

LIBRARY REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

# Libra

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Fall 2012

This Dunhuang manuscript scroll is held by the University of Chicago Library. An expert from the National Library of China examined the manuscript during the *Texting China* symposium and suggested that it dates back to the seventh century.

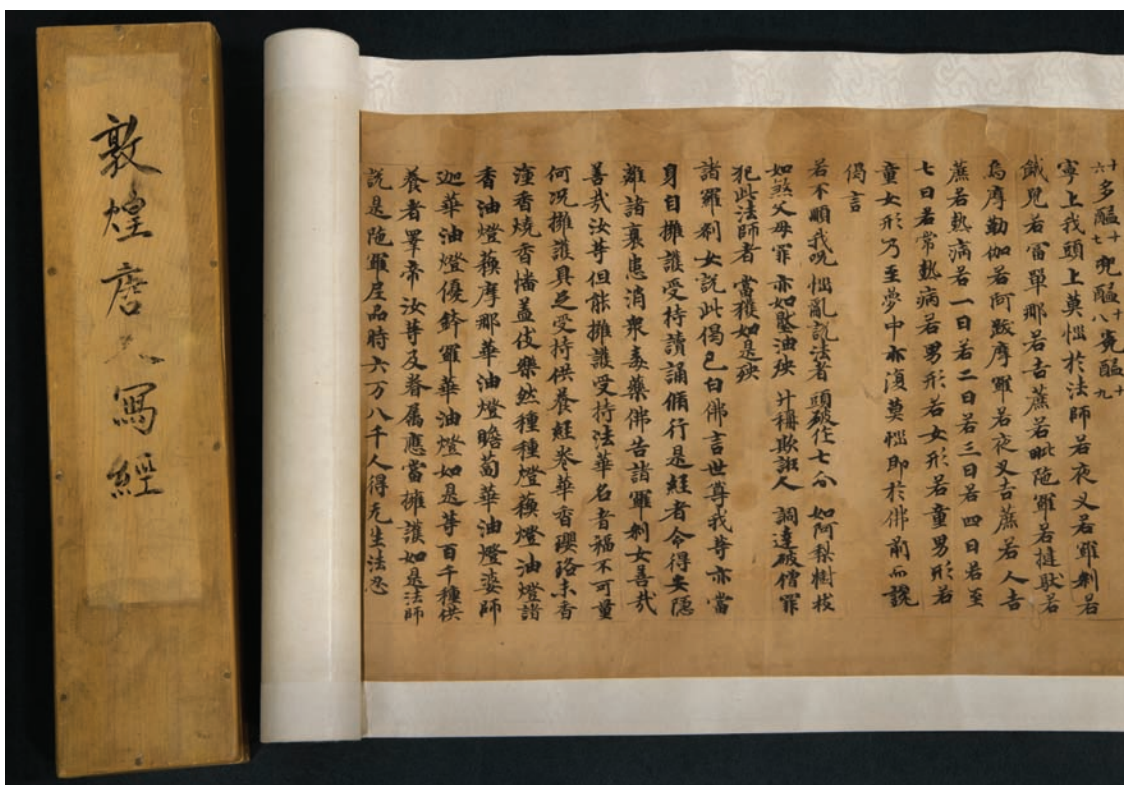


PHOTO BY MICHAEL KENNY

## The Library's Global Reach

From the hosting of the *Texting China* symposium to the digitization of Library holdings to the exhibition of international histories and religious treasures, the Library did much to collect, preserve, and promote the use of its global collections in 2011-12 and continues to do so as the new academic year begins.

### *Global Collections and New Appointments*

Forty-five percent of the Library's collections are in non-English languages and published outside the United States, supporting University of Chicago faculty research with a global impact and making the Library a mecca for international scholars. Areas of special strength include East Asia, South Asia, the Middle East, and Slavic and Eastern Europe.

To complement its resources, the Library builds foreign area studies collections jointly with the Center for Research Libraries (CRL) and provides access to CRL's international collections of foreign dissertations, global newspapers, and scholarly journals.

Since June 2011, several Library appointments were made to strengthen collection building and access in the Library's South Asia and East Asia operations, including a Chinese studies librarian; a Korean studies librarian; and an assistant South Asia librarian.

### *International Scholars and Librarians*

In 2011-12, 9,610 visiting researchers unaffiliated with the University used the Library. Some came

*Continued on page 4*

news.lib.uchicago.edu



# A Partnership in 3D

By Barbara Kern, Co-Director, Science Libraries Division, The University of Chicago Library; and Nicholas Labello, Scientific Computing Consultant, and Robin Weiss, Research Programmer, Research Computing Center

Partnerships strengthen the Library. And when those partnerships produce cutting-edge digital renderings of brain tumors in a larger-than-life 3-dimensional environment, or 3D renderings from historical stereo cards in the Special Collections Research Center, or visualizations of the output of cosmological and chemical simulations, the entire research and teaching enterprise at the University is strengthened.

Such is the partnership between the Library and the Research Computing Center (RCC). This successful collaboration couples the technical expertise of RCC staff with high-end 3D visualization technology in the Kathleen A. Zar Room at the John Crerar Library. The end result is an initiative that supports innovative research, teaching, and learning opportunities for faculty, staff, and students at UChicago.

Established in late 2011, the RCC provides researchers with high-performance computing, storage, and visualization resources. In addition to providing the fundamental building blocks of computational research, the RCC also offers scientific computing support, consultation with computing specialists, and an ongoing technical workshop and training series. These offerings extend to fields in the humanities, and the biological, physical, and social sciences.

With the rise of Big Data, visualization can make data-analysis more practical. “Our vision for the Research Computing Center is to create an environment that inspires interdisciplinary science and collaboration, and so becomes the destination for research computing support,” says H. Birali Runesha, the Director of Research Computing. “Computational research traditionally involves interacting with resources that are remote in both space and time. Calculations are submitted to high-performance computers that may be thousands of miles away, and could run for a long time. By partnering with the Library, we have been able to create an environment where high-end computation and the resulting data can be interacted with directly, in the Kathleen A. Zar Room.”

In creating the Library’s Kathleen A. Zar Room, the importance of 3D visualization and maximizing technology for research was at the forefront of our design

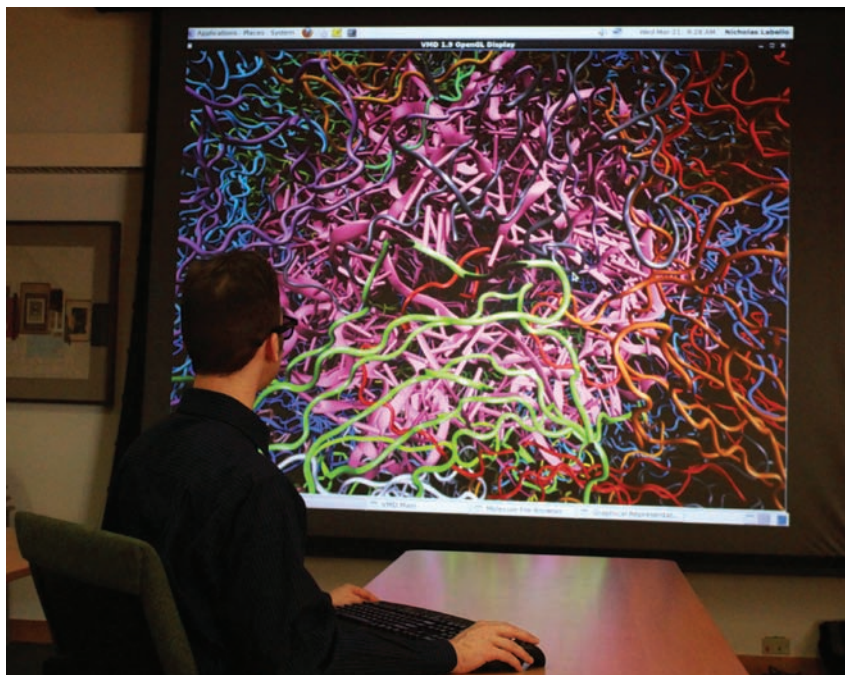


PHOTO BY NICHOLAS LABELLO

Researchers can interact with large data sets and high-performance computers directly from the Zar Room.

initiative. Established in 2008, the Zar Room was designed to contain cutting-edge technology, including stereoscopic 3D projectors that have mesmerized many with displays of 3D images.

By combining the technology in the Zar Room with the expertise of the RCC, researchers have an opportunity to explore how visualization can bring insight and innovation to their research and teaching. One of the first faculty members to take advantage of the Zar Room, Dr. Jonathan Silverstein, used the new technology for an Immersive Virtual Anatomy course taught to College students at UChicago, and simulcast via the AccessGrid to students 3,831 miles away in Cardiff, Wales.

This year, the technologies available in the Zar Room enabled researchers working with Dr. Paul Sereno of the Department of Organismal Biology to build digital 3D reconstructions of dinosaur fossil specimens, and in a recent collaboration between the RCC and Professors John and Stephanie Cacioppo from the Center for Cognitive and Social Neuroscience, 3D interrogation of X-Ray CT imagery was used to discover and better understand the structure of lesions found in neural tissue.

In addition, the Library and RCC have used the Zar Room as a venue for seminars and workshops related to technology apart from visualization. Examples of such sessions include tutorials on GPU computing, the fundamentals of Unix, Matlab, Python, and Parallel programming with MPI.

Since partnering with the Library, the RCC has made upgrades to the Zar Room including establishing a connection to Midway, the RCC’s High Performance Computing cluster. This downlink enables results from computations running on Midway to be streamed live to the Zar Room for visualization and post-processing, thereby enabling interactive supercomputing and simulation.

For more information about high-performance computing, data storage, visualization technology and the Zar Room, faculty may email the RCC at [info@rcc.uchicago.edu](mailto:info@rcc.uchicago.edu) or call 773-795-2667.

The Kathleen A. Zar Room was created to honor the memory of Kathleen A. Zar, Science Librarian and Assistant Director for the Science Libraries from 1994-2006. It was made possible through the generosity of Kathleen’s husband, Howard Zar; her mother, Margaret Sykora; the John Crerar Foundation; and many friends.

# British Library Awards UChicago £52,247 Grant to Preserve Endangered Urdu Periodicals

The University of Chicago has been awarded a £52,247 grant from the British Library's Endangered Archives Programme, funded by Arcadia, for the digitization and preservation of 60 rare and endangered Urdu language periodicals. With the grant, digital images of magazines and journals will be produced at the Mushfiq Khwaja Library and Research Centre in Karachi, Pakistan, and made available through the University of Chicago Library and the British Library, giving scholars access to a significant archive of the most important Urdu periodicals from the 19th and 20th centuries.

"Without a doubt, Urdu periodicals published between the 1870s and 1940s are of critical importance for anyone doing research in the humanities or social sciences concerning the Urdu-phone populations of India and Pakistan," says Professor Emeritus C.M. Naim, who taught Urdu in the Department of South Asian Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago.

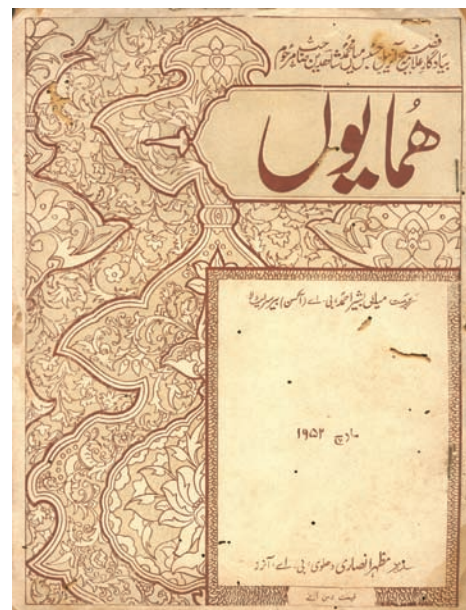
Urdu was the lingua franca in much of the subcontinent during the 19th century and Urdu periodicals provide a broad spectrum of writings on a range of important issues in South Asia through the 19th and 20th centuries, making their preservation invaluable for scholars of the language and the region.

"Thanks to the easy technology and low cost of litho printing, the only accepted form for Urdu script texts across South Asia, Urdu weeklies and monthlies began to appear in the 1870s," Naim explains. "It was in the periodicals that all major modern writers and political and social figures made their debuts and gained popularity. And it is only in the periodicals that we can discover the full extent of many literary and political controversies that are only now beginning to gain the attention of scholars."

A panel of internationally recognized Urdu scholars, including Naim, will select the periodicals to be archived. The selected titles will be preserved by creating high-resolution digital page images.

The Mushfiq Khwaja Library and Research Centre, which is owned and managed by the University of Chicago Library on behalf of a consortium of U.S. research libraries, houses one of the finest collections of Urdu periodicals in the world, making it an ideal location for the project. James Nye, University of Chicago Library Bibliographer for Southern Asia and Principal Investigator for the project, acquired the collection for

*Salā'e ām*, a highly influential periodical, was published from 1908 through 1929 from Delhi. It is held in the The Mushfiq Khwaja Library and Research Centre.



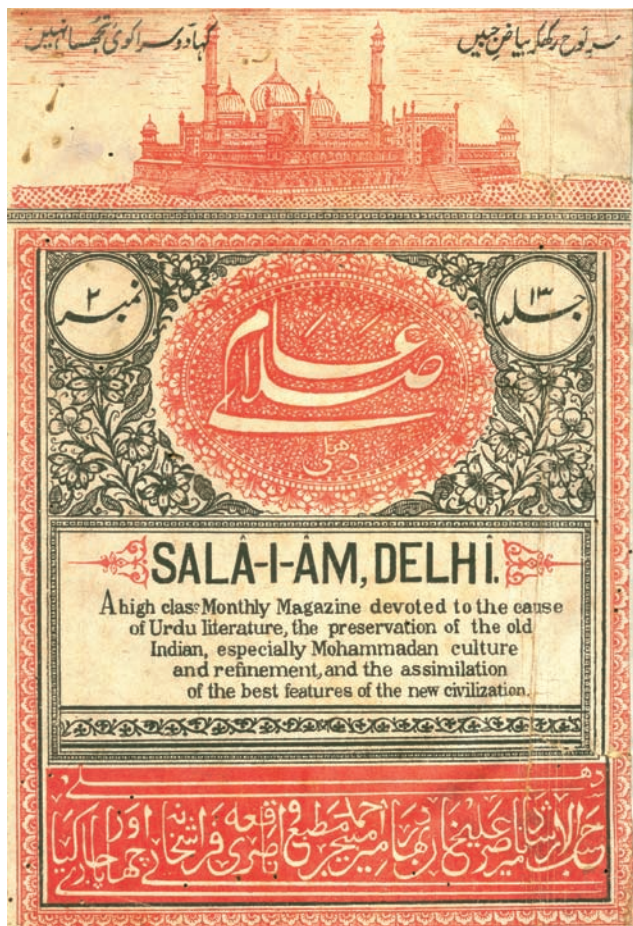
*Humāyūn* was a prominent monthly literary magazine produced in Lahore from 1922 and continuing into the 1950s.

the consortium. He noted that "this project is a testament to what is possible through the University's collaboration with our colleagues in Pakistan and India. The teamwork will benefit scholars around the world through free access to invaluable primary research resources."

Nasir Javaid, the Mushfiq Khwaja Library and Research Centre Executive Director, will lead digitization activities in Pakistan. As a byproduct of the project, best practices for conservation and digitization will be disseminated to collaborating institutions across Pakistan and India.

Digital images will be archived by the British Library and the University of Chicago Library, and disseminated via the Digital South Asia Library and the HathiTrust Digital Library. Digital and paper copies of the periodicals will be cataloged and made visible via OCLC's WorldCat and the South Asia Union Catalogue.

For more information about the Endangered Archives Programme, visit <http://eap.bl.uk/>.



## Library's Global Reach

Continued from page 1

to conduct research individually. Others came to work cooperatively, such as those attending the international symposium *Texting China—Composition, Transmission, and Preservation of Pre-Modern Chinese Textual Materials*. More than 100 scholars of pre-modern China, curators of Chinese research library collections, and preservation experts from China, Taiwan, the U.S., Canada, and Europe shared their expertise for three days at Regenstein and Mansueto libraries. The Library, the Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations, and the Center for East Asian Studies collaborated to plan the conference.

The Library's **Robert L. Platzman Memorial Fellowships** program supports visiting researchers whose work requires on-site consultation of Library archives and manuscripts. The Library awarded 14 fellowships in 2012 and another 13 fellowships for the 2012-13 academic year, bringing the total to 57 since the Fellowships were founded in 2006. Recipients come

Ready access to extensive collections throughout the Library system will be an invaluable underpinning for the work of scholars from around the world who take advantage of the University's new **Collegium for Culture and Society**.

### *Worldwide Discovery and Access to Library Resources Online*

In partnership with Google through the Committee on Institutional Cooperation, we have digitized more than 100,000 Library volumes including 21,000 volumes in the public domain that are now available to scholars worldwide. Additional local digitization projects managed by the Library open our special and unique collections to the world.

The Library is currently taking a leadership role in the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation-funded project to plan a portal to the Chicago-focused historical collections in 14 area museums, universities and libraries that make up the **Chicago Collections Consortium (CCC)**. The purpose of this Chicago Portal is to enable free and open access through a single search site to collections documenting the history

will be a boon to scholarship here and around the world.

### *Exhibitions*

Exhibitions—in Regenstein and Crerar libraries and in online web exhibits—make the library's rich and unique global resources available to local and international audiences. Five exhibits were offered in the Special Collections Research Center Exhibition Gallery in Regenstein in 2011-12, drawing over 10,000 visitors, and the Library is hosting two exhibitions (see page 6) featuring holdings from abroad this fall: *Transcending Tradition: Jewish Mathematicians in German-Speaking Academic Culture* at the John Crerar Library and *Swiss Treasures: From Biblical Papyrus and Parchment to Erasmus, Zwingli, Calvin, and Barth* at the Special Collections Research Center.



PHOTO BY JASON SMITH

Researchers, curators, and preservation experts from around the world applaud a speaker at the *Texting China* symposium.

from the U.S., Canada, Mexico, Britain and Germany. Those coming in 2012-13 will consult materials such as the papers of Joachim Wach, Melchior Palyi, Stephen A. Douglas, Robert M. Hutchins, and Harriet Monroe; 18th- and 19th-century books on midwifery; Batak manuscripts from Sumatra; and the Lincke Collection of German Popular Literature.

and culture of the Chicago region. This web-based portal will provide access to descriptive information about the many Chicago-related research resources held by CCC members. It will also provide access to the digitized versions of the contents of these collections when available. Integrating our rich UChicago-based collections with those of the other participating members

## At Your Fingertips: Online Resources

### **LIBRARY NEWS ONLINE**

The Library offers news on our website and through social media, including two new Facebook pages launched this fall:

### **LIBRARY NEWS SITE**

The University of Chicago  
Library News  
[news.lib.uchicago.edu](http://news.lib.uchicago.edu)



### **ON FACEBOOK**

The University of Chicago Library  
[facebook.com/uchicagolibrary](https://facebook.com/uchicagolibrary)  
*New this fall*

University of Chicago Special  
Collections Research Center  
[facebook.com/uchicagosrc](https://facebook.com/uchicagosrc)  
*New this fall*

D'Angelo Law Library  
[facebook.com/dangelolawlibrary](https://facebook.com/dangelolawlibrary)



### **ON TWITTER**

The John Crerar Library  
[@CrerarLibrary](https://twitter.com/CrerarLibrary)

### **ON YOUTUBE**

The University of Chicago Library  
[youtube.com/uchicagolibrary](https://youtube.com/uchicagolibrary)  
*News and instructional videos*

**Andrew Abbott**, *Chair; Gustavus F. & Ann M. Swift Distinguished Service Professor, Department of Sociology and the College, Senior Fellow, Computation Institute*

**Robert Bird**, *Associate Professor, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures and the College*

**Jason Bridges**, *Associate Professor & Director of Undergraduate Studies, Department of Philosophy and the College*

**Bradin Cormack**, *Associate Professor, Department of English Language and Literature, Director, Nicholson Center for British Studies*

**Richard Kron**, *Professor, Department of Astronomy and Astrophysics, and the College; Fermilab: Experimental Astrophysics Group*

**Kathleen D. Morrison**, *Neukom Family Professor, Department of Anthropology and the College*

**Anne Walters Robertson**, *Claire Dux Swift Distinguished Service Professor, Department of Music and the College*

**James T. Robinson**, *Associate Professor, Divinity School*

**Mindy Schwartz**, *Associate Professor of Medicine*

**Katherine Fischer Taylor**, *Associate Professor, Department of Art History and the College*

**Mauricio Tenorio**, *Professor, Department of History and the College; Director, Center for Latin American Studies*

**Ruey Tsay**, *H.G.B. Alexander Professor of Econometrics and Statistics, Booth School of Business*

#### EX OFFICIO

**Robert J. Zimmer**, *President and Trustee of the University; Professor, Department of Mathematics and Physical Sciences Collegiate Division*

**Thomas F. Rosenbaum**, *Provost of the University; John T. Wilson Distinguished Service Professor, Department of Physics, James Franck Institute, and the College*

**Garrett Kiely**, *Director, University of Chicago Press*

**Klara Jelinkova**, *Associate Vice President & Chief Information Technology Officer, IT Services*

**Judith Nadler**, *Director and University Librarian*

**Diana Jergovic**, *Associate Provost for Academic and Budgetary Initiatives*

## To Make a Difference

*By Judith Nadler, Director and University Librarian*

**W**hen I embarked the Viking Legend this summer on a Danube tour from Budapest to Passau, I was looking forward to revisiting cultures and places I once called my home. Beyond phone and email, I was resolved not to make this a working vacation. The memories, the landscape, and the people seemed conducive to my resolve.

But—not for long. Through walking tours, lectures, and formal and informal presentations we learned from and about each other, and soon I was tempted to talk about the Library.

How do you engage people from different backgrounds, ages, and stages in life in issues that are close to your heart but not necessarily to theirs? How do you capture and sustain their interest in exploring the ways in which the Library can make a difference at a University that is already great? How do you convey that much is needed to enable the Library to make an even greater difference?

I let numbers tell my story as I pointed to the Library fact sheet on my iPad.

The University of Chicago Library is the 9th largest research library in North America; it provides 10.7 million volumes in print and electronic form, 48,252 linear feet of archives and manuscripts, and 107.6 TB of University electronic archives and research data. These figures impressed my new-found friends. But more impressive were numbers that convey the magnitude of services we offer: 333,630 volumes circulated to 14,414 unique individuals; 12,359 Scan & Deliver requests; 5.6 million successful responses to full-text article requests; 21,248 questions to reference librarians; 4,000+ attendees at training sessions.

Our rich and distinctive collections reflect a history of generous budgets to support their strength, but we are falling behind in sustaining this strength with current budgets. The exponential growth of electronic resources raises the expectation and demand for more such resources at a time when traditional and electronic resources coexist and compete for limited budgets. Technology brings exciting changes for collections and services, and by not taking advantage of their full potential we are falling behind in serving our users. Teaching and training in the use of collections in an increasingly complex research environment presume staff time and expertise beyond what we can afford.

And I let pictures color my story: a breathtaking and awe-inspiring rendering of the Mansueto Library filled the screen; an underground storage capacity to accommodate collection growth of 3,500,000 printed volumes; a conservation laboratory for physical repair and a digitization laboratory to digitize collections for preservation and access; a soaring glass dome embracing the magnificent space to create the Joe and Rika Mansueto Library—a structure of programmatic and architectural vision of the future.

The spaces and programs of the Mansueto Library enable the expansion and easy retrieval of collections, their preservation for future generations of users, and their digitization for access around the world. Our services support the education of the brightest of students and attract and retain the greatest of faculty, but these services must be sustained and expanded to new initiatives, if we are to continue to excel.

And in the resounding applause there was recognition for what a great Library can do for an already great University.

Expanding opportunities within limited budgets will require that tough choices be made. We will make these choices informed by impact and guided by the principle that the more we invest in what matters, the greater the difference we can make.



The more we invest in what matters, the greater the difference we can make.



# Exhibitions

## SWISS TREASURES

*From Biblical Papyrus and Parchment to Erasmus, Zwingli, Calvin, and Barth*

The Special Collections Research Center  
Exhibition Gallery

September 21 – December 14, 2012

Situated in the heart of Europe, Switzerland has long been a center for biblical studies and transformative contributions to Judeo-Christian culture. This exhibition explores the importance of Swiss religious influences across a range of traditions and historical personalities, among them Erasmus, Zwingli, John Calvin, and Karl Barth. Papyri, parchments, first editions, early printings, and modern manuscripts represent treasures in Swiss institutions that link these and other religious thinkers to the philosophical, theological, and political movements that have shaped the modern world.



## TRANSCENDING TRADITION

*Jewish Mathematicians in German-Speaking Academic Culture*

The John Crerar Library, 1st Floor — October 4 – December 18, 2012

This international exhibition presents the life and works of Jewish mathematicians in Germany. Spanning a period of 150 years, it documents their emergence from segregation into the academic limelight, recalls their emigration, flight or death after 1933, and illuminates their lasting legacies. Learn more at [tt.lib.uchicago.edu](http://tt.lib.uchicago.edu).



## ON THE EDGE

*Medieval Margins and the Margins of Academic Life*

Web Exhibit: [lib.uchicago.edu/e/webexhibits/ontheedge/](http://lib.uchicago.edu/e/webexhibits/ontheedge/)

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the publication of *Image on the Edge: The Margins of Medieval Art* by University of Chicago art history professor Michael Camille (1958-2002), a work that looks at the playful and parodic images in the margins of illuminated manuscripts. Inspired by Camille's work, this exhibition explores the symmetry between medieval margins and the modern margins of academic life. *On the Edge* features medieval manuscript marginalia paired with student photographs that capture the margins of campus life.

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OF CHICAGO LIBRARY  
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Libra can be found online at [www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/libra](http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/libra).

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**Design** The Barn Company



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