October 24, 2008, Welcome to InfoShock News Express. InfoShock News Express is a weekly news bulletin of activities happening in the University Libraries brought to you by the members of the Libraries Operations Council. And now for the announcements—

Prose Reading
On October 28th, Special Collections will host a reading by Connie May Fowler, best-selling author of five novels and a memoir and Distinguished Visiting Writer in the WSU Creative Writing Program. The reading will take place on Tuesday afternoon, October, 28, from 4-5 p.m in the Special Collections reading room. Sue Monk Kidd (The Secret Life of Bees) says that Fowler, who will work intensively with MFA fiction students during the coming month, writes “with wonderful originality and biting humor. The Problem with Murmur Lee is about all the things that matter: life, death, love, forgiveness, and the journey toward truth. Its deeply affecting story left me with an aching love for life.”

Reception to Celebrate Albert Goldbarth Papers
On Thursday, November 6, from 2-3:30 pm, a reception will be held in the lower level to celebrate the opening of the Albert Goldbarth Papers to the public. Remarks will be at 2:15 pm and will include comments by Professor Goldbarth on his passion for collecting. Special Collections has been processing the Goldbarth papers since they were received in 2006. A detailed finding aid has been completed and will be placed on the Special Collections website for the reception. All are invited to the reception. Light refreshments will be served.

Donation for Foyer Expansion Received From Lee Riley
Dean Pal V. Rao is pleased to announce that the University Libraries has received a $30,000 donation from Lee Riley to serve as seed money for the expansion of the Riley Foyer and Edmiston 24-hour Study Room. Lee Riley is a long time library supporter who received his degree from WSU and met his wife in the library. The foyer was named in his and his wife, Carolyn’s, honor in appreciation for an endowment that they set up to support library facilities. The new furniture in the foyer and much of the new furniture in the lower level was purchased through this endowment. Mr. Riley also is currently contributing to an endowed graduate assistant position that should come online within the next few years. Thank you Mr. Riley!!

ELSUG Conference Successful
On October 9-10, the University Libraries hosted the Ex Libris South Central Users Group meeting. The meeting was attended by 81 persons from four different states, and it was the largest regional user group meeting of the year. Presentations on the future directions of Ex Libris were made by regional manager Dennis Carter. Ten different institutions made presentations. Gemma Blackburn, Sai Deng, Nancy Deyoe, Susan
Matveyeva, and Erik Mallory made presentations for WSU. Feedback from the participants was positive including such comments as: "an excellent conference" – Sue Sappington, University of Texas at Arlington; "the WSU staff did an outstanding job of organizing and hosting the users group meeting. Thanks!" – Bill Parton, Arkansas Tech. Special thanks go out to all of those who helped organize the event. Wonderful door prizes were secured by Connie Basquez, Sandy Oswald, Mary Walker, and Nancy Deyoe. Technical support was provided by Muhammad Usmani and his Systems students – Shahzeb Shamin, Zaki Shah, and Adeel Khan. Web design was by Mary Walker and Gemma Blackburn. Administrative support was provided by Stephanie Sauls and Jody Hall. On-site assistance and speaker introductions were given by Pal Rao, Nancy Deyoe, Ginger Williams, Kathy Downes, Jane Hodge, Judy Lewis, April Bohannan-Landrith, Laurie Allen, Connie Basquez, Mary Walker, and Sandy Oswald. Finally, congratulations go to Nancy Deyoe who coordinated the entire event.

New Display on Voting
Another timely display has been placed in the first floor display case. The title is: Be a Part of History: Vote! The display contains books from the collection by current candidates and books about our political process and history. The display was organized by Connie Basquez. A complete listing of books in the display can be found at the following website maintained by Amy Williams: http://library.wichita.edu/circulation/exhibit_books.htm

Special Collections Display Supports The Big Read
Special Collections and University Archives, WSU Libraries, has a current exhibit on “Willa Cather: Viewing the Landscape of Her Literary World.” This exhibit of selected photographs, books and artifacts displaying sod buildings held by Special Collections celebrates Willa Cather’s My Antonia, the book chosen for The Big Read in Wichita. The Big Read is a city-wide reading program funded by the National Endowment for the Arts from Oct. 1 – Nov. 15, 2008. Among the items on display are photos of a sod school house, a two-story sod home, a post office, historic maps of Kansas and Nebraska, and prints by Prairie Print Makers. The exhibit is on display through November 30.

FREE Tickets
Dean Rao has 25 free tickets to give away to the Doris Kearns Goodwin lecture to be held on November 14th at 7:30 in the Century II convention Hall. Ms. Goodwin will be speaking on “Experience History in the Making” – Lincoln, McCain & Obama. This lecture is sponsored by the 2008 Wichita Metro chamber of Commerce. Goodwin is a well known presidential historian and prize winner. She has won the Pulitzer Prize in history for No Ordinary Time: Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt: the Home Front in World War II. She also is a renowned Lincoln scholar.