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Lumières, Spring 1986

Louisiana State University and Agricultural & Mechanical College

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LUMIÈRES

Papers of Senator Russell B. Long Given to LSU Libraries

A ceremony marking the gift of the Senate and personal papers of U.S. Senator Russell B. Long to the LSU Libraries was held at Hill Memorial Library on April 6, 1986. Some one hundred friends of Senator Long and the libraries attended the formal signing and reception in the newly renovated lecture hall of the Hill building.

On hand to accept the collection was Chancellor James H. Wharton, who termed it a foundation for attracting similar collections. He went on to say that the Long collection will make LSU a mecca for scholars studying modern government finance. The chancellor pointed out that LSU had become a major university during the gubernatorial administration of the senator's father, Huey Long: "This university really ignited and became a substantial university in 1928. Three years later LSU was the best supported public university in the South, and probably the best public university in the nation at that time. A great many people got a good education because of the contributions that the Longs have made to this institution. And it truly has been a magnificent contribution."

Long, elected to the U.S. Senate in 1948, will retire in early 1987. A former student body president at LSU and a 1942 graduate of the law school, Long has been a longtime supporter of the University and was named LSU's Alumnus of the Year in 1977.

Senator Long's collection is unique among congressional collections because of the length of Long's career, his power and influence in the Senate (particularly as chairman of the Committee on Finance), and his role in the transition of the Senate from a "gentleman's club" to the large and complex institution which it is today. The senator holds one other distinction in the annals of the Senate: he is the only senator whose father and mother also served in the Senate.

The Long papers provide ample evidence of the principles and programs of a powerful state and national political personality, document the vast range of issues which a modern senator is called upon to address, and offer a concentrated source for students of recent Louisiana history and politics.

The papers contain correspondence, speeches, legislation, committee files, press releases, scrapbooks, campaign materials, photographs, memorabilia, films, videotapes, and other material concerning Russell Long. Over 740,000 items are in the collection, which weighs approximately twelve tons.

To say that the Russell Long Papers are one of the most important acquisitions of the library during the last decade is not an overstatement of their value. It has been said that no one understands the federal tax code—or for that matter the federal government—better than Russell Long. The story goes that when a newly elected Jimmy Carter was preparing to take office, he commented on how he was looking forward to coming to Washington to run things. "But," he said, "when I got here I found out that Russell Long was already running them."

The Russell Long papers are a major research collection which will make the University the nation's leading repository for original source materials on the Long political family. LSU's Special Collections also administer the premiere collections of material on Huey Long and his brother, Earl K. Long, as well as Congressman Gillis Long.

*Lynn Roundtree
Curator for Political
Manuscripts and the Russell
Long Collection*

Friends of the Library
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge

80 Years Young

The tradition of 80th birthday parties was continued in February with a party honoring Dean Emeritus of the LSU Graduate School and Professor of Physics Max Goodrich. Many of Dean Goodrich's contemporaries on the LSU faculty turned out for the party held in the Hill Memorial Library to give him birthday greetings. The party was also attended by family, Friends members, current LSU faculty and library staff.

Chancellor Emeritus Cecil Taylor presided as master of ceremonies. In mock roast style former colleagues in the Graduate School Carolyn Hargrave and Otis Wheeler were called upon to reminisce. Former LSU Chancellor Paul Murrill's remarks included references to his own days as a graduate student. A plaque was presented to Dean Goodrich by Chancellor James Wharton honoring him for his dedication to the University and the Friends organization.

Friends and colleagues contributed over \$1,000 to the Max Goodrich library fund established on the occasion of his 80th birthday. All Max's friends wish him many more happy birthdays!

So Long, Farewell . . .

A goodbye party was staged in January by the Friends for Henry Snyder, dean of arts and sciences, and a Friends board member and former president, who was leaving LSU to become dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of California, Riverside. Since coming to LSU in 1979, Professor Snyder has been an advocate and ardent supporter of many local cultural organizations. He served on the Baton Rouge Arts and Humanities Council and was a founder of the Baton Rouge Opera. He had a public radio program "Strictly Opera" and was also a supporter of the Baton Rouge Symphony and the LSU Libraries.

Appropriate to local custom and the time of the year, the party had Mardi Gras decorations complete with a King Cake for the honoree to cut. Dean Snyder had enthusiastically accepted Louisiana cuisine and customs. The Friends presented him with a gift of a whimsical ceramic cajun cabin sculpted by longtime University benefactor Steele Burden. Although there was regret that Dean Snyder was leaving LSU, all did wish that he "fare well" in his new position.



Friends' president Mrs. John West III presented a cajun cabin to Dean Snyder.

Photographs by Don Morrison



Chancellor James Wharton presents Dean Goodrich with a plaque acknowledging his contributions to the Friends.



Dean and Mrs. Goodrich were joined by their daughters, Mrs. Marna Clarke (left) and Mrs. Lee Ann Matthews, for the celebration.

LSU Representatives Attend Development Workshop

Eileen and Gordon Kean, representing the Friends of the LSU Library, attended a workshop on Library Development at Hilton Head, S.C., March 8-10. The workshop, sponsored by the Association of Southeastern Research Libraries (ASERL), was designed to bring together librarians and development officers from their parent institutions to learn from each other about raising money for libraries. Since the Friends of the Library do the most important fundraising for the LSU Libraries, the Library administration asked the Friends to send a representative to accompany the library's representative, Robert S. Martin, assistant director for special collections.

The workshop was attended by 32 participants, representing 15 universities, including Duke University, Emory University, Clemson University, the University of Tennessee, the University of Georgia, and the University of South Carolina. The program focused on the roles of the various elements in library fundraising, including the University's Development Office, the Library's development officer, and library support groups. It also featured discussions on such basics as prospect identification and development planning. The session on library support groups revealed that the LSU Friends are a uniquely active and successful group, and many representatives of other institutions asked for detailed information about our work.

The LSU representatives returned from the conference with many new ideas on how to make both the library and the Friends more successful in their development efforts.

1986 Annual Banquet

Those attending the Friends' annual dinner, April 24, 1986, were greeted in the foyer of the Faculty Club with two posters displaying photographs of the activities and achievements of the organization for the past year. There was also a table exhibit of selected books from the Clarence Laughlin Library of the Arts, the largest private collection ever purchased by the LSU Libraries. The collection is virtually complete in late 19th and 20th century science fiction. It also is especially strong in fantasy illustrators. The exhibit contained works of Arthur Rackham, Edmund Dulac, Frank C. Pape, and Kay Nielsen. The collection was acquired with a large contribution by the Friends in addition to LSU Library funds.

President Anne West presided over the program for the evening. New board members in attendance at the banquet, Mrs. Eugene Owen, Mr. John Hill, and Mr. T. O. Perry, were introduced. The president announced that Chancellor Emeritus Cecil Taylor and Dean Emeritus Max Goodrich have been designated as life members of the Friends' executive board.

One of the highlights of the evening was the presentation of the first Doris Dennis Smith Book Award. This award is given to individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the annual book bazaar. Mrs. Smith was honored by Mrs. West as one of the first recipients of the award. Others receiving the award were responsible for the founding of the book barn/bazaar and have worked throughout its ten year history. Mrs. R. Gordon Kean and Mrs. Owen have jointly chaired the Book Barn operation. Mrs. H. Leslie McKenzie was the first book bazaar chairman and responsible for the original organizing effort. Mrs. Perry is a past book bazaar chairman; she and the sixth recipient of the award, Mrs. John Gonce, are the stock room chairmen each year. President West read a letter from Chancellor Wharton, who was unable to be present, congratulating the awardees and thanking the Friends for their efforts on behalf of the LSU Libraries.



Andrei Codrescu (left) talks with Jim Schmidt, vice-president of the Research Libraries Group.

The nominating committee report was given by Mrs. Delroy O. Spann. New officers for the coming year are Mrs. Kenneth Kahao, president; Professor Neil Odenwald, vice-president; Mrs. Delroy O. Spann, secretary; Mrs. Eugene Owen, treasurer. The slate was elected by acclamation.

The director of the LSU Libraries, Sharon Hogan, expressed her appreciation to the Friends for their continued support of the library. The Clarence Laughlin collection could not have been purchased without the substantial contributions made by the Friends organization. In 1985 the Friends gave \$100,000 to the library for special acquisitions. Ms. Hogan praised the Friends organization as one of the most active and financially successful library support groups in the United States.

The high point of the evening was the after dinner speech by Andrei Codrescu, an associate professor in the LSU creative writing program and an internationally known poet. Assistant director of libraries Robert S. Martin introduced Codrescu, a native of Transylvania in Romania, as a poet, prose writer, literary translator, and cultural commentator.

Professor Codrescu talked about his youth in Romania and the difficulty of acquiring books. He contrasted this situation to that in the western world in which books are available in vast quantities but the majority of the popu-



President Anne West with Mrs. Doris Dennis Smith who was honored at the dinner.



Five recipients of the Doris Dennis Smith Book Award are (from left to right) Mrs. R. Gordon Kean, Mrs. Eugene Owen, Mrs. John Gonce, Mrs. T. O. Perry, and Mrs. Leslie McKenzie.



Newly elected president of the Friends, Mrs. Mary Jane Kahao and new board member John Hill enjoy the Laughlin Collection Exhibit.

Photographs by Prather Warren

lation does not value literature. Even though he is happy to live in a society with unrestricted publication, he told the audience he is concerned with the large volume of "trash" published and sold in the United States. In a nation with a large publication rate, U.S. citizens are not readers but viewers, he said. In his description readers are individual thinkers and active people, whereas viewers are passive, docile, believing what is fed to them by the visual media.

He commended the Friends for their interest in books and support of cultural activities. His remarks were thought-provoking and received with enthusiasm by his audience. At the conclusion of his speech, president West presented him with a life membership in the Friends for donating his personal manuscript collection to the LSU Libraries.

At the end of the evening the executive board honored Mrs. West for her outstanding work as president of the Friends for the past two years. Although she was concerned that she would have the reputation of the "party president" because of the number of social functions held during her term of office, many new projects were initiated and membership increased considerably. In recognition of her accomplishments she was presented with a keepsake box with an LSU medallion.

Executive Board News

Joining the Friends executive board in the fall of 1985 for three-year terms were Dr. Trenton James, Mrs. John Noland, and Mrs. Eugene Owen. Dr. James' uncle was a member of the executive board of the original Friends of the Library organization in the early 1960s. Mrs. Noland was chairman of the 1985 Book Bazaar. Mrs. Owen has long been active in the Friends as Book Barn co-chairman and served a previous term on the executive board.

New board members beginning with the summer board meeting are Mr. John Hill, Mr. T. O. Perry, Mrs. Paul Murrill, and Professor Donald Stanford. Mr. Hill's ancestors donated the first LSU Library building for the Baton Rouge campus and the family wishes to continue its association with the LSU Libraries. Mr. Perry, a vice-president with Louisiana National Bank, has long been a supporter of the Friends from the Baton Rouge business community. Mrs. Murrill is a life member of the Friends. Professor Stanford is recently retired from the LSU English department and is the former co-editor of *The Southern Review*.

Two members of the executive board, Chancellor Cecil

Taylor and Dean Emeritus Max Goodrich have been given life terms on the board. The usual term is three years, but these two people are special and irreplaceable.

Book Award Established

The ten-year anniversary of the Book Bazaar was 1985. At the Friends' fall executive board meeting the Doris Dennis Smith Book Award was established to honor Mrs. Smith for her work with the Book Bazaar and her contributions to the organization as membership committee chairman. The award is a book purchased in a subject of the recipient's choice for the LSU Libraries. A specially designed bookplate with the recipient's name is placed in the book. The recipient receives a certificate in the same design as the bookplate. Six people were given the Doris Dennis Smith Book Award at the 1986 annual banquet for their contributions to the founding and ten years of success of the Book Bazaar. They are Mrs. Smith, Mrs. John Gonce, Mrs. R. Gordon Kean, Mrs. Leslie McKenzie, Mrs. Eugene Owen, and Mrs. T. O. Perry, all of whom deserve congratulations for receiving the first Doris Dennis Smith Book Award.

Goodrich-Taylor Award Established

Another action of the executive board was the establishment of the Goodrich-Taylor Graduate Assistantship in Library Science. This award is named in honor of the two people responsible for the renewal of the Friends of the LSU Library organization in 1974 after several dormant years. They have since then served as advisers, campaigners, and stalwart supporters of every Friends' project. This award will not draw funding from existing projects but will have a separate fundraising campaign. Dr. Trenton James will chair the fundraising committee; Mrs. Paul Murrill, Mrs. Warren Davis, and Ms. Sharon Hogan will serve on the committee. The award will be funded by an endowment and will be a scholarship for a graduate student in Library Science to work part-time in the LSU Library as a trainee. Donations for this special fund can be made to Friends of the LSU Library, LSU Library, Baton Rouge, 70803.

New Project—Annual Workshop

Beginning in the spring of 1987 the Friends will sponsor an annual workshop designed to acquaint members of the Baton Rouge community with resources of the LSU Libraries. The chairman for the first workshop is Mrs. Elaine Ellis. The tentative subject is natural history illustration with lecture/slide shows on botanical and animal art. There may be some hands on experience for the workshop participants. There will definitely be social events to take advantage of the lovely spring weather.

Library Development Committee of Louisiana

The president of the Louisiana Library Association, Mary Lee Sweat, director of the Loyola University Library, has appointed Mrs. John M. West, III to the Library Development Committee of Louisiana for a three-year term. The LDCL is charged with developing and coordinating statewide support for libraries through the combined efforts of non-librarian citizens and librarians.

Another 80th Birthday

The Friends' executive board authorized the purchase of a Kelmscott Press book in honor of Mrs. Florinell F. Morton upon the occasion of her 80th birthday. Mrs. Morton, Dean Emeritus of the School of Library and Information Science, served on the executive board for several years and is a charter member of the Friends organization. *Poems Chosen Out of the Works of Samuel Taylor Coleridge* was selected as a lovely example of the work of William Morris and is a fitting tribute to Mrs. Morton, a person who truly appreciates the art of fine printing.

Funding for Academic Libraries

Mrs. Edith Kirkpatrick, a member of the Louisiana Board of Regents and also a Friends board member, suggests that Friends should encourage the various higher education boards to insist that academic libraries receive a minimum of 5% of their institution's overall budget. Not all university libraries in Louisiana receive the recommended 5%.

Memorials

In memory of:

Mrs. Robert B. Heilman
by Dr. and Mrs. Thomas A. Kirby

Mrs. C. E. Laborde
by Mrs. P. Chauvin Wilkinson

Mr. Tom Ogden
by Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Edmonds, Jr.

Mrs. Edith Reyer
by The 39'ers Book Club

Mrs. Roger Richardson
by Dr. and Mrs. Paul W. Murrill, Dr. Cecil G. Taylor

Claiborne E. Talbot, III
by Mr. and Mrs. John B. King

Mrs. Ellen Albright Taylor
by Dr. Cecil G. Taylor

Dr. Thomas L. Watson
by Ms. Barbara Sims

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Friends of the LSU Library
January-December 1985

Balance in LSU Foundation Account
December 31, 1984 \$180,649.75

Income:

Dues, Memorials	\$15,164.35
Interest	20,191.83
Book Bazar	40,000.00
Total	\$75,356.18

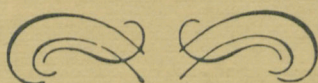
Expenditures:

January	Transfer to Book Account (175-30-6305) for book purchases	15,000.00
	U.S. Postmaster for annual bulk mailing fee	40.00
February	U.S. Postmaster for bulk mailing deposit	100.00
March	.....	—0—
April	LSU Faculty Club for balance owed on Spring Banquet	225.00
May	.....	—0—
June	Transfer to Friends operating account (175-01-6307)	3,000.00
July	.....	—0—
August	.....	—0—
September	U.S. Postmaster for bulk mail deposit	150.00
	Friends annual insurance premium ..	485.00
October	Transfer to Friends Book Account (175-30-6305) for book purchases (Laughlin Collection & Banks' Florilegium)	100,000.00
	Friends reception on 10/8/85 — Spirits, Inc.	266.81
	Charge back for a returned check	25.00
November	.....	—0—
December	Administration Distribution charge made by LSU Foundation	150.57
	Total	\$119,442.38

Balance in LSU Foundation Account
December 31, 1985 \$136,563.55

1985 Activity

Library Endowment Fund December 31, 1985	\$156,238.86
Ellinor H. Behre Fund December 31, 1985	\$ 2,212.72
Mrs. Mary Ann Miller Conner Memorial Book Fund December 31, 1985	\$ 7,027.30
Director George J. Guidry, Jr. Book Fund December 31, 1985	\$ 1,434.81
Fred B. Kniffen Fund December 31, 1985	\$ 2,894.59
H. C. Sanders Fund December 31, 1985	\$ 3,115.02
Mrs. Ellen Albright Taylor Memorial Book Fund December 31, 1985	\$ 1,100.00



Classes of Membership

- ☐ A. Student Member (annually) \$2.00
☐ B. Regular Member (annually) \$10.00
☐ C. Contributing Member (annually) \$25.00
☐ D. Individual or Corporate Patron Member (annually) \$100.00
☐ E. Patron Member (annually) \$500.00
☐ F. Life Member \$1,000.00 or more or the presentation of unusual and distinctive materials valued at \$3,000.00 or more, within a calendar year.
☐ G. Institutional or Corporate Member (annually) \$500.00
☐ H. Honorary Life Member

☐ Check payable to LSU Foundation for Friends of the Library

☐ I prefer to pay as follows: _____

Member's signature

Address

City

State

Zip

Date



Officers

Mrs. John M. West, III, President
Mrs. Delroy O. Spann, Vice-President
Anna Perrault, Secretary
Caroline Wire, Treasurer

Friends of the LSU Library
LSU Foundation
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803

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