

YEAR IN REVIEW 2017-18

MILESTONES



VCU Libraries

MILESTONES

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PREFACE

Milestone: “A reference point along a road; an important point in progress or development.”

It's hard to imagine a more appropriate word to sum up 2017-18 in the history of the VCU Libraries. During the past year the VCU Libraries has accomplished and surpassed goals that have long stood as key milestones in the development of the 21st-century research library system VCU needs for its success. Membership in the Association of Research Libraries, recognition by the 2018 Excellence in Academic Libraries Award, celebrating VCU's three millionth volume, and a record year for programs and program attendance are only a few of the many achievements we celebrated during a year of outstanding success.

This new report adopts a graphic marker to help you find your way. The pushpin, , has become a familiar icon to anyone using a digital map – it marks a place of interest, a wayfinding path, where you are on the map and, importantly, a travel goal, a destination you want to reach from where you stand now. In so many ways, this little symbol exemplifies the journey of the VCU Libraries celebrated in this report. After decades of careful and purposeful work, the staff of the VCU Libraries has achieved many of the key milestones we set out for ourselves and for VCU years ago.

A great university radiates from a great library, and VCU Libraries has long set its goal to become an exemplary 21st-century research library system that advances our great 21st-century institution. The past year of accomplishments has demonstrated to the country and to the world, in the most unequivocal fashion, the maturation of Virginia Commonwealth University as a major center for learning, teaching, and discovery in the nation.

The VCU community can take great pride in the achievements of its libraries over the past year. But the milestones in this report mark only points along the way. There remains much yet to do, emerging new challenges to take on, new needs to meet from a rapidly changing and growing university, and new ways to advance the success of our students and faculty. The journey to such milestones over the past year gives us all great confidence about the future ahead. We look forward to meeting the milestones ahead, whatever they may be. Enjoy!

Dean of Libraries and University Librarian John E. Ulmschneider



TOP TEN

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1 Virginia Commonwealth University accepted an **invitation to membership in the Association of Research Libraries**, a milestone demonstrating VCU's maturation as one of the nation's premiere urban research universities. VCU became the 125th member of ARL in January 2018. ARL members include the largest and most accomplished research libraries in North America. VCU joins the University of Virginia and Virginia Tech as the only Virginia members. The vote to invite VCU's membership followed a rigorous review of the university library that considered both qualitative and quantitative profile data and an in-depth site visit. The rigorous review process included an examination of the breadth and depth of collections, uniqueness of research resources, services to the library's community, contributions to scholarship, and leadership in the library and information science profession. The review committee noted in particular the sustained growth of the VCU Libraries, VCU's ongoing support for the library, and the exceptional accomplishments and engagement with research librarianship of its staff. ARL

membership achieves a key goal of the university's Quest strategic plan.

2 The Association of College and Research Libraries honored VCU Libraries with the **2018 Excellence in Academic Libraries Award**, recognizing its exemplary programs, resources and services. The highly competitive award annually celebrates a college, university and community college library for excellence. VCU Libraries joins the University of Virginia as the only Virginia honoree at the university level in the 19 years of the award's existence.

3 VCU Libraries celebrated acquisition of its **3 millionth volume** with a trio of selections and events that represented the breadth of the collection: a digital oral history, a piece of book art, and a seminal medical text about the treatment of brain injury.

4 Planning for **the future of VCU's health sciences library emerged as a top priority for library and university leadership**, who engaged in extensive

explorations and discussions with VCU Health leaders to identify the library's location and design in the new master site plan for the MCV Campus. The VCU Libraries and the university have confirmed that the brick Tompkins-McCaw Library on 12th Street will be razed to make way for a new VCU Health hospital expansion in late 2019 or early 2020. Planning is now underway to relocate the collection, move the vast medical artifacts and history of medicine collections to safekeeping, and relocate library teaching, study, research, and program spaces to a temporary location. The temporary move will not impede longer-range efforts already underway to build a new health sciences library and to prototype new programs, spaces and capabilities. Design and building decisions will aim to create a national example, best-in-class health sciences library.

5 VCU Libraries accelerated planning and design **for a new off-campus facility to hold its growing collections of tangible materials, including print books, media and rare and unique materials**. VCU Libraries finalized negotiations

with the Library of Virginia to cooperatively build and operate an expansion of the existing State Records Center managed by the Library of Virginia. The agreement will leverage infrastructure already in place and drive down the cost-per-item by sharing space, increasing storage density and jointly staffing the new facility. The partner institutions are in discussions with other regional libraries to expand the collaboration.

6 **Initiatives to bolster knowledge of and use of open access materials** expanded significantly. VCU Libraries hosted Virginia's first OpenCon, a regional satellite event tied to an international conference that facilitated learning, discussion and action on topics of open access publishing, open science, open data and open education. **The Open Access Publishing Fund** was fully tapped by faculty members eager for library assistance in publishing in open forums. The university's digital repository operated by the VCU Libraries, **Scholars Compass, surpassed 1 million downloads** from locations across the globe. Finally, the VCU Libraries continued to strengthen and expand its work with **Open Science and Open Data** through its collaborations with the VCU Office of Research and Innovation, especially in the university's early-adopter engagement with the Open

Science Framework, promotion of ORCID persistent scholarly identifiers, and training on evolving guidance for reproducible research.

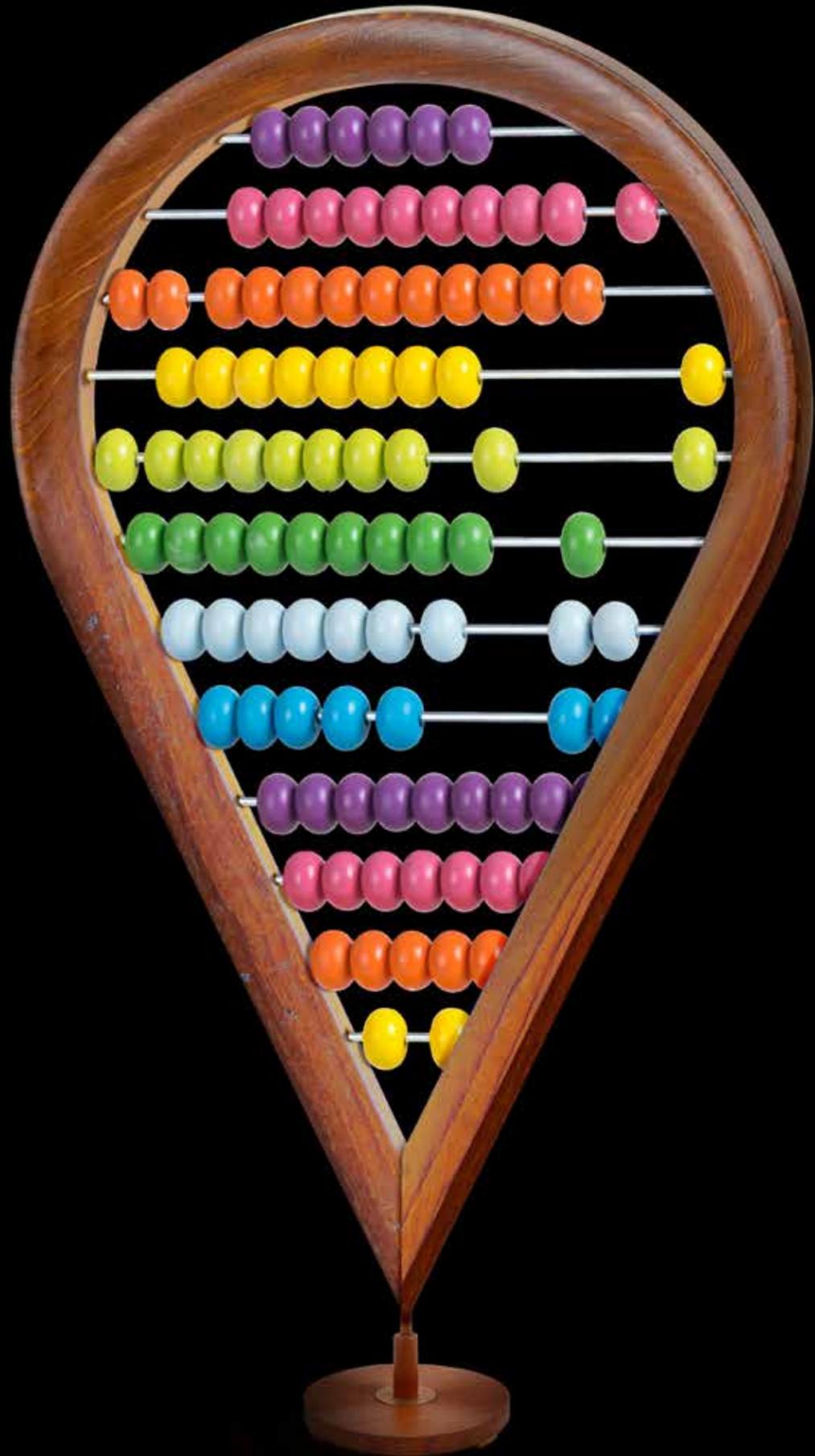
7 VCU Libraries strengthened its efforts **to lower the cost of education through its Affordable Course Content initiatives**. VCU Libraries partnered with other university units to support the first faculty cohort in the **Affordable Course Content Awards**. This program provides financial and other project support to faculty who want to adopt or author free and openly licensed course materials to replace high-cost textbooks. Through this and other initiatives, VCU students **saved more than \$1 million in textbook expenditures** in 2017-18.

8 An impressive **array of library and library-hosted events** again set attendance records and further solidified VCU Libraries' role on campus as a convener of important university meetings and as a favored location for scholarly events. VCU Libraries organized, sponsored or hosted a total of 386 events, ranging from committee meetings to multi-day conferences and attracting more than 25,000 attendees. Other campus units organized 262 of these events, testifying to our strong support of the university community's intellectual and culture life.

9 **VCU Libraries reached 95.2% of VCU's Make It Real private giving goal of \$6 million** to the libraries, with two years to go to achieve the full goal. As part of its campaign, the VCU Libraries established a new endowment for Special Collections and Archives in 2018 to provide much-needed private funds that will help develop and preserve its distinguished collection of rare and unique materials that form primary sources for research and teaching.

10 Tompkins-McCaw Library for the Health Sciences took a number of steps toward **more robust community service and outreach** to increase health literacy. Work included:

- Gaining approval for renaming the Community Health Education Center to be better understood as the VCU Medical Center Health and Wellness Library;
- Becoming a partner library for the Virginia Department of Health through the National Network of Libraries of Medicine program, Public Health Digital Library program;
- Obtaining grant support and participating in VCU's East End initiative to bring technology and health information to underserved Richmonders in a new neighborhood setting; and
- Developing training for public librarians on consumer health topics in partnership with the Richmond Public Library system.



BY THE **NUMBERS**

3 million
TITLES HELD

1 million+
e-books

ANNUAL GATE COUNT

2.4 million
visitors

REFERENCE QUESTIONS
ANSWERED **12,360**

76,478
INTERACTIONS
WITH LIBRARY
USERS

**NUMBER OF
DATABASES:**

478

2,091,114 article requests
4,349,159
DATABASE SEARCHES

STREAMING VIDEOS:
62,204 unique
visitor sessions;
89,519 video pages browsed;
28,869 videos played
(all from KanopyStreaming)

1224 PUBLIC EVENTS
Library-organized/
sponsored

262 Public events organized
by departments/units
outside the libraries

3006 TOTAL EVENTS

25,030
Total Event Attendance

1650 TEACHING SESSIONS
(workshops, webinars, tours, presentations to student groups) ▶ **55,000** ATTENDEES

GOOD IN COMPANY

VCU joins Association of Research Libraries

VCU Libraries accepted an invitation to membership from the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) in January. ARL represents the 125 largest and most prestigious research libraries in North America, and holds a high bar for membership and participation. As the first new U.S. member of ARL in over 15 years, VCU has met high expectations indeed, and achieves a long-held VCU goal.

“We are delighted by this invitation to membership by ARL and its recognition of our work as a major research library system,” University Librarian John E. Ulmschneider said. “VCU Libraries looks forward to helping create the future of research libraries and research librarianship in partnership with ARL and its members. We welcome the professional growth opportunities offered by ARL membership to the talented library faculty and staff who have brought the VCU Libraries to this point. We have much to learn from the ARL community, and I am confident we also have much to contribute



“We look forward to joining with this distinguished community of research libraries from across the U.S. and Canada.”

—VCU President Michael Rao, Ph.D.

to the work of ARL.”

ARL membership represents a significant milestone in the emergence of VCU as one of the country’s leading research institutions, Ulmschneider said. The University of Virginia and Virginia Tech are the only other member institutions in Virginia.

VCU President Michael Rao, Ph.D., said that membership in the Association of Research Libraries is an immense honor and advances VCU’s mission as a major urban research university. “We look forward to joining with this distinguished community of research libraries from across the U.S. and Canada,” he said.

VCU Provost Gail Hackett, Ph.D., also lauded the ARL decision. “We are proud of VCU Libraries and its commitment to the engagement of our faculty, staff, students and the greater community in innovative teaching, learning and research,” she said.



“This membership is a testament to the great work of our library community toward our institutional mission of excellence.”

The vote to approve VCU’s membership followed a review of the university library that considered both qualitative and quantitative documentation and a site visit. The rigorous review process included an examination of the breadth and depth of collections, uniqueness of research resources, services to the library’s community, potential contributions to scholarship, and leadership in the library and information science profession. The review committee noted in particular the sustained growth

of the institution and its support for the library.

“The Association of Research Libraries welcomes Virginia Commonwealth University as the 125th member of ARL,” said Mary Ann Mavrinac, president of ARL and vice provost and Andrew H. and Janet Dayton Neilly dean of the University of Rochester Libraries. “The association looks forward to collaboratively shaping the future of the research enterprise with VCU Libraries.”

NATIONAL NOTICE



VCU Libraries receives 2018 Excellence in Academic Libraries Award

VCU Libraries received the 2018 Excellence in Academic Libraries Award, an annual honor recognizing staff at college, university and community college libraries for providing exemplary programs, resources and services.

VCU joins the University of Virginia as the only other Virginia university-level recipient of

this award in its 19-year existence. The award is sponsored by the Association of College and Research Libraries and GOBI Library Solutions from EBSCO.

VCU Libraries received \$3,000 and a glass trophy, which was presented at an April ceremony and reception on campus.

VCU Libraries was the winning library in the university category and was selected for its services, initiatives and role within the campus community, said Ann Campion Riley, chair of the 2018 Excellence in Academic Libraries Committee and vice provost and university librarian at the University of Missouri.

Among VCU's initiatives is the Scholarly Communications and Publishing Division, which supports VCU faculty, staff and students in disseminating open scholarship. Its programs include the Open Access Author Publishing Fund to encourage publishing in open access journals; the "Mapping the KKK" digital humanities visualization project,

in collaboration with VCU's history department; and the "Social Welfare History Project," a national online portal documenting the social welfare movement's impact on the United States.

"We are deeply honored by this distinguished recognition from ACRL," said John E. Ulmschneider, university librarian. "The faculty and staff of the VCU Libraries have worked with creativity, passion and immense dedication to create an exemplary research library for the 21st century and to fulfill our mission of transforming our communities through our teaching, collections and scholarship."



"We are deeply honored by this distinguished recognition from ACRL."

— John E. Ulmschneider, university librarian.

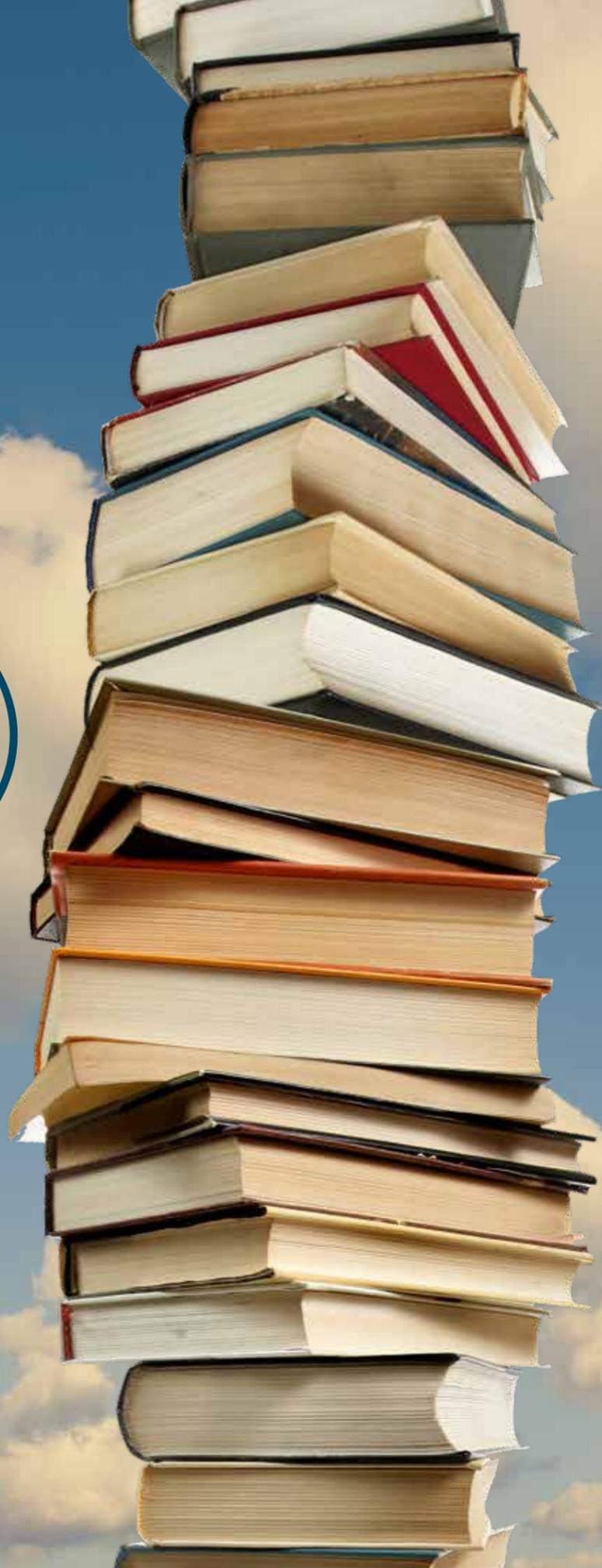




3 millionth volume
added to library
collection

BUILDING

BOOKS



VCU Libraries celebrated the three millionth addition of its collection with a trio of selections and accompanying events in spring 2018. The three vastly different items identified to add to the collection were:

- an oral history collection featuring second-wave feminists in central Virginia (2,999,999th volume);
- a seminal new book about treatment of traumatic brain injury, co-authored by David X. Cifu, M.D., chair of VCU's Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (3,000,000th volume);
- and an artists' book by celebrated artist and alumna Colette Fu (3,000,001st volume).

VCU's three millionth volume comes 25 years after the first millionth volume was added in 1993. Achieving that milestone took 155 years, reaching back to the founding of the MCV Campus and its medical library. In 2009, only 16 years later, VCU Libraries celebrated its two millionth volume. And in 2018, only nine years later, VCU achieved its 3 millionth milestone. This extraordinary pace of growth is a powerful marker of an extraordinary acceleration in the work and achievements of the entire university.

The celebration of the three-millionth volume coincides with a year of milestones. Representing the maturity and depth of its collections, these acquisitions coincide with VCU Libraries' inaugural year as a member of the Association of Research Libraries. The celebration also falls on the 50th anniversary of the creation of Virginia Commonwealth University, the 120th anniversary of the founding of Tompkins-McCaw Library for the Health Sciences, and the recognition of the VCU Libraries with the prestigious 2018 Association of College and Research Libraries Excellence in Academic Libraries Award.

"These three items represent the diversity and breadth of our collections and demonstrate the libraries' commitment to advancing research, scholarship, and creative expression throughout the university," said University Librarian John E. Ulmschneider.

"They highlight the key role that Tompkins-McCaw Library plays in patient care and research at VCU, demonstrate how books in academic libraries are evolving, and showcase how VCU Libraries engages in scholarship and collaborations to make rare and unique materials available globally."



University Librarian John E. Ulmschneider (right) congratulates researcher Megan Shockley (left).

2,999,999th VOLUME:

The Virginia Feminist Oral History Project, 2013–2014

by Megan Shockley, Ph.D.

The Virginia Feminist Oral History Collection, available through Special Collections and Archives, documents the stories of women involved in feminism and related women’s activism in Virginia. The interviews were conducted by Megan Shockley, Ph.D., professor of history at Clemson University as part of research for her new book, *Combating Southern Patriarchy: Virginia Feminists and the Politics of Social Change*. Shockley’s donation of 24 audio recordings and corresponding transcripts makes it possible for VCU Libraries to preserve and provide access to the voices of these women leaders.

Below: David Cifu presents at Tompkins-McCaw Library.

review of rehabilitation for an array of patient populations to assist them in regaining independence and life skills. The work will be an important addition to Tompkins-McCaw Library’s Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) collection, one of VCU Libraries’ Collections of Distinction — a designation within the libraries for an important area of focus in collecting.

David Cifu, M.D., is the Associate Dean for Innovation and System Integration in the VCU School of Medicine, and the Chairman and Herman J. Flax, M.D., Endowed Professor (tenured) of the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (PM&R) at VCU-School of Medicine. He is also chief of PM&R Services for the VCU Health System and founding director of the VCU Center for Rehabilitation Sciences and Engineering (CERSE).

Under Cifu’s leadership, VCU’s system of care for TBI has become a national model. Widely considered a national leader in the treatment of traumatic brain injury and a champion for injured veterans, Cifu graduated from the Boston University School of Medicine combined B.A./M.D. six-year medical program in 1986 and completed his internship and residency in PM&R at the Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. He served as faculty at Baylor before joining the VCU Medical Center in 1991.



3,000,000th VOLUME:

Rehabilitation After Traumatic Brain Injury

by Blessen C. Eapen, M.D., and David X. Cifu, M.D.

This seminal work is based on years of research and leading-edge practice in the treatment of traumatic brain injury by David X. Cifu. It includes current translational research conducted at VCU, and it is a guide to best practices for rehabilitation following traumatic brain injury. The authors provide a thorough



3,000,001st VOLUME:

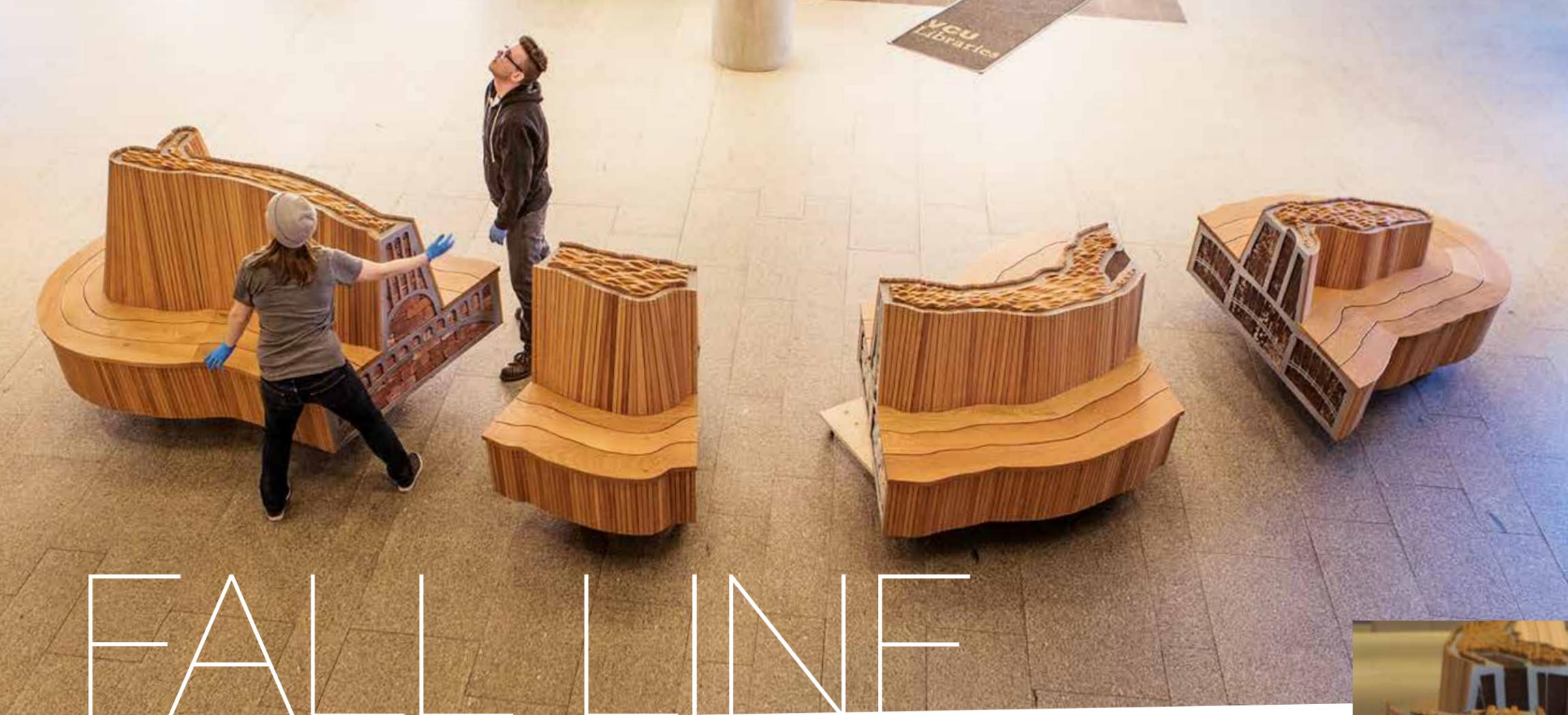
Wa Hair Swinging Dance by Colette Fu

An impressively scaled pop-up artists’ book, *Wa Hair Swinging Dance* by Colette Fu (B.G.S. ‘99/H&S) captures the fervent movement of women from the Wa people of China engaged in a traditional harvest dance. From the series *We are the Dragon People*, this edition falls within a group of complex sculptural pop-up books that Fu constructed from her photographs. Fu, whose mother is descended from the Yi people, began the series while traveling on a Fulbright award to document the social and cultural life of ethnic minority groups in the Yunnan Province. *Wa Hair Swinging Dance* is a valuable addition to VCU Libraries’ Book Art Collection, a nationally significant collection in high demand by

Wa Hair Swinging Dance is a valuable addition to VCU Libraries’ Book Art Collection

artists and scholars.

Fu is an internationally celebrated book artist and paper engineer, as well as a passionate arts educator. She received a B.A. in French from the University of Virginia, a B.G.S. from VCU and an M.F.A. from the Rochester Institute of Technology. Fu’s pop-up editions are held by the Library of Congress, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Yale University, Virginia Commonwealth University and other major collecting institutions. Solo exhibitions of her work have been held at the National Museum of Women in the Arts, the University of Virginia Gallery, the Philadelphia Athenaeum and Georgetown University. She is the recipient of the Fulbright Research Award and many grants.



“The pass-throughs serve a couple functions — one, it allows the bench to be broken into four sections so it’s not one continuous 27-foot-long wall, essentially,” said Matysek-Snyder. “And each of the pass-throughs, that negative space, corresponds with a bridge that spans the James. We’ve got the CSX railroad bridge, the Nickel Bridge, and then the Lee Bridge, and in particular, the suspension pedestrian bridge going over to Belle Isle.”

At each break in the bench is a representation of each particular bridge – one for trains, one for automobiles and one for people – as well as specific building materials that are distinctly Richmond and evoke the city’s history.

“Where those bridges go across, they also expose a cross section of the building materials which are synonymous with Richmond,” Matysek-Snyder said. “So, we’ve got bricks — historic sandstone bricks — from Richmond that have been salvaged from the

FALL LINE

INSTALLED

Final marquee element of new Cabell in place in lobby.

A wood sculpture — and functional bench — that evokes the seven-mile section of the James River that runs through Richmond was installed in the lobby of the recently expanded and redesigned James Branch Cabell Library during spring break.

Titled “Fall Line,” the sculpture is the creation of Heath Matysek-Snyder (B.F.A., ‘00), an assistant professor in the Department of Craft/Material Studies and lead professor of the wood area in the School of the Arts. Matysek-Snyder worked on the piece in his Scott’s Addition studio for more than two years.

“My hope is that when people walk into Cabell Library, they’ll recognize it as the James River, which

I find to be an amazing element of Richmond, a really amazing feature of the city,” Matysek-Snyder said. “This will be an object that greets you. It will be a place to meet. And it will be a feature that says goodbye as you walk back out.”

The 27-foot-long white oak bench mimics the contours of the James River from Pony Pasture to the 14th Street Bridge, with aluminum on top of the bench representing the outline of the river, including Belle Isle. The bench is broken into four sections, with each of the three negative spaces representing a different iconic Richmond bridge, also rendered in aluminum, and allowing pedestrians to walk through.

Heath Matysek-Snyder is an Assistant Professor at Virginia Commonwealth University’s School of the Arts (VCUArts). He teaches in the Department of Craft/Material Studies, where he is the Wood/Furniture Design Area Head.



Fan, and those are at the bridge section where the CSX bridge crosses. There are historic Richmond cobblestones, which are behind the Nickel Bridge. And there's a patchwork of patinated steel, from old knock-down, steel, concrete forms used to create sidewalks and curbs in Richmond, that touches on Tredegar Iron Works, the steel and wire factory that used to be on Belle Isle, and all of the other rusty bits all over Richmond."

Paul's Place, a local architectural salvage business founded by Paul Ferramosca (B.S., '75), provided the materials.

"Fall Line" is so named because it illustrates Richmond's stretch of the James River that includes the zone of falls and rapids brought about by the final major drop in elevation from the Piedmont before the coastal plain, which sees a much more gradual elevation drop before arriving at the Atlantic Ocean.

"The James River is a really dynamic feature of the city. Utilized by an entire cross section of the population of Richmond, the James sees no class distinction, no race distinction, no ethnic distinction, no gender distinction, no religious distinction. It really is an inclusive and unbiased feature of Richmond. And is heavily utilized by the students," Matysek-Snyder said.

"The form of the bench became generated by the James River itself as it flows down through the city limits of Richmond and that section — it's a seven-mile section — is the fall line."

VCU Libraries commissioned the sculpture, wanting a piece in the new library's entranceway that brings people together in a way that is unique to Richmond and VCU, said University Librarian John E. Ulmschneider.

"The James River has been woven into the fabric of Richmond's identity since its beginning, and it is a vibrant presence



"This whole thing has what we call a strong back, which is typically used for a boat," Moore said. "When you build a boat, you build the strong back first and it's the framing for the entire boat, and you put the ribs all the way around. For this bench, it's kind of a similar setup where the strong back is on the ground and everything is built off of that."

WATCH  Video about the construction of Fall Line and a timelapse video of its installation in March 2018 is available on the VCU Libraries YouTube Channel.

in the cultural life and academic work of Virginia Commonwealth University," he said. "We wanted to bring that core element of Richmond and VCU into the new library with a signature piece of art that captures and expresses our connection to the urban environment of Richmond and its importance to VCU."

Capital funds earmarked for the construction and furnishing of the recently expanded Cabell Library covered the costs for "Fall Line." No tuition or student fee moneys were used.

Caren Girard, manager of interior design with VCU's Facilities Management Division, said she was excited to see "Fall Line" come to fruition. "I appreciate the library's willingness to work with a School of the Arts faculty member on this important piece," she said.

Matysek-Snyder said he hopes "Fall Line" will convey how the James River, Richmond and VCU are interconnected. "Many, many students have gone to Belle Isle and rock hopped or jumped in the water or have kayaked in the river or gone whitewater rafting — all the recreational opportunities that the James River affords," he said. "So I'm hoping that people will [make] that connection with the James." He added that he hopes visitors will see the ways in which "Fall Line" evokes the parallels between the James River and Cabell Library.

"It becomes a meeting point," he said. "Anytime people come together, there becomes an information sharing aspect, there becomes storytelling, there becomes research of one type or another. So I think they become quite synonymous — what the river is to the wider Richmond community and what the library is to the VCU community."

A team of VCU students from the VCU School of the Arts' Craft/Material Studies program helped create "Fall Line." Jeremy Zietz, a graduate assistant, helped develop the original design and drew all the three-dimensional renderings. Graduate students Steve Nunes, Hollis McCracken, Will Lenard and Dylan Loftis assisted with the construction. Equally instrumental in the construction process were Craft/Material Studies undergraduate majors Taylor Moore, Brittany Marroquin, Reed Caputo, Alex Bannon, Esther Cho, Robbie Maclay and Jason Pascoe.



As the team worked on the bench, student Taylor Moore said, it was exciting to know that he was helping to create a piece that will be seen by future generations of VCU students. "At one point, it was [being] laid out in tape [in the library entranceway], and I was like, 'Hey, I'm actually having a little bit of hand in helping one of my instructors in building what's going to go there.'"

NEW IDENTITY

Community Health Education Center rebrands
as Health and Wellness Library



After 15 years of operation, VCU's consumer health library is on the verge of a new identity.

Throughout 2017-18, library leaders worked with partners from VCU Health and the MCVH Auxiliary as well as with the VCU Health marketing department to explore changing the name of the Community Health Education Center to a name that more clearly communicates its purpose to potential patrons.

"This health library is one of VCU's hidden assets," says Emily Hurst, Deputy Director of Tompkins-McCaw Library for the Health Sciences, who oversees the hospital-based library. "Even though it is in a very high-profile, convenient location on the ground floor of the Gateway Building within sight of valet parking and the information desk, many people did not know it was a patient health library filled with librarian-curated information, free

and open to all. The name did not convey that and was a barrier for potential users."

The new name, **VCU Medical Center Health and Wellness Library**, will be introduced in 2018-19 with updates in signage and communications materials, including a new website. The name change also connects to increasingly robust outreach efforts that include a focus on improving health literacy in Virginia and in providing educational services as part of the new East End initiative. (See article on page 74 in this publication.)

"We needed a name that was more representative of the library's mission and purpose and that aligned with the current naming conventions of VCU Health," said CHEC Librarian Dana Ladd, Ph.D. Ladd and Hurst researched the names of similar libraries nationwide and worked with VCU Health's marketing department to explore ideas. The Community Health Education Center Steering Committee selected the new name, "Health and Wellness Library" at its January 2018 meeting. According to Hurst, this new name "meets all our objectives" because it:

- provides clarity on the use of the space as a library,
- aligns the name with VCU Health naming conventions by removing the word "Center" from the name,
- focuses on the information/resources that the library offers rather than who the library can be used by, and
- decreases literacy barriers.

In April, the Steering Committee and VCU Health Marketing both formally approved the new name, VCU Medical Center Health and Wellness Library.

Project's history and services

The idea for the Community Health Education Center (CHEC) originated with three partners who recognized the increasing complexity of healthcare and the ongoing and growing need for high quality health care information for consumers.

These partners, the MCV Hospitals Auxiliary, VCU Health and VCU Libraries, secured 2,225 square feet of space with an entrance off the main lobby of the then-expanding Gateway Building.

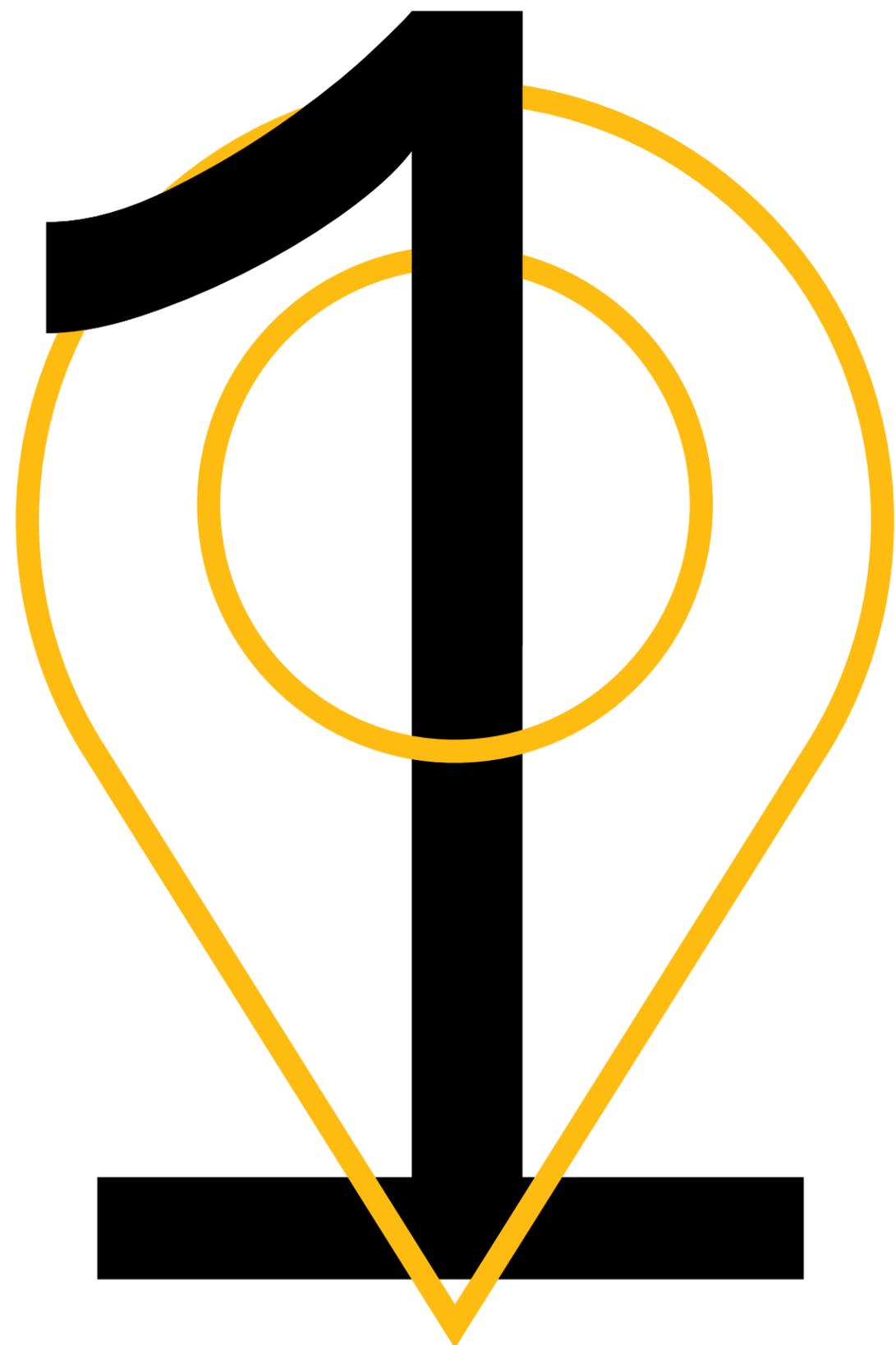
The partners raised funds to complete the center. Fundraising included a gala to mark the 2002 grand opening, which was held concurrently with the opening of the new Gateway Building. First Lady Laura Bush and Virginia elected officials were among the esteemed guests at the opening.

Today, CHEC remains one of a very few similar community health education centers that is tied not only to a top-tier academic medical library – the nearby Tompkins-McCaw Library for the Health Sciences – but also to a major university medical center.

CHEC serves patients, their families and professionals within the health care community who refer patients to the resources at CHEC. Some 1,100 people visit the center monthly to seek information about health and wellness. Services are free.

A full-time health sciences librarian, library assistant and a trained staff of volunteers and students help patients and others find reliable health information written in easy-to-understand language. Visitors will find consumer-level information in a variety of formats for use within the center.

- **Books** – 2,000 print references
- **Magazines** – more than 30 health-related titles
- **Videos** – 100-plus videos in DVD format
- **Reading Area** – tables and comfortable seating with electric outlets and network outlets nearby
- **Children's Area** – games, puzzles and picture books on health topics
- **Public Computers** – seven public Internet computers
- **WiFi/Internet** – Guest WiFi provided.
- **CarePages** – This free online tool connects patients and family members during a hospitalization. Staff helps people set up these web pages.
- **Multilingual Services** – Research assistance to find to health information resources in languages other than English
- **Health and Wellness Displays** – Regular displays and free monthly presentations on health and wellness topics over the lunch hour
- **Free Business Services for patients and families for health-related concerns** – printing, photocopying, scanning and faxing



innovate

in teaching

and learning

A NEW FOCUS

Teaching using primary source materials a priority for Special Collections and Archives

Teaching using primary sources held in archives and special collections is a thriving and growing practice today in academic libraries worldwide. Archivists and special collections librarians work with educators to design courses and learning outcomes, provide expert consultations to identify collection resources to support diverse lines of inquiry, and instruct broad-based learning communities on the uses of rare books, manuscripts and archives in their research. Some academic libraries have published instructional guides on primary source literacy that set forth baseline learning goals and objectives and

that sketch out exercises for both undergraduate and advanced students.

VCU's Special Collections and Archives departments engage in many research and instruction consultations each year, teaching classes focusing on collections materials including comic and book arts, history of health sciences, women's history, VCU history, and Virginia history. Staff from both units work with students and faculty members from a multitude of disciplines and with a variety of community groups.

The departments' staff collaborates with instructors



Andrea Kohashi

to incorporate materials tied to course objectives, inspire innovation and creativity, and to raise cultural awareness. All told, in an average year, the archives team teaches 70-90 classes each academic year. With the addition of a full-time educator, the department virtually doubled its capacity to serve faculty in teaching their classes.

For 2017-18, Cabell Library's Special Collections and Archives department added a new position devoted strictly to teaching. Andrea Kohashi works with faculty to develop instructional sessions working primarily with artists' books, rare books, and other primary source materials. "I've been focusing on strengthening and growing our instructional program," she noted.

She worked with visiting classes and researchers and collaborated with different departments to encourage students and faculty to explore and use library collections. On her own, she taught 52 classes or workshops during the fiscal year. Others in the department, as well as colleagues in Tompkins-McCaw Library's Special Collections and Archives, also teach classes and hold events tied to Richmond architectural history, comic arts, university history, and health sciences and health care professions. Together, it brings the total number for instruction and outreach to 112.

Kohashi's role provides exciting opportunities, according to Wesley Chenault, Ph.D., head of Special Collections and Archives at James Branch Cabell Library. "From the nation's largest funding agencies for educational institutions to its professional organizations for librarians and archivists, there are multiple efforts to address topics ranging from competency standards for primary source literacy to curriculum design to strategies for incorporating primary sources in K-12 instruction," says Chenault. "In this new position, Andrea will monitor these broader national developments, while expanding, enhancing and promoting Cabell



"As a librarian I want to make the processes of researching materials clear and accessing those materials straightforward, but what inspires me is the complexity of how students and faculty interpret and use those materials. Assisting in and witnessing the outcome of the process of research is a joy and almost always surprising."

— Andrea Kohashi, Teaching and Learning Librarian

Library's Special Collections and Archives department's instruction, and collaborating with other library departments engaged in teaching and learning. This position strategically aligns our work to better support the missions of VCU Libraries and VCU."

Kohashi is a book artist who makes books using techniques including hand-binding, letterpress printing, and paper engineering. She is interested in book art production, research, and scholarship, and exploring innovative ways to engage with primary source materials. Kohashi holds an M.A. in library and information science and an M.F.A. in book arts from the University of Iowa. She received a B.A. with a major in architecture from Washington University in St. Louis.

During her inaugural year at VCU Libraries, Kohashi has taught almost exclusively art students with most classes focused on book art.

"The Book Art Collection offers great opportunities for faculty and student research. We have well established artists, like Ed Ruscha and Yoko Ono represented in the collection, but I've also been working with faculty members to craft classes pulling together different materials from the collections that have been overlooked or underused. Each piece is a work of art with a conceptual axis ready to be examined. Beyond exposing students to these works, with each class I reciprocally gain a new and expanded perspective on the more than 4,000 pieces we have," she said.

"It's important to me that students and faculty build meaningful relationships with the materials. This can take form in a planned but open introductory session or be an incisive deep dive into one particular collection. I want students and faculty to feel comfortable using our materials and confident in doing archival and special collections research."

10

INNOVATIONS

in Teaching and Outreach

As teachers, VCU librarians are constantly in classrooms, on webinars, giving workshops, developing instructional videos and other online teaching tools and conversing in one-on-one sessions. Liaisons to the Schools of Medicine and Nursing teach orientation sessions for all incoming students. On both the Monroe Park and MCV campuses, librarians teach discipline-specific sessions in every school and many programs. They customize lessons to fit into particular courses or meet a faculty member's specific need – whether it be teaching evidence-based medicine practices or how to do primary source research for a history class. Flexible and knowledgeable, many librarians spend much of their time in teaching roles. Innovations include these:

1 Broadening outreach through webinars. A robust new group of 20 webinars ushered in a new era of teaching for librarians on both campuses. Thanks to technology improvements in classrooms at VCU Libraries, some sessions were taught in-person and online simultaneously. Others were recorded sessions or taught only online. Some topics addressed particular students, such as “Databases for Nurses” or “PubMed for Pharmacists.” One session on citation management tools had broad appeal and reaped over 100 views. This year new health science related webinars were launched and overall had higher viewership than previous in-person sessions.

2 A popular series of regular workshops led by the Innovative Media Department offered new hands-on learning opportunities to both campuses. In partnership with the Research and Education Department at the Tompkins-McCaw Library, six Tech Tuesday sessions on

the MCV Campus covered 3D modeling and printing, academic poster design, virtual and mixed reality, podcasting and video production. These sessions were well attended, suggesting a growing need for innovative media techniques in the health sciences. On the Monroe Park Campus, weekly Wednesday in the Workshop sessions included game design, sewing, rapid prototyping for product design, bookbinding techniques, leatherworking and armorsmithing, hand-drawn animation, podcasting and drone photography. Sessions were popular: Attendance for the Wednesday sessions was 597 people, up from 178 the previous year.

3 Open House for Grad Students. After two years of success for Grad Fest, an August open house and showcase for graduate students, VCU Libraries is forming a stronger partnership with the VCU Graduate School for its 2018 orientations, which will be held in library spaces.

4 The Designated Librarian Program continued in its second year as a proven model for improved communication, planning and creativity in teaching for students enrolled in Focused Inquiry classes, introductory courses for first- and second-year students. The program strengthens library staff teamwork as well as connections between the Teaching, Learning and Information librarians and the Department of Focused Inquiry faculty. This system adds efficiency in managing a vast workload. Librarians teach at least 4,000 students in Focused Inquiry classes annually.

5 Student-centered teaching. Librarians embraced student-centered pedagogies such as collaborative, active and problem-based learning. Using technology-rich classrooms in Cabell and at Tompkins-McCaw, librarians refined their teaching methods to take full advantage of new technologies. For instance, they leveraged screen-sharing to facilitate students working together in small groups to develop particular research and information literacy skills.

Wednesday in the Workshop sessions included game design, sewing, armorsmithing, podcasting and drone photography.



Some of a new group of webinar sessions were taught in-person and online simultaneously.

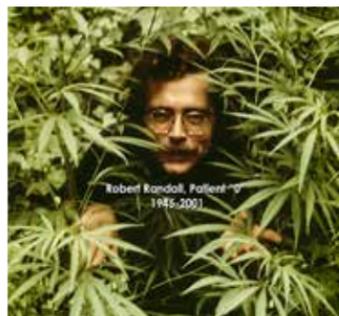


Hidden Figures

and Activities, the MCV Campus series is enjoying increased popularity through adding guest speakers and aligning sessions with university-wide events. Next year, the series will move to a larger space at Tompkins-McCaw Library to accommodate more participants, while still remaining small enough for vigorous discussion and conversation. Films—all available through library resources—screened included: *Sleepless in America*, *Age of Champions*, *The Way of All Flesh*, *In Defense of Food*, and *Waiting to Inhale*.



Journalist Michael Pollan in the film *In Defense of Food*



Waiting to Inhale

9 Online learning initiatives. VCU Libraries is trying new approaches to serve students as more programs offer online classes or hybrid courses, where students are in on-campus classes for reduced time periods and doing much work remotely. For example, creating materials for online Masters of Social Work Students, Behavioral and Social Sciences Research Librarian Nita Bryant made *Meet Your Librarian* and MSW

6 Copyright for Creators VCU Libraries, in concert with the VCU School of the Arts, repeated its well-attended series in 2017-18 with four related sessions exploring the nuances of copyright for artists, designers and art scholars. The series expanded its offerings with a workshop and lecture from special guest presenter Sergio Muñoz Sarmiento, an artist and lawyer, who discussed legal issues for artists and the public's right to access art and culture.

7 Questioning Cinema The third year of this film and discussion series drew more than 100 people. Attendees viewed and discussed themes from Tom McCarthy's *Spotlight*, Theodore Melfi's *Hidden Figures*, and James Whale's *Frankenstein*. After the screening, librarians and faculty speakers led discussions that included how to use library resources to investigate the themes within the films.

8 The Real Life Film Series, a longstanding lunch-hour documentary film screening series, matured this year. In partnership with the University Student Commons



Copyright for Creators

Orientation Library Tour videos. These introduced students to services and sources for social work research including online journal articles e-books, the Social Work Research Guide, and additional video tutorials and handouts available in the MSW Library Blackboard classroom. She produced and managed these videos using Kaltura, a recently acquired video editing and management platform. Kaltura allows the library to view analytics on user engagement with the recordings and easily post to Blackboard, the university's platform for online class materials.

10 Every librarian brings their unique voices and expertise to teaching. Each and every year, examples abound of how librarians contribute to the community's knowledge through sharing their own knowledge.

• Humanities Research Librarian, John Glover, a published fiction writer himself, was invited to lecture about his own work at an English Faculty Forum. He discussed the content and structure of literary research databases, illustrating how deep

engagement with library resources can lead to new research questions.

• Dana L. Ladd, the community health education center librarian, recently completed her doctoral studies with a dissertation on rare or "orphan" diseases. She offered a February workshop "Finding Consumer Health Rare Disease Information." There are nearly 7,000 diseases that are considered rare. While few people are diagnosed with any one rare disease, collectively the people in the United States diagnosed with rare diseases number between 25 to 30 million. Patients diagnosed with rare diseases face many challenges, including difficulty finding consumer-level health information about their conditions. Participants in this workshop learned how to find this information. During the workshop, Ladd demonstrated several freely available online resources that can be used to find reliable consumer health information including: MedlinePlus, National Organization for Rare Disorders, Genetics and Rare Diseases Information Center and Genetics Home Reference.

CULTIVATING CRITICAL THINKING

Social media campaign for evaluating information
gets notice, reaps good numbers

VetYourSources, an information campaign introduced in 2017, continued in spring 2018. Its intention is to encourage all in the VCU community, especially undergraduate students, to carefully evaluate their sources of information — whether writing a paper, conducting research, reading a New York Times article or seeing a news item on Facebook.

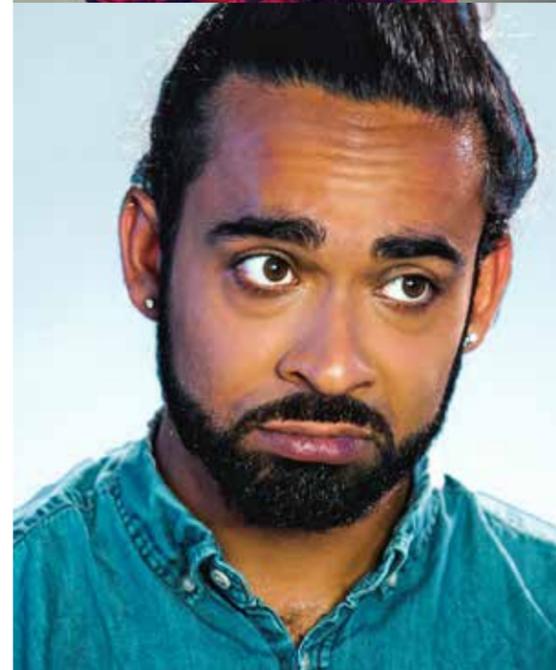
The project's backbone is a social media campaign on Twitter and Facebook, using the hashtag #VetYourSources, with tips, infographics and ideas for evaluating sources.

The results over the past two years have been positive.

- Other institutions expressed interest in posting similar content under the same hashtag.
- At least five academic libraries and one high school used the #VetYourSources hashtag and added their own content, which VCU Libraries shared on its channels.
- Additionally, VCU librarians received requests from faculty for librarian-led sessions on evaluating news and media literacy, in addition to more common requests for sessions on search strategies.
- The campaign received a 2018 Virginia Public Relations Society Capital Award for outstanding social media.
- The Delaware and the Maryland Library

associations invited the campaign organizers to present a session at its joint spring 2018 conference.

- They were also invited to write an article about the project: Gariepy, L.W., and Robinson, S.R. (2017) VCU Libraries runs campaign encouraging students to #VetYourSources. *Marketing Library Services*, 31(5): 1-3.
- A book chapter is forthcoming: Robinson, S.R., and Gariepy, L.W. (Expected 2019). Using social media to enhance information literacy: The VCU Libraries #VetYourSources campaign. In Joe, J., and Knight, E. (Eds.), *Social Media for Communication and Instruction in Academic Libraries* Hershey, PA: IGI Global
- On Twitter, 204 posts were shared or liked or acknowledged by 37 different Twitter accounts.
- On VCU Libraries Facebook, with 33 posts during the campaign, and on the James Branch Cabell Facebook page with 17 posts, response was healthy—higher than usual reactions and click-throughs on posts.
- The online guide about evaluating sources received 1,099 visits during spring semester 2017. That figure was roughly 20 percent more than fall semester traffic. The highest one-day use was on the first full day of the campaign, Feb. 23, with 105 opens to the guide about evaluating resources. During the spring 2017 campaign, the online guide received 495 hits.



SCIENCE SPEAK

Inaugural conference focuses on public science and communicating research to today's audiences



For the benefit of society and science, scientists must share their research beyond traditional academic spheres. Skilled science communicators can engage non-expert audiences while accurately presenting complex topics. Science communication not only increases public understanding of science, but it also encourages public engagement with science and provides opportunities for scientists and the public to learn from each other. This engagement helps scientists increase the relevance and impact of their research.

VCU's Nov. 14, 2017, Science Speak conference explored today's best practices in science communication, sharing research with the world far beyond the academy. The event organizers aimed to help researchers acquire the knowledge and skills needed to communicate with new audiences, whether by working with journalists to facilitate news coverage of research or communicating research with the public through online platforms.

"Scientists have more ways than ever to communicate their research and engage new audiences," says Hillary Miller,

scholarly communications outreach librarian. "Strong science communication helps tell the story of the university's research impact, and two-way dialogue with the public can increase that impact."

Guest keynote speaker and expert science communicator Holly Menninger, Ph.D., of North Carolina State University, led the audience in a number of activities to help them answer two commonly asked questions: What is your research about, and why does it matter? In one activity, attendees worked to write a one-sentence summation of their research using only the thousand most commonly used words in the English language. Other sessions focused in improving communication in specific venues like news media and scholarly publications.

The conference was a production of VCU Libraries' Scholarly Communications and Publishing division and Tompkins-McCaw Library for the Health Sciences in partnership with The Wright Center for Clinical and Translational Research.

Sixty-eight members of the VCU



"Strong science communication helps tell the story of the university's research impact, and two-way dialogue with the public can increase that impact."

— Hillary Miller, scholarly communications outreach librarian

academic community — faculty, students, research administrators and others — attended the sessions held at BioTech One. Based on the success of this conference and growing interest on this topic, VCU Libraries plans to repeat the event in the next academic year.

Sessions included

- "Teaching Journalism to Scientists — and Science to Journalists" presented by Jeff South, VCU Robertson School of Media and Culture
- "Perspectives in Publishing," a panel discussion with Anton Kuzel, M.D., VCU School of Medicine; Joyce Lloyd, Ph.D., VCU School of Medicine and Jo Lynne Robins, Ph.D., R.N., VCU School of Nursing
- Keynote Presentation: "Be Such a Scientist: Improving How We Communicate and Connect with Public Audiences" presented by Holly L. Menninger, Ph.D., Director of Public Science, College of Sciences, North Carolina State University



FACULTY

LEADERSHIP

Inaugural awards fund affordable course content projects that will reduce costs to students

2017 was the inaugural year of the Affordable Course Content Awards program, which invited faculty and faculty teams to propose projects to switch from costly textbooks to affordable course content, and in particular, to open educational resources. Open educational resources are free of cost and most copyright restrictions, allowing them to be freely used, edited and distributed. Faculty who use open educational resources can tailor their teaching materials to their own preferences and the needs of students, and combined with the cost savings, positively impact students' academic success.

Due to high and increasing textbook costs, more and more students struggle to cope with the costs. Students frequently delay purchasing textbooks, share textbooks with peers, or never purchase textbooks at all. All of these approaches can negatively impact academic success. Textbook costs and the resulting impact on academic success can cause students to take fewer courses, earn poor grades, or even drop, fail or withdraw from courses.

The Affordable Course Content Awards, administered by VCU Libraries, are a partnership of the Office of the Provost, VCU Libraries, the Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence, the ALT Lab and

Online@VCU. Academic Technologies, Student Accessibility and Educational Opportunity and Barnes and Noble@VCU are also serving as resources for award recipients.

Seven faculty projects were selected to receive awards in the 2017-18 academic year to author open educational resources. The materials they are producing will be used as early as fall semester 2018.

- A group of foreign language faculty in the **School of World Studies** are authoring open learning modules for Intermediate II Foreign Language courses, including Arabic, Chinese, French, Italian, Russian and Spanish. The faculty group members are Kathryn Murphy-Judy, Ph.D., associate professor; Salwa Sheibany, term instructor; Yan Gao, Ph.D., adjunct instructor; Lionel Mathieu, Ph.D., term instructor; Patricia Cummins, Ph.D., professor; Vera Abbate, Ph.D., term instructor; Natalia Boykova, Ph.D., term instructor and Maria de Panbehchi, Ph.D., term instructor.

- Jeffrey Ledford, Ph.D., instructor in the **Department of Mathematics and Applied Mathematics**, is authoring an open textbook for Differential Equations (MATH 301).

- Robert Godwin-Jones, Ph.D., professor in the School of World Studies, in collaboration with Mayda Topoushian, Ph.D., term instructor in the **School of World Studies**, Jill Blondin, Ph.D., director of **VCU Globe**, and Aradhna Malik, Ph.D.,

assistant professor at the **Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur**, are authoring an open textbook for Communicating Across Cultures (WRLD 302).

- Brendan Dwyer, Ph.D., director of research and distance learning in the **Center for Sport Leadership**, is authoring a textbook for **Sport Business** (SPTL 632).

- Faculty members from the **Department of Focused Inquiry's** Textbook Committee are authoring open course content for Focused Inquiry I and II (UNIV 111 and 112) and Inquiry and the Craft of Argument (UNIV 200).

- Stacie Giles, adjunct instructor in the **Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness**, is authoring an open textbook for The Intelligence Community and Process (HSEP 320).

- Joseph H. Porter, Ph.D., professor, and Victoria A. Shivy, Ph.D., associate professor in the **Department of Psychology**, are authoring an open textbook for Experimental Methods (PSYC 317).

Five faculty projects were selected to receive awards in the 2018-19 academic year to adopt or author open educational resources.

- A team of foreign language faculty in the **School of World Studies** will focus on adopting open educational resources to replace textbooks for Intermediate II Foreign Language courses, including Arabic, Chinese, French, Italian, Russian and Spanish.

- Ching-Yu Huang, Ph.D., instructor; Dianne Jennings, Ph.D., associate professor, and Jonathan Moore, Ph.D., instructor from the **Department of Biology**, will adopt an open textbook and create supplementary materials to replace the textbook for Introduction to Biological Sciences I (BIOL 151).

- Garreth Blackwell, Ph.D., instructor;

Matt Woolman, director, and Jeffrey Foster, associate director of the **VCUarts Center for Creative Economy (CCE)**, will author a new open textbook on business practices for creative professionals to be used in Piloting the Enterprise (ARTS 351) and all other courses offered by the CCE.

- John Bigbee, Ph.D., professor in the **Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology**; Alice Pakurar, Ph.D., associate professor (retired) in the **Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology**, and Kenneth Foster, Ed.D., assistant professor and instructional technologist for medical education in the **Department of Medicine**, will create **Digital Histology 2.0 (DH2)**, an open educational resource for VCU health science students in Medicine 150, Medicine 250, Microscopic Anatomy (ANAT 502), and Histology (ANAT 611).

- A group of faculty in the **Department of Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies** will adopt, adapt and author open materials to replace the textbook for Introduction to Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies (GWSS 201). The faculty group is: Liz Canfield, Ph.D., assistant professor; Christine Cynn, Ph.D., assistant professor; Myrl Beam, Ph.D., assistant professor; Sandra Burke, Ph.D., assistant professor; bee coston, Ph.D., assistant professor; Matilde Moros, Ph.D., assistant professor, and Archana Pathak, Ph.D., assistant professor.

In total, implementation of these projects at VCU represents more than \$1 million in potential student savings per year, with implementation for all projects expected by the 2019-20 academic year.

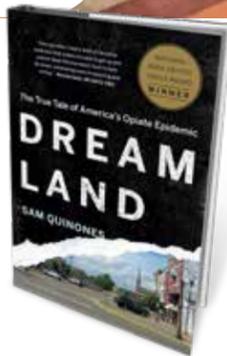
This program is part of a broader VCU Libraries initiative to support faculty who want to adopt free, low-cost, or open educational materials that can save students money and increase their academic success.



BEYOND

THE BOOK

Expertise and programs support the Common Book



Since 2006, VCU Libraries has assisted University College on iterations of what is now the VCU Common Book Program, a universitywide initiative in which all are invited to read and discuss the same book. Incoming first-year students receive free

copies of the book and are expected to read it during the summer and arrive on campus in August prepared to discuss it in sessions held during orientations or early in the academic year. The libraries make available copies of the book for checkout. The

speaker visits campus during the academic year to deliver a keynote lecture. The 2017 selection, *Dreamland* by Sam Quinones, addressed America's opiate epidemic, a topic that offered many avenues for discussion on both campuses.

VCU Libraries support of the 2017-



18 Common Book Program included:

- Serving on the selection committee; three librarians were appointed to the committee.
- Creating and publishing an online reading/ research guide companion to the book.
- Serving as volunteer discussion leaders during Welcome Week, first-year students' introduction to campus in August.
- Offering a dinner screening of the film *Oxyana* about the devastating impact of the opioid epidemic on one town in West Virginia. The September screening kicked off the annual Real Life Film Series and drew more than 40 attendees. The program aligned with *Dreamland* and included lively discussion with faculty from VCU School of Pharmacy, healthcare providers and community first responders. Due to the session's popularity, a second screening was organized for October.



In the VCU Common book program students take part in discussions, panels and a presentation by the author.

- Exploring the history of addiction in the United States, the National Library of Medicine traveling exhibition "Pick Your Poison: Intoxicating Pleasures and Medical Prescriptions" was on display at Tompkins-McCaw Library in the spring semester.
- Hosting a reception in the Cabell Lecture Hall before author Sam Quinones' lecture in November.



POP-UP LIBRARIES

Have book cart, will travel



Akin to book mobiles, pop-up libraries bring curated library materials to events and locations so that people can stop by, browse and check out materials all in one convenient spot.

Since 2014, when VCU Libraries began experimenting with pop-up libraries, these library-themed happenings have become a key component of outreach.

Carla-Mae Crookendale, arts research librarian, regularly organizes pop-up libraries in academic buildings where students in different arts disciplines work and study. In the spring, she held a successful pop up at the Bowe Street Parking Deck, on the periphery of campus, where a number of classrooms are located. Eighty-six visitors stopped by, and 20 checked out materials in just over four hours.

Research librarians John Glover (humanities) and Nia Rodgers (public affairs) staged a pop up at an important campuswide presentation and discussion on “The Future of Transgender and Non-Binary People.” They drew titles from across the collections to fit the event theme and included policy studies, criminal justice, feminist theory, LGBTQ politics, memoirs, poetry and more.



Major pop-up libraries in 2017-18

Questioning Cinema: *Spotlight* Pop Up

Sept. 21, 2017
James Branch Cabell Library
Lecture Hall

Questioning Cinema: *Frankenstein* Pop Up

Nov. 9, 2017
James Branch Cabell Library
Lecture Hall

Questioning Cinema: *Hidden Figures* Pop Up

Feb. 21, 2018
James Branch Cabell Library
Lecture Hall

Music/Theatre Pop Up

March 20, 2018
W.E. Singleton Center for the
Performing Arts

Art Foundation Pop Up

March 22, 2018
Bowe Street Parking Deck

The Future of Transgender and Non-binary People Pop Up

March 28, 2018
James Branch Cabell Library
Lecture Hall

ICA/Declaration Exhibit Pop Up

James Branch Cabell Library
First Floor



EDUCATIONAL ENGAGEMENTS

At Cabell Library: **1,300+** tours, classes, workshops and educational sessions reached more than 42,000 people.

At Cabell, **250** of these sessions, reaching **4,468** attendees, provided foundational information literacy courses for first- and second-year students.

More than **200** library workshops, guest lectures, orientation sessions and outreach events teaching the public, were held through Tompkins-McCaw Library for the Health Sciences. These programs reached **8,429** students, faculty, staff, VCU Health employees and the public.

More than **300** sessions offered by Cabell librarians focused on advanced research skills. Many focused on research in particular disciplines, while others focused on areas applicable to many fields, such as research data management.

More than **100** instructional or outreach events were organized by VCU Libraries' Special Collections and Archives librarians and staff, integrating rare primary sources into the research process or highlighting significant collections.

The Workshop provided **475** instruction sessions, workshops and tours related to innovative media and multimedia.

Working closely with faculty, librarians integrated online learning modules, tutorials, assignments, or other learning materials into more than **120** courses or curricula.

Audience members ask speaker Ibram X. Kendi questions at VCU Libraries' 16th Annual Black History Month Lecture: *Stamped from the Beginning*.

RESEARCH PROJECT

Data will drive decision-making about next phase of outreach to arts students

What do arts students know about VCU Libraries? How do they find out what they know? What are the gaps in their knowledge? How can we fill those gaps to increase their awareness and use of library resources and therefore improve their experiences as students and creators?

Those are the sorts of questions arts research librarian Carla-Mae Crookendale is pondering and exploring through a competitive national program. As a participant in the Institute for Research Design in Librarianship, in which academic librarians hone their research skills, she is exploring art students' interactions with VCU Libraries. Her research project, "The Art Student and the Library: A Library Use Assessment," began in fall 2017 with a survey of students followed by interviews.

She is reviewing and interpreting the data and planning to implement programming, which may include a pilot program and a public relations component, in fall 2018.

"Each of the 16 programs in the School of the Arts interacts with library resources in their own unique ways," said Crookendale. Art history students report frequent library visits and use whereas dance students rarely use the building. Fashion students showed a marked preference for electronic resources while Theatre students were frequent users of print books. And a high percentage of all students reported lack of knowledge of vast streaming music and video offerings.

"Art students do not readily see that their creative endeavors can be informed by exploring ideas using library resources," she said. "Research for most art students is not about writing papers. It is about informing their creative processes or seeking inspiration. I'm looking for directions from my research findings to explore new avenues of outreach and teaching to better meet their needs."

She said: "Many students and faculty are heavy users of the library and some aren't. I wanted to gain some

evidence-based insight into why – what their research needs are, and how I could better tailor my approach to meet them. I hope what I learn could also be valuable to other art librarians. IRDL was an excellent opportunity to have the tools and structure I'd need to do this effectively."

The Institute for Research Design in Librarianship (IRDL) helps academic librarians develop the necessary skills and confidence to do research successfully. This is the fourth year of the program that is partly funded by a grant from the Institute

of Museum and Library Services.

In addition to holding a master's degree in library science, Crookendale is an artist who holds a B.F.A. and M.F.A. Beyond work in consulting with patrons, she engages in many creative outreach activities. She stages pop-up libraries in School of the Arts buildings, has collaborated with the school on a series of Copyright for Creator workshops and updates the Art Browsery – a special section of art books – on the fourth floor, James Branch Cabell Library.





a d v a n c e

r e s e a r c h &

d i s c o v e r y



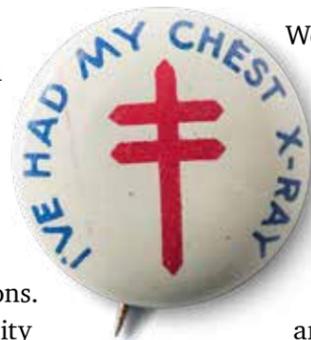
PARTNERS BUILD PORTAL

National collaboration for archival materials enjoys banner year.

2017-2018 was a year of exciting achievements for VCU Libraries' Social Welfare History Project, an online resource for the study of social reform movements and the history of social welfare in the United States. The project received national recognition from two respected library organizations.

VCU Libraries assumed responsibility for The Social Welfare History Project in 2016. Since that time the site's usage has increased steadily to as many as 10,000 daily visits during the academic year, as researchers, undergraduates, public school students and the general public all took advantage of the site's articles and essays.

Building upon the History Project's success, a companion website, The Social



Welfare History Image Portal, was launched in 2017 to share archival materials. Hosted by VCU Libraries and drawing from a growing number of libraries, archives and museum collections, the Image Portal provides access to a rich assortment of items related to suffrage, civil rights, labor, public health, immigration and charitable organizations.

"By bringing diverse partners together, the Image Portal benefits both researchers and other libraries and museums," says Project Manager Alice W. Campbell. "These materials are dispersed across

Above: "King Good Health Wins!" Anti-tuberculosis play, Richmond, Va. Courtesy The Valentine, V. 83.158.20. SWH Image Portal.

Left: National Tuberculosis Association button, courtesy The Valentine, V. 83.158.20. SWH Image Portal.

many cultural heritage institutions. The Image Portal increases institutions' visibility on the Web and creates a pathway to their collections."

Campbell describes the Image Portal as a networked version of a "vertical file," stimulating curiosity and rewarding investigation. Instead of the more typical models of the repository and the online exhibit, the Image Portal displays an array of interesting and provocative pamphlets, placards, photographs, editorial cartoons, comics, and excerpts from larger works. Contextualizing information in the item descriptions suggests further avenue of inquiry while hyperlinks throughout the metadata direct users to the greater riches in partners' collections.

In addition to single items, the Image Portal presents Discovery Sets – curated groups related to particular topics. Sets

Educational comic books advocating non-violent resistance and racial harmony. Left: Courtesy VCU Libraries, James Branch Cabell Library, Special Collections and Archives. Right: Courtesy Beth Ahabah Museum and Archives. SWH Image Portal.



such as Temperance and Prohibition; Backlash to Reform: Hatred and Extremism; and Woman Suffrage pique users' curiosity.

In summer 2017, the Image Portal launched with three partners: Baylor University Libraries, Simmons College Library, and the University of Mary Washington Libraries. Within four months, another five institutions joined the project: Union Presbyterian Seminary Library, Beth Ahabah Museum and Archives, University of Minnesota Libraries, The Valentine, and The American Labor Museum/Botto House National Landmark. The project continues to expand, with new partners coming on board year round.

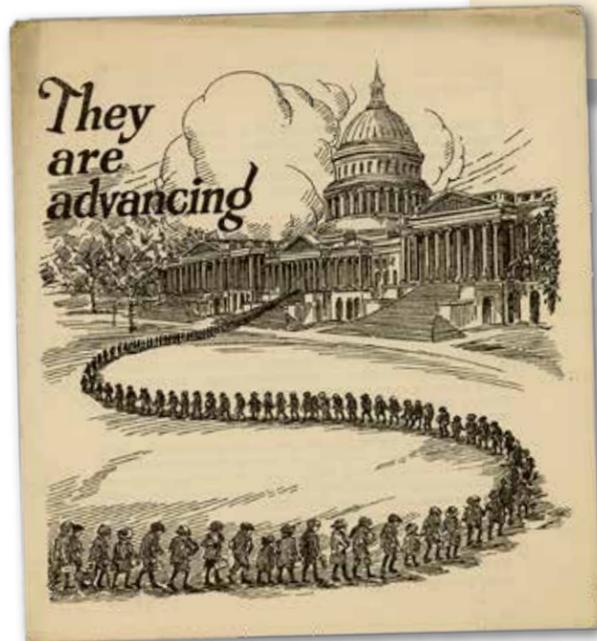
Project highlights:

- **Summer 2017** - The Image Portal goes live.
- **October** - The Social Welfare History Project website is updated with a new, mobile-responsive theme.
- **Fall 2017** - Publicity campaign announces the updated History Project and the new Image Portal.
- **November** - Public Radio station WVTF covers the launch with a story "Saving the History and Heroes of Social Welfare."
- **December** - Project manager Alice Campbell and Research Assistant Catherine Paul give a project briefing at the Coalition for Networked Information (CNI) Fall Membership Meeting in Washington.
- **January 2018** - *In These Times*, a progressive political magazine based in Chicago, republishes Catherine Paul's SWHP article on the Passaic Textile Strike, to commemorate the anniversary of the strike's beginning January 25, 1926.

- **May** - The Center for Research Libraries (CRL) honors the Social Welfare History Image Portal with the 2018 Primary Source Award for Access. CRL is an international consortium of university, college and independent research libraries.
- **June** - The American Libraries Association recognizes the project with a 2018 PR award for materials promoting collections, services and resources.
- **Fall** - Presentations at the Virginia Library Association / College and Research Libraries Chapter conference and the Nation Association of Social Workers Pioneers meeting.



Cover Illustration, The Woman Citizen November 6, 1920. Courtesy VCU Libraries, James Branch Cabell Library, Special Collections and Archives. SWH Image Portal.



National Child Labor Committee pamphlet advocating the Child Labor Amendment. Courtesy VCU Libraries, James Branch Cabell Library, Special Collections and Archives. SWH Image Portal.

Along with Project Manager Campbell, the Image Portal team included Head of Head of Digital Engagement Erin White, Web Designer Todd Easter, Web Applications Engineer Cody Whitby and Graduate Research Assistant Catherine Paul.

As a public research institution, VCU Libraries is committed to supporting intellectual pursuits across a range of communities. Both the Social Welfare History Project and the Image Portal are ongoing efforts to contextualize and provide access to the intriguing and important history of our nation's response to need and injustice.

VIRGINIA

VOICES

Feminist Oral History Project captures the experiences of women activists

Researching the politics of social change, historian Megan Shockley, Ph.D., interviewed 26 Virginia women. Those oral histories form The Virginia Feminist Oral History Project, newly available through VCU Libraries Special Collections and Archives. Audio files and transcripts document the stories of women involved in activism in Virginia in the late 20th and early 21st centuries.

Shockley, professor of history at Clemson University, conducted the interviews as part of research for a book, *Creating a Progressive Commonwealth: Women Activists, Feminism, and the Politics of Social Change* (Louisiana State University Press, 2018).

Topics in the oral histories include the interviewees' early lives and education, their experiences as feminists and activists, their work with various local, state and national organizations, and their perspectives on feminism and the future of the movement. These oral histories document how the women understood their own progressive actions, how they formed their individual feminist perspectives on the world, how they related to other feminist women and how they assess their work in light of the contemporary political landscape.

The interviewees include women active in organizations, including the Virginia Federation of Business and



“Women activists in the South did challenge traditional norms and advanced feminist agendas. While they weren’t always successful, their work changed Virginia.”

— Researcher Megan Shockley, Ph.D.

Professional Women’s Clubs, Richmond Lesbian Feminists, Lesbian Women of Color, League of Women Voters, National Organization for Women, Virginia Women’s Political Caucus and similar organizations, as well as professionals who worked in anti-violence and pro-choice movements.

The interviews explore the work of progressive women to advance feminist issues in Virginia from the 1970s through the 21st century. Themes discussed include ratification

of the Equal Rights Amendment, sexism in the workplace, addressing and ending violence against women and protecting reproductive rights in the commonwealth.

This work is meaningful, said Shockley, because “most histories of feminism tend to ignore the South, assuming its more conservative values hampered the ability of activists to gain traction in the region. This work argues that southern feminist activism helped to move Virginia forward to become a more progressive state.”

“Women activists in the South did challenge

traditional norms and advanced feminist agendas. While they weren’t always successful, their work changed Virginia.”

There is much more work to be done to tell the full story of feminism in Virginia, she said, noting that these interviews offer scholars many avenues to explore. “There are so many themes in the oral histories, from how the women recognized their feminism, to divisions within the movement, to memories about their own activist efforts, to what they did later, that there are many directions in which a scholar could go.”

A Sampling of Women’s History Collections

The Virginia Feminist Oral History Project joins a group of holdings that illuminate the history of women’s community, professional and political activities. Also available through Special Collections and Archives are these materials, among many others:

American Civil Liberties Union — The Southern Women’s Rights Project, 1976-1981

The Southern Women’s Rights Project located in Richmond is affiliated with the American Civil Liberties Union. The project deals with issues of special concern for women including abortion, employment discrimination, the ERA, education discrimination, prisoner’s rights, children’s rights, sexual harassment and spouse abuse. The collection includes correspondence with various chapters of the ACLU in the southern states, documents regarding state legislation, periodicals, pamphlets and newspaper clippings.



YWCA Collection, Special Collections and Archives, James Branch Cabell Library

The spiral staircase shot is from the early 1950s showing a group of Richmond teenagers from the local YWCA Phyllis Wheatley Branch in what was then the Rosa D. Bowser Library, used by Richmond’s African Americans. The library was named for Rosa L. Dixon Bowser (1855-1931), a civic leader who was considered the first African-American female school teacher in Richmond.

Evelyn Crary Bacon papers, 1936-1997

Evelyn Bacon was a pioneer in nursing and nursing education. She served as a nurse during World War II, worked as a nursing educator and consultant, was the director for the School of Nursing at Richmond Professional Institute and created the associate degree program in nursing at J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College. Her papers include materials about her professional life and her service in the Army Nursing Corps.

Mary Holt Woolfolk Carlton papers, 1969-1983

Mary Holt Woolfolk Carlton, a graduate of Richmond Professional Institute (now VCU), was the founder of the Richmond chapter of the National Organization for Women. Carlton’s papers document her activities in the 1970s advocating for women’s rights in Virginia.

Central Virginia gay and lesbian publications collection, 1987-2005

Publications related to and concerning the gay and lesbian community in Central Virginia.

Adèle Goodman Clark papers, 1849-1978

Adèle Goodman Clark (1882-1983) was an artist, teacher and social activist. She leader in the suffrage movement in Virginia and later a key player in the state and national League of Women Voters. Her papers document a number of reform initiatives that throughout her century of life championed the rights of women and promoted the arts.

Jean D. Hellmuth papers, 1976-1992

The collection contains Hellmuth’s personal files regarding the activities of several groups

involved in the attempt to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. The groups represented include National Organization for Women, ERA Yes!, Virginia Equal Rights Amendment Ratification Council and Virginia Council for Social Welfare.

Instructive Visiting Nurses Association records, 1902-1999

The Instructive Visiting Nurses Association began with the work of several nurses from Old Dominion Hospital to provide skilled nursing care to the poor communities of Richmond. The organization continues today and remains committed to providing quality, affordable care to those in need. The records include materials related to the history of the organization, correspondence, annual reports, minutes, and photographs.

Mary Tyler Freeman Cheek McClenahan papers, 1930-1999

McClenahan was a Richmond community leader, activist and philanthropist. The bulk of the collection dates from the late 1970s-1990s and focuses on McClenahan’s involvement on issues of race, affordable housing, historic preservation and Richmond revitalization.

Richmond YWCA records, 1893-1980

Established in 1887, the Richmond YWCA is the oldest YWCA in the southern United States. The collection contains general files, committee minutes, scrapbooks, photographs and case studies. The materials document the Richmond YWCA’s active role in improving labor practices for women and children, promoting health and fitness, and in fostering racial equality.

The Virginia League for Planned Parenthood records, 1935-2004

Chartered in 1940, the Virginia League for Planned Parenthood has focused on education and advocacy for family planning and women’s health. The founders included Ellen Harvie Smith, Douglas Southall Freeman, Mrs. Fred Alexander, Coleman Baskerville, and Dr. H. Hudnall Ware. Records in this collection consists of publications, histories, clippings, photographs and other ephemera.

Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance records, 1972-2006

The Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance is a nonprofit agency committed to advocacy for victims of sexual and domestic abuse. Staff and volunteers collaborate with health professionals, law enforcement officers, and legislators, among other partners, in an effort to prevent and assist survivors of sexual and domestic violence. The alliance was formed on Oct. 1, 2004, when the nonprofit agencies Virginians Against Domestic Violence, founded in 1979 in Williamsburg, and Virginians Aligned Against Sexual Assault, founded in 1980 in Charlottesville, joined together as a unified entity. The records in this collection document the day-to-day operations, public programs, and advocacy activities of the Alliance.

Juanita White papers, 1970-1997

Juanita White was a founding member of the Richmond branch of the National Organization for Women and she participated in the activities of the ERA Ratification Council. The collection contains White’s personal papers and materials related to her involvement with these two groups.

A COLLECTION AND A COLLABORATION

with The Junior League of Richmond

Collaboration is a common practice in collection development in Special Collections and Archives, which houses records for many of Richmond's seminal organizations. A new collection of thousands of documents, images, scrapbooks, memorabilia and much more records the activities of the Junior League of Richmond, founded in 1926. Some of these materials have been delivered to Cabell Library.

In 2016, as the League marked 90 years of service, the organization discovered that the thousands of items in the League's "archive" were disintegrating and not stored in a way that made them readily accessible. To be able to better utilize its rich history, League members embarked on a project to organize and digitize its historic records. Soon after, a small group from the League met with Wesley Chenault, Ph.D., head of Special Collections and Archives at Cabell Library, to begin a conversation about how the two organizations might work together to ensure the long-term care and availability of the rich trove of physical materials. Chenault was quick to commit to preserving and housing the originals at the library and processing the collection to enable students, staff, and the public to access it for projects and research. In the months that followed, Chenault also introduced the League to colleagues in the History Department and Service Learning Office, to explore the possibility of partnerships to engage VCU students in the project.

As a result, another collaboration was born. The League is working with the Grace E. Harris Leadership Institute at VCU to explore ways to partner in their joint mission to empower women and are exploring partnership opportunities for 2018 and 2019. The League also worked with the History Department to have an intern work on the digitization process in spring, summer, and fall 2018.

The League is an active organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. From its earliest days, the League has undertaken projects critical to the health and wellbeing of society. Today, with more than 900 members, the League's community programming efforts center on the East End. To learn more about the Junior League of Richmond and its community programs, visit www.jlrichmond.org.



This image (opposite page) is one item in the collection. The Richmond Times-Dispatch photo, circa 1940, shows three purposeful Leaguers carrying materials about cancer prevention to American Cancer Society awareness events. Pictured: Mrs. Taylor Jones, Mrs. William B. Pierce and Mrs. Thomas W. Purcell.



DEFINING DIGITAL SCHOLARSHIP AT VCU

Collaboration building a culture and community of practice

Like many academic libraries, VCU Libraries is actively exploring ways to support new modes of scholarship. Eric Johnson, Head of Innovative Media, and Erin White, Head of Digital Engagement, are collaborating on a plan to establish a defined suite of digital scholarship services for the VCU community. Here's a rundown of their thinking:

What do you mean by digital scholarship?

Our definition changes really often! Professional literature doesn't offer an agreed-upon definition for digital scholarship and its related concept, digital humanities. Our current definition is "using technology to generate or communicate new ideas." Typically, scholarship has meant writing a journal article or a book, for example. Today, scholars are seeking new ways to produce and share their research, and libraries are well-positioned to help them.

Isn't the library already doing this?

Yes. Our two departments have been working independently and collaboratively with researchers on projects. In The Workshop — the Innovative Media departmental space — we have helped students and faculty develop podcasts and 3D-print proofs of concept for biomedical engineering projects



White

and helped Art History students develop virtual worlds. Digital Engagement has partnered with history faculty on digital mapping projects and consulted with faculty on best practices for getting their scholarship online. These have primarily been researcher-initiated projects, and we have not advertised to the VCU community that we do this work. As an example, Digital Engagement and Innovative Media worked together with professor Tracy Hamilton's graduate-level Digital Art History class, guiding them on Neatline mapping projects, HTML, photogrammetry and 3D design tools.

What's next? What's in store?

The next step is for us to consolidate and share what we're doing in a more systematic way and reach out proactively to find researchers who are already doing this work, or who would like to. People both in the VCU Libraries and at VCU hold expertise in digital practices. Short-term, we want to create a scaffolding for digital scholarship services, such as holding regular office hours and creating a menu of services and expertise. Our

long-term vision is to build a culture and community of practice around digital scholarship not only at VCU Libraries but across the university.



Johnson

Our long-term vision is to build a culture and community of practice around digital scholarship not only at VCU Libraries but across the university.



A BUILDING YEAR

Setting a firm foundation for VCU's digital collections

A priority for the Digital Engagement department in 2017-18 was planning for the future. VCU Libraries continued expanding its offerings of digitized collections through its own Digital Collections website while also expanding its work with large, national digital platforms. This year:

- Digital Engagement staff upgraded the Digital Collections website to use the latest version of its collection management and display software. The new version brings some security and accessibility enhancements and a new look and feel. Several new collections are in the works for the next year.
- Several members of the cross-departmental VCU Libraries digital collections team worked with colleagues across Virginia and West Virginia to plan a new Digital Virginias hub for the Digital Public Library of America

(DPLA). The group is working to create workflows to aggregate digital collections items to add to DPLA, which has a mission to "connect people to the riches held within America's libraries, archives, museums, and other cultural heritage institutions." The Digital Virginias hub is expected to launch in fall 2019.

• In addition to DPLA, VCU Libraries began work joining an elite group of contributors to the HathiTrust Digital Library. HathiTrust is a worldwide partnership of academic and research institutions, offering a collection of millions of titles digitized from libraries.

By digitizing and contributing VCU's unique and rare materials, these documents will be viewable by HathiTrust partners around the world and held as part of a long-term preservation archive.



Learn more online
digital.library.vcu.edu
dp.la
www.hathitrust.org

Images above, from the Freedom Now project, are of protesters outside businesses in Farmville, Va., in July 1963.

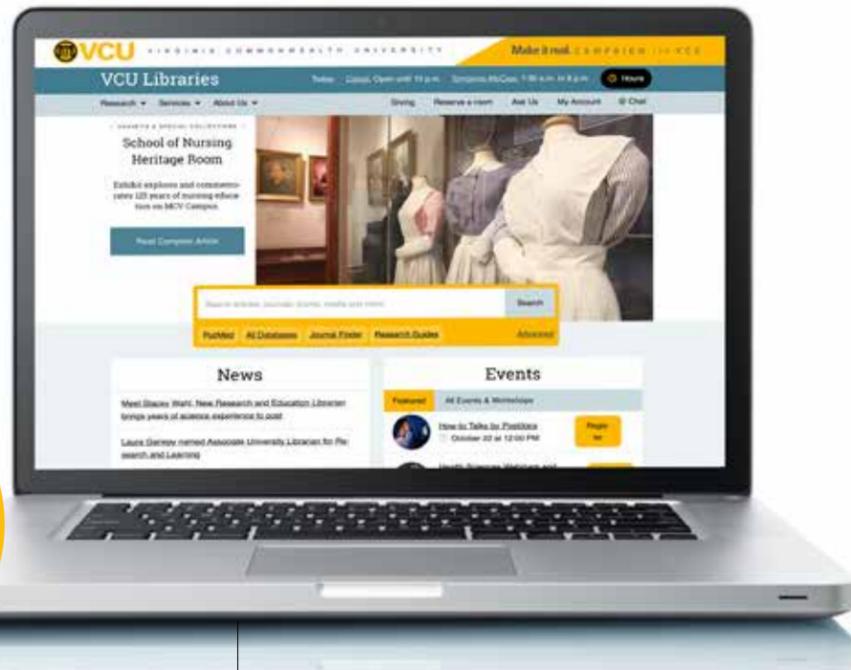


NEW SEARCH

New VCU Libraries interface improves user experience

VCU Libraries debuted a new, streamlined search interface at the start of the spring semester 2018. This change enhanced browsing security and improved access for visually or hearing-impaired users.

The libraries' systems team also made cosmetic and functional improvements with the rollout of the new interface. Users' feedback was essential to this iterative process. Testing with students revealed the new interface is more intuitive. Functions and options were more clearly evident and streamlined.



Improvements included:

- Advanced search options are easier to find and use and are more flexible.
- Citation tools let users select and copy different citation styles from the results page or within a resource.
- The ability to include or exclude resource types from the results screen streamlines the previous process, which required clicking on a hard-to-find icon and going to a new screen.
- The “my account” dashboard display is more mobile-friendly.

Subtle differences in typography, colors and placement of information further enhanced usability on mobile devices.

As with the previous iteration of VCU Libraries search, signing in to the system using the VCU eID provides the most useful features. Signing in saves searches and materials.

The search function associated with VCU Libraries website and its resources is, arguably, the most valuable tool available to researchers. Accuracy, efficiency and speed matter. Each month, VCU Libraries' Search averages 65,000 sessions (visits) and 20,000 users during the academic year.

A FINDING AID

Public user interface to archives goes live

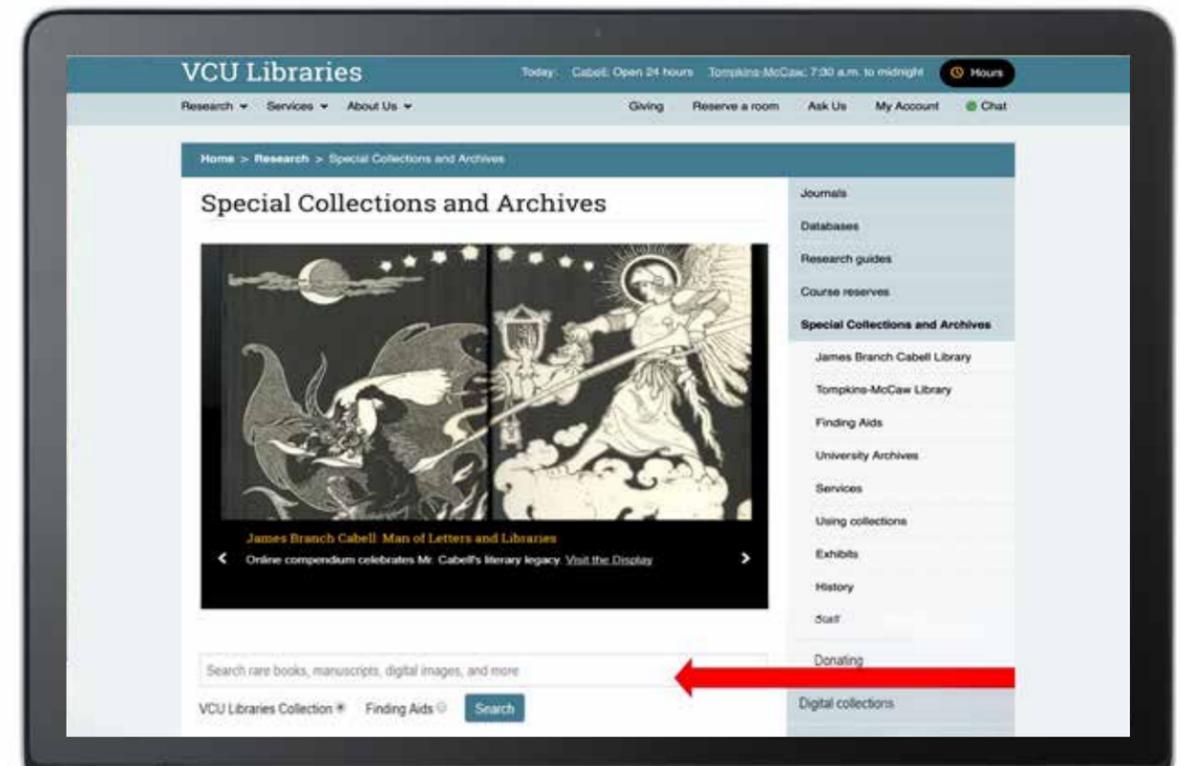
Thanks to hundreds of hours of behind-the-scenes labor, the public now has easier access to the riches of VCU Libraries Special Collections and Archives materials with the launch of a new software product.

This content management system for archival and manuscript collections is known as “VCU Libraries Special Collections & Archives Finding Aids.” Finding Aids are the metadata of archives and manuscripts and assist researchers in locating collections, understanding their context, provenance and use and access restrictions. Finding aids are roadmaps for researchers.

Researchers now can search for these Finding Aids using the search box on the Special Collections and Archives home page. Or, they can

click on “Finding Aids” in the right navigation on any web page about Special Collections.

This is a significant upgrade in access to Special Collections and Archives materials. This software offers more comprehensive and localized access to Special Collections and Archives materials, which previously were only available to search in Virginia Heritage. VCU's is a union database of manuscript and archival holdings from repositories across the Commonwealth. “We encourage researchers to consult our local website as well as Virginia Heritage to discover the broadest range of Virginia-based primary source materials,” says University Archivist and Head, Special Collections and Archives at Tompkins-McCaw Library Jodi L. Koste.



NEW

Notable 2017-18 additions
to electronic collections

ACQUISITIONS



British Isles from *Atlas Cosmographicae* (1596) by Gerardus Mercator. Library of Congress via Wikimedia (cropped)

American Antiquarian Society Historical Periodicals Collection, Series 1-5: Library documenting the life of America's people from the Colonial Era through the Civil War and Reconstruction. Provides digital access to the most comprehensive collection of American periodicals published between 1684 and 1912.

Begell House Ebook Collection: Access to more than 100 recent and classic ebook titles. Subjects include: energy,

environment, aerospace and aerodynamics, chemical and petroleum industrial plans, computations, modeling and practical designs for engineering disciplines, thermophysical properties of materials, hydraulics, nuclear power plants and nuclear reactors modeling, micro and nano mechanics, energy transfer, physics of fluids and more.

Bloomsbury Design Library: Cross-searchable access to a broad and expanding range of encyclopedias, reference works, ebooks, images and

more covering the global history, theory and practice of crafts and design.

Brill Middle East and Islamic Studies Ebooks Online 2017 Collection: Covers Islam, history, culture, language, philosophy, theology, mysticism, and social and political studies.

British History Online: Digital library of key printed and secondary sources for the history of Britain and Ireland, with a focus on the period between 1300 and 1800.

Embase: Ideal for biomedical research and systematic reviews, provides up-to-date biomedical information including: drug therapy; pharmacovigilance; clinical and experimental medicine; medical devices; biotechnology and biomedical engineering; health policy and management; pharmacoconomics; public, occupational, and environmental health; veterinary science; dentistry; nursing; psychiatry; mental health; substance dependence and abuse; forensic science; alternative and complementary medicine and more.

Entrepreneurial Studies Source: Provides insights on entrepreneurship and small business topics. Includes full-

text journals, magazines, reference books, company profiles, case studies and videos.

Journal of Visualized Experiments (JoVE): Biochemistry, Cancer Research and Genetics. Newly added sections in this peer-reviewed video journal of scientific experiments focus on biochemistry, cancer research and genetics. JoVE articles include high-quality video demonstrations of protocols with accompanying text descriptions across a spectrum of scientific disciplines.

JSTOR Sustainability Collection: Access to a wide range of journals, ebooks and research reports in the field of sustainability. The subjects of resilience and sustainability are explored broadly, covering research on environmental stresses and their impact on society.

Knowledge Unlatched Select 2017 Frontlist Ebook Collection: Three hundred open access titles across a variety of disciplines.

Library Stack: Online archive of digital arts publications from the fields of contemporary art, graphic design, architecture, film and philosophy. Draws from diverse global platforms, and has a particular focus on hybrid works.

Literary Print Culture: The Stationers' Company Archive: One of the most important resources for understanding the workings of the early book trade, the printing and publishing community, the establishment of legal requirements for copyright provisions and the history of bookbinding. Provides the records of the Stationers' Company Archive from 1554 to the 21st century.

SAE Cybersecurity Collection: Collection of SAE and select

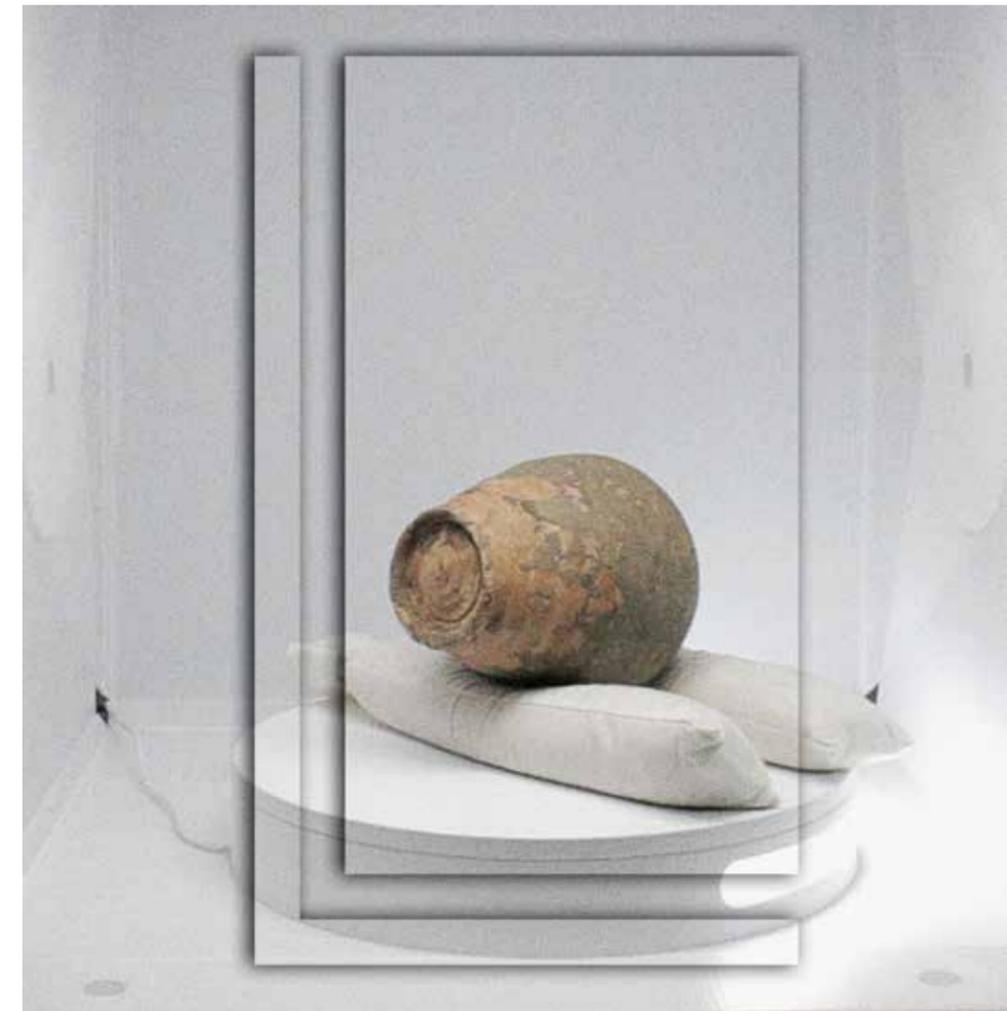
non-SAE publications, including technical papers, standards, news articles, journal articles, and ebooks. Covers automotive vehicle electronics, embedded systems architecture, data communication, hardware security design, software assurance, security technologies and more. Updated continuously.

Sage Research Methods: More than 1,000 books, reference works, journal articles, and instructional videos on every step of the research process for beginner to expert researchers.

SPIE Ebooks: Collection of titles from SPIE Press, the largest

independent publisher of optics and photonics books. Includes monographs, reference works, field guides, and tutorial texts. Covers biomedical optics and medical imaging; communications and networking; illumination and displays; imaging and signal processing; lasers and sources; nanotechnology, and remote sensing.

Synthesis Digital Library of Engineering and Computer Science Complete Collection Eight: Ebooks that synthesize an important research or development topic. Updated frequently.



From Library Stack, "The Right to Loot"

NEW ACQUISITIONS

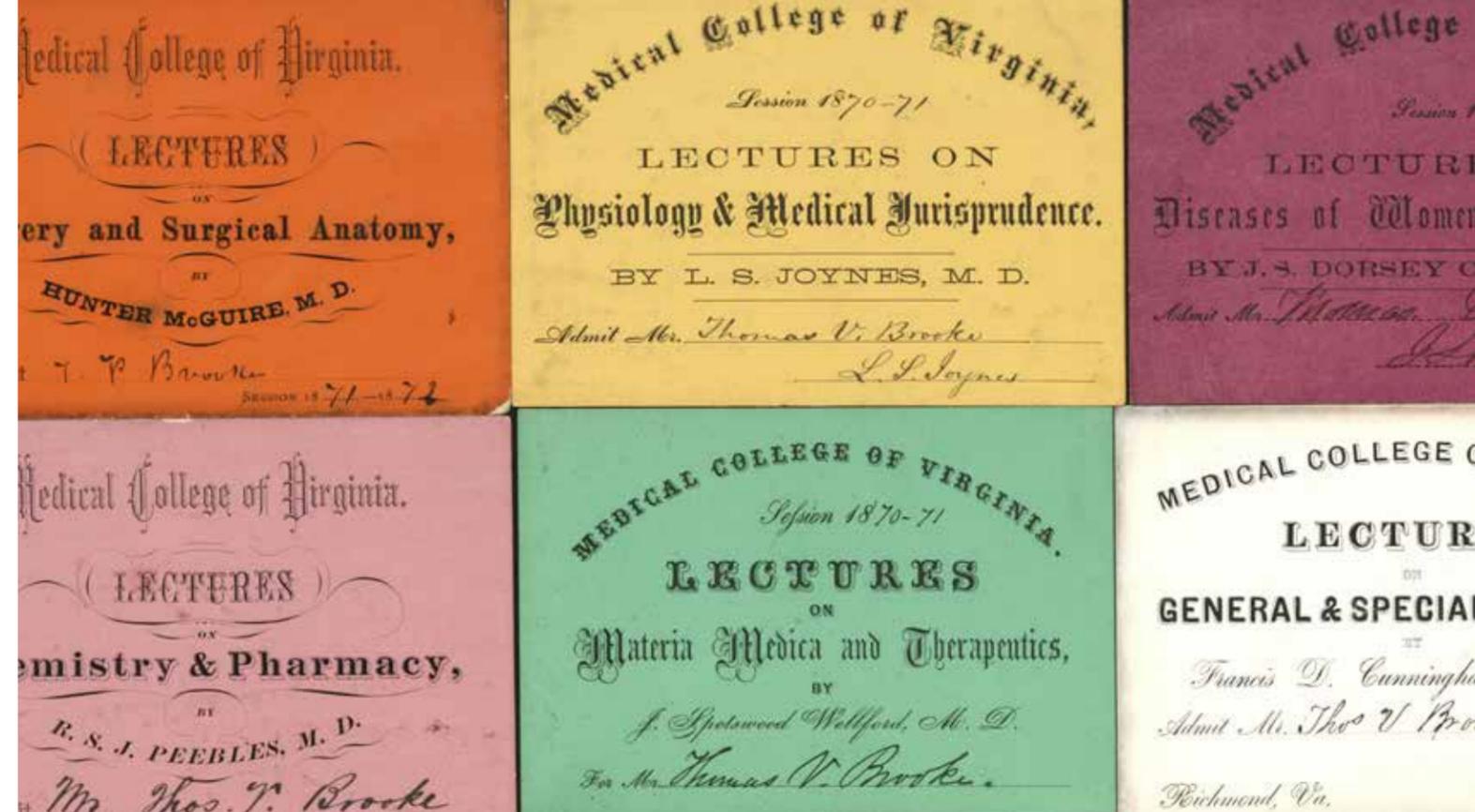
in Special Collections and Archives

A sampling of new materials available for research, study and inspiration

Below: **Vellicate**, by Karen Hardy. 2015 (Book Art Collection). One of six copies of a flag book structure made from abaca and flax handmade paper and human hair.

Coréennes by Chris Marker, Aux Éditions Du Seuil, 1959 (Cabell rare books). A scarce photobook containing more than 120 black and white images shot by the French filmmaker during a one-week visit to North Korea in 1957.

Richard Carylton artists' books, 1981-1992 (Cabell Manuscripts). More than 300 Xerographic artists' books by multi-media artist and professor emeritus of VCU's School of the Arts, Richard Carylton (1930-2006). Donated by Eleanor Rufty and Jason A. Carylton, Ph.D.



Above: **Lecture tickets**, Medical College of Virginia, 1870-1871 (University Archives). Students used lecture tickets like these to prove to their professors that they had paid the fees to attend medical lectures. These tickets belonged to Thomas V. Brooke (M 1872) and were a gift of his descendant Dr. William A. Hobbs, Jr. (M 1968).

Wallace Huey Clark papers, circa 1970s to 2000s (Cabell Manuscripts). Negatives, photographic prints, correspondence, newspaper clippings, and other materials generated or acquired by Wallace Clark, a photographer who worked for Richmond newspapers.

Flora's Dictionary by Elizabeth Washington Gamble Wirt. Baltimore, MD: Lucas Brothers, 1855 (Cabell rare books). A very fine copy of a popular 19th century dictionary of flowers with 56 hand-colored plates in an elaborate gilt publishers' binding. The author was married to William Wirt, the 9th United States Attorney General. The couple lived in the Hancock-Wirt-Caskie House in Richmond.

Negro Heroes, No. 1, 1947; Crackjack Funnies, No. 1, 1938; New York World's Fair Comics, 1939; Famous Funnies, 1933 (Comic Arts Collection). A significant donation of Golden Age comic books from VCU alumnus David Anderson, D.D.S.

Program in Patient Counseling records (University Archives). These records include photographs and alumni information for VCU's unique program in patient counseling.

Lise Maring collection of medical artifacts (Tompkins-McCaw Library medical artifacts collection). Lise Maring compiled an extensive collection of medical artifacts related to late 18th and 19th century materia medica.

Kinloch Nelson 45th General Hospital Collection. (Tompkins-McCaw Library manuscripts) Former Dean of the School of Medicine Kinloch Nelson, M.D., who served with the Medical College of Virginia's General Hospital 45 in North Africa and Italy during World War II, collected photographs, letters and other materials related to the work of the hospital unit.

MCV baseball uniform 1932. (Tompkins-McCaw Library medical artifacts collection) Don Richardson (M 1976) located this vintage baseball uniform belonging to Earle C. Gates (M 1932) and donated it to the Tompkins-McCaw Library. (See related article, page 114.)



f o s t e r

s c h o l a r l y

e x p r e s s i o n



M O I P N E D N S

OpenCon Virginia helps researchers and educators explore open elements

VCU hosted the first OpenCon Virginia in January 2018. The international OpenCon is a conference series and community that aims to empower the next generation of researchers and educators to advance Open Access, Open Education and Open Data. In addition to an annual international conference, members of the OpenCon community independently organize satellite events around the

world that aim to advance a more open system for sharing research, educational materials and data.

VCU hosted this statewide event to provide an opportunity for local and regional engagement, open to all people — faculty, students, librarians, administrators — and on all “open” topics. Much of the programming and promotion was

energized by scholarly communications librarians across the state. “Academic libraries have a wealth of expertise when it comes to sharing information and are poised to help facilitate learning, provide a forum for discussion and catalyze action on these topics,” said Hillary Miller, scholarly communication outreach librarian and conference organizer.

The day-long event included two keynote presentations: “Open Access Principles and Everyday Choices” with Hilda Bastian, lead for the PubMed Health team at the National Institutes of Health, and “Open in the Age of Inequality” with Tressie McMillan Cottom, Ph.D., assistant professor of sociology at VCU and faculty associate with Harvard University’s Berkman Klein Center for Internet & Society.



Presenters gave lightning talks on open education, open data and data crowdsourcing, open scholarship, open access publishing, open science and more at OpenCon Virginia hosted at VCU.

A dozen presenters gave engaging lightning talks on open education, open data and data crowdsourcing, open scholarship, open access publishing, open science and more. Afternoon breakout sessions offered group discussions, panels and hands-on workshops. Sessions included author rights, open peer review, research preregistration, Open Science Framework and predatory publishing.

OpenCon Virginia drew one of the largest-ever audiences for an OpenCon satellite event with 131 faculty, students and librarians from institutions in Virginia, North Carolina, Oklahoma and Pennsylvania, as well as representatives from the Center for Open Science, ORCID, Ubiquity Press, Taylor & Francis and the Academic Preservation Trust.



CLASS ACTS

Cabell Screen coordinates with professors to showcase student work



Increasingly, professors are creating class projects specifically for the large public art space of the Cabell Screen. Don't be surprised if you see a class standing on The Compass looking up at the screen and discussing their work, which is showing 25 feet by 25 feet on the front facade of the building. Here are examples from 2017-18.

AFO GIFs

For the second year, Cabell Library partnered with VCU School of the Arts' Art Foundation program for a GIF Competition



for the Cabell Screen. Widely known as AFO, Arts Foundation is the introductory program for first-year design and fine arts undergraduates. The November 2017 show was composed entirely of GIFs (Graphics Interchange Format), which are short, often animated images that can loop indefinitely and do not include sound. Students created lively GIFs specifically suited for display on the Big Screen. Works were

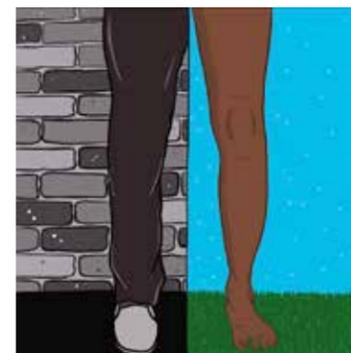
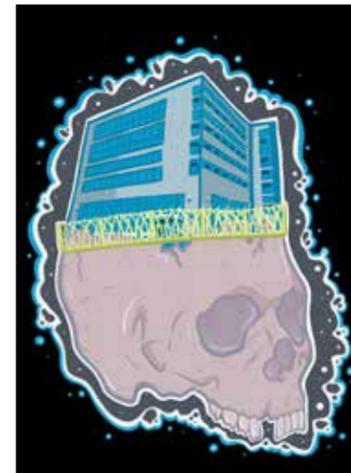
submitted by students and 22 works were chosen by a curatorial committee for the screen.

Professor Bob Kaputof's Video III Class

Eighteen students in VCU Associate Professor Bob Kaputof's KINE 491 Video III class in the Kinetic Imaging department created videos and animations for the Cabell Screen as part of a class project in March 2018. Kinetic Imaging focuses on work made within the disciplines of video, animation and sound. The experimental video class, juniors and seniors in the Kinetic Imaging department, began by looking at examples of public art and large-scale video work. Each student considered the unusual parameters of the Cabell Screen, including the nature of the LED pixel grid and the absence of sound, when producing their pieces.

bee coston's Gender, Women Sexuality class

The Feminist Social Theory class in VCU's Department of Gender, Sexuality and Women Studies, taught by bee coston, Ph.D., created work for the Cabell Screen as part of their final class project and capstone event. The class dedicated its semester-long social action project to the topic of mass incarceration. The students worked with Health Brigade and visited the Chesterfield Women's Diversion Center to have a working session with women incarcerated there. The workshop, "A Creative Visionary Perspective of What Community Support Could Look Like to Prevent Incarceration," asked questions about health and the prison system, then asked the women to create artwork or poetry inspired by their experiences. Students from the class then used that artwork to create art pieces



Images from student exhibits.

that were displayed on the Cabell Screen during an event at The Amphitheatre Plaza in May 2018.

Brooke Inman's Painting and Printmaking class

A painting and printmaking class lead by Brooke Inman in VCU's School of the Arts created an printmaking portfolio, "The Other Side," to exchange with California College of Art. Each student created a unique print using archival traditional or experimental printmaking techniques, including intaglio, lithography, relief, screen and stencil. Editions of 17 impressions were made of each print to exchange so that every participant received a complete portfolio of 15 prints from all of the VCU participants. The remaining two sets of prints were retained as a complete set for the VCU and one set for the California school's exhibition and print archives. The prints were showcased at The Anderson gallery and on the Cabell Screen.

Animation Show for Animation Camp

VCUarts Kinetic Imaging Department has offered an animation camp for middle schoolers for the past two summers. Campers learn the process of a variety of animation techniques, working with the animation camera and learning new computer skills. During their lunch break, the campers leave the studio to watch an animation showcase on the Cabell Screen. For the showcase, the Cabell Screen runs past animation favorites including the AFO GIFs, Visual Music and animations from the 2016 Undergraduate Juried Show.

INNOVATIVE MEDIA

AND THE WORKSHOP

By the Numbers

VCU Libraries Innovative Media department provides hardware, software, spaces, and expertise to help the VCU community produce creative work of all kinds. Not every scholarly work is a printed paper.

475 instruction sessions, workshops and tours related to innovative media and multimedia.

23 Wednesdays in The Workshop sessions with 597 attendees at Cabell Library

6 Tech Tuesdays sessions for 53 attendees at Tompkins-McCaw Library

MOST POPULAR SESSION "Introduction to Game Design" on January 24, 2018, hosted by a student employee with 80+ attendees.

26,360 reference and assistance questions answered



FACILITY USES:

- VIDEO STUDIO: 291** (averaging 42.6% more per month)
- AUDIO STUDIO: 796** (averaging 23.86% more per month)
- GAMING ROOM: 566** uses
- 3D PRINTERS: 935** uses for a total of 334 days, 18 hours, and 54 minutes
- DSLRS: 1,073** loans (up **42.3%** from 2016-2017) for 16 years, 67 days, 8 hours, and 39 minutes
- GRAPHICS STATIONS: 3,430** uses (average of 9.66 per day)



MOST POPULAR ITEM Mac Graphics/ Scanning station, **1,093** loans.

+ **9,482** CIRCULATING LOANS
14,724 IN-HOUSE LOANS

24,206
LOANS | **48,412** transactions (up **7.6%** from 2016-2017)

Most popular equipment that can be taken out of the department: the **CANON T6I DSLR, 982** loans.

SEWING MACHINES: 200 loans

TELESCOPE: 15

MICROSCOPE: 14

METAL DETECTOR: 8

BINOCULARS: 8

GEIGER COUNTER: 4

GPS UNIT: 3

WACOM CINTIQ 27" DIGITAL DRAWING SCREEN: 461



FOR THE ENTIRE YEAR, OUR STUFF WAS LOANED OUT FOR THE EQUIVALENT OF **120** years, **297** days, **8** hours, **47** minutes, **45.6** seconds.

OPENING AVENUES

VCU Libraries' Open Access Publishing Fund supports the publication of research articles in peer-reviewed journals that are available to all on the web without charge. Open access encourages new forms of scholarly communication, promotes accelerated discovery and provides an alternative to high-cost, unsustainable commercial publishing. VCU Libraries established the Open Access Publishing Fund in fall 2015. During FY 2018 the Libraries received 38 requests and funded 36 of those.

Requests came from many departments, including Biology, Internal Medicine, Mathematics and Applied Mathematics, Anatomy and Neurobiology, Physical Therapy, Focused Inquiry, Statistical Sciences and Operations Research, Health Behavior and Policy, Forensic Science, Psychiatry, Radiation Oncology, Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness and Chemistry. The first request from VCU Qatar was received this year.

The fund helped publish research articles in open access journals such as *PLOS One*, *BMC Pediatrics*, *JACC: Basic to Translational Science*, *Ecosphere*, *Politics & Governance*, *PLOS Computational Biology* and *Scientific Reports*.



36
FACULTY
PUBLISHING
PROJECTS
FUNDED

1
MILLION+
DOWNLOADS

Open access
repository hits
a big number

Scholars Compass hit a major milestone in fall 2017: 1 million downloads. By the end of the fiscal year, downloads numbered 1,418,690.

Each download means scholars worldwide are using VCU's work to build knowledge and understanding. An institutional repository and publishing platform administered by VCU Libraries, Scholars Compass houses more than 14,400 items featuring research and scholarship by VCU faculty, staff and students. This material is openly available to readers around the world.

Other notable achievements in 2017-18:

- Migrated the *Journal of Prison Education and Reentry* from the University of Bergen to VCU (<https://scholarscompass.vcu.edu/jper/>);
- Began hosting back issues of *Medical Literary Messenger* (<https://scholarscompass.vcu.edu/mlm/>);
- Digitized and began hosting back issues of three journals from the Association of Ethnic Studies: *Ethnic Studies Review* (<https://scholarscompass.vcu.edu/esr/>), *Explorations in Ethnic Studies* (<https://scholarscompass.vcu.edu/ees/>), and *Explorations in Sights and Sounds* (<https://scholarscompass.vcu.edu/ess/>).
- Added *Menorah Review*, the journal edited by Jack D. Spiro and published 1984-2015 by the VCU Center for Judaic Studies.

ART HISTORY

Anderson Gallery catalogues now online in Scholars Compass

Art exhibition catalogues published by the Anderson Gallery are now available through VCU Libraries' free online repository, Scholars Compass.

For more than 40 years, the Anderson Gallery on the Monroe Park Campus served as a major art exhibition space for the Richmond arts community and a prominent showcase for contemporary art in the southeast. In 2015, the Anderson Gallery officially closed and its collection of some 3,000 works was transferred to Special Collections and Archives at Cabell Library. A selection of artwork from the collection is displayed in the library. Other items are available to researchers by appointment.

Along with the collection of artworks, the Anderson Gallery's archival records, including exhibition files and catalogues and other publications, were transferred to the library. Many of the publications feature artists connected to VCU. The exhibition publications are being digitized on an ongoing and selective basis. This series will present selected digitized versions of catalogues published by the gallery, featuring notable VCUarts faculty. Each catalogue is freely available for download or online reading.

"Exhibition catalogues typically have small, short runs, especially for galleries and quickly go out of print. Museums and galleries have recognized the need to bring their publications into the digital age to make them more available and accessible," said Emily Davis Winthrop, Ph.D., an art historian and arts collection librarian. "VCU libraries' efforts have brought the Anderson Gallery catalogues within reach of artists

and researchers worldwide."

The publications in the new Scholars Compass series Anderson Gallery Art Exhibition Catalogues are:

- **Siemon Allen:** *Imaging South Africa: Collection Projects by Siemon Allen:* South African artist Siemon Allen's "collection projects" focus

on various aspects of South African identity. This catalogue was published in 2010 to accompany the exhibition of his work at the Anderson Gallery.

- **Richard Carlyon:** *Richard Carlyon: A Retrospective:* The work of Richard Carlyon (1930-2006), an influential artist and VCUarts faculty member, is celebrated in this 2009 catalogue published in conjunction with a multisite exhibition.

- **Myron Helfgott:** *Myron Helfgott: an inventory of my thoughts* was published in conjunction with the retrospective exhibition by the same name in 2015, organized by the Anderson Gallery with generous support from the VCU School of the Arts. Audio tracks for several of the selections in this catalog appear on the CD "Myron Helfgott: Enregistrements/Recordings."

"We are excited to work on these catalogues as part of our publishing initiative," said Jimmy Ghaphery, associate university librarian for scholarly communications and publishing. "In addition to presenting them online, we

are also promoting them through our worldwide library and scholarly publishing networks."



ALL ABOUT THE DATA

Research Data Librarian helps researchers plan, navigate norms and follow best practices



Nina Exner

New to VCU Libraries in spring semester 2018, Nina Exner is the Research Data Librarian. She shares her knowledge of best practices in managing research studies and data.

“My main focus is on data handling and data planning, and how the data process integrates with the rest of the research process. I work with students, faculty and research administrators. I’m especially used to working with graduate students and new faculty who are working with data management the first time. I can help them with making sense out of data, writing a Data Management Plan, or figuring out how to work data security and organization into the rest of their research work, or making other choices about working with quantitative, qualitative and multimedia data,” she said.

What needs does she see?

“New researchers usually have trouble balancing between learning to apply tools with low barriers to entry versus tools that allow them to do everything they need. So, it’s fairly easy to use Excel or Google Sheets, but they don’t have a lot of the options for preservation, description and analysis that researchers might want. For them, keeping things accessible but still powerful enough for what they need usually drives their questions.”

“More established researchers have a different balancing act. They have to figure out how to deal with issues of rigor, ethics, funding, reputation, engagement, reproducibility, management,

changing mandates and scholarly growth, all in a limited time. So figuring out ways to juggle everything in a practical workflow is their most common question.”

During her first semester on campus, Exner took on these projects and initiatives:

- Updated the free data management tool VCU Libraries makes available.
- Talked with emerging researchers about new trends in data needs for government funding.
- Partnered with campuswide faculty support teams to support transparency in research data while protecting privacy.
- Trained administrators on metrics to measure and build the impact of VCU scholars.
- Worked with a number of different offices and project teams on both campuses. “I’m trying to reach out to people to find out what the needs and gaps are. VCU is such a vibrant and diverse community, there are lots of different great groups and projects going on. I want to find out who has needs for research and data support or who wants to partner to boost data instruction.”

ON THE VANGUARD

Librarian's decision-making system for nurses gleans national notice

A visionary approach by a VCU medical librarian is getting national attention for a system nurses can use to make evidence-based, informed decisions in clinical settings.

Assistant Professor Roy Brown, a research and education librarian at Tompkins-McCaw Library for the Health Sciences and liaison to the VCU School of Nursing and VCU Health Nursing programs, created the “Evidence-Based Practice Portfolio” for nurses.

That project has attracted the attention of leaders in nursing and nursing education and has catapulted him onto various stages where he has presented his idea at important health sciences and library conferences.

In fall 2018, for example, he was one of the few non-nurse presenters at the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s (ANCC) annual Magnet conference. ANCC credentials organizations and individuals who advance nursing. Some 10,000 nurses from 20 nations attend the annual Magnet international conference.

A medical librarian for nearly 10 years, Brown sees himself as an advocate for students and professionals. That broad thinking inspired him to create a tool that is fast becoming ingrained in clinical practice at VCU Health and beyond.

He created a framework for evidence-based practice in an online portfolio he initially developed with VCU Health nurses. The

“Evidence-Based Practice Portfolio” makes evidence-based practice more accessible to nurses at the patient’s bedside. It is a unique online guide that organizes the evidence-based practice process step-by-step. The guide is modeled after an Inquiry Process Diagram that Brown designed. This step-by-step decision-making matrix allows a practitioner to

understand what is involved and who to call upon at any point in the diagnostic or patient-care process. The portfolio seeks to simplify and clarify how nurses make decisions in clinical settings and how they can find answers to patient care questions in the research or from colleagues.

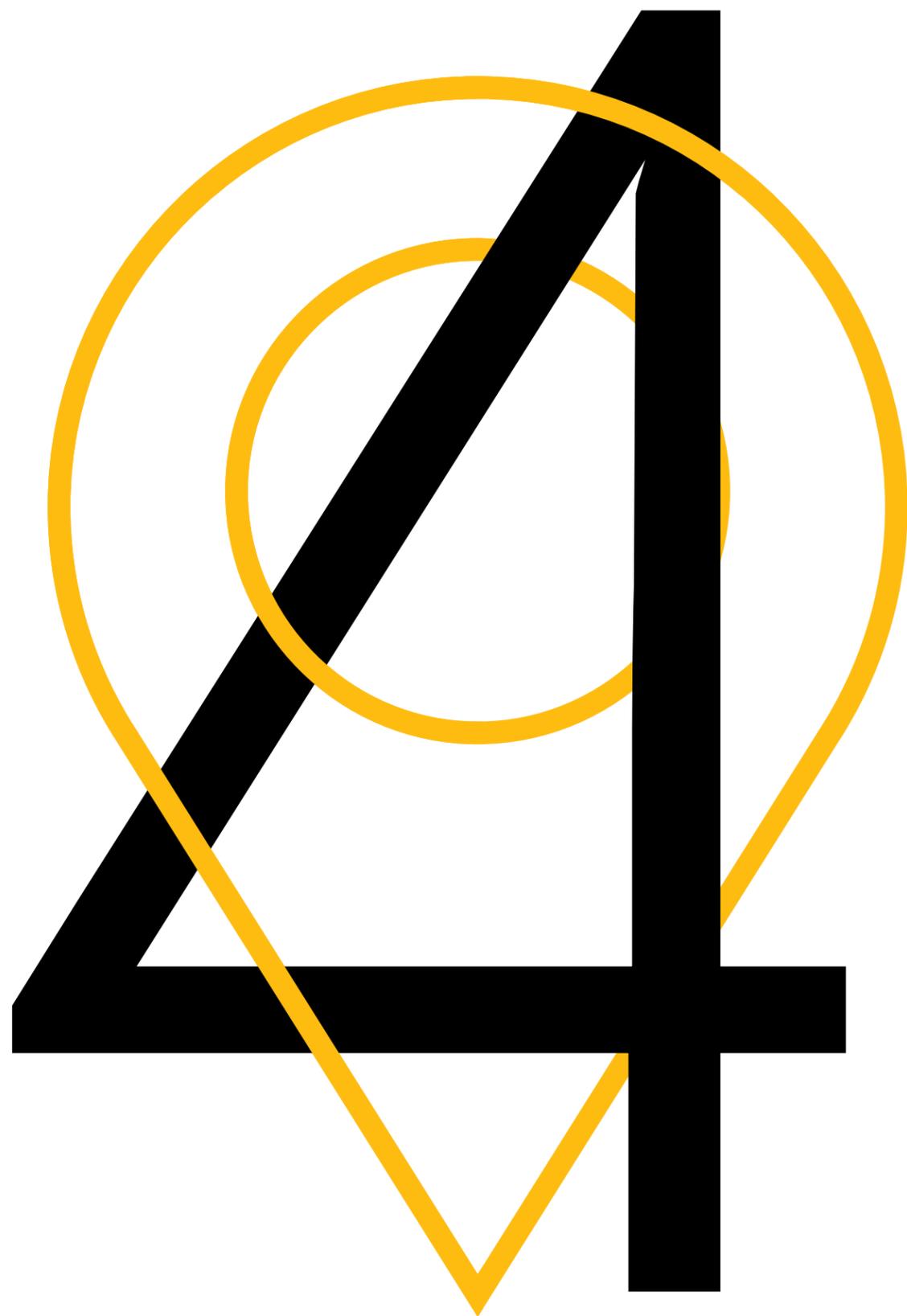
The ready adoption of the framework has lead Brown to assess the use of the tool. The tool is not stagnant. Brown frequently tweaks the tool based on feedback from users.

“The Evidence-Based Practice Portfolio” has been adopted by nurses at VCU Health.

Brown has also presented about the tool in many national settings, including ANCC Pathway to Excellence Conference, Vizient/AACN Nurse Residency Program™ 2017 Annual Conference, Virginia Nurses Association Fall Meeting, VCU Health Evidence-Based Practice Symposium and VCU Health Heart Matters Nursing & Allied Health Symposium and the Annual Meeting of the Medical Library Association.



Roy Brown



create

community

& engagement

A GROWING

CONCERN



VCU's health and wellness library takes active roles in health literacy initiatives

Healthcare workers face a growing nationwide challenge: treating and communicating effectively with people with low health literacy.

People with low health literacy struggle to understand even the most basic elements of their healthcare such as taking medication correctly or understanding the meaning of their blood pressure or cholesterol readings. Due to barriers of native language, level of education, confusing medical jargon, heritage or cultural factors, the complexity of information presented and other variables, health information is simply not readily understood.

Health literacy could be literally a matter of life and death. It is defined in the 2004 National Academy of Medicine report, *Health Literacy: A Prescription to End Confusion*, as “the degree to which individuals have the capacity to obtain, process, and understand basic health information and services needed to make appropriate health decisions.”

Health literacy is emerging as a priority at the Community Health Education Center. Based in the VCU Health Gateway building, this consumer health and patient library has operated for over 15 years providing librarian-selected books, videos and other materials on a wide range of health topics. The center also maintains a robust website with curated information resources. Free

and open to all, the center is used by healthcare professionals as well as patients and community members.

Why health literacy matters

“Low literacy is linked to poor health outcomes such as higher rates of hospitalization and less frequent use of preventive services,” said Emily Hurst, deputy director of Tompkins-McCaw Library for the Health Sciences. “Both of these outcomes are associated with higher health care costs.”

Libraries and medical librarians are uniquely qualified to help improve people’s understanding of health information, cut through jargon, and identify materials – videos, comic or graphic books, podcasts or online resources – that may be more clearly

understood by medical consumers.

The challenge is vast: According to U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, only 12 percent of adults are proficient in health literacy. Nearly nine out of 10 adults may lack the skills needed to manage their own health and prevent disease.

This academic year, the Community Health Education Center participated in several health literacy projects in service to the commonwealth. More initiatives are in the planning stages.

Partnership with public health programs

During the 2017-18 year, each Virginia Department of Health district participated in the Evolve Public Health program. Each district selected a health problem in their community and developed a program to address the issues. CHEC Librarian Dana Ladd, Ph.D., and Emily Hurst, who oversees CHEC as head of the Research and Education Department at Tompkins-McCaw Library, worked with the Prince William Health District on this project. Prince William County in Northern Virginia adjoins Fairfax County and encompasses Manassas City and Manassas Park. While it is in

the top 10 of highest income of any county in the United States, it has pockets of poverty and a diverse population that is 20 percent black and 20 percent Hispanic and 7.5 percent Asian.

Public health workers are on the front lines in the effort to increase health literacy. “Clinical professionals focus primarily on treating individuals after they become sick or injured,” said Ladd. “Public health professionals try to prevent problems from happening or recurring by implementing educational programs, recommending policies, administering services and conducting research. They work to limit health disparities and promote healthcare equity, quality and accessibility.”

The Prince William Health District partnered with the Prince William County Public Libraries to develop a consumer health information initiative. This effort focuses on providing health information and referral to health services in the community for public library users.

CHEC Librarian Dana Ladd at East End Library

VCU Libraries’ role was to train the public librarians how to communicate with patients, evaluate health information, find reliable health information and inform them about

health literacy. Ladd provided two sessions in May 2018 for 20 attendees.

This type of educational session had been tested in summer 2017 when Ladd and Hurst provided a training session to public, hospital and health librarians through an National Network of Libraries of Medicine/ Southeastern Atlantic Region (NNLM/SEA) grant. The 2017 training brought public librarians and others to campus for sessions both at Tompkins-McCaw Library for the Health Sciences and at CHEC for consumer health information training sessions and tours.



“Training on how to find reliable health information online, communicating with patients or tips for how to evaluate health information is not part of every library school curriculum.” said Ladd. “But many of the questions that come to librarians in public libraries are about health information. This training was designed to address this knowledge gap.”

The training provided for Prince William County covered similar topics including communicating with patients to understand their information needs, consumer health information ethics, evaluation of health websites, high-quality and reliable health information websites and special topics. Special topics included finding information about cancer, diabetes, drug information, lab tests and local health services. The sessions emphasized health literacy and provided attendees with an overview of resources to use for low-literacy patients and consumer health resources for patients who speak languages other than English. Special emphasis was given to information on high priority health topics in Prince William County and local health resources.

Next steps and the East End Health and Wellness Center

Throughout 2017, Ladd and Hurst worked closely with VCU’s Center on Health Disparities and others at VCU on the East End Initiative and its VCU East End Health and Wellness Center. As planned, this project located at the intersection of Nine Mile Road and 25th Street is part of a larger redevelopment initiative that will also feature a grocery store, apartments and a culinary institute operated by J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College.

VCU Libraries is exploring ways to contribute to the initiative by providing access to health information and health literacy training at the East End location. Grant funding from NNLM/



“Public health professionals try to prevent problems from happening or recurring by implementing educational programs, recommending policies, administering services and conducting research. They work to limit health disparities and promote healthcare equity, quality and accessibility.”

— CHEC Librarian
Dana Ladd, Ph.D.

SEA will provide a mobile computer lab for training sessions. VCU Libraries also will expand its well-established and successful programming on health and wellness topics at the new East End location, which is expected to open in 2019.

Other health literacy initiatives this year included:

- **Honoring Choices Virginia**, a Richmond Academy of Medicine program focused on **advanced care planning services**. Ladd served on the committee for literacy awareness where the goal was to create easier-to-understand advanced care planning materials for patients deciding about matters such as organ donation and end-of-life medical directives.
- **Strengthening community partnerships**. VCU Libraries actively seeks to work with local and state organizations and nonprofits with similar interests in advancing health literacy in metro Richmond. Discussions are underway with the **READ Center** and with the **Richmond Public Library** system about future collaborations.
- **Mentoring a VCU student** majoring in Health Science who did a project on health literacy for the Community Health Education Center. The student created an in-depth PowerPoint display about health literacy. She also created a handout of health literacy resources. These materials will be used during the October 2018 Health Literacy Month, during which several related programs will be offered.
- Participating in the inaugural **2017 Movement Makers conference** in Richmond. This event brought together public and private sector representatives to discuss getting communities more engaged in health and wellbeing through fitness and development of healthy lifestyles.



What is health literacy?

Health literacy is the degree to which individuals have the capacity to obtain, process, and understand basic health information and services needed to make appropriate health decisions.¹

Health literacy is dependent on individual and systemic factors:

- Communication skills of lay persons and professionals
- Lay and professional knowledge of health topics
- Culture
- Demands of the healthcare and public health systems
- Demands of the situation/context

Health literacy affects people’s ability to:

- Navigate the healthcare system, including filling out complex forms and locating providers and services
- Share personal information, such as health history, with providers
- Engage in self-care and chronic-disease management
- Understand mathematical concepts such as probability and risk

Health literacy includes numeracy skills. For example, calculating cholesterol and blood sugar levels, measuring medications, and understanding nutrition labels all require math skills. Choosing between health plans or comparing prescription drug coverage requires calculating premiums, copays, and deductibles.

In addition to basic literacy skills, health literacy requires knowledge of health topics. People with limited health literacy often lack knowledge or have misinformation about the body as well as the nature and causes of disease. Without this knowledge, they may not understand the relationship between lifestyle factors such as diet and exercise and various health outcomes.

Health information can overwhelm even persons with advanced literacy skills. Medical science progresses rapidly. What people may have learned about health or biology during their school years often becomes outdated or forgotten, or it is incomplete. Moreover, health information provided in a stressful or unfamiliar situation is unlikely to be retained.

¹ **SOURCE:** Quick Guide to Health Literacy Fact Sheet, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion <https://health.gov/communication/literacy/quickguide/factsbasic.htm>

EXPERT COMMENTATOR

Comic Arts Collection authority explains the significance of *Black Panther* in media moments

Few artistic genres are more deeply embedded in popular culture than are the comic arts. In 2018, when the film *Black Panther* appeared in theaters to broad critical acclaim and huge box offices, that premiere presented an outreach opportunity for VCU Libraries. The comic arts provide a multi-layered lens through which we can look at culture, society and history.

VCU Libraries' Comic Arts Collection provides countless teachable moments. It includes approximately 175,000 items, including more than 100 issues of *Black Panther* and related comics, notably including T'Challa's first

Jungle Action, No. 8, January 1974 *Black Panther* cover (detail) from VCU Libraries comic arts collection, James Branch Cabell Library, Special Collections and Archives



appearance in *Fantastic Four* No. 52, published in 1966.

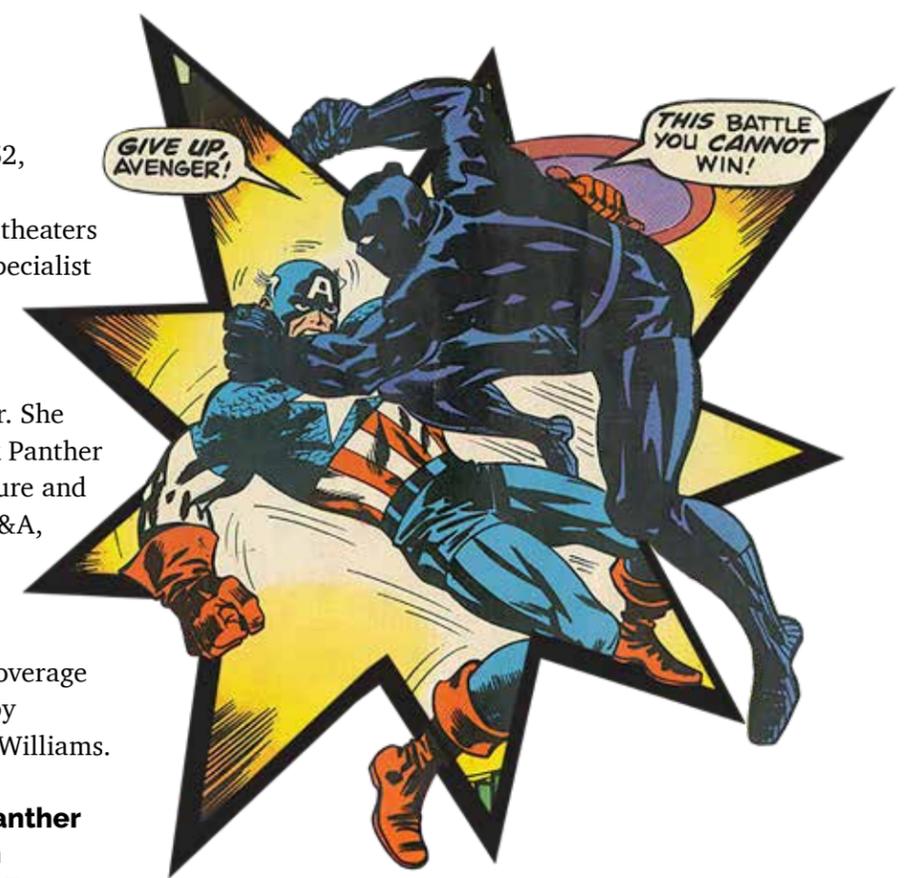
When *Black Panther* debuted in theaters this year, Cindy Jackson, library specialist for comic arts for Special Collections and Archives at James Branch Cabell Library became in demand as an expert commentator. She discussed the important role Black Panther plays in the comic arts, world culture and black history. In addition to this Q&A, published on the university and library websites, interest in *Black Panther* included a lengthy TV interview featuring Jackson and coverage in the Richmond Times-Dispatch by respected columnist Michael Paul Williams.

It's widely known that Black Panther is the first African superhero in mainstream American comics. Beyond that, what are some reasons that this character is noteworthy in the annals of the comic arts?

One of the most distinguishing characteristics of Black Panther is that his alter-ego is T'Challa, King of Wakanda, the richest nation in the world. He is royalty. That is what truly sets *Black Panther* apart from the other extraordinarily wealthy superheroes like fellow Marvel superhero Iron Man (Tony Stark) and DC Comics' Batman (Bruce Wayne), who earned their means through inheritance and enterprise. Also, unlike his counterparts, T'Challa has actual superpowers in addition to access to the state-of-the-art technologies at his disposal as part of an advanced society.

As VCU's resident expert on the comic arts, what thoughts do you have to share about the film *Black Panther*?

For starters, I'm super excited for the film. I also believe it's the right time, right now for a *Black Panther* movie. Marvel has set a very high bar for what a comic book



Marvel Double Feature, No. 21, March 1977 (detail) from VCU Libraries comic arts collection, James Branch Cabell Library, Special Collections and Archives

superhero movie can be over the last 10 years and I think they can finally do the character and his origin story justice. Film technology is now to the point that the world of *Black Panther* can be fully realized on-screen. I can't wait to see how amazing it will be just judging from what I've seen in the movie trailer.

How does Black Panther compare with other African or African-American voices and characters in the comic arts? What distinguishes him from others?

T'Challa is royalty. He is the leader of a forward-thinking, wealthy, independent African nation that was never colonized. He does not come from the same sort of crime-ridden, inner-city background like the two other major African-American superheroes introduced in roughly the same time period — Sam Wilson (Falcon) and Luke Cage (Power Man). T'Challa has never had to suffer the racial injustices that faced African-Americans.



“
Unlike his counterparts, T'Challa has actual superpowers in addition to access to the state-of-the-art technologies at his disposal as part of an advanced society.”

— Comic Arts Specialist
 Cindy Jackson

Fantastic Four, No. 53, August 1966 from VCU Libraries comic arts collection, James Branch Cabell Library, Special Collections and Archives

Can you describe the primary artistic elements (look and feel, figures and costumes) of the Black Panther comics?

Jack Kirby’s original concept for Black Panther’s costume was stereotypical superhero fare with colorful bodysuit, cape and boots reminiscent of something Superman would wear. By the time Black Panther made his first appearance in *Fantastic Four* No. 52 (1966), the costume was a full black, sleek bodysuit with catlike ears made of vibranium, the abundant mineral found in Wakanda. The costume is meant to represent the power and gracefulness of the big cat from which the Panther Tribe derives their name. Naturally the costume has changed over the years as artwork in comics evolved from simple four-color printing to more sophisticated digital artwork.

At the time of initial creation, can you explain the character's ties or lack thereof to the Black Panther political movement/party?

The creation of the Black Panther character predates the formation of the Black Panther political party by a few months in 1966, and there was never any connection between the two. Stan Lee was still concerned enough about the potential connotations in the early 1970s to briefly change the title to *Black Leopard*.

VCU Libraries' Comic Arts Collection includes comic books, original art, graphic novels, reference books and more. The Special Collections and Archives department on the fourth floor of Cabell Library is open to scholars, students and researchers and welcomes individuals who just would like to read comics for pleasure. If you would like to see a comic book, use the Comic Book Index to search through the collection and identify what you'd like to see. Visit Special Collections and Archives on Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and we will retrieve the item for you to view in our reading room.

ADVICE TO STUDENTS

If a student approached about doing further research or even a paper about *Black Panther*, what three pieces of advice/guidance would you offer to get him or her started?

- Make an appointment with me to discuss your research. I'm very happy to help!
- Have an idea of what you want to focus on before coming in. Help me help you!
- Don't wait until the last minute to do your research. Comics research is more involved than you realize!



Jungle Action, No. 6, September 1973 from VCU Libraries comic arts collection, James Branch Cabell Library, Special Collections and Archives

REAL WORLD CONNECTIONS

Wildflowers digital collection builds relationships in field work and artwork

Fifty years ago, Richmond's pioneering environmentalist Newton Ancarrow snapped thousands of photographs of wildflowers. He documented more than 400 species as he walked along the James River banks searching for proof of illegal sewage dumping into the river.

Ancarrow used his wildflower photo presentations to persuade people to support a clean-up of the James River. The 354 wildflower photographs in that presentation were digitized by VCU Libraries and are shared publicly as the Ancarrow Wildflower Digital Archive. Miles from the boggy and buggy banks of the river, in the air-conditioned comfort of sunrooms and offices, users can explore these online images with descriptions and field notes.

"These slides are special because they're a snapshot in time at the very early beginnings of the James River Park System — before, during and maybe even a little bit after it was created," said Anne Wright, director of outreach education for the VCU Center for Environmental Studies and an assistant professor in the Department of Biology in the College of Humanities and Sciences. "So, as a time capsule, they're very interesting."

That time capsule, as it turns out, is far



Richmond environmentalist and James River advocate Newton Ancarrow snapped thousands of photographs of wildflowers, documenting more than 400 species.

from stuck in time. Ancarrow's work and the online collection are inspiring some modern-day work.

Beginning in 2017, a partnership among VCU faculty, a group of botanical illustrators and the Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden library started using the digital archive to educate the public about the existence of these flowers, and to protect their habitat from invasive plant species. These invasive species are non-native flora that rapidly reproduce and overtake

the habitats of native plants. As a result, pollinators and animals that depend on native plants as a nutritional source are disadvantaged and biodiversity can decrease.

"The park has been invaded by invasive species and they are pervasive throughout," said Wright, a partner on the Ancarrow digitization project and member of the park's Invasive Plant Task Force. "We want to know if this has had a big impact on Ancarrow's species list."

Wright is working with Janet Woody, librarian at Lewis Ginter, and a group of botanists, native plant enthusiasts, and park lovers to identify the flowers species found by Ancarrow. The goal is to evaluate whether the plants are greater or less in number due to invasive plants.

In 2017, the field team began revisiting "the areas where he originally walked and photographed these flowers to see if they are still there," Wright said. "Maybe we will match everything on his list and see more than he saw. Maybe we will see less." When results from 2017 were compiled, all but 40 of Ancarrow's original species had been found still growing within the park. Several more have been documented in early 2018, and the search continues. As more eyes identify species within in the park, areas of high value species and plant communities are being identified for conservation and will be targeted for invasive species removal and for special protections and preservation.



Ailanthus altissima, Or "Tree-of-Heaven," is an invasive plant that can be found in the James River Park System. Drawing by Judy Thomas, Ph.D.

In addition to this research, a companion project, the *Plants of the James River*, is inviting regional artists to submit botanical illustrations of the native plants on the Ancarrow list. "We will also be holding related, public-educational events to increase awareness about native plants, in conjunction with several environmental organizations," said Judy Thomas, Ph.D., an assistant professor in the School of Social Work and botanical art instructor at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden and the project's founder. Artists and illustrators will create botanical illustrations of the Ancarrow wildflowers. In these illustrations, plant life is portrayed with the highest degree of scientific accuracy

possible. Botanical artists strive for accuracy but also focus closely on aesthetics and composition.

Submissions for this juried show are due July 2019. The exhibitions will be on view for the public at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden and at Cabell Library in fall 2019.

"This is a great example of a digital project enabling and encouraging further research and creative activity, which is our goal with our digital work," said Erin White, who heads Digital Engagement projects for VCU Libraries. "Digital projects' wide dissemination combined with the in-person, public engagement led by Ginter and the Rice Center have resulted in an inspiring, community-centered series of projects."

VCU alumnus
Jeffery Taubenberger,
a leader in flu research,
revisits the 1918 pandemic
and discusses vaccine
development in Sanger
Series Lecture



GROUNDBREAKING

RESEARCH

Groundbreaking virologist and VCU alumnus Jeffery Taubenberger, M.D., Ph.D, talked during a VCU Libraries Sanger Series lecture in February 2018 about the deadly reach of the 1918 flu pandemic and his work to develop a vaccine steps ahead of the ever-mutating disease.

The lecture marked the centennial of the 1918 pandemic, demystified the mechanisms by which the disease thrives and spreads, and looked toward the future. The timely consideration of the disease came as the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention announced that the flu was at epidemic levels in most states during the winter of 2018. This year's flu vaccine was estimated to be about 36 percent effective overall and only roughly 25 percent effective against the H3N2 strains.

Taubenberger has found insights into combatting

future flu epidemics by investigating the 1918 Spanish flu, which he notes is the progenitor of modern-day strains. Conservative estimates put the worldwide death toll of the 1918 pandemic at 50 million, but many have estimated that it could have been as high as 100 million, he added.

"[The 1918 flu] stands out as one of the most significant public health or natural history disasters in all recorded history," Taubenberger said.

A look to the past

The 1918 epidemic dawned at the height of U.S. involvement in World War I. Men in close quarters gearing up to fight on the western front provided ideal opportunities for the virus to spread. One such instance was an outbreak at Camp Devens, a training facility outside Boston. On Sept. 7, a man

presented to camp medical staff with what was described as a respiratory illness. The next week, a dozen men reported similar symptoms and a week after that, three dozen. By the third week, 13,000 otherwise healthy 18- to 25-year-old men fell ill and one-third of the camp — 800 men — died.

Preeminent Johns Hopkins pathologist Henry Welch inspected the camp in the aftermath and wrote, "It must be some kind of new infection or plague."

Of course, it wasn't, even though scientists did not isolate the virus until the early 1930s. Centuries earlier George Washington had almost perished from the flu during his presidency and suspected cases had been reported in even earlier writings by European monks.

"The impact of the virus on military troops was devastating," Taubenberger said. "Over 40 percent of U.S. troops that died of all causes in World War I died of the flu."

The beginnings of the 1918 epidemic in the U.S. were reported on the East and West coasts and its path into the interior could be traced along railroad lines. In the first two weeks, it spread into New England and the Mid-Atlantic. Two weeks later it was across the country and by October, there were outbreaks in all 48 states.

A little under 700,000 people died in the United States from the influenza virus, Taubenberger said. Virginia saw roughly 17,000 to 18,000 deaths, about 1,200 of which were in Richmond.

"People in 1918 did everything they could to prevent the flu. They went to the movies wearing masks. They played baseball wearing masks. They served soup wearing masks," Taubenberger said. "There were sights in American cities that I think the like of which had never been seen, that I think we all hope will never be seen again. There were huge lorries of coffins."

People ages 20 to 40 suffered very high morbidity, in contrast to other flu epidemics that affected the elderly and young children.

The virus even helped shape major world events. President Woodrow Wilson was so ill he left the Versailles Peace Conference, which set peace terms following WWI. Many historians believe his absence contributed to the disharmony in Europe after WWI and the rise of WWII.

Answers for today

Answers for why the flu was so widespread in 1918 did not come until years later, and as understanding grew, Taubenberger and other scientists used clues from the pandemic to inform modern treatments.

"[In 1918] the concept of viruses as agents of infectious disease was still relatively new. Influenza wasn't known to exist," he said.

Many believed the flu was instead caused by bacteria. In 1931, it was finally possible to isolate the flu virus.

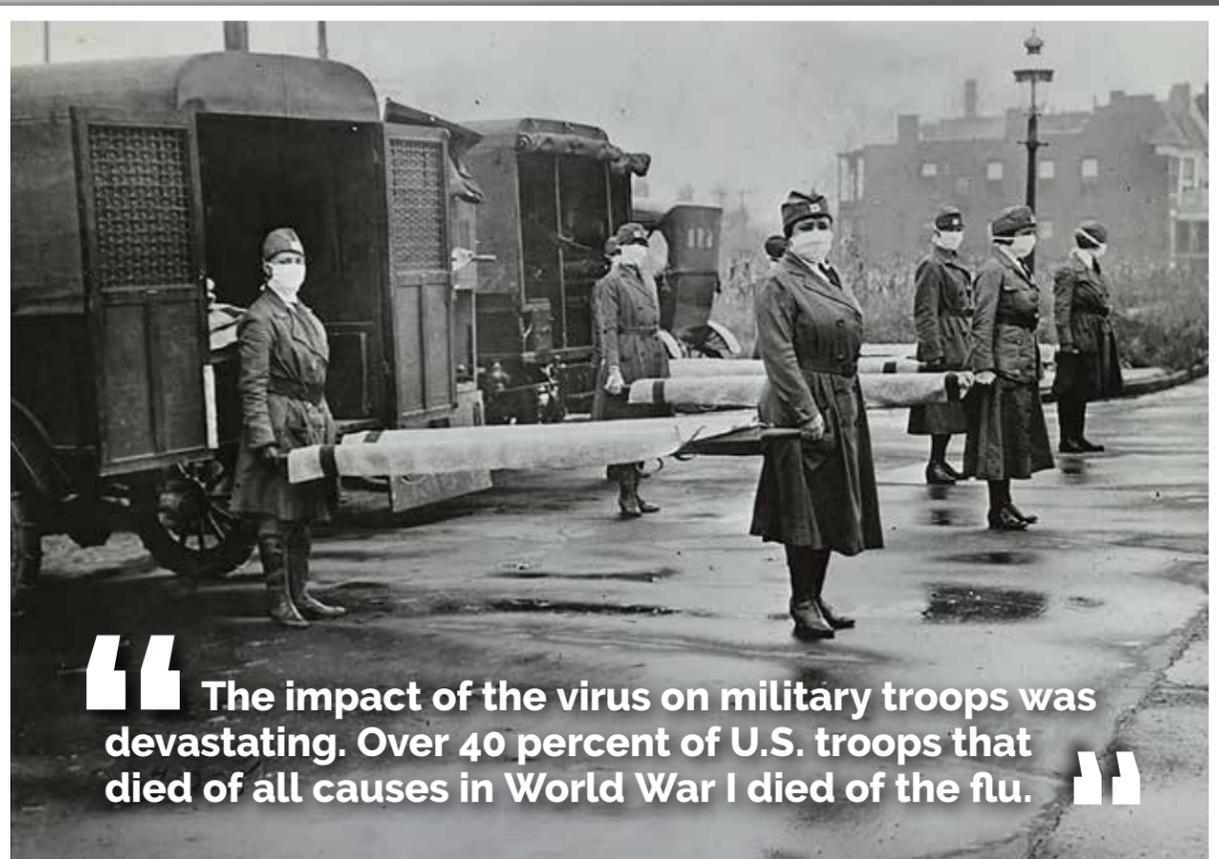
Fast forward to the early 1990s. Taubenberger was working for the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology in a Washington, D.C., building that housed the largest archive of pathology material worldwide.

Taubenberger and his colleagues began searching for tissue samples from someone who died of the



Jeffery Taubenberger, M.D., Ph.D.

Photo by Kevin Morley University Marketing



Library of Congress

1918 flu with the goal of piecing together clues about the pandemic. Eventually, they struck gold with what he describes as “a fingernail sized” piece of lung tissue from a soldier’s autopsy. The researchers were able to produce a partial sequence of the virus and the breakthrough was published in the journal *Science* in 1997.

St. Louis Red Cross Motor Corps on duty Oct. 1918 Influenza epidemic.

institutions partnered to produce copies of the virus to inform vaccine development. The discovery was lauded as a huge breakthrough in flu research.

Looking to the future

The flu’s ability to adapt is what makes it so virulent and persistent, Taubenberger said. The virus continually mutates, can pass among species and thrives in multiple environments.

“If [a] bird virus is finding itself in the pig’s nose, any of those mutations will help it replicate. If you give an antiviral drug, any one of those mutations will help the virus escape from that drug,” he said. “If the patient has pre-existing immunity to the multiple strains of flu, maybe some of those mutations help viruses escape from that immunity and spread.”

Taubenberger and his team have found that the 1918 flu probably originated in birds before spreading to people. He said the coding sequences of modern

bird flu viruses are similar to that of the 1918 virus.

The virologist said that rapid adaptation of flu viruses means that vaccinations must be updated annually and are not totally effective. It takes at least a year to make a prediction about which strain to target and to manufacture the vaccine. In that time, the flu virus mutates.

“We have seen this year that this is not a good long-term strategy,” Taubenberger said. “The dream of the flu community and the public health community is to develop a vaccine that has broad protections.”

Taubenberger aims to start phase one trials on a vaccine in about a year.

“[A vaccine] every five to 10 years instead of a vaccine every year would be great,” he said. “If you had a vaccine that could prevent an acute pandemic, that would be remarkable.”

NEW GROUND

Sanger Series explores flu epidemic's centennial

The VCU Office of Research and Innovation and VCU Libraries launched The Sanger Series in 2014 to address ethical issues and trends that affect research, scholarship and creative expression.

Fueling a vigorous scholarly conversation on both VCU’s campuses, the lectures have been attended by more than 1,200 people.

“The Sanger Series initiated a new and much anticipated conversation across the university about ethics, publishing and scholarly expression at VCU,” said University Librarian John E. Ulmschneider. The slate of nationally prominent speakers has included Brian Nosek, director of the Center for Open Science; Bruce Alberts, former president of the National Academy of Science and editor-in-chief of *Science*; and Lawrence Tabak, principal deputy director, National Institutes of Health. Ten Sanger Series lectures have been presented since the start four years ago. “These scholars and notables help us engage with the

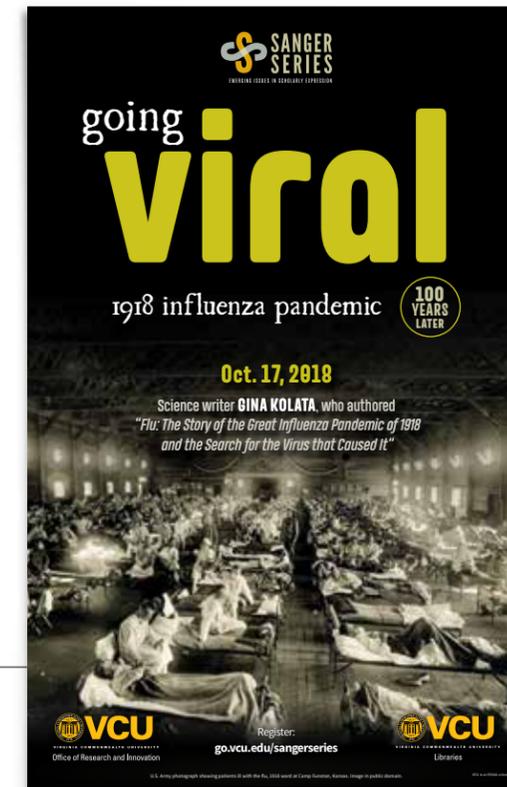
critical issues affecting scholarly discourse as the university accelerates its transformation into a premiere urban research university,” Ulmschneider said.

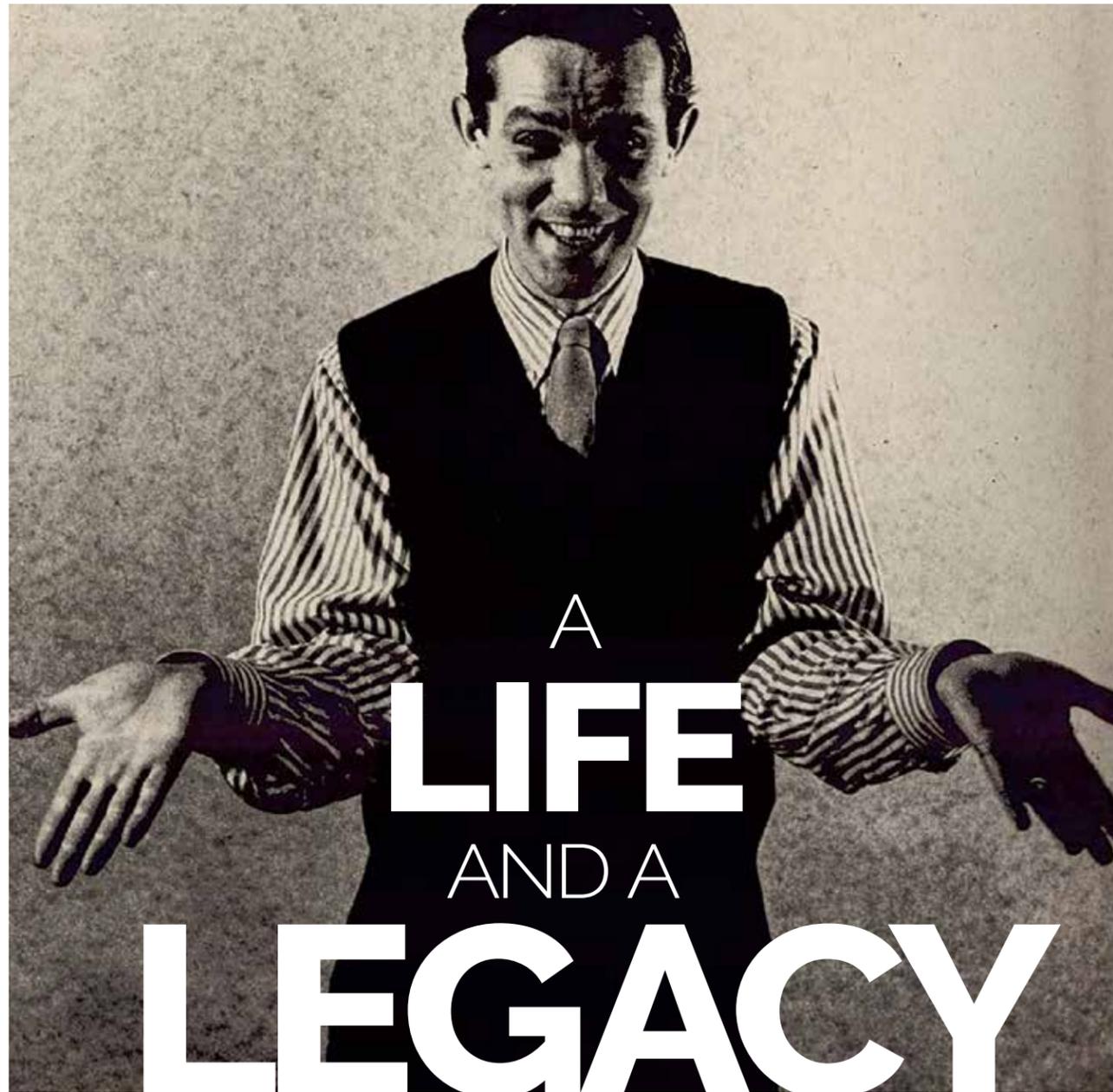
For 2017-18, the lecture series took a fresh turn. It focused on the centennial of the 1918 influenza pandemic. According to Teresa L. Knott, director and associate university librarian, Tompkins-McCaw Library for the Health Sciences, “the 1918 influenza changed the world. Unlike most epidemics, the 1918 influenza took the lives of young, healthy adults. It wasn’t until the turn of the century that the mystery of the influenza virus was unraveled by scientists such as Jeffrey Taubenberger. This year, we’re looking back to better understand future threats.”

• In a February 2018 talk “On the Centenary of the 1918 Flu: Remembering the Past and Planning for the Future,” pioneering virologist and alumnus Jeffrey Taubenberger (see article

on page 84.) considers lessons that can be learned from the 1918 influenza pandemic. He was the first scientist to sequence the genome of the influenza virus that caused the 1918 pandemic.

• In an October 2018 talk “Flu: The Story of the Great Influenza Pandemic of 1918 and the Search for the Virus That Caused It,” reporter Gina Kolata explored the history of the pandemic. “The 1918 flu epidemic puts every other epidemic of this century to shame,” she says. “It was a plague so deadly that if a similar virus were to strike today, it would kill more people in a single year than heart disease, cancer, strokes, chronic pulmonary disease, AIDS and Alzheimer’s disease combined. The epidemic affected the course of history and was a terrifying presence at the end of World War I, killing more Americans in a single year than died in battle in World War I, World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War.”





On the verge of the ICA opening and its signal of a new wave in art in RVA, artists and other guests reflect on the legacy of creative genius Richard Carlyon

VCU Libraries and the VCU Institute for Contemporary Art looked back at the influential artist and VCU School of the Arts faculty emeritus Richard Carlyon (1930-2006) in February, with a one-night program and art showing of several of his video installations at James Branch Cabell Library.

Held in conjunction with a new retrospective exhibition of Carlyon's work, "A Network of Possibilities," at the Reynolds Gallery, "The Life

and Work of Richard Carlyon" marked the recent addition of video works to the Richard Carlyon papers held by Special Collections and Archives at VCU Libraries. It also marked the launch of a campaign to raise a \$1 million endowment for Special Collections and Archives at VCU Libraries.

The event was free and open to the public.

"Richard Carlyon was a legend in his day and he had many, many days at VCU with a teaching career that spanned more than 40 years," said Kelly Gotschalk, director of development and major gifts for VCU Libraries. "In his work, he always was investigating and using new materials and technologies. He was one of Richmond's most progressive artists who constantly pushed the boundaries of contemporary art."

Joseph H. Seipel, interim director of the Institute for Contemporary Art and dean emeritus for the School of the Arts, described Carlyon as "one of the irreplaceable icons of VCU and the School of Arts."

"His incredible range of intellectual

Richard Carlyon was 'one of the irreplaceable icons of VCU and the School of Arts,' according to Joseph H. Seipel, interim director of the Institute for Contemporary Art and dean emeritus for the School of the Arts.

curiosity and uncanny ability to pass his enthusiasm for the arts to students and all of us who knew him was magical. His good spirit and tremendous sense of humor were infectious and an essential part of the DNA of the VCU School of the Arts," Seipel said. "I hope this event somehow telegraphed how important his contributions were to all of our lives. We all, in one way or another, stand on his shoulders."

The video artwork recently acquired by Special Collections and Archives is from the 1990s and early 2000s and includes several works designed to be viewed on multiple monitors as an installation. The works were a gift by Carlyon's wife, artist

Eleanor Rufty, and his son, Jason Carlyon, Ph.D., a professor in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology in the VCU School of Medicine.

"These videos highlight Carlyon's keen interest in applying chance-determined structures to create compositions of movement and sound," said Yuki Hibben, assistant head and curator of books and arts, Special Collections and Archives.



“Carlyon was drawn to the work of John Cage and Merce Cunningham and developed his own chance systems to identify compelling patterns and rhythms from media, language and ordinary actions in modern life.”

Special Collections and Archives is preserving the videos for future use by researchers, she added.

“The video installations have the potential to be re-created for display in galleries and museums,”

Hibben said. “As a highly influential artist and educator in the Richmond arts community, it is vital to preserve [Carlyon’s] works so that artists, students, scholars, curators and other researchers can access and continue to learn from his work in the future.”

Carlyon studied painting and dance at Richmond Professional Institute (now VCU), earning a bachelor’s degree in fine arts in 1953 and an MFA in 1963. He joined the School of the Arts faculty shortly thereafter, teaching in the Departments of Painting and Printmaking, Communication Arts and Design, and Art History until his appointment as professor emeritus in 1996. He received the Distinguished Teaching of Art Award from the College Art Association in 1993, and the Presidential Medallion, VCU’s highest honor, in 2005.

He was awarded three professional fellowships from the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, as well as a fellowship from the Virginia Commission for the Arts to prepare a series of works based



Richard Carlyon was ‘one of the irreplaceable icons of VCU and the School of Arts,’ according to Joseph H. Seipel (above), interim director of the Institute for Contemporary Art and dean emeritus for the School of the Arts.

on the movement patterns of dances by Martha Graham.

In recent years, Carlyon’s work has been featured in solo shows at several Richmond galleries. He remained a highly productive artist until his death in 2006, working simultaneously in painting, drawing and other media. His late works, developed through chance systems, vividly reflect his preoccupation with the visual aspects of language, sound and movement.

He also was instrumental in organizing the Bang art festivals at RPI in the 1960s. The festivals

brought a number of important contemporary artists and dancer/choreographers, including John Cage, Merce Cunningham, Yvonne Rainer, Roy Lichtenstein, Judith Dunn and many others to Richmond, Hibben said.

“His artwork crossed art genres and disciplines, and he introduced many in the Richmond and RPI/VCU community to the most progressive artists and ideas in contemporary art,” she said.



CAMPUS

CROSSROADS

A sampling of Cabell-hosted events 2017-18

VCU President Michael Rao gives a State of the University address in January 2018.

James Branch Cabell Library’s Lecture Hall has quickly become a campus gathering place. Of the more than 300 events hosted in the building, most are in partnership with other departments or in service to the university.

and family programs. Approximately 4,000 family members attend as part of their students’ orientation visits.

JULY 2017

- School Desegregation in Virginia, a pair of National Endowment for the Humanities teacher workshops led by Brian Daugherty, Ph.D.
- Throughout the month, in partnership with Strategic Enrollment Management and New Student Orientations, Cabell Library hosts the parent/family receptions for VCU’s new student

AUGUST

- Throughout the month and again in the fall and spring, Cabell Library hosts Building Inclusive Communities staff development workshops organized by the Division of Inclusive Excellence.
- International students orientation session led by the VCU Global Education Office
- University Resources Fair, a component of new faculty orientation, led by the VCU Office of the Provost

SEPTEMBER

- "Gender Revolution," a documentary screening and panel for the Southern Film Festival, featuring activist Gavin Grimm
- Panel about the new ICA, moderated by architecture critic Edwin Slipek for Modern Richmond Week
- State of the Science Conference on the Employment of People with Physical Disabilities, organized by the VCU Research and Rehabilitation Center
- Board of Visitors meeting
- Student Government Association meeting

OCTOBER

- Burnside-Watstein Award for service in the VCU LGBT+ community, organized by the VCU Division for Inclusive Excellence
- Centennial Celebration, unveiling and dedication of a marker commemorating the 100th anniversary of the founding of Richmond Professional Institute
- Cabell Library serves as a location for gathering feedback from the university community on the VCU Facilities Master Plan.
- VCU Visiting Writers Series: Mark Doty and Lina Maria Ferreira Cabeza-Vanegas
- Silent Witness, a traveling exhibit for Domestic Violence Awareness Month, coordinated at VCU by Amy K. Cook, Ph.D.

NOVEMBER

- The Clothesline Project, a traveling exhibit for raising awareness about sexual assault, coordinated at VCU by SAVES (Students Advocating Violence

Education and Support), a student-led initiative of the VCU Wellness Resource Center

- Luncheon honoring recipients of the Trani Scholars program
- Standing-room-only remote viewing of the VCU Common Book program presentation by Sam Quinones, author of *Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic*
- Ethics and Compliance Open House organized by VCU Audit and Compliance Services
- Primeros Pasos, a program designed to provide Latino high school students and their families with an overview of the college experience and opportunities in higher education, organized by VCU Admissions

DECEMBER

- Board of Visitors meeting
- The Virginia Education Summit hosted by the VCU Office of the President

JANUARY 2018

- President's Rao's State of the University address
- International students graduation ceremony, organized by the VCU Global Education Office

FEBRUARY

- Men of Color Symposium organized by the VCU Office of Multicultural Student Affairs
- Meet VCU's Authors: Vivian Dzokoto, Ph.D.
- Southeastern Writing Center Association Conference
- Memorial for Grace E. Harris, Ph.D.

MARCH

- VCU Association of Black Social Workers Third Annual Cultural Awareness Day
- The Future of Transgender and Non-binary People, a policy-focused panel organized by a Ph.D. candidate from the VCU Wilder School
- Board of Visitors meeting

APRIL

- Two installments of the Meet VCU's Authors series, featuring Matteo Pangallo, Ph.D., and Bernard K. Means, Ph.D.
- Not Anymore at VCU: Creating Cultural Change, a panel in recognition of Sexual Assault Awareness Month
- Tarumoto Short Fiction Prize reading organized by the VCU Department of English
- Friction: Passion Brands in the Age of Disruption, a talk by Jeff Rosenblum, organized by VCU University Relations

MAY

- Board of Visitors meeting
- Dancing with the Richmond Stars, a fundraising gala in support of the VCU Children's Hospital
- Veteran Graduation Recognition Ceremony, organized by VCU Military Student Services

JUNE

- Virginia Chapter of the Society of Research Administrators meeting, hosted by the VCU School of Education
- Association of Public and Land Grant Universities Conference, hosted by the VCU Division of Community Engagement

TOTALS

Library-organized/sponsored events: 124
Events organized by departments/units outside the libraries: 262
Total events: 386

Attendance at library-organized/sponsored events: 8,391
Attendance at events organized by departments/units outside the libraries: 16,639
Total event attendance: 25,030

EVENTS HOSTED BY DIVERSE CAMPUS DEPARTMENTS AND OFFICES

Academic Advising 2
Arts 4
Advising 1
Alumni 3
Biology 2
Business 5
Career Services 10
Chemistry 1
COBE 1
Communications 2
Community Engagement 1
Dance 1
Development and Alumni Relations 1
Education 12
English 4
Equality VCU 1
Equity and Access 7
Ethics and Compliance 1
Facilities 8
Faculty Affairs 1
Global Education 2
Graduate School 1
Health Administration 1
History 4
Honors College 1
Housekeeping 1
Human Resources 7
Humanities and Sciences 3
Humanities Research Center 11
ICA 2
Inclusive Excellence 17
Life Sciences 2
Math 1

Media Support Services 1
Military Student Services 1
Music 1
OMSA 1
Parking and Transportation 5
Patient Counselling 1
Police 8
Pre-professional Health Advising 1
President's Office 13
Procurement Services 1
Provost's Office 21
Psychology 1
Recreational Sports 2
Residential Life and Housing 1
Scholarship Office 1
Social Work 2
Staff Senate 4
Starbucks 1
STEAM Academy 1
Strategic Enrollment Management 9
Student Accessibility and Educational Opportunity 1
Student Affairs 17
Student Conduct and Academic Integrity 1
Student Engagement 1
Student Government Association 2
Student Health 1
Student Success 1
Tech Services 14
Theater 2
Former President Trani's Office 1
Undergraduate Academic Advising Board 1
University College 4
University Counselling 2
University Relations 4
VCU Foundation 2
Vice President's Office 6
Wellness Resources Center 3
Wilder School 4
World Studies 3
Writing Center 2

ROOM USE

Room 250: booked 37% of available days
Room 303: booked 78% of available days
Room 311: booked 48% of available days
Room 420: booked 24% of available days

IMPROVEMENTS TO EVENT SPACES

Room 250 Multipurpose Room

Upgraded smart podium with new computer, monitor and control panel; added camera and mics for teleconferencing; replaced dry-erase wall clings with real dry-erase boards; reupholstered chairs; relocated public computers to higher-traffic areas in the building and eliminated bulky computer stands; replaced lights with brighter bulbs; cleaned walls

Room 303 Lecture Hall

Installed additional handheld mic and two additional lavalier mics, purchased a Catchbox mic, purchased two floor stands and clips for mics, purchased a stage with skirts and a ramp, replaced failed monitor in large video wall and recalibrated color, replaced wifi range extenders

Terrace

Installed irrigation system, installed electronic lock on main door, installed signage with open hours on main door, installed outdoor warning signage, removed benches



PUBLIC

2017-
2018

EVENTS



* Indicates library-organized/sponsored events.

AUGUST 2017

- 8/21 Library Fest *
- 8/23 University Resources Fair (Office of the Provost)
- 8/23 Grad Fest *
- 8/23 WISDM Mothers' Room Dedication *
- 8/25 First Gen Friday

SEPTEMBER 2017

- 9/6 Wednesdays in the Workshop: Technology Petting Zoo *
- 9/6 Southern Film Festival Presents *Gender Revolution* *

- 9/12 A Reading by Pulitzer Prize-winning Author Junot Díaz *
- 9/13 Wednesdays in the Workshop: Experience Virtual Reality and Augmented Reality *
- 9/14 Real Life Film Series Presents *Oxyana* *
- 9/19 Modern Richmond Week VCU/ICA Panel (Modern Richmond)
- 9/20 You Can't Say That!: What Does the U.S. Constitution Protect in Terms of Free Speech? *
- 9/20 Wednesdays in the Workshop: DIY Pop-up Books *
- 9/21 Questioning Cinema Presents *Spotlight* *
- 9/26 State of the Science on the Employment of People with Physical Disabilities (VCU Research and Rehabilitation Center)
- 9/27
- 9/27 Wednesdays in the Workshop: 3D Modeling and Printing: Tips, Tricks and Techniques *

Above:
Library
Fest

- 9/28 Free Speech on Campus Today *
- 9/30 Advance Your Research *
- 9/30 *Paradise Lost* Readathon

OCTOBER 2017

- 10/2 How-to Talks by Postdocs: How to Obtain a Postdoc *
- 10/3 Burnside Watstein Award Ceremony
- 10/4 Centennial Celebration *
- 10/4 Wednesdays in the Workshop: It's Alive!: Stop Motion Animation *
- 10/5 Doing Business in Africa (School of Business)
- 10/6
- 10/5 Silent Witness (Wellness Center)
- 10/12
- 10/5 Visiting Writers Series: Mark Doty and Lina Maria Ferreira Cabeza-Vanegas (Department of English)
- 10/7 Memorial for Richard Priebe (College of Humanities and Sciences)
- 10/9 How-to Talks by Postdocs: Curve Fitting in MATLAB *
- 10/12 Real Life Film Series Presents *Sleepless in America* *
- 10/16 How-to Talks by Postdocs: Think Like a Scientist: Teaching Your Students How to Organize Scientific Concepts *
- 10/23 A Cold and Overcast Day: A Light and Sound Installation by Artist Bob Kaputof *
- 11/3
- 10/23 How-to Talks by Postdocs: Exploring a Protein Structure Using Chimera: Modeling Missing Loops *
- 10/24 Dance Performance in Cabell Library (Department of Dance and Choreography) *
- 10/25 Wednesdays in the Workshop: Find Your Digital Materials *
- 10/26 Friends of VCU Libraries Annual Book Sale *
- 10/30
- 10/30 How-to Talks by Postdocs: How to Conduct Community-based Participatory Research to Address Challenges Related to Ethnic Minorities and Their Health *
- 10/31 Halloween in Cabell *

NOVEMBER 2017

- 11/1 Wednesdays in the Workshop: Getting

- Started with Arduino *
- 11/2 Gilded Age Book Talk *
- 11/6 Clothesline Project
- 11/10
- 11/6 How-to Talks by Postdocs: Implementing Effective Assessments of Student Learning in Scientific Teaching *
- 11/6 Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opioid Epidemic Presented by Sam Quinones (livestreaming only) (University College) *
- 11/7 Parking and Transportation Forum (Parking and Transportation)
- 11/8 Ethics and Compliance Open House (Ethics and Compliance)
- 11/9 Real Life Film Series Presents *Age of Champions* *
- 11/9 Questioning Cinema Presents *Frankenstein* *
- 11/13 How-to Talks by Postdocs: Proximity Ligation Assays: A Powerful Technique to Detect Protein-protein Interactions and Histone Modifications *



Dance Performance in Cabell Library

- 11/14** Science Speak: Communicate Your Research *
- 11/15** Wednesdays in the Workshop: // Po\$t3R D3\$!GN // Best Practices in Poster Design *
- 11/16** VCU Cabell First Novelist Award Night Featuring Jade Chang *
- 11/18** Primeros Pasos
- 11/29** Wednesdays in the Workshop: Podcasting: Everything You Need to Know *

DECEMBER 2017

- 12/1** Open Textbook Workshop *
- 12/6** Wednesdays in the Workshop: 3D Scanning Your World *
- 12/6** Choral Music on the Library Steps (Department of Music)
- 12/6** A Talk by Eva Dillon, Author of *Spies in the Family* *
- 12/11** VA Education Summit (Office of the Provost)
- 12/12**
- 12/11** Mapping Space Research *
- 1/23**
- 12/13** The Virginia Roots of Today's Radical Right and the Crisis of American Democracy: A Talk by Nancy MacLean *

JANUARY 2018

- 1/12** OpenCon Virginia *
- 1/19** Open Textbook Workshop *
- 1/24** State of the University Address (Office of the President)
- 1/24** Wednesdays in the Workshop: Introduction to Game Design *
- 1/26** Global Game Jam 2018 *
- 1/31** Wednesdays in the Workshop: Rapid Prototyping *

FEBRUARY 2017

- 2/1** Visiting Writers Series: Roselyn Elliot, Nathan Long, Emilia Phillips and Michele Young-Stone (Department of English)
- 2/7** Wednesdays in the Workshop: Sewing Machine 101 *
- 2/8** *Frankenstein* Dissected: 21st Century Legacies of a 19th Century Classic *
- 2/8** Real Life Film Series Presents *The Way of All Flesh* *



Eva Dillon, Author of *Spies in the Family*

- 2/8** The Life and Work of Richard Carlyon *
- 2/13** Tech Tuesdays: 3D Modeling *
- 2/14** Wednesdays in the Workshop: VR and AR *
- 2/15** 16th Annual Black History Month Lecture: Stamped from the Beginning by Ibram X. Kendi *
- 2/19** On the Centenary of the 1918 Flu: Remembering the Past and Planning for the Future (Sanger Series: Going Viral Event Series) *
- 2/20** Men of Color Symposium (Office of Multicultural Student Affairs)
- 2/21** Wednesdays in the Workshop: DIY Bookbinding *
- 2/21** Questioning Cinema Presents *Hidden Figures* *
- 2/21** The Ben Franklin's World Project: Podcasting and the Future of Digital History *
- 2/22** Southeastern Writing Center Association Conference (Writing Center)
- 2/23**
- 2/24** Grace Harris Memorial
- 2/27** Tech Tuesdays: Posters *
- 2/28** Wednesdays in the Workshop: Zine Show and Swap *
- 2/28** Meet VCU's Authors: Vivian Dzokoto *

MARCH 2018

- 3/2** First Friday Forum (Retail Merchants Association)

- 3/5** Pick Your Poison Intoxicating Pleasures & Medical Prescriptions *
- 4/14**
- 3/8** Real Life Film Series Presents *In Defense of Food* *
- 3/13** Tech Tuesdays: VR and AR *
- 3/14** VCU Association of Black Social Workers 3rd Annual Cultural Awareness Day (School of Social Work)
- 3/14** Wednesdays in the Workshop: Cel Animation *
- 3/14** Chamber Music in the Library (Department of Music)
- 3/19** Parking and Transportation Forum (Parking and Transportation)
- 3/19** Listening to Progressive Women: The Virginia Feminist Oral History Collection (Milestones: 3-millionth Volume Event Series) *

- 3/21** Wednesdays in the Workshop: Making Music with Ableton *
- 3/21** The Richmond Crusade for Voters: A Book Talk and Signing by Author Kimberly Matthews *
- 3/22** Highlights from the Book Art Collection at VCU Libraries' Special Collections and Archives *
- 3/23** Copyright for Creators: Navigate the Permissions Process *
- 3/23** Society of the Cincinnati Lecture: An Intimate History of the Boston Massacre *
- 3/27** Tech Tuesdays: Podcasting *
- 3/27** Muslim Cool: Race, Religion and Hip Hop in the United States *
- 3/28** The Medicine Wagon Show: Patent Medicines and Miracle Cures of Yesterday and Today Presented by "Doc" Al Schalow *



OpenCon Virginia

- 3/28 Wednesdays in the Workshop: Drones 101 *
- 3/28 Policy Forum: The Future of Transgender and Non-Binary People *
- 3/29 Levis Reading Prize Night Featuring Solmaz Sharif *
- 3/30 African American Male Initiative Launch (College of Humanities and Sciences)

APRIL 2018

- 4/2 How to Read Nancy: The Elements of Comics in Three Easy Panels *
- 4/3 Tech Tuesdays: Video *
- 4/3 Listening to Progressive Women: The Virginia Feminist Oral History Collection (Milestones: 3-millionth Volume Event Series) *
- 4/4 Wednesdays in the Workshop: Leatherworking *
- 4/4 25th Annual William E. and Miriam S. Blake Lecture: The Reformation and the Individual, Presented by Susan Karant-Nunn, Ph.D. *
- 4/5 Visiting Writers Series: Tarumoto Short Fiction Prize (Department of English)
- 4/7 Franklin Street Artistic Mansions: A Lecture and Walking Tour with Charles Brownell, Ph.D. *
- 4/9 2018 Rutan Symposium: Frontiers in Analytical Chemistry (Department of Chemistry)
- 4/10 Tech Fair (Technology Services)
- 4/11 Wednesdays in the Workshop: Podcasting 1 *
- 4/11 33rd Annual Brown-Lyons Lecture: Lincoln and the Jews Featuring Jonathan Sarna *
- 4/12 Not Anymore at VCU (Division of Inclusive Excellence)
- 4/12 Real Life Film Series Presents *Waiting to Inhale* *
- 4/12 The Humanities Respond! Literary and Cinematic Depictions of the 2007 Financial Crisis *
- 4/17 COBE Town Hall: From Research to Recovery (College Behavioral and Emotional Health Institute)
- 4/17 Tech Tuesdays: 3D Scanning *
- 4/18 Wednesdays in the Workshop: Podcasting 2 *
- 4/18 Meet VCU's Authors: Matteo Pangallo *

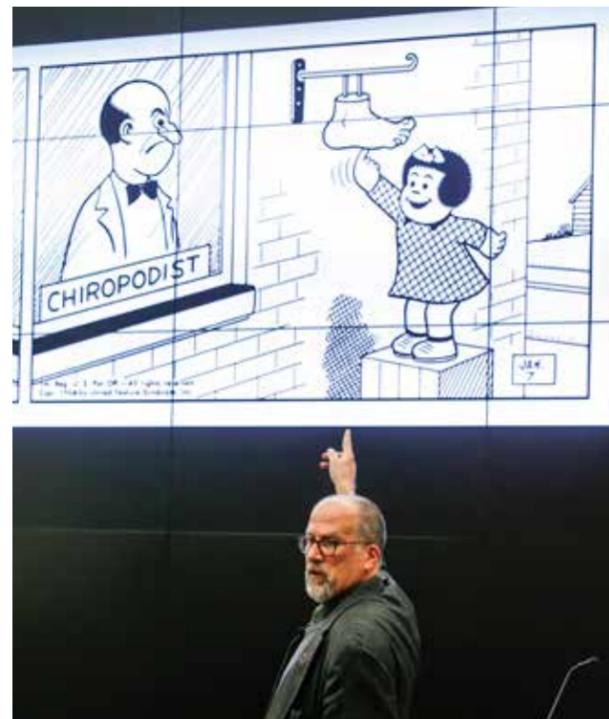
- 4/20 Pop-up Book Wonderlands (Milestones: 3-millionth Volume Event Series) *
- 4/25 Meet VCU's Authors: Bernard Means *

MAY 2018

- 5/2 VCU Alumni Monroe Scholars Book and Author Luncheon featuring Jill McCorkle *
- 5/2 Student Book Collecting Project Reception
- 5/18 Dancing with the Richmond Stars (Children's Hospital)
- 5/30 Experiments in Sound: Build Your Own Contact Mic *
- 5/31 Biology and Medicine Through Mathematics Conference Poster Session (Department of Mathematics and Applied Mathematics)

JUNE 2018

- 6/4 Experiments in Sound: Podcasting 101 *
- 6/25 Higher Education Ancho Mission Initiative (Division of Community Engagement)
- 6/26 -6/28 Association of Public and Land-grant Universities Annual Meeting (Division of Community Engagement)



How to Read Nancy: The Elements of Comics in Three Easy Panels



Above: Featured speaker and author of *Lincoln and the Jews*, Jonathan D. Sarna, Ph.D., stands in front of his presentation.

Below: Levis Reading Prize winner and author of *Look*, Solmaz Sharif reads from her work.

Left: Hallow-screen 2017





e n h a n c e

r e s o u r c e

s t e w a r d s h i p

FUNDING

THE FUTURE

Effort to raise \$1 million endowment underway for Special Collections and Archives

A fundraising priority for VCU Libraries in 2018-19 is to grow a newly established endowment for Special Collections and Archives closer to its \$1 million goal. The endowment will support its rare and unique materials that form primary sources for research and teaching.

In December 2017 VCU Libraries received a substantial boost to start this endowment with a challenge grant of \$30,000 from an anonymous donor. As of June 30, 2018, the endowment will have grown to \$60,000 and will continue to grow until it reaches the \$1 million goal. Many donors have made five-year pledges in order to give at their maximum capacity and some have included the endowment in their estate plans.

The endowment is a significant indicator of VCU's continuing maturation as an academic research library, according to Wesley Chenault, Ph.D., head of Special Collections and Archives at James Branch Cabell Library. "It will provide the Special Collections and Archives departments supplemental funds to acquire rare and unique collections with greater flexibility to keep pace with ever-evolving digital formats and platforms, and to better preserve and reformat at-risk legacy audio-

Below and opposite page: Images from Special Collections and Archives holdings

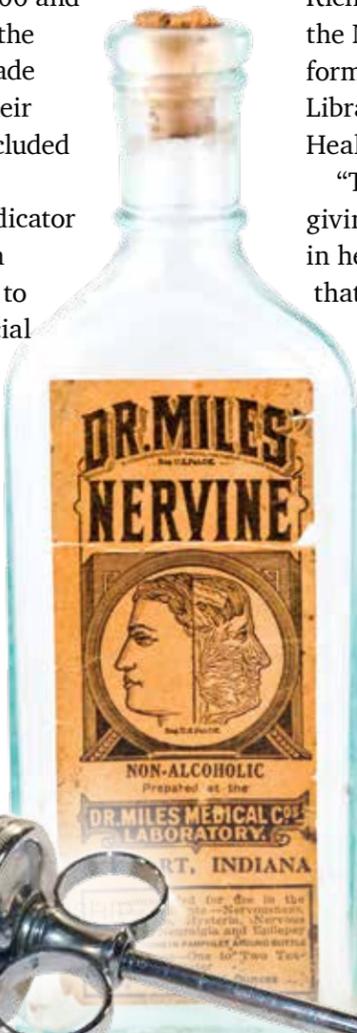
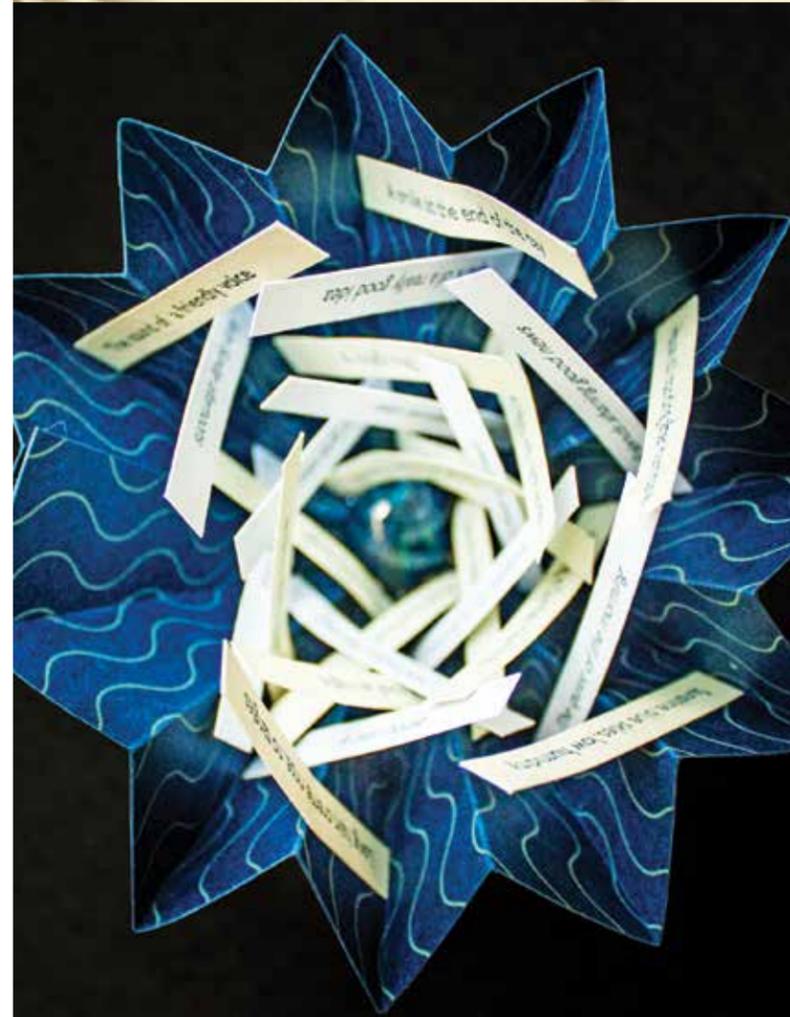
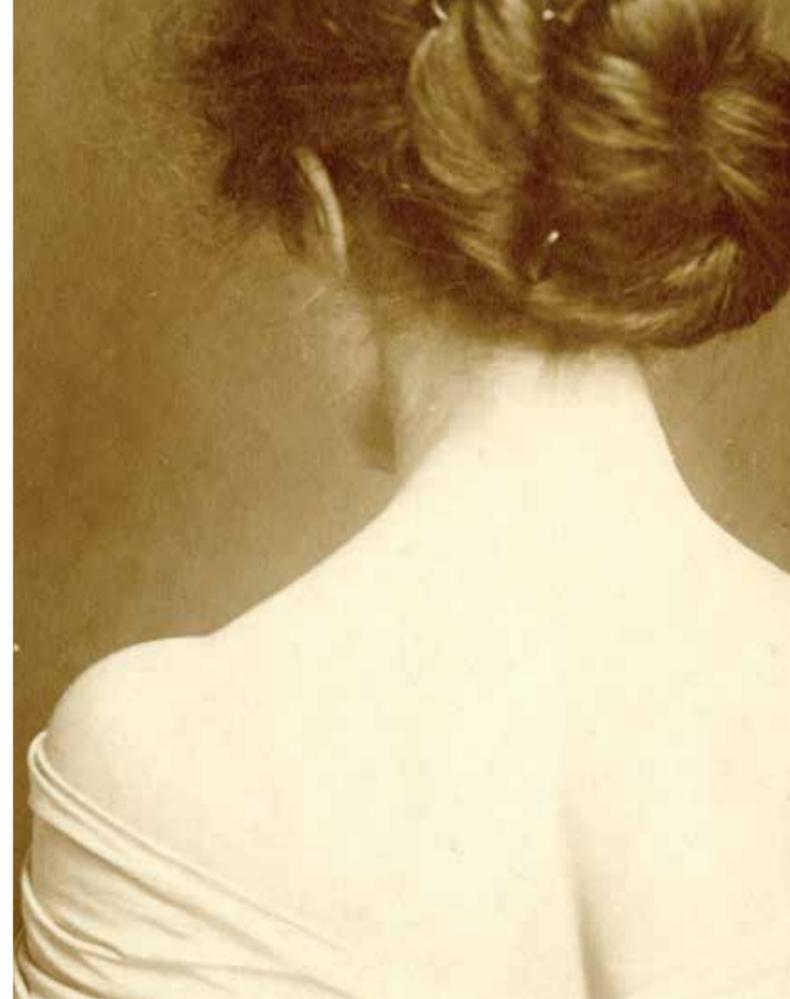
visual materials," says Chenault.

VCU Libraries Special Collections and Archives' focus is in subject areas such as comic arts, artists' books, records of local businesses and civic organizations, Virginia and Richmond community histories, records and materials on the history of healthcare in the Commonwealth, medical artifacts, the regional literary community and more. The historical records of VCU and its two predecessor institutions, the Richmond Professional Institute (RPI) and the Medical College of Virginia (MCV), also form a key part of the collections in Cabell Library or Tompkins-McCaw Library for the Health Sciences.

"This endowment presents a powerful giving opportunity for those interested in helping VCU strengthen collections that reflect VCU's distinctive scholarly community, embrace its legacy and heritage, and contribute unique resources to research and teaching worldwide that are found nowhere else," says Director of Development and Major Gifts Kelly Gotschalk.

"This fund has particular importance for alumni who want to help with the ongoing preservation of VCU historic materials through our University Archives program."

Want to know more about how you can help? Contact the Director of Development and Major Gifts Kelly Gotschalk at kjgotschalk@vcu.edu, (804) 827-1163.



EQUAL ACCESS



FOR ALL

Work focuses on improving online usability for people with disabilities.

An important focus for the libraries' web team and communications staff this year was improving accessibility to VCU Libraries' digital publications and voices – its website, blogs and social media channels. As a university that thrives on community diversity and seeks to include all people and voices, VCU set a priority to make information about its programs and services broadly usable by everyone. Improving web accessibility is part of that priority.

Web accessibility focuses on all users being able to perceive, understand, navigate, interact and contribute to the Web. It involves designing and developing websites, tools and technologies so that everyone, including people with disabilities, can use them. All users benefit from well-built accessible websites.

Accessibility addresses questions like these:

- Can a website be understood without seeing its pictures?

- Would a person using a screen reader gather all the information they need from a social media post?
- Can a person with hearing difficulties use this video?
- Does a website direct users to more information about accessibility policies and services?

The scope of the project is broad, requiring review or editing of some 2,000 webpages and the efforts of 25 staff members.

In the past year, VCU Libraries intensified its accessibility efforts through these actions:

- Audited all Web properties for accessibility.
- Brought the libraries' website into a higher level of compliance with international Web guidelines (WCAG 2.0 AA).
- Added accessibility components to the libraries' website, such as the ability to

navigate the site using a keyboard instead of a mouse, quick-link menus for screen reader users, and more links for quicker access to accessibility information.

- Upgraded to the newest interface for the softwares that power VCU Libraries Search and VCU Libraries Digital Collections, which not only are more accessible, but are more secure.
- Began adding descriptive text to images posted on social media such as Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and Flickr.
- Developed new standards and guidelines for closed captioning videos on the libraries YouTube channel. Retired videos that were outdated and not captioned.
- Added information to Scholars Compass, advising VCU authors on how to make their scholarly documents and writing style more accessible.



“Making our Web pages and applications accessible is more than just making sure we’re compliant. It is part of VCU Libraries’ ongoing commitment to inclusion.”

— Ashley Brewer
Web Systems Librarian

- Library staff received the following training:
- All Web content authors completed an online General Digital Accessibility Basics course and VCU Libraries' Web designer completed an accessibility workshop at a national edUI Conference.
 - More than 15 social media authors were trained in best practices for posting to 20-plus platforms.

Web Systems Librarian Ashley Brewer notes that much of the activity that began in 2017 will continue in the years to come. This effort is a systemic change. “Making our Web pages and applications accessible is more than just making sure we’re compliant. It is part of VCU Libraries’ ongoing commitment to inclusion. By making our Web content understandable and navigable for as many people as possible, we’re helping to ensure equal access to the rich information, resources and functionality VCU Libraries provides across our web platforms,” she said.





VISUALIZING

THE FUTURE

Grant-funded project contributes to national knowledge base about data visualization projects

Imagine standing before a large touch screen where data from your research project is artfully displayed. For your presentation – to a class, to other scholars, to a venture capitalist – you can manipulate and move the numbers around to underscore or prove the points you want to make. The data, literally, can speak for you.

Making data accessible through data visualization is an emerging arena of specialty in libraries that strive to fully support the communication of scholarship

in all its forms. VCU Libraries, through its Innovative Media Department and The Workshop, the multimedia and makerspace in Cabell Library, is exploring what support a data visualization project would need at VCU.

A starting point is a \$22,000 grant received as a member of a national data visualization project funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The grant is administered by North Carolina State University Libraries, which received \$414,000 from the Mellon foundation for the project

“Visualizing Digital Scholarship in Libraries and Learning Spaces” and chose academic partners. Partners are at Brown University, Indiana University, University of California at Berkeley, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and VCU.

The grant supports “the advancement of tools and techniques for developing and sharing large-scale visual content for research.” Grant projects will contribute to the two primary project goals of forming a community of practice of scholars and librarians who work in large-scale multimedia and overcoming technical and resource barriers that limit the

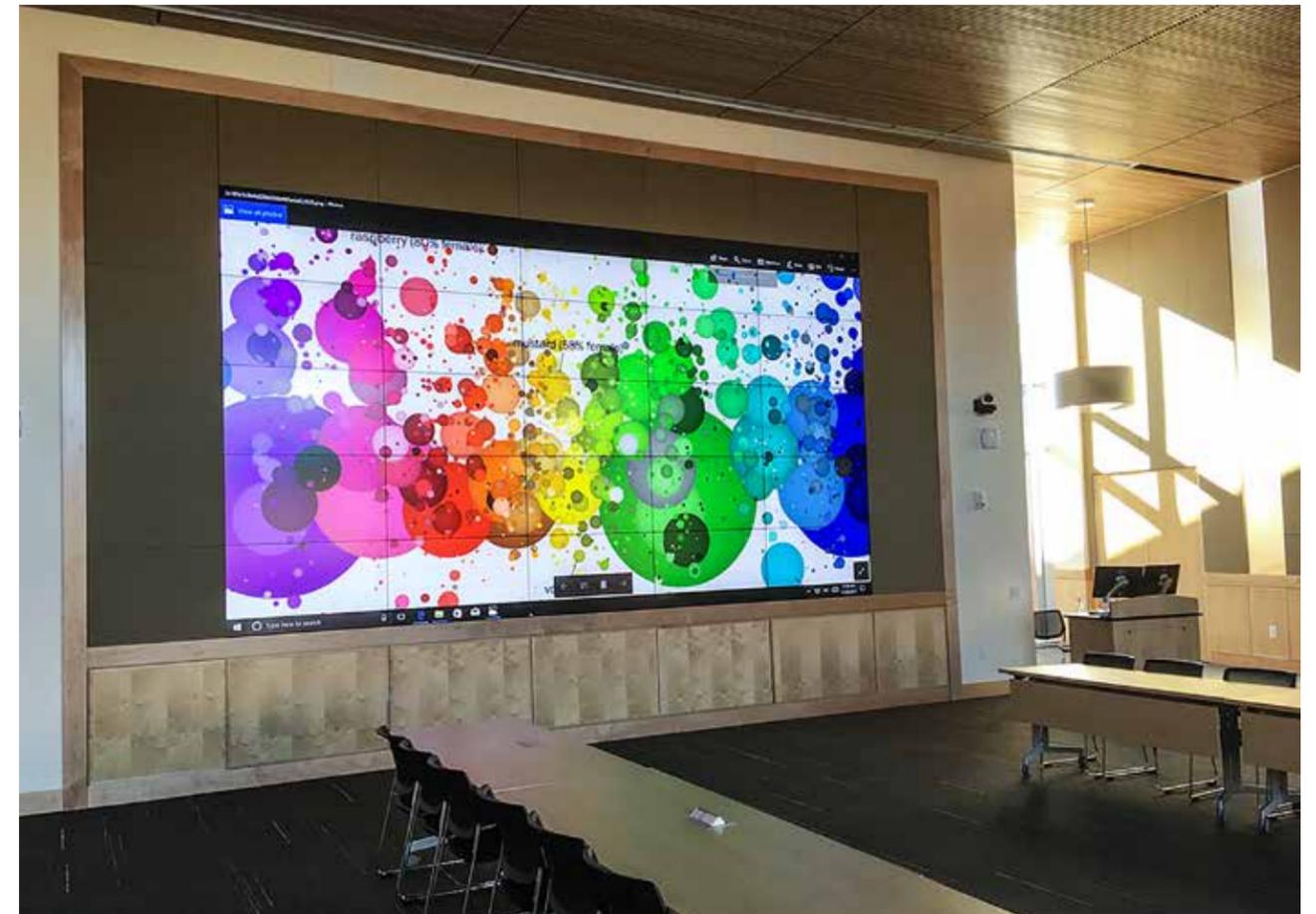
number of scholars and libraries who are able to produce digital scholarship for visualization environments.

“We’re very excited to contribute to the growing community of institutions that are exploring the scholarly use of large-scale visualizations,” says Eric Johnson, head of Innovative Media at VCU Libraries. “We hope to build a resource that will not only help libraries like us that are starting to formalize a visualization program, but will serve as a model for any institution starting to explore other emerging technologies and services.”

VCU Libraries’ project is to

build a common framework of best practices for institutions to follow when establishing visualization environments. The framework, to be concluded by spring 2019, will include:

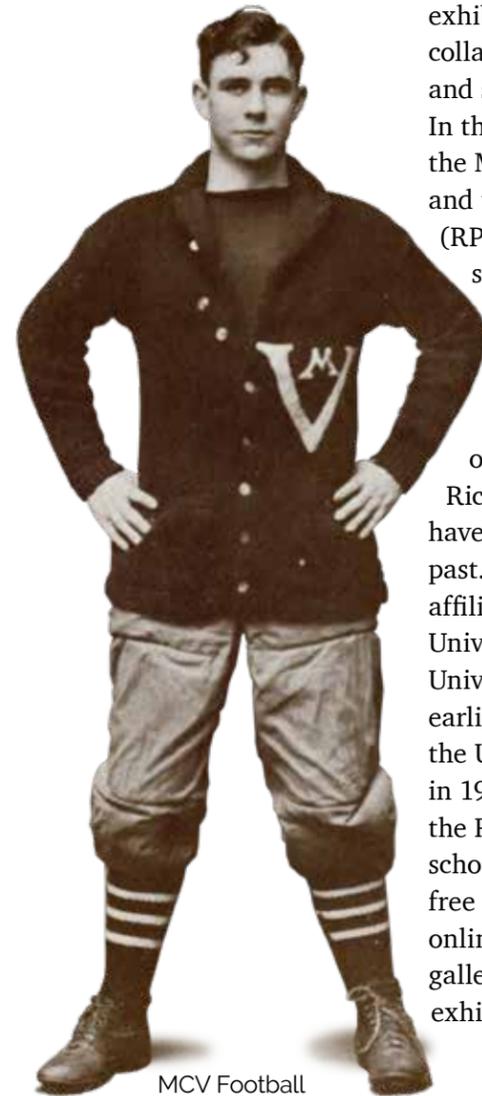
- hosting a one-day meeting of invited peers, who are running visualization projects
- developing a survey for use in local environments to assess faculty needs for data visualization support
- making visits to other sites
- developing a database of projects and hard and software details
- developing a database of scholarly literature on the topic.



MAKING

VCU

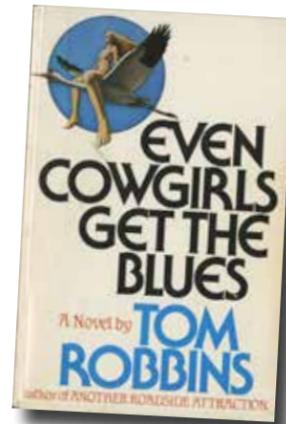
Artifacts
and ephemera
in exhibits capture
our origin story



MCV Football

During the 2017-2018 academic year, Virginia Commonwealth University marked two significant anniversaries in its history: the opening of the first session of the Richmond School of Social Economy on Oct. 4, 1917, and the signing of the bill to create the university on March 1, 1968. Tompkins-McCaw Library also marked two milestones in 2017: Its building at 509 N. 12th St. was 85 and the library, which served early medical students, was 120 in 2017.

“Making VCU” – an exhibition on the fourth floor of Cabell Library and a second exhibit online – explores the relationships, collaborations and networks that gave birth and shaped our urban research university. In their formative years VCU predecessors, the Medical College of Virginia (MCV) and the Richmond Professional Institute (RPI), developed under the guidance and support of their parental institutions Hampden-Sydney College and the College of William and Mary. Strikingly, the schools took root, not in the small college towns of Williamsburg or Farmville, but in Virginia’s bustling urban center of Richmond. Connections to other colleges and institutions have been constant themes in the university’s past. Both RPI and MCV gained from their affiliations with Virginia Tech, the University of Virginia and the University of Richmond, while earlier mergers such as the one with the University College of Medicine in 1913 expanded the status of the Richmond-based medical school. The exhibits are free and open to all. The online exhibit is at <https://gallery.library.vcu.edu/exhibits/show/making-vcu>



Robbins, Tom, “Even Cowgirls Get the Blues cover.”



RPI men's dormitory, 928 Park Ave.



Egyptian Building,



Ora Brown Stokes Perry

BLACK & GOLD

& YOU

University
Librarian
chairs
campuswide
fundraising
effort

Dean of Libraries and University Librarian John E. Ulmschneider served as the honorary chair of the spring 2018 Black & Gold & You campaign, a six-week fundraising event directed at VCU faculty, staff and retirees and VCU Health team members.

Instead of focusing on dollars raised, this campaign measures participation. It was a good year for VCU Libraries, which had the highest participation rate among academic units.

The Black & Gold & You campaign raised \$3 million across VCU and VCU Health and garnered a 12 percent overall participation rate. The participation rate increased significantly, from 9.73 percent in FY17.

Among schools and units, the Development and Alumni Relations department had the highest participation rate: 83 percent of its staff contributed to the campaign. VCU Libraries was No. 2, with 43 percent of its employees making contributions.

Gifts from library employees were directed to various funds at VCU Libraries, including the Library of the Future Endowment and Friends of VCU Libraries. All combined, Library employees gave more than \$20,000 to VCU (not all gifts made

supported VCU Libraries).

The leadership committee, led by VCU Dean of Libraries and University Librarian John E. Ulmschneider, worked to promote the campaign within VCU and VCU Health, resulting in participation rates of more than 35 percent for several units:

- Development and Alumni Relations: 83 percent
- VCU Libraries: 43 percent
- L. Douglas Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs: 40.2 percent
- School of Nursing: 37.4 percent
- School of Business: 37 percent
- College of Health Professions: 36.3 percent

“The increase in the number of donors this year is an indication of how much we all believe in the good work VCU is doing,” Ulmschneider says. “Having so many faculty, staff and retiree donors is also a great sign to our alumni and external donors that an investment in VCU is worth making. Thank you to everyone who made a gift to support VCU in FY18.”

The Black & Gold & You campaign ran April 2-May 16, although all gifts made during the fiscal year counted toward the campaign.



POETIC

MYSTERIES

A diptych from VCU Libraries’ Anderson Gallery Collection, Alma’s Room, 1978, was on loan to the Longwood Center for the Visual Arts for the exhibition “Poetic Mystery: Works from James Bumgardner” from April 14 to May 16, 2018. The retrospective featured more than 50 years of work by the late artist, alumnus and VCU arts educator.

James Bumgardner received his BFA from VCU’s predecessor, the Richmond Professional Institute, and served as a faculty member in the Commercial Art Department and Painting and Printmaking Department until his retirement in 1996. During his tenure, Bumgardner was instrumental in organizing the Bang art festivals which brought cutting-edge artists and performers such as John Cage, Twyla Tharp and Barnett Newman to Richmond in the 1960s. He exhibited at Scott McKinnis, Reynolds Minor, and Page Bond galleries in Richmond, in addition to Gallery K in Washington, D.C., Zola Fine

VCU paintings loaned for James Bumgardner retrospective at Longwood University

Art in Los Angeles, and Katherine Markel in New York City.

Curated by Bumgardner’s wife and fellow artist Judith Bumgardner and VCU professor emeritus Lester Van Winkle, the retrospective focused on Bumgardner’s process and the wide breadth of his work.

The diptych can be seen in Special Collections and Archives at Cabell Library. It hangs in a consultation room; ask at the information desk.

WELCOME BACK, ALUMNI

New program extends borrowing privileges to all VCU graduates

Through a partnership with VCU Alumni, all alumni now have expanded library privileges. This new program is related to the reorganization of VCU Alumni from a paid membership model to one that eliminates membership dues and offers programs and services to all alumni.

Previously, VCU alumni have been able to walk into James Branch Cabell Library or Tompkins-McCaw Library for the Health Sciences and access digital resources, read books and newspapers, and enjoy the use of library spaces and seek the expertise of staff.

Now, VCU alumni also can set up a library account that will grant them borrowing privileges for books in the collection. In addition, they can now obtain an electronic ID that will also allow access to in-building library desktop computers equipped with word processing, spreadsheet, email and other productivity software, as well as network access.

“This opens a new door for VCU Libraries, giving us more direct contact with our graduates,” said Antonia FD Vassar, director of annual giving and donor relations. “The program gives our graduates a closer tie to our vast library resources and gives us in the libraries opportunities to engage more readily and reach out more pointedly to these very important constituents.”

Borrowing privileges

To activate free alumni library borrowing privileges, VCU graduates must register online for a library account. The card, presented with a photo ID, allows alumni to borrow materials from the library

collections at either James Branch Cabell Library or Tompkins-McCaw Library for the Health Sciences.

The library card also gives access to library spaces and services when VCU’s libraries are open. People using a library building after 10 p.m. should be prepared to show your card to enter or remain in the building.

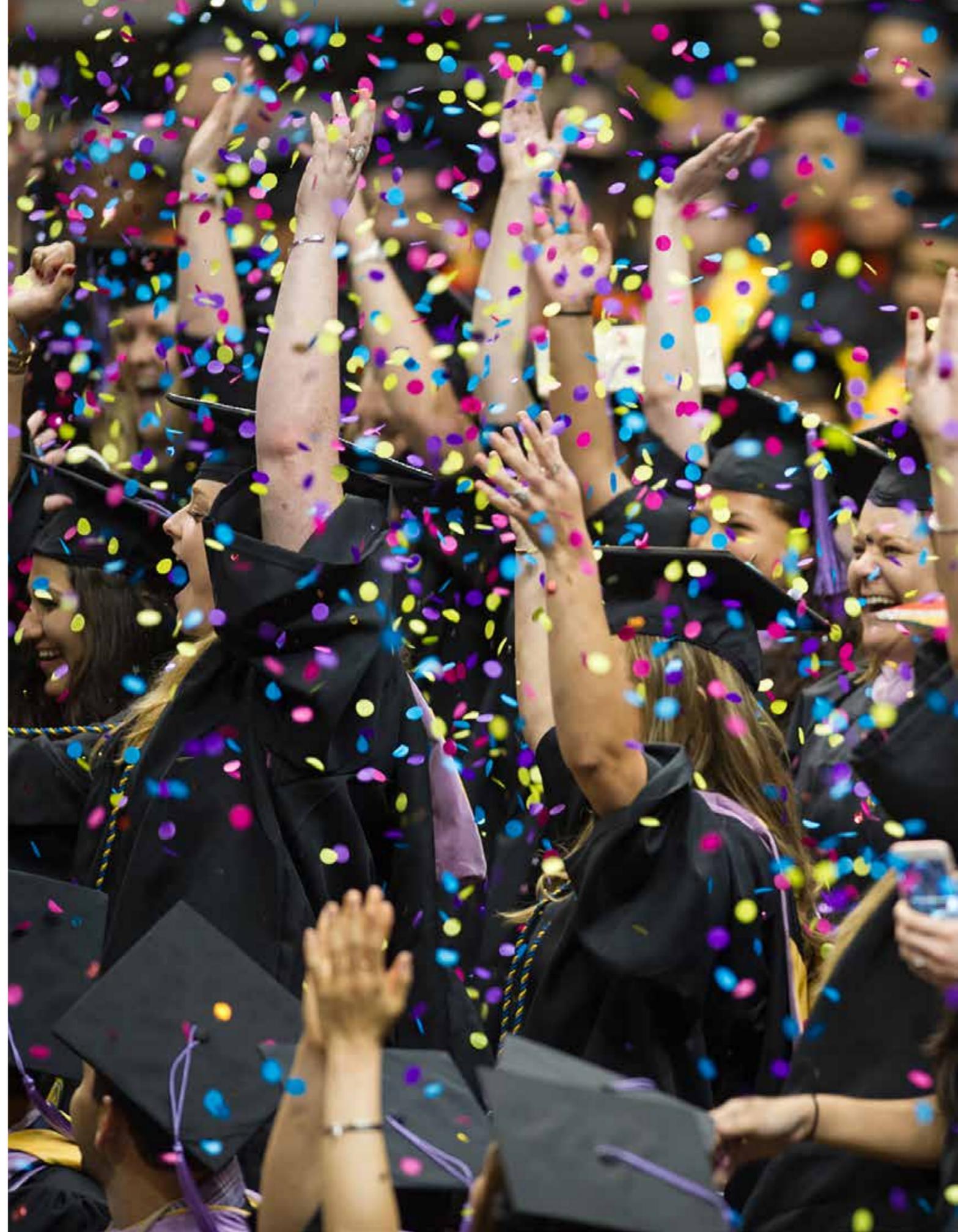
Use of in-building computers

VCU’s libraries have a few guest-access computers that anyone can use for research purposes, including accessing online journals and databases. These computers are first-come, first-served and may be used for only up to one hour at a time. Please see the Information Desk for more information.

Alumni users who need computer access for longer times or on an ongoing basis, can request a VCU eID that will allow login to any library public computer and in-building use of productivity software and online access. To obtain this eID, contact the library development office at (804) 827-1165. This process will take about two weeks. Users will be notified by email with instructions on how to activate the eID and set a password.

Invitations to VCU Libraries events

VCU Libraries sponsors many educational and literary events that alumni can attend for free. Be sure we have your updated email address so that you don’t miss any communications about upcoming events. Alumni who sign up for borrowing cards will be added to certain library mailing lists to receive notices and invitations.



BLAST

FROM THE PAST

Rare baseball uniform comes to Special Collections and Archives

Thanks to a alumnus who found this treasure at an estate sale, a MCV baseball uniform from the 1930s is now part of the medical artifact collection of Tompkins-McCaw Library's Special Collection and Archives.

At the turn of the 20th century, sports were popular outlets for medical students. MCV was fielding a baseball team, dubbed the Medicos and also known as the Sawbones, as early as 1907. A recreational team continued competing through 1956. "Medical students put in so much work in the classroom, it's easy to forget that they had and continue to have a life outside of that," said Andrew Bain, who manages the medical artifact collection of Tompkins-McCaw Library's Special Collection and Archives. "Sports were an important part of student life."

The Medicos baseball uniform was worn by left fielder Earle Carlton Gates, M'32. Gates, who was from Highland Springs, Va., graduated from the University of Richmond before entering medical school. He also received a master's degree at Johns Hopkins University. A captain in the Army Reserves, he was serving as the chief of medical and surgical service at Central State Hospital in Petersburg when he died at 60 in 1968.

His uniform includes a wool baseball cap, wool jersey and pants and two pairs of socks. On the front of the uniform is the name of the team, along with an embroidered skull and bones patch on the sleeve. There is also a bulkier wool sweater, which was probably not part of the actual uniform.

Don Richardson, M'76, discovered the uniform at an estate sale in his Norfolk neighborhood. He immediately contacted the medical school, which in turn contacted Special Collections and Archives, which houses VCU's medical artifacts.

"I was astounded when I saw it," he says. "My jaw dropped." Richardson, an associate professor of medicine at Eastern Virginia Medical School, was especially thrilled with the find because of his family's ties to the MCV Campus. His father, David Richardson, H'55, was on faculty for more than 30 years and served as chairman of the Division of Cardiology from 1972–86.

"I grew up at MCV, so this has special meaning," the younger Richardson says. "But everyone can enjoy this piece of history. We can all learn from it. I had no idea MCV even had a baseball team."

The uniform is on display at Tompkins-McCaw Library for the Health Sciences.





CENTENNIALS,

CELEBRATIONS & **COMMEMORATIONS**

New exhibit in the School of Nursing reflects on past milestones

Vintage nursing uniforms, portraits, photos and architectural elements are a few of the items that help tell the story of 125 years of nursing education in the VCU School of Nursing's 2018 Heritage Room exhibit. Located just off the main lobby of Cabaniss Hall, this year's historical look back at nursing is titled "Centennials, Celebrations and Commemorations." It's a visual review of previous milestones — 1938 (Medical College of Virginia's centennial), 1968 (School of Nursing's

75th anniversary), 1993 (their centennial) and 2013 (120th anniversary).

Selecting items from 125 years of archival materials was the task of University Archivist Jodi Koste. "I picked items to move the story along," she said of her choices from the large collection of nursing school archives and artifacts managed by Special Collections and Archives at Tompkins-McCaw Library for the Health Sciences. Koste heads that department. "The exhibit is an

opportunity to let people see what we have and it broadens understanding about the history of our nursing program."

Added the School of Nursing's Dean Jean Giddens, Ph.D., "The School of Nursing has achieved many firsts and other important milestones during our 125 years of operation. Our Heritage Room's latest exhibit provides a meaningful window into our past and reminds us how far we have come."

Displayed with a timeline that illustrates the history of nursing at MCV are replicas of student uniforms worn in the first quarter of the 20th century and made in 1968 at the time of the 75th anniversary of the founding of the school. Crisp white aprons and gingham and striped blouses represent past nursing programs that have been folded into the MCV nursing school over the years — Old Virginia Hospital (1893-1913), Old Dominion Hospital (1895-1903), Virginia City Hospital (1914-1922), Memorial Hospital 1903-1924) and St. Philip School of Nursing (1920-1926).

"Most nursing schools started as training programs connected to hospitals where the students would take care of patients," Koste explained. "Students lived in school-provided housing, took classes and worked at the hospital." Classes, labs and dormitories were all in one building adjacent to the hospital.

To give visitors a glimpse into what life was like, the School of Nursing has recreated the front parlor where students would greet guests in their 1928 building on Broad Street. The original mantelpiece, saved when the building was demolished in 2006, and furnishings similar to sofas and chairs of the time portray the formality of social visits. A portrait of nursing program founder Sadie Heath Cabaniss hangs above the carved mantel, and nearby hangs a watercolor by Virginia artist P. Buckley Moss,

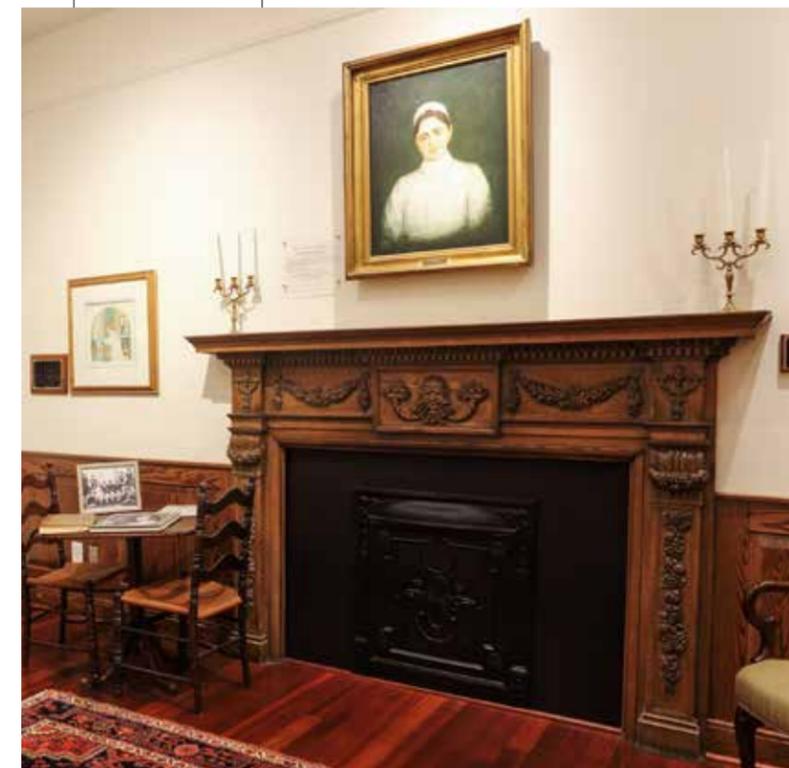
"The School of Nursing has achieved many firsts and other important milestones during our 125 years of operation. Our Heritage Room's latest exhibit provides a meaningful window into our past and reminds us how far we have come."

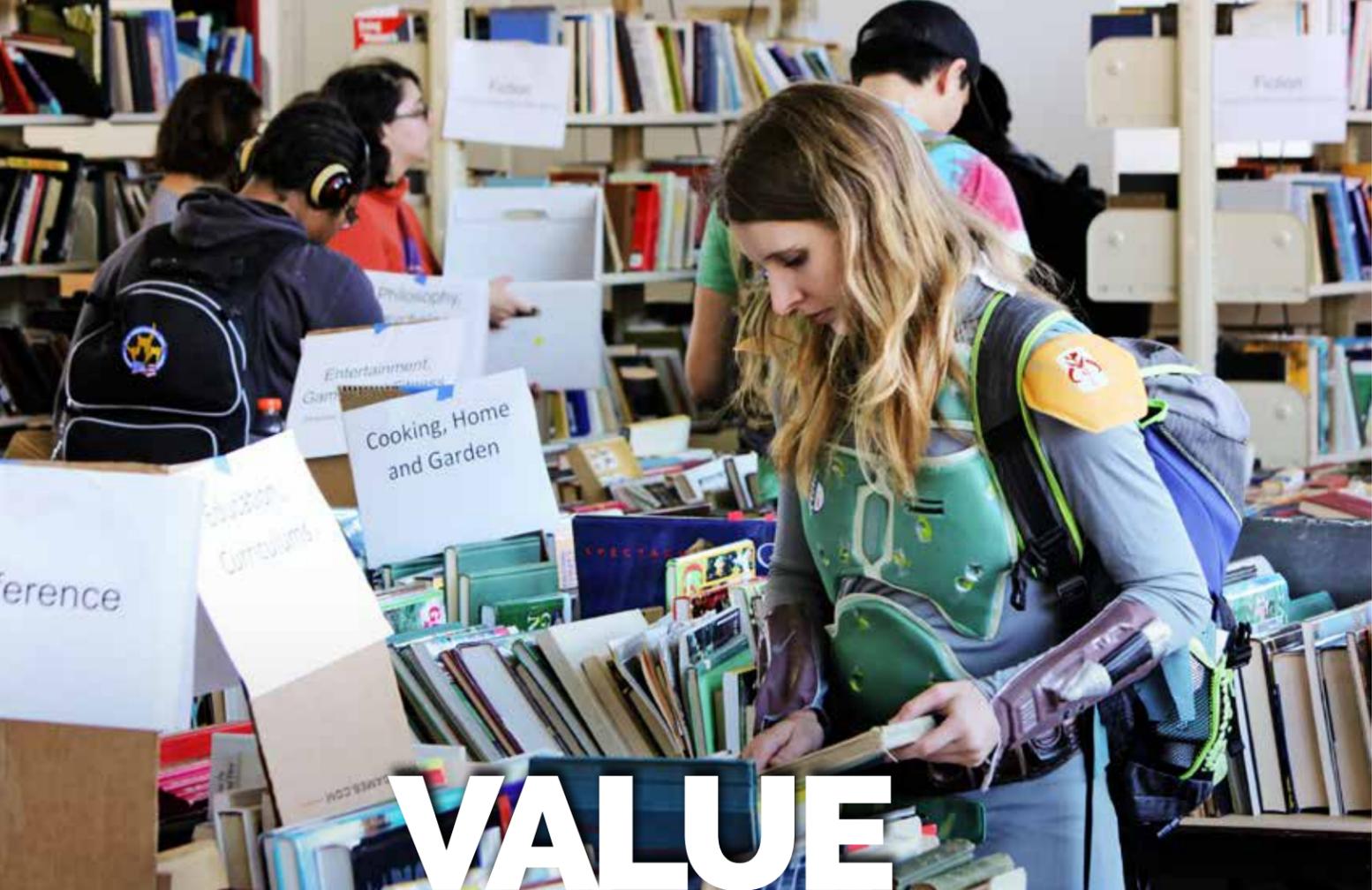
— Jodi Koste,
University Archivist

mother of alumna Mary Moss Donnelly. Prints of the painting have been used to help fundraise for a faculty endowment during the school's centennial in 1993. Also on display are bronzed nursing school caps, photos of classes, pins, nurse dolls, a silver tea service and a questionnaire issued to nursing school alumnae in 1938 to gather information about student life.

All of the documents and artifacts help visitors understand the evolution of nursing at VCU, including the separate and segregated St. Philip School of Nursing for African American women, which closed in 1962 after 42 years. Programs from St. Philip homecoming events organized by alumnae and group photos of graduates reference their legacy of loyalty and tight knit community. — *By Elizabeth Cogar*

Centennials, Celebrations and Commemorations is open for visitors to enjoy Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. through 2018. Cabaniss Hall is located on the MCV Campus at 1100 E. Leigh St.





VALUE ADDED

Friends board restructures and intensifies volunteer efforts in support of VCU Libraries

The Friends of VCU Libraries organization has supported a range of activities of the academic libraries on both campuses since its founding in 1983. This year, it completed an intentional and meaningful transformation that will benefit VCU Libraries far into the future.

As the 2017-18 academic year ended, the Friends could reflect upon a period of change, as well as increased productivity and heightened import and impact of their work on behalf of libraries, students and faculty. Over the past several years, the Friends have matured and entered an exciting new era in their service to

VCU Libraries. Notable elements of this transformation include:

- **Redefining the group's purpose** from that of a membership society who benefitted from their support with perks such as borrowing privileges and VIP author events and social times to a giving society of committed annual donors. That significant change in identity began in 2015-16 through the leadership of the board president and with consistent messaging and information sharing from the development office that underscored the critical role that Friends as donors play in the life and success of the libraries. The

The library formed a partnership through the Division of Student Affairs with the VCU Emerging Leaders Program. First-year students now work with Friends and other volunteers for the hundreds of hours required to prepare for and run the five-day book sale.

board of the Friends of VCU Libraries has had a 100 percent giving rate every year since 2015.

- **Embracing a creative, new business model for their annual book sale.** For 20-some years, the Friends managed a large annual book sale with considerable staff assistance. In 2016, after a three-year hiatus, library leaders decided to relaunch the book sale as a community engagement project with less emphasis on the event as a fundraising project. To ease burdens on the staff, the library formed a partnership through the Division of Student Affairs with the VCU Emerging Leaders Program. These first-year students now work side-by-side with Friends and other volunteers for the hundreds of hours required to take in book donations and to prepare for and run the five-day book sale. The student organization receives a portion of the book sale's earnings, which financially support their leadership program's six to eight annual service projects on campus. The Friends' openness and flexibility in adopting this new system are to be commended. This labor and revenue sharing model could be replicated at other libraries and it has many advantages, not the least of which is cross-generational interaction in which Friends mentor students and Friends learn from students. The student group raises its needed funds by providing meaningful service to the campus community and beyond in helping with the book sale. This partnership with students has increased student participation in the book sale.

- **Taking a visible and tangible leadership role in making cash and planned gifts and assisting in soliciting major gifts for the New Building Fund.** James Branch Cabell Library, VCU's main library, underwent a 93,000-square-foot expansion and a 63,000-square-foot renovation that was unveiled in 2016. Friends were instrumental in meeting a \$1 million challenge grant in 2017 from the Cabell Foundation and they made many generous



“Organizational change is challenging to manage and this effort to focus the Friends where we need them the most is greatly appreciated.”

— Kelly Gotschalk,
Director of
Development and
Major Gifts

gifts at levels that would have been unheard of a few short years ago. “These donors had a desire to do something significant for VCU Libraries,” says Director of Development and Major Gifts Kelly Gotschalk (B.F.A. '90/A; M.F.A. '97/A). “They learned about philanthropy and worked with the development office to make gifts that met their needs and that of VCU Libraries.” Gifts made possible in part through the Friends included a \$100,000 pledge from the VCU Alumni Association. Many Friends and Friends Board Members stepped forward and made gifts to name rooms or workstations in the new building. Ranging from a work table to a classroom, more than 75 naming opportunities were recognized. These gifts are visible in the building and inspire the next generation of philanthropists as they go about their work in the library.

- **Reorganizing the board's committee structure to best meet the current and future needs of VCU Libraries.** The 2016-18 board president, Stephanie L. Holt, took the board through a year-long SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) analysis and a strategic review of its purpose juxtaposed against VCU Libraries' needs. This leadership effort resulted in a refreshed organizational structure in 2018 that streamlines committee work. Some functions that were at one time reliant on Friends volunteers have in recent years been professionalized within a growing library staff. These areas include programs, events and special collections priorities. Therefore, some volunteer roles and committees that are no longer essential to VCU Libraries were retired. “Organizational change is challenging to manage and this effort to focus the Friends where we need them the most is greatly appreciated,” said Gotschalk. “It will reap important long-range benefits in that our vital volunteers will be more engaged where their work matters most.”

Member bios of current Friends of VCU Libraries

<https://www.library.vcu.edu/about/giving/boards/volunteer-biographies/>

NEW FACULTY 2017-18



▲ As part of the Academic Outreach department, Science Research Librarian **Erin Carrillo** works with faculty and students in science and engineering to support their research and learning.

Her research interests include data management. She also has keen interests in studying and remedying the underrepresentation of women and minorities in STEM fields and is also interested in how universities and libraries can better meet the needs of underserved populations.

Before joining the faculty at VCU Libraries in 2018, she was a science librarian at University of Wisconsin-Madison. She holds an M.S.L.S. from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and a B.S. in zoology from the University of Florida.



▼ New to VCU Libraries in spring semester 2018, **Nina Exner** brought with her more than 20 years experience as a practicing librarian in academic and health sciences libraries to VCU Libraries. As the Research Data Librarian, she brings to bear vast teaching interests and knowledge of best practices in managing research

studies. She concentrates on graduate student and faculty support through teaching, consultation, scholarly communications and collaboration with sponsored research professionals. Her expertise and teaching experience include grant writing. Her own research interests center around

the organizational and information effects on developing researchers. She is a doctoral candidate in library science at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. Her dissertation study is on the development of research skills and competencies by academic librarians. She holds a Masters of Arts in Liberal Studies with a certificate in global studies from the University of North Carolina-Greensboro as well as a Masters of Library Science from North Carolina Central University in Durham. As an undergraduate, she had a biology major and a chemistry minor for her Bachelors of Science degree from UNC-Chapel Hill.



▲ **Laura Muskavitch**, accessions and processing archivist, works with archives and manuscript collections held by Special Collections and Archives at Cabell Library. She has broad responsibilities for the intake, appraisal, accessioning, and arrangement and description of collections, in both analog and digital formats, so that they are discoverable and available for research. Muskavitch also oversees the department's preservation program related to supplies and spaces for collection storage, including environmental and pest scanning. Prior to joining VCU Libraries as library specialist for reference and processing, she worked with archives and manuscripts at the American Civil War Museum and the History Associates Inc. A certified archivist, Muskavitch holds a B.A. in history and international relations from the College of William and Mary and a M.A. in history with a certificate in museum studies from the University of Delaware.



▲ Public Affairs Research Librarian **Stephani (Nia) Rodgers** works with faculty, students and staff in Political Science department and the L. Douglas Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs to support their research and learning needs. She provides classroom instruction sessions as well as one-on-one consultations. Rodgers coordinates the VCU Libraries' government document collections and has a great interest in providing public access to government information. She holds a B.A. in political science, the M.A. in homeland security and emergency preparedness from VCU, and the M.L.I.S. from the University of South Carolina. Her research interests include access to government documents, national security, intellectual freedom and open access.

Tim Siegel is the new enterprise systems librarian, responsible for enabling exemplary discovery of and workflow efficiencies for library collections. He works with a suite of library applications that are used for the entire lifecycle of our collections from ordering to online public search and access. He holds a master's in library science from Clarion University in Pennsylvania and a master's of arts in management and leadership from Liberty University in Lynchburg, Va. He also holds a bachelor's in mathematics from Liberty. Previously, he held various jobs of increasing responsibility at Liberty. Before joining the staff at VCU Libraries in 2017, he was the systems librarian at Liberty University.

FACULTY & STAFF HIGHLIGHTS 2017-18

HONORS, KUDOS AND LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES

Teresa L. Knott, Director of Tompkins-McCaw Library for the Health Sciences and Associate University Librarian, completed her term as **president of the board for directors of the Medical Library Association**, which represents more than 4,000 health sciences information professional members and partners around the world.

Knott was selected to serve as a **mentor in the 2017-2018 NLM/AAHSL Leadership Fellows Program**, sponsored by the National Library of Medicine and the Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries.

Emily Hurst, Head of the Research and Education Department at Tompkins-McCaw Library, was **named Deputy Director**.

Hurst serves the Medical Library Association as 2017-18 **Rising Stars Program Director**.

Research Librarian **Roy Brown** was recognized with the **Mid-Atlantic Chapter of MLA (MAC/MLA) Award for Professional Excellence by a New Health Sciences Librarian** 2017.

Brown also served on the jury for the the Brodman Award for the Academic Medical Librarian of the Year 2017-2018. **Brown** also served as a Doody Core Title's Reviewer for essential health sciences collections and as a Magnet (nursing conference) Abstract Reviewer, significant honors.

Cabell Special Collections and Archives Head **Wesley Chenault** was appointed to the program committee for the 2019 national joint conference for the Society of American Archivists and the Council of State Archivists in Austin, Texas.

Assistant Head for Access Services **M. Teresa Doherty** co-chaired a working group within the American Library

Association Intellectual Freedom Committee that created an important new resource, "Social Media Guidelines for Public and Academic Libraries."

Research Librarian **John Cyrus** was invited to serve on the Editorial Board of the Journal of the Medical Library.

Cyrus also serves on the Research and Evidence-Based Practice Curriculum Committee for the Medical Library Association.

Research Data Librarian **Nina Exner** co-chaired the Empirical Librarians regional conference and serves on the editorial board of Public Services Quarterly, a national peer-reviewed journal in librarianship and on two national committees tied to the National Organization of Research Development Professionals and the American Library Association's Library Research Round Table.

Assistant Head in Special Collections and Archives **Yuki Hibben** successfully petitioned for recertification with the Academy of Certified Archivists.

Assistant Head for Teaching and Learning **Megan Hodge** successfully ran for re-election in spring 2018 to a second term through 2021 on the American Library Association (ALA) Council.

Hodge also chaired the Association of College and Research Libraries Instruction Section's Peer-Reviewed

Instructional Materials Online (PRIMO) Committee. She also served as a member of the section's Advisory Council and Peer-Reviewed Instructional Materials Online (PRIMO) Criteria Revision Task Force.

Teaching and Learning Librarian **Andrea Kohashi** served as vice chair of membership for the national College Book Art Association.

Scholarly Communications Librarian **Hillary Miller** was selected as a fellow in the SPARC Open Education Leadership Program, an intensive professional development program to empower library professionals with the knowledge, skills, and connections to lead successful open education initiatives that benefit students.

Miller and Associate University Librarian for Scholarly Communications and Publishing **Jimmy Ghaphery** served as System Leaders for the VIVA Open Textbook Network program, which promotes affordable texts throughout Virginia by making copies available through the Virtual Library of Virginia (VIVA).

Accessioning and Processing Archivist **Laura Muskavitch** served on the program committee for the 2018 Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference in Hershey, Penn.

Jeanne Scott, daytime supervisor and circulation manager, received the Virginia Library Association's

Outstanding Professional Associate Award for 2018, presented at the Virginia Library Association's Professional Associates Forum in May, 2018. She was also named Chair of the Virginia Library Association's Professional Associates Forum 2018-2019.

Teaching and Learning Librarian **Jenny Stout** served as a member of the Association of College and Research Libraries University Libraries Section's Professional Development Award Committee.

Behavioral and Social Sciences Librarian **Nita Bryant** served as the Vice president for alumni and faculty relations for the VCU Chapter of Phi Kappa Phi.

Humanities Research Librarian **John Glover** was elected secretary of the ACRL's Literatures in English Section.

Glover served on an MFA Thesis Committee for a student in English and facilitated a Fulbright Summer Writing Group, Summer 2018.

2017-18 COMMUNICATIONS AWARDS

Academic Library Advancement and Development Network – a professional network of academic library fundraising professionals – honored VCU Libraries in the **Stewardship Materials** category for the 2017 **holiday card**. The laser cut card featured a detachable snowflake ornament with Rams horns embellishments and was designed by Innovative Media Head **Eric Johnson**. The handcrafted cards were manufactured in The Workshop under the supervision of Director of Annual Giving and Donor Relations **Antonia Vassar**, Development Assistant **LaJuan Neal** and **Johnson**.

Of the **American Library Association's 2018 PR Xchange Award Winners** had 411 submissions, VCU Libraries received one award in the category of **Bibliographies/Booklists/Materials promoting Collections, Services, Resources** for the **Social Welfare History Image Portal**. Digital Outreach and Special Projects Librarian **Alice Campbell** is the project manager and the team that built the portal includes Head of Digital Engagement **Erin White**, Web Designer **Todd Easter**, Web Applications Engineer **Cody Whitby** and Graduate Research Assistant **Catherine Paul**.

The Virginia Public Relations Society honored two VCUL projects with its Capital Awards. The 2017-18 Year in Review magazine, "**Epicenter**" was honored in the **publications category**. Many in the libraries wrote or edited materials for the award-winning publication. And the **#VetYourSources social media campaign** organized by Associate University Librarian for Research and Learning **Laura W. Gariepy** and Director of Communications and Public Relations **Sue Robinson** won an award in the social media category.

PRESENTATIONS & PUBLICATIONS

A sampling of some of VCU Libraries' work that informs librarianship and best practices in academic and medical libraries

Arendt, J., Peacemaker, B. & Miller, H. (preprint). *Same question, different world: Replicating an open access research impact study*. College & Research Libraries.

Arendt, J., Hargraves, R.S., & **Roseberry, M.** (2017). *University library services to engineering summer campers*. Paper presented at 2017 ASEE Annual Conference & Exposition, Columbus.

Olex, A. L., Wolen, A., **Arendt, J.**, **Gau, K.** & Moeller, F. G. (2018). *Short courses: Flexible learning opportunities*

in informatics. Poster presented at AMIA 2018 Informatics Educators Forum, New Orleans.

Secret, M., **Bryant, N.** & Cummings, C. (2017). *Teaching an interdisciplinary graduate level methods course in an openly-networked connected learning environment: A glass half full*. *Journal of Educators Online*, 14(2).

Bryant, N., & **Cyrus, J.** (2017). *Open For Comments: Information literacy competencies for addiction studies*. Presented at the SALIS AMHL Conference, University of

Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester.

Bryant, N., & **Cyrus, J.** (2017). *Addiction Studies Programmes, Educational Needs, and Capacity Building: The Role of Information Literacy*. Presented at the 2nd World Conference, International Consortium of Universities on Drug Demand Reduction, Prague, Czech Republic.

Brody E. & **Cyrus J.** (2018). *Teaching PubMed: Staying in the Shallows or Diving Deep*. Lightning Talk presented at the Annual Meeting of the Medical Library Association, Atlanta.

VAST CHANGE IN PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

The **universitywide Human Resources Redesign** demanded much from VCU Libraries' managers as they adapted to a new classification system for all positions at the university. The goal-driven, merit-based system opens new possibilities for classified and professional staff development, clearer career paths and advancement and income potential.

As part of the change, VCU Libraries faculty were formally recognized as members of the teaching and research faculty at VCU. This is an important acknowledgement of the key role librarians play in the academic and research enterprise.

Brown, R. (2018). *Empowering Nurses and Mentors with an Innovative, Online Roadmap for Evidence-Based Practice*. Presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Medical Library Association, Atlanta.

Henderson, M., Gau, K., Arendt, J., Roseberry, M. & Cyrus, J. (2017). *Providing support for an interdisciplinary research group with a multidisciplinary informationist team: Is it effective?* Paper presented at MLA

Barkley S.R. (2017). *Visualizing Space Usage Patterns in a Health Sciences Library*. Poster presented at: Access Services Conference, Atlanta.

Brewer, A., Siegel, T. (2018). *Getting away with it: rapidly deploying the new Primo UI in 90 days or less*. Presented at Ex Libris Users of North America.

Brewer, A. (2018). *Your Your Web Team is ruining your website and bringing everybody down: how to manage a library website with minimal resources and maximum buy-in and still enjoy your job*. Presented at Designing for Digital.

Brewer, A., Lo, L. (2017). *Utilizing public services staff to test web assessment tools and create a sustainable iterative usability testing framework*. Presented at Empirical Librarians.

Brody E.R., McGraw K.A., Renner B.R. (2017). F1000 Workspace. *Journal of the Medical Library Association*, Vol. 105, No. 1, pp. 98-101.

Byrd, S. (2018). *Sharing the Load: Distributing Admin Rights*, Lightning Talk, Virginia Digital Commons Users Group, Harrisonburg.

Campbell, A. & Paul, C. (2017). *The Social Welfare History Image Portal: Reinventing the Vertical File*. Project

briefing presented at the Coalition for Networked Information Membership Meeting.

Coghill, D.E., Stout, J.A. & McCaskill, R.A. (2017). *How Was Your Meal? Post-instruction Assessment of FY Classes*. In R. Pun and M. Houlihan (Eds.), *First-Year Experience Library Cookbook*. Chicago: Association of College and Research Libraries.

Coghill, D.E., Anderson, A. & Isom-Payne, S. (2017). *The Perfect Fondue: Partnering Advising and Libraries*. In R. Pun and M. Houlihan (Eds.), *First-Year Experience Library Cookbook*. Chicago: Association of College and Research Libraries.

Coghill, D.E. & Smith, D. (2018). *Expanding Library Horizons: Partnering High Schools with Academic Libraries*. VLA Professional Associates Conference, Newport News.

Coghill, D.E. & Smith, D. (2018). *Unique Borrowers at VCU Libraries: Lightning Talk*. VLA Professional Associates Conference, Newport News.

Coghill, D.E. & Smith, D. (2017). *Expanding Library Horizons: Partnering High Schools with Academic Libraries*. Poster at the Access Services Conference, Atlanta.

Tarbox, A., **Coghill, D.E.,** Woetzel, D., Samuelson, R. (2017). *Open Spaces – Community Partnerships*. Presented at the LIBS Open Spaces Summer Institute, Old Dominion University, Norfolk.

Chenault, W. site-specific installation, with idea collective John Q, part of a series of projects for the exhibition *OUT/LOOK and the Birth of the Queer*, GLBT Historical Society, San Francisco.

Crookendale, C., Miller, H. & Robinson, S. (2018). *Copyright for*

Creators: Bridging Law and Practice. In R. Sittler & T. Rogerson (Eds.), *The Library Outreach Casebook*. Chicago, IL: Association of College & Research Libraries.

Farley, K., Winthrop, E., Lawal, I. & Sobczak, P. (2017). *One root many trees: Reviving collections practices*. Charleston Library Conference, Charleston, S.C.

Ghaphery, J. (2017). *Shared Repository Infrastructure*. Presented at Coalition for Networked Information Fall 2017 Membership Meeting.

Ghaphery, J., Byrd, S. & Miller, H. (2017). *“Green on What Side of the Fence? Librarian Perceptions of Accepted Author Manuscripts”*. *Journal of Librarianship and Scholarly Communication*, 5(1).

Cunningham, S., **Glover, J., Stout, J., & White, E.** (2017). Path to Librarianship: VLA Diversity Career Night, Richmond.

Exner, N. (2018). *Data Management Support for Faculty Facing New Funding Mandates: The Case of the U. S. Department of Agriculture’s National Institute of Food and Agriculture*. *New Review of Academic Librarianship* 24(1), 90-104. doi: 10.1080/13614533.2017.1400446

Exner, N. (2018). *Opening the Research Enterprise: Partnering to Support Openness in Grant-Funded Faculty Research*. [Institute course]. FORCE11 Scholarly Communication Institute (FSCI).

Exner, N. (2018). *Data as Stepping Stones in the Research River*. [Poster]. National Organization of Research Development Professionals 10th annual conference.

Hibben, Y., Peacemaker, B., & P. Sobczak. (forthcoming 2018). A

Creativity Feast: Inspiring Business Faculty with Comic Books and Styrofoam in The Library Outreach Cookbook. Association of College and Research Libraries,

Gariepy, L.W., & Robinson, S. (2018). *VCU Libraries runs campaign to encourage students to #VetYourSources*. Presented at the Maryland Library Association/Delaware Library Association Conference in Cambridge, MD.

Hodge, M. (2018). *“The library is very huge and beautiful”*: A Library Orientation for English Language Learners. In K. Bailin, B. Jahre, and S. Morris (Eds.), *Planning Academic Library Orientations: Examples and Strategies from Online Tutorials to Scavenger Hunts*. Cambridge, UK: Chandos.

Hodge, M. (2017). *Pedagogy for the One-Shot: Extend, Simplify, Connect*. Keynote for the Maryland Information Literacy Exchange (MILEX) Workshop, Columbia, MD.

Kidd, M., Johnson, J. & Muskavitch, L. (2018). *Extreme Makeover Finding Aid Edition*, poster session, MARAC Spring Conference, Hershey, PA.

Kohashi, A. (2018). *Blurring the Line Between Book Artist and Librarian: Special Collections Instruction As Artistic Practice*, Collective Relevance, College Book Art Association Conference, presenter.

Gelfand, J., **Lawal, I.,** Rauh, A. & Powell, J. (2017). *A Primer in science and engineering collection*. Charleston Library Conference, Charleston, S.C.

Peacemaker, B., & Roseberry, M. (2017). *Creating a sustainable graduate student workshop series*. *Reference Services Review*, 45(4), 562-574.

Reid, J. (2017). *Why libraries are great*

places to work if you value diversity. Panelist at Path to Librarianship: VLA Diversity Career Night, Richmond.

Robinson, S., & Peacemaker, B. (in press). *Posters on the wall: A campaign of discovery, diversity, and culture*. In R. Sittler & T. Rogerson (Eds.), *The Library Outreach Cookbook*. Chicago, IL: Association of College & Research Libraries.

Rodgers, S. (2018). *How may I not help you? Knowing when to stop rescuing a patron in a reference interaction*. Presented at VLA Professional Forum, Newport News.

Roseberry, M., Peacemaker, B., & Robinson, S. (in press). *Spreading the news: A Collaborative system for customized enews*. In R. Sittler & T. Rogerson (Eds.), *The Library Outreach Cookbook*. Chicago, IL: Association of College & Research Libraries.

Cunningham, S., **Glover, J., Stout, J., & White, E.** (2017). *The culturally competent interview*. Panel for VLA Diversity Career Night. Richmond.

Jackson, C.N., Khoury, J.F., & **Stout, J.A.** (2018). *Conversation: Facilitating authentic and intentional undergraduate research*. Presented at the Conference on Higher Education Pedagogy in Blacksburg.

Gariepy, L.W., Peacemaker, B., & Colón, Valeriana. (2017). *Stop chasing unicorns: Setting reasonable expectation for the impact of library instruction programs (and other library services) on student success*. Paper presented at the 11th Northumbria International Conference on Performance Measurement in Libraries and Information Services, Edinburgh, United Kingdom.

Sobczak, P. & Peacemaker, B. (2016). *Innovation in libraries may be as simple*

as staying on the bus. Imagine the Next! Proceeding of the Fifth Conference for Entrepreneurial Librarians. Paper presented at the Conference for Entrepreneurial Librarians, The University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

Ulmschneider, J. (2017). *Red Light, Green Light: Acting On Journal Valuations*, ASERL webinar.

Egunfemi, F., Madron, J., Rigova, I. & **White, E.** (2018). *Digital Virginia: Race, Space, and Identity*, Virginia Forum, Emory.

White, E. (2017). *There’s sheets in them there closets: Revealing the second Klan’s mass appeal*. Digital Library Federation Forum HBCU preconference. Pittsburgh.

Berry, D., Maron, B., Lakin, S., Payton, F. & **White, E.** (2017). *Can We Really Show This?: Ethics, Representation and Social Justice in Sensitive Digital Space*. Joint Conference on Digital Libraries. Toronto.

Doherty, M.T., DiScala, J., Manning, B.K. & Miller, K. (2018). *Patron challenges and banned book questions: are you ready?* Presented at VLA Paraprofessional Associates Forum, Newport News.

Doherty, M.T., Dickens, M., **Sobczak, P.** & Whicker, A. (2017). *Challenge-proof your collection policy*. Moderator for panel discussion at VLA Annual Conference, Newport News.

A TRUSTED VOICE

Tompkins-McCaw librarians contributed broadly to their profession and the health sciences

The Research and Education Department librarians of Tompkins-McCaw Library contribute a steady stream of publications and presentations to key publications, conferences and play a variety of leadership roles. Their presence is deeply felt at the Medical Library Association. Among, A sampling of their contributions include:

Erica Brody - Contributor Flaherty, MH. (2018). *Promoting Individual and Community Health at the Library*. Chicago, IL: ALA Editions.

Johnson, C. C., Sheffield, K. M., & **Brown, R. E.** (2018). *Mind-Body Therapies for African-American Women at Risk for Cardiometabolic Disease: A Systematic Review. Evidence-Based Complementary and Alternative Medicine, 2018*.

Brown, R. E., Cyrus, J., Lubker, I., **Gau, K.,** Opoku, J., Wright, B., & **Hurst, E. J.** (2017). *Seeing the Big Picture: Sustaining Success in Liaison Services. Medical reference services quarterly*.

Khushalani JS, Qin J, **Cyrus J,** Lunsford NB, Rim SH, Han X, Yabroff KR, Ekwueme DU. (2018). *Systematic review of health care costs related to mental health conditions among cancer survivors*. Expert Rev Pharmacoecon Outcomes Res.

Cyrus J. (2018). *The Potential of Librarians to Impact Patient Activation Through Health Information and Health Literacy*. J Hosp Librarianship.

Ryan M., **Cyrus J.,** Magee M.L. (2018). *Promoting Scholarship in Undergraduate Medical Education: Leveraging Limited Resources to Good Effect*. Poster presented at Society of Teachers of Family Medicine; Washington, DC.

Koenig, R. A., & Wilhelm, C. (2017). *Basically Everything I Need, I Know the Library Has It": A Case Study of SUNY*

Canton's Textbook Program. In Diaz, C (Ed.), *College Textbooks: Selection, Circulation, and Sustainability*. ALCTS and ALA Editions.

Ayers, J., Cook, J., **Koenig, R. A.,** Sisson, E. M., & Dixon, D. L. (2018). *Recent Developments in the Role of Coenzyme Q10 for Coronary Heart Disease: a Systematic Review. Current Atherosclerosis Reports, 20(6), 29*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11883-018-0730-1>

2018 MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION PRESENTATIONS/ POSTERS

Brody E, Cyrus J. *Teaching PubMed: Staying in the Shallows or Diving Deep*. Lightning Talk presented at the Annual Meeting of the Medical Library Association.

Brown, R. *Empowering Nurses and Mentors with an Innovative, Online Roadmap for Evidence-Based Practice*. Presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Medical Library Association.

Hurst, E.J., Schulte, S. *Applying Organizational Behavior Principles to Library Management: A Review*. Poster at the Annual Meeting of the Medical Library Association.

Koenig, R.A., "The 4Be's: A First-Year Medical Librarian's Strategy for Immersion in a Liaison Area." Lightning Talk presented at the Annual Meeting of the Medical Library Association.

Ladd, D. & Hurst, E.J. *Providing Health Information to Patients: Development and Implementation of a Consumer Health Information Workshop for Librarians*. Presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Medical Library Association.

MLA INVOLVEMENT

Roy Brown
Leadership Curriculum Committee
- 2017-2018
Colleague Connection Annual Meeting 2018
Abstract and Poster Evaluator for Annual Meeting - Annual Meeting 2018

John Cyrus
Journal of the Medical Library Association Editorial Board
Research and Evidence-Based Practice Curriculum Committee

Emily Hurst
Journal of the Medical Library Association (JMLA) Virtual Projects Section Committee
Rising Stars 2017-18 and 2018 -19 program committee

MEETINGS ATTENDED BY LIBRARIANS:

American Dental Education Association Annual Session & Exhibition

American Association of Medical Colleges - Lead Serve Learn 2017

American Nurses Credentialing Center - National Magnet Conference

American Dental Association Dentistry for the Modern Age Evidence Based Dentistry Workshop

Association of Academic Health Science Libraries - Annual Meeting

LIBRARIANS SERVED AS FACULTY:

Duke Teaching and Leading Evidence Based Medicine Course

Supporting Clinical Care: An Institute in Evidence-Based Practice for Medical Librarians



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