

## MILLSTEIN MATTERS

FALL 2010

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## “EVEN TODAY A FEW PEOPLE HAVE HEARD OF CHAUCER”

Recently the quote above was making the rounds on my Facebook page. A faculty colleague of mine found this somewhere, and it is reputed to be the actual opening statement of a student writing a paper about Chaucer.

After alternately groaning and laughing, I pondered this and decided to poll some of my work study students at the library. “Do you know who Chaucer is?” The response was mixed. Most did not know who he (or she) was but did remember the “Canterbury Tales” from elementary school!

So apparently Chaucer is no longer taught at the high school level and has been relegated to the elementary school? Since I am not an English Literature professor, or high school teacher I am not sure what this all means, or if this has any validity, but I am heartened to report that PittcatPLUS records over 3000 entries for Chaucer, and even Wikipedia calls him the “father of English literature.” Apparently we have our work cut out for us. Maybe the Canterbury Tales could be a new mini-series on HBO??

—Pat Duck, pmd1@pitt.edu

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH  
**ULS**  
UNIVERSITY LIBRARY SYSTEM

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## RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY

A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held on Thursday, Sept. 30 at 4:00 p.m. to officially open the new renovations to the Millstein Library. The renovations include: the new outdoor patio, circulation desk improvements, new psychology lab, and new group study rooms. Presenting remarks at the ceremony were UPG President Dr. Sharon Smith, Library Director Dr. Patricia Duck, Psychology Professor Dr. Kristen Asplin, and UPG Board Member Mr. Michael Lordi, Esq.



Cutting the ribbon from left: Michael Lordi, Sharon Smith, Jack Millstein, Patricia Duck, and Kristen Asplin.

## I THOUGHT I COULD FLY

The photographic exhibition *I Thought I Could Fly* was displayed on the first floor of the Millstein Library from Sept. 7 through Oct. 14. The exhibit was sponsored by the Friends of the Millstein Library.

*I Thought I Could Fly* is a traveling exhibition organized by the American Jewish Museum (AJM), showcasing work by acclaimed

photographer Charlee Brodsky. *I Thought I Could Fly* pairs Brodsky's photographs with personal narratives by individuals whose lives are affected in some way by mental illness. Brodsky's black and white photos portray metaphorical images based on the narratives to capture the essence of each experience. Throughout the exhibit, photos and text work

together to destigmatize mental illness. An intriguing supplement to the exhibition is a 13-minute documentary film based on *I Thought I Could Fly*. The film integrates Brodsky's photographs with interviews of people whose narratives are included in the exhibit, bringing their personal experiences to life. For more information, visit [www.iccpgh.org](http://www.iccpgh.org).



## FRIENDS OF THE MILLSTEIN LIBRARY

The Friends of the Millstein Library are alumni, retired and current faculty and staff members, students, and members of the community who are interested in promoting and supporting the library and its activities.

The group offers an annual \$500 scholarship to a UPG senior majoring in library or information science.

Anyone may join the Millstein Friends. There are various categories:

**Pitt Alumni** who have graduated from any campus may become a Friend of the Millstein Library for only \$10 per year.

**Friend** is a member of the community or a graduate of another institution for \$25 per year.

**Family** (up to four members of a family) may become a friend of the library for \$50 per year.

As a Friend of the Millstein Library, you will have access to approximately 100,000 items in the library, including books, CDs, and DVDs. For more information, go to: <http://www.library.pitt.edu/green/friends.html>

The *Read 'N Squeeze Lemonade Stand* is now open on the first floor of the library on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10:00 am-2:00 pm.

## DEVIL'S NIGHT

On Thursday, Oct. 28 from 7:30-9:30 p.m., the Millstein Library and Sigma Tau Delta, the English Honor Society, will hold the annual Devil's Night Halloween Festivities on the second floor of the library. Students and faculty members will read their favorite scary stories and bring Halloween treats.

Prizes will also be given out for best readings and costumes. All Pitt-Greensburg students are welcome to participate in the readings and costume contest. The event is co-sponsored by Sigma Tau Delta and the Friends of the Millstein Library.



## NEW MATERIALS

NOTE: ACCESS TO ULS DATABASES IS RESTRICTED TO CURRENT PITT FACULTY, STAFF, AND STUDENTS

### ULS Databases

*IBISWorld*

*International Bibliography of Art*

### Books at UPG

*Vampire Forensics*

*The Politics of Cocaine*

*Country Path Conversations*

*Triumvirate*

*Black Ops*

*Mad as Hell*

*Superbug*

*Numbers Rule*

*Psychedelic*

### DVDs at UPG

*District 9*

*Food, Inc.*

*The Botany of Desire*

*King Corn*

*When Worlds Collide*

*The Buddha*

*The Headless Woman*

*Eminem:*

*Live from New York City*



## MEET THE STUDENT WORKERS

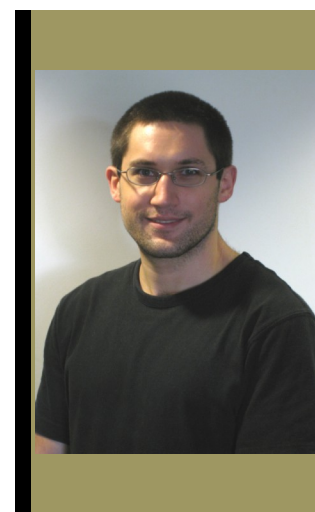
John Kopko began a work-study position at the Millstein Library early this summer. Prior to that, he served as a Resident Assistant at College Hall. John is currently a senior at Pitt-Greensburg, working on a Biology major. He plans on entering medical or osteopathic school next year, and wants to specialize in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. Feeling at home in the lab, he may

alternately specialize in disease research.

In addition to his studies, John is passionate about the martial arts. He is a first degree black belt in Tae-Kwon-Do, and an assistant instructor at Diamond Karate in Mt. Pleasant. He teaches both children and adults of all ages and skill levels. Besides karate, John enjoys cross-

country running and lifting weights to stay in shape.

During the fall season, John also loves all things Halloween — parties, haunted houses, hayrides, pumpkin carving, apple cider, and scary movies. “If I fail as a doctor, I’ll probably be the Halloween guy,” he said.



## FEATURED MOVIES IN THE LIBRARY

One of the most critically-acclaimed science fiction movies in recent years, *District 9* is now available on DVD in the Millstein Library. The film was nominated for four Academy Awards in 2010, including Best Editing, Best Visual Effects, Best Adapted Screenplay, and Best Picture.

*District 9*, which features a mostly unknown cast, opens and closes with documentary-style footage, giving the story a more authentic feel. The lead character, Wikus Van Der Merwe, is played by Sharlto Copley in his first film role. The metaphorical and action-packed plot follows a group of aliens stranded in poverty

in South Africa, and the group of humans led by Wikus trying to evict them to a new camp. Wikus becomes infected with an alien substance and learns firsthand what it’s like to be an alien. The excellent CGI special effects also add to the film’s realism.

