstown and the University. They moved to Shepherdstown from Gaithersburg, Maryland, in 2004. They joined the Scarborough Society three years ago because they saw the Scarborough Library as a focal point that “gets the community involved in the University through the programs it sponsors.”

Lex, a retired actuary, is a bicyclist who often makes the Scarborough Library the destination of his morning rides. He delves into the library’s resources on classic films and often borrows vintage movies from the library’s extensive collection.

Pam, a retired pre-school teacher, is the author of several children’s books. She is the storytime reader at the Shepherdstown Library for 3 to 5 year-olds, and she participates in the Reach Out and Read program at the Shenandoah Clinic.

Pam and Lex are members of the Shepherdstown Film Society (a partner of the Scarborough Society), where Lex prepares the press releases, runs the audio-visual equipment, and often leads discussions on the films. Lex also serves as treasurer of the Potomac Valley Audubon Society. ■



Lex and Pam Miller

New library faculty member Wang provides technical support

Yanhong Wang is the new coordinator of systems in the Scarborough Library. Prior to coming to Shepherd, Wang worked for Coe College and the University of Iowa libraries. She was an English teacher and head of the English department at

a middle school in Tianjin, China. She designed and implemented an alumni database, which included two separate authentication logins for alumni and school administration, profile, search, message board, and mass mailing.

Wang holds a bachelor of arts degree in English literature from Tianjin, China, Normal University and a master of arts degree in library and information science from the University of Iowa.

“I really like working in the Scarborough Library, not only because it’s a beautiful place and nice people all around, but also it’s a place for me to grow,” she said. “Every day I see so many people (students, faculty, and community users) are using the library and our services. It is very satisfying to know that the library is making valuable contributions to the campus and the community by providing access to authoritative information, cutting-edge technology, and friendly services. I’m proud to be part of it. ■



Yanhong Wang

Student benefits from library resources



Garrett Perrella

What does Garrett Perrella, a junior majoring in health and physical education, like most about Scarborough Library?

"I think the library is the most important research resource on campus," he said. "I've been able to do at least 40 percent of my research for class here, as well as learn new things on my own through the various electronic databases purchased by the library."

As a part-time student tech assistant in the library, Perrella has had an opportunity to observe how the library is used by others. "It is heavily used, especially the computers and the computer labs. I always hear complaints that there aren't enough computers. The labs are almost always full."

Perrella is equally enthusiastic about the University. "Shepherd is fantastic for my program. I am so glad I decided to come here," he said. ■

10th annual Gala takes on an international theme



Jules Verne's classic novel, *Around the World in 80 Days*, has been selected by the gala committee as the theme for this year's Scarborough Society Gala. The fundraising dinner and dance will be held Friday, August 12, at the Bavarian Inn, Shepherdstown.

The Society is fortunate to have the support of presenting sponsors, BB&T Wealth Management and Jefferson Security Bank. Valley Proteins, Inc., will sponsor the very popular band, *Souled Out*, for another splendid evening of dancing under the stars.

Last year's Scarborough Society Gala netted \$15,500 for the library. Invitations for the event will be sent in July. Mark your calendars now for this fun event. ■

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Not a member? Join now!

Joining the Scarborough Society will continue the support necessary for the library to provide an exceptional level of service to students, faculty, staff, and the community.

For more information about the Scarborough Society, visit www.shepherd.edu/fndtnweb/scarborough_society.

Scarborough Society-sponsored events

Tales from Two Centuries of Congressional Investigations

Tuesday, March 8, 6:30 p.m.

Scarborough Library Reading Room



Dr. Ray Smock and Dr. David Hostetter of the Robert C. Byrd Center for Legislative Studies at Shepherd University will discuss highlights and lowlights of Congressional investigations through American history from the great defeat of American troops by Indians in 1792 right up to the investigation of Hurricane Katrina in 2005. Along the way were such major events as investigations of Wall Street, Watergate, Whitewater, and the impeachment of President Clinton, and other adventures in American politics. Smock and Hostetter are co-editors of a major new study: *Congress Investigates: A Critical History with Documents*, which will be published in this spring.

College in a Nutskull

Thursday, March 24, 6 p.m.

Scarborough Library Reading Room



Dr. Anders H. Henriksson, chair of Shepherd's history department, will talk about outrageous bloopers and blunders culled from the actual exam books of real college students. He has compiled these fascinating items into a new book, *College in a Nutskull*. He is also the author of the New York Times bestseller *Non Campus Mentis*.

Survival of the Prettiest: the Science of Beauty

Monday, March 28, 7 p.m.

Frank Center Theater



The Shepherd University Common Reading Program will present a guest lecture by the author of *Survival of the Prettiest: the Science of Beauty*, Dr. Nancy Etcoff. This lecture was previously scheduled in November 2010, but was cancelled due to Dr. Etcoff's emergency surgery. Etcoff is a member of the faculty at Harvard Medical School and a practicing psychologist at Massachusetts General Hospital. Her book is a scientific and cultural examination of the link between beauty, attraction, and human evolution. ■

Shepherdstown Film Society spring schedule

March 11 – “And God Created Woman” (1956)

March 25 – “Belle de jour” (1967)

April 1 – “Marty” (1955)

In 2009 the Scarborough Society, continuing to pursue its goal to enhance learning opportunities for Shepherd students and the larger community, entered into a partnership with the Shepherdstown Film Society. The financial support provided by the Scarborough Society has enabled the film society to continue offering free films for Shepherd students, faculty, and the community. The film society's movies are held at 7 p.m. in Reynolds Hall. All films are followed by a post-film discussion. Admission is free.

For further information, visit the film society's website at www.shepherdstown-filmsociety.org or contact Lisa Welch at 304-876-1836. ■

Society sponsors trip to the National Archives

The Scarborough Society and the Shepherd University Foundation will sponsor a bus trip to the National Archives in Washington, D.C., on Thursday, June 16. In addition to viewing America's historical documents on permanent exhibit, the Society will also tour a new exhibit opening in June. “What's Cooking, Uncle Sam?” examines how the federal government has affected what Americans eat. In addition, Dr. Richard Hunt, director of the Center for Legislative Archives, will take members behind the scenes into the legislative vault, not usually open to the public. While in the vault, members will be able to see originals of some of the greatest documents in American history.

The bus will leave Shepherd University at 9:30 a.m. and return at 6 p.m. Upon arrival in Washington, the group will have lunch at McCormick and Schmick's restaurant. After lunch the bus will take the group to the National Archives which will enter through a separate entrance for tour groups.

The bus trip is open to the public. The cost is \$75 per person, which includes lunch. You may reserve your seat and send your check to Shepherd University Foundation at P.O. Box 5000, Shepherdstown WV 25443-5000. For more information or to reserve a space on the bus, please contact Phyllis Smock at 304-264-0560. ■



National Archives