Building for the Future

A LOOK AT THE BOLD RENOVATION PROJECT THAT’S TRANSFORMING OLIN LIBRARY
LETTER FROM THE LEADER OF THE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

GREETINGS! I have the privilege of serving as the Leader of the WU Libraries for 2016-17 while the university conducts a national search for the next University Librarian. Provost Holden Thorp has appointed a 13-member search committee chaired by Carmen Colangelo, dean of the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts, and charged the members to identify the very best candidates for the position.

Although leading the WU Libraries is new for me, working with scholars and staff at the intersection of the disciplines represented within Washington University is familiar territory. I came to Washington University in 2008, when I was appointed Wiley B. Rutledge Professor of Law and director of the Law School’s Center for Interdisciplinary Studies. I also enjoy courtesy faculty appointments in the Brown School and in Women, Gender & Sexuality Studies in the College of Arts & Sciences.

I started in the provost’s office at WU in 2009 as a faculty fellow and later was appointed vice provost, serving under both Ed Macias and Holden Thorp. As vice provost I have responsibility for interdisciplinary initiatives that cross school boundaries. I oversee a teaching grant program that funds a stable of innovative courses co-taught by faculty affiliated with more than one school (“Beyond Boundaries” courses), and manage the “Bring Your Own Idea” grant program, which supports faculty and professional staff collaborations on interdisciplinary research, teaching, and service initiatives. Finally, I serve as the provost’s liaison to several of our university-wide centers and institutes.

This brief introduction would not be complete without noting that at heart I’m still a teacher and a scholar. I’m fascinated by the institutions in which people work and the cultures they create there. My research focuses on the relationship between gender, work, and class status, with a particular emphasis on collective action and labor relations. It has been a wonderful challenge to engage in some real-life application of that research and to learn how the Libraries’ organizational structure links to its mission and to the cultures that support its functions.

I’m excited to have the opportunity to continue the Libraries’ trajectory as a core part of the academic commons for Washington University. Key among my leadership priorities for the Libraries during the 2016-17 academic year is finding a balance between the traditional elements of WU Libraries’ mission — providing access to books, print, and electronic resources, expertise in research, and quiet spaces for study — and the emerging elements of digital archiving, instructional technology, and data-intensive scholarship. Efforts to enrich our special collections and foster collaborations with external partners are critical to our always-evolving mission as well.

Despite the challenges of this year of change, I’m very fortunate to have guidance from a wonderful team that includes the Libraries’ National Council, the Faculty Library Committee (see page 27), and WU Libraries’ senior administration. Further, the Libraries’ dedicated staff is invaluable.

Speaking of transitions — as you’ve probably noticed by looking at the cover of this magazine, Olin Library is in the midst of a bold renovation project. This issue’s cover story provides an in-depth look at the work that’s taking place.

Within these pages, you’ll also find an overview of the exciting grant-funded projects that are now underway at WU Libraries. Some of these endeavors are internal, while others are executed in collaboration with partners on the WU campus and in the St. Louis community.

Please enjoy this issue of Off the Shelf and join me in discovering what a special place these Libraries are.

MARION CRAIN
Leader WU Libraries
Paris Is Burning Screened as Part of Henry Hampton Film Series

An archival presentation of the influential documentary Paris Is Burning took place on September 29 at the Missouri History Museum as part of the Henry Hampton Film Series. The free screening was co-sponsored by WU Libraries, the Missouri History Museum, and the St. Louis LGBT History Project.

Originally released in 1990, Paris Is Burning is now an LGBTQ classic. The documentary, which was directed by Jennie Livingston, explores the drag culture that thrived in New York City in the 1980s, focusing on members of the gay and transgender communities. The film looks at the ball competitions that were popular at the time and features interviews with the flamboyant, often socially marginalized performers who took part in them.

The screening was followed by a Q&A with Steve Braxton (aka Dieta Pepsi) and Maxi Glamour. The event attracted more than 100 viewers.

The Henry Hampton Film Series got its start in 2014. The series highlights documentaries made by minority filmmakers, as well as films that chronicle the stories of underrepresented groups, with an emphasis on the African-American experience.

Award-winning filmmaker Henry Hampton (1940-98) was a St. Louis native and 1961 graduate of Washington University. His works, including the acclaimed documentary series Eyes on the Prize, chronicle the political and social movements of the 20th century and focus on the lives of the disenfranchised. The Henry Hampton Collection—an archive of 35,000-plus items—is housed at WU’s Film & Media Archive.
Gass taught at WU for 30 years and in 1990 became the co-founder and first director of WU’s International Writers Center (IWC) in Arts & Sciences—now known as the Center for the Humanities. He led the IWC for a decade with the assistance of associate director Lorin Cuoco. During that time, the IWC presented numerous visiting writers, hosted conferences, and published six books.


"I admire Gass as an essayist, translator, and storyteller; I admire him as a teacher," Göritz said when he accepted the William H. Gass Fellowship in 2014. "My colleagues across the globe and I see him as a legend. After reading his work, people are ‘infected’ and changed. It’s simple: we have to read William Gass; otherwise we’ve missed the best."

The symposium opened with presentations from Infante and Göritz. Their talks were followed by a roundtable session with Lorin Cuoco and Stephen Schenkenberg, editor of “The Ear’s Mouth Must Move: Essential Interviews of William H. Gass” and the website “Reading William Gass” (www.readinggass.org).

Discussing Gass’s international appeal, Schenkenberg said he’s received inquiries via the website from people in Thailand, Saudi Arabia, and France. “Some are scholars,” he said. “Others are literary enthusiasts.”

WU alumna Susan Bernofsky, this year’s William H. Matheson lecturer, presented the symposium’s keynote address, “Translating in Rhythm, with Gass.” An award-winning translator of German-language literature, Bernofsky directs the Literary Translation program in the MFA Writing Program at Columbia University.

Bernofsky studied with Gass during her time as a student at WU. In her lecture, she described Gass’s WU philosophy seminar as the single most influential course she took in the area of translation. Gass contributed the foreword to *Masquerade and Other Stories* (1990). Bernofsky’s translation of the work of Robert Walser.

The symposium concluded with a reception and poetry readings in Olin Library. Poet Mary Jo Bang and Göritz read Gass’ Rilke translations. Bang, who has taught in WU’s English department since 2000, is the author of widely acclaimed poetry collections and a translation of Dante’s *Inferno*.

Members of the PhD track in Comparative Literature for International Writers also read poetry selections. Materials from the archive of the IWC, which is housed in WU Libraries’ Special Collections department, were on display during the reception.

To view the materials online, visit omeka.wustl.edu/omeka/exhibits/show/gass/iwc. For more information on Gass and the IWC, contact Special Collections at (314) 935-5495 or spec@wumail.wustl.edu.
When Ann Beha of Ann Beha Architects visited the John M. Olin Library in January of 2013, she walked through the entrance, stopped, and stood still for a moment. Looking toward the north side of the building, she was struck by the fact that the first thing visitors see when they enter the library is a narrow pathway and, at the end of it, a door that’s transforming Olin Library.

The Transformation both affirms and furthers Olin’s role as a campus hub and destination for scholarly, contemplative, and social activities. The Transformation will bring with it a variety of new features ranging from convenient and practical to inspiring and surprising. Many of these new features will be possible because of a major excavation two levels below Olin’s Whispers Café. In total, the Transformation will add about 16,000 square feet to the library.

Feedback from users is valuable to WU Libraries, and there are a variety of ways of tapping into what is important to patrons. One way is through a comprehensive electronic survey that is delivered every three years. The 2013 survey, for example, showed that users continue to value quiet study spaces and access to printed materials. Many respondents also requested more collaborative and group study spaces, and better access to power outlets.

The main goals of the Olin Library Transformation are based on WU Libraries’ mission and programming, as well as user feedback. The Libraries’ mission includes providing access to books, journals, and other collections in both printed and electronic formats; offering research expertise and spaces for learning; enriching special collections; digital archiving; instructional technology; data visualization and data-intensive scholarship; and collaborating with campus and external partners.

The Transformation enhances WU Libraries’ mission and responds to user feedback through these five main goals:

- Significantly increase collections storage capacity.
- Significantly increase seating capacity and access to power outlets.
- Create a new north entrance.
- Increase the accessibility and visibility of special collections.
- Increase the accessibility and visibility of specialized research, learning, and teaching services.

"THE TRANSFORMATION WILL ADD ABOUT 16,000 SQUARE FEET TO THE LIBRARY."
THE OLIN TRANSFORMATION WILL BRING several new architectural elements to the library, including the Thomas Gallery. Located on level 1 of Olin, the gallery will serve as an exhibit space showcasing WU Libraries’ broadside of the Declaration of Independence. Donated by the Eric and Evelyn Newman family, the gallery will serve as an exhibit space showcasing WU Libraries’ broadside of the Declaration of Independence.

Spring 2016: The Olin Transformation started on May 23, the Monday after WU’s spring commencement ceremony. Staging began with a construction wall outside Olin’s cafe, Whispers, to the north and east of the library.

Summer 2016: Excavation below Whispers Cafe began. Trucks escorted by flag carriers removed approximately 4,100 loads of dirt. Construction of Levels A and B, Whispers Cafe, and the Newman Tower will continue until the spring 2018 semester.

Fall 2016: Olin Library is open 24/7 during the fall 2016, spring 2017, and fall 2017 semesters.

Spring 2017: Construction of the new north entrance and Thomas Gallery on Level 1 will begin. When the north entrance is complete, the existing south entrance will close for renovation. Renovation of the Level A arc will begin after final exams.

Spring 2018: New spaces are expected to be open and ready for use.

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Supporting Collections

The Libraries store, preserve, and provide access to general and special collections alike, supporting original scholarly research in all subjects and disciplines. Special collections include manuscripts, rare books, periodicals, photographs, film, magazine illustrations, original artwork, and a variety of paper and three-dimensional objects. These rich collections have continued to grow since Olin Library opened in 1962, and they are now housed in two main locations: Olin Library and the West Campus Library, approximately one mile away from the Danforth Campus.

The Transformation will increase storage space for special collections, allowing for many collections currently housed in the West Campus Library to come to Olin, where they will be more readily available to the campus community and visiting scholars. Furthermore, thanks to the additional squares footage afforded by the excavation, the project will increase storage capacity while retaining Olin’s existing book stacks and collections storage spaces.

More Seating, ‘Not Less Books’

Users tell us that even as they continue to value printed resources, they also seek more places to study. An undergraduate student said of Olin: “Not big enough, need more study space.” A graduate student, meanwhile, clearly felt that more study areas were needed—but not at the expense of collections: “More reading/work spaces, but not less books.

Variety of seating is a high priority, as well. On any given day, a walk through Olin reveals students sitting erect at tables, reclining in lounge chairs with their feet propped on ottomans, or stretching out in beanbag chairs on the floor. Some work quietly, alone or surrounded by peers, while others talk through ideas or problems with friends and classmates.

Through the excavation, the expansion of Whispers Cafe, and the creation of the Newman Tower, Olin will retain its existing quiet and group study spaces while increasing spaces for collaborative study in the new areas. This will also mean an increase in the quantity and variety of seating and study options.

In the newly renovated Whispers, users will find bookshelves, tables, chairs, and bar-height seating overlooking the Newman Tower and the Level A Newman Exploration Center. Level 2 of the Newman Tower, named Risa’s Landing in honor of Risa Zweifling Whittam, Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton’s wife, will be a unique, balcony study space with views of the always robust activity in Whispers below. The Newman Exploration Center on Level A, connected to Whispers by wrapping the Newman Tower, will feature an immersive, inspiring, central seating area designed to encourage exploration and discovery.

New Entrance, New Experience

Ann Beha wasn’t the only one thinking about the benefits of adding a second entrance to the building. Student feedback over the past couple of years—gathered through the campus survey, a Student Union Senate meeting, and conversations between students and library staff—has indicated that creating an additional entrance is an appealing idea. For example, in 2014, the Campus Beat survey, which is aimed at undergraduates, asked, “If there were one thing you could change about the libraries, what would it be?” A student responded, “For Olin, I would add an entrance to the opposite side of the library.”

Creating an entrance on the north side of Olin will enhance the library’s position as central to the teaching, learning, and research of the WU community.

The north entrance, in concert with the existing south entrance, will increase accessibility for students, faculty, and staff, and encourage tours of prospective students to pass through Olin on its new, vibrant pathways.

Visibility of Special Collections

The new thoroughfare will provide library users with convenient, easy connections to the outside while enhancing the accessibility of important resources inside the building: the staff and student employees of the Help Desk, Olin’s service hub; the newest books on display; and study spaces on Level 1. Users will also find an entrance directly into Whispers through the Newman Tower of Collections and Exploration, which will feature exhibitions of unique collections. On their way to morning classes or for the morning snack, they’ll be able to feed their imaginations, as well.

When Olin’s new spaces open in the spring of 2018, the Thomas Gallery will undoubtedly be a destination for some and a welcome surprise for others. The gallery will showcase distinctive materials from the Libraries’ special collections, along with loaned and traveling exhibits, hosting an ever-changing selection curated by the Special Collections staff. Current and prospective members of the WU community will see and engage with these resources, gaining a strong understanding of the University’s culture, interests, initiatives, and accomplishments.

The Thomas Gallery will also be home to the Libraries’ broadside of the Declaration of Independence, which will be displayed in a permanent exhibit. Donated to the Libraries by the Newman family, the broadside was printed by Solomon Southwick in Newport, Rhode Island, and is dated July 12, 1776. One of few remaining broadsides of the Declaration, the document will be on view in a permanent exhibit in the Thomas Gallery.

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Dowd Modern Graphic History Library

DEDICATED SEPTEMBER 27

The Douglas R. Dowd Modern Graphic History Library (MGHL) was dedicated on September 27 in an evening ceremony in WU’s Steinberg Hall. The library was named in honor of Douglas Dowd, professor of art and American culture studies at the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts. Dowd is an advisor to the Norman Rockwell Center for American Visual Studies in Stockbridge, Massachusetts. In the Sam Fox School, his teaching centers on periodical illustration, the history of animation design, and informational pictures. Dowd joined WU’s faculty in 1992. originally from Massillon, Ohio, Dowd holds a bachelor’s degree in history from Kenyon College and a master of fine arts degree in printmaking from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. His books and prints are in the permanent collections of the National Gallery of Art, the Whitney Museum of American Art, and the Fogg Museum at Harvard University.

Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton delivered remarks at the ceremony. The dedication was made possible by an endowing gift from longtime WU Libraries supporters Ken and Nancy Kranzberg. The ceremony was part of a day-long symposium focusing on illustration, the collections in the MGHL, and the contributions of Dowd, who joined WU’s faculty in 1992. Originally from Massillon, Ohio, Dowd holds a bachelor’s degree in history from Kenyon College and a master of fine arts degree in printmaking from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. His books and prints are in the permanent collections of the National Gallery of Art, the Whitney Museum of American Art, and the Fogg Museum at Harvard University.

Dowd is an advisor to the Norman Rockwell Center for American Visual Studies in Stockbridge, Massachusetts. In the Sam Fox School, his teaching centers on periodical illustration, the history of animation design, and informational pictures. Dowd joined WU’s faculty in 1992. Originally from Massillon, Ohio, Dowd holds a bachelor’s degree in history from Kenyon College and a master of fine arts degree in printmaking from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. His books and prints are in the permanent collections of the National Gallery of Art, the Whitney Museum of American Art, and the Fogg Museum at Harvard University.

The dedication events concluded at Steinberg Hall, with an evening reception and a lecture from Dowd called “Invisible Pictures.” Carmon Colangelo, dean of the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts, who introduced Dowd in Steinberg Auditorium, called him “a tireless advocate of the Modern Graphic History Library” who has made “amazing contributions to the university” and praised him as a leader, scholar, and mentor. In his lecture, Dowd said of periodical illustration: “I believe these sources, which capture American sins and dreams in equal measure, have much to offer students of our shared cultural history, and I am proud to be associated with our efforts to preserve, promote, and study them.”

The day began with a tour of the Dowd MGHL, led by curator Skye Lacerte. Located at WU’s West Campus Library, the Dowd MGHL is a division of WU Libraries’ Special Collections unit that specializes in 20th-century illustration. Created in 2007, it houses one of the most comprehensive collections of the work of illustrator Al Parker and the largest archive of extant posters by designer Seymour Chwast. Other highlights include the Louis & Jodi Atkin Family Collection of World War I propaganda posters and the Walt Reed Illustration Archive, a collection of original works, periodicals, illustrated books, and more than 200,000 magazine tear sheets. The tour was followed by an afternoon symposium by an endowing gift from longtime WU Libraries supporters Ken and Nancy Kranzberg. The ceremony was part of a day-long symposium focusing on illustration, the collections in the MGHL, and the contributions of Dowd, who joined WU’s faculty in 1992. Originally from Massillon, Ohio, Dowd holds a bachelor’s degree in history from Kenyon College and a master of fine arts degree in printmaking from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. His books and prints are in the permanent collections of the National Gallery of Art, the Whitney Museum of American Art, and the Fogg Museum at Harvard University.

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Innovation in Action:

NEW GRANT-FUNDED PROJECTS COMBINE FORWARD-LOOKING TECHNOLOGY WITH LIBRARY EXPERTISE

Innovation and transformation are library buzzwords these days—#librariestransform is a popular hashtag on Twitter—and they’re in the air at WU Libraries. Throughout 2016, a creative group of library staff has been at work on a wide range of innovation-inspired projects. Their endeavors tie in with WU Libraries’ ongoing objectives of providing easy access to collections and resources, supporting new models of research, and using technology in fresh ways.

The projects were made possible by WU Libraries’ Innovation Grants (IG) program. Now in its second year, the program was introduced by library administrators to encourage creativity in staff members and to help advance systems and services. Associate University Librarian Chris Freeland, who chairs the program, says, “It has also helped demonstrate to libraries and administrators to encourage creativity in staff members and to help advance systems and services.

“Perhaps most importantly, the teams are also required to come up with ways that their projects can be sustained once the funding period ends. The idea of sustainability is key, says Associate University Librarian Jeff Huestis. “Sustainable innovation almost always consists of the innovative use of mature technologies and management practices,” Huestis says. “Every aspect of the library environment is changing. Libraries adopt new technologies as they mature in order to continue fulfilling their mission in a sustainable way.”

Here’s a look at three projects in-progress that were funded by WU Libraries’ IG program.

**Tap to Learn More!**

Database/Serials Librarian Kate Sathi was looking for a creative way to promote WU Libraries’ e-resources and to engage with students when she came up with the idea for “Tap to Learn More!” The IG project uses near-field communication (NFC) tags as promotional tools. Inexpensive and easy to implement, the tags are essentially stickers that contain NFC chips. The chips can be programmed with a smartphone and then affixed to just about any surface. Tapping a chip with an NFC-enabled smartphone allows a user to download information directly onto the phone.

“I wanted to do more to promote our content than simply pointing to a web page,” Sathi says. “I was looking for a way to connect with students, to grab their attention and leave an impression.”

Sathi felt the chips had enormous potential for spreading the word about WU Libraries’ e-books and databases. Students could tap a promotional poster, for instance, and receive a phone call from a character in an e-book, or they could tap and download an e-book-related video. The number of taps could also be tracked, providing library staff with valuable feedback on user participation.

“I want our students to use ‘tap to learn more’ and to tell their friends about their experience,” Sathi says.

**MORE ACTIVE GRANTS AT WU LIBRARIES**

COUNCIL ON LIBRARY AND INFORMATION RESOURCES (CLIR) A grant of $5,000 from CLIR will support “Revealing Visual Culture: Digitizing Modern Illustrated Periodical Tear Sheets in the Walt Reed Illustration Archive.” The project will create digital images and supporting metadata for 150,000 tear sheets contained in the Walt Reed Illustration Archive. The resulting image database will be made available to the public.

THE KOREA FOUNDATION WU Libraries’ e-resources for Korean studies will be supported by a $5,000 grant from the Korea Foundation. The funding will partially cover subscriptions to several online archives and databases, including the Korean Studies Information Service System and the Dong-a Ilbo newspaper archive.

NATIONAL FILM PRESERVATION FOUNDATION (NFPF) With a grant of $15,488 from NFPF, the Film & Media Archive will preserve the rare documentary The Streets of Greenwood (1963), along with two reels of outtakes. Co-directed by Emmy Award winner Jack Willis, John Reavis, and Fred Wanderzub, The Streets of Greenwood chronicles the work of voter registration activists as they recruit African American voters in Greenwood, Mississippi, during the height of the civil rights movement.

NATIONAL HISTORICAL PUBLICATIONS AND RECORDS COMMISSION (NHPRC) A grant of $150,000 from NHPRC will fund the Film & Media Archive’s “Eyes on the Prize Digitization and Reassembly Project.” The project will make available roughly 95 hours of previously unseen, inaccessible interviews generated for the award-winning documentary series Eyes on the Prize: America’s Civil Rights Years, 1954-1965. Digital files will be created from nearly 400,000 feet of film-based preservation elements generated through the Film & Media Archive’s Andrew W. Mellon-funded “Eyes on the Prize Preservation Project.” Once digitized, the portions of the interviews used in the final programs will be digitally reassembled with those that weren’t included, so that complete copies can be made available.
At the Fair: Music from the 1904 Louisiana Purchase Exposition

The Gaylord Music Library’s sheet music collection includes a wealth of compositions related to St. Louis’ 1904 Louisiana Purchase Exposition (also known as the St. Louis World Fair). The music library’s digital exhibit “Class, Race, and Sheet Music at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition” offers an intriguing look at tunes that were inspired by and published around the time of the fair. Very few of those compositions have ever been recorded. With their IG project “At the Fair: Music from the 1904 Louisiana Purchase Exposition,” Brad Short, associate university librarian, and Karen Olson, technical services assistant at Gaylord, are working to change that. Funding for their project went toward a performance of sheet music from the fair that was recorded live before an audience at WU’s Pillsbury Theatre on November 11. Co-sponsored by the WU Department of Music, the recital featured current music students and alumni. Audio files of the performance will soon be uploaded to WU Libraries’ website and linked to Gaylord’s digital exhibit. Olson gave a lecture on the music prior to the recital and also played piano in the performance, which included a mix of instrumental and vocal selections. “The music is very much of its time,” Olson says. “There are a number of marches and ballads. It’s basically parlor music fare, occasionally aspiring to be classical music.” Many of the songs commemorate elements of the expo—Scott Joplin’s “The Cascades: A Rag” was inspired by the fair’s waterfalls—but the music also provides insights into St. Louis history, illuminating the perspectives on race and global issues that were prevalent at the time.

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Because the experiences of these former students aren’t widely known or well documented, having taken place in the early 1950s, “Telling Their Stories” chronicles a new chapter in the history of desegregation at WU and in the world of higher education. The project is ongoing, as Clay continues to seek out and connect with alums. He plans to share the results of the project with other colleges and universities in the region, with the hope that those institutions will engage in similar initiatives.

Clay interviewed WU alum Aquilla Ernestine Brown Jackson in May 2016. Jackson was born in Wilton, Arkansas, on May 21, 1937. Her family moved to St. Louis when she was in elementary school. As a girl, she went with her mother to see a performance by the legendary contralto Marian Anderson. On Saturdays she listened to opera on the radio with her father. When a relative left a piano with her family, she began studying the instrument and developed into an accomplished pianist/organist. Jackson entered WU in September 1954 and graduated in 1958. Her major was sociology. In 1957, she saw Martin Luther King Jr. speak in WU’s Graham Chapel. She was close to fellow WU student Henry Hampton, the Emmy Award-winning producer of the civil rights documentary series Eyes on the Prize.

After graduating from WU, Jackson became a social worker. She also taught classes in French and music at schools around St. Louis, including Northwest High School and Central Visual and Performing Arts High School. Jackson is a long-time choir director and church organist. The following is an excerpt from her conversation with Clay.

Q: How did you first learn about WU?
A: I took Saturday music classes at WU. It was the most wonderful thing, because they taught music theory and history. They gave us tickets to the symphony. Anything you wanted to know about music, they were teaching on Saturday.

Q: Do you remember where the Saturday class met on the WU campus?
A: We met in a big room in the Music Department.

Q: Did you consider any other colleges besides WU?
A: Yes. I was offered scholarships to other colleges, but if I had gone away to school it would have been too expensive. I was always thinking about the fact that my parents were poor. They couldn’t afford to send me away to college and deal with all those other things that go along with it—living in a dorm and all that.

Q: Do you remember how much WU cost at that time?
A: I think it was $300 a semester. $600 a year.

Q: Were there other African-American students in your graduating class?
A: I’m thinking there were two. There could have been more.
While you were attending WU, you lived at home with your parents. Can you describe your neighborhood and your home during that time?

If they get frustrated, I would just say you can demonstrate.

Well, the sit-ins, and the arrests—most of these people came up to me saying, “I’m so…I just feel…

Because he really spoke well. It was so full. I’ve never had an experience like this packed. Standing room only.

“Should the police come in one door, you will go out the other.” She just hated for me to be in the middle of all that, you know. I had to be in it.

I had to be in it.

Yes. We had meetings on Sundays. Half of the attendees were staff from the English department. They were all white. … But they were very supportive. And we went to sit-ins. We went to picket and to demonstrate.

Henry Hampton was there when I was there. He was younger. We were very close, and he was very active in the NAACP, the campus chapter, and in picketing, and all the things that we did.

You saw Martin Luther King Jr. speak at WU, in Graham Chapel in 1957. What was that like?

It was wonderful. He was wonderful. White people came up to me saying, “I’m so… I just feel so full. I’ve never had an experience like this before.” Because he really spoke well. It was packed. Standing room only.

Looking back on your career and your experiences at WU, what advice would you give to students, especially African-American high-school or college students?

If they get frustrated, I would just say you can still make it. A lot of people will tell you that you cannot make it. But if you are inspired, you can do it.

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RC: How did you get to WU each day?

RC: While you were attending WU, you lived at home with your parents. Can you describe your neighborhood and your home during that time?

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Looking back on your career and your experiences at WU, what advice would you give to students, especially African-American high-school or college students?

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From Proposal to Project: Looking Beyond the Library

In addition to the IG projects, WU Libraries currently have active grants totaling more than $3 million funded through sources such as the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Council on Library and Information Resources, and the Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society. The support will make possible a wide range of endeavors, including film preservation and the digitization of collections.

“Our staff members gained practical experience in developing ideas into grant proposals through the IG program,” says Chris Freeland. “This will help us as we pursue larger collaborative grants with faculty and community partners.

That practical experience is already proving to be beneficial. In March of this year, WU Libraries received funding for three collaborative projects through “The Divided City: An Urban Humanities Initiative,” a cross-disciplinary endeavor at WU that explores the nature of segregation, past and present, through the filters of architecture, economics, urban design, social work, and public health. Researchers involved with the initiative are examining racial divisions in St. Louis and around the world, in cities such as Nairobi and Johannesburg.

Announced in 2014, “The Divided City” is backed by a four-year grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, with support from the Office of the Provost, the College of Arts & Sciences, and the Sam Fox School’s College of Architecture and Graduate School of Architecture & Urban Design.

WU Libraries’ staff are currently working with WU faculty and members of regional institutions on “The Divided City” projects below.

**Project goals include an inventory of historical materials at WU and the Missouri History Museum that are connected to music and the racial divide in St. Louis, and the development of an interactive website that would make those materials searchable. Another project goal is an inventory of unprocessed music collections. Finding aids and records of all materials will be made available to researchers through the Missouri Hub of the Digital Public Library of America.**

This semester, Professor Burke is working with undergraduate interns Logan Busch and Courtney Kolberg on the project. They’re researching archival collections and identifying relevant sources for the new database and website.

**MEAN STREETS: VIEWING THE DIVIDED CITY THROUGH THE LENS OF FILM AND TELEVISION** was presented as part of the St. Louis International Film Festival (SLIFF), which took place November 3-13. A collaboration between WU’s Film & Media Archive, the Sam Fox School’s College of Architecture, Cinema St. Louis, and the Missouri History Museum, the six-day program highlighted narrative and documentary works that explore the connections between racial division and urban space. The screenings were accompanied by talks with filmmakers, scholars, and WU faculty from American Culture Studies, African and African-American Studies, Jewish Studies, and more.

With additional support from WU’s American Culture Studies program, “Mean Streets” also included a series of free filmmaking seminars presented at the university’s West Campus Library by Brian Woodman, curator of the Film & Media Archive, and visiting artists. Kevin Willmott, who co-wrote the film Mean Streets with Spike Lee, taught a master class in screenwriting.

WU Libraries recorded the post-film discussions that took place during SLIFF, as well as oral histories with select participants. The recordings will be housed in the Film & Media Archive.

**MAPPING QUEER ST. LOUIS** focuses on the LGBQT experience within the divided city environment. Aaron Addison, Jennifer Moore, and Miranda Rectenswald of WU Libraries are partnering on the initiative with the St. Louis LGBT History Project, the Missouri History Museum, and with WU faculty members Andrea Friedman, associate professor of women, gender, and sexuality studies, and Bob Hansman, associate professor of architecture and urban design.

Through an examination of queer social spaces in St. Louis, their work will explore how sexuality can lead to rifts within cities and communities. Project goals include the creation of an interactive map users can access through a digital portal. This semester, undergraduate students Kristi Hagen, Molly Brodsky, and Jennifer Chen are working with select participants. The recordings will be housed in the Film & Media Archive.

**MUSIC AND SEGREGATION IN ST. LOUIS HISTORY: UNCOVERING THE SOURCES** explores the relationship between music and race in St. Louis. Brad Short, Vernon Mitchell, Miranda Rectenswald, and Sonza Rosoney of WU Libraries are training with Patrick Burke, associate professor of music at WU, Douglas Knox, co-director of WU’s Humanities Digital Workshop, and the Missouri History Museum on this initiative.

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Inside the World of Wikipedia

WU STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN WIKIPEDIA LIBRARY’S INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

By Shannon Davis, Digital Library Services Manager

The Wikipedia Library, an initiative of the Wikimedia Foundation, is a nonprofit program that provides researchers with the tools and support they need to improve Wikipedia articles on topics of interest. The program has been funded since 2013 through the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation’s Libraries and Information Fund. In partnership with Wikipedia’s editors and librarians around the world, the Wikipedia Library provides libraries at universities worldwide the opportunity to offer training and support to researchers and educators who are interested in contributing to Wikipedia. The program’s ultimate goal is to ensure that Wikipedia has a comprehensive and accurate article on every topic of interest to the research community.

The Wikipedia Library’s internship program provides students with an opportunity to learn about and contribute to Wikipedia, while gaining valuable skills in research, writing, and digital literacy. During the past two years, the program has engaged students from a variety of backgrounds, including undergraduate and graduate students, as well as faculty and staff members. The program has also helped to build partnerships between libraries and academic institutions, as well as between libraries and other organizations that work with knowledge.

The Wikipedia Library’s internship program includes a variety of opportunities for students to contribute to Wikipedia. Students can contribute to Wikipedia articles on a wide range of topics, including history, science, literature, and culture. Students can also contribute to Wikipedia articles on current events, as well as to articles on topics that are of interest to them.

The Wikipedia Library’s internship program is designed to be flexible and adaptable to the needs of each student. Students can choose the type of contribution that they would like to make, as well as the amount of time that they would like to dedicate to the program. The program also provides students with access to a variety of resources, including tutorials, workshops, and mentorship opportunities.

The Wikipedia Library’s internship program is an excellent opportunity for students to gain valuable experience in research, writing, and digital literacy. Students who participate in the program will have the opportunity to learn about and contribute to Wikipedia, while gaining valuable skills in research, writing, and digital literacy. The program is also an excellent opportunity for students to build partnerships with libraries and other organizations that work with knowledge.

For students, the benefits of the Wikipedia Library internship program include building research and writing skills, finding out how to use library resources and other reference materials to support their research and writing, and learning how to apply their skills to writing for journals or publishers. Students also gain an understanding of the implications of using social media and other platforms as places to disseminate and share public knowledge.

For more information about the Wikipedia Library internship program, please visit www.wikipedialibrary.org.
“THE WIKIPEDIA LIBRARY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR US TO COLLABORATE WITH OUR MISSOURI HUB PARTNERS, EXPOSE OUR COLLECTIONS TO A WIDER AUDIENCE, AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE WIKIPEDIA COMMUNITY.”
—Digital Library Services Manager and Wikipedia Project Coordinator Shannon Davis

AJ Robinson and Rina Vecchiola. The event focused on creating and improving Wikipedia articles about women in the arts. One of our students served as a facilitator at the event. I learned some important lessons from my experiences with the internship program. Project managers will find it helpful to go through the course themselves first, or alongside the students. This training will help ensure a group of what’s required and get a feel for how to edit and contribute to Wikipedia. Managers should also make sure that they become familiar with Wikipedia’s guidelines and best practices, such as providing adequate sources for contributions and examining copyright issues.

The first article I drafted was on Erastus Wells, a former member of the House of Representatives for Missouri. My source was an item contributed to the DPLA Missouri Hub by the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. A book called Episodes of My Life by Rolla Wells, Erastus’ son and a former mayor of St. Louis. When I submitted the article, it was declined because I hadn’t supplied sufficient references. If I’d been writing a research paper, the book would have been sufficient, but Wikipedia requires more sources to verify the information in its articles. An unbiased source wouldn’t have helped—not one written by the featured person’s son. After consulting and citing more varied resources, I submitted the article again successfully, and it is now available on Wikipedia.

MAKING CONNECTIONS ACROSS COLLECTIONS

Because I participated in the course alongside the students, I was able to recognize the potential for highlighting our various Missouri Hub collections on Wikipedia. There are interesting stories to tell from our own collections and from those belonging to partner organizations. Within our own institutional collections, using DPLA, I was able to find connections between materials that I thought would have no relation to one another.

The first collection came from the Gaylord Music Library. Scholarly Publishing has been working closely with staff members there to digitize their Sheet Music Collection, which includes compositions relating to St. Louis and Missouri dating back to the 1820s. The second collection I consulted, the St. Louis Circuit Court Records, is one of our most robust digital collections, and we maintain it in partnership with the Missouri History Museum. We’ve been adding content to it since 2009.

Reading an e-book on the history of St. Louis, I discovered a mention of Joseph Postlewaite, who was an African-American composer in St. Louis around the time of the Civil War. Postlewaite published many compositions, including several that are held in the Sheet Music Collection and have been digitized. Reading about Postlewaite, I discovered that he was a free person in Missouri at the time of the Civil War. Having worked on the St. Louis Circuit Court Records project, I knew this meant that he would have carried with him a piece of paper known as a freedom bond to assert his free status in what was then a slave state.

The Missouri History Museum has a collection of such bonds, and a number of them have been digitized and are part of the St. Louis Circuit Court Records collection. Looking through them online, I saw that there was a bond for Joseph Postlewaite. That bond represented a unique and new connection between the Gaylord Music Library’s Sheet Music Collection and the St. Louis Circuit Court Records. This link also provided interesting historical context for a new article I drafted on Postlewaite. Although he was a well-known composer in his day, he was previously unrepresented on Wikipedia.

These are small connections, but they provide an opportunity for bringing together materials that have been separated physically and digitally for years. By bringing the pieces together, we can enhance the stories behind our digital assets and create a more robust historical record online. This is one of the benefits of contributing to Wikipedia—not just creating broader access to our collections, but enhancing the historical value of them as well.
The library is all too often the one resource on a university campus that, through its ubiquity, becomes invisible. As FYE Librarian, my job is to combat this invisibility. Of course, all WU librarians are central assets for students, but the creation of an FYE Librarian position underscores WU Libraries’ commitment with users as early as possible in their academic lives. In practice, what a FYE Librarian does varies among institutions. Part of my role is academic—I help the subject librarians meet the research needs of first-year students in both general and subject-specific courses. My responsibilities also include developing programming that will engage first-year students with the library and building effective relationships with first-year-focused faculty.

The FYE Librarian plays a vital role in today’s research landscape, where an abundance of information and of ways to access it can be paralyzing for students. Today’s students are also victims to the digital paradox: The research landscape, where an abundance of information and of ways to access it can be paralyzing for students. Today’s students are also victims to the digital paradox: The FYE Librarian supports these students with the library and building effective relationships with first-year-focused faculty.

Jaya Bhat
HUMAN RESOURCES/PAYROLL ASSOCIATE

Jaya Bhat joined the staff of WU Libraries in May. As human resources/payroll associate, she handles all human resources management systems updates, new hire processes, and biweekly and monthly payrolls. Bhat earned undergraduate and graduate degrees from Maryville University in St. Louis. She holds a bachelor’s degree in environmental studies and international studies and a master’s degree in organizational leadership and development. Originally from India, Bhat moved to the United States as a teenager. She is passionate about diversity and cultural intelligence, topics she researched in graduate school. She has previous library experience, having served as a library assistant at WU’s Brown School of Social Work.

Clara Fehrenbach
INTERLIBRARY LOAN AND RESERVES LIBRARIAN

WU Libraries welcomed Clara Fehrenbach as interlibrary loan (ILL) and reserves librarian in September. In this role, Fehrenbach oversees operations in ILL, Course Reserves, and MOBIUS. Fehrenbach also assesses user needs, implements new service and develops policies and procedures in support of these areas. Additionally, she supervises the ILL and reserves staff. Fehrenbach came to WU Libraries with several years of experience at one of the busiest ILL shops in the country, University of Wisconsin-Madison. Fehrenbach holds a bachelor’s degree in political science and history from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Fehrenbach holds a bachelor’s degree in political science and history from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. In this role, Fehrenbach assists with set-up and take-down of operations in the Libraries. He also assists with set-up and take-down of operations in the Libraries.

Kate Goldkamp
CURATORIAL ASSISTANT

Kate Goldkamp began work as curatorial assistant in Special Collections in February. Her responsibilities include providing general reference support and assisting with class assignments, exhibiting, planning, social media activity, and collection maintenance. Her work with special collections began in graduate school at an internship at the New York Public Library. She gained experience in fine art during her time as an intern at the Atrium Gallery in St. Louis and during internships at the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis and the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. Goldkamp holds a bachelor’s degree in art history from Bryn Mawr College and a master’s degree in decorative arts, design history, and material culture from the Bard Graduate Center.

Jaleen Grove
POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER

Jaleen Grove joined the Douglas B. Dowd Modern Graphic History Library (MGHL) as a postdoctoral researcher in July. An art historian with specialization in international studies and illustration history, Grove is researching, developing, and writing about the illustration collections in the Dowd MGHL. She’s also teaching a new course, “Introduction to Illustration Studies.” Grove is the author of Oscar Cahén: Life and Work (Art Canada Institute, 2015) and co-editor of A History of Illustration (Bloomsbury, 2016). She has served as associate editor of the Journal of Illustration since 2012. A native of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, Grove holds a bachelor of fine arts degree from Emily Carr University of Art + Design and a master’s degree in communication and culture from Ryerson University.

Mustafaa Holland
LIBRARY TECHNICAL ASSISTANT

Mustafaa Holland became a part of the Support Services team at WU Libraries in June. He works as a library technical assistant. His responsibilities in this role include processing and delivering books, mail, and special orders for the departmental libraries. He also assists with set-up and take-down operations in the Libraries. Holland holds a bachelor of fine arts degree from Emily Carr University of Art + Design and a master’s degree in communication and culture from Ryerson University.

Desirée Jones-Smith
PROJECT COORDINATOR

Desirée Jones-Smith joined WU Libraries’ Scholarly Publishing unit in April. She serves as project coordinator for Documenting the Now, WU Libraries’ grant-funded social-media archiving initiative. Jones-Smith has several years’ experience working in the media, nonprofit, and education sectors. She holds a bachelor’s degree in communication, education, and leadership from the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food, and Environment and a master’s degree in education, policy, and evaluation, from the University of Kentucky College of Education. As part of the Documenting the Now team, Jones-Smith manages logistics for the project, which is spread across three institutions. She also works on related initiatives for WU Libraries.

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Garth Reese

**RARE BOOKS CURATOR**

Garth Reese was appointed rare books curator at WU Libraries in August. Part of the Special Collections team, he is involved with collection development, access, reference, instruction, and outreach. Reese has more than 10 years of experience, having worked as assistant curator of printed books and bindings at the Morgan Library and Museum in New York City, as well as curator of special collections at the University of Idaho Library, and as cataloguer and early printing specialist at Phillip J. Pirages Fine Books & Manuscripts in McMinnville, Oregon. Reese earned a bachelor’s degree in history from Pomona College and a master’s degree in library and information science from UCLA. He holds a doctorate degree in religion from Claremont Graduate University.

Jessica Kleekamp

**SOCIAL SCIENCES AND USER EXPERIENCE LIBRARIAN**

Jessica Kleekamp was appointed social sciences and user experience librarian in June. She serves as a liaison to the sociology department and advocates for an exceptional user experience on all platforms across WU Libraries’ digital resources. She also coordinates a range of activities to assess the digital needs of WU Libraries’ user community. Before coming to WU, Kleekamp worked as librarian for Hickey College, managing the libraries for Hickey College, the Culinary Institute of St. Louis, and the Vet Tech Institute of St. Louis. Kleekamp holds a bachelor’s degree in English and writing from Drury University in Springfield, Missouri. She earned a master’s degree in library and information science from the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Vernon Mitchell Jr.

**CURATOR OF POPULAR AMERICAN ARTS**

Vernon Mitchell Jr. became curator of popular American arts at WU Libraries in July. Mitchell is working to establish a St. Louis music archive and to document the cultural development of the performing arts in the St. Louis region and beyond. Mitchell also oversees all activities related to collection development, instruction, and community outreach. Formerly a postdoctoral fellow in WU’s Program for African and African-American Studies and the Film & Media Archive, Mitchell teaches a course called “Don’t Believe the Hype: Race, Media, and Social Movements in America, 1913–2015” that uses primary documents from Special Collections. Mitchell holds master’s and doctorate degrees in American history from Cornell University.

Ilan Lanius

**MANAGER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND SPECIAL EVENTS**

WU Libraries welcomed Jody Mitori as manager of communications and special events in April. A St. Louis native, Mitori has many years of experience in the area of communications. His previous positions include graphics and online editor with the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel and special sections editor with McClatchy-Tribune. Before coming to WU, Mitori was on the staff of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, where she served as an editor for eight years, most recently as assistant managing editor of features. In her new role, Mitori is working to develop guidelines for special events across WU Libraries and to create a communications strategy. She also serves as editor of Off the Shelf. Mitori holds a bachelor’s degree in journalism from the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Jody Mitori

**CURATORIAL ASSISTANT**

Ian Lanius became a part of WU Libraries’ Special Collections team in June. He serves as a curatorial assistant. His responsibilities in that role include providing general reference support for Special Collections, overseeing the reference desk, serving patrons, and assisting staff with class preparation. He also works on a wide range of projects, such as exhibit planning, digital endeavors, and social media activity. Before coming to WU, Lanius worked as senior print finisher and driver at Hi/Tec Copy Center. He has extensive experience with wide format printing, and exhibit installation. Lanius holds a bachelor of fine arts degree in photography from Illinois State University, where he also studied video art.

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Gloria Lein

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

Gloria Lein joined the staff of WU Libraries in May as administrative assistant. In that role, she provides support for the associate university librarians and the human resources/payroll manager. She assists with a wide range of projects, administrative tasks, and special events. Lein is a transplant from New York. Prior to joining WU Libraries, she worked primarily in the financial services industry. Her experience includes work with the Washington University Investment Management Company, which manages WU’s endowment.

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Erin Sutherland

**CURATOR OF EXHIBITIONS**

Erin Sutherland joined the staff of WU Libraries in January. As curator of exhibitions, she is spearheading the development of an exhibition program built on collaboration among library curators, students, graduate students, and faculty members. She is also assisting with the planning for new exhibit spaces at WU Libraries. Sutherland holds a bachelor’s degree in art history, criticism, and conservation from Mary Washington College and a master’s degree in art history from the University of Colorado-Boulder. She earned a doctorate degree in art history and archaeology from WU and has taught in WU’s art history department. Her work in museums includes internships at the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington, D.C., the Denver Art Museum, and the St. Louis Art Museum.

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Wanqiu Zhu

**LIBRARY ASSISTANT**

Wanqiu Zhu became a member of the East Asian Library team in August. As library assistant, her responsibilities include activities related to circulation services and stacks maintenance. She also carries out course reserve operations, coordinates interlibrary loan and document delivery services, supervises student assistants, and coordinates the physical processing of all types of materials in the East Asian Library. Zhu holds a bachelor’s degree in library and information science from Northeast Normal University in China. Her work experience includes four years at the library of the Dalai Lama University of Technology in China. Zhu lived in Japan for more than five years. Before joining WU Libraries, she worked at the WU School of Medicine as a research technician.

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Garth Reese was appointed rare books curator at WU Libraries in August. Part of the Special Collections team, he is involved with collection development, access, reference, instruction, and outreach. Reese has more than 10 years of experience, having worked as assistant curator of printed books and bindings at the Morgan Library and Museum in New York City, as head of special collections at the University of Idaho Library, and as cataloguer and early printing specialist at Phillip J. Pirages Fine Books & Manuscripts in McMinnville, Oregon. Reese earned a bachelor’s degree in history from Pomona College and a master’s degree in library and information science from UCLA. He holds a doctorate degree in religion from Claremont Graduate University.

Erin Sutherland

**CURATOR OF EXHIBITIONS**

Erin Sutherland joined the staff of WU Libraries in January. As curator of exhibitions, she is spearheading the development of an exhibition program built on collaboration among library curators, students, graduate students, and faculty members. She is also assisting with the planning for new exhibit spaces at WU Libraries. Sutherland holds a bachelor’s degree in art history, criticism, and conservation from Mary Washington College and a master’s degree in art history from the University of Colorado-Boulder. She earned a doctorate degree in art history and archaeology from WU and has taught in WU’s art history department. Her work in museums includes internships at the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington, D.C., the Denver Art Museum, and the St. Louis Art Museum.

Wanqiu Zhu

**LIBRARY ASSISTANT**

Wanqiu Zhu became a member of the East Asian Library team in August. As library assistant, her responsibilities include activities related to circulation services and stacks maintenance. She also carries out course reserve operations, coordinates interlibrary loan and document delivery services, supervises student assistants, and coordinates the physical processing of all types of materials in the East Asian Library. Zhu holds a bachelor’s degree in library and information science from Northeast Normal University in China. Her work experience includes four years at the library of the Dalai Lama University of Technology in China. Zhu lived in Japan for more than five years. Before joining WU Libraries, she worked at the WU School of Medicine as a research technician.
DocNow Advisory Board Meets at WU

The Documenting the Now project (known as DocNow) seeks to build a community of practice around social media and web archiving. WU is collaborating with the University of Maryland and the University of California, Riverside on the initiative. As part of the project, the three institutions are developing a cloud-ready, open-source application that will be used for collecting tweets and their associated metadata and web content. The initiative is being funded by a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

The first meeting of the DocNow advisory board took place August 21-23 in WU’s Knight Center. The 20-member board is composed of archivists, academics, university faculty, and library professionals from across the United States. The board members met with local activists and researchers to discuss project goals, which include establishing user-friendly methods for the ethical collection and archiving of social media content.

“The meeting was really valuable,” says DocNow project manager Désirée Jones-Smith, who organized the event. “It brought together phenomenal thinkers in various fields and representatives from the activist community whose work is so often captured by archival projects.”

The meeting was livestreamed to facilitate engagement with a larger audience. Panel discussion topics included the ethics of social media collection and use; social media research data, tools, and methodologies; web archiving technology; and the impact of social media on the Black Lives Matter movement. Activists Reuben Riggs, Kayla Reid, and Alexis Templeton, members of the movement who protested in Ferguson in the wake of Michael Brown’s death, took part as panelists, sharing insights into their work and the role social media played in their organizing efforts.

“Together, we explored ways to apply an ethical framework to the DocNow tool and its community of practice,” Jones-Smith says. “The need to consider social media authors in much the same way as we do traditional authors was a salient point throughout the discussions. We’re excited to see these ideas become a part of the DocNow application.”

A second advisory board meeting, made possible by the Mellon grant, will take place in 2017. To view videos of the 2016 meeting and learn more about the project, visit www.docnow.io.

WU Libraries Become Hydra Partner

In August 2016, WU Libraries became a Hydra Project partner, capping a two-year effort to implement Hydra and engage with the Hydra community.

Hydra is both a software architecture and a community. The software enables organizations to store and deliver digital content for libraries and cultural heritage organizations. The partners, in turn, collaboratively contribute to ongoing development and collectively determine future needs and directions for Hydra.

“This isn’t just a new platform for us,” says Digital Library Director Andrew Rouner. “It’s a new way of doing things that gives us more input into the development of the platform. It also engages us more fully with our peers at other organizations as we pursue our common goals.”

Introduced in 2008, Hydra was originally a project of the University of Virginia, the University of Hull, and Stanford University. It has since grown to include a wide range of partners, from universities such as Yale, Northwestern, and Princeton, to organizations including Boston’s WGBH and Cleveland’s Rock & Roll Hall of Fame.

WU Libraries’ implementation of Hydra began in 2014, with a two-year, $50,000 grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The funding made it possible for the Libraries to plan for the replacement of unsupported or discontinued digital content platforms and for a platform that would deliver content that previously had none.

The grant, which concluded in July, also provided funding for staff training, outreach, and interaction with the Hydra partner community of users and developers. The effort has resulted in two Hydra repositories that host three collections. The repositories were deployed in spring 2016. WU Libraries staff continue to explore possible new applications of Hydra, such as GIS-related applications, and to add collections to the repositories.

In Memorium: Barry Weller

BARRY WELLER, a dedicated member of the WU Libraries staff for nearly 25 years, died on May 28, 2016, of a heart attack. He was 50.

Weller was a library technical assistant at the West Campus Library, where he was responsible for circulation, retrieval and stacks management, and the scheduling and operation of the West Campus Conference Center.

Weller also had a distinguished acting career under the stage name B. Weller. He performed with several local theater troupes, including Stray Dog Theatre, St. Louis Shakespeare, R-S Theatrics, and Mustard Seed Theatre. His most recent performance was as Dakin Williams in a staged reading of the Williams family letters for the Tennessee Williams Festival St. Louis, which took place in May 2016.

“Like perhaps many performers, Barry was quiet in other aspects of his life,” said Shelli Kastin, head of Publishing Production Services and West Campus librarian. “Acting was his passion, but he took pride in doing his 9-to-5 job well. He was very conscientious, knowledgeable, and reliable.”

Weller was born in Columbia, Missouri, and lived there until his family moved to Webster Groves when he was a teenager. He graduated with a bachelor of arts degree in theater from Hope College in Holland, Michigan.

He started his career at WU on July 29, 1991, as circulation assistant at Olin Library. In June 1997 he became a library technical assistant at West Campus, where he was known for his dry sense of humor and his problem-solving skills.

Weller is survived by his sisters Holly and Sarah, both of St. Louis. They also work at West Campus Library.
Freeland Receives 2016 Ronald G. Bohley Award

Meet Mary Druyvesteyn, WU Libraries’ Director of Development

Mary Druyvesteyn holds a dual bachelor’s degree from Washington University in French literature and religious studies, a master’s degree in French and Francophone literature from the University of Chicago, and a PhD in 19th-century French literature from the University of Chicago. She has extensive classroom and pedagogical experience and has taught every age from kindergarten to graduate level in France and the United States. In addition to her classroom experience, Druyvesteyn has a strong background in administration and leadership. Following a career as an editorial assistant at the University of Chicago Press, she returned to St. Louis and to her alma mater to further her vocation in development.

Druyvesteyn joined WU Libraries as director of development in May 2015, and she now oversees all fundraising efforts for library initiatives. Along with her professional career in development, Druyvesteyn has volunteered for the Anthropedia Foundation for nearly a decade.

The position presents a nice bridge between academia and development, and Druyvesteyn has volunteered for the Anthropedia Foundation for nearly a decade. Finally, Druyvesteyn is also a well-being coach certified in the Anthropedia Foundation’s coaching methodology.

What attracted you to the position of Director of Development?

The position presents a nice bridge between academia and fundraising. As my background is more rooted in academics, I feel very at home working with the staff and patrons of WU Libraries. Raising support for the intellectual heart of an academic institution — what can be more fulfilling than that?

What are your goals for library fundraising?

To raise awareness of WU Libraries among alumni, parents, and friends. Not only as a resource, but as an important place in which to direct one’s philanthropy.

Talk about the role you play with donors.

My job is to help donors articulate their charitable interests and to provide them with the resources and information necessary to transform their interests into reality. Building positive relationships is very important to me, and so in working with donors, I strive to honor their connection with the University and to broaden their WU experience — be they alumni, parents, or friends.

What do you like the most about your job?

Outstanding colleagues — in WU Libraries and in Alumni & Development — and wonderful opportunities to collaborate and to think creatively. There is a fair amount of writing, something in which I find great pleasure. There are also myriad opportunities to help enhance the Libraries’ presence before the University’s numerous constituents.

Does being an alumna help you or inform your activities? If so, in what way?

I can certainly speak truthfully to the ‘WU experience’ and have fond memories of my faculty, which is a point of pleasure when meeting with alumni. David Hadas often makes his way into the conversation. People still talk about his Bible as a literature class.

What do you like to do in your free time?

My hobbies include running — especially winter running. Winter is the best time of year for a long run.

What are your reading preferences?

My reading shifts between fiction, philosophy, classics, contemporary, French, and environmental. If a trusted friend recommends something, I almost always read it.

Do you have a favorite novel or a favorite author?

I will have to remain faithful to my first love, Alphonse de Lamartine.

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HISTORY HAPPENS HERE: Washington University hosted its fifth debate on October 9, 2016. In honor of the occasion, University Archives created the exhibit “Presidential Debates, Part of Washington University’s Legacy.” The exhibit featured materials from the previous presidential debates, which took place in 1992, 2000, and 2004, and from the vice-presidential debate the university hosted in 2008. Displayed in Olin’s Grand Staircase Lobby from September 30 to October 30, the exhibit included a piece of the carpet from the 1992 debate hall, buttons, posters, media kits, photographs, and more.