The Map Library, located in Jerome Library, has a wide variety of uses for many readers. The library is home to nearly 50,000 maps displaying boundary lines, migration paths, rock structures, animal breeds and even imaginary places.

Growing map library depicts vast universe

Like the vegetation, population and physical boundaries that its documents represent, the University’s Map Library continues to grow and change.

When, in the summer of 1981, the Map Library moved from the geography department to Jerome, it had holdings totaling approximately 40,000 maps, according to Evron Collins, map librarian. Now its collection approaches nearly 50,000 maps, excluding atlases and gazetteers.

What has provoked the growth? Collins attributes it to a broader resource base.

“The map library used to be primarily a depository for government maps,” Collins said. “Now we have a budget to purchase maps, we get gifts and free maps from state agencies and we exchange with other libraries.”

The collection has proved itself a fertile research aid for those who employ it. “We have many groups of people who use the library,” Collins said.

Aside from the geology, geography, history, marketing, ROTC and education students who employ the collection for studies, others use the library for less obvious reasons, according to Collins.

“The University’s sports teams use maps to identify the location of big games,” Collins said, “as do kids planning spring break trips. Community people employ them to help trace their ancestry, art professors use them to track the movement of artists, and people interested in women’s studies find them beneficial as supplements to the diaries of women pioneers.”

In addition, according to Collins, English students use them to determine whether locations in classical literature really exist and to analyze story travelogues.

While a majority of the maps have been chosen to accommodate student curricula and, therefore, show mostly physical and political boundaries, the Map Library does offer three rare maps.

One is the French edition of cartographer Abraham Ortelius’ 1587 map of Hungary. Highly decorative and hand colored, Ortelius’ map was printed from a wood block.

Paulus G. Merula’s early 17th century plan of Casal, Italy, and Henry Chatelin’s early 18th century rendering of Casal as a city round out the Map Library’s rare collection.

All three rare maps are preserved in acid-free holders to guard against deterioration.

Although not considered rare maps, Collins says she finds interesting the aeronautical charts which the U.S. Army captured from the Germans in 1921. “The charts show all the French airfields,” Collins said.

Thematic maps showing such things as income, population shifts, ethnic groups, the economy, transportation, rock structures, oil and gas, the moon, diseases, ocean currents, vegetation and whale migration also comprise a large part of the library’s collection.

“We even have maps showing where different dog breeds originated and the location of nuclear plants,” Collins said.

People who read fiction may find it useful that the maps show the geography of imaginary places in Lord of the Rings and Gulliver’s Travels. Maps are arranged in the Library of

Continued on back
Arts Unlimited receives award

The Arts Unlimited program has been awarded $16,000 by the Hitachi Foundation of Washington, D.C., to help provide arts education for young people in northwest Ohio.

The grant will enable the program to bring to the Bowling Green area next spring the internationally known Japanese artist Shozo Sato and his play, “Kabuki Othello.”

According to Dr. Dwight Burlingame, vice president for University relations, part of Bowling Green’s mission is to provide educational opportunities to the surrounding community and “the Arts Unlimited program is one example of this outreach. This generous gift from the Hitachi Foundation will allow approximately 2,000 Bowling Green area schoolchildren to become acquainted with the Kabuki Theatre.”

The Arts Unlimited program is dedicated to making the arts an integral part of elementary and secondary education by providing schools with instructional workshops for teachers and teaching assistants who work with teachers and their students. The program serves schools in a nine-county region and expects to reach approximately 10,000 students during the 1987-88 academic year, according to director Dr. Michael Moore. Arts Unlimited began in 1981 and during its initial year provided programming that reached approximately 700 young people.

Olscamp named to study Ohio schools

President Olscamp has been named to a 13-member task force that will be studying all levels of education in northwestern Ohio.

The task force was announced by George Hagih, chairman of the Committee of 100, which was created in Toledo last year to boost economic development in the area.

Olscamp on the task force are University of Toledo President James McComas and 11 other civic leaders. The group is being seek positions for an exchange of ideas between the education and business communities.

Haig said that the Committee of 100 recognizes that a strong partnership between education and business is necessary if any economic development efforts are to be successful.

PCS cards mailed

The new PCS Prescription Drug cards are being mailed to faculty and staff this week. Employees who have not received their cards by August 30, or who have questions about the cards, should call the University Group Insurance at 372-2114 or visit the office at 10 Shatfal Hall.

Datebook

Monday, August 17
Student Recreation Center fall memberships, on sale beginning at noon, main office.

Tuesday, August 18

Desktop Publishing Workshop, 6:30-9 p.m., Computer Lab, 247 Technology Building. To register, call Continuing Education Office at 372-8181.

Public Auction of surplus equipment, 10:30 a.m., Old Paint Shop storage building off Troup Avenue. Call 2-2121 for questions.

Classtified Staff Council meeting, 10 a.m., University Union, Talt Room.

Thursday, August 20
Desktop Publishing Workshop, 6:30-9 p.m., Computer Lab, 247 Technology Building. To register, call Continuing Education Office at 372-8181.

Monday, August 24
Opening Day Session for all faculty and staff, 9 a.m., the Lentner Ballroom. President Olscamp will deliver the annual “State of the University” address.

History professor writes about Asia

When thinking of the 1940s, one might envision actress Ava Gardner, baseball player Joe DiMaggio, or movie version of Gone with the Wind. For Dr. Gary R. Hess, history, however, 1940-1950 represents the era that established the United States’ policy in Southeast Asia.

Hess’ new book: The United States Emergence as a Southeast Asian Power, 1940-1950, examines the impact of America’s involvement in Southeast Asia on subsequent events in the region.

“I wrote the book because I was interested in how the U.S. became involved in Vietnam and how the U.S. responded to nationalism in Asia during and after World War II,” Hess said.

The book examines crucial events of the decade, from Japan’s defeat in the Pacific to the Korean War’s onset in 1950.

Primarily a source for other scholars and teachers, Hess argued that the United States tried to protect its interests and those of other western countries by encouraging European allies to change their policies in Asia.

“Ameron policy had as its primary goal the cultivation of democratic governments, which would ensure that the region retained its Western political and economic orientation,” Hess said.

He cites the communist-led revolution in Indochina as the key threat to American interests in Southeast Asia.

The research process for the book took four to five years including one year with a full-time leave. During those years, Hess said he used British documents in London, and resources at the National Archives in Washington, D.C. Roosevelt Library in Hyde Park, Ill. and Truman Library in Independence, Mo.

Hess’ previous books have followed similar streams of research. They include The United States at War, 1941-1945, and America Encounters India, 1941-1947. In addition, he has edited America and Russia: Cold War to Coexistence — Beth Sonderoth

Maps

Congress classification scheme but not listed in the card catalog. So what gives people the impetus to use maps without a cue from the card catalog?

“That can be a problem,” Collins said. “Most people don’t really think about using maps like they do magazines, journals and books.

“But maps are a research tool as an entity unto themselves. We need to make people more aware of the physical medium of a map.”

In order to encourage the use of maps, Collins makes presentations to classes and her colleagues suggest map applications to library patrons at large.

Collins’ enthusiasm for maps should let even the most novice navigator feel comfortable asking for help and assistance. “There are so many levels of map literacy,” Collins said, “that no one should feel hesitant to ask for help.”

Collins should know. She had little experience with maps before taking the job as map librarian. “I just learned along the way,” she said.

“Now I really appreciate maps because they are a lot of fun and of works of art in their own right.” — Beth Sonderoth

Faculty/Staff Positions

The following faculty positions are available:

The following administrative staff positions are available: