There’s a new window at the University of Central Florida (UCF) Libraries that opens to the point where Europe, Asia, and Africa meet. Turkey. An instructor and a post-doctoral fellow at UCF has recently availed the UCF Libraries' subscription to Zaman, a prestigious newspaper which publishes both in Turkish and English in the U.S. nationwide and its numerous assets, especially for its modern page layout and contributions to inter-cultural understanding.

Jeanette Ward, Associate Director for Collections & Technical Services, accepted the financial gift that enabled the UCF Libraries to obtain an annual subscription to the Turkish publication.

The donor, who wished to remain anonymous, received his doctorate from UCF in 2004 and started working at the College of Engineering and Computer Science at UCF. "UCF has given me so many great opportunities in excelling in my field, and the UCF Libraries have played a very crucial role in my studies, so I simply wanted to thank you in a very special way." He added that there are about a hundred Turkish students at UCF, who will benefit from this subscription. Our donor hopes to contribute toward introducing the Turkish culture and values to students from other nationalities, at least, through this newspaper which has several pages in English. "The library has a very wide spectrum and immense number of subscriptions... When I realized that it did not have any Turkish media, I just did my part as a member and offered a subscription gift, and unexpectedly received great appreciation from the Library administration, especially from Mr. Daan Teague. As a Turkish community, I guarantee that our contributions to the library will continue.”

Book Sale

So please, oh please, we beg, we pray, Go throw your TV set away,
And in its place you can install A lovely bookshelf on the wall.

Go throw your TV set away,

So please, oh please, we beg, we pray, We want to buy your books again.

But please, oh please, we beg, we pray, We want your CDs and videos, too.

And in its place you can install A lovely bookshelf on the wall.

Thank you for your time, dedication, ingenuity, creativity, and good will.”

Donor Spotlight

William (Bill) Fidler worked in the UCF Library system from 1978 until his retirement in 2001. He began working at the Daytona Beach campus library, transferred to the main library in 1991, and eventually worked in Circulation, Cataloging, and Interlibrary Loan. In 1992 he began working in Acquisitions/Special Collections, where he worked until his retirement. It was during his time in these departments that he truly excelled in his hard work and dedication, proving himself to be an important asset to the Library. His devotion and dedication to his work showed in his knowledge of the Special Collection area, as well as the good rapport he always had with patrons, visitors, and exhibitors. The time and effort he devoted to the library exhibit displays proved instrumental to their success.

On the personal side, Bill loved reading and was by nature a very intelligent person and learner. His favorite subjects were history, genealogy, plants, nature, and the Orient. He loved helping people and went as far as learning Chinese and Latin to better serve the patrons who utilized Special Collections.

On the professional side, Bill had a wealth of knowledge and experience; he was a very important part of the Library. He was well known for his attention to detail, his wisdom, and his kindness. He was, without a doubt, a wonderful addition to the Library and will be missed by everyone who knew him.


Sincere gratitude goes out to UCF Alumni Dave Derrenbacker (‘86) and Tony Agolini (’02) for inviting the UCF Libraries to attend their alumni gathering in Stuart, FL on February 28. Guests enjoyed meeting representatives from the Libraries, Anne Marie Allison, on the occasion of Bill’s receiving the University’s Greatest Alumnus Award. "UCF Libraries, Anne Marie Allison, on the occasion of Bill’s receiving the University’s Greatest Alumnus Award.


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