McHenry Library Construction Continues
By Ginny Steel, University Librarian

If you have walked around McHenry Library recently you will have noticed that major work is taking place underneath, around, and throughout the original building. In a painstaking process, all material has been removed beneath the building, and the entire building has been resting precariously on the slim concrete pillars that form the skeleton of the elegant, 40-year-old John Carl Warneke structure. To preserve the pleasing aesthetics of the original building, steel reinforcements are being constructed around the pillars below ground, and, in a final step, more concrete will be poured to strengthen the building’s foundations. These seismic upgrades will ensure the safety of our students, faculty and staff and leave us well prepared for the next “big one.”

Despite the California budget woes and the statewide building stop-work order that was reported in local newspapers, construction on McHenry Library will continue—for the time being. McHenry Library was given an exemption from the statewide building stop-work order because it is at such a precarious stage in the re-construction process. State officials concluded that leaving the building in its current state could potentially be much more costly and dangerous than continuing to work on it.

The bond measure that finances the remaining $33 million needed to complete the building was passed months ago, but because of the state budget situation the bonds have not yet been sold. Currently, the campus is using its own funds to keep construction going, and we are all hoping for a quick resolution of the state budget crisis so that construction can continue as planned. Now that state legislators have finally agreed on a budget, we have reason to hope that construction will be completed by June 2010. Let’s all keep our fingers crossed!

The Map Room: A Hidden Jewel of the Science and Engineering Library
By Lettie Bennett, Associate Director of Library Development

The Map Room includes historical maps such as the Andrew Jackson Hatch 1889 maps of Santa Cruz County and slides of Sanborn Fire Insurance maps. The Sanborn maps are prized for their detailed information about buildings, their owners, uses, and construction. The Hatch maps are the official maps of Santa Cruz County and are signed by long-ago county supervisors. The maps record the boundaries of land ownership, as well as names of landowners and uses of the land.

Despite the fact that maps are mostly not used by students, the Map Room is a popular place for geologists and hydrologists. In addition to being interesting people with whom to work, these users contribute to the Map Fund, one of the University of California’s most important sources of funding for the library.

The collection also includes general worldwide toponographic, geologic, nautical, and aeronautical coverage. Most of the collection is contemporary and includes atlases, sheet maps, maps in electronic format, GIS data sets, more than 400 wall maps for classroom use, and cartographic and geographic reference books and gazetteers.

Many maps are available digitally, including the most recent aerial photographs of the Monterey Bay area. However, thousands of older local maps await digitization and the creation of the full descriptions that will easily reveal their content to users.

Ms. Jahns praises in particular one segment of her clientele: practicing geologists and hydrologists. In addition to being interesting people with whom to work, these users contribute to the Map Fund, one of the endowments that pays for acquisition of new maps and photos.

To learn more about our coastline’s changes, check out these two books researched in the Map Room and in the Specials Collections department of McHenry Library.

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Inauguration Day: January 20, 2009
By Kim Hughes

McHenry Library opened its 2nd-floor classroom to library patrons, students, and staff for drop-in viewing of the historic inauguration of Barack Obama as the nation’s 44th president. “We felt it was important to offer a way to share this amazing day in history with the community,” said Connie Croker, the staff person who took the lead in organizing this event. Connie commended the Library’s IT and Reference units for their help.

The drop-in crowd, which numbered 30–50 individuals, was a mix of students, other patrons, and staff who viewed the inaugural ceremonies live, via web feed on two large wall screens in the classroom. “When traffic overwhelmed the CNN site we were watching, it was a student who suggested a lesser known news site to use. Lucia Orlando of Government Publications made the switch and it worked out really well,” said Croker. The viewing took place from 8:00am to 11:30am. Student attendance was high considering the early hour and the multitude of venues offered around campus. “It’s wonderful that it doesn’t cost anything to have events like this”, said a staff person who dropped in on her break to watch the swearing in of the new president.

“We have so many free resources here in the Library; it’s great to see people taking advantage of them.”

McHenry & Science & Engineering
Winter Quarter Hours
January 6, 2009 – March 19, 2009

Mon- Thurs 8:00 a.m. - 11:45 p.m.
Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Sunday 10:00 a.m. - 11:45 p.m.

Exceptions:
Friday, March 13 (extended hours) OPEN 8 a.m. - 11 p.m.
Saturday, March 14 (extended hours) OPEN 9 a.m. - 11 p.m.

Spring Intersession Hours
March 20, 2009 - March 29, 2009
Mon-Fri 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sat-Sun CLOSED

Exceptions:
Friday, March 27 (César Chávez Day) CLOSED

New McHenry Library Brochure: The Case for Libraries in the 21st Century

If you would like to learn why libraries are still important in this day and age or if you would like to understand the vision for the completed McHenry Library you should come to the library and pick up our new brochure. You may also request it by calling (831) 459-4211 or by emailing friends@library.ucsc.edu. We will be happy to send you a copy.

Last Print Issue of the Library Newsletter – Sign up for our On-line Edition

Due to the state budget crisis and its impact on library funding we will no longer be able to mail this newsletter to all Friends of the UCSC Library. This will be our last print issue. Please sign up for our on-line version by emailing friends@library.ucsc.edu. If you do not have access to a computer and would like to continue receiving a print copy, please call us at (831) 459-4211. We will put you on a special mailing list and send you a printout of our on-line version.

Map Room Welcomes New Intern
By Cynthia Jahns

The Map Room is delighted to welcome Ann Krieg Levine, a San Jose State University School of Library and Information Science student who will graduate in May 2009. Ann will be continuing the work begun by our first intern last year, creating folder-level catalog records for the Stanley Habitat Restoration Archives. Because this archive includes thousands of unique maps of our area, we are very excited about making progress on including them in CruCat. Ann is well prepared for this internship as she completed Advanced Cataloging last semester in which she participated in a group research project on cataloging sheet maps. She is working closely with map catalogers extraordinaire Terra Hangen and Terry Haugen to learn the fine points of cataloging cartographic materials. Please join us in welcoming Ann to the Map Room.