Go Big Read Announces 2017–2018 Selection: Hillbilly Elegy

Uncovering the Hoopes Sisters’ Collection

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A MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PROVOST FOR LIBRARIES

My musical interests are all over the map. I appreciate a wide variety: R&B, swing, folk, big band, classical, jazz, rock, country, rap; you name it, I like it. Lately, I've been listening to “Change is Hard” by She & Him. Part folk, part indie pop, it's a love-gone-bad number, an “I done him wrong” song.

When I listen to “Change is Hard,” the university librarian in me is reminded of the enormous challenges facing higher education today, and the corresponding changing role of the modern academic research library. The library system at the University of Wisconsin–Madison is one of the largest library systems in North America. The university's scope and breadth of the courses taught, and degrees offered within its schools and colleges have created one of the most comprehensive library systems in North America.

Both the UW–Madison and the General Library System are presented with challenges and opportunities today. Library buildings and spaces originally designed and built to manage and house print collections are in need of attention. Given the seismic shift in how scholarly information is created, published, used, and delivered today, we're seeing a shift of focus in the primary function of the library and its staff, away from managing print collections, and toward providing high-value services.

Why are libraries undergoing transformation? What are the drivers for change? We've given these questions much thought and I invite your feedback as well.

Certainly we know sponsored research is a financial priority for the university and for the state, but library services to support research are still emerging as a specialty service. The Library's collection budget at Wisconsin has been historically flat, and important new content, which would support STEM and social science areas, has not been added. We are grateful to Chancellor Rebecca Blank, Provost Sarah Mangelsdorf, and Vice Chancellor Laurent Heller for recently added significant recurring dollars to the Library's base budget, enabling us to offset science journal inflation costs and invest in needed new content. Additionally, academic research and scholarship are changing. Library spaces are being designed to serve as incubators and collaborative spaces for new forms of research and scholarship, and facilitate consultation spaces that are proximal to research collections. Most important, there is a need for technology-rich library spaces that provide various capacities for working with our collections, including digital mixing of the collections, and computation and visualization of research content in library spaces, highlighting the breadth and strength of the Library's collections.

We know teaching and learning are changing due to a shift toward more active learning and the inclusion of new technologies. Well-designed library spaces will provide students with collaborative spaces that complement the way they learn in their active learning classrooms.

Because of the ways people use information today, we're seeing a shift of focus in the primary function of the library and its staff, away from managing print collections, and toward providing high-value services.

So change is hard; She & Him have it right. Libraries are changing how we work and how we provide services to faculty and students. The delivery model for library services that worked so well for so long no longer holds up. The work we're doing on strategic planning, library consolidation efforts, service delivery planning, and working with the design consultants on a master facilities plan will benefit this university by ensuring efficient, modern library services and spaces for the university community for years to come.

The Libraries at the University of Wisconsin–Madison will continue to acquire world-class resources, organize content, enable discovery, provide access resources, as well as preserve and curate content. It's what we do!

Stay tuned.

Ed Van Gemert
Vice Provost for Libraries and University Librarian

Put Your Mark on the Historic Memorial Library Card Catalog Room

Alumni and Friends: Put YOUR name or a brief message on a historic Memorial Library Card Catalog drawer. For generations UW–Madison students relied on the card catalog, the original “Google,” to find what they needed. Now a wall of drawers is being saved for posterity. Your gift of $1,000 will reserve a drawer that will have your name or message. Proceeds will go toward the renovation of library spaces.

This is the first announcement of this opportunity! Reserve yours today, before they are all checked out. Naming opportunities for study carrels, rooms, or group study spaces are also available.

For more information, contact Ben Strand, Libraries Development Director at 608-308-5405, ben.strand@supportuw.org, or visit go.wisc.edu/LibrarySpaces.
2016 was the Year of Shakespeare in Wisconsin. What a year it was, with the University of Wisconsin-Madison Libraries leading the effort to bring William Shakespeare's work and legacy to the state like never before. After months of Shakespeare-themed events, the Libraries, along with their partners the Chazen Museum of Art and the UW-Madison Arts Institute, welcomed Shakespeare's First Folio to campus in the fall. With the Chazen serving as the official exhibition host, the community enjoyed the First Folio, along with several supplementary exhibits hosted at the Chazen and the Department of Special Collections.

The celebrations leading up to the Folio's arrival included events like performances of Shakespeare's plays by American Player's Theatre and “Holding History” sessions hosted by UW-Madison English professor Joshua Calhoun. Susan Barribeau, the UW-Madison English Language and Humanities Librarian who served as Project Manager for Shakespeare in Wisconsin, reported that the success of the year-long efforts exceeded her expectations.

“Our outreach was very successful, creating new connections with K-12 groups, theatre companies, campus student groups, and faculty members,” she said. “I was extremely pleased with the programs and collaborations that occurred during the Year of Shakespeare.”

The Folio exhibition itself attracted nearly 20,000 visitors, including hundreds of students of all ages from Wisconsin schools. Barribeau praised the Chazen Museum in particular for its contributions and exhibition of the Folio.

“The Chazen Museum outdid itself in bringing the perfect complementary exhibition of large and dramatic posters from Shakespeare theatre productions around the world,” she said. “The juxtaposition of the First Folio in its relative simplicity and the vibrant and visually compelling posters was perfect.”

The Libraries would like to extend their profound thanks to the Chazen, the UW-Madison Arts Institute, the American Library Association, and the Folger Shakespeare Library for their tireless efforts in putting together the Year of Shakespeare.
A Vision for the Future:
New Director of Special Collections Shares Ideas

In December 2016, the University of Wisconsin–Madison Libraries welcomed David Pavelich as the new Director of Special Collections and Archives. He sat down to discuss his vision for the future of Special Collections.

Erin Doherty: What is your background?
David Pavelich: I went to school at UW–Madison. As an undergraduate, I earned an English degree, with a focus on modernist and postmodern poetry. This brought me to the world of special collections libraries. I later went to Buffalo and received my master’s in English, but I came back to Madison for my library degree. As I was in library school, I worked in Special Collections, the Preservation Department, and Digital Collections. I landed my first professional job at the University of Chicago in their special collections library. Eventually, I went to Duke, and now I’m back in Madison!

ED: What is your background?
DP: I’m in a new position, which oversees four libraries: Special Collections, University Archives, the Kohler Art Library, and the Mills Music Library. I get to work with art, music, rare books, and manuscript collections, which is a perfect combination of my passions.

ED: What are the challenges facing special collections libraries?
DP: Academic libraries are focused in two main directions. One is increasing digital access to information, which can take many forms, for instance access to data and digitizing locally-held collections. The other focus is unique collections that distinguish one library from another. Often you enter an academic library and a lot of the books you find in the stacks, you’re going to find in the libraries of our peers, like the University of Minnesota or Indiana University. But it’s the unique collections that help us distinguish ourselves. They don’t have to be just “special collections” in the sense of rare books—there are many kinds of distinctive collections. I think it’s a good time for special collections libraries.

ED: What are the challenges facing special collections libraries?
DP: We’re seeking to develop unique collections that can’t be used anywhere else or discovered anywhere else and present them in a way that encourages discovery and original research. Some books and manuscripts may be digitized, which we’re actively doing. Many of them may never be digitized. We want to promote the experience of using not just a single item, but an entire research collection, which is different than experiencing a standalone item on the web. And we want students to be able to experience what it’s like to encounter something the way it was meant to be encountered. It’s difficult to communicate some stories solely through a digital representation.

ED: What is the value to students and researchers of having access to physical materials versus digital ones?
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ED: What is your position at the Libraries entail?
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We want to ensure that we do everything as efficiently as possible, and that information can easily get into the hands of scholars. I also want to open up the collections, make sure the community knows they’re here. We have a lot of exciting, unique collections, and they’re here for the public to enjoy.

ED: What do you hope to accomplish?
DP: I have a long list! In the short term, I want to know if we’re using the most up-to-date tools to do our work. We need to make sure our collections are discoverable, not just by the local community, but globally.

ED: What challenges do you face?
DP: We’re working to understand how to appraise, store, and digitize locally-held collections. We’re working to understand how to appraise, store, and digitize locally-held collections. We’re working to understand how to appraise, store, and digitize locally-held collections. We’re working to understand how to appraise, store, and digitize locally-held collections.

Born Digital
When people hear “archives,” they tend to think of boxes full of paper. That’s because if you were an author in the 1930s, you wrote everything by hand or with a typewriter on paper. If you’re an author now, everything you write is likely on a computer and stored on a hard drive or somewhere else. Archives are now bringing in material we call “born digital,” meaning it hasn’t been digitized from a previous format—it was created that way. When we bring in an archive, instead of getting a box of papers, we’re getting an external hard drive full of word processing documents, spreadsheets, or email files. Archivists are working to understand how to appraise, store, and provide access to these materials.
From Conventional to Commons: A History of the UW–Madison Chemistry Library

By Ariel Andrea, Chemistry Instruction and Reference Librarian

One of the oldest continually running libraries on campus, the Chemistry Library, has been relocated or remodeled at least four times and has seen countless staffing changes. Space and staff have always been at the crux of every challenge faced by this library as it grew and changed to best serve the department. In spite of these changes, it always remained a traditional library with brimming book stacks and familiar library services. However, as the 2016 fall semester came to a close, so too did the UW–Madison Chemistry Library. When it re-opens in 2019 as the Chemistry Information Commons, it will have undergone its first true transformation in approximately 120 years.

The first library at UW–Madison was created in 1850, shortly after the first classes were held in 1849. Chemistry came to campus in 1854 with courses led by John Lathrop, and eventually a Department of Chemistry was formalized in 1880. A departmental library for chemistry would not be seen, however, until 1905. Its creation was spurred by two converging events: the appointment of Louis Kahlenberg to the chemistry faculty in 1895 and the dire need for additional lab and classroom spaces. After completing his B.S. and M.S. at Wisconsin, Kahlenberg left to pursue a Ph.D. in Leipzig, Germany. During this time, the department was becoming increasingly overcrowded, and eventually the state appropriated funds for a new building solely for chemistry.

Kahlenberg was heavily involved in the planning of this building. This was the first time there would be space in the department where chemical literature was “systematically available to students” (Ihde, p.258). The building quickly became overcrowded and eventually multiple additions were planned. In 1929, a new and expanded library space was included on the second floor of the East Addition. The library would remain in this location until 1967.

After opening in 1905, the Chemistry Library was maintained primarily by secretaries in the department. Only when the library officially became a part of the General Library System (GLS) and was no longer managed by the Chemistry Department did a trained librarian become a fixture in the space. GLS director Gilbert Doane installed Reinhold (Ray) Schluter to the post of Chemistry Librarian.

However, consistent staffing was not to be in the Chemistry’s Library’s future for some time. Schluter left the library in 1949 to work as the librarian for the Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies in Tennessee. His replacement, Frederic Bassett, was also a trained librarian with science experience, but left in 1951 to become a librarian for the Upjohn Company in Kalamazoo, MI. Higher-paying opportunities in industry librarianship then enticed Gerald Jahoda, a former chemist who became Chemistry Librarian in 1952, to leave the position after a single year to pursue his doctorate and serve as librarian for Colgate-Palmolive in New York.

In 1958, the Chemistry Department was elated when for the first time one of its own graduates returned to lead the Chemistry Library. The autumn 1959 Badger Chemist celebrated that “a long felt need—and a prayer that someday one of our alumnae trained after graduation in librarianship be assigned to the Department was filled on school year’s opening in September, 1958” (p.15). Ann Ratcliff Bergen’s (BS ’57) time as Chemistry Librarian was focused primarily on the library’s physical space. Once again, both the department and the library were close to outgrowing their campus spaces. The department began planning a new building, and Bergen was asked to provide a needs assessment for the library. She worked with Dr. Aaron Ihde, chair of the Chemistry Library Committee, to investigate what type of library space would be needed to support the department over the next 50 years. Bergen and Ihde reported that significant space was needed to grow the collection and provide adequate seating for patrons. They recommended that a study hall, separate from the library, be constructed specifically for undergraduates. After they submitted their report, however, plans for the new building changed due to lack of support from the state. A new building was completed in 1962. When her husband graduated with his PhD in Pharmacy in 1960, Bergen followed him to Idaho for work. She did not get to see the new library spaces come to fruition.
It seems fitting that another UW-Madison Chemistry Department graduate would eventually come back to serve as the librarian who would transition the library into a new space. Kenneth Keller (BS ‘43) “spent his first ten years as a Badger chemist in the employ of a Madison meat packer and then taught school for two years before enrolling in Wisconsin’s Library School as a candidate for our M.S. in library science” (Badger Chemist 1967). He became the Chemistry Librarian in 1966. While working towards his MS, Keller met Mildred Hunt North, who was also studying to become a librarian. The two married in 1967, and when Kenneth took another position, Mildred was hired as the new Chemistry Librarian and served in that position until 1969. During this time, a second building for the Chemistry Department had been approved, and this time the plans included mostly instructional and administrative spaces. The study hall Bergen included in the initial plans for the building was scrapped in favor of additional classrooms.

When history and German scholar Kendall G. Rouse earned his Masters in Library Science from UW-Madison and served as a temporary project librarian at Chemistry in 1974, he was certainly unaware he would be the first individual to hold the position of Chemistry Librarian for longer than five years.

Rouse noted in his 1980 Annual Report that the Chemistry Library would have been considered full by GLS standards more than five years earlier. Frustrated by the lack of space, Rouse began to aggressively pursue bringing "online searching" to the Chemistry Library. This new technology allowed users to access and search Chemical Abstracts, the most complete index of chemical literature, from a single computer station. The electronic accessibility of chemical literature completely changed the face of the library. In 1994, Rouse and GLS Director Ken Frazier brought the newly digitized Beilstein (a database) to UW-Madison, making it the first university in the country to have this resource available online. UW-Madison hosted the Beilstein, making it available to all UW System and Big 10 institutions at a fraction of the cost. With the Beilstein seeing increasing usage on campus, the GLS hired librarian Emily Wixson in 1997 to assist Rouse with designing learning materials and providing instruction on its usage. Also during this time, the library began systematically canceling print subscriptions to journals that were available online. A library once created for convenient access to print was quickly redefining itself a center for personalized reference services and expert information literacy instruction.

Soon, space for books became less of a concern, but student space remained a challenge. To maintain longer operating hours, Rouse hired additional student staff and eventually a library services assistant to manage the space remained busy even after classes ended. When the Chemistry Department secured funds to add a new seminar hall to the building complex, a library remodel was included in the plans. The space was completed in 2001.

After Rouse’s retirement in 2002, Sharon Mulvey, became the director of the Chemistry Library, having served as the Library Services Assistant since 1992. Emily Wixson was relocated from Steenbock Library to the Chemistry Library and named co-director. Mulvey and Wixson ran the library for the next nine years. Being located in the building, Wixson was more easily able to build a chemical information instructional program. In 2012, Ariel Andrea came to the Chemistry Library as the Chemistry instruction and reference librarian. She became the administrator of the library when Mulvey retired in 2013.

Unsurprisingly, the Chemistry Department was again in need of additional space for teaching. After a long planning process, the Chemistry building project was approved by the legislature in 2016. A new research and teaching tower is scheduled to replace the two-story portion of the Daniels Building. As Andrea worked with the Chemistry building committee to plan a new library space, it quickly became clear that space for people, not print, would be the focus of the new facility. The existing library space lacked student seating and spaces near the few electrical outlets were coveted as the sole device-charging locations in the library. The Chemistry Information Commons, scheduled to open in 2019, will look significantly different from the Chemistry Libraries of the past, but it will continue to have the same common purpose—to support the faculty, staff, and students of the Chemistry Department and the UW–Madison community by providing convenient access to, and expert instruction on, chemical information. It is this librarian’s hope that their mission continues successfully on for the next 120 years.
In 2006 the University of Wisconsin-Madison Libraries established a partnership with Google to digitize books and make them available online. Now, after a brief break, that partnership is being re-established.

The new effort is focused on the digitization of government publications and materials that are out of copyright. All items will be stored in both Google Books and HathiTrust, an online repository established in 2008, by UW-Madison and several peer institutions.

UW–Madison Librarian Heather Weltin, who is the Director of Collection Management and Resource Sharing, said the Libraries currently send about 10,000 items to Google every month. The effort is expected to continue through 2018.

“We have three staff devoted fully to this project,” she said. “They send a semi-truck full of materials out each month. It’s a labor-intensive process to get these things ready, but the Libraries are committed to it. It’s a really important effort; not just for our campus, but beyond.”

Weltin also said that the partnership gives the Libraries the help they need to digitize materials in the most efficient way possible.

“The partnership is a way to archive these materials and make them available in a way that we wouldn’t be able to afford ourselves,” she said. “Digitization is a huge and costly undertaking for libraries, and it’s something that we couldn’t do on our own. By participating in the Google Books project and HathiTrust, we’re able to get this work done and retain these items in a way that we wouldn’t be able to otherwise.”

Associate University Librarian for Collections and Research Services Doug Way said that having the materials digitized will be of great benefit to researchers both on and off the UW-Madison campus.

“The real benefit, as far as the digitized materials that don’t have copyright restrictions, are that people will be able to access them around the world,” he said. More information about the project can be found at Google Books and the HathiTrust online library.

(books.google.com/googlebooks/library / www.hathitrust.org.)
When University of Wisconsin–Madison English Language and Humanities Librarian Susan Barribeau acquired 25 sketchbooks of Florence and Margaret Hoopes in 2008, she didn’t know they would become one of Special Collections’ most heart-warming treasures. Already familiar with the Hoopes’ prolific illustrations from her own collection of early 20th-century children’s readers, Barribeau jumped at the opportunity to add the working sketchbooks to the Cairns Collection of American Women Writers manuscripts.

“It was a complete fluke that I saw them advertised, and another fluke that I knew who [the Hoopes sisters] were,” she said.

In time, that fluke would lead to a rich new archive and to some roots right in Madison.

Florence and Margaret Hoopes were two sisters who lived together in Philadelphia during the 20th century. They both went to art school before pursuing careers in illustration.

“I always particularly noticed and liked their illustrations because they were so detailed, varied, and alive,” Barribeau noted.

Margaret and Florence began illustrating commercially in the 1920s and continued throughout their lives. The sketchbooks reflect their research, meticulously documented, and their sketches of people, often neighbors and neighborhood children. They include technical drawings of items such as telescopes and stagecoaches.

Barribeau said it is difficult to tell exactly how many books they worked on because different editions have been produced over the years. Some of the most successful books were part of a widely used children’s reading series: Alice and Jerry.

In time, that fluke would lead to a rich new archive and to some roots right in Madison.

Once she had acquired the Hoopes sisters’ sketchbooks, Barribeau published the

A Fluke Find Leads to a Treasured Collection: The Hoopes Sisters’ Collection

Family members look through the Hoopes Sisters’ Collection in the Department of Special Collections (above). The Hoopes sisters relax with an unidentified woman (above right).
acquisition on an illustration blog where the Hoopeses’ work was being discussed. Four years later, an email arrived from someone who had found her blog post—the owner of the Philadelphia house where the sisters had lived.

“In my attic, I’ve found a tub of their papers—or more accurately found it again, as I’d come on these things in 1995 when we bought the house and put them aside. They were in a disintegrating cardboard box so I moved them to a plastic storage tub and forgot about them.”

That’s the kind of email a special collections librarian lives to receive. After a series of emails, Barribeau visited Philadelphia and was given a tour of the former Hoopes home before settling in to see what was in the tub.

“It was fantastic—years of their letters to and from the many publishers, authors, and editors they worked with! There were fan letters, sketches, mock-ups, promotional materials, and a great deal of it,” she said.

The decades of letters reveal the growth of the sisters’ relationships with many colleagues and, most remarkably, enormous amounts of detail and negotiation about the content of their artwork and the commercial production of it. Discussion of the color of a character’s shirt, or the precise position of a toy, or a hand gesture in an image was not unusual.

The sisters were artists first, but also talented communicators. “They were astute at business,” Barribeau said. “They were good at it. You can tell from their writing.”

The correspondence reveals healthy respect from the publishers and editors with whom they worked. In addition to Row, Peterson (publisher of the Alice and Jerry series), the sisters worked with World Book, Ginn & Co., Houghton Mifflin, Silver Burdett, John C. Winston, Scott Foresman, and many others.

Sorting, boxing, and documenting the treasure was not the end of the personal connection to the Hoopes sisters that Barribeau would encounter. More email arrived, again as a result of the original blog post. Neither Margaret nor Florence had ever married or had children, but their brother Penrose, an engineer and inventor, had. As it turns out, a Hoopes great-nephew lives in Madison. Two separate branches of the Hoopes family have come to Special Collections to visit the Hoopes archive, read the letters, and view the sketchbooks.

“Talking with family members and hearing their recollections definitely enlivened the Hoopes archive legacy,” said Barribeau.

One of Barribeau’s frustrations was that there were no photos of the sisters in any of the boxes—or anywhere on the internet. “Family members were generous in helping out with that problem, providing us with several snapshots of Florence and Margaret.”

The Hoopes sisters’ archive will remain housed in Special Collections, where it will continue to grow and enrich the Cairns Collection as one of the Libraries’ many hidden gems.
SOAR & Libraries Partner to Give SOAR Advising a Permanent Home in College Library

Thousands of new students make their way to the University of Wisconsin–Madison each summer, preparing for their first semester on campus. What better way to introduce them to the wealth of campus resources than to welcome them to one of the very buildings they will likely spend a great deal of time in: College Library.

A new partnership between Student Orientation, Advising, and Registration (SOAR), the Division of Student Life, and the General Library System means SOAR’s advising sessions will have a permanent home in College Library beginning in summer 2017. SOAR, which mainly operates in Union South, holds sessions for incoming students primarily June through August.

SOAR’s focus is to help students learn about campus resources, meet with academic advisors, discuss campus life, and enroll in fall-semester courses.

“SOAR Advising’s permanent location within College Library provides a wonderful sense of stability to a key program for new students,” said Chancellor Rebecca Blank. “This collaboration allows our campus to showcase the resources and possibilities available that students can immediately leverage for their success.”

In the 1980s, SOAR Advising was housed in “old” Union South. Once the space was demolished in 2009 and rebuilt, SOAR’s overall efforts continued to operate out of the “new” Union South. However, the advising sessions had to find temporary locations each year due to the revitalization of the building and reconfigurations of meeting spaces.

This displaced the advising components of the program to classroom buildings like Engineering Hall, Biochemistry, Van Vleck, and Social Sciences. The lack of a permanent area left SOAR Advising, which requires approximately 20,000 square feet of space, struggling to accommodate the growing incoming class numbers, while competing for campus space as summer programming and construction increased.

“Since the razing of the ‘old’ Union South, SOAR has struggled to find more than temporary academic advising space,” said Careen Martin, Director of the Center for the First-Year Experience. “Locating the program in a new facility every year or two was logistically challenging and an inefficient use of human and financial resources.”

After a campus-wide search, College Library offered the best opportunity for SOAR Advising for the long-term.

SOAR is a highly visible entry point for new students and their parents,” said George Watson, who served as a project guide from the Office of Quality Improvement. “This new home for SOAR Advising results in a win-win outcome.

Modifications to College Library include upgrades and reconfigurations to quiet study areas, the café, and spaces used by the Wisconsin Collaboratory for Enhanced Learning (WisCEL). The addition of multipurpose furniture, outlets, as well as improvements to the existing technology, and overall infrastructures will be made to meet SOAR’s needs.

College Library is a heavily trafficked location throughout the school year, but the slower summer pace meant additional space was available, making it an ideal setting for SOAR.

“We’re thrilled to welcome SOAR into College Library,” said Vice Provost for Libraries and University Librarian Ed van Gernent. “We recognize this partnership is an investment by campus to improve shared-space opportunities, offer students the highest-quality services, and create unique collaborative partnerships across campus.”

Adds Director of College Library Carrie Kruse, “College Library is also excited about having every incoming student get a chance to experience the library space as part of their introduction to campus.”

The move means adjusting how some key areas are utilized, including WisCEL. WisCEL is now working with campus Facilities, Planning & Management (FP&M) to move its unique capabilities to other spaces around campus in order to integrate them into the classrooms for the upcoming academic year.

“The big picture shows the inclusion of SOAR Advising into College Library is good for our students, and WisCEL is happy to help create a win-win experience for everyone involved,” said John Booske, WisCEL Director and Electrical and Computer Engineering Chair. “We recognize the solution of investing to convert more spaces into 21st-century active learning classrooms, optimizing configurations and infrastructure to enhance the overall learning experience.”

“It’s important to note the permanence of the advising portion of SOAR being housed in one location, the Libraries, and the positive impact that will have on our incoming students,” explains Lori Benjam, Dean of Students and Vice Provost for the Division of Student Life. “Allowing new students to become familiar with the Libraries during SOAR and before they get to campus, is an example of using existing resources and ongoing partnerships to help make our campus seem smaller to incoming students.”

First-phase modifications and construction began in early 2017 to prepare for the summer 2017 sessions. Long-term renovations, expected over a three-year period, will also include upgraded restroom areas.

“It’s so much more than a space. It’s adding a team of dedicated staff that are invested in first-year student success,” said Chris Verhaeghe, Assistant Director of Orientation Initiatives. “We couldn’t ask for a better ally or partner moving forward with the new SOAR Advising home.”

For more information visit Student Orientation, Advising, and Registration; the Libraries, or the Division of Student Life.

It’s so much more than a space. It’s adding a team of dedicated staff that are invested in first-year student success. We couldn’t ask for a better ally or partner moving forward with the new SOAR Advising home.

~ Chris Verhaeghe, Assistant Director of Orientation Initiatives
A Message from the Friends President

Since the University of Wisconsin–Madison Friends of the Libraries were founded in 1948, it has been fortunate to count among its board members and supporters many of the most prominent members of the UW-Madison community. Campus luminaries have included Gilbert Doane, Louis Kaplan, and (currently) Mary Rouse, Bill Reeder and others. Frederic Cassidy, Frank Horlbeck, Art Hove, and ellsworth snyder, among others, served long stretches as Board President. I’m very lucky to work as part of a group with such a history.

My path into libraries was from the bookselling world. Coming from several decades in book retail (and as a relative newcomer to the university), I was always most impressed with the Friends’ Book Sale. When I became involved with the Friends, I quickly realized that the book sale, too, was an area where prominent members of the UW community had made their mark over the years. Like me, you may have picked up a book containing a stamp or bookplate or notation that it was from the library of Art Hove, or William Cronon, or one of the many professors, administrators, students and others who donate regularly to the book sale. (I recently pulled my 1961 hardcover New Directions Complete Ronald Firbank, with “Arthur Hove” written in pen on the inside cover, from the shelf!) This is how books are passed from booklover to booklover, through many decades.

The late Elwyn and Evelyn Weible were two such booklovers. Both worked in libraries for years. Evelyn, who passed away in August 2013, was from Iowa, took her first post-MLS library job at the New York Public Library. Later, (“New York City was a bit too exciting for a country girl,” she wrote), she returned to the midwest and moved to Madison with her new husband Elwyn in 1962. She worked at the UW–Madison Libraries, the Madison Public Library, and for 30 years, as an elementary school librarian in the Middleton-Cross Plains School District. Elwyn, who passed away in December, 2016 was also from Iowa, and started work at Memorial Library in 1963, only a year after their move to Madison. He worked at Memorial until his retirement in 1999. After Elwyn’s death, the Weible family decided to donate Elwyn and Evelyn’s remaining book collection to the Friends. Jim Dast, the Friends’ long-time book sale administrator, notes that this is perhaps “the best donation the Friends have ever received.” Some of the Weibles’ books will wind up back in the collections of UW-Madison, while the majority will go into the book sale. (When I last ran into Elwyn, perhaps a year ago, he was browsing the Friends book sale). The Friends are honored to help the Weibles’ books reach many new and grateful readers.

Elwyn and Evelyn Weible (photo courtesy of the Weible Family).

Donating to the book sale is just one way among many that individuals can help the Friends, and thus the Libraries. There are opportunities to volunteer at some of our events, including the book sale; you can also help by attending library events, or donating to one of the many library funds that the Friends support. Please feel free to get in touch if you’d like to know more, and thank you for being part of this long-term (almost 70 years!) group of UW–Madison Libraries admirers.

Sincerely,

Michael Chaim

Elwyn and Evelyn Weible (photo courtesy of the Weible Family).

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October 2016 was a heady month in the United States. The presidential elections, perhaps the most bizarre in a long while, were reaching their disturbing peak while basic norms of public discourse and cultural debate seemed to be disintegrating. But I had come from Israel to Madison for another, ostensibly unrelated, reason—to conduct my research on the cultural history of Indira Gandhi’s Emergency rule in 1970s India. *Emergency Fictions*, my book-in-progress, combines a study of fiction, journalism, memoir, and scholarship—primary materials meticulously archived in UW-Madison’s Memorial Library—to establish the Emergency as an important interpretative site. It was, I claim, an interpretative site. It was, I claim, an important moment in modern Indian polity and culture.

As the election discourse outside grew more and more heated and less and less nuanced, I delved into the archive to contemplate the various ways a political and cultural elite (in another time and place) were forced to reinvent the ways in which information and ideas were articulated and disseminated as elections in India were revoked by Gandhi and her coterie. My survey of English-language periodicals published during and right after the Emergency revealed diverse responses. Some resisted at the time, shutting down or going underground and abroad. Others succumbed to the official dictates of Gandhi and her coterie. But even mainstream media, ostensibly complying with the censorship regulations, allowed for a more complex narrative to emerge. One of my most startling discoveries was that the first issue of the popular English-language news magazine *India Today* had its origins in the Emergency with the first issue published in December 1975, six months after the Emergency was declared. The cover story—as were many others in this first issue—was titled, “The Emergency: Now You See it, Now You Don’t.” Indeed, a close reading of the magazine revealed a continuous tension between marketing the Emergency, reporting on it, and criticizing it.

Most fortuitously, I was able to present my initial findings at UW-Madison’s Annual Conference on South Asia, where I received important feedback and had the opportunity to exchange ideas with others working on adjacent projects. I returned home with a treasure trove of archival material that will anchor my entire book manuscript. Moreover, returning to the ever-increasing authoritarianism, incitement, and curtailing of dissent at home made the coincidence of working on the Indian Emergency in the month leading up to Donald Trump’s election as President of the United States ever more poignant and meaningful. Indira Gandhi, Benjamin Netanyahu, Donald Trump—my research on corruption and authoritarianism in the discourse of the Emergency seems more urgent and more relevant than ever.
Awards, Honors, and Happenings

Congratulations to our 2016 recipients of the Library Staff Service Awards

- Academic Staff: Cat Phan—UW Digital Collections
- University Staff: Karen LaMere—Business Services

Students
- Abigail Cahill—Information Desk Student, Memorial Library Public Services
- Erin Doherty—Communications Assistant

Troy Reeves, Head of the Oral History Program, received a Baldwin Grant for the Wisconsin Idea Endowment proposal “The Lands We Share,” a Community Engagement Initiative Wisconsin Farms Oral History Project. (Ira and Ineva Fedenia and Business Library Director Michael Enyart for their work on the Learning Commons. Francois characterized the project as exemplary because its purpose is to improve the student experience while serving both the school and campus in response to needs.

College Library receives a Division of Student Life Partnership Award

College Library was recognized for its collaboration with International Student Services with an award on May 16, 2017. The award honors an individual, unit, or campus organization that has significantly aided a department in the advancement of its mission, programs, and services.

Eliot Finkelstein was part of the Wisconsin Experience Seminar Course Review Team that was nominated for a 2017 Administrative Improvement Award, designed to acknowledge the dedicated work of those striving to improve the administrative processes and service delivery on campus.

GPS Mentoring Award of Appreciation

On Thursday, April 27, 2017, a group of UW–Madison librarians who provide reference services two days each week in the Center for Educational Opportunity (CeO) Office were recognized by students within the Guiding Peers to Success (GPS) mentoring program Award. The award was to acknowledge their “years of continuous support and contributions to the well-being of GPS Mentoring and CeO Scholars.” They were recognized along with staff from University Health Services and Advising.

Janice Rice named 2017 Jean E. Coleman Library Outreach Lecturer

With permission from John L. Amundson, ALA Office for Diversity, Literacy, & Outreach Services (ODLOS)

Janice Rice, retired outreach librarian at College Library, UW–Madison Libraries, was chosen to deliver the 2017 Jean E. Coleman Library Outreach Lecture at the American Library Association’s (ALA) Annual Conference and Exhibition in Chicago.

Rice retired from the University of Wisconsin following a distinguished 36-year career with a long record of commitment to improving diversity issues in the General Library System and the library profession through active participation in the Wisconsin Library Association; the Association of College & Research Libraries, the ALA Ethnic and Multicultural Information Exchange Round Table, and the American Indian Library Association.

For her efforts, Rice has received several awards, including the UW–Madison and UW System Outstanding Woman of Color in Education Award in 2009 and the Distinguished Service Award from the American Indian Library Association in 2012.

“Janice’s career embodies the core values and aspirations of our profession,” said Lessa E. Coleman Library Outreach Lecturer. “They were recognized along with staff from University Health Services and Advising.

A Visit to the Hamilton Wood Type & Printing Museum

A special trip to the Hamilton Wood Type & Printing Museum took place on April 8. A tour, lunch, and printing demonstration were held, as well as a special viewing of the new location of the Silver Buckle Press.

The Hamilton Wood Type and Printing Museum is the only museum dedicated to the preservation, study, production, and printing of wood type. With 1.5 million pieces of wood type and more than 1,000 styles and sizes of patterns, Hamilton’s collection is one of the premier wood type collections in the world. In addition to housing wood type, the museum is home to an amazing array of advertising cuts from the 1910s through the 1970s, all of the equipment necessary to make wood type and print with it, as well as equipment used in the production of hot metal type, tools of the craft, and rare type specimen catalogs.

The Great Libraries of UW–Madison

The Libraries, in partnership with the Wisconsin Historical Society and the Friends of the University of Wisconsin–Madison Libraries, were honored to welcome Distinguished UW–Madison faculty member William Cronon ’78, Frederick Jackson Turner and Vilas Research Professor of History, Geography, and Environmental Studies and Curator Emeritus of the Wisconsin Historical
Society, for an evening celebrating the rich history of UW-Madison Libraries. Professor Cronon shared stories about how the libraries have, for many decades, preserved knowledge, made research openly available, and supported students, professors, and members of the public, and how this is changing as we move into an increasingly digital future.

Great Lakes, Great Libraries
By Marie Zhuikov, UW-Madison Aquatic Sciences Center

A unique group of librarians held its first conference, “Great Lakes, Great Libraries,” in the Great Lakes region (in Madison) in May. The librarians specialize in marine and freshwater science topics and belong to a regional branch of the International Association of Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and Information Centers.

“This is the first time in 27 years that we’ve had our regional annual conference in a freshwater state,” said Anne Moser, senior special librarian with the Wisconsin Water Library, who organized the conference along with Alisun DeKock, another Great Lakes librarian from the Shedd Aquarium in Chicago. “One of my goals is to continue to work to get more librarians from around the Great Lakes involved and to keep freshwater scholarship visible within the group.”

The regional group, called SAIL, consists of libraries on the East Coast and in Great Lakes communities of the U.S. and Canada, along with several other countries including Bermuda and Panama. Scientific speakers included Jake Walsh from the University of Wisconsin-Madison’s Center for Limnology, who discussed Lake Mendota and his research into the invasive spine waterflea. Wisconsin Sea Grant’s David Hart spoke about an integrated approach to addressing bluff erosion along Lake Michigan. Garrett Johnson, of the Shedd Aquarium, described the Shedd’s environmental and education efforts in the Great Lakes.

With a nod to the intersection of art and science, the program also included a presentation by UW Art Professor Sarah FitzSimons on how water has infused her work.

Jacqueline Zook was nominated for a University Staff of the Year Award. She received a spot on the Award’s Roll of Honor.

Silver Buckle Press and Parallel Press posters and books are available for purchase! Grab a piece of UW-Madison history by choosing from several limited-design posters from the Silver Buckle Press, or check out one of the many books available through Parallel Press. For more information on the selections available and how to purchase, contact Sherry Kanetzke (sherry.kanetzke@wisc.edu).

Go Big Read 2017–2018

Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis

J.D. Vance didn’t write a book because he accomplished something extraordinary, he tells readers in the introduction to Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis. “I wrote this book because I’ve achieved something quite ordinary, which doesn’t happen to most kids who grew up like me,” Vance writes.

Hillbilly Elegy is the ninth selection for the Go Big Read program, which has been choosing thought-provoking literature to prompt campus discussion since 2009.

Go Big Read, the UW-Madison campus common-reading program, has chosen his story of growing up in the Rust Belt of Ohio and escaping generations of poverty as its 2017-18 selection. Vance grew up in Middletown, Ohio, and the Appalachian town of Jackson, Kentucky. He enlisted in the Marine Corps after high school and served in Iraq. He went on to graduate from the Ohio State University and Yale Law School, become a principal at a leading Silicon Valley investment firm and a contributing writer to the National Review. In the book, Vance tells the story of what it feels like to be born into a region and class that has experienced serious economic disruption. He shares his family’s story, starting with his grandparents’ move from Appalachia to Ohio following World War II in hopes of escaping poverty. But that escape proved difficult; especially for Vance’s mother, “I want people to know what it feels like to nearly give up on yourself and why you might do it. I want people to understand what happens in the lives of the poor and the psychological impact that spiritual and material poverty has on their children,” Vance wrote.

“I want people to understand the American Dream as my family and I encountered it. I want people to understand how upward mobility really feels. And I want people to understand something I learned only recently: that for those of us lucky enough to live the American Dream, the demons of the life we left behind continue to chase us.”

Since its release, the book has sparked much discussion, which is one of the reasons it is this year’s Go Big Read selection. While many have credited the book with providing understanding of the lives of those struggling with economic decline, others have criticized it for what they see as a simplistic view of poverty and personal responsibility, with too little discussion of the larger economic and social forces that have led to the issues described in the book.

“Go Big Read has a history of choosing books with challenging and timely topics. The point is to generate a lively conversation about a set of important issues about which people can agree or disagree,” Chancellor Rebecca Blank said. “We hope this will generate a conversation which leads people to think more about the social and economic and political issues raised in the book.”

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. The Go Big Read program is an initiative of the Office of the Chancellor.

“We hope this will generate a conversation which leads people to think more about the social and economic and political issues raised in the book.”

~ Chancellor Rebecca Blank
**“Stories: the Moonkosh Press”**

Diane Fine’s career is about creation. As a printmaker and book artist, she’s spent decades creating and producing books, prints, and mixed media works on paper, which have earned her international acclaim. Fine’s works have been acquired by the Library of Congress, the Museum of Modern Art in New York, and the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. This spring, her knowledge and creative talents were enjoyed by the Madison community as she presented “Stories: the Moonkosh Press” during the third annual Bernstein Book Arts Lecture on March 14.

The journey to Madison is hardly Fine’s first. She earned her Master’s in Fine Arts at the University of Wisconsin-Madison before taking a position as Assistant Professor at SUNY Plattsburgh where she received her current title, Distinguished Teaching Professor. She teaches undergraduate courses in printmaking and book arts.

“Artmaking is a language I believe can be heard on the other side, a conversation continued, a way to sustain us.” ~ Diane Fine

“Stories: the Moonkosh Press”

“I was very pleased when Lyn [Korenic, Director of the Kohler Art Library] contacted me. I have a great deal of respect for the artist book collection at the Kohler, which was a source of inspiration for me when I was a graduate student,” she said. “As a teaching assistant, I brought my students in two-dimensional design over to see a copy of Josef Albers’ *Interaction of Color*, where they benefitted from seeing those original silkscreens made at Yale University in 1963. Bill Bunce was committed to creating a study collection that would be experienced and handled. Lyn Korenic has carried that forward resulting in a comprehensive and accessible compilation of treasures. I am deeply honored that my work is cared for and included in such good company.”

Over the course of her career, Fine’s desire to work collaboratively has been a focal point. She revealed that the capacity for collaboration is something that has always drawn her to working with books. “Like many book artists, the opportunity to combine image and text creates a fertile basis for expression.”

Fine’s work, both collaborative and individual, is an array of visual masterpieces that holds deep and profound meaning. Art, for her, means much more than aesthetic appeal. It is a lens through which to view the impossible complexities of the human experience. Through the pieces she produces she often delves into themes such as the fragility of life, the inevitability of death, the meaning of relationships, and how people communicate with one another even as they grapple with loss. She once said in an artist’s statement, “Artmaking is a language I believe can be heard on the other side, a conversation continued, a way to sustain us.”

Fine expressed her gratitude to Korenic for the invitation and for her passion for book arts. She also voiced appreciation for the help and collaborative efforts of Tracy Honn, former director of Silver Buckle Press. “When I give a lecture, the most important part for me is the question-and-answer period,” she said. “For me, the purpose of such a lecture is making connections, having conversations, not only saying, ‘Here, look what I did.’”

In addition to the Bernstein lecture, Fine gave a bookbinding workshop to students in a class taught by Art Department Associate Dean Jim Escalante.

“In putting together the corollary exhibit of Fine’s books and broadsides, I have been delighted and moved by her sophisticated and expressive works,” remarked Korenic. “They are objects of beauty, both playful and poignant.”

An exhibition, “Words & Pictures: Artist’s Books by Diane Fine,” was on view at the Kohler Art Library through June 30, 2017.

View Diane Fine’s presentation at UW–Madison is available on YouTube (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ShFmq30X6TQ).
Save the Date

Go Big Read
Fall 2017
Stay tuned for upcoming dates and events!

Go Paperless
View all the Libraries issues electronically at go.wisc.edu/UWLibrariesMagazine or sign up to receive the e-version: uwmadlibrariesnews@library.wisc.edu

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