



FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

Wellesley College

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October 18th: Sarah Sentilles to Speak at Clapp

Katherine Hall Page '69

After graduating from Yale in 1995, Sarah Sentilles, daughter of Ann Sherwood Sentilles '69, taught elementary school in Compton, California for two years in the Teach for America (TFA) program. *Taught By America, A Story of Struggle and Hope in Compton* (Beacon Press) is her moving account of this period in her life, a time that forever altered the way she looked at society and her place in it. Readers will be appalled and outraged as they follow Sentilles from her first day at Madison Elementary School, when she entered a classroom with three bullet holes in the door, virtually no supplies, and an empty playground littered with broken glass. The book continues through her next year at Garvey Elementary School, where termites, rodents, and maggots infested her room in a building that had been condemned for ten years. Readers will also fear for her personal



safety and that of her students. Those of us who have been teachers will be especially amazed at her physical and mental stamina—her classes were severely overcrowded and the roster constantly changing. Sarah Sentilles

did get overwhelmed, and scared, and angry. The book is a searingly honest description of what she saw as her own failures, apart from the institutional ones—which readers will judge as far greater.

One of Sentilles' major conclusions is that children in places like Compton deserve the best, most experienced teachers, not someone with a scant six weeks of training led by a twenty-two-year-old mentor. This book challenges not only the way schools are funded in the United States, but illustrates how judgments of an individual's worth perpetuate the Madisons and Garveys of the world. These simply aren't children who are valued by mainstream America. They are ignored. They do not exist for most of us. Sentilles' story is important, but the stories of the children she taught are more so—

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The Web of Science: FOL Funds a New Search Tool

Diane Speare Triant '68

A proposal that came before the Friends of the Library Steering Committee at a recent meeting posited this scenario: A student is assigned a reading in one of her geology classes: "The Tourmaline Group in Sediments" by P.D. Krynine in the *Journal of Geology*. The article is several decades old, and she wants to ascertain if anything related to it has been published since.

Those of us who graduated from college before the 1990s know that in that print-only world such a student would have holed herself up for hours in the library with bound journal volumes, tracking down articles that may or may not have proved exactly relevant to the original subject.

The advent of the Internet and the search engine made it easy for the same student to enter her search terms and, with a mouse-click, receive dozens of

article returns. However, many of those titles would have been only tangentially related to the initial source article.

Now, a new weapon in the search arsenal known as "cited reference searching" promises, through online databases, to make the task breathtakingly streamlined. This tool is able to access the cited references in published articles and automatically utilize them as new

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On April 11, the Friends hosted a spring program, "New Horizons in Research: Electronic Sources for Teaching and Learning." Wellesley faculty and staff who spoke include (from left): Brooke Henderson, art librarian; Markella Rutherford, assistant professor of sociology; Laura Dolp, visiting assistant professor of music; and Joan Campbell, research and instructional services librarian.

From the Co-Chairs

Ruth R. Rogers, Special Collections Librarian, and Dorothea Widmayer, '52

Thank you for your continued interest in and support for the Wellesley College Library. Since our last update, major renovations to the Margaret Clapp Library have been completed. The Library Lecture Room has been refurbished, and new stacks, carpeting, and furniture occupy the area "loaned" several years ago to the College Bookstore. Visitors on their way to the Lecture Room are now welcomed by an elegant space.


Your gifts and membership contributions have increased our endowment, generating income that allows us, annually, to provide the College Librarian with discretionary funds for unexpected needs. In addition, we were able to continue to fund purchases of library materials for new courses, to respond to requests from new faculty, and to support special requests from several library departments.

To aid faculty and students in literature searches for both class work and research, we appropriated \$38,105 to augment the library's Web of Science database (see article on page one).

We allocated \$2,640 for the purchase of a dedicated, high quality digital

camera to support the production of high resolution images of fragile documents, photographs, and large scale items such as plans and maps. Staff in Special Collections, Archives, Preservation/Conservation and Digital Technologies will create these images, making it possible for the Library to share its unique resources with researchers without jeopardizing the integrity of the original material.

While supporting such high-tech endeavors, the Friends are preserving traditional printing technology as well. We appropriated \$1,650 to the Book Arts Laboratory for the restoration of the Washington-style press. This hand press is a rare item, in generally good condition, but in need of alignment and leveling before it again can become a wonderful tool for teaching historically accurate printing.

Our first program of the fall is scheduled at the library on October 18th when Sarah Sentilles, daughter of Ann Sherwood Sentilles '69, will speak on her experiences in the Teach for America program. We look forward to seeing many of our local Friends there. 

SARAH SENTILLES continued from page 1

Murielle, who loves to draw Swiss cheese; Malcolm, who cannot read or sit still, but cleans and organizes the room; talented Julio, who fails the test to get into the district's Gifted and Talented Program because his answer that hamburger comes from the grocery store is not "cow," the "correct" one. When Sentilles returns seven years later, feeling as if she is "chasing ghosts," she is able to track down only three of her former students and finds little has changed in Compton.

The last three pages in *Taught by America* are eloquent as Sentilles writes about what she learned from her students:

...they taught me that my privilege depends on the creation of cities like Compton. That corruption and greed lead to calculated, intentional decisions that leave some children in this country without food and books and others with an abundance of both. That there is joy everywhere... That I am racist, and my country

is racist, and the wounds of racism are still raw... That systemic poverty is violent... I will carry these children in my heart forever. They are the lens through which I view the world and make decisions. They are the ones to whom I am accountable.

Taught by America is also an account of a journey of faith. Sentilles went on to complete a masters at Harvard Divinity School and is currently seeking her doctorate while writing *Collared Women* (Harcourt, 2007), which centers on the history of women's ongoing struggles for ordination. The Friends of the Library, a co-sponsor with The Career Center, is honored to have Sarah Sentilles, who embodies Wellesley's motto in her own life, as our fall speaker.

There will be a reception in the recently remodeled Clapp Library Lecture Room at 4:15 p.m. followed at 4:45 p.m. by the program, book sales, and a signing. 📖

Here are just a few of the topics of recent reference queries received at the Wellesley libraries...

- China's housing market bubble.
- Video about Marie Antoinette and the Diamond Necklace Affair.
- Female shrines in Catholicism, Judaism and Islam.
- Cannibalism (pre-1800 primary sources).
- Language acquisition, personality differences, and birth order.
- French 17th century playwright Corneille and heroes in his plays.
- Chilean playwright Sergio Vodanovic.
- Infertility treatments in Senegal.
- Relative hydrophobicity of amino acids.
- Structure and morphology of cyanobacteria.
- Ghost stories of Wellesley.
- Sumerian death rituals and the goddess Ereshkigal.
- What do female CEOs read?
- Six-party talks from North Korea's point of view.
- Gigantism in crustacean and other sea creatures.
- Campaign contributions from pro-life groups to Rick Santorum.
- Boiling point of bromomethylcyclohexane.
- Frank Stella's Black Paintings.
- Effects of suburban sprawl on fish.
- Islamic water-clocks in Spain.
- Zeus birth myths (Athena, Aphrodite).

Calendar

July - September Exhibition

"Spain in Turmoil: The 70th Anniversary of the Spanish Civil War"
Clapp Library Reference Room, 2nd floor

September - December Exhibition

Junior Show
Archives, 4th floor

October 18

Friends of the Library Guest Speaker Sarah Sentilles

"Taught by America: A Story of Struggle and Hope in Compton"
Reception 4:15 p.m.
Program 4:45 p.m.
followed by book signing
Clapp Library Lecture Room, 1st floor

October 6 - November 30 Exhibition

"Fifty Years of the Janus Press"
Featuring books from Special Collections.
Clapp Library Reference Room, 2nd floor

November 9 Authors on Stage

Three current authors discussing their books and the writing life.
Coffee hour 9:45 a.m.
Program 10:30 a.m.
Wellesley College Club
For information call: 781-237-5519

December - March Exhibition

"The Architecture of Books: Construction and Reconstruction"
Clapp Library Reference Room, 2nd floor



From the Collections... Love Letters from A.H. Hallam to Emily Tennyson

Samiya Ilmudeen '06, Special Collections Summer Assistant

Among the many unique and rare items in the Wellesley College Library's Special Collections is a collection of 32 love letters written by English poet Arthur Henry Hallam (1811-1833) to Emily Tennyson, the sister of Lord Alfred Tennyson. The letters were the generous gift of Mr. Galen Stone, a trustee of the college, who presented them to the College in a red leather-bound folio in 1917. They vary in appearance from small notes on browned, frayed paper to longer epistles with noticeable ink blots and seal marks. Amongst the letters is also one by Emily Selwood, who later became the wife of Alfred Tennyson.

Arthur Hallam, the son of historian Henry Hallam, was born in London. He attended school at Eton, and later Trinity College, Cambridge, where he met Tennyson. Their shared interests led to a close friendship, and on closer acquaintance with the family, Arthur fell in love with, and became engaged to, Tennyson's sister, Emily.

When read consecutively, the letters paint a poignant picture of a brief but consuming courtship that lasted nearly four years. Arthur Hallam is generally presumed to have met Emily over the Christmas period in 1829. In his earlier letters he inquired after her health, daily life at the Tennyson household, and passionately declared his love for her. In a letter to Emily dated March 30, 1831, he wrote,

“One thing I know; you cannot be in no place, to which my affection will not follow you; and if this thought is any comfort to you, oh think it often! It has done me some good, I think, to write these few lines; I am somewhat calmer for it; it is almost as if I had heard you speak.”

Despite the speed of its progress, their relationship was riddled with obstacles: Hallam's father opposed the union on account of Emily's lack of station and dowry, and Emily's overbearing grandfather, the manager of the family's funds, refused any support, even though he had the means to elevate her. This angered Hallam's father, who had a strong hold on his son. Thus Arthur Hallam was torn between filial obedience and the stirrings of passion, and the marriage was delayed. Its very postponement may have hastened Hallam's death. Unable to visit Emily often, and frustrated with his work as a lawyer, Hallam set out on a whirlwind tour of the Continent with his father in July 1833. His letter dated August 11, 1833, conveys a sense of his distress. He laments that, “It is a weary, weary time—*three years now* since I have felt that you were my only hope in life—*more than two* since we plighted to each other the word of promise. It is indeed a weary time.”

He died six weeks later in Vienna. Ironically, Hallam's death cemented a lifelong friendship between the two families; Henry Hallam supported Alfred Tennyson's endeavors as a poet, and he also provided a gracious allowance for Emily. Emily Tennyson later married Richard Jesse, and they had two children, the oldest of whom they christened Arthur Henry Jesse.

Though best known as the subject of Tennyson's major work *In Memoriam A.H.H.*, Hallam was also admired by his contemporaries for his intelligence and critical acuity. At the time of his death at twenty-two years of age, Hallam was generally regarded as a young writer with promise, especially as an essayist. His work has attracted the attention of Tennyson scholars everywhere, and his courtship of Emily Tennyson was also featured in the novel *Angels & Insects* by A.S. Byatt.

An Evening of Poetry

Members of the Wellesley community gathered April 4 to celebrate National Poetry Month. In the tradition of the “Favorite Poem Project,” a program founded by former poet laureate Robert Pinsky, some 19 students and staff took turns sharing a poem of their choice with the audience. Participants included poet and professor Frank Bidart, reading “The Seventh” by Atilla Joses; Lily Xiong '08, reading “On Seeing the Elgin Marbles” by John Keats; and Mur Wolf of maintenance services reading “About My Dad” by Marie Hatton.



Wellesley College President Diana Chapman Walsh read “One Art” by Elizabeth Bishop and “The Secret” by Denise Levertov.



Valerie Kua '08, reading Emily Brontë's “Stanzas.”

Meet the Staff...

First in a series of Q&As with people who work behind the scenes in the Wellesley College Libraries



Kristina Grinder joined the library staff in April as the administrative assistant for Friends of the Library. A native of Arizona, she

lives in Holliston, Massachusetts, with her husband and two children. If you call the Friends (781-283-2872) about your membership, an upcoming program or with a question regarding our Honor with Books program, Kristina will probably be the one to help you out.

What is your favorite area of the library, and why?

The Clapp library has so much to offer but I'm drawn to the Special Collections area as well as the new lower level reading area. I have an eclectic style—I'm a collector of antiques and love old books but I also enjoy contemporary comfort, especially for reading!

Read any good books lately? Tell us about them.

I'm in a book club with friends from Holliston and I look forward to that every month. Traditionally we read a classic this time of year for "back to school" so I'm currently reading *Jane Eyre*. I also enjoyed reading *A Year by the Sea: Thoughts of an Unfinished Woman* by Joan Anderson and *The Memory of Running* by Ron McLarty.

What do you like to do during your time off?

I love spending time with my husband and kids. We stay very active. I also enjoy gardening, and long walks.

What do you like about your job with the Friends?

The Friends is a welcoming and motivated group. I enjoy planning events and setting goals with the Steering Committee and hope to make new friends in the process!

What's your favorite part of the Wellesley College campus?

The campus is gorgeous. I love the evergreen landscape surrounding Clapp and Lake Waban but I'm especially looking forward to watching the colors of fall unfold.

Thank You, Seniors!

Friends of the Library celebrated the hard work of 46 graduating seniors employed in the Clapp, Science, Art, and Music Libraries during their years at Wellesley. At the open house attended by students and their families, the soon-to-be alumnae received a certificate of appreciation, a Friends' totebag, and free membership for 2006-07 in the Friends of the Library. The reception was held May 30 in Clapp Library's Brackett Reading Room.



Music Library staff with their Class of 2006 graduating seniors (from left): Erica Nelson, Joanna (Annie) Swafford, Sabrina Gibson, Prema Polit, Rebecca Kapler, and Siena Kaplan.



Sue Beatty from library collections management congratulates senior Margaret Hartman.



Science Library staff with their graduating seniors (from left): Hadley Smith, Keely Sayers, Claire Tilley, Jeanyoung Jo, and Jane Rodgers.

Friends Launch Redesigned Web Site

MacKenzie Stewart, Digital Library Specialist



The Friends of the Wellesley College Library recently launched its newly redesigned web site in the spring of 2006.

In the most general terms, two pieces are needed for a good web site: information and a web structure to present it. The new site is the result of several months of collaboration between the Friends' Electronic Access Committee volunteers and Library staff. While planning the redesign of the web site, we were able to incorporate new and updated content, a fresh new look, and improvements to the site's organization and navigation.

The first Friends' web page dates back to late 1994, when the Web

was still in its infancy. This fledgling page contained only the most basic information, essentially describing the Friends' organization and its activities. It then expanded over the next few years into multiple pages with a standard look and links between other pages. This type of information content growth is natural over time; however, organization then increases in importance.

Several months ago it seemed to be time to reorganize the Friends' web site information into new categories. This also led to the design of the navigational menus at the top of each page. By organizing the web site into appropriate sections, we began to see categories emerge. Categories formed naturally for existing content and pointed out content yet to be written. The new site incorporates six categories, and over 20 separate pages.

Once the content was organized the navigation, page count, and page design could be determined. Besides the information content of the web site, the structure to present the information was needed to ensure navigation from one page to the next. Too often it seems that the visual appearance of a site is the sole driver of the redesign process, but together we tackled many information organization issues, evaluated various designs, and used a combination of creative and technical skills. Libraries have always found ways to organize, provide, and integrate information—all the more reason for the Friends' web site to deliver on that mission.

To view the Friends' new web site, visit:

www.wellesley.edu/Library/Friends/index.html

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In honor of
Diana Chapman Walsh '66
for her Extraordinary Leadership
As President of the College

Presented by:
June Milton Stobaugh '66
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A GIFT THAT CAN BE OPENED AGAIN AND AGAIN

With the Friends of the Library Honor with Books program, you can:

- Celebrate a birthday
- Recognize a special occasion or anniversary
- Send thanks
- Honor or remember a friend, classmate, faculty member, relative

For each \$100 gift to Honor with Books, the Library will place a bookplate bearing the name of the person you are honoring, as well as your name, in a newly purchased book.

Choose one of four designs and make your bookplate gift online:

www.wellesley.edu/Library/Friends/honorwithbooks.html
or request information from Friends of the Library.

Margaret Clapp Library
106 Central Street • Wellesley, MA 02481-8203
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Time to Renew?

Please use the form below and make your check payable to: Wellesley College.
Mail to: Wellesley College, Friends of the Library, Margaret Clapp Library, 106
Central Street, Wellesley, MA 02481. Thank you for your continuing support!

Please check one:

Benefactor* \$2,500 Sponsor \$100 Endowment Fund

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FLORAL NOTECARDS

Richly colored botanical illustrations from a Special Collections' book, *The Botanic Garden*, by Benjamin Maund, adorn these lovely notecards.

Each boxed set contains two cards each of four flowers, totaling eight cards and envelopes. Blank inside (all cards not pictured).

PRICE: \$13.00
per box.



To get an order form or view samples of these and other notecards, visit www.wellesley.edu/Library/Friends/sales.html or call 781-283-2872.

Lower Level Renovations Complete

Faculty and students returning to Clapp Library this fall will find new changes to the building's lower level. Now that the College Bookstore has relocated to its permanent home in the Lulu Chow Wang Campus Center, the area has been redesigned to maximize shelving space and functionality for library collections. A number of upgrades and changes have also been implemented, from the aesthetic (new carpeting and furniture) to the practical (sprinklers and upgrades to the heating, lighting, and ventilation system). Visitors to the Library Lecture Room will find a handicapped-accessible space with upgraded media equipment and new furnishings.

Redesigning the space for better work flow in the library's receiving area was another goal of the renovations, according to Operations Manager Donna Volpe Strouse,



as was creating better gathering spaces. To that end, visitors will now find a lounge in the lower level where they can bring food and drinks or purchase them from vending machines. A self-service collection of open reserves material will also be made available

so that students can easily pull class reading materials and take them to one of the comfortable, stylish new chairs. A plasma television in the area can be connected to a laptop for a PowerPoint presentation, or used to catch up on world news. At this year's Commencement, it broadcast the proceedings to family and friends affected by the hot, humid weather.

Other new services in the lounge include a satellite location of the Computing First Aid station (the primary location is based in the Science Center). Staffed by student employees of Information Services, the station offers immediate assistance to students experiencing technical difficulties with their laptops.

The next phase of Clapp Library renovations will target the third floor. Stay tuned to future issues of the FOL newsletter for updates and photos.



Wellesley College
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subject index terms, honing and refining the search process. In essence, it allows researchers to position themselves at a particular point in time and to see past and future directions in scholarship from that vantage point.

The proposal brought before the FOL Steering Committee by the Research and Instruction Group of Wellesley's Information Services asked for a commitment to fund back issues of the most robust of these cited-reference searching databases: The Web of Science. Known for its voluminous content and ease of searchability, the Web of Science provides indexing and abstracts for more than 8,300 top scholarly journals in the social sciences and sciences.

"By going into the Web of Science and choosing the cited reference search, the student in question can search to see if anyone has cited that original article since the day it was published," explains Megan Adams,

Research and Instruction Group Manager. "The student will find that between 1965 and the present that article was cited 57 times in 49 journals indexed in the Web of Science, most recently in 2005. Several articles appear suitable for her purposes, such as "Metamorphic Tourmaline and its Petrologic Applications" in *Reviews in Mineralogy* (1996). The library owns the journal, so the student is able to access her reading quickly."

In the past year, Wellesley invested in an ongoing subscription to the Web of Science, and was able to finance the purchase of backfiles to 2001. Realizing the limitations of this five-year time span, the Research and Instruction Group (with encouragement from the Library Collection Management Group) enlisted the Friends' help to enable more extended back-searches. Pleased to be able to enhance the library's online capabilities in such

a tangible way, the Steering Committee voted \$38,105 to purchase backfiles to 1965.

The tool was put to use immediately. "Last month, we used the Web of Science database to identify nutritional programs for recovering substance abuse addicts in answer to a request from a student on a summer internship," reports Science Librarian Irene Laursen.

Wellesley physics professor Glenn Stark finds the database invaluable. "Many of the seminal laboratory measurements were carried out in the 1960s in my field [molecular spectroscopy]," he explains. "Web of Science allows me to view every article that cites those 1960s' results. I now organize all of my literature searches around Web of Science's capabilities, and am very grateful for the Friends of the Library's commitment to this resource." 