Faculty Focus: The Art of Curating; and Big on the Bard

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The Art of Curating

Elizabeth Seaton, curator at the Marriana Kistler Beach Museum of Art, brings a variety of art to the K-State campus

By Taylor Manges

Seaton said technology has changed the way she and other art historians research for exhibits, especially for large undertakings like “Art for Every Home.”

“Half of Shakespeare’s plays would have been lost except for the printing of this book, an original copy of which sold recently for $6 million,” Hedrick said. “But more importantly, it was used by publishers as one of the first important printed books in world history.”

The nearly 400-year-old book’s visit was part of “Shakespeare in the Little Apple,” a monthlong celebration of Shakespeare’s influence on Manhattan, Kansas. Hedrick said experiencing the folio with his students, colleagues and Manshardt alone was a joy from the “afterlife” of Shakespeare. The celebration honored Shakespeare’s work through performances, readings, musical adaptations, children’s activities and more.

“Shakespeare in the Little Apple” was the most extensive, wide-ranging and popular humanities event across campus and the community in decades that led to tripled attendance at the Beach Museum of Art, where the First Folio was displayed.”

Hedrick has held visiting professorships at noted institutions across the country — Cornell University, Amherst College, Colgate University and the University of California, Irvine — and was a Fulbright Scholar at Charles University in Prague — but said his heart is in his home state of Kansas with his students at Kansas State University.

He publishes widely in top journals in his fields of Shakespearean cultural studies and popular culture, and his list of accomplishments includes directing Shakespeare’s “The Winter’s Tale” for the Manhattan Arts Center.