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## Friends of the Library Newsletter Spring 2012

Michael J. Paulus Jr.

Seattle Pacific University, paulusm@spu.edu

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# The SPU Library

Discover, Create, Share

Friends of the Library Newsletter

Spring 2012



## Friends of the Library Annual Lecture



The **Rev. Dr. Earl Palmer** will deliver this year's Friends of the Library Lecture. His talk, titled "To Choose the Books That Change Our Lives," will explore a sentence by G.K. Chesterton: "The best safeguard against bad literature is a full experience of good literature." The lecture is free and open to the public.

**What:** "To Choose the Books That Change Our Lives"

**When:** Tuesday, April 24, at 7:30 p.m.

**Where:** Demaray Hall, Room 150

Earl Palmer has served as a minister for over 50 years at numerous churches, including University Presbyterian Church in Seattle and First Presbyterian Church of Berkeley. He holds degrees from the University of California-Berkeley and Princeton Theological Seminary, as well as honorary doctorates from Whitworth University and Seattle Pacific University.

President Philip W. Eaton has called Palmer "one of the great preachers and teachers of our time." Palmer currently carries on his ministry under the sponsorship of [Earl Palmer Ministries](#), which serves to encourage and build up pastors and laity through its ministry of teaching, writing, and mentoring.

All are welcome to come and hear Rev. Palmer share his love of literature. Friends of the Library will receive a complimentary copy of his most recent book, *Trusting God*. If you are not already a member, or have not yet renewed your annual membership, please visit the [Friends of the Library giving site](#).

## The Teaching Role of the Library

From freshmen to doctoral candidates, SPU students receive formal instruction from librarians to help them effectively discover, access, evaluate, and use information resources. Librarians collaborate with other faculty members to integrate library instruction into the University's curricula where appropriate, from general education to departmental majors and graduate programs.

In this way, students' information needs and skills are developed as they progress through their programs. Over 180 times a year, librarians teach in the Library's instructional room, in classrooms across campus, and

## Friends of the SPU Library

Friends of the Seattle Pacific University Library perform a vital role in enhancing both the quantity and quality of the resources that the Library makes available to students and scholars at SPU. To become a member or renew your membership, please visit the Friends of the Library [giving site](#).

## SPU Library Numbers

In academic year 2010-11:

**243,425**  
people entered the library.

**54,109**  
books were checked out.

**180**  
information literacy classes were taught by librarians.

**8,710**  
reference questions were answered.

## Orbis Cascade Alliance Numbers

There are **37** colleges and universities in the Orbis Cascade Alliance.

Combined, there are over **30 million** items in Alliance libraries.

SPU patrons checked out **7,168** items from other Alliance libraries.

The SPU library shipped **7,385** items to other Alliance libraries.

even online to enable students to navigate the rich yet perplexing world of information resources and to help them cultivate skills for academic success and life-long learning.

The Library's instruction program traces its roots to the 1970s, at which time it was called bibliographic instruction. The current form of the program is modeled on the American Library Association's standards for information literacy, which were codified and widely adopted in the 1990s.

This year, with generous support from an academic opportunity grant from the President's Office, the Library is reviewing its instruction program to evaluate and enhance the Library's distinctive teaching role. The more complex our current information age becomes, the more guidance students need to discover, create, and share content within it.

## A Distinctive Collection: The Work and Faith Collection

One of the Library's distinctive collections is the [Work and Faith Collection](#), a collection of books and other resources exploring the intersection of Christian faith and work, faith and economics and business, and faith and the professions.



The core of the collection was originally owned by Pete Hammond, and it was donated to SPU in the winter of 2008. A fund for further development of the collection was endowed in October 2009 to honor the lives of Pete and Shirley Hammond and their service as champions for the ministry-in-daily-life movement.

Collection development activities focus on acquiring quality research and practically oriented materials that discuss the theological and practical applications of Christian faith in the workplace. The collection has been built into course syllabi

in the [School of Business and Economics](#), and a few faculty members from that school have used the collection for their own research. This last quarter, John Terrill, director of SPU's [Center for Integrity in Business](#), and Cindy Strong, librarian for education and business, co-taught a spirituality and business class that required students to interact with the collection.

The Work and Faith Collection is an exciting example of how a library, with the help of generous donors and visionary friends, can build a distinctive collection to support the distinctive curricular and research goals of a distinctive university such as SPU.

### Connect

- Friends of the Library are individuals who contribute to the Library's endowed fund. If you are not already a member, or have not yet renewed your annual membership, please visit the Friends of the Library [giving site](#). Friends of the Library receive [alumni](#)

[library borrowing privileges.](#)

- The Library hosts a lunchtime series, [Thursday Food for Thought](#), in which members of the SPU community read from recently published or about-to-be published works. The series, which runs during the school year, is open to the public.
- Explore the Library's website, and the resource and services available through it, by visiting [spu.edu/library](http://spu.edu/library).



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