



Volume 14, Issue 1



What's this we see in Lillie's office? Why it's the retention, tenure and promotion (RTP) files for Lisa, Julie, George, Reza, and Anne. The Editors think the RTP files should come standard with a back brace to reduce the chances of injury caused by lifting such hefty materials!

Editor's Note

Anne Bradley & Reza Peigahi

Welcome to the first issue of 2009! One of the editor's (we dare you to guess which one!) resolutions for 2009 is to crank out six entire issues this year, so look forward to that!

We'd also like to take this opportunity to welcome Tamara Frost Trujillo to the Reference Department.

Finally, enjoy this quiet time on campus for just a few more days. Soon the students will be back in force to remind us why we're all working here in the first place.

Interview with a Batt: Fred Batt, Reference Librarian

Anne Bradley, Reference Librarian

Six months ago Fred Batt became the newest member of the Reference Department. Knowing this was a big change from his previous duties, Reza Peigahi and I recently sat down with Fred to check in and find out how things are going six months into his latest assignment.

First we asked Fred what aspects of reference librarianship have changed since he last did reference work. Surprisingly or not, he reports that not much has changed in 20 years. Certainly, there is a huge focus on technology now, but the fundamental procedures of the reference interview remain the same. Of course, things *have* changed! The last time he was regularly working a reference desk he put in 20 hours a week, did mediated searching, and had to keep CD-ROM databases up and running. Can't say much of that happens around here.

We then asked Fred what the most difficult part of the transition was for him. He quickly responded instruction; specifically, going live with no backup. Back in the day, Fred would have transparencies and photocopies on hand in case technology failed. These days we just rely on technology working. Fred also mentioned he's leery of moving into an instruction environment where students are all on laptops. Working without a mouse, for example, may hinder a student's progress during an instruction session. For the most part, Fred is pleased with how his instruction sessions went last semester but there are always opportunities for improvement.

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**Celebrate our own Author!
Congratulations Margaret Keys!**

Linda Goff, Head of Instructional Services

When Margaret Keys saw a notice that ALA was soliciting articles about how libraries and librarians develop outreach partnerships to serve their users, instead of setting it aside to think about, [as I usually do], she actually sat down and wrote about her experience. **AND SHE ACTUALLY SENT IT IN!**

Maybe the difference is Margaret is a former English instructor? Happily, her submission was accepted and the editor asked her for more! The result is that two articles, about both her public and academic library experiences will appear in the ALA publication *Librarians as Community Partners: An Outreach Handbook* (2009). If you can't wait, Margaret has copies you can read now!

Connecting with the Community: Partnering to Deliver a Storytime Outreach

Academic Connections: A College Librarian Reaches Out to a Middle School



Ben Amata attempts to decipher the mysteries of the new Xerox machine which arrived (quite unexpectedly) in the Reference Office in January. Nothing says happy new year like a new piece of technology!

Our resident Epicurious Librarian, Debbie Rogenmoser, is on vacation for the month of January (lucky her!). Her column will return in the next issue of *Floor 2 Floor*. Remember, Debbie is currently looking forward to judging your lemon recipes.

Here's a little something to inspire you in that direction!



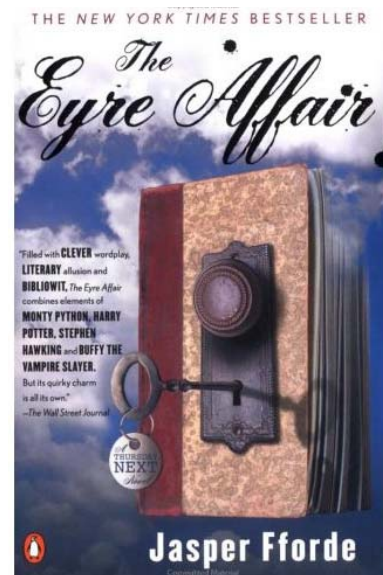
Recommended Read for January

The Eyre Affair by Jasper Fforde

Debbie Rogenmoser, *Working While on Vacationologist*

Monday was my book club meeting - I was the host this month and the book was my choice - *The Eyre Affair*. I was a little nervous because it is very different from what the group generally reads. I was so pleased that most really enjoyed it.

Let's see if I can describe the book...the protagonist is Tuesday Next, a Special Operative in Literary Detection. The time is 1985 (sort of) and the place is England. The world's Third Most Wanted criminal, Acheron Hades, and Jack Schitt, from the nefarious Goliath Corporation, have a super-weapon, a Plasma Rifle, that doesn't work. Goliath wants to make millions on arms sales and Hades just wants to cause havoc. The rifle can be fixed using the Prose Portal, invented by Thursday's uncle Mycroft. Hades takes Mycroft hostage and forces him to use the Prose Portal to kill characters from fiction. The first killed by Hades is a minor character from Martin Chuzzlewit (a Dickens novel.) Then he does the unthinkable...he uses the Prose Portal to kidnap Jane Eyre from the original manuscript. All over the world copies of the famous novel are changing to reflect Jane's absence from the book. Can Thursday and Edward Rochester save Jane? Will Hades be stopped before he destroys more fiction? Will the Crimean War ever end? (it is still being fought between England and Russia.) Can Thursday's father, a time traveling Chronoguard help?



Really this is the plot. And it is the first of four Thursday Next novels. Of the four, the last is the weakest, but still worth the time. Fforde has an amazing imagination and is very very clever. If you are a reader of fiction this series is for you! You will enjoy the way he mixes fictional characters with 'real' characters. His books contain literary allusions, clever word play, parody, genre mixing, etc. Give him a read.

Check out the Thursday Next web site (<http://www.thursdaynext.com/contents.html>) or Jasper Fforde's at <http://www.jasperfforde.com/>.



Continued from page 1: Interview with a Batt

We just had to ask Fred what his most difficult reference question to date has been. While there was a tricky one dealing with *Early English Books*, his most difficult question came from his very own area of music! Fred had to help a patron retrieve a specific musical piece from a "complete works set." Getting this piece involved decoding a mysterious indexing system used by the *New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians*.

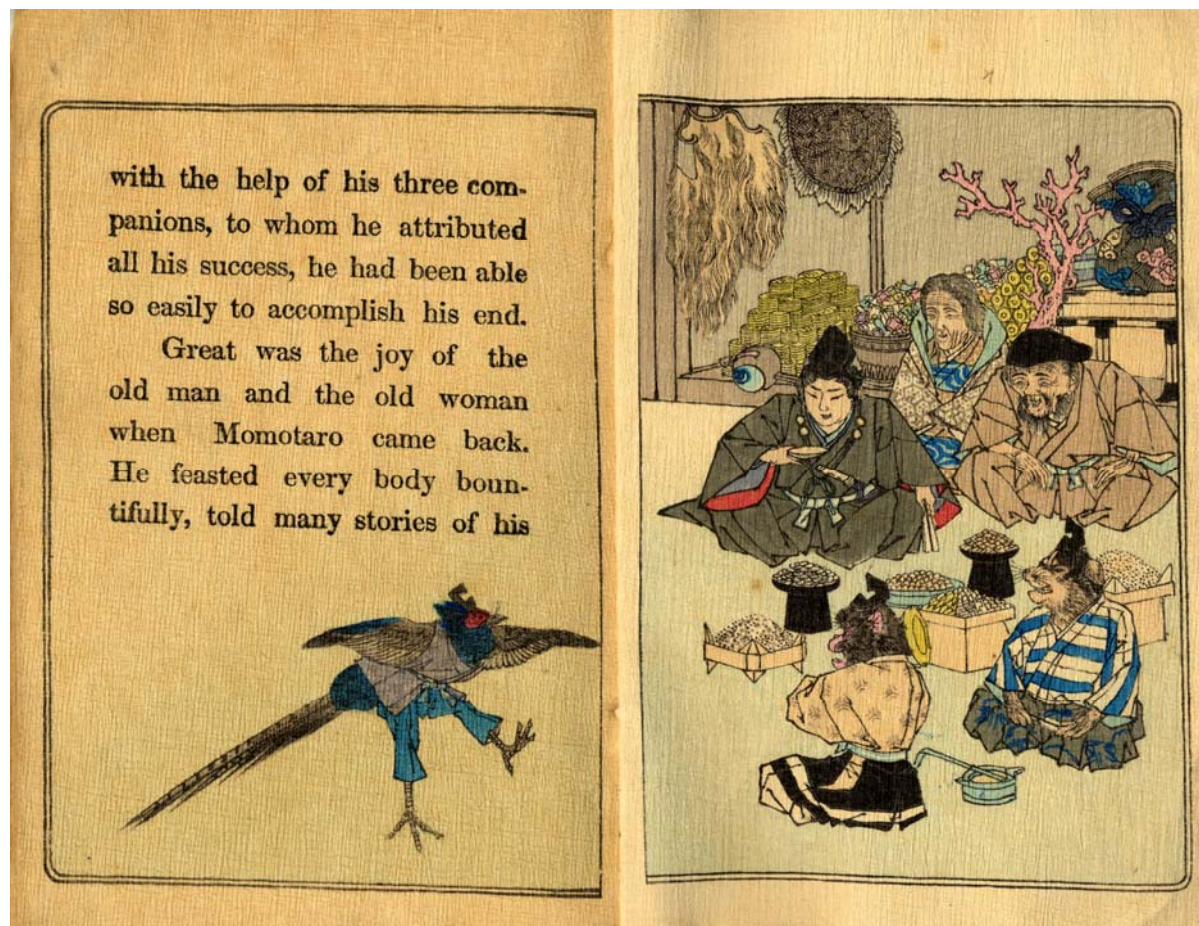
Overall, Fred is feeling good about being in Reference. He enjoys helping our students and patrons and likes how technology has really added to his ability to do this. He says it's very satisfying to do a practice search with a student and immediately deliver (via email) useful results. Finally, Fred is pleased with the collaborative nature his Reference colleagues. He's happy both faculty and staff are willing to help out, share ideas, and generally be supportive. And if Fred's happy, the rest of us are happy too.

Archival Gem
Japanese Fairy Tale Series by Takejiro Hasegawa

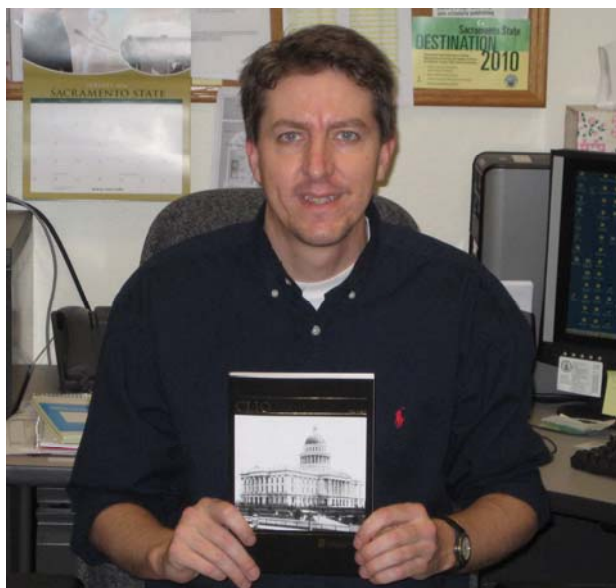
Julie Thomas, Special Collections and University Archives

Taking advantage of the popularity of books about Japan written in English, Takejiro Hasegawa (1853-1938) began producing a series of Japanese Fairy Tales in 1885 which were translated into English. Initially, his intent was to sell the books to Japanese people who were interested in learning English, but he discovered that the books were more popular with Westerners. After printing the first volumes on plain paper with black and white illustrations, Hasegawa decided to print the books on crepe-paper (*Chirimen-bon*). Hasegawa believed that the crepe-paper was "distinctive, exotic, and most appealing to Western tastes." Additionally, it was durable enough to withstand the wear-and-tear of use by children. He also began using color woodblocks for his illustrations. In the style of the West, Hasegawa separated the images and text into distinct areas; whereas the text would have been printed over the images in Japanese printing. For the next forty years, Hasegawa continued to print color woodblock illustrated books and calendars. It appears that most of his books were produced in limited amounts, generally four to five hundred at a run.

The Department of Special Collections and University Archives was extremely fortunate to receive a donation of an almost complete set of the first series of the Japanese Fairy Tales. This series consisted of 20 volumes and we own all of them except for nos. 3 and 20. According to WorldCat, only three other libraries own this set. The books not only stand alone as beautiful examples of late 19th and early 20th century color woodcut *Chirimen-bon*, but they make a wonderful complement to the Japanese cultural artifacts in the Japanese American Archival Collection.



Interior of Vol. 1 *Momotaro*, [p. 16-17]



**Celebrate our own Editor!
Congratulations Charles Roberts!**

Mary Reddick, Head of OLCS

Congratulations to Charles Brown-Roberts, LOCUS ITC, for winning national honors for his work on *Clío*. Charles is the Executive Editor of *Clío*, the annual publication of the Sacramento State Rho Xi chapter of Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society. *Clío* has been awarded second prize in the 2008 Gerald D. Nash History Journal Award, an annual competition among the nation's 870 chapters for best student-produced history journal.



Charleen Faggella and Jennifer Ware hard at work prioritizing weaknesses (looks like enjoyable work to us!) at the Library wide Strategic Planning Meeting on January 13, 2009.



Floor 2 Floor

Editors: Anne Bradley & Reza Peigahi

And, it's a wrap folks! Julie Thomas, coming in at #24, is our final Library Employee Trading Card Series 1.0! **Thank you all who participated.** Details on LETC Series 2.0 will be coming in the next issue of *Floor 2 Floor*!

Floor to Floor is an infrequently published newsletter of the University Library at Sacramento State University for the communication and enjoyment of faculty, staff and students.