UW–Madison Libraries:
Preserving the Past, Transforming the Future

BioCommons: A Collaboration Coming to Life

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On the Cover

Mary Hinkson / Hinkson, late 1940s / S16295. Image courtesy of UW–Madison Archives.

After attending Howard University in Washington D.C., Mary Hinkson enrolled at the University of Wisconsin–Madison to study under pioneer dance instructor Margaret H'Doubler. She received a bachelor's degree in 1946 and a master’s in 1947. After graduation, Hinkson joined the Martha Graham Dance Company.

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Making an Impact: Quick Facts about UW Libraries

• UW-Madison Libraries website is second in usage only to the UW-Madison campus website.

• The University of Wisconsin Digital Collection, a large image-based repository, is used 21,738 times per day, or 8 million times per year. That's Wisconsin's idea in action!

• UW-Madison's top 30 online databases are used 13,071 times a day—equivalent to one in five UW-Madison faculty members, employees, and students using the library daily to access research databases.

• 773,063 requests for content from our online databases are made every day.

• A new, system-wide resource discovery tool is searched 12.3 million times a year, at a cost of $0.01 per search.

• UW System libraries delivered 664,500 books and other printed items across the System in 2014.

• The UW System's shared electronic collection of online journals and databases was used 3,211,626 times in 2014, at an average cost per use of $0.74.

Compelling, Inspiring, Engaging—Libraries Transforming

I too frequently hear comments like, “Nobody reads books anymore” or, “People don’t use libraries anymore.” I’m here to serve as a myth buster.

There is no doubt that libraries are in the midst of significant transformations. Twenty-first century libraries adapt to societal values and practices that reflect the changing patterns in how information resources are used and how technology is applied.

In fact, the University of Wisconsin-Madison Libraries provide convenient 24/7 access to their resources, which are seeing an astounding level of usage. It is simply not true that no one uses the library or that it’s a warehouse for old books.

Not only are the Libraries experiencing off-the-chart usage—but services are being delivered at bargain prices.

People of every generation are reading, and libraries are needed more than ever. University research libraries are not without their challenges. We’ve known for a long time that monopolistic, inflationary pricing on the part of commercial publishers is unsustainable. Compared to the consumer price index, the average cost of a chemistry journal in 2004 was $2,695. In 2014, that average cost was $4,215—a 56.4% increase over that period of time. Science journals typically increased 45% during that period. And science textbooks have typically increased 35–45%.

University library budgets cannot keep pace with these increases and the results have been budget cancellations and the unavailability of scholarly content for students and faculty.

One strategy we use to reduce the impact of those unsustainable cost increases is to leverage buying power. UW-Madison belongs to national and regional research organizations. We use that collective buying power to drive down the initial cost of purchase and annual inflationary costs. We also aggressively pursue “collaboration at scale,” purchasing enterprise systems collectively whenever possible.

In addition to access to scholarly content, students truly value modern library spaces. Increasingly, data collected from users are being used to develop modern learning spaces with such flexibilities as:

• Collaborative study areas
• Group and seminar spaces
• Ready access to modern technology and electrical outlets
• Natural lighting
• Safe learning spaces

These features are important to students and parents alike. You can think of these new spaces as academic social spaces also offering food and drink.

Bringing the classroom into the library is common today.

UW-Madison Libraries have a long tradition of providing high-quality library services to the University community. Since 1848 we’ve collected, preserved, and provided access to the scholarly tools needed to support the research, teaching, and learning needs of the campus.

In the future, providing continued access to scholarly content will be challenging, but it must be done. Research libraries are the few institutions responsible for long-term curation and preservation of important scholarly content. The infrastructure to provide that curation of content (print and electronic) is expensive. Developing strategic partnerships with other institutions is one way to reduce those costs.

We should not forget the scholarly and teaching impact derived from historical and archival print material, especially that which is unique to our University. Because of the strength of our historical collections and the incredible generosity of our donors, UW-Madison Libraries has one of the strongest offerings of special and archival collections in the country. From historical geographical maps to musical scores to artists’ books to history of science to literature to historical University documents—we have it all.

Although I can’t attribute this quote, it does bear repeating: “No one ever graduated from a library, but no one ever graduated without one!”

UW-Madison Libraries will continue to provide high-quality services into the future as we have since 1848, but we must acknowledge that budget challenges and resultant efforts to be more efficient will affect how we conduct our work.

The foundations of the research library remain to acquire trusted scholarly content, effectively organize that content, provide efficient discovery and navigation to scholarly content, and preserve and curate for future scholars. The infrastructure to provide that curation of content (print and electronic) is expensive. Developing strategic partnerships with other institutions is one way to reduce those costs.

We embrace the opportunities to remain excellent!

Our Friends and donors understand and appreciate that libraries continue to be a wise investment because libraries benefit all students and faculty. Your continued generosity is appreciated and needed to provide continued access to scholarly content and to share infrastructure. We will continue to leverage our campus, community and corporate relationships for the benefit of all students and faculty, because we know that an excellent library is a competitive advantage for the entire campus and beyond.

Thank you for your continued strong support of UW-Madison Libraries. On Wisconsin!

Ed Van Gemert
Vice Provost for Libraries and University Librarian

Ed Van Gemert and Mark Twain (Samuel Clemens) enjoy a good read.
Gifts of Support

UW–Madison Libraries Special Collections to Benefit from a New Louis and Esther Kaplan Estate Fund

Long-time University of Wisconsin-Madison Library supporters and advocates Louis and Esther Kaplan have established an endowed fund through a gift from their estate. Their dynamic involvement in civic, educational, political, and non-profit organizations benefited Wisconsin in innumerable ways. Their generosity in establishing this fund serves as a legacy of their dedication to the Wisconsin idea.

In the profession of librarianship, Dr. Kaplan is remembered for his role in planning and shepherding the construction of Memorial Library. His work built the foundation for the UW-Madison’s collections, and he oversaw the creation of notable buildings including the Medical School (Middleton) Library, the Music Library, Steenbock Library, and College Library. Following his tenure as Director of Libraries, which ended in 1971, he continued his service by teaching courses for the School of Library and Information Studies.

Esther Kaplan received her economics degree from UW-Madison in 1936. She was active in numerous cultural and political endeavors. She served as treasurer in the campaigns of Horace Wilkie (for the U.S. House), Gaylord Nelson (for governor, for U.S. House, and for U.S. Senate), Patrick Lucey (for governor), Anthony Earl (for governor), and Shirley Abrahamson (for the state Supreme Court).

“Louis and Esther Kaplan have had a significant impact on the development and the expansion of the modern research university library here at Wisconsin. We gratefully accept their gift and we’ll continue to honor their legacy,” said Ed Van Gemert, Vice Provost for Libraries at UW-Madison. “Mr. and Mrs. Kaplan cared about sustaining the community they valued. Their generous endowment for the UW-Madison Libraries reflects their commitment to future generations and will enable the Library to build on their dedication to this University and its Libraries.”

When Louis Kaplan, then still a bachelor, arrived in Madison, he found lodging at the campus University Club. Taking his dinners and practicing his skills as a billiard player, he helped him to strike up friendships with faculty members. His first task as Chief of the Reference Department (1937-1945) was to establish a collection of reference works. By the early 1940’s Kaplan had organized an effective reference service for the library and increased national visibility through his committee and publications activities, including co-founding the Periodical Review Index, a guide to book reviews in scholarly journals for librarians. War brought everything to a halt. Kaplan took a leave of absence from the university and joined the U.S. Navy.

When Kaplan returned to the library in 1945, he found many changes. One effect was the accelerated growth of both established and new fields of study. With limited funds, not only did the library need to purchase materials for many more fields of study, it had to move beyond traditional formats (books and periodicals) to new ones (government documents, maps, and microforms), which posed a complex range of storage, access, and conservation problems.

The postwar surge of students brought further change. Wisconsin’s enrollment jumped from 9,000 in the 1945-46 academic year to more than 18,600 in the next three years, a situation for which neither the campus or library was prepared.

Kaplan became Associate Director for Public Services in 1946 and served on the Planning Committee which represented the mechanism President Fred set in place to consider campus growth. Along with others, Kaplan recognized the need for a new library specifically designed to meet the challenging instruction and research requirements of the growing university.

The efforts of this group ushered in a new era for the libraries at Wisconsin. The Memorial Library opened its doors in September 1955. Kaplan had a high level of involvement with its progression, from decisions concerning floor coverings to ceiling materials. The main stacks could hold one million volumes, with an additional 400,000 volumes in basement compact storage. The building accommodated 1,800 readers, with 100 study rooms for faculty researchers and 350 student study carrels. Additionally, there were conference and seminar facilities, a university archives operation, and smoking and non-smoking rooms. In attempting to meet the needs that had emerged after WWII, Kaplan had helped to plan a library that stood ready and better able than many other older research facilities to meet the challenges higher education would pose in the expansion years.

Kaplan was appointed Director of the Libraries and Chief Librarian of the Memorial Library on July 1, 1957. In his expanded role,

Excerpted with permission from an essay by Gretchen Lagana.

"Mr. and Mrs. Kaplan cared about sustaining the community they valued. Their generous endowment for the UW-Madison Libraries reflects their commitment to future generations and will enable the Library to build on their dedication to this University and its Libraries.”

Ed Van Gemert
Vice Provost for Libraries and University Librarian.
Kaplan set to work on increasing the book budget, which had hovered around $185,000. This figure contrasted poorly with other Midwest research institutions; statistics showed that funding of the library had not kept pace with the support given to other parts of the university. As a result additional support was granted, and by 1966–67, the library reached a financial milestone: a million-dollar book budget.

Kaplan also recognized the importance of supplementing book funds with gifts-in-kind. Within months of his appointment he helped found the State Committee for Book Gifts to the University, and in January 1958 he re-activated the Friends of the University of Wisconsin-Madison Libraries. As the book budget and in-kind acquisitions grew stronger, Kaplan professionalized book selection, being among the first library directors to appoint bibliographers, who were trained authorities with special knowledge of the book trade. By the late 1960’s the Libraries employed bibliographers for Hispanic, African, and Slavic studies and the history of science.

Throughout his career with the libraries, Kaplan willingly engaged in the political process that linked the library to power centers on campus. Taking care to build coalitions, he participated fully in the faculty environment of the university. Kaplan played a substantial role in ensuring that, as the Madison campus expanded, its libraries were not left behind. Louis Kaplan was the librarian who worked most closely with the university’s scholars to help build a preeminent research library, a library with the strength and resilience to meet shifting responsibilities and new functions posed by the changing world of higher education.

Diversity Residency Program:
Opening Doors of Opportunity

In 2013 the University of Wisconsin-Madison’s General Library System began the Diversity Residency Program. The two-year program is designed to expose new professionals to valuable experiences in academic instruction, reference, and collection management.

“We have the capacity to offer a generalized experience, but we also have all these specialty libraries,” explained College Library Director Caroz Kruse. “Our program designates the first year for generalized exposure, and year two takes a more customized approach. Not every institution can offer that kind of thing.”

The program grew from the library staff as a way to address a lack of diversity in the field of librarianship.

“I think there is a social justice aspect to the profession,” Kruse said, “so that there’s a desire to provide information for all, free information, free access, and to serve the needs of everybody.”

The program’s recruitment efforts reflect the larger mission of encouraging diverse individuals to explore the various professional aspects of librarianship.

“This program, in particular, brings in people who are from other parts of the country and went to a different library school and aren’t familiar with UW-Madison,” Kruse said.

Hailing from Illinois, E-Learning Resident Librarian Miguel Ruiz reflects on the challenges and rewards of acclimating to the new environment.

“I think navigating through is kind of like being a first-semester freshman on this campus,” Ruiz noted. “You feel overwhelmed and you have to take time to really let the experience settle in. There are a lot of opportunities to become engaged and involved and it’s really deciding what direction you want to go.”

It’s no surprise that the professional study of librarianship poses a unique set of challenges, but the Resident Librarianship Program has a great support system to help residents with the transition.

Carlos Duarte, from Texas, one of the librarians recruited in the program, has a great interest in reference and patron relations.

“I’m trying to focus more on being present with patrons and helping them understand that my job is to answer their questions,” Duarte said. “There’s nothing too big or too small. If it’s too big for me to answer, my job is to find someone who can answer it.”

Duarte finds it helpful to have so many experienced individuals to call on for their expertise.

“I know there are things that I don’t know and I have to ask questions,” Duarte explained. “I don’t feel like there’s a lot of institutional push back at any level so I feel comfortable asking questions and bringing things up.”

While the infrastructure for the program is strong, recent budget cuts make it no longer feasible to recruit for the Diversity Residency Program.

“Regrettfully, we’ve had to eliminate the possibility of recruiting a Diversity Resident Librarian for the next school year,” notes Nancy Graff Schultz, Associate Director for Administration for the General Library System. “We hope to pick it up again in the near future.” If you are interested in donating to the General Library System to provide funding for this position, please contact Ben Strand, Director of Development, at ben.strand@supportuw.org.
In addition to live performances, we will engage K-12 students in learning about Shakespeare and the Folio, and in creating their own Shakespeare-inspired writings, art works, plays, costumes, and cultural artifacts. The Folger Shakespeare Library will provide educational support materials.

We hope to host a lecture event featuring Dr. Michael Witmore, the Director of the Folger Library (and a former UW–Madison faculty member in the Department of English), to talk about the First Folio and its cultural resonance through time.

Many of our partners are part of the UW–Madison campus community, but we are also working with groups beyond campus, such as the Overture Center, Wisconsin Public Television, Wisconsin Historical Society, Wisconsin Book Festival, Fox Valley Summer Shakespeare Theatre, and many others. We strive to be inclusive and diverse: Shakespeare for All Who Want It!

We could not wish for a better venue than the Chazen Museum—thanks to Russell Panczenko and the expert staff there. As Project Manager I am additionally delighted to be working with Norma Saldivar and her staff at the UW–Madison Arts Institute. Their expertise in planning and managing large-scale, multi-part events will be most welcome in the coming year and a half. Other plans afoot involve fundraising for the many proposed Shakespeare projects. I’m fortunate to be working with Ben Strand of the UW Foundation and to have his arts experience in planning.

Any and all ideas are welcome as we continue our planning. I have a colleague who leaves me a note card each day on my office door with an idea for an activity or event. The envelope of his cards grows by the day. We joke about it, but truly I am thrilled to see the interest and excitement about Shakespeare in Wisconsin.

To the Great Variety of Readers— an introduction by John Heminges and William Condell. 

Images from the First Folio of Shakespeare:

Shakespeare’s First Folio of 1623—the “Most-Studied” Book in the World—to Visit Madison in November 2016.
The idea of Special Collections as the exclusive preserve of established scholars has long been out of date: we have for many years done much teaching from our holdings to undergraduate as well as graduate classes. In the past dozen years or so, however, the focus has shifted decisively to undergraduate class sessions and assignments that promote student engagement with primary sources and the wide range of questions they raise. Students in Professor Lee Wandel’s European history survey course, for example, regularly come in during their discussion sections to see Diderot and d’Alembert’s massive Encyclopédie, in which they see firsthand the scale of this collective enterprise. Professor Wandel wrote about the experience in the 2008 issue of this magazine. As with many other classes, these sessions give students the opportunity to examine the results of printing with movable type and person-powered presses and to reflect on the market for printed books prior to industrialization. In class sessions led by Monica Ledesma in fall semester 2014, the large engravings of crafts and trades, a noteworthy feature of the Encyclopédie, helped open up lively discussions of the organization of labor and technological innovation in the decades before the French Revolution. Professor Joshua Calhoun of the English Department is an enthusiastic partner in encouraging undergraduates to use the resources of Special Collections. Kaydian Campbell and Emily Loney, teaching assistants for Calhoun’s large Shakespeare course, have just recently brought their sections to the Department, asking students to look for—and talk about—something interesting (or puzzling) in early printed books, from monstrous creatures in the Nuremberg Chronicle to alternate renderings of Shakespeare’s texts in our copy of the Second Folio and later editions. The long “s” of the period (which strongly resembles a lowercase “f”) always gets students’ attention, but with practice they get beyond it and fixed themselves to be able to navigate 17th-century books with relative ease.

In a recent class session in Special Collections on dictionaries (for English 100, taught by Richard Ness), students were asked to compare definitions of the same word in a variety of dictionaries, ranging from a “Table alphabeticall” to aid in the “understanding of hard usual English words” (1664) to Samuel Johnson’s magisterial dictionary of the mid-18th century. Despite centuries of readers, their sturdy bindings and handmade rag paper allow us to talk about the durability of early printed books as a critical technology for information management. Early editions of Webster’s American dictionary of the English language, alongside rather bawdy lexicons of “university wit and pickpocket eloquence,” speak to related questions of audience and publishing models.

For her undergraduate course on the Scientific Revolution of the 16th–18th centuries, Professor Florence Hsia of the History of Science Department has prepared worksheets tailored to our editions of and commentaries on a late medieval astronomy textbook, Sacrobosco’s On the Sphere, and carefully guided her students through these sources, both complex and revealing about the development of astronomical ideas before and after Copernicus. She and I now co-teach that course, in which students make intensive hands-on use of our holdings in history of science, exploring, for example, organization and distribution of new models in the 17th century for communicating scientific knowledge.

To encourage discussion on humanistic perspectives in environmental studies, then, teaching assistant Lynnette Regouby (now at the American Philosophical Society) picked out telling images in early illustrated natural history books and posed specific questions for her students about the relationships among animals, their environments, and any evidence of humans or human-made objects in the depictions.

Other instructors sent students to Special Collections to explore on their own. Some come on library scavenger hunt assignments, asked to pick up a bookmark about the current exhibit or, now, to take a cell phone photo of the exhibit. Other assignments are more involved. For Lauren Russell’s and Lucy Tan’s introductory creative writing classes on fiction and poetry, students looked for poems or short stories in specific titles in our very large holdings of “little magazines,” those literary magazines (generally small in press run, not in physical dimensions) that constitute our most heavily used special collection. For other courses, aspiring writers were asked to identify a little magazine that might be a good fit for their own writing. Students in Professor Theresa Kelley’s course on Jane Austen moved beyond modern reprints this past semester by looking at early editions of Austen’s works as well as other 19th-century gothic tales and historical novels.

Many of these visits to Special Collections involve a wow factor — “I had no idea the library had such books” — and infectious curiosity. In nearly all encounters with undergraduate classes in Special Collections, students stick around afterward to look at the books in more detail or to ask more questions. That our holdings are still housed in close proximity to the Special Collections seminar room means that we can readily retrieve other examples relevant to their interests — in particularly rewarding such “teachable moments.”
UW–Madison Archives Preserves Important “Firsts” on Campus

By David Muhl, University Archivist

Staff at the University of Wisconsin–Madison Archives are often asked about firsts. Who was the first African-American student? What was the first Chicano Studies course? Who was the first female Asian graduate student? Questions like these are difficult to answer, however. The problem can be one of definition—e.g., does an 1890s student from the Philippines with a Hispanic last name count? Or, it’s simply a case of the data never having existed. For many years the University did not keep statistics on specific groups, or if it did, it kept aggregate statistics but not information on individual students. And “firsts” are often something that most people don’t think about, or think about documenting, until well after the fact.

Early admissions papers at the University did ask for students’ nationality, but not their race. In later years the UW included a question about race during the admissions process, but did not keep much in the way of statistics until the 1960s, making it very difficult to identify specific students. For example, several years ago, one researcher spent a great deal of time going through admissions papers from the late 19th and early 20th centuries to identify potentially Jewish names, which he then verified through other sources, for a publication on early Jewish life in Madison.

For his first Archives project, Harvey researched the history of African Americans on campus. While the basic facts are known—e.g., William Noland was the first African American graduate in 1875—much work remains to be done to create a broader picture and to fill in the many gaps. After a great deal of research, Harvey created a website on African Americans at the University of Wisconsin (http://www.library.wisc.edu/archives/exhibits/exhibits-and-special-projects/african-americans-at-the-university-of-wisconsin-1875-1969/), and it went live in April 2015. Harvey also created a poster version of the site, which was displayed at College Library during Black History Month, and he completed a much more inclusive finding aid on African Americans on campus, which will be linked from the website.

Much remains to be done on documenting underrepresented groups on campus, but having someone with Harvey’s skills and knowledge committed to unearthing important moments in campus history has brought the Archives closer to telling a more complete story.
It goes without saying that the State of Wisconsin Collection (http://uwdc.library.wisc.edu/collections/WI/WEMArchive) is at the very heart of the University of Wisconsin’s Digital Collections (UWDC). With 70 separate projects, 745,280 pages, 22,000-plus photographs, maps, and other images, it’s the largest of our collections. With 871,401 user visits in the last year alone, it is also the UWDC’s most accessed online collection. And, with projects coming from such wide-ranging areas as Beloit, Superior, La Crosse, and Oshkosh, it certainly covers a lot of territory. Many of these projects and much of the content originate within public libraries, historical societies, and UW System campuses, but UWDC has been fortunate to partner recently with two state agencies to expand the State of Wisconsin collection. Projects with Wisconsin Emergency Management and the Department of Natural Resources showcase our state’s history and provide unique research opportunities for students and faculty alike. Additionally, the Wisconsin Board of Commissioners of Public Lands has been a long-time partner with UWDC, making available early plat maps and survey notebooks of the state. Bringing these resources together in UW Digital Collections means that researchers and people with a general interest in Wisconsin history are more able to find a photograph that shows a site from thirty years ago or survey notes from over a century ago. Peter Gorman, Assistant Director for Digital Library and Preservation Strategy, explains, “Our collaborations with other state agencies show how we can support each other’s missions, creating valuable research materials and disseminating them to the widest possible audience within the state and beyond.”

Wisconsin Public Land Survey Records
http://digicoll.library.wisc.edu/SurveyNotes/

It makes sense that some of the earliest records related to Wisconsin state history are part of one of UWDC’s earliest state territory. Many of these projects and much of the content originate within public libraries, historical societies, and UW System campuses, but UWDC has been fortunate to partner recently with two state agencies to expand the State of Wisconsin collection. Projects with Wisconsin Emergency Management and the Department of Natural Resources showcase our state’s history and provide unique research opportunities for students and faculty alike. Additionally, the Wisconsin Board of Commissioners of Public Lands has been a long-time partner with Wisconsin Emergency Management Images and Historic Materials
http://uwdc.library.wisc.edu/collections/WI/WEMArchive

Wisconsin’s Historic Natural Resources Photos
http://uwdc.library.wisc.edu/collections/wi/DNRphotos

Above: Plat Map for T7N R9E

Inset: Oshkosh1899
From Randall, Geo. A. “Illustrated atlas of Winnebago County, Wisconsin” containing outline map of the county, map of each township in the county, with village and city plats. Also maps of the world, United States and state of Wisconsin, together with other valuable information.

Left: General Dwight Eisenhower fishing, 1946
Wisconsin’s Historic Natural Resources
DNR0082
agency partnerships. The Wisconsin Public Land Survey Records contains plat maps and the accompanying notebooks that resulted from the survey of Wisconsin conducted between 1832 and 1866 by the federal General Land Office. The digital collection was launched in 2003 and resurvey maps were added in 2010. It is an incredibly important geographic and historic resource, since this work established the essential patterns upon which land ownership and land use is based. According to Jaime Martindale, Map and Geospatial Data Librarian at the Arthur H. Robinson Map Library, "The survey notes and original plats offer the oldest ‘baseline’ dataset for researchers to begin their historic work, by showing the very first cartographic depiction of the public land survey system (Township, Range, Sections), accompanied by detailed descriptions of the vegetation, terrain, and hydrographic features in the field notes. In many cases, the early plats and survey notes in the BCPL collection provide the earliest pieces of information describing tracts of land across Wisconsin, which can be very personal and meaningful for people in academic research, professional, or family history settings."

Wisconsin’s Historic Natural Resources Photos  
http://uwdc.library.wisc.edu/collections/wi/DNRphotos

Images of presidents fishing, sports stars fishing, and celebrities like Gypsy Rose Lee (you guessed it) fishing are among the first batch of 500 photographs in the Department of Natural Resources collection. There are also photographs of beloved state parks, such as Devil’s Lake and Copper Falls; shots of sporting activities, like hunting and snowmobiling, that are part of Wisconsin’s rich heritage; and images of important historical sites, such as the state’s first capitol and an important archaeological site from the Mississippian culture. The physical collection housed by the DNR contains nearly 10,000 photographs, some dating as far back as the early 1900s, with the bulk of the photos taken between 1935 and 1960.

Why partner with UW Digital Collections?  
Kathy Kahler from Wisconsin Natural Resources magazine explains that the DNR publications staff "recognized there was a need to have a selection of these types of photos available to anybody who needed them in a digital, searchable, easily downloadable format—preferably in perpetuity." Since the collection has been released to the public, Kahler notes, "feedback from people who have discovered the collection has been overwhelmingly positive and serves to engage people of all ages in glimpses of life ‘back in the day.’ On that note, Wisconsin Natural Resources magazine has added a regular feature with that name, describing a photo or two from the collection in each issue."

“Our collaborations with other state agencies show how we can support each other’s missions, creating valuable research materials and disseminating them to the widest possible audience within the state and beyond.”

The first 500 images will be joined by nearly 2,000 more photographs, with an anticipated completion date of August 2016.

Wisconsin Emergency Management Images and Historic Materials  
http://uwdc.library.wisc.edu/collections/WU/WEMArchive

Each year the state is hit by an average of 25 tornadoes and more than 1,500 wildfires threatening lives and property. Flooding along Wisconsin’s rivers is an annual rite of spring that can cause millions of dollars in property damage and force families from their homes. Train derailments, chemical spills, and other human-caused disasters affect our environment and our communities. This collection of photographs, taken by emergency management personnel, documents disasters and state responses during the last 60 years. Wisconsin Emergency Management Administrator Brian Satula explains, ‘These pictures and slides are part of the history of Wisconsin. There have been major disasters over the years, including the Great Flood of 1993, which was one of the most costly disasters in our state’s history. We also have pictures from the Oakfield Tornado of 1996, which was the last EF5 tornado to strike Wisconsin.’ This project partnership means that photographic and documentary history of the agency has literally gone from the trash bin (where some of the images were found during an office move) to being preserved online for researchers. Satula explains, ‘It is a relief to have these photos digitized and preserved. They are now available to anyone who has an interest in emergency management and severe weather and no longer just sitting in boxes on shelves. The information will be preserved for future generations.’

The collection has more than 4,000 photographs available online; by the end of the project, there will be nearly 2,000 images documenting the state’s response to these emergencies. The maps, photographs, and archival materials from three different state agencies combine to form a powerful research tool that enhances the public’s knowledge of the state of Wisconsin. Gorman says it’s another example of the power of the Wisconsin Idea in action.

“It is our hope that the libraries, by bringing together resources from multiple partners, can help the citizens of Wisconsin to discover collections they may not have known existed, or would have to have visited multiple sites to gather,” Gorman said. “To us, this is the essence of the Wisconsin Idea.”
Information Specialist Internship Program: Training for the Future

By Genesha Murray
ISIP Spring Graduate

The University of Wisconsin Madison–Libraries are planting seeds in the information-specialist soil with the Information Specialist Internship Program (ISIP). ISIP, which began in 2006 at the UW-Madison Libraries, offers undergraduate students the opportunity to gain a wide variety of information science skills. It also allows them to observe and practice in the broad base of professions that can grow from these skills.

Upon acceptance, the position contracts for two years of experiential work. The first year and a half aims at offering broad exposure to the foundations of information science. The final quarter of the program helps interns fine-tune their skills by matching their personal and professional interests and capabilities with positions in the libraries that are more targeted. ISIP came about as librarians and administration felt the need to do more to address a lack of diversity in the field of librarianship and information science. Information specialists include librarians, data managers, educators, researchers, public administrators, and more.

College Library Director Carrie Kruse explained how the program fits into the larger goal of inclusivity and diversification in the information profession. “We want to make sure we have a welcoming and inclusive environment in libraries,” Kruse explains. “Ensuring diverse experiences are brought to the table allow us to explore discussions about how we develop our polices and practices.”

“The community around ISIP gave me a group of professionals who were supportive of my growth as a student and stayed supportive of my growth as a young professional.”
—Corey Black, ISIP graduate.

“The program has four areas for interns to explore during their time with ISIP. Public services involves directly assisting people in the library. This position calls for the intern to be the ‘face’ of the library, helping people find, evaluate, and use information. Working with information technology (IT), interns experience the technical side of the library environment, covering the planning, design, and integration of technologies within the library. Interns can also experience discipline-specific information centers, or special libraries, where they can support learning, teaching, and research in academic departments.

Lastly, there are collection development and technical services. In these areas, interns are exposed to staff who build and manage the library’s collections. Technical services supports this function by acquiring, organizing, providing access to, and preserving the print and electronic collections.

So far 18 students have completed the program. Two more students have just completed their first year and will be returning in the fall. The goal is to have at least two interns in each year of the two-year program, resulting in four active ISIP interns at any given time.

Each intern is paired with a supervisor and a mentor to get firsthand experiences from those currently working in their field of interest.

The benefits are reciprocal. Kruse explains that supervisors enjoy the opportunity to have a pupil under their guidance. “We hear it from a lot of supervisors, how much they enjoy the chance to reflect on the work they do because we can get caught up thinking we are just doing our job,” Kruse says.

When discussing their ISIP experiences, students echo the idea that working so closely with staff has helped them develop a deep professional insight. It’s an opportunity students say is appreciated, especially as undergraduates.

Jacob Metoxen, a 2009 ISIP graduate, said professional guidance in the program made the most difference during his internship. “The most important part of ISIP for me was the mentors and supervisors,” Metoxen explains. “The willingness to work with students in their field of interest and personal interests was a refreshing break from the norms of undergraduate academic life.”

Following ISIP graduation, Metoxen went on to earn a Master’s degree in Information Resources and Library Science from the University of Arizona. With this, he worked at the University of Alaska-Fairbanks Elmer E. Rasmuson Library. Metoxen is now Senior Policy Advisor for the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin, where he is working on improving telecommunication access.

Corey Black, a 2013 ISIP graduate, noted that the strong sense of connectedness in the program continues to help her in her development, even beyond graduation.

“The community around ISIP gave me a group of professionals who were supportive of my growth as a student and stayed supportive of my growth as a young professional,” Black said.

Black is not currently working in the library science field, but is in the process of applying to a library and information science Master’s program.

Both Black and Metoxen have made strides to advance their careers in information and library science. While the program strives for that goal, it is the exposure to the field that also makes a difference.

“We know we are planting a seed that might not grow into a librarian until later—or maybe it never does, and that’s okay too, because it’s just good for people to know what libraries do,” Kruse notes. “I actually firmly believe we will get some of those ISIP students back as librarians eventually!”
We share the Libraries’ goal of welcoming the broader community to the scholarship that takes place at UW–Madison.

Friends Welcome

From Friends President Michael Chaim

As the University of Wisconsin–Madison Friends of the Library Board transitions to a new slate of officers for the coming year, one can’t help but be reminded of the roll call of distinguished UW–Madison Friends and associates who have served in past years. Past Friends presidents have included some of the University’s finest scholars, such as Frederick Cassidy and ellsworth snyder, as well as its greatest citizens, like Art Hove. My immediate predecessor, Maria Saffiotti Dale, is both a fine scholar and an exemplar of the idea of service that UW-Madison prizes. These individuals have grown and maintained the Friends of the UW–Madison Libraries as one of the longest-lasting library friends organizations in the nation—47 years and going strong.

I came to the Friends board 11 years ago through a different route. As a bookseller for years, I was recruited to fill the post that Trudy Barash of the former Canterbury Books, Caryl Askins of Paul’s Books on State Street, and others had held on the Friends board. I was pleased to be part of the Friends’ ongoing connection to the community. Intrigued with the idea of getting to know the UW’s wonderful library system, I signed on, and I’ve been absorbed in exploring the Libraries ever since. We move and work among a collection of treasures on the UW–Madison campus—the dazzling collections in the Mills Music Library, the maps and reliefs in the Geography Library, and the world-renowned archives of the Wisconsin Historical Society. In fact, the Friends highlight several of these collections each year in our “Treasures of the Libraries” event series.

Bookselling was a rewarding form of public outreach, and I’ve always greatly valued the emphasis that the UW Libraries place on outreach and accessibility. The Libraries’ vast print and electronic collections make it a unique Wisconsin treasure. The Libraries are irreplaceable, first and foremost, because they ensure that these collections can be used by thousands of people annually—students, faculty, alumni, Wisconsin residents, and numerous visitors from around the world. The Friends work to boost this accessibility by hosting events that are open to the public and through targeted programs such as annual grants to visiting scholars. We share the Libraries’ goal of welcoming the broader community to the scholarship that takes place at UW–Madison.

Earlier this year, the Friends organization expanded to include all donors to the UW Libraries as Friends at the basic membership level. The thought behind this is simple: Donors are (by their very nature) friends of the libraries—why not make them capital “F” Friends as well? Whether you read this as a long-time Friends member or a new recipient of the Libraries’ magazine, I hope that you’ll take advantage of these opportunities for access and connection. Entry to campus libraries, borrowing privileges, and events (including lectures, informal talks, collection spotlights, films, and an invitation to our annual dinner)—these are some of the features that accompany your support of the Libraries. If you’d like to learn more, or would like to arrange to visit or tour the campus libraries, please contact the Friends office (library.wisc.edu/friends or telephone: 608-265-2505).

The Friends and the Libraries welcome you!

Making a Difference: Friends’ Grants to Libraries

The Friends of the University of Wisconsin–Madison Libraries have distributed funds through the Grants to Libraries program annually since 1958. This year more than $54,000 was awarded to sixteen librarians from twelve campus libraries. The funds are earmarked for preservation and acquisitions. Monies for the program are raised by the Friends’ semiannual book sales, member gifts and donations, and annual income from Friends’ endowments. To date, the Friends have donated $340,799 to the UW-Madison Libraries through this program.

Grants to individual campus libraries and librarians range in amount from $350 to $1,250. While these are small in comparison to the Libraries’ total annual acquisitions and preservation budgets, they do make a difference. As library budgets have tightened, these awards are even more important. Several librarians took time to share with us the impact of their grants.

The Law Library purchased a special vacuum with the grant award. Mary Jo Koranda, Head of Circulation, said, “The Friends’ grants program is a fantastic opportunity for campus libraries to obtain preservation equipment, supplies, and materials we would not normally be able to afford, especially in face of the lean times ahead for the UW. I wish to again extend my thanks to all the Friends members for making these grants possible, and all of their efforts on behalf of the UW Libraries.”

Kevin Ruedylo, librarian for German Language studies, reported, “In my case, grants from the Friends allow me to respond to faculty requests for large-ticket items that otherwise would be difficult for me to accommodate.”

Katherine Charek Briggs, Resource Librarian at the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Campus Center, added, “The LGBTCC Resource Library is one of the only spaces where LGBTQ+ students feel safe and supported as they access identity-specific materials; we try to provide current and relevant in-community voices. The Friends grant has been our sole source of collection development funding since 2012. We couldn’t do this important work without the grant! Thank you so much for supporting under-represented students.”

As another librarian succinctly wrote when she learned of her 2015 award, “Friends ROCK!”

Grants to Libraries 2015 Awards

- American Indian Studies Program Library: Purchase of contemporary materials
- Anthropology Collection: Purchase of e-book collection, Oxford Handbook in Archaeology Foundation Collection
- East Asian Studies: Acquisition of titles relating to the Chinese anti-rightist movement
- Geography Library: Acquisition of updated state, topographic, and gazetteer atlases
- Geology and Geophysics Library: Acquisition of international geological maps
- German Language Humanities Collection: Purchase of Mythological Animals, Literature in the Soviet Union Occupation Zone and GDR, 1945-1990
- Japanese Studies: Purchase set of rare paintings from East Asian art pieces
- Kohler Art Library: Acquisition of illustrated manuscript miniatures
- Law Library: Purchase of vacuum for preservation project
- LGBTCC Campus-Center Research Library: Purchase of materials for collection development
- Max Kade Institute for German-American Studies Preservation of select historic materials
- Classical Studies and Romance Languages Collection: Purchase of database Brill’s Encyclopaedia of Neo-Latin World Online
- Slavic Studies Collection: Purchase of e-resource for Hawaiian literature
- University Archives: Preservation of fragile memorabilia
- Wisconsin State Herbarium Library: Acquisition of flora and faunal miscellanea
- Wisconsin Water Library: Purchase of materials for academic research and outreach education

By Amole Perry
School of Library and Information Studies (2016) Friends of the Libraries Administrator

https://www.library.wisc.edu/friends/library-grants/
The Friends of the University of Wisconsin–Madison Libraries are pleased to announce that Jim Dast was honored with the Rotary Club of Madison’s Senior Service Award on March 18, 2015. Jim has been a volunteer with the Friends for more than thirty years and has contributed in many ways to the Madison community.

The Friends and the Libraries are very fortunate to have volunteers such as Jim Dast who are so committed to their work. “Few embody the dedication better than Jim,” says Ed Van Gemert, Vice Provost for Libraries and University Librarian. “His impact on the Libraries has been immeasurable.”

Jim’s love of books has been a part of his life for as long as he can remember. It’s a passion that shaped his career, and also drove him to help others find the same joy in books that he knows. “All my life I’ve loved to handle books,” Dast notes. “Now I have the opportunity to continue to handle books, and do something I feel is beneficial to the Libraries and to so many other people.”

Jim began volunteering for the Friends book sale as its inception in 1985, then a monthly event. In 1996 Jim retired as the Libraries’ Conservator and in 1999 he joined the Friends Board. He took over operation of the book sale in 2004, from John Toussaint. By then the total sales accumulated over $300,000. Under Jim’s leadership, the sales continued to flourish, and have now raised nearly $735,000 dollars. Jim’s goal is to raise more than $1 million. Then he says he’ll think about retiring—(again).

When asked why he was such a faithful volunteer, Jim responded, “The collections of the University Libraries are an almost incomprehensibly vast cultural, intellectual, and academic resource. Serving as a member and volunteer of the Friends gives me the opportunity, in some small way to contribute to those resources.”

Preparing for the book sale is a meticulous undertaking. Jim works tirelessly unpacking, sorting, and organizing thousands upon thousands of books for each sale. He oversees nearly sixty volunteers during the sales, and when it’s all over, he starts preparing for the next one.

Jim’s volunteer efforts don’t end with the sale. He is instrumental in connecting with other book programs, such as Books for the Dane County Jail, Rotary’s Books for the World program, and Better World Books. His efforts with these programs provides them with remainders from the Friends’ sale and other books such as textbooks or pocket paperbacks that are not included in the sale. In addition, he frequently repairs older books of interest for the Madison Public Library’s Sequoya branch book sales. Jim also volunteers his time and talents to Habitat for Humanity Restore on the deconstruction team, salvaging materials for resale.

Jim was nominated for this award by Mary K. Rouse, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Dean of Students Emerita, UW-Madison, and by Ed Van Gemert. The award is given to individuals, couples, or senior groups who have contributed significant amounts of civic or social services to the local community or to society in general. The award is for those at least sixty-five years of age who through their efforts represent and foster the Rotary ideal of “Service above Self.”

Those who have worked with Jim through the years say he certainly deserves the honor. “Jim’s inspired leadership in the last thirty years has made the Friends Book Sale one of the most coveted book events in the state of Wisconsin,” says Maria Saffiotti Dale, Friends Board member and former president. “It is with deep gratitude and pride that the Friends join Jim in celebrating this honor.”

When Jim learned he was going to be honored by the Rotary Club of Madison, his response was humble. But although Jim is not one to brag, if you nudge him a little, he’ll finally admit, he’s done more than his share to earn this award. “You know, maybe I deserve this award,” he says as he gazes over the piles of boxes in the basement of Memorial Library. “I guess a little recognition never hurts.”

“Jim Dast: Honoring Superior Service”

Jim Dast sits on boxes of books ready to be sorted for the book sale in Memorial Library.
Almost from the beginning of my time (June 2007) as head of the University of Wisconsin-Madison Oral History Program (OHP), I have had the privilege of being supported by the Friends of the UW-Madison Libraries. They have given me time to talk about the program, funding to help hold a national one-day oral history conference, and Friends members who regularly volunteer their time to our efforts.

Recently, the Friends provided the program with funds to process material related to the 1970 Sterling Hall Bombing (also known as the Mathematics Research Center Bombing). We hired a graduate student, Stephen Pierce, to create a finding aid of our textual, visual, and audio material related to the most notorious Vietnam War era event on our campus. The Finding Aid for the Sterling Hall/Math Research Center Bombing is a 40-page document that contextualizes and informs those interested in materials specific to this event. Pierce also worked with University Archivist David Null to provide references to other artifacts and resources in the Archives. The document has been sent to scholars and students worldwide and used by those who have come to the Archives to research student activism during the 1960s and 1970s.

We also used a portion of the Friends’ funding to help offset the costs of presenting Uncivil Disobedience at the 2014 Oral History Association (OHA) Annual Meeting, which was held in Madison in October, 2014. Mike Lawler, co-founder of the Wisconsin Story Project and Theater Lila, wrote Uncivil Disobedience, a documentary theater piece. He originally presented it with help from Forward Theater in March, 2012. Lawler used primary source documents and stories gathered in 2010 using his “story booth” during the 40th anniversary of the bombing. (Note: The “story booth” was located in Memorial Library’s west corridor.) He also collaborated with me to conduct oral history interviews; excerpts from those appearing in the play and the entire interviews are held by the Archives and can be accessed through the OHP website (http://www.library.wisc.edu/archives/exhibits/campus-voices/sterling-hall-bombing-of-1970/). Uncivil Disobedience served as the opening evening performance at the 2014 OHA Annual Meeting. More than 125 people attended the play and I received nearly universal positive feedback. For example, the program co-chairs sent me an email saying, “We are struck by how the piece accomplished so many things. It brought us squarely into our host city [and] demonstrated the power of oral history as a methodology.” They also wanted me to “pass our gratitude and congratulations to your partners.” So, let me officially thank the Friends of the UW-Madison Libraries for their support of the play and the finding aid. Their support has been invaluable, and we look forward to many opportunities to work together in the future.

Above: Program for Uncivil Disobedience—Program courtesy of UW-Madison Archives, Oral History Program

http://www.library.wisc.edu/archives/

Image courtesy of UW-Madison Archives, S12813

Image courtesy of UW-Madison Archives, S02701

Friends’ Support of Oral History Program Invaluable

By Troy Reeves, Head Oral History Program
The Friends of the University of Wisconsin–Madison Libraries adopts the motto “the more, the merrier” in event planning. To increase awareness about the exceptional resources provided by the UW–Madison Libraries, the Friends are reaching out to a variety of campus and community partners. Our growing list of collaborators helps create a unique series of events, promotes the Libraries, increases event attendance, and generates positive impacts across the campus and the community. The partnerships are vital to the Friends’ ability to pool resources and draw top-notch, nationally known guests to campus.

On October 8, 2014, the Friends joined the UW–Madison History Department’s George L. Mosse Program, the Department of Special Collections, and the Wisconsin Historical Society to commemorate the outbreak of World War I. As part of this special event, noted author and historian Adam Hochschild gave a lecture in the WHS auditorium, “1914–1918: The War within the War,” which was attended by more than 300 students, faculty, staff, Friends, and community members. After the lecture more than 150 audience members enjoyed a special book-signing by Hochschild, as well as a gallery talk and exhibit on WWI in the Department of Special Collections at Memorial Library. The exhibit, “1914: Then Came Armageddon,” was curated by UW–Madison History graduate students Skye Doney and Eric O’Connor, with the help of Special Collections Librarian Robin Rider and Mosse Program leader John Tortorese. A majority of the items featured were donated by UW–Madison alumnus Andrew Stangel.

C-SPAN picked up on the Libraries’ commemorative events and exhibits. During the network’s visit to Madison to highlight the city, a feature piece was filmed on the exhibit, with Doney and Rider providing important context during filming. The documentary, part of C-SPAN’s Cities Tour, was featured nationwide in November. It can still be viewed at http://www.c-span.org/video/?322405-1/university-wisconsin-world-war-exhibit.

On February 26th, the Friends’ annual Schewe Lecture, which featured renowned illuminated manuscript expert Dr. Christopher de Hamel, drew more than 250 faculty, staff, students, and community members. For this event the Friends partnered with the Lubar Institute for the Study of Abrahamic Religions, the Chazen Museum of Art, and the Department of Art History as part of the St. John’s Bible exhibit and symposium. In addition, the Kohler Art Library and the Department of Special Collections showcased two exhibits featuring illuminated manuscript facsimiles during this time.

The Friends of the UW–Madison Libraries are grateful for another successful year, and would like to thank all of our partners for helping provide a series of terrific and successful events.
Friends’ Calendar
Fall 2015

Friends Book Sale

Wednesday–Saturday, October 21–24, 2015
116 Memorial Library, 728 State Street

The largest semiannual used-book sale in Wisconsin includes literature, history, children’s books, science, art, philosophy, reference texts, foreign language books, and more. DVDs, CDs, and LPs are also available. All sales are open to the public.

Hours are:

Wednesday, October 21
Preview sale: 4:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m.
($5 admission)

Thursday and Friday, October 22–23
Regular sale: 10:30 a.m.–7 p.m.
(No admission fee)

Saturday, October 24
Bag sale: 10:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
($4 per bag)
Bring a grocery bag or buy one for $1
1:05–2:00 p.m., remaining books are free

Looking Back: A Special Event

UW–Madison Archives Talk & Moderated Panel Discussion
Featuring: Mayor Paul Soglin, Rev. David Couper, Jane Brotman-Austin and Michael Zaleski

Wednesday, November 18, 2015
5:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m.
Varsity Hall, Union South
1308 W. Dayton Street

A co-sponsored event with the University of Wisconsin Archives will provide a look at the end of U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War, and at campus history during those tumultuous years. From 1965–1975 the UW–Madison campus was a national flashpoint of anti-war protests. Find out about the extensive resources and materials available at the UW–Madison Archives and at the Oral History Project that capture the memories of former students, faculty, and citizens involved with the Sterling Hall bombing and campus demonstrations. The evening will feature a talk by UW–Archives staff that will include movie clips, videos, and photos. This will be followed by a panel discussion moderated by Friends Board member Jim Fleming, of Wisconsin Public Radio.

Saint John’s Bible in Madison: A Look Back

The Saint John’s Bible is a hand-written and illuminated bible commissioned by the monks of St. John’s Abbey in Collegeville, Minnesota. Celebrated calligrapher Donald Jackson and a team of scribes and illuminators completed the bible over a fifteen-year period employing techniques and materials that untold scribes before them used prior to the invention of the printing press. (The Saint John’s Bible was on display at the Chazen Museum of Art December 19, 2014 to March 15, 2015.)
University of Wisconsin-Madison bioscience students from across campus now have a welcoming home base on the lower level of Steenbock Library, with space to study, relax, meet, hold an event, advise/mentor, tutor, and collaborate. Introducing the BioCommons.

The remodeled space is full of nature and life. On one wall, portraits of diverse scientists are interspersed with life-size panoramic images of the UW–Madison arboretum. A large, round study booth, already a favorite with students, is wrapped in an image of trees. Several other walls feature living plants, thanks to the students of the UW–Madison Horticulture Society.

With the changes, the lower level of Steenbock is now fondly called “the Garden Level.” Members of the Aquarium Enthusiasts Club, along with retired faculty member John Glaser, are creating a planted aquarium, giving students the chance to take ownership of the space and bring it to life—literally. Student workers help compile resources for the BioCommons (http://biology.wisc.edu/), assemble displays of flyers about biology opportunities across campus, and staff a new information desk. An events display advertises a cross-campus fair for biological sciences majors, undergraduate research peer mentoring, drop-in pre-health advising, and student-sponsored TED Talk video nights.

The BioCommons is an ongoing cross-campus partnership intended to spark more collaboration and innovation. Initiated by WISCIENCE, Steenbock Library, and the Office of Undergraduate Advising, the BioCommons is shaped in part by the units and student groups across campus that are contributing their own programming and projects. In addition to providing a central gateway to information, the BioCommons is a place to build community and a venue where members of campus can offer biology-related services and events, find out more about each other, and collaborate in new ways.

“We started off the project with town hall meetings to gather ideas from the campus community,” notes Lisa Wettleson, Interim Director of Steenbock. “We incorporated many of these into the physical space. We have also taken advantage of the insights other libraries have gained about connecting with campus programs. There is so much potential to work together and increase our impact.”

Nearly 25 percent of UW–Madison undergraduates study some area of bioscience. There are more than 30 undergraduate biology-related programming are invited to reserve BioCommons spaces and take advantage of publicity support, including the BioCommons newsletter. To learn more, stop by the BioCommons in Steenbock Library or visit biology.wisc.edu. You can also email http://biology.wisc.edu/.

“The BioCommons is an ongoing cross-campus partnership intended to spark more collaboration and innovation.”

By Jessica Newman (Undergraduate Services Librarian) and Amy Bethel (WISCIENCE)
Go Big Read selects ‘Just Mercy’ for 2015-16

Archbishop Desmond Tutu calls Bryan Stevenson “America’s Mandela.”

Stevenson has spent his career fighting for racial justice and wants his fellow Americans to realize that something is inherently wrong with the land of the free and the home of the brave having the highest incarceration rate in the world.

In the 1980s, Stevenson co-founded the nonprofit Equal Justice Initiative, based in Montgomery, Alabama. Since then, he has argued before the U.S. Supreme Court five times and played a role in landmark court cases that have transformed how the criminal justice system deals with violent youth. His Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption, is the latest selection for Go Big Read, UW-Madison’s common-reading program.

Choosing this book seems especially timely since hundreds of UW students and community members have taken part in demonstrations following the grand jury decisions in Ferguson, Missouri, and New York, as well as the fatal shooting by a Madison police officer of a bi-racial teenager in March. Many more added their voices to discussions on diversity during recent campus forums.

Stevenson’s book focuses on one of his first cases, which involved Walter McMillian, a black Alabama businessman sentenced to die for the murder of a white woman despite having an alibi verified by dozens of witnesses. “The message of this book, hammered home by dramatic examples of one man’s refusal to sit quietly and countenance horror, is that evil can be overcome, a difference can be made,” said a review in The New York Times. “Just Mercy will make you upset and it will make you hopeful.”

Sheila Stoeckel, Coordinator of the Chancellor’s Go Big Read Program and a UW-Madison librarian, remarks “Everyone should put this important book on their reading list. Stevenson’s narrative is inspiring, heartbreaking, and will leave you truly affected.”

Planning is underway for how students, faculty, and staff will use the book in classrooms, for special events associated with Just Mercy, and for the year’s program theme of ‘Inequalities in America.’ Stevenson is scheduled to visit campus Oct. 26, when he will give a public talk in Varsity Hall at Union South. Copies of the book will be given to first-year students at the Chancellor’s Convocation for New Students and to students using the book in their classes.

“Everyone should put this important book on their reading list. Stevenson’s narrative is inspiring, heartbreaking, and will leave you truly affected.”

Sheila Stoeckel, Go Big Read Coordinator

Honors and Accomplishments

Library Awards

The University of Wisconsin–Madison Libraries are fortunate to have a dedicated staff. Each year, we gather to celebrate our employees with the annual Library Staff Service Awards and Recognition ceremony. The event recognizes employees for their hard work, specifically in the following areas:

• Exemplary working relationships with library colleagues and/or library clients
• Contributions to establishing a welcoming learning and research environment
• High-productivity coupled with teamwork, leadership, and/or cooperation
• Creativity, initiative, and independence that positively influences library services
• Achievements and work products that significantly benefit library services

2014 award recipients:

Staff Service Awards

Academic:
Melissa McLimans—University of Wisconsin Digital Collections

Classified:
James (JJ) Johnson—Memorial Library

Student Staff:
Elisheva (Bess) Beck—Gender and Women’s Studies Librarian’s Office
Nicholas (Nick) Bunker—Memorial Library

Angelina (Angel) Ziegler—Memorial Library Cataloging

A Length of Service certificate was also given to employees based on five-year increments of service.

Congratulations to all our award winners for the contributions they make to the Libraries!

Look for the 2015 recipients in the spring issue.

College Library, Staff Receive Division of Student Life Partnership Awards

College Library was recognized for both its work with the LGBT Campus Center and with the McNerney Center. Carrie Nelson is the official partner with the McNerney Center award. Carrie Kruse and the College Library staff as a whole were recognized for the LGBT Campus Center partnership award.

LGBTCC staff and College Library staff with Dean of Students Lori Berquam during their award presentation.
From the outside, the University of Wisconsin–Madison Libraries’ Verona Shelving Facility looks like any other warehouse. On the inside it houses a high-density, state-of-the-art shelving space that is a critical investment in the future of the Libraries.

“For a top-notch research university to continue to provide the resources our users require, having a high-density facility is imperative,” says Ed Van Gemert, Vice Provost for Libraries. “Our peers around the Big Ten and the country have already moved in this direction. A competitive institution needs the flexibility to protect and be good stewards of its print collections, while improving the way we meet our users’ needs.”

The $2.5 million, 10,000-square-foot facility broke ground in 2013 and opened officially in October 2014. Located at the Materials Distribution Services (MDS) building, adjacent to the UW–Madison Surplus With A Purpose (SWAP) building, the facility is viewed as a game-changer when it comes to UW Library operations.

“‘The materials we have are requested across the state, and beyond,’ says Doug Way, Associate University Librarian for Collections and Research Services. ‘While technology has allowed for many of our resources to become digital, the reality is, there will always be a need for physical resources. And that means we need space to acquire important new materials.’

Verona will enable the University to continue to invest in print research materials that have been collected on campus for more than 165 years. Currently, there are more than 100,000 volumes, or more than two miles worth of materials, in the facility. As the Libraries also look to reduce their physical footprint on campus, Verona will play an important role in consolidation efforts.

‘Verona will have a significant impact on campus and research at several levels,’ says Heather Weltin, Facilitator for Cooperative Sharing & Storage at UW–Madison. ‘It means the ability to continue collecting materials we need to stay competitive, while improving services and learning spaces that are relevant to a rapidly changing campus community.’

The Verona Shelving Facility also marks a collaboration for the Libraries that dates back more than thirty years. To create the new facility, the Libraries leaned on a long-time partner and Wisconsin-based provider, Spacesaver Corporation, to help build one of the Libraries’ most challenging projects yet.

Library staff, Friends, Spacesaver, and Verona city officials celebrate the opening of the Verona Shelving Facility.

“‘We have had the opportunity to work with Spacesaver for decades now, beginning back when we put high-density shelving in Kohler Art Library,’ says Van Gemert. ‘Not only do they provide a tremendous solution to our growing shelving and storage needs, but knowing we are collaborating with a Wisconsin business makes it a special partnership.’

Verona is expected to take several years to fill. During that time, the Libraries will use Verona as a stepping-stone as it prepares to reinvent itself—transforming to meet growing space demands and to find the best way to serve future users.

‘This is the beginning of an exciting and challenging journey,’ Weltin says. ‘We have our work cut out for us. But I see spaces like Verona as providing a world of opportunity to make sure we remain one of the best research library systems in the country.’

“‘We have our work cut out for us. But I see spaces like Verona as providing a world of opportunity to make sure we remain one of the best research library systems in the country.’

Heather Weltin
Facilitator for Cooperative Sharing & Storage at UW–Madison
Busy, Busy, Busy!

The UW Libraries are busy. There’s always something going on! Whether it’s gearing up for Book Madness (always fun, especially when the Badgers have an equally exciting NCAA tournament run), hosting events that bring alumni, current, and future Badgers together, or engaging with students at any number of campus events, the Libraries are always in the action.

Clockwise:
- Students present in the Department of Special Collections during the Holding History: Shakespeare’s Plays & Poems event.
- Bucky shows off his Book Madness bracket (sorry to say, he didn’t win).
- Delicious creations from the 2015 Edible Book Festival.
- David Null, University Archivist, showcases pieces about college humor through the years during the Libraries’ fall Funny University event.
- Paloma Celis Carbajal, Jill Rosenstock, Carol Schlotter, and Shanna Xu enjoy a staff gathering.
Save the Date

Our Funny University
With writer Andrew Bergman
MA ’66, Ph.D. ’70
Friday, October 9th
Marquee Theatre at Union South
7:00 PM

Go Paperless
Sign up to receive the e-version:
uwmadlibrariesnews@library.wisc.edu

parent.wisc.edu/family-weekend