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## The Information Edge - Library Newsletter - Spring 2007 Issue

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## PACE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

# Women at Pace - A Long and Illustrious History

Ellen Sowchek, University Archivist

Pace, as an institute, a college, and now a university, has always prided itself on its diversity. From the earliest days of the Pace Institute of Accountancy, women have always played a role, as students, faculty, administrators and supporters. Their history is illustrious, but little-known. It is worth reviewing the history of women at Pace and highlighting some – but certainly not all – of the many women who have helped this institution provide quality higher education for more than one hundred years.

Every institution has its founding myths, and Pace is no exception. It is sometimes reported that the first class at Pace, which met in September 1906, included three women. As much as we would like this to be the case, we have no existing documentation containing the names of the first students, so we cannot know for sure. However, in a number of early Pace Institute advertisements, women are targeted as potential students along with men. This was a progressive attitude for the time and was due to Homer Pace's belief that women were as capable of succeeding in business as

men. One of the first opportunities to prove this was to occur with America's entry into the First World War in 1917.

With thousands of men leaving their jobs to enter military service, there was an enormous need for qualified workers. Homer Pace believed this is where women could and would play an important role. An editorial in the May 1917 issue of *The Pace Student* stated that "It is with this idea in mind that Pace Institute has decided to place, without charge, the resources of its organization at the disposal of groups of women who may wish to receive training in clerical work which will fit them for duties in the Government service, or in the service of private corporations to take the place of men who have been called to the colors." Known as the War Clerical Course, it was offered with the support of the National League for Women's Service, an organization of which Homer Pace's own wife, **Mabel Vanderhoof Pace**, was a member. The course was to last for ten weeks, meeting two days per week. The first group of one hundred women

completed the course in August 1917. It was extremely successful, so much so that the idea was to be used again following U.S. entry into the Second World War in 1941.

There is not doubt that Mabel Pace played an important role in her husband's life and in his career success. She was an important presence at Pace Institute, and served as a member of the Board of Trustees from 1944 until 1954. This spirit of institutional service was also one that she instilled in her children: Robert Scott Pace, who succeeded his father as President of Pace following the latter's death in 1942; Charles Richard Pace, who served as the Corporate Secretary of Pace Institute and Pace College from 1935 until 1956; and **Helen Pace Bowen**, who also served on the Board from 1946 until 1956.

Homer Pace did not just recommend using women to fill positions in business; he was actively employing them in his own. Two of the most important administrators in the early years of Pace Institute were both women: **Lillian Smith** and **Alice Ottun**.



**Mabel Vanderhoof Pace in Uniform.** Photo from the Pace University Archives.

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## Women at Pace (cont.)

February, 1916 THE BUSINESS JOURNAL 29

### 5,000 MEN,

and many women as well, are now preparing for an assured future—without interference with present employment—by means of Pace Standardized Courses in

### Accountancy and Business Administration

Instruction is given by Certified Public Accountants and Practicing Lawyers

Extension Courses by mail. Send now for special offer of a month's trial instruction.

Resident Courses given in 54 Schools and Colleges in the larger cities. Write for address of nearest school.

Pace Courses have been prepared with the employed man and woman in mind and are country-wide in recognition. They have been adopted by the largest Business Organizations in America as their official training course for employees.

Investigate this Noteworthy Educational Movement.

Fill out the above Coupon and send it now. You will receive by return mail complete descriptive bulletins. No obligation on your part.

**PACE & PACE**  
Pace Standardized Courses in Accountancy, Business Administration, and English  
HUDSON TERMINAL, 30 CHURCH STREET, NEW YORK

**Pace Institute Ad, Feb. 1916.** Photo from Pace University Archives.

... in a number of early Pace Institute advertisements, women are targeted as potential students along with men.



**Alfreda Geiger**  
Dr. Geiger remained on the Pace faculty until she retired at the age of 95! Photo from Pace University Archives.

**Lillian Smith** was a Vassar College graduate and former Latin teacher, who was involved in all aspects of the Pace & Pace business for many years. Her competence was such that, during the First World War, she served as comptroller for YWCA in France, where it was engaged in war relief. Homer Pace relied on her, and often referred to her as his “right hand”.

**Alice Ottun** had an M.A. from Columbia University and held a number of administrative positions at Pace, beginning in 1929, including Director of the Day School and Dean of Admissions and Instruction. She was actively involved in the day-to-day running of the Institute and played an important role in helping to prepare Pace for college status.

In addition to advancing its own women employees, Pace Institute trained women to find similar positions elsewhere. There was a fundamental belief that a superior education was the key to unlocking occupational advancement for women. In the October 1924 issue of *The Pace Student*, in an article entitled “Business Needs Women,” an unnamed woman executive was quoted as follows: “A knowledge of bookkeeping and accounting is something that a woman can market immediately at a good salary.” The magazine continues: “Accounting work...offers an immediate vocational opportunity for trained women, but, what is of

more importance, it offers a real opportunity for women to develop themselves to fill executive positions.”

In the 1920’s, Pace Institute ran its own Agency for Placements. Its director, a Pace graduate named **Florentine Goodrich**, later became Treasurer of the Tennessee Valley Authority, one of the most important of the great New Deal WPA projects. Pace continued to recruit women students, advertising as follows in 1924: “Women who seek business insight, technique, preferment, are invited to attend a series of informative lectures on technical subjects to be given at Pace Institute. The first lecture, ‘Fundamentals of Double Entry, will be given by Homer S. Pace.’ Over the course of Pace history, a number of women have been outstanding accounting students, and have gone on to important careers in business and industry. One outstanding and more recent example is **Sally Hoffman**, a graduate of Pace Pleasantville’s graduate business program, who, in 1980, had the highest score in the United States on the national CPA exam!

In the late 1920’s, Pace began to offer a secretarial practice course. This evolved, in the 1930’s, into the School of Secretarial Practice. Enrollment in the School of Secretarial Practice soon became overwhelmingly female, more a reflection of American society at the time than of any attempt by Pace to channel women

away from business and into the secretarial field. One of the School’s outstanding faculty members was **Alfreda Geiger**. Hired by Homer Pace in 1932 to teach Pitman shorthand, Dr. Geiger remained on the faculty of Pace Institute, then Pace College, then Pace University, well into the 1990’s, when she retired from teaching at the age of 95!

There have been a number of illustrious women faculty members throughout the history of Pace. In addition to Dr. Geiger, in more recent years we have had **Dr. Jean Fagan Yellin**, a nationally recognized scholar for her award-winning work on the diary of Harriet Jacobs, the first such slave-authored journal to be found in the United States; **Dr. Karla Jay**, an important pioneer in the fields of gay/lesbian and gender studies; **Dr. Martha Driver**, an expert in Medieval literature; **Dr. Susan Merritt**, who began as a Computer Science faculty member and serves as the first (and only) Dean of the School of Computer Science and Information Systems, now newly named the Seidenberg School of Computer Science and Information Systems; **Dr. Veronica O’Day** and **Dr. Wanda Heist and**, professors of nursing who have devoted much time and effort to the creation of the archives of the history

## Women at Pace (cont.)

devoted much time and effort to the creation of the archives of the history of nursing in Westchester County; **Dr. Marilyn Weigold**, professor of history, author of *Opportunitas: The History of Pace University*, and the Pace University Historian. These are just a very few of the many women whose illustrious academic careers have helped to carry on the tradition of excellence in teaching at Pace.

And finally, I would like to mention two more women: **Dr. Patricia O'Donnell Ewers** and **Angela Giardina**. Dr. Ewers, a native of Chicago, was a professor of English and Vice President and Dean of Faculties at DePaul University in Chicago, when she was appointed the fifth President of Pace by the Board of Trustees. Author of a number of articles and monographs on the role of women in higher education, she was the first woman to serve as President, a position she held for ten years, from 1990 until her retirement in

the year 2000.

And **Angela Giardina**? She was the first Pace College Librarian!



**Angela Giardina**. Pace's first college librarian. Photo from 1958 Yearbook. Pace University Archive.

Websites:

- Harriet Jacobs Papers Project—  
<http://www.harrietjacobspapers.org/>  
Dr. Jean Fagan Yellin, a nationally recognized scholar for her award-winning work on the diary of Harriet Jacobs.
- NYPL Gay & Lesbian Collections—Karla Jay Papers: 1961-1992 -  
<http://www.nypl.org/research/chss/spe/rbk/faids/jaykarla.pdf>  
Dr. Karla Jay, Distinguished Professor of English and an important pioneer in the fields of gay/lesbian and gender studies
- Women's And Gender Studies—  
[http://appserv.pace.edu/execute/page.cfm?doc\\_id=8734](http://appserv.pace.edu/execute/page.cfm?doc_id=8734)  
Offers a description of the Women and Gender Studies program available at Pace University
- Lienhard School of Nursing: Historical Archives - [http://appserv.pace.edu/execute/page.cfm?doc\\_id=8734](http://appserv.pace.edu/execute/page.cfm?doc_id=8734)  
Access the *Finder's Guide* from Drs. Wanda C. Hiestand and Veronica C. O'Day

## Politics and the Press: American Newspapers 1795-1896

### Brian Clay Jennings, Instructional Services Librarian

In March, the Mortola Library in Pleasantville had a display of original newspapers which date back to the late Eighteenth Century. An accompanying web site ([http://appserv.pace.edu/execute/page.cfm?doc\\_id=23750](http://appserv.pace.edu/execute/page.cfm?doc_id=23750)) contains mastheads and selected articles from the newspapers. The theme of the display is the evolving relationship between politics and the press as shown in these newspapers. The first three newspapers are issues of the *Aurora General Advertiser*, published by Benjamin Franklin Bache in Philadelphia. The *Aurora* was the Democratic-Republican paper with

The newspaper was critical of pro-British Federalist policies and did not spare its criticism, even for George Washington. Bache was charged with sedition during the administration of John Adams. By the time the *Log Cabin* was published in 1841, newspapers were fully incorporated into the politics of presidential campaigns. William Lloyd Garrison's *Liberator* was a newspaper totally committed to the abolition of slavery and in its pages you find stories advocating the abolition of slavery. Patrick Ford's *Irish World* was one of many newspapers from the immigrant

press that focused on stories related to the Irish at home and abroad. Ford worked for Garrison as an apprentice when he was just fifteen. Old newspapers can be purchased rather inexpensively online from Timothy Hughes Rare and Early Newspapers, <http://www.rarenewspapers.com>.



## Jane Austen In Tucson

Michelle Fanelli, Part-time Reference Librarian

*Delaford is a nice place I can tell you; exactly what I call a nice, old-fashioned place, full of comforts, quite shut in with great garden-walls that are covered with fruit-trees, and such a mulberry-tree in the corner. Then there is a dovecote, some delightful fish-ponds, and a very pretty canal, and everything, in short, that one could wish for; and moreover it's close to the church and only a quarter of a mile from the turnpike road.*  
—Sense and Sensibility

Have you ever enjoyed a book so much that you didn't want it to end? Maybe you have an author whose literary world you would like to visit. Well I was able to do that when I attended the annual Jane Austen Conference in Tucson in October 2006. Here I met with hundreds of Jane Austen's fans or Janeites as they like to call themselves. The conference participants ranged from academics who were Austen specialists to people who just really enjoy her writing. Although I have read many of the novels, I truly felt like a novice when confronted by folks who knew these books inside and out. Some of the most enthusiastic Janeites attended the sessions in period costume.

Each conference has a theme, and last year's revolved around Fanny Price and Mansfield Park. At the breakout sessions and lectures, we talked about Austen's characters, their personalities, and motivations as though they were old friends. We learned about the social history and were also treated to a concert of music which would have been popular during Austen's time as well as to a cooking demonstration. For those of us who have enjoyed the

many movies that have been based on Austen's work, there was a lively session which included clips from the movies. These movie segments emphasized the importance that music and dance played in courtship. Austen herself loved music and dancing. The balls which she attended were described in the many letters which she wrote to family and friends.

The conference concluded with a Sunday morning brunch and a humorous and somewhat controversial panel discussion entitled "Fanny Price, Pro or Con." Fanny, being an atypical Austen character, elicited many strong opinions both pro and con. Unlike other Austen heroines, she is timid and extremely straight-laced. Although Jane Austen lived in a rather small world according to today's standards, she was very insightful in observing and portraying a variety of human behavior. Another humorous moment came when the outgoing president, Joan Klinger, was presented with an enormous picture of Colin Firth in his role as Mr. Darcy in *Pride and Prejudice*.



Jane Austen

Clifford, Tom. [Jane Austen in Her Cottage Garden At Chawton](#). 2002. [Jane Austen Society of Australia: Images from the JASA web site](#). Pace U Lib., NY. 9 Apr. 2007 <<http://www.jasa.net.au/images/austen.htm>>.

For more information on the Jane Austen Society and its regional groups, you can check the organization's website <http://www.jasna.org>. Jane Austen is not the only author to inspire groups devoted to his/her work. Search the internet to see if there are established groups for your own favorite authors. If you can't make attend an annual meeting in a far off place, perhaps you can make it to some of the regional meetings or at the least follow the group's discussions in their newsletter.

# Access to Full-Text Articles via Google Scholar

Sarah Burns Feyl, Assistant University Librarian for Instructional Services

Google Scholar provides the ability to search a selection of the scholarly literature available on the World Wide Web. On the Google Scholar web site, they state: "you can search across many disciplines and sources: peer-reviewed papers, theses, books, abstracts and articles, from academic publishers, professional societies, preprint repositories, universities and other scholarly organizations." (<http://scholar.google.com/scholar/about.html>).

Many of the links within the results in Google Scholar will bring you to immediately available full-text documents. For many other documents, content is only available via a subscription service and you may be asked for a username and password, or a credit card number.

You can configure Google Scholar to show the links for those documents to which the Pace Library currently provides full-text access via one or more of our subscription databases. Then, when attempting to access one of these documents, you will be granted access after entering your MyPace Portal username and password.

Go to **Google Scholar** (<http://scholar.google.com/>), and select the "**Scholar Preferences**" link next to the Search box.



On the "Scholar Preferences" page, go to the **Library Links** area:

In the search box, type "Pace University" and then add that to the list of libraries, it will look like this after you add Pace University Library to your list:

<b>Library Links</b> ( <a href="#">what's this?</a> )	<input type="text" value="Pace University"/>
Show library access links for (choose up to three libraries):	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pace University Library (Full-Text @ Pace U.)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Open WorldCat (Library Search)

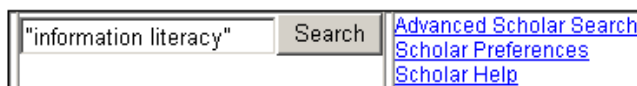
In the **Results Window** area, click inside the box to select this option.

<b>Results Window</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open search results in a new browser window.
-----------------------	--

By selecting this option, when you are off campus you will only have to authenticate once by providing your MyPace Portal username and password. Otherwise, you will have to re-open another browser and go back to Google scholar and go through the authentication process again.

**Save** your preferences when finished and **return to search**.

Now you can run a search in Google Scholar using your search terms, for example:



## Access to Full-Text Articles via Google Scholar (cont.)

In the list of results, there are usually journal articles listed as well as books; in the journal article citations look for: "[Full-Text @ Pace U.](#)":

[Information and digital literacies: a review of concepts - Full-Text @ Pace U. - group of 7 »](#)  
[D Bawden - Journal of Documentation, 2001 - emeraldinsight.com](#)  
 ... Volume: 57 Issue: 2 Page: 218 - 259 DOI: 10.1108/EUM0000000007083 Publisher: MCB  
 UP Ltd Abstract: The concepts of 'information literacy' and 'digital ...  
[Cited by 71](#) - [Related Articles](#) - [Web Search](#) - [BL Direct](#)

When clicked, the "[Full-Text @ Pace U.](#)" link launches a "Search for Article" window that indicates when we have access to a publication. Follow the links to the articles or journals in the "Search for Article" box (as seen below). Click on [Article](#) to take you directly to the full-text article

### Content is available via the following links:

Coverage Range	Links to content		Resource
03/01/2001 - 1 year ago	<a href="#">Article</a>	<a href="#">Journal</a>	<a href="#">ABI/INFORM Global</a>

If you are off-campus, you will be prompted to enter your **MyPace portal username and password**, and then the article will be displayed, like so:

**Full Text** (18961 words)

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**[Headnote]**  
 The concepts of 'information literacy' and 'digital literacy' are described, and reviewed, by way of a literature survey and analysis. Related concepts, including computer literacy, library literacy, network literacy, Internet literacy and hyper-literacy are also discussed, and their relationships elucidated. After a general introduction, the paper begins with the basic concept of 'literacy', which is then expanded to include newer forms of literacy, more suitable for complex information environments. Some of these, for example library, media and computer literacies, are based largely on specific skills, but have some extension beyond them. They lead to general concepts, such as information literacy and digital literacy, which are based on knowledge, perceptions and attitudes, though reliant on the simpler skills-based literacies.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact a librarian!

<http://library.pace.edu>

## Hours

<b>Birnbaum Library</b>	<b>Mortola Library</b>	<b>Graduate Center Library</b>
Monday - Friday 8:00AM - 11:00 PM	Monday - Friday 8:30 AM - 2:00 AM	Monday - Thursday 12:00PM - 10:00PM
Saturday 10:00AM - 8:00 PM	Saturday 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM	Friday 12:00PM - 5:00PM
Sunday 12:00 PM - 8:00 PM	Sunday 10:00 AM - 2:00 AM	Saturday 10:00AM - 5:00PM
		Sunday CLOSED

The Information Edge is published semi-annually by the Pace University Library. Please direct comments and submissions to the editors: Janell Carter [jcarter3@pace.edu](mailto:jcarter3@pace.edu) or Karen DeSantis [kdesantis@pace.edu](mailto:kdesantis@pace.edu).

Any change in library hours will be noted on the library website and posted on the doors of each library.

## Hello My Name is:

**Igor Botan** joined the Library ranks in 2001. After spending great working time in periodicals I made the move to library technician. Since the computer is replacing the dog as man's best friend, I'm surrounded by a lot of "best friends." I love sci-fi especially the now classic TV series "Firefly." Like to read scientific and social science literature, a cheap novel once in while and strategy games. However, the best time spend is on the couch thinking about nothing. Since school takes up all the time, there is no much "couch thinking" going on.

**Michelle Karell** is interning with the reference department this spring. She is a master's student in library science at Pratt Institute. She loves to read and eat -- in equal measure and is a devout fan of pop culture and Hollywood rags. Michelle is a Sconian by birth, a San Franciscan by nature, and a Brooklynite by transplant. Her biggest fear in life is a paper-cut on the eye, so please keep all loose leaf at waist level.