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UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON LIBRARY CREATES COMPUTER-GENERATED "GREAT BOOKS" DATABASE TO HIGHLIGHT BOOKS THAT HAVE CHANGED PROFESSORS' LIVES AND SHAPED HISTORY

By July students at the University of Dayton will be able to use the computerized on-line card catalogue in Roesch Library to find out what great books of literature have influenced their professors' lives and how the books have shaped the world.

"To my knowledge, the University of Dayton may be the only place in the country that will have an automated 'great books' database," said Edward D. Garten, director of University Libraries and a national consultant on libraries and information systems. "We think it's very unique, particularly because it's personalized."

About 75 professors have responded to the library's request for three books that have "profoundly influenced their intellectual, personal or moral development."

One professor described "All Quiet on the Western Front" as "a primer on the idiocy and horror of war. It is a book that should be read by each generation of boys approaching maturity who had the good fortune of missing the previous war and who are in danger of believing in the myth that war is a glorious adventure."

Another noted that Shakespeare's "King Lear" presents "a microcosm of any world in which boundaries collapse into domestic and political chaos."

The Bible made it on more than a few lists. As one professor explained, "No other book compares with the Bible as a spiritual and literary classic that invites individuals and communities to probe more deeply into life's purpose, by appreciating better the Hebrew faith and by probing the meaning of Jesus' message for today."

For media interviews, contact Ed Garten at (513) 229-4265.

EXPERT IN PERSUASION AND LISTENING SEEKS TO EMPOWER PEOPLE WITH TOOLS FOR SUCCESS

A Michigan housewife's recent successful letter-writing campaign that convinced major advertisers to pull their ads during Fox Broadcasting Network's "Married... with Children" surprised the viewing public.

It didn't surprise Florence Wolff, a University of Dayton communication professor who teaches courses in persuasion and listening. "The art of persuasion is an astounding skill that everybody needs to develop to succeed in this world," she said.

After 20 years in UD classrooms, Wolff will devote herself to teaching communication skills, such as persuasion and listening, to accountants, engineers, corporate leaders and other professionals. UD's Department of Communication will host a reception for Wolff, an Oakwood resident, "on the occasion of her transition" on Friday, March 31 from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Torch Lounge in Kennedy Union. In addition, the Dayton Chapter of Women In Communication will honor Wolff with a "Special Achievement Award" on May 18 at its annual Vanguard Dinner.

Wolff, 1986 Ohio Professor of the Year, wrote "Perceptive Listening," the first in-depth book on listening, and founded the International Listening Association.

For media interviews, contact Florence Wolff at (513) 229-3049.