

# Baylor Collections of Political Materials

## REPORT FEBRUARY 2005

### STUDENT WORKERS

- Maycie Mayfield, a junior majoring in neuroscience with minors in chemistry and art, has already created two new exhibits for us: the McKinley exhibit and the JFK assassination exhibit. She will also be helping us with administrative duties.
- Paul Christopher is a senior accounting major with nine years experience in the building industry. He has been helping us move lots of boxes and shelving units. He is highly organized and will be working with Todd on the Jack Hightower papers.
- Nilay Shastri has spent the month reconstructing the original Hightower finding aid in an Excel spreadsheet. This is necessary in order to integrate the new materials, discard some of the old materials, and create a new up-to-date finding aid.
- ▼ Todd Pagitt, team leader for the Hightower project, has been filing piles of unsorted papers which have accumulated over the last 20 years on the Hightower shelves.
- Julia Howard, our grad assistant, is helping our new workers with multiple projects as well as creating inventories of several Bob Platt acquisitions.
- ♥ Rosa Thompson worked on the JFK magazines photocopying project and created two web pages of JFK assassination links and Penn Jones links: <a href="http://www3.baylor.edu/Library/BCPM/JFK/JFK-assassination-links.htm">http://www3.baylor.edu/Library/BCPM/JFK/JFK-assassination-links.htm</a>. She has now started scanning the magazine covers.
- Chen Yao has kept up with all the Platt books returning from cataloging and completely rearranged and labeled our heretofore messy magazine collection
- Sharad Bhushan continues to work on Penn Jones' JFK materials and has created web sites for these materials:

http://www3.baylor.edu/Library/BCPM/JFK/JFK.htm http://www3.baylor.edu/Library/BCPM/JFK/PennJones.html

▶ Brittney Bain spent the month of February creating our entry into the SAA awards competition. She became familiar with everything we did for five years on the Bullock materials and put together notebooks containing examples of all our work from 1999 to 2004.

February Stats from Special Collections' Team cataloger Janet Pence. 314 titles books, 375 volumes books, 1 video cassette, 3 original inputs

#### ACCESSIONS

• Bob Platt continues to expand our holdings of campaign buttons and related materials. In February he donated several more boxes of books and campaign notebooks from various candidates.

- Scott Poage has donated a cane from the 1896 McKinley presidential campaign which he received from his grandfather.
- We are in contact with Ben March who works for Baylor development in Dallas. He plans to bring us papers from his father, Caro March, who ran for governor in the late 1940s.

#### THE STANDING COMMITTEE

Fowler West asked us to mail a follow-up letter to potential committee members. Along with his letter, we will also send the first Committee Report. Letters sent to Committee members thanking them for their support also included this Report.

#### RESEARCHERS

- Chris Pike traveled to Waco from Colorado to see the papers of Penn Jones. He spent several hours going through unprocessed materials. He has asked us to duplicate 14 cassette tapes for him.
- John Judge, Director of the Coalition on Political Assassinations (COPA), also called regarding using the Penn Jones papers.

#### AND IN OTHER NEWS

**SAA AWARD.** The BCPM and Bullock Archive have submitted an application to SAA for the Philip M. Hamer and Elizabeth Hamer Kegan Award. This award recognizes an archivist, editor, group of individuals, or institution that has increased public awareness of a specific body of documents through compilation, transcription, exhibition, or public presentation of archives or manuscript materials for educational, instructional, or other public purpose. SAA will meet in New Orleans in August.

**Road Show.** Library Development held a Road show at the home of John and Sarah Dowdy on February 24th. Ben displayed a number of items from the BCPM and offered an enlightening commentary for each item.

**BOA Meeting.** Library Development is working with BCPM to hold the library's Board of Advisors meeting in the W. R.

Poage Exhibit Gallery on March 4th. This will give the Board a first hand opportunity to see this area and the rest of the BCPM.

The Bob Platt Collection contains hundreds of turn-ofthe-century (1900s)



volumes about politics and political leaders of the day. (Photo by Mary Goolsby)

Submitted by Ben Rogers, March 1, 2005