Sidney and Emma Nogrady Kaplan Papers

An eminent scholar of African American history and an activist, Sidney Kaplan joined the UMass Amherst English Department in 1946. Kaplan’s influence was widely felt on campus and in the community: he was among the founders of the Department of Afro-American Studies, a founder of the Department of American history and an activist, and he was an editor of Leonard Baskin’s Gehenna Press. The Kaplan Papers document a long career devoted to the study of African American history and life.

Selected Acquisitions

Lionel Delevingne Photograph Collection

Photographer Lionel Delevingne is a prolific photographer of American social movements. While working for the Valley Advocate and other publications, he photographed the early years of the Clamshell Alliance and the antinuclear movement in considerable depth. His work has been exhibited frequently and published widely in the mainstream and alternative press, including the New York Times, Newsweek, Washington Post Magazine, Mother Jones, and Vanity Fair.

The Delevingne collection includes remarkable visual documentation of the antinuclear movement of the 1970s and beyond, including some of its most iconic images. The collection includes prints and digitized images from the mid-1970s through the 1990s.

We received over 100 Gifts in Kind worth almost $188,000! Thank You!

We honored Kenneth Fumberg ’65, BP Oil Spill Administrator, who donated historic materials to the Libraries of the UMass Press, a founder and editor of the Massachusetts Review, and he was an editor of Leonard Baskin’s Gehenna Press. The Kaplan Papers document a long career devoted to the study of African American history and life.

Support for Teaching and Learning

We continue to improve the Learning Commons and our other facilities to meet the needs of our students and faculty.

We created a new Microforms Viewing Room in the Learning Commons.

We REMODELED the Calibri Room, a technology-based learning classroom in the Learning Commons.

Students like studying at the new desks on Floors 18 and 23.

We have over 6,000 active donors! Be a part of our success

www.library.umass.edu/giving

Library Expenditures FY11

Collections Expenditures FY11

2011 GREATEST HITS

RAISED over $200,000 to create a multimedia commons on Floor 3 of Du Bois.

TOOK A BITE out of textbook costs, helping to save students more than $70,000 with Open Education Initiative grants.

PROVIDED greater breadth of material (and greater access to unique materials) by eliminating unintentional duplication through the Five College Consortium.

IMPROVED our service significantly to faculty, graduate students, and undergraduate students since 2004, according to a survey, LibQUAL+™.

UNVEILED and celebrated the launch of Credo, an online repository containing the digital collections of Special Collections and University Archives: credo.library.umass.edu.

PARTNERED with St. John’s Congregational Church in Springfield, Massachusetts to help promote the legacy of W.E.B. Du Bois’s work, engage Springfield K-12 students in cultural and educational opportunities, and develop an international educational component to bring together Du Bois scholars and black church leaders from around the globe.

CELEBRATED Open Access Week with talks on copyright laws, fair use, free speech, and open educational resources.

AWARDED Fellowships to assist younger scholars in conducting research and provided students with structured, hands-on experience using and interpreting historical documentary resources in Special Collections and University Archives.

GOT OUR GAME ON in our first ever gaming event in the Library for new students.

HOSTED eight exhibits representing subjects including the American labor movement, W.E.B. Du Bois, UMass football, gravestones, automotive fine art, nature photography, women’s history, and breast cancer.


PROVIDED resources for the campus community and the public in response to the earthquake in Japan and the upheaval in the Mid-East.

HOSTED NPR celebrity speakers Roy Blount, Jr. and Gretchen Holbrook Gerzina; distinguished scholar Patricia Aufderheide; Emmy award-winning producer Michael Haley; and activists Bettina Aptheker and Tom Weiner.

We continue to improve the Learning Commons and our other facilities to meet the needs of our students and faculty.
4,022,849 hits to the library's web pages

708,890 electronic books available, an increase of 45%

50,908 questions answered at Reference and Information desks in Du Bois Library and Science and Engineering Library

35,123 visits to RefWorks, an online research management tool, an increase of 5%

14,919 square feet of posters printed, an increase of 40%, earning almost $1,600

55 percent increase in books brought in from outside the Five College area through Interlibrary Loan

Some rave reviews from our recent Library survey

“I can’t say enough about how great the ILL program works. I have worked on campus for 25 years and the Librarian staff here is outstanding. I came from the University of Michigan, which had an outstanding Library Science program, so I thought I would be disappointed when I got here. But far from it!”

“I work with the reference librarians from the Science and Engineering Library most, both within my classes and at the Library. They have been incredibly supportive and helpful with my courses, in person, on the web, and during instruction. I can’t speak highly enough of their care and enthusiasm.”

“I am an online student and have frequently visited the online library and am amazed at the wealth of available resources.”

“I love going to the library. I find that it is very quiet and a great place to study or meet up for group projects. The staff are really helpful!”

“You all do a fantastic job of getting both electronic and non-electronic materials to me in an efficient manner. Thanks for all that you do!”