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Museletter: November 2010

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NOT YOUR EVERYDAY LEGAL RESEARCH: POP YEH YEH RESEARCH
by Suzanne Corriell

Many students and faculty benefit daily from the tireless efforts of Carl Hamm, the Law Library’s Multimedia Specialist. However, unbeknownst to many, Carl has a jet-setting alter ego, DJ Carlito. Under the guise of DJ Carlito, Carl spins Bollywood music regularly at Cous Cous, DJs on WRIR, and travelled to Malaysia and Singapore in the summer of 2010 to research vintage Malaysian Pop (a.k.a. Pop Yeh Yeh) artists of the 1960s and '70s.

Carl’s interest in Malaysian Pop began in 2002, when he began purchasing 45s of Singaporean and Malaysian music. He admits that he “knew nothing about these artists,” buying the albums because of the colorful psychedelic covers rather than the content. Normally, librarians would cringe and call that “judging a book by its cover” – however, Carl became enamored with this incredible music and its culture.

After collecting over two hundred albums and reaching out to fellow Pop Yeh Yeh followers on the Internet, Carl realized it was time to make the trip to Malaysia. He intended to meet with many of these artists, hoping to receive their approval to develop a compilation CD to digitally re-master and re-release hits by dozens of these artists. He planned to speak with many of these artists to hear their memories, hoping to create a documentary from the video and audio footage. His ultimate goal: “I want people all over the world to fall in love with this incredible music. For those who already know about Pop Yeh Yeh, I want to try to help preserve some of the history of this era in a creative and inspiring way.”

In order to fund his three-week trip, Carl turned to Kickstarter. Kickstarter is a funding platform for creative projects – people state their plans in the area of music, film, art, and other creative fields – and other people who believe in those projects donate money to the cause, often receiving rewards or recognition from the project founder. The fundraising goal must be reached before any money changes hands.

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Armed with addresses and phone numbers of several prominent artists and music promoters from that era, Carl left for Singapore on July 1. Then the whirlwind began. Over the next several weeks, Carl personally met nearly twenty of these artists, plus bandmembers, diehard fans, and industry folks. He not only spoke with artists and heard them perform – he was also pulled on-stage at concerts, interviewed by local radio stations, invited to (and attended) baby showers, and stuffed with Malaysian food and drink. In the process, he interviewed nearly every single one of these artists and brought back over thirty hours of raw video footage of his stay in Malaysia. Next, he is planning to begin editing this footage for the documentary.

In striving to collect the memories of the 1960s Pop Yeh Yeh movement, Carl created timeless memories of his own: “The wonderful people I met in Malaysia and Singapore gave me so much help and encouragement and offered me so many opportunities to learn about this amazing era in music as well as the present-day culture. I feel grateful and humbled by this experience. I hope to create something positive and meaningful from this trip and all the inspiration I have brought back with me.”

For more information on the Pop Yeh Yeh research project, please visit: http://menarigogo.blogspot.com/

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**Holiday & Exam Hours Begin November 24**

**Thanksgiving Break (November 23—November 27, 2010)**

Tuesday, November 23 7:30 a.m.—6 p.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 24—Sat., Nov. 27 CLOSED

**Fall Study & Examination Period (November 28—December 16, 2010)**

Monday—Thursday 7:30 a.m.—Midnight*

Friday 7:30 a.m.—9:00 p.m.*

Saturday 9:00 a.m.—9:00 p.m.*

Sunday 10:00 a.m.—Midnight*

*24-HOUR ACCESS FOR LAW STUDENTS ONLY.

Closed to the public on weekdays after 5:00 p.m. The Circulation Desk staff will maintain its regular schedule during this period. Please make reserve requests and check out other materials by the above times.

**Winter Break (December 17, 2010—Saturday, January 8, 2011)**

Friday, December 17 7:30 a.m.—6 p.m.

Sat., Dec. 18 & Sun., Dec. 19 CLOSED

Mon., Dec. 20—Thurs., Dec. 23 7:30 a.m.—6 p.m.

Fri., Dec. 24—Sun., Jan. 2 CLOSED

Mon., Jan. 3—Fri., Jan. 7 7:30 a.m.—6:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 8 CLOSED

Sunday, January 9 Resume regular hours
New Faces at the Law Library

Jessica Buttes is the Law Library’s Public Services Assistant. Ms. Buttes handles administrative assistant responsibilities supporting librarians and assists with other reference and research services duties, including special collections, publications, and the library’s government publications depository. Ms. Buttes has a B.A. in History from the University of Kentucky and a Master’s in Social Work from the University of Louisville. Prior to coming to Richmond, Ms. Buttes worked as a Program Assistant in the Northwestern University Office of Development and Alumni Relations in Evanston, IL.

Tina Dalton is the new Law Library Associate for Cataloging, working to ensure that library materials are properly cataloged and classified. Ms. Dalton has a B.A. in History from the University of Illinois and a Master’s in Library and Information Science from Drexel University. Ms. Dalton served as a Junior Fellow intern at the Library of Congress in the Asian Division, where she cataloged and archived collections of Indo-Aryan and Burmese-Pali manuscripts. In addition to that experience, she has held various administrative assistant positions. She also spends time as a volunteer with the Cub Scouts and enjoys reading science fiction.

Sarah Maitland is a Library Assistant in Technical Services. Ms. Maitland is responsible for filing looseleaf services and handling other types of supplementation to library resources, such as pocket parts and supplements. Ms. Maitland received her B.A. in English from Virginia Commonwealth University in August and prior to that studied fine arts and photography at John Tyler Community College. She worked as a data entry clerk with the VCU Survey Evaluation and Research Laboratory and was a sales associate with the Richmond SPCA.

Same Faces... but New Places at the Law Library

Lori Mears is our new Library Associate in Access Services. She is responsible for assisting with circulation, reserves, interlibrary borrowing, and other Circulation Desk functions. Prior to working in Access Services, she was the Public Services Assistant. She received a B.A. in English from Randolph-Macon College in Ashland and had a double minor in Biology and Philosophy. Ms. Mears was a volunteer in the AmeriCorps and assisted homeless shelters in Colorado with fundraising. She returned to Virginia to pursue a Master’s in Library Science, which she completed in April 2010. Volunteer experience includes working with local animal shelters, involving organizations such as Richmond Animal League.

Amy O’Connor is the new (and first) Technical Services and Digital Resources Librarian. Ms. O’Connor has worked at the Law Library as a Library Associate in Cataloging since July 2008. She earned a B.A. in History from Virginia Commonwealth University and a Master’s in Library and Information Science from the University of South Florida. Prior to her positions at the Law Library, Ms. O’Connor worked in libraries at the John Tyler Community College Library, the Glen Allen Public Library, and the VCU Libraries. In her new role, she is responsible for the management of the Law Library’s digital resources, including technical aspects of making certain that the resources work properly and helping make certain that faculty, students, and other Law Library users know about the many digital resources available via the Law Library and how to use those resources effectively and efficiently.
Law at the Movies: The Social Network
by Gail Zwimer

Much has been written about the Facebook phenomenon and its founder, Mark Zuckerberg. After all, who isn’t curious about these twenty-something multi-billionaires who, along the lines of Xerox and Shepard’s, have turned “friend” into a verb? It is no surprise that the new film, The Social Network, is a box office success.

The movie is based on Ben Mezrich’s book, “The Accidental Billionaires: the Founding of Facebook.” Mezrich admits that he based his research almost exclusively on the details shared by Zuckerberg’s co-founder and financial backer, Eduardo Saverin. Zuckerberg claims the book is “pure fiction.”

The real star of this movie is the casting director. It would take a coin flip to decide who was better – Jesse Eisenberg in the lead as Zuckerberg; Andrew Garfield as Eduardo Saverin; or the real surprise, Justin Timberlake as Napster founder Sean Parker, who broke up the original partnership between Zuckerberg and Saverin and now owns a sizeable part of Facebook. All had brilliant moments in the delivery of the well-written script. Not as notable an actor, but one who deserves some credit for playing two people, is Armie Hammer, who the credits revealed played both Winklevoss twins.

So, where’s the movie’s legal angle? The movie was presented through a series of deposition scenes of the two IP proceedings between Zuckerberg and Saverin and the Winklevosses (or as Zuckerberg referred to as the Winklevi). Those interesting scenes, for anyone studying the law and cross-examination technique, alternated with flashbacks of the episodes leading to the creation and development of Facebook.

Keeping in mind the liberties the writers took to develop the on-screen relationship of the Facebook principals, The Social Network is an entertaining account of a technological phenomenon and all the legal wrangling associated with it. There are excellent examples of lawyers’ challenges dealing with difficult clients. My Oscar predictions have been snubbed over the years (Richard Burton in Equus and Russell Crowe in Cinderella Man are a couple), but I think we will see actors associated with this movie on the red carpet.

Note: When released, The Social Network will be available on DVD in the Law Library Recreational Reading area.