FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Newcomb College Institute’s Vorhoff Library Welcomes the books of Richard Collin, New Orleans’ “Underground Gourmet” to its Culinary History Collection

(January 19, 2012)—New Orleans—The Nadine Vorhoff Library, already home to a substantial collection of culinary texts and cookbooks, is pleased to announce the addition of the Richard Collin Collection to its ranks. Over 400 books from the personal estate of this food author and critic will be made available to the public at a reception in honor of his posthumous gift at the library on January 26th.

Richard Collin was an icon in the city’s culinary community as the author of The New Orleans Underground Gourmet (1970), the first book-length guide to local restaurants. He was also the city’s first newspaper restaurant critic, starting at the New Orleans States-Item in 1972. He and wife Rima Collin wrote The New Orleans Cookbook, published by Knopf in 1975, which remains in print and has become a classic. Mr. Collin also was emeritus professor of history at the University of New Orleans. He passed away in 2010 in Birmingham, Alabama, where he had relocated after Hurricane Katrina, and his books finally made the long journey back to New Orleans after his estate was settled. The contribution, including titles like Wild Raspberries by Andy Warhol and Suzie Frankfurt (1997) and 1968’s Vietnamese Cookery by Jill Huong Miller, has been integrated into the Vorhoff’s existing collection of culinary history books. The culinary history collection, including the newest additions, is open to the public.

Susan Tucker, Newcomb’s archivist and leader of the library’s Culinary History Group, remembered Collin as a true asset to the culinary community. “The books are remarkable scholarly editions with a good mix of practical culinary treasures. They remind us that food history and observations of food ways form a wonderful part of our heritage as scholars, cooks, and indeed as human beings. Dick himself honored us by wishing the books to come to us. He was a friend to the end, always calling when we took the smallest step in writing about or discussing the food of the city.”

A reception honoring the Richard Collin Collection will be held at Tulane University’s Caroline Richardson Building, home to the Nadine Vorhoff Library, on Thursday, January 26th at 6:00 p.m. Members of the community are welcome to attend.

About Newcomb College Institute:
The Newcomb College Institute’s mission is to educate undergraduate women for leadership in the 21st century. We support women students’ research initiatives, advocate for a gender-integrated curriculum, develop community engaged service-learning courses, promote student organizations for women, and bring women leaders to campus. NCI carries on the legacy of Newcomb College by offering a women-centered educational experience in a coeducational institution. To learn more about NCI and their contributions to Tulane and the community, visit tulane.edu/newcomb.

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