

bookmaking, several sheets of paper are folded, placed inside one another, and sewn together in a "signature." Just as one book is composed of multiple signatures, Colorado State University Libraries owes its excellence to multiple supporters, each of whom leaves a unique and lasting signature.

Signatures

A newsletter for friends of the Colorado State University Libraries Vol. 5, No. 1 Spring 2003

From the Interim Dean

Julie Wessling, Interim Dean
University Libraries

It's hard to pick up a newspaper these days without reading about budget woes in the State of Colorado. As we at the Libraries re-examine priorities and identify possible cutbacks, we are working closely with faculty, students and friends of the Libraries to help us make the best decisions. We are repeatedly heartened by strong support from our users, the University and our growing family of donors and advocates. Over and over we hear that the Libraries' collections and services are essential and that every effort should be made to shelter the Libraries from budget reductions. It is clear that CSU Libraries is highly valued by the campus community and beyond.

Now, more than ever, we welcome your comments and suggestions, and we depend on your many forms of support to provide necessary resources for ongoing implementation of the "Library of the Future." This issue of *Signatures* offers a flavor of new electronic services and Web site offerings at the Libraries, along with recent activity related to the Water Resources Archive and other special collections.

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Tom Cech shares his new book with University Libraries' Reference Librarian Allison Level, Assistant Dean of Library Operations Carmel Bush and Project Archivist Patty Rettig.

Morgan Library Hosts Book Signing, Water Resources Discussion

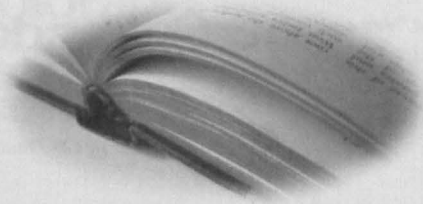
Did you know that with 12-14 inches of precipitation in an average year, northeastern Colorado is a semi-arid region, receiving only slightly more moisture than Phoenix, Arizona's 7.5 inches of average annual precipitation?

Did you know that the "doctrine of prior appropriation," a once-novel approach to allocating water that has since become law in nineteen Western states, originated in northeastern Colorado?

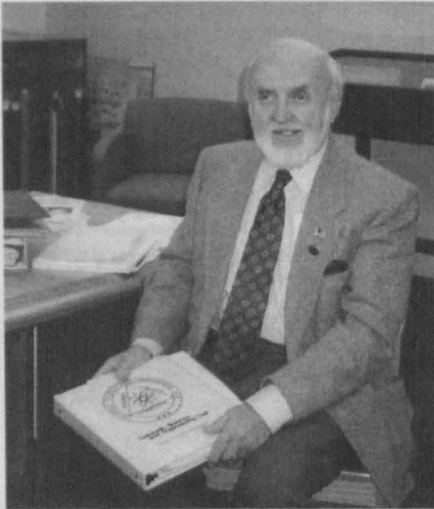
Did you know that since the first water right on the South Platte River was appropriated in 1860, thousands of water rights have been appropriated in northeastern Colorado and water demand exceeds water availability most summer months?

If these facts are new to you, you are not alone. Most Colorado residents, like the majority of Americans, are not educated in water history, the location and availability of usable water or policies governing water use.

continued on page 3



Science Fair Archives Celebrate Innovation



Elemer Bernath brings the Colorado Science and Engineering Fair archives to Morgan Library.

Imagine a computerized glove that translates sign language into lines of text.

This is not technology of the distant future or the product of a multinational manufacturer of medical devices, but a recent entry in the Colorado Science and Engineering Fair (CSEF). The invention has since gained its creator, Ryan Patterson, more than \$300,000 and worldwide recognition.

Each year, CSEF invites students from all over Colorado to share ideas, showcase their projects and compete for thousands of dollars in awards and scholarships. Now, thanks to science educator and CSU graduate Elemer Bernath, CSEF records are archived at Morgan Library.

Bernath, Associate Member Historian of the Colorado State Science Fair Board of Directors, has earned his own share of recognition for his dedication to science education. Emigrating from Hungary in 1951, Bernath taught science in Fort Morgan, Colorado, for thirty years. He founded Northeastern Colorado's regional science fair and has been awarded for his leadership by the Colorado State Science Fair and the International Science and Engineering Fair.

In a citation by fellow Colorado educators, Bernath was acknowledged as "a teacher whose encouragement and counsel can fan a student's... flickering spark of interest in matters scientific into an intense, burning involvement."

CSEF shares this desire to ignite in students a passion for science. The records archived at Morgan Library document the fair's rich history of inspiring and empowering students to solve intellectual problems and serve societal needs. Archive contents date back to 1956, when the annual event began as the Colorado State Science Fair.

The archives arrived at CSU Libraries after CSEF's Board of Directors approved Bernath's proposal to donate the collection to CSU. Reference Librarian Allison Level and Morgan Library's Archives staff are processing the collection and will create print and online finding aids to make its contents accessible to users.

CSEF is now hosted by Colorado State University and co-sponsored by CSU's Center for Science, Mathematics, and Technology Education (CSMATE). This year's event, the 48th annual, will take place April 10-12. Sixth through twelfth grade students who have advanced from Colorado's regional science fairs will present more than 250 projects in categories such as physical science, engineering, mathematics, health and behavioral science, botany and zoology.

Top award winners will progress to the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF), where Colorado students have fared quite well. Ten Colorado students won fourteen awards at the 2002 competition involving 1,200 participants from 38 countries.

To learn more about
CSEF, visit their
Web site at: [http://
www.csef.colostate.edu](http://www.csef.colostate.edu)

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Poster Collection Web Site Expands to Prepare for Upcoming Exhibit

More than 200 posters are being digitized and added to CSU Libraries' International Poster Collection Web site in anticipation of this fall's 13th biennial Colorado International Invitational Poster Exhibition (CIPE).

Hosted by CSU's Department of Art, CIPE is a highly acclaimed exhibition that brings distinguished examples of current international poster design to an American audience.

This year's exhibition will take place on campus from September 12 through October 24 and will allow the public to view the work of some 100 artists from around the world. Zimbabwean artist Chaz Maviyane-Davies will be recognized as CIPE's 2003 honor laureate.

A satellite exhibit in Morgan Library's main floor gallery space will feature the work of Russian poster artists, with other satellite shows taking place throughout the

community. The exhibition as a whole offers global perspectives on political, social and cultural aspects of contemporary society.

Morgan Library has received a copy of each poster to be featured in this year's invitational and will release the collection online to coincide with the exhibition opening.

With the recent digitization of 450 posters from the 1991 and 1993 shows, the International Poster Collection Web site will offer online viewing of more than 1600 posters. The physical collection is archived at Morgan Library, along with selected posters from exhibitions hosted prior to 1991.

Receiving 400-450 hits per week, the poster pages are among the Libraries' most frequently visited Web pages. Comments submitted by site visitors show that the online poster collection is a valuable resource for artists and students from around the world.

Newsworthy

Not newsworthy

"Newsworthy," exhibited at CIPE 2001, represents the work of this year's honor laureate Chaz Maviyane-Davies. In this poster, Maviyane-Davies comments on racist coverage of Zimbabwe's 2000 elections.

To view the International Poster Collection, visit <http://lib.colostate.edu/posters/>, or call Kate Cunningham-Hendrix at (970) 491-1859 for more information.

Book Signing *continued from page 1*

Tom Cech is helping to fill that knowledge gap with his recently published textbook, *Principles of Water Resources: History, Development, Management, and Policy* (Wiley & Sons).

Cech, Executive Director of the Central Colorado Water Conservancy District in Greeley, wrote the textbook after hearing of the need for a comprehensive study of water for general student audiences. Published in July of 2002, the text is already in use by students in multiple disciplines including geography, biology, environmental studies, public administration, hydrology and geology.

Cech signed a copy of his book for Morgan Library last December 9.

The book signing was preceded by a presentation to Libraries staff in which Cech discussed water history and management in Colorado and the West.

A commitment to seeking and disseminating water-related information aligns CSU Libraries with efforts taking place elsewhere throughout Colorado. The State Legislature, for example, recently established the Colorado Foundation for Water Education, a nonprofit organization designed to foster a broader understanding of water challenges among the general population.

By preserving and promoting Colorado's water history, Morgan Library's Water Resources Archive is a significant contributor to such educational goals. A joint project

of the Libraries, CSU's Colorado Water Resources Research Institute (CWRRI) and the Colorado Agricultural Archives, the Water Resources Archive makes primary source documents available to library users. Beyond general study, the Archive enables researchers, attorneys, engineers and other specialists to investigate technical, environmental and cultural aspects of water in Colorado and the West.

Cech expressed enthusiasm about the Water Resources Archive.

"With what's being called the worst drought in 300 years and with CSU at the epicenter of water studies," Cech said, "the Archive is playing a key role in making important information accessible to the public."

Water Resources Archive Gaining Statewide Recognition

Representatives of Morgan Library's Water Resources Archive were among the presenters at the January 2003 Annual Convention of the Colorado Water Congress (CWC). Established in 1958, the CWC exists to promote wise management of Colorado's water resources.

CSU Libraries archivists John Newman and Patty Rettig presented at a session entitled "Archiving Important Water Papers in Colorado," moderated by Colorado Water Resources Research Institute (CWRRI) director Robert Ward. Other presenters at the session included delegates of the Northern Colorado Water Conservation District, the State Engineer's Office and the Colorado Water Conservation Board.

The Libraries' participation at the CWC convention signifies an active commitment to water education. Contributing to a statewide effort to increase public availability of water records, the Water Resources Archive provides access to discussion notes, charts, maps and other primary source materials related to Colorado water projects.

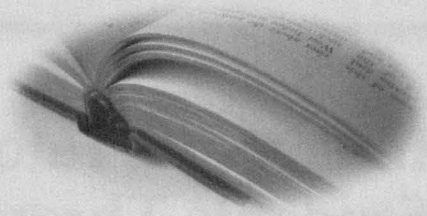
The Water Resources Archive is a collaborative effort of the Libraries, CWRRI and the Colorado Agricultural Archives. It contains the records of individuals and organizations who have played key roles in water planning in Colorado.



This photo of Colorado hydrologist and avalanche expert Whitney Borland, from the Water Resources Archive, will appear on the cover of the Colorado Library Association's Spring 2003 issue of Colorado Libraries.

The Archive can be viewed at Morgan Library, with digital access to some materials also available. This spring, full text of the Archive's finding aids will be available online. A new traveling exhibit will offer viewers statewide a glimpse at Archive contents and objectives. When not on the road, the exhibit will be on display at Morgan Library.

For more information about the Water Resources Archive, please visit <http://lib.colostate.edu/water/> or contact Carmel Bush at (970) 491-1838.



Leapin' Laptop Stats

With just more than 3500 checkouts logged, December 2002 set the record for most laptops circulated to Morgan Library users in one month. The 3500 checkouts exceeded December 2001 totals by 105% and, since the fall semester ended mid-month, eclipsed the previous one-month record in only 20 academic days. The laptop program is available through the support of Libraries donors who contributed approximately \$55,000 to the Electronic Resources and Services Fund in 2002.

Signatures

is published by Colorado State University Libraries.

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