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Booklover — Fishing for Summer Reading

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Interview — Beth Marhanka
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basic supplies, like a 3D printer, vinyl cutter, electronics and circuitry kits (arduinis and raspberry pi), a button machine and a sewing machine is the next step. Then get your allies to help fundraise for a laser cutter to attract power users. The key component to being successful though is getting enthusiastic staff who can dedicate time to setting up the space, teaching patrons how to use the equipment, and most importantly, build up your community of makers.

Also find the other “makerspaces” on campus who are doing the kind of work you think you’d like to do. Frequently on college campuses there are places for making and actual makerspaces scattered about, but they generally only serve their departments and constituencies. Those other spaces and the people that run them could be some of your greatest allies. Seek out those networks to build support because they might want to help people outside their departments, but they just don’t have the resources to do so. This is where the library plays an important role. We serve everyone on campus and the end product doesn’t have to be the product of their coursework. Take the CraneCam I mentioned earlier as an example. That student was in law school and got his idea from looking out his classroom window

at a construction site. We didn’t ask him if his project was related to his classes. The same thing is true in the New Media Center when people come in to make a video or a podcast. Quite often we find people creating media or physical projects that they have a passion about sharing with others that isn’t related to a class. That’s what libraries have historically had at the core or our mission: self-directed learning and welcoming people that want to better themselves and have a positive impact on the world. Sometimes that stems from what’s happening in a class, but sometimes it comes from looking outside of the classroom window at what’s happening in the world.

ATG: *We know that you are interested in the evolving role of women in higher education and instructional technology. What do your experiences and career track say about the progress women have made? What about the pitfalls they still face?*

BM: The number of women in tech-related jobs on the **Georgetown** campus has doubled since I started here 20 years ago, which makes me very hopeful about our opportunities. I was the only woman in the New Media Center and Library IT for at least five years and now women make up 50% of those two departments.

Some pitfalls women face are trusting in ourselves and having the confidence to step up and take on leadership roles. People, whether men or women, sometimes think that leader-

ship means knowing all the answers, being unwaveringly decisive, and bulldozing through whatever stands in your way to get things done. I don’t think that’s the most effective strategy in the long run. Getting a diverse set of opinions and ideas on the table to understand issues from all perspectives before making decisions and forging new initiatives are incredibly important in libraries because we serve many constituencies and need to understand differing needs. Wanting to be inclusive and collaborative can seem like a weakness, but I think it’s a strength.

ATG: *Beth you must stay super busy managing both the Gelardin New Media Center and the Maker Hub. We were wondering how you keep your batteries re-charged? Are there some fun activities that you particularly enjoy?*

BM: I’ve been even busier lately because I’ve taken on the role as the Interim Associate University Librarian for User Services and Engagement. To recharge, I love hiking and doing yoga. My goal is to hike the Camino de Santiago and I’d really like to become certified to teach yoga when my schedule eases up a bit. My husband and I also recently subscribed to Movie Pass and are trying to go to at least one movie a week. You probably won’t be surprised that I’m also an avid reader and love curling up in my backyard hammock with a great book or even better, I like to listen to books while hiking. 🌲

Booklover — Fishing for Summer Reading

Column Editor: **Donna Jacobs** (Retired, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC 29425)
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A book entitled *Buying a Fishing Rod for My Grandfather* would naturally grab the attention for summer reading. When the typical nostalgic images of summer include fishing and/or spending time with family, it goes without saying that my attention was hooked. A small book of six short stories by **Gao XingJian**, the 2000 winner of the Nobel Prize in Literature, was thus in my hand to be checked out of the library.

Gao XingJian won the 2000 Literature Nobel “for an œuvre of universal validity, bitter insights and linguistic ingenuity, which has opened new paths for the Chinese novel and drama.” On some occasions a particular work by an author is referenced when discussing the basis for the award, in **Gao’s** case it is his epic international best seller *Soul Mountain*. **Gao** was the first Chinese author to win the Nobel Prize in Literature.

Gao was born in Ganzhou, Jiangxi, China. His mother not only influenced his exploration into theater, writing and painting, but also his choice of higher education. He graduated with a degree from the Department of French at the **Beijing Foreign Studies University**. All of the biographical sketches make reference to the impact of the Cultural Revolution on his

psyche and the resulting destruction of some of his manuscripts. He felt the need to pack a suitcase with his writings and set it on fire. He ultimately immigrated to France and was granted citizenship in 1997. His works are celebrated in the West while China has decided otherwise, banning performances or reading enjoyment.

The book opens with a story entitled: *The Temple* — a curious title that nods at a couple’s adventure while celebrating a marriage while honeymooning. “We were deliriously happy: delirious with the hope, infatuation, tenderness, and warmth that go with a honeymoon.”

The title *In the Park* sets the scene for a conversation between two people reflecting on their past. “I haven’t strolled in a park for a long time. I never have the time to spare, or the inclination anymore.”

Cramp is the perfect title for this engaging story about a swimmer’s experience with a debilitating cramp. — “Cramp. His stomach is starting to cramp. Of course, he thought he could swim further out. But about a kilometer from shore his stomach is starting to cramp.”

The Accident opens with: “It happened like this ... A gust of wind swept up a pile of dirt from the roadwork outside Xinhua Bookshop

on the other side of the road, swirled it up in an arc, then dumped it everywhere.”

The fifth story carries the book’s namesake for its title, *Buying a Fishing Rod for My Grandfather*. The narrator delivers a delightful and literal walk down memory lane while visiting (or maybe day-dreaming about visiting) his hometown. “I walk past a new shop that sells fishing equipment. The different fishing rods on display make me think of my grandfather, and I want to buy him one.”

In an Instant is the final title in this series. It illustrates the curious literary nature by which this story is presented. “He is alone, with his back to the sea, sitting in a canvas deck chair on the beach. There’s a strong wind. The sky is very bright, without a trace of any cloud, and in the dazzling sunlight reflected against the sea, his face can’t be seen clearly.” A simple opening paragraph to a “formal experiment in simultaneity,” as one reviewer described it. This story contained the most intriguing question: “He is sitting at the computer with a cigarette in his mouth. A long sentence appears on the screen. ‘What’ is not to understand and ‘what’ is to understand or not is not to understand that even when ‘what’ is understood, it

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As such, books authored about osteopathic practices in Europe or Canada are more useful as additional references rather than core texts, though there are great similarities when it comes to methods of manipulative medicine.

Selectors should also be aware that while many osteopathic medical books may be available digitally, it remains common for titles to be available only in print formats. For librarians building collections for new osteopathic medical schools, focusing on eBooks only would omit useful print resources. Fortunately, the following recommended texts are available as eBooks. *Osteopathic Techniques: The Learner's Guide*, written by **Sharon Gustowski, Maria Gentry, and Ryan Seals**, focuses on detailed instruction and illustration of osteopathic manipulative techniques, with extensive review questions for each.¹¹ Though this book has a European publisher, its authors and audience are American. This book, unlike others cited here, is in its first edition, but it has already been positively reviewed by osteopathic medical faculty and **Doody's Book Reviews**. Edited by **Hollis King, Wilfrid Jänig, and Michael Patterson**, *The Science and Clinical Application of Manual Therapy* is one of the few books to focus entirely on evidence supporting osteopathic manipulative therapy in areas beyond musculoskeletal therapy, and is of interest to any collection supporting faculty.¹² *Manipulation of the Spine, Thorax and Pelvis*, written by the Australian osteopathic researchers **Peter Gibbons and Philip Tehan**, is a well-respected volume focused on manual therapy of the spine.¹³ Practitioners of many different fields of manual therapy value it, including osteopaths and osteopathic physicians, physical therapists, chiropractors, etc. Like many of Elsevier's clinical texts, it includes a number of videos available either online or via DVD. The fourth edition also includes discussions of patient safety, consent issues, practitioner training, and other practice-related concerns.

Collections supporting osteopathic medicine should also include titles on the history of its development, as programs acknowledge that the field's beginnings and early philosophies are important to understanding the current state of osteopathic medicine.¹⁴ Osteopathic medicine as a field began when **Dr. Andrew Taylor Still** developed his theory of osteopathy in the late nineteenth century and in 1892 founded its first school in Kirksville, Missouri, as the **American School of Osteopathy**, now **A.T. Still University**.¹⁵ *The DOs: Osteopathic Medicine in America* by **Norman Gevitz** is widely considered the most definitive book about the development of the profession and the second edition covers the founder, early development, expansion, struggles for recognition and acceptance, and more.¹⁶ Any osteopathic library will also include books written by **Dr. Still**. Still produced an autobiography as well as three other volumes about his evolving medical theories. The two editions of his autobiography contain enough difference that many libraries will want to include both the 1897 and the revised 1908 editions.¹⁷⁻¹⁸ There are many references to Still's works in other books about osteopathic medicine, making it worthwhile to include either the freely available open source copies or reprint editions in a library collection.

The books featured here are important to the study and practice of osteopathic medicine in the United States and belong in a library collection supporting an osteopathic medical school or interested pre-med students. As graduates of both allopathic and osteopathic medical schools will meet as peers in residency and later medical practice, many will also be of interest to libraries serving related health science disciplines, including allopathic medicine. 🌿

Endnotes

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18. **Still, Andrew T.** *Autobiography of Andrew T. Still: With a History of the Discovery and Development of the Science of Osteopathy*. Rev. ed. Self-published, Kirksville, MO, 1908.

Editor's note: An asterisk () denotes a title selected for *Resources for College Libraries*.

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is not understood, for 'what' is to understand and 'what' is not to understand, 'what' is 'what' and 'is not' is 'is not,' and so is not to understand not wanting to understand or simply not understanding why 'what' needs to be understood or whether 'what' can be understood, and also it is not understood whether 'what' is really not understood or that it simply hasn't been rendered so that it can be understood or is really understood but that there is a pretense not to understand or a refusal to try to understand or is pretending to want to understand yet deliberately not understanding or actually trying unsuccessfully to understand, then so what if it's not understood and if it's not understood, then why go to all this trouble of wanting to understand it."

The final punctuation to the series is the translator's notes written by **Mabel Lee**. Lee's professional academic career focused on Chinese intellectual history and literature during her tenure at the **University of Sydney**. She met **Gao Xingjian** in 1991 and they began a relationship which culminated in her translation of several of his works, including *Soul Mountain*. She relates that **Gao** himself selected the six stories in this English version published in 2004, as "it is his view that these stories are best able to represent what he is striving to achieve in his fiction." All but *In an Instant* were written in Beijing between 1983 and 1986 and subsequently published in various Chinese literary magazines.

The postscript to the literature is **Gao's** skill as a painter. Not only are his paintings exhibited internationally, but he also illustrates the covers for his books. 🌿