The Washington University Libraries made tremendous strides forward in 2015, evolving our service portfolios in support of student and faculty needs, new and emerging academic initiatives, and a rapidly changing information environment.

2015 KEY INITIATIVES INCLUDED:

- Protecting and expanding the Libraries’ research collections (books, journals, film, etc.) through careful curation, innovative funding, creative exhibitions, and community partnerships
- Planning an extensive renovation, which will create more space for books, journals and other collections and accommodate new services and new seating for students in Olin Library
- Collaborating with partners on campus and in the St. Louis community to create and fund groundbreaking new services

The Libraries’ Balanced Scorecard provided a strategic management framework for these exciting developments.
and meetings, including a conference in Cape Town, South Africa. The archive was also incorporated into a Washington University course, in which students were trained to conduct oral histories that helped to create content for the collection.

- **Open Scholarship Repository** The Libraries added Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs) to electronic theses and dissertations. DOIs make these important resources easier to access by creating a direct link between records in the library catalog and in the Open Scholarship repository.

- **The Digital Public Library of America (DPLA)** added materials from the Film & Media Archive’s Henry Hampton Collection to its online teaching resources. Featured materials from our collection include video clips from Henry Hampton’s interviews with Art King and Ossie Davis (from the series *The Great Depression*) and transcribed material from an interview with Stokely Carmichael (from the series *Eyes on the Prize II*).

- **Tennessee Williams Collection** Important materials totaling $41,000 were added to our Tennessee Williams Collection, including typed playscripts of *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, *The Rose Tattoo*, and *Lord Byron’s Love Letter*. The acquisition of these materials demonstrates the Libraries’ continuing commitment to making Washington University a center for Tennessee Williams research.
Shimeon Brisman Collection The six rare books of the Shimeon Brisman Collection in Jewish Studies were meticulously preserved by an outside conservator and digitized in Digital Library Services. Among these six books is a Bible, possibly unique in terms of OCLC holdings, with a stunning, hand-colored title page, and a book published in Venice in the 16th century regarding the medieval sage Isaac Sangari. Conservation work was made possible through a gift to the Libraries.

Revealing Visual Culture The Modern Graphic History Library (MGHL) was awarded a grant from the Council on Library and Information Resources for Revealing Visual Culture: Digitizing Modern Illustrated Periodical Tear Sheets in the Walt Reed Illustration Archive. The two-year grant will fund the creation of digital images and supporting metadata for 150,000 tear sheets contained in the Libraries’ Walt Reed Illustration Archive. The MGHL also acquired the Gerald Early Collection. Donated by WU faculty member Dr. Gerald Early, the collection consists of books, comic books, and children’s literature.

Collaboration

The national profile of the Libraries continues to grow thanks to important collaborations. Collaborating leads to enhanced services, innovative funding, and deeper community connections.

- **Research Data Alliance** The Libraries, working with faculty in the school of engineering, were awarded $35,000 from the Research Data Alliance to investigate Data Framework/Terminology, and linked data. Digital Data Outreach Librarian Cynthia Hudson-Vitale presented the final report of enhancing the discoverability for research data to the international community of the Research Data Alliance in Paris, France. In addition, Aaron Addison, director of scholarly services, served on the Organizational Advisory Board for the Research Data Alliance. Addison and Data & GIS Projects Manager Jennifer Moore co-authored two papers on using GIS as a learning tool in the classroom that were accepted for publication. They also presented at the plenary session of the Research Data Alliance.

- **SHARE** Cynthia Hudson-Vitale was appointed a SHARE visiting program officer. SHARE is a higher-education initiative whose mission is to maximize research impact by building a free, open data set about research and scholarly activities across their life cycles. SHARE is sponsored by the Association of Research Libraries (ARL), the Association of American Universities (AAU), and the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU). SHARE’s technical partner is the Center for Open Science (COS).

- **I-Assist** Jennifer Moore organized and chaired a new geospatial group within I-Assist, an international organization focused on social science research.

- **Open Scholarship** Scholarly Publishing Director Andrew Rouner and WU librarians Emily Stenberg, Micah Zeller, and Ruth Lewis assisted WU professor John McCarthy in making his textbook *Transition to Higher Mathematics: Structure and Proof* freely available on Open Scholarship. More textbooks and original monographs are in development for publication on Open Scholarship this year.

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TOP: A volume from the Shimeon Brisman Collection in Jewish Studies
BOTTOM: A tear sheet from the Walt Reed Illustration Archive
Olin Library Transformation

LIBRARY SPACES
In 2015, the landscape of the WU Libraries was reimagined based on a continuous dialogue with faculty, students, and donors.

- Planning for the Olin Library Transformation project officially kicked off in the spring of 2015 and continued through the end of the year. The $18 million renovation is fully funded by donations.

- Transformation Targets
  - Significantly increase seating capacity, the variety of seating options, and access to power
  - Significantly increase collections storage capacity
  - Create new entrances on Level 1
  - Increase the accessibility and visibility of special collections
  - Increase the accessibility and visibility of specialized research services

The Libraries are working with Boston firm Ann Beha Architects and St. Louis architects V Three Studios. Construction will begin in the spring of 2016 and continue for about 15 months.

- Transformation Timeline
  - March 2015 – May 2016: Planning, design, engineering, construction documents, bidding
  - May 23, 2016 – Summer/Fall 2017: Construction (about 15 months); Olin open throughout; Whispers Café closed throughout; vending available in Olin
  - Summer/Fall 2017: New spaces open!
LEVEL 1
- Newman Tower of Collections and Exploration
- Thomas Gallery
- New entrances
- Exhibit spaces
- Whispers Café expansion

LEVELS 2 AND 3
- Newman Tower within Whispers atrium
- Expanded seating on Level 2
- Seminar room on Level 3

LEVEL A
- Newman Exploration Center
- Libraries’ Scholarly Services & Instructional Support Services
- Blackboard support through the Teaching Center
- Open study space with variety of seating
- New, premier spaces for learning, research, and instruction

LEVEL B
- Special Collections storage
COMMUNITY

While we continue to fine-tune our core services, new services are emerging thanks to collaborations with faculty and feedback from students.

- **New Services** The Libraries estimated 200 consultations around copyright issues from students and faculty in 2015. **Data Services & GIS** conducted more than 50 classes, workshops, and seminars, reaching over 400 people on both the Danforth and medical school campuses. 3D scanning and printing services were offered by the Libraries for the first time.

- **Improved Resource Deliveries** The Libraries are piloting delivery of library materials to the campus mailboxes of faculty and staff. This new service is an alternative to items being placed on hold for pickup. The Libraries’ **Document Delivery** service, which provides PDFs of journal articles and book chapters from library collections, has also been expanded. PDFs are delivered electronically, on average, within 48 hours.

- **ORCID** In 2015, WU became an institutional member of ORCID (Open Researcher and Contributor ID). ORCID helps faculty, students, and administrators keep better track of research, grants, and scholarship by providing a persistent digital identifier to each individual.

- **New Website** The Libraries launched a redesigned website that mirrors the larger university website format. The goal of the redesign was to improve the look, organization, content, and overall usability of the Libraries’ online presence. New features include easier navigation and additional resources, such as BrowZine, which facilitates e-journal browsing on mobile devices.

- **Facilitating Inclusive Classrooms** Instructional Support Services partnered with the Arts & Sciences Graduate School to create a transformational e-learning training series for Teaching Assistants titled “Facilitating Inclusive Classrooms.” The series provides online training for Teaching Assistants on topics such as gender and sexuality, race and ethnicity, and first-generation and international students with the goal of growing the sense of belongingness among WU students.

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- **YMCA Leadership Symposium: Youth Development, From Cradle to Career** The WU Libraries worked with the YMCA of the USA to create a guide to resources for professionals who are conducting research without the benefit of library subscriptions to online databases, journals, or other materials.

- **REDA RTE (Rede de Bibliotecas e Centros de Informação em Arte no Estado do Rio de Janeiro)** Art and Architecture Librarian Rina Vecchiola participated in a panel at this conference in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Rina is also chairing a committee that is organizing a symposium in the Netherlands this year.

- **Stanley Nelson’s The Black Panthers: Vanguard of the Revolution** In partnership with the African and African-American Studies Department, the Center for Diversity and Inclusion, and Cinema St. Louis, the Libraries’ Film & Media Archive hosted a screening of Stanley Nelson’s *The Black Panthers: Vanguard of the Revolution*, which premiered in January at the Sundance Film Festival. The screening also included selections of Black Panther material from the Henry Hampton Collection and a Q&A with producer Laurens Grant.

- **Website Hosting** Library Technology Services partnered with American Culture Studies and the Divided City Project to host their respective websites.

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ABOVE: (left to right) Film producer Laurens Grant, Associate University Librarian Nadia Ghasedi, and Assistant Professor of African-American Studies Jonathan Henderson attend the screening of *The Black Panthers: Vanguard of the Revolution*. 
National Conference of African American Librarians
St. Louis hosted the ninth annual National Conference of African American Librarians. This successful event was co-chaired by Makiba Foster, WU subject librarian and curator of oral and American history. The conference was praised for its highly rated content, speakers, and special events.

James Merrill Symposium
The Department of Special Collections hosted a symposium celebrating the writing and the life of Pulitzer Prize-winning poet James Merrill. Dr. Langdon Hammer, professor of English at Yale University and author of the new biography James Merrill: Life and Art, delivered the keynote address. Other speakers included Mary Jo Bang, J. D. McClatchy, and Carl Phillips. The James Merrill Papers, one of the Libraries’ first acquisitions for its Modern Literature Collection, founded in 1964, is the largest archive in the world devoted to Merrill’s life and work. Selections from the papers are available online via the James Merrill Digital Archive.

STAFFING
The WU Libraries have the ability to transform and evolve thanks to the resilience, energy, and flexibility of a remarkable staff.

Innovation Grants
Library staff are encouraged to create projects that break new ground in the areas of services or programming while advancing the Libraries’ strategic plan, the Balanced Scorecard. Projects that were awarded funding in 2015 through the Libraries’ Innovation Grants program include:

- Performing the 1904 Louisiana Purchase Exposition
  Current WU students and recent graduates will perform and record selections from the Gaylord Music Library’s collection of sheet music related to the 1904 Louisiana Purchase Exposition in St. Louis. The performances will be uploaded to the Libraries’ website.

- Trialing the Use of Near Field Communication Tags
  as library promotional aids.

- First WU African-American Students
  Conducting oral interviews to document the experiences of Washington University’s first African-American students, who were admitted in 1952.

- Populating the Freedom Suits
  This project will oversee the research of individuals named in the St. Louis Freedom Suits, a collection of nearly 500 XML encoded legal cases. Based on the research, brief biographies will be created to accompany and give context to the historical source materials that comprise the collection.

- Beta Technology Loan Program
  This project will create an enhanced technology loan program. The project goal is to inspire new ways to engage in research using technology and to expose users to interesting technology that’s on the horizon.
NEW HIRES/NEW POSITIONS

1 Len Augsburger, project coordinator, Newman Numismatic Portal*
2 Tyler Bequette, film preservationist
3 Kieran Etienne, digital infrastructure librarian
4 Makiba Foster, curator of oral and American history and women and gender studies librarian
5 James Gardner, library assistant, Kranzberg Art & Architecture Library
6 Nadia Ghasedi, associate university librarian, Special Collections
7 Jackie Lorrainne, manager, human resources and payroll
8 Sara Grace Lathom, library assistant, monographic acquisitions
9 Robert Manley, digital imaging specialist*
10 Joyce McCray Pearson, associate university librarian and director of the Law Library
11 Joy Novak, head of collection management and outreach for Special Collections

12 Karen Olson, library assistant, Gaylord Music Library
13 Kacey Owen, library assistant, circulation weekend/evening manager
14 Logan Riney, library assistant, Kopolow Business Library
15 Anna Robinson, Islamic, Near Eastern, and South Asian Studies librarian
16 Michael Schaefer, library assistant
17 Brad Short, associate university librarian, Collections
18 Cynthia Traub, data specialist
19 Mollie Webb, GIS programmer
20 Brian Woodman, curator, Film & Media Archive

*Grant-funded position

TO LEARN MORE
For frequent updates from the Washington University Libraries on library events, exhibitions, and a range of activities and items of interest, see library.wustl.edu.