



VCU Libraries

epicenter

2016-17
Year in Review



Executive Summary 4

Data (VCU By the Numbers) 7



CHAPTER 1
Innovate in teaching and learning 8
Enhance student success



CHAPTER 2
Advance research and discovery 24
Strengthen collections



CHAPTER 3
Foster scholarly expression 38
Share scholarship with the world



CHAPTER 4
Create community and engagement 46
Inspire intellectual pursuit



CHAPTER 5
Enhance resource stewardship 66
Shepherd growth and leadership

CONTENTS

Project Manager: Sue Robinson and the Office of Communications and Public Relations

Contributing Writers and Editors: Alice Campbell, Wesley J. Chenault, John Duke, Laura Graipey, Tom Gresham, Deona Houff, Emily Hurst, Gregory Kimbell, Kelly Gotschalk, Brian McNeill, Bettina Peacemaker, KJ Ricasata, Mike Rawls, Sue Robinson, Megan Schiffres, Leilia Ugincious, John Ulmscheider, members of University Public Affairs staff.

Designer: Jeff Bland

Photographers: Clement Britt, Thomas Kojcsich, Joe Mahoney, Jay Paul

Epicenter

Epicenter: “The center or focus of powerful and momentous events.” Could there be a more apt description of VCU’s libraries during this era of tremendous change and development at the university? Epicenter means more than just being at something’s center. It suggests being a point from which meaningful action radiates, and the nexus of transformative events. An epicenter enables change, creates change, catalyzes change, powers change. And the VCU community continues to highlight and celebrate the indispensable role that VCU Libraries plays in the change that is transforming Virginia Commonwealth University.



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. As you will read throughout these pages, the achievements of VCU Libraries in the 2016-17 academic year in innovation, scholarship and leadership indeed have made a transformative difference in the ongoing success story that is Virginia Commonwealth University. Our mission statement says it all: “The VCU Libraries transforms our communities by enriching scholarship, learning, and clinical care through our teaching, our collections, and our leadership.”

We have much to be proud of in the work of our libraries over the past year. As you read this report, I know you will share my pride in what we’ve been able to accomplish. Such an exciting year gives me the greatest possible confidence and excitement about the year and years ahead. Enjoy!

John E. Ulmschneider
University Librarian

Top 10

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Achievements

1 In a pacesetting year, **VCU Libraries achieved the most significant fundraising goal in its history** in

meeting a \$1 million challenge grant from the Cabell Foundation. Achieving the Cabell match goal, VCU Libraries reached more than 62 percent of its goal toward the university's Make It Real capital campaign, which ends in 2020. Thanks to generosity and leadership of many donors, by every measure, FY17 was a record-breaking year for our growing development program. VCU Libraries received gifts from 801 donors totaling just over \$2.1 million. Support for the libraries is becoming broader, with involvement from alumni, faculty, staff, individuals and foundations. A record 50 percent of library faculty and staff were donors. Gifts supported 16 different funds and were all shapes and sizes – from simple one-time cash gifts to appraised collections, multi-year pledges and planned gifts. Annual giving continued on an upward trend with an increase in active members of the Friends of VCU Libraries. In addition, in FY17, the development office focused on strategic planning for the future and began setting the foundation for a new focus for fundraising that will include: a \$1 million endowment for Special Collections and Archives; funds to create a meditation room; and \$2.6 million for building improvements to Cabell and to provide spaces

essential to research at an exemplary 21st-century health sciences library on the MCV Campus.

2 **The Association of Research Libraries (ARL) began its formal evaluation** of the

VCU Libraries for membership in ARL during 2016-17. Over the course of the academic year, VCU Libraries provided documents and data in support of membership. The evaluation process culminated in a visit by a site study team in June 2017 to assess VCU's candidacy. ARL membership is a long-sought recognition by VCU. If successful, VCU will join the University of Virginia and Virginia Tech as the only ARL institutions in Virginia. ARL will announce its decision on membership in October 2017.

3 VCU Libraries conducted the **LibQUAL quality assessment survey of students and faculty** for the sixth

time. Results showed significant improvements in all areas of services and collections: a sizable jump in patron satisfaction regarding library facilities in the wake of the Cabell expansion; a considerable increase in faculty satisfaction with the quality of the collections and the accessibility of electronic resources; and a remarkable boost in all scores on customer service, an area with historically very strong scores for the VCU Libraries.

4 The New Landmark Libraries architectural competition **named James Branch Cabell Library** as

a New Landmark Library in September 2016. A highly competitive national competition, the New Landmark Libraries Award considered academic libraries where building projects were completed between 2012 and 2015. Five winners from across the country, including Cabell Library, were chosen from among dozens of applicants by a panel of judges with knowledge of both libraries and architecture. The New Landmark Libraries Award honors the best new academic library buildings that offer inspiration and design guidance for the library of today and tomorrow. Exemplary of the marriage of programming and architectural design that brought National Landmark Library recognition, the Cabell Screen debuted in August 2016. The 20-by-24-foot screen on the front of the building runs a daylong, rotating program of exhibits of images of art, video, library collections and other creative and scholarly work by students, faculty and alumni.

5 To help reduce educational costs to students, VCU libraries initiated **a multi-tiered initiative to support affordable course content**. The initiative provided grants to faculty

members to create free or low-cost course materials; helped faculty identify course materials for their curricula that are free or low-cost to students; and began to explore innovative ways to help faculty find, create, adopt and adapt free and low-cost course materials, including textbooks, for the classroom. The effort established a new partnership with VCU's on-campus bookstore to identify low-cost and free resources that might be used in high-enrollment courses that many students must take as pre-requisites, potentially saving the VCU students hundreds of thousands of dollars. In a related program, the Open Access Publishing Fund distributed funds to faculty to help them publish in open access sources that are free of charge to readers anywhere. This effort encourages VCU scholars to take advantage of alternatives to commercial publishing, and will continue in the 2017-18 academic year.

6 Building on its reputation for outstanding scholarly and community programming, **VCU Libraries hosted 263 events with more than 30,000 attendees in academic year 2016-17.** The new Cabell Library has become a highly sought-after venue for many high-profile VCU events, including the formal kickoff for VCU's new Make It Real capital campaign in September 2016, which brought the university's top supporters to Cabell Library for a weekend of celebration and events. In addition, VCU Libraries itself held 101 of the events that drew 22,000 attendees. Programs ranged from an standing-room-only lecture by National Book Award recipient Colson Whitehead and two annual literary awards programs, to a documentary film series on health

sciences topics and intimate brown-bag lunch talks by post-docs to their peers. VCU Libraries programs involved many key partnerships with units as diverse as the School of Medicine, Department of English, Humanities Research Center, School of the Arts, Office of the Provost and Office of Research and Innovation.

7 To advance publishing, scholarship and research success, VCU Libraries **invested strategically in important new memberships and services with organizations and services as diverse as ORCID, EZID, HathiTrust, NACO-BIBCO and the Center for Research Libraries (CRL).** These help provide a powerful and flexible set of information tools and scholarly resources for VCU's community of teachers and researchers that is second to none among research universities.

8 In partnership with the VCU Office of Research and Innovation, VCU Libraries became a **first-cohort adopter of the Open Science Framework project for managing research data and publishing.** VCU joined other institutions including the University of Southern California; Virginia Tech; University of California, Los Angeles; John Hopkins University and the University of Virginia in adopting this powerful new model for helping faculty manage the data and findings from their investigations.

9 **VCU Libraries faculty were formally recognized as members of the teaching and research faculty at VCU.** As part of an insti-

tution-wide migration to an entirely new human resources management system, VCU began to develop a new classification system for all positions at the university. The new classification system eliminates "administrative and professional faculty," the classification previously assigned to librarians. Leadership and faculty from the VCU Libraries engaged in the university process to educate the community about the work of librarians and their long-established role as faculty members at VCU. As a result, librarians in the new system will become "teaching and research faculty," holding non-tenure appointments that preserve promotion in rank and all other characteristics of faculty positions at VCU. Establishing librarians clearly and unambiguously as members of the teaching and research faculty makes an important statement about the key role of VCU's librarians and libraries in academic and research enterprise throughout VCU.

10 **Tompkins-McCaw received a handsome facelift and upgrade of its public spaces,** supported by funding from the Office of the Vice President for Health Sciences and VCU Libraries. A modern new color palette, a reconfigured Information Service Desk that occupies significantly less space on the very busy first floor, flexible furnishings, and more electrical power for work areas better meets study preferences and acts as a temporary bridge for the MCV Campus to a new, much-needed health sciences library that the university hopes to build in the next five to seven years.



By the Numbers

2,365,010 Full-text article requests
4,214,578 Regular database searches

**ELECTRONIC
RESOURCES**

2.8 million
TITLES HELD

1 million+
e-books

54,806 No. of initial circulations

ANNUAL GATE COUNT

2.5
million
visitors

QUESTION
ANSWERS **14k**

BUDGET OVERVIEW

Budget: **\$21,291,153**
Personnel: **\$9,089,625**
Operations: **\$1,408,926**
Collections: **\$11,192,602**

TOTAL STAFF

169

62 Professional
79 Support
28 Student assistants

\$1,976,902 one-time purchases
\$9,338,230 ongoing resource purchases
\$672,000 collection support

EVENTS

202

Attendees

30,533

**MATERIALS
EXPENDITURES**

\$72
million

1,558 PRESENTATIONS (to groups) **44,614 ATTENDEES**



CHAPTER

1

innovate

in teaching
and learning



20 Innovations

in Teaching and Outreach

Photo by Joe Mahoney

Above: University Counsel Madelyn Wessel addresses the audience during a “Copyright for Creators” session.

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 School 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. Librarians customize instruction 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. Librarians are flexible and knowledgeable. These sorts of teaching roles are how many librarians spend most of their time.

The 2016-17 academic year brought use of two new classrooms – one technology-rich – in Cabell Library. These spaces enable creative teaching sessions in which students collaborate in small groups using laptops and monitors on which they can easily display their content to learn about the research process. The classrooms have shifted our teaching approach increasingly toward active, engaged learning as opposed to a lecture- or demonstration-driven model.

Librarians also take on leadership roles and invent fresh ways to share information and serve diverse users who have specific learning needs. Among recent innovations are these:

1 Copyright for Creators In the digital age, everyone is a publisher or a maker or a creator. Understanding copyright is a foundational skill today. VCU Libraries, in concert with the VCU School of the Arts and arts librarians, repeated its well-attended series of three sessions in 2016-17. Attendees explored the nuances of copyright for artists, designers and art scholars. The presenter, VCU University Counsel Madelyn Wessel, is an authoritative voice on the complex intersection of creators’ and copyright-holders’

rights with creative and scholarly expression.

2 The Designated Librarian Program This new approach is a model of communication, planning and teaching between the teaching, learning and information librarians and the Department of Focused Inquiry faculty. Each librarian was assigned a number of faculty members/adjuncts to explain library services and to teach library sessions for UNIV 112 and 200 classes. The program better balanced workload among librarians, deepened relationships with these faculty teaching nearly 4,000 new students and diversified and customized the services provided to these first- and second-year students and faculty.

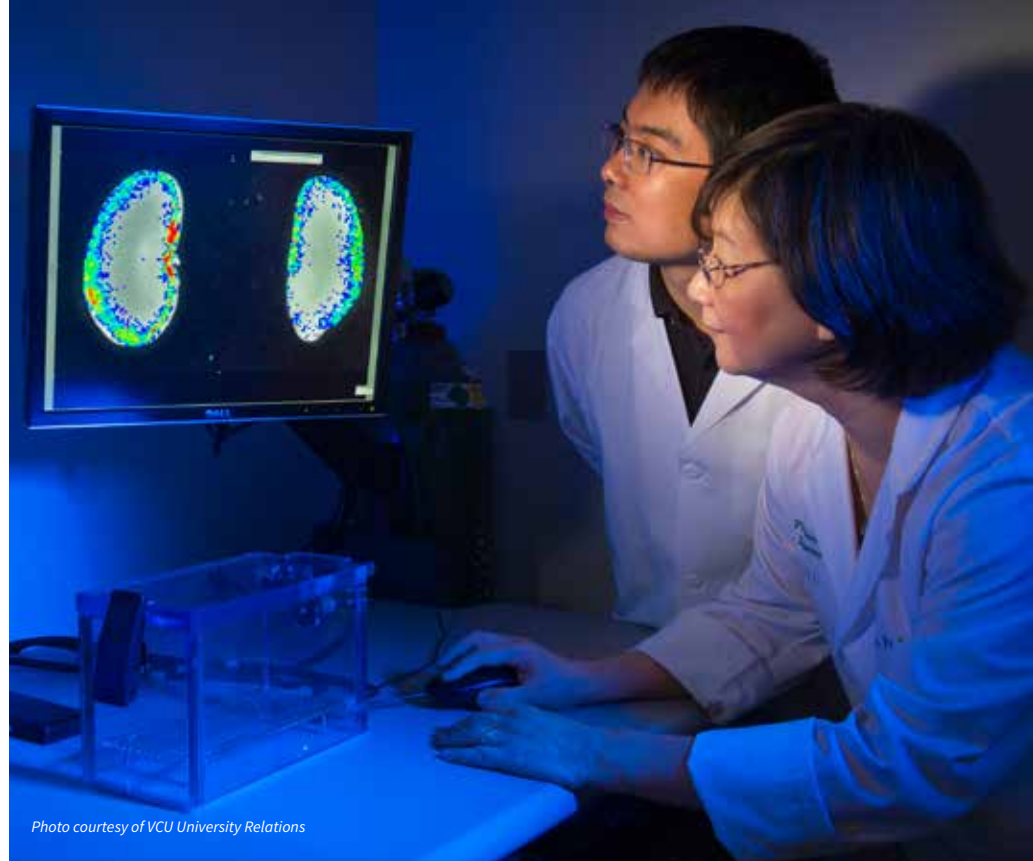


Photo courtesy of VCU University Relations

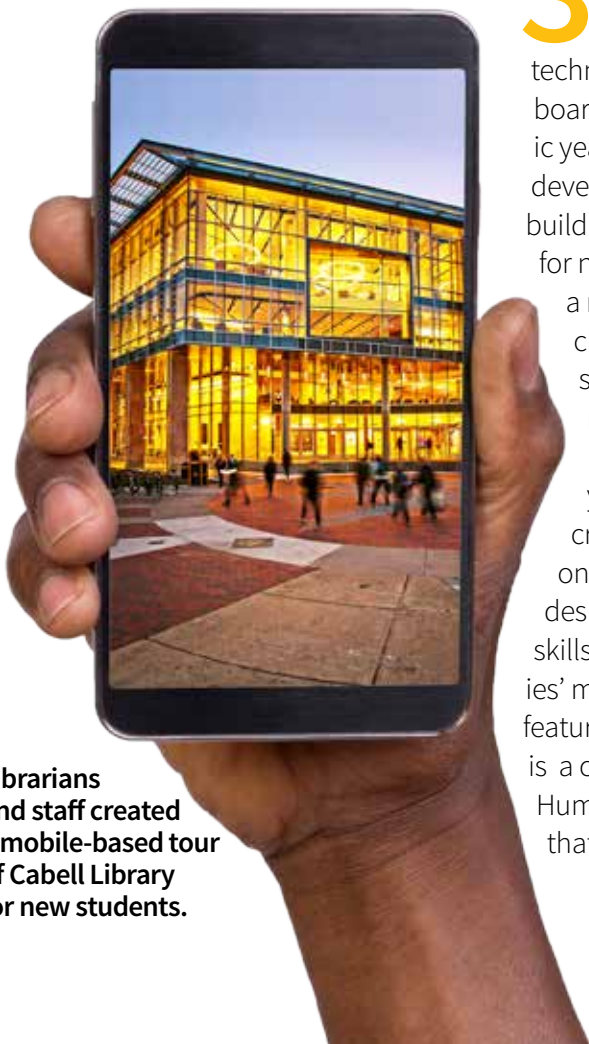
VCU postdoctoral researchers shared hands-on knowledge and insights in a new speaker series for the VCU health sciences community.

3 Mobilizing technology for outreach and teaching With a new technologies librarian on board full-time this academic year, librarians and staff developed a mobile-based building tour of Cabell Library for new students and offered a new library-specific channel on the university's new guidebook mobile app used for orientations and first-years. The same team created a robust new online interactive tutorial designed to hone students' skills in using VCU Libraries' most prominent search features. Also new this year is a collaboration with the Humanities Research Center that introduced humanities

researchers to new technologies that support digital scholarship in the humanities.

4 Open House for Grad Students New and returning graduate students attended the inaugural Grad Fest to learn more about research services available from the library and other university units, including the Graduate School, Career Services, National Scholarship Office, Writing Center, IT Support Center and the Institutional Review Board. Attendees enjoyed custom library tours and had an opportunity to interact with experts from around campus.

5 How-to Talks by Post-docs VCU postdoctoral researchers shared hands-on knowledge and insights in a new speaker series for the VCU health



Librarians and staff created a mobile-based tour of Cabell Library for new students.

sciences community. “How-to Talks by Postdocs” was sponsored by Tompkins-McCaw Library for the Health Sciences, the VCU C. Kenneth and Dianne Wright Center for Clinical and Translational Research (CCTR) and the VCU Postdoctoral Association. Each 45-minute talk was followed by discussion and networking. Topics included “How to Obtain a Postdoc and Thrive In It” “Intro to R-package, Parts 1 and 2” and “Teaching STEM so that your students actually learn.” Presenters were provided with feedback to help improve their teaching style.

6 Bioinformatic Workshops VCU Libraries and the CCTR collaborated on creating and teaching a new summer workshops series. The sessions of 30 attendees each introduced researchers to

genetic and genomic databases. Databases and tools discussed in the series included NCBI Gene, NCBI BLAST, NCBI Variation Viewer, NCBI Gene Expression Omnibus, The Cancer Genome Atlas and the newly launched Genomic Data Commons. Researchers who attended four of the five sessions and completed the workshop activities received a Certificate of Completion.

7 Creative Sprint In a first-time programmatic partnership with the VCU School of Business, its artist-in-residence, internationally known Noah Scalin, presented a well-attended hands-on learning session at Cabell Library designed to spur individuals’ embracing of a routine of creativity in daily life.

8 Advance Your Research Continuing all-day Saturday workshop days for graduate students, this project had its highest attendance in Fall 2016 with 42



Photo by Jim Denault

attendees. The series also included two well-attended webinars. Workshop topics included grant writing, reading research for quality, publishing as a graduate student, personal branding, reference management, expert Google searching and personal archiving.

9 Questioning Cinema The second year of this film and discussion series drew 200-plus people. Attendees explored the science and social impact of trash as portrayed in Lucy Walker’s 2011 documentary *Waste Land*, the beauty of mathematics and cultural differences of students and education in Matt Brown’s biopic *The Man Who Knew Infinity* and the enduring legacy of the Loving v. Virginia court case as shown in the Jeff Nichols’ *Loving*. After the screening, librarians and faculty speakers led discussions the included how to use library resources to investigate the themes within the films.

Lucy Walker’s documentary *Waste Land* was part of the “Questioning Cinema” film discussion series.

10 Pop-up Libraries The librarian for the visual and performing arts hosted several remote sessions, including one in a School of the Arts building that drew 90 visitors and had some 30 items checked out – a high number for artists.

11 Business Faculty Open Houses These introduced business faculty to The Workshop and Special Collection and Archives, resources not traditionally connected with business needs. The partnership among business librarians, special collections and archives and innovative media departments was developed to enhance creativity and innovation, essential ingredients in today's marketplace and a key element of the School of Business' new strategic plan.

12 Graduate Research Symposium Poster Display A digital display was placed outside the

Graduate and Faculty Research Center at the James Branch Cabell Library and outside the Data Management Librarian's Office on the first floor of the Tompkins-McCaw Library for the Health Sciences. The display showcased research from the 19th Annual Graduate Student Research Symposium and Exhibit. The displayed posters were from forensic science, kinesiology and health sciences, psychology, social work, engineering, pharmacology and toxicology and covered many interesting research questions.

13 Digital Pragmata This long-running series explored digital modes of storytelling including embedding narratives in interfaces and the use of motion and animation to convey meaning. New this year, panel sessions were followed by active learning focused groups where guest panelists interacted with students and community members.

14 Lecture on W.E.B. du Bois In a lecture typical of the kind of specialized teaching librarians are frequently called upon to do, the Behavioral and Social Sciences librarian talked to a World Studies class about the contributions and relevance of W.E.B. du Bois to the study of Afro-Latino consciousness. The session included identifying keywords that reflect power structures and ingroup-outgroup distinctions.

15 Real Life Film Series With renewed support from VCU Student Commons and Activities, the Tompkins-McCaw Library updated the monthly lunchtime documentary screening series. After a growth in popularity over the last year, an effort was made to include more films and align films with other campus initiatives including the Common Book and Black History Month activities. Films this year included: *Alive Inside: A Story of Music and Memory*, *Frontline: The New Asylums*, *Death: A Love Story*, *The Battle of AmfAR: The Quest for an AIDS Cure*, *Mobilize*, *Soul Food Junkies*, *States of Grace: A Journey of Loss, Resilience and Renewal*, *The Connection: Mind Your Body*, *Handmaidens* and *Battleaxes: The Real Story of Nursing*. Experts from VCU lead attendees in discussion on topics covered in the film. This year included interdisciplinary discussion leaders.

Business faculty toured The Workshop at Cabell Library.





Participants shared their patient experience stories through art during “The Patient Experience: Providing Quality Care and Safety.”

easily shared her experiences and those of others. The session ended with a participatory art experience with patients and attendees asked to share their story through art. Holliday then combined the images together into a collage that is on display at CHEC.

16 Common Book at MCV Campus A well-attended panel “From Telemedicine to the Secure Care Unit: Perspectives on Correctional Health Care at VCU Health” offered students, faculty, staff and hospital employees the opportunity to learn more about one way VCU Health provides care to incarcerated people. Aligning with the topics of social justice explored in the 2016 VCU Common Book *Just Mercy*, this discussion featured insights and experiences from leaders of VCU Health’s Telemedicine Center and Secure Care Unit. The speakers at this event offered perspectives from nurses and doctors who provide care to inmates.

speaker and mural artist Regina Holliday shared her personal story of the death of her husband. Her bad experience with the health care system inspired her to activism. Expressing the patient story through art, she more

18 Providing Consumer Health Information to Patrons: A Workshop for Librarians With funding from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, South/Eastern Atlantic Region, the librarians from the Tompkins-McCaw Library developed a two-day educational workshop aimed at helping public librarians feel more confident providing their

17 The Patient Experience: Providing Quality Care and Safety This community-, patient-, and provider-focused session was organized by the Tompkins-McCaw Library through the Community Health Education Center (CHEC). This unique event focused on exploring the patient experience through through art. Guest



Emily Hurst presented a grant-funded session for public librarians about providing reliable health care information to patrons.

patrons with access to high-quality health information resources. The workshop included a session on mobile technologies for health and wellness as well as conducting a reference interview, providing health information, privacy concerns, and a review of recommended websites. The workshop attracted some 30 librarians from public as well as community college and academic libraries. Developed resources reported in this presentation are supported by the National Library of Medicine (NLM), National Institutes of Health (NIH), under cooperative agreement number UG4LM012342 with the University of Maryland Health Sciences and Human Services Library.



Photo by Jay Paul

19 Mini Medical Family Day Part of Family Weekend and co-sponsored by VCU Community Engagement; Division for Health Sciences Diversity, Graduate School; Office of Multicultural Student Affairs; Recreation Sports; University Student Commons & Activities, VCU Bookstore and VCU Libraries, Mini Medical Family Day is a fun timepacked with activities designed for ages 3 to 10 and their parents. VCU Libraries' Community Health Education Center staffed a table with games to help children learn about health. Information on childhood health and wellness was provided to parents.

20 Open Science Initiatives Researchers can take many actions to increase the openness and reproducibility of their work. VCU Libraries hosted two free workshops by the Center for Open Science to teach easy, practical steps to increase the reliability of their projects. The hands-on workshops used example studies, and attendees actively participated in creating projects from start to finish. This session was aimed at graduate students and postdocs, across disciplines, who are engaged in quantitative research. Participants gained a foundation for incorporating transparent practices into their current workflows. Topics included:

- project documentation
- version control
- pre-Analysis plans
- open source tools like the Open Science Framework.

Numerous engagements

- At Cabell Library: 1,200 tours, classes, and workshops in FY17, reaching almost 34,000 students.
- 300 of these classes were foundational information literacy courses for students enrolled in their first or second years of study.
- 270 of these classes were discipline-specific instruction, taught by subject specialists.
- Of these, 60 of these instructional or outreach events were organized by Special Collections and Archives librarians and staff
- Staff in the Workshop provided more than 250 instruction sessions, workshops and tours.
- Cabell staff and librarians also developed or integrated online learning modules, tutorials or resources into 61 classes.
- Over 330 library workshops, guest lectures, orientation sessions and outreach programming events, teaching the public, were held through Tompkins-McCaw Library for the Health Sciences. These programs and events reached 8,813 students, faculty, staff, VCU Health employees and the public.
- Librarians participated in more than 20 complete courses that were provided for credit through the Schools of Medicine and Nursing.
- Over 90 sessions provided opportunities for outreach and engagement with the community, reaching over 1,400 members of the Richmond and surrounding area.
- The health sciences library provided 50 tours and workshops for VCU and VCU Health students, faculty and staff. Each session was designed and led by a librarian.
- This year saw an increase in library sponsored events on the MCV Campus with close to 50 events and programs taking place. These reached more than 2,300 people.

A Framework for Decision-making

Librarian invents a new matrix system for nurses to use to learn and to apply in clinical settings

Assistant Professor Roy Brown is a research and education librarian at Tompkins-McCaw Library for the Health Sciences and he is the liaison to the VCU School of Nursing and VCU Health Nursing programs. A medical librarian for nearly 10 years, he sees his role as that of being a student and professional advocate. “I try to ensure that everyone walks away with the ability to use the information we’ve gathered to complete an assignment, treat a patient or inform policy.”

It’s just that kind of broad thinking that inspired him to create a tool that is fast becoming ingrained in clinical practice at VCU

Health. His visionary approach to teaching nursing students led students and nursing faculty to nominate him for the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Medical Library Association’s Award for Professional Excellence by a New Health Sciences Librarian. He received the honor in October 2017.

“When nursing students first arrive at the program, most don’t really know what I can do,” said Brown. “Typically, they look at me as someone who will get them a book. Over time, they learn that I’m around to answer questions in an impartial way. They learn that I can enhance their research or help them understand concepts they weren’t grasping in

class. I’m showing them enough information to be useful but also helping them understand the topic. When they reach the limit of their knowledge base, that’s when they ask me.”

“In a way, I help students become the best practitioners they can be by educating them on information management, resource identification and overall preparation.”

In effect, he helps his students learn how to learn through systematic inquiry and searching — the essence of the research process.

This evidence-based practice approach neatly applies to today’s team-based approach to patient care. Each member of



the health care team brings knowledge and expertise to the process. And each practitioner must explain and defend his or her point of view using evidence from the medical literature and best practices.

When nursing students transition to clinical practice or join a hospital such as VCU Health, they will need to rely upon the information they learned about evidence-based practice to make the most informed decisions. Improving quality of care through research and quality improvement are keys to a successful nursing program. As Brown worked with VCU Health nurses, he saw the potential to support the application of evidence-based practice in the healthcare setting.

A framework for evidence-based practice is set in an online portfolio Brown developed with VCU Health nurses. The Evidence-Based



“ In a way, I help students become the best practitioners they can be by educating them on information management, resource identification and overall preparation.”

– Roy Brown

Practice Portfolio is intended to make 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 the VCUHS 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 Evidence-Based Practice Portfolio has been adopted by nurses at VCU Health. Brown collaborated with Dale Wright and Terri Battiston to ensure the tool was accurate and addressed the needs of practicing nurses. He has presented information about the tool in many settings including ANCC Pathway to Excellence Conference, Vizient/AACN Nurse Residency Program™ 2017 Annual Conference, Virginia Nurses Association 2016 Fall Meeting, VCU Health Evidence-Based Practice Symposium and VCU Health Heart Matters Nursing & Allied Health Symposium. It has attracted the attention of leaders in nursing and nursing education.



CHAPTER 1

Innovate in teaching and learning



Fact-finding in a fake-news world

#vetyoursources
campaign increases
information literacy

Each day, VCU Libraries invites students and the public at large to embrace a healthy skepticism, ask questions and seek answers. This year, the invitation became a literacy campaign, #vetyoursources, which encouraged people to think about the information they consume and cite.

The campaign began with an all-day blitz of posts on VCU Libraries' and VCU Cabell Library's Twitter channels and continued with months of online and offline discussions about evaluating sources.

Underlying discussion questions were: What strategies can educators employ to increase students' facility in identifying false, misleading or inaccurate information? What are the greatest challenges students face in identifying high-quality information in day-to-day

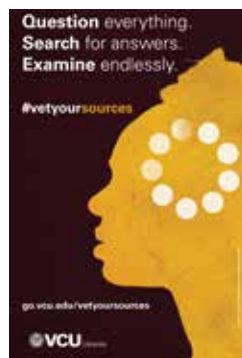
and academic contexts?

"The information landscape has become incredibly complex and voluminous. Trying to take it all in is like drinking from a fire hose. Particularly when it comes to highly charged

issues, it's easy for all of us to let key signs of the quality and accuracy of information we're consuming slip by," said Laura W. Gariepy, head of teaching, learning and information at James Branch Cabell Library

Librarians crafted exercises for classes that help students understand the basics of evaluating content on the web and other formats. They also developed online resources designed to help students evaluate information. VCU Libraries'

online resources include a research guide for evaluating sources, including a section just for evaluating news and a video on critically evaluating websites.



In accuracy and in health

Health sciences library staff lead workshop for community librarians

VCU Libraries' health sciences librarians shared knowledge about providing accurate consumer health information during a two-day workshop for librarians working in public, community college, academic or hospital settings.

Session leaders were Emily J. Hurst, head of research and education at Tompkins-McCaw Library for the Health Sciences and Dana L. Ladd, Ph.D., who directs VCU's Community Health Education Center, a consumer health library for patients, their families and the public.

"More people are turning to the internet for health information," says Ladd. "Studies demonstrate that patients make medical decisions based on information they find online, potentially making decisions about their health based on unreliable information. It is important for patients to have access to high quality sources of health information written in language they can understand. Librarians play an essential role in promoting resources to patients and teaching patients to evaluate critically information they find."

Hurst taught "Take Two Apps and Call Me in the Morning: Mobile Applications for Health and Wellness."

Ladd's presentation was "Providing Consumer Health Information to Patrons."



Scientific explanations

New groundbreaking class helps journalists and scientists think like one another

Funded with a Quest Innovation Grant, an innovative new science journalism course debuted at VCU in the fall of 2016.

A collaboration between Richard T. Robertson School of Media and Culture and VCU Libraries, the class helps journalism students learn how to think like scientists and science students learn how think like journalists. It trains all students to communicate complex scientific discoveries to the general public.

As part of the class, student-written articles were posted at The Scope, an online magazine on VCU Libraries' open-access publishing platform Scholars Compass.

Published articles covered research into the following areas: e-cigarettes as crime scene clues; environmental threats facing songbirds; velocity-based weight training; AR-12, a possible wonder drug against cancer, HIV and other diseases; and positive-reinforcement intervention addressing problem behavior among low-income schoolchildren.



CHAPTER 1

Innovate in teaching and learning



The Workshop by the numbers

2016-17
was its
first full
year in
operation

The Innovative Media Department's space on the lower level in Cabell Library is called The Workshop with good reason. Hundreds of students, faculty and VCU community members use the space and tap the plethora of free equipment and software and, most important, expert advice from staff. Interested in virtual reality? Want to fly a drone? Want to see the stars or master computerized embroidery? This is the place for hands-on, experiential learning.

8,244

CIRCULATING LOANS
(items taken out of the department)

14,252

IN-HOUSE LOANS
(items/spaces that stay in the
department)

22,496

TOTAL ALL LOANS

OR

44,992

TRANSACTIONS

(including check out and check in)

REFERENCE QUESTIONS: **16,803**





Usage of particular items of note

Video Studio: **170 uses**
(opened in September 2016)

Audio Studio: **482 uses**
(opened in October 2016)

Gaming Studio: **645 uses**

3D printers: **844 uses** for a total
of **5,148 hours** and **9 minutes**.

DSLRs: **754 loans**
for **104,275.76 hours** (4,345 days)

Graphics workstations: **4,214 uses**
(12 uses per day on average)

The Workshop hosted 20 Wednesday
at the Workshop sessions during the
2016-17 school year with 180 partici-
pants. The most popular was a virtual
reality and augmented reality demo on
March 1, with 18 participants.



Our single most popular item for the year was **Mac Graphics Station #1**, with **1,262 loans**.

Most popular kind of equipment that can be taken out of the department: **Canon T6i DSLR**, with **629 loans**.

For the entire 2016-2017 year, our stuff was loaned out for a total of
884,061 hours, 52 minutes and 15 seconds.



A Novel Approach

Humanities librarian and creative writing professor teach fiction students how research enlivens their storytelling

“A river, amber-tinted in the shadow of its banks, purred at the army’s feet; and at night, when the stream had become of a sorrowful blackness, one could see across it the red, eyelike gleam of hostile camp fires set in the low brows of distant hills.”

This excerpt from *The Red Badge of Courage*, Stephen Crane’s novel about a young recruit in the Civil War, is an example of how research can enliven fiction, a concept Professor Tom DeHaven knows quite a bit about in his own work and in his teaching. According to DeHaven, despite the fact that Crane was born many years after the war and never experienced battle himself, his book on the disillusionment of a Union soldier was known for its striking realism. This text is a prime example of

researched creative writing, because while Crane himself never knew the horrors of war, he relied on secondary sources to construct a captivating story that reflected the inner perspective of a soldier fleeing combat.

Creative writers aren’t usually thought of as researchers in the same way that non-fiction or scholarly authors are. There are no footnotes in fiction, but careful study and investigation help fiction authors bring a time, place or experience to life on the page. To create a convincingly authen-

John Glover, humanities research librarian at VCU (standing) co-taught a class with Professor of English Tom De Haven (seated left) on conducting research for fiction writing.

tic story about something they haven't personally witnessed or experienced, fiction writers rely on research to create the worlds in which their characters live. Authors can spend hours, days and weeks researching a single sentence that the reader may not consider to be vital to the plot, but which contributes to the realness of the text.

"If I can write a story that you're reading, and you hook into and you feel that you're there and you don't just get a description of what it was like there – you're breathing and living in that moment – that makes all of that research worthwhile," said John Glover, humanities research librarian at VCU.

Glover, a published writer of science fiction and research librarian, and DeHaven began a partnership in 2012 when they hosted a workshop for graduate students working on drafting a novel.

It was during this workshop that De Haven and Glover realized how much creative writing students stood to learn about research and researching techniques, so they decided to teach a class on writing researched fiction. They taught the class, *Advanced Fiction Writing*, in the spring of 2015, and covered a mix of creative writing skills and research techniques designed to broaden the scope of students' work. Their team-teaching partnership continues today, with Glover regularly teaching sessions to DeHaven's students about research and storytelling, authenticity and attention to de-

tail. These sessions cover many different techniques, from getting historical background from resources like the Vogue Archive or *Chronicling America* to searching for online videos to hear local pronunciation and dialects.

"Research for creative writers, it's this really broad hybrid that looks like journalistic research, historic research and advanced Googling. Things come together that's not quite like anything else," Glover said.

“ Research for creative writers, it's this really broad hybrid that looks like journalistic research, historic research and advanced Googling. Things come together that's not quite like anything else.”

– John Glover

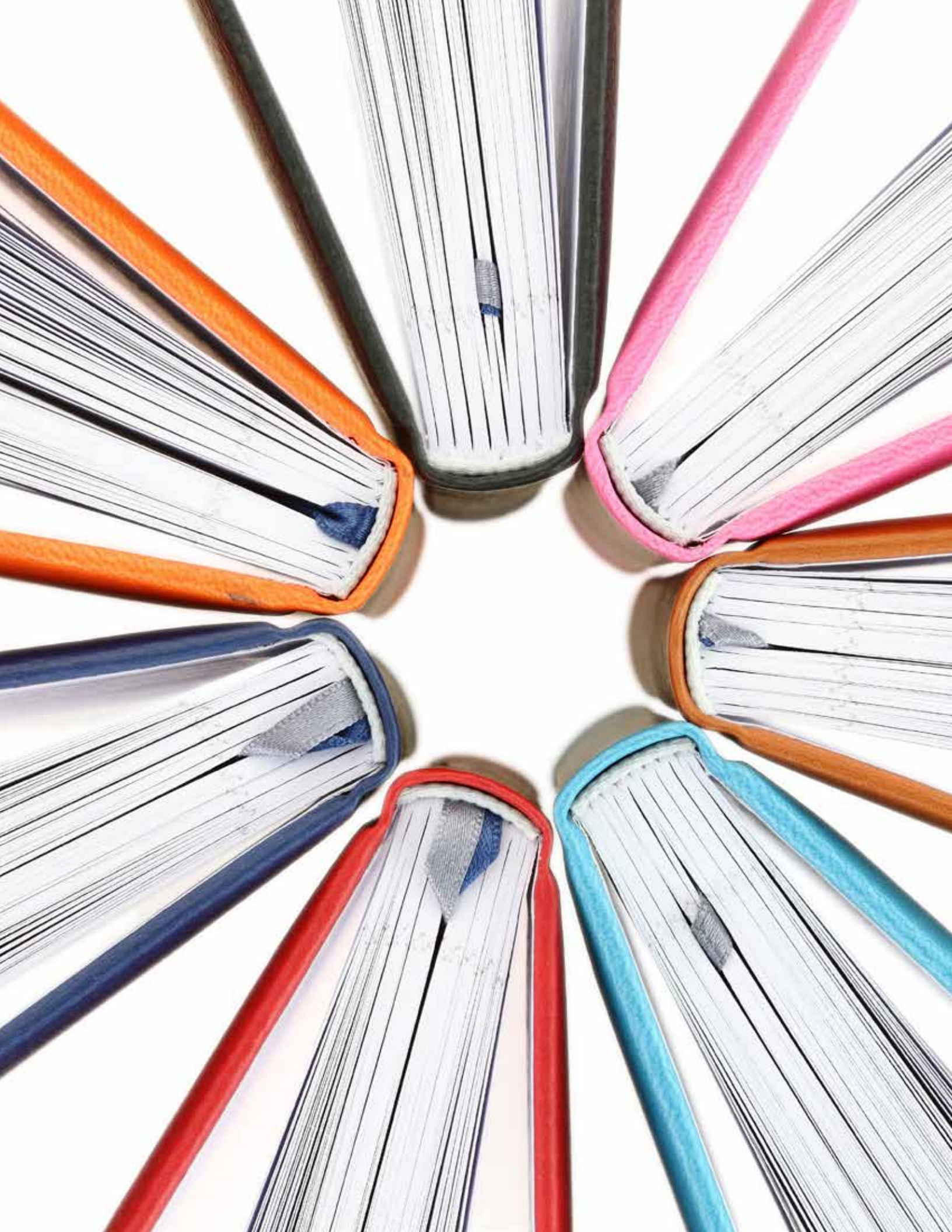
Glover and DeHaven teach students how to use archives, online research tools, newspapers and interviewing skills to enhance their writing. The students were each assigned a period, place or occupation, and told to write a story in that context using secondary and primary sources to inform their work. For example, one of De Haven's graduate students was working on a crime novel, so she partnered with the Richmond Police Department to research her story by riding around in the back

of a police car. This type of immersive, in-person research is valuable because it employs all their senses, so that they can accurately re-create the environment and experiences in text.

"If I were writing about someone who is a tow truck driver, it'd be way better if I had spent a few hours in a tow truck and I realized what station was on the radio, what was in between the seats. Otherwise, I would just be making this stuff out of clouds," said De Haven.

The innovative merger of library resources with creative writing processes is typical of VCU's English Department. Its year-long novel writing workshop is nationally known. Its selective and academically rigorous 48-credits, three-year M.F.A. in creative writing is designed to provide talented writers with the opportunity to work closely with both outstanding faculty and gifted peers to strengthen their craft, develop their literary aesthetics, enrich their understanding of existing traditions and compositional possibilities, and participate actively in the life of the literary community at large.

"Good writers go deep into their subjects," Glover said. "Maybe for one writer that means years of interviews, maybe for another it's a semester reading biographies of vaudeville performers. The point is, what's it going to mean to the reader? People get lost in books that are richly imagined and portrayed in full, and research is a huge part of that." – Megan Schiffres





CHAPTER

2

advance

research and
discovery

CHAPTER 2

Advance research and discovery

VCU
Libraries
hosts
Rosenwald
Schools
collection

Preserving & sharing oral history

Phyllis Parrish discusses her family background and childhood in Goochland County, Virginia and her memories of attending Second Union School and Central High School.

VCU Libraries now hosts the digital collection of an oral history project that explores the experiences of former students of Goochland County's Rosenwald Schools, which were among the nearly 5,000 built throughout the South in the early 20th century to educate African-American children.

Led by researchers at Virginia Commonwealth University and John Tyler Community College, the Goochland County Rosenwald Schools Oral History Project features 19 video interviews with 18 participants, fully searchable transcripts and tape logs, photographs of the schools and various

related documents.

"It's important to understand the Rosenwald Schools because they were a catalyst, along with local activism and pressure, for improving educational opportunities available for African-Americans in the South in the early 20th century," said Brian Daugherty, Ph.D, assistant professor in VCU's Department of History in the College of Humanities and Sciences.

"Southern school funding disproportionately benefited the education of white schoolchildren, so black activism and support for Rosenwald Schools was an im-



portant corrective to the injustices and inequities of that time.”

Rosenwald Schools were a philanthropic effort funded in part by businessman and philanthropist Julius Rosenwald, who was appalled at disparities in educational resources between white and black residents in the South.

In Virginia, 367 Rosenwald Schools were built, including 10 in Goochland County.

The researchers received grant funding to conduct oral history interviews and related research from the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, the Virginia Community College System and the John Tyler Community College Foundation.

As part of the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities grant, the researchers partnered with VCU Libraries to preserve and organize the materials to build a digital, online collection of the materials.

“When Brian Daugherty came

to me early on to talk about this project, I recognized the historic value of the untold stories he was documenting and the ways they could strengthen our research holdings on the evolving landscape of education for African-Americans in Virginia and across the South,” said Wesley J. Chenault, Ph.D., head of Special Collections and Archives at James Branch Cabell Library.

VCU Libraries actively acquires and preserves research collections of enduring value. “We encourage faculty and researchers to contact us for personalized guidance on projects,” Chenault said. “Archivists are experts in identifying materials of historical significance, regardless of format. Our team regularly meets with faculty and community members to talk about the selection, the accessibility and the preservation of these unique materials.”

Sam Byrd, digital collections systems librarian with VCU Libraries, said that the digital collection will ensure that a wide audience has the opportunity to learn



Calvin Hopkins discusses his family background and his upbringing in Goochland County, Virginia. He describes his experiences attending Second Union School (below right) in the 1950s

more about Rosenwald Schools and African-American education in the early 20th century.

“It’s part of our community engagement mission to work with professors and others in the community to make this material available on a wider basis,” Byrd said. “We have a responsibility to make this material available and to continue to make it available long into the future.”



Left: Private residence in Goochland County, Virginia, that formerly served as Miller School.



TO SEE THE COLLECTION, GO TO dig.library.vcu.edu/cdm/landingpage/collection/goo



Digitizing wildflowers

VCU Libraries launches Ancarrow Wildflower Digital Archive

Between 1968 and 1971, Richmond environmentalist and James River advocate Newton Ancarrow snapped thousands of photographs of wildflowers, documenting more than 400 species, as he walked along the banks of the James, searching for evidence of illegal sewage dumping into the river.

Ancarrow used his wildflower photos in a slide-show presentation he gave to local organizations to drum up support for a cleaner James River.

The 354 wildflower photographs in that presentation, titled “Flower Show No. 2,” were digitized by VCU Libraries and shared publicly for the first time as an online digital collection, the Ancarrow Wildflower Digital Archive.



VCU Libraries began the 18-month digital project in 2015, as part of the Community Digitization Program, an effort by the library to reach out and help outside agencies that do not have the staffing or facilities to digitize their unique collections.

“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 Rice Rivers Center 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.”

After Ancarrow’s death in 1991, his family donated his 35,000 slides of photographs to Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden.

“Ancarrow was an early activist for cleaning up the James River. He was not afraid to take his

complaints and evidence to the highest levels of the city, state and even federal government. His work to reveal raw sewage dumping into the James led him to wildflowers, which led to his 35,000-slide collection. He was driven,” said Janet Woody, librarian at Lewis Ginter.

“We wanted to present high-res images of these slides because their high quality lends itself well to zooming in and seeing details,” said Sam Byrd, digital collections systems librarian with VCU Libraries.

Along with the photos, VCU Libraries posted a wealth of accompanying documentation and other material, including: an inventory of all the wildflower species Ancarrow identified along the James River; Ancarrow’s slideshow script, annotated with flower numbers to indicate when to change the slides; and five loose-leaf notebooks compiled by Ancarrow, detailing his research on each species.



In the spring of 2017, VCU plant life advocates used the Ancarrow archive to study the effect of invasive plant species at the James River Park system.

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



TO VIEW THE ANCARROW WILDFLOWER DIGITAL ARCHIVE, VISIT: labs.library.vcu.edu/ancarrow/



New Insights

Surveillance Media Collection promises a fresh look at Civil Rights-Vietnam era protests and activism in Central Virginia

To most observers, Richmond was never perceived as a hotbed for activism or a center for protests during the Civil Rights-Vietnam season of change. A new VCU Libraries' collection of unpublished images and materials promises to challenge that perception and bring to light little-known meetings and marches, people and protesters.

Angela Davis, Stokely Carmichael, Marii Hasegawa, the KKK, The Amer-



Klan members at 4th and Grace Streets, June 10, 1968.

CHAPTER 2

Advance research and discovery



Protest of the Vietnam War, with Marii Hasegawa of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, Dec. 15, 1967.

ican Nazi Party and the Black Panther Party are just a few of the activists and organizations who show up in police surveillance photographs or films in the new collection. Special Collections and Archives acquired the Surveillance Media Collection (Richmond Police Department, 1961-1972) this year.

Expert staff are analyzing the collection to determine processing and conservation needs, budgets and timetables. The collection is months away from being available to researchers, who are expected to find that it is an “indispensable core for any study of Civil Rights protests in Virginia,” according to Wesley J. Chenault, Ph.D., whose department manages the collection. As head of Special Collections and Archives at James Branch Cabell Library and a scholar of 20th-century America himself, Chenault expects the collection will be useful to researchers from many disciplines, including American studies, African-American studies, visual and cultural studies, law, criminal justice and political science. It is a rare find and one of the most significant new acquisitions by VCU Libraries for Special Collections and Archives in some time.

The collection includes 2,500 photographs, 1,800 of which are captioned with times, dates, places and people's names. Some 700 photos lack captions and are also in need of professional conservation. In

addition, some 150 reels of 8mm and 16mm film offer 20 hours of documentary footage. The collection also includes various police documents and related materials.

Brian Daugherty, Ph.D., associate professor in the VCU Department of History, is a historian of the 20th century in the United States. His letter of support for the acquisition of the collection noted:

“As part of my work, I have conducted research in university archives throughout Virginia and the South. In my experience, this collection is unique. There are few archival collections dealing with the Black Power movement, Black Panther Party and related individuals nationwide, and none that I know of in the South. This collection offers the possibility of investigating new aspects of the Civil Rights struggle in the South.

“The collection would also build upon VCU's already-impressive collection of civil rights materials. Such collections are becoming rarer and rarer as time passes by, and VCU is wise to expand its archival collections relating to Virginia race relations and the civil rights era as they become available.”



Poor People's March, Richmond, June 18, 1968.

Joining HathiTrust

VCU Libraries takes a significant step toward cooperative preservation of cultural records

VCU Libraries joined HathiTrust, a respected partnership of major academic and research libraries. HathiTrust is building a vast digital library to preserve and ensure access to published works.

“HathiTrust is an exemplar in collaborative librarianship and one of our most significant acquisitions in recent memory,” said University Librarian John E. Ulmschneider. “This relationship provides VCU researchers with access to a growing trove of books in digital format from among the world’s most prestigious libraries.”

VCU users who login have additional, powerful options when accessing the more than 15 million volumes in HathiTrust. VCU users can create reading lists, save items and download full-text PDFs of many items. In the future, digitized volumes from VCU’s own unique collection will also be deposited into HathiTrust. Titles can be searched in the HathiTrust catalog or in VCU Libraries own search box.

HathiTrust offers:

- Searchable access to more than 15 million volumes, including some 7.4 million books, more than

700,000 federal government documents and 411,000 serial publications. Holdings cover all disciplines. More than 5 million of the contributed volumes are in the public domain and freely available on the web.

- Full-text access to publications not always fully viewable in Google Books. These include: United States books published between 1923 and 1963 for which copyright was not renewed (170,000-plus and growing) and United Kingdom books published 1874-1944 and Canadian and Australian books published 1894-1964 for which copyright was not renewed (100,000-plus and growing).

- Enhanced access to digitized materials, including items still in copyright, for users with certified print disabilities.

Considered in library and research circles as a model in shared governance and collaborative librarianship, HathiTrust launched in 2008. It now has more than 120 contributing partners.

HathiTrust was named for the Hindi word for elephant, hathi, which is symbolic of the qualities of memory, wisdom and strength, as well as the huge undertaking

of congregating the digital collections of libraries worldwide.



Preserving public access

Knott issues statement of concern about government restricting release of scientific data

Teresa L. Knott, director of Tompkins-McCaw Library for the Health Sciences and associate university librarian, was president of the Medical Library Association during the 2016-17 year. The organization, which represents more than 4,000 health sciences information professional members and partners around the world, issued a statement in February affirming its values and expressing concern over “recent government policies that threaten our fundamental beliefs and principles.”

“Our members know from experience that open and public access to information facilitates scientific collaboration, provides researchers with easier access to scientific research and data, strengthens biomedical research, and leads to better patient care,” Knott said in



Teresa L. Knott



the MLA statement. “Patients who have access to necessary health information are empowered to play an active role in their health care and realize better health outcomes. The free movement of scientists worldwide contributes to a diverse and inclusive research environment in the best interest of all.”

MLA issued the statement after the Trump administration began restricting the use of social media and interactions with the press by the Environmental Protection Agency and departments such as

Health and Human Services and Agriculture.

Knott said that scientists, activists and librarians were scrambling to preserve climate, environmental and other data at risk of being removed from official government sites.

“Librarians have a long history of advocating for openness, transparency and access to high-quality research,” said Knott, in discussing the statement. “We rely on science being rigorous, transparent, and reproducible. We rely on it being readily accessible.”

Librarians are the original search engine, she said. “As part of our training and ongoing work, we learned to assess the quality of information. This is true whether we are looking at a peer-reviewed journal, consumer health or a possibly ‘fake news’ story.”

“Similar to fake news, another threat in the health sciences is the growth of predatory journals. They appear to be academic or scholarly journals. They often represent themselves as open access journals, but charge high publication fees and do not typically have a rigorous editorial process or publishing services like those offered by a reputable journal publisher. They often mimic the names of more reputable journals.”

Notable New Electronic Collections 2016-17

American Civil Liberties Union Papers, 1912-1990

Covers civil rights, race, gender, free speech, citizenship, discrimination, immigration, labor, radicalism and issues relating to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Archives of Sexuality & Gender: LGBTQ History and Culture Since 1940

Primary source content on social, political, health and legal issues impacting LGBTQ communities around the world, including the gay rights movement, activism, the HIV/AIDS crisis and more.

Artifex Press Catalogue Raisonné

Digital catalogue raisonnés, comprehensive and annotated compilations of all known works by an artist.

British Literary Manuscripts Online

Facsimile images of literary manuscripts, including letters and diaries, drafts of poems, plays, novels and other literary works. Consists of two parts: British Literary Manuscripts Online, Medieval and Renaissance and British Literary Manuscripts Online, c. 1660-1900.

Burney Collection Newspapers

The largest single collection of 17th- and 18th-century English news media available from the British Library and includes more than 1,000 pamphlets, proclamations and newspapers from the period.

Comprehensive Physiology

This authoritative collection of physiology information includes recently published review articles and an online version of the American Physiology Society's renowned Handbook of Physiology (1977-2008) book series.

Early American Newspapers, Series 1-4

Chronicles the evolution of American history, culture and daily life from 1690-1922. Often printed by small-town publishers, these newspapers are a record of hundreds of diverse American communities.



HathiTrust

Partnership of academic and research institutions offering a collection of millions of titles digitized from libraries around the world. A massive digital library, HathiTrust includes searchable access to millions of books, government documents, journals and other serials. Full text access to public domain and open access items.

HistoryMakers

Oral histories of African-Americans from all walks of life, including politicians, authors, civil rights activists, religious leaders, musicians, legal scholars, physicians and many others. Includes video footage.

Kiowa Family, Annette Ross Hume Photograph Collection from "Indigenous Peoples: North America"

Indigenous Peoples: North America

Enables exploration of the political, social and cultural history of Native Peoples from the 17th century well into the 20th century.

Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) E-book Collection

110 e-books covering reference, emerging topics in electromagnetics, circuits, devices, systems, electrical, mechanical engineering, power, energy, sonar, radar, electronic warfare, computer science and other relevant disciplines.

Latin American Newspapers Series I & II

Offers unprecedented full text coverage of the people, issues and events that shaped the vital contributions of Central and South America during the 19th and early 20th centuries (1805-1922).

Merck Index Online

Authoritative information on chemicals, drugs and biologicals. Contains over 11,000 monographs.

Nichols Collection Newspapers

A key resource for British history and culture in the early modern period, featuring many rare news media resources like The London Gazette and Tatler.

Social Work Reference Center

Provides evidence-based information and current best practices. Includes

clinical assessment tools, practice guidelines, drug information, continuing education modules and patient education information.

Umbra Search African American History

Open access resource bringing together content documenting African-American history and culture from archives, libraries, museums and other U.S. repositories.

University of Fashion

Online fashion design and business video library. Taught by fashion college professors and fashion industry professionals, the video lessons teach every facet of fashion design, including draping, pattern making, fashion art, product development, CAD fashion art, sewing, CAD pattern making, fashion business, knits, accessories and more.

Uniworld Online

Searchable database that provides contact information (including headquarters, subsidiaries, branches and executives) of multinational companies with headquarters in over 200 countries and 20,000 industries.

Wiley StatsRef: Statistics Reference Online

Covers the fundamentals and applications of statistics in all fields where it is widely used.

Other collections actions included:

- Collaborating with seven partnering Virginia institutions to negotiate a five-year deal that limited cost increases, with Elsevier for ScienceDirect
- Issuing RFPs, reviewing submissions, and awarding contracts for a health sciences approval plan and firm orders
- Negotiating an unlimited license for Anatomy.TV for a three-year period
- Developing a list of resources that can serve as affordable course content
- Cleaning up stack areas and replacing signage throughout the collection prior to the ARL site team visit.
- Introducing color- and icon-coded stacks signage at Cabell Library for easier wayfinding for students
- Beginning planning for 2017-18 celebration of 3 millionth volume

Scholars Compass report

Scholars Compass – the publishing platform for the intellectual output of VCU’s academic, research and administrative communities – grew by 3,619 items last fiscal year. Electronic Theses and Dissertations and the Great VCU Bike Race Book had the most of additions.

Significant new areas include presentations from the Medical Education Symposium, the archives of the undergraduate research journal Auctus, the How-to Talks by Postdocs video series, research report and project summaries from the Grace E. Harris Leadership Institute, and the VCU Quest for Distinction-funded series of student-produced news articles, The Scope.

British Virginia published two facsimile versions of the 1622 Virginia Company response to the Jamestown Massacre, Edward Waterhouse’s Declaration of the State of the Colony. The four areas with the most downloads for this period were ETDs, Undergraduate Research Posters, the Journal of Social Theory in Art Education and VCU Commencement Programs.



CHAPTER

3

foster

scholarly
expression



Big Screen

Cabell Library debuts soaring outdoor screen

The potential and promise of the Cabell Big Screen as a public showcase for received its inaugural exploration in fall 2016 and continued into the spring 2017. The 400-square-foot outdoor screen showcases art, animation, video and information about scholarly work from throughout the VCU community. Overlooking the Compass, the screen is 21 feet wide and 24 feet tall. Reception by the campus community has been warm and overwhelmingly positive.

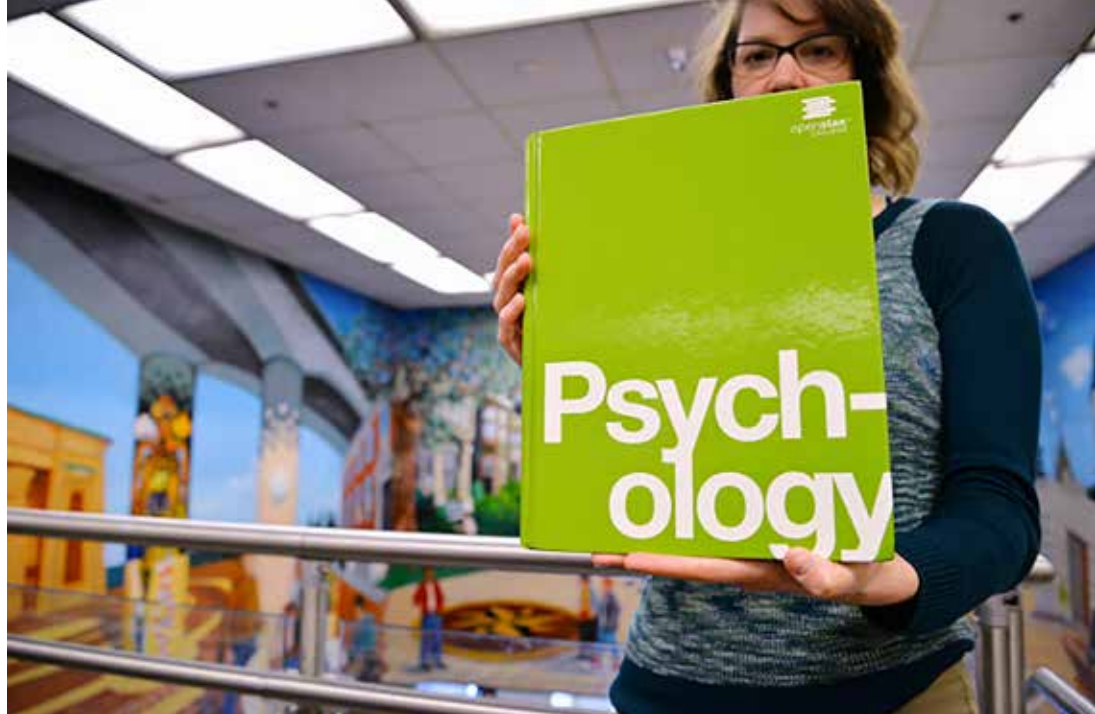
Programming is robust. Thirty-seven exhibits

featuring hundreds of images were displayed in the 2016-17 school year; by far the largest number of exhibits featured student work.

VCU is the only library or university that, to our knowledge, is programming a public screen in this way — to connect with and to inspire its community with its own works and expressions. In a social media age, the high-profile screen represents a new way to engage, even for just a moment or two. It is not unusual to see groups of students looking up, together, at the Big Screen.



Affordable Course Content Awards program invites faculty to adopt, create alternative to expensive text books



Cutting costs, maintaining standards

Hillary Miller, scholarly communications outreach librarian with VCU Libraries, shows one of the library's open textbooks published by the nonprofit OpenStax.

A new initiative at Virginia Commonwealth University is seeking to help cut the costs for students by encouraging VCU faculty members to adopt or create free or low-cost alternatives to expensive textbooks and course materials.

The Affordable Course Content Awards program is a partnership of the Office of the Provost, VCU Libraries, the Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence and the Academic Learning Transformation (ALT) Lab. It incentivizes faculty members to adopt existing low-cost or free course content by offering monetary awards, thereby lowering the financial burden on VCU students.

"The cost of textbooks has outpaced just about every other consumer good, and it's out-

paced even the price of tuition [nationwide]," said Hillary Miller, scholarly communications outreach librarian with VCU Libraries.

Since 2006, the cost of college textbooks has increased 88 percent, compared with an increase of 21 percent for all items, according to the Consumer Price Index.

"This project is one part of our efforts to reduce the cost of course content while maintaining high academic standards," said Jimmy Ghaphery, associate university librarian for scholarly communications and publishing at VCU Libraries. "When we look at the data about the rising cost of textbooks, [we see] it's not only hurting students financially but it also is putting them at academic risk."

VCU Libraries held four open textbook workshops in the 2016-

17 academic year as a consortial member of the Open Textbook Network (OTN). Thirty-three VCU faculty from 28 different academic units attended workshops.

Seven faculty projects, collectively involving more than 20 members, were selected for VCU's inaugural Affordable Course Content Awards. This funding stream allows recipients to author open textbooks or other course content to replace more costly texts in their classes.

The faculty recipients will be working on their projects throughout the 2017-18 academic year, with implementation expected by fall 2018.

To learn more about affordable course content and to keep up with the progress of faculty projects, visit go.vcu.edu/textbooksavings.

Opening Archives

New resources will give researchers access to images and information about social reform movements and social services



*Seventeenth Street Mission Collection, Special Collections, William Smith Morton Library, Union Presbyterian Seminary
Button: The Valentine (Gift of Mr. William B. O'Neal)*

A national, digital hub is under construction at VCU Libraries. The Social Welfare History Image Portal is a repository for images of archival materials related to the history of social reform and social welfare in the United States. Included are photographs, pamphlets, placards, handbills and comics pages drawn from the collections of numerous participating institutions.

The Image Portal will publicly launch in fall 2017 and discussions are underway about hosting a colloquium in 2018.

In addition to single items, the Image Portal will contain Discovery Sets, groups of items that serve as a starting place for research with primary sources. Sets focus on topics such as suffrage, temperance, the kindergarten movement and more.

The Image Portal is a companion to the Social History Welfare Project, a website launched in 2010 and now managed by VCU Libraries. Founded by pioneering social worker John “Jack” E. Hansan, the site

includes hundreds of articles drawn from scholarly and popular sources. Suffrage, civil rights, the settlement house movement, immigration, poverty, education and the creation of the professional social worker are among the topics covered.

The site became popular with people searching for reliable information on the open internet. Soon it was used by undergraduate researchers, social studies teachers, high school students and the general public. Today, it garners over 6,000 unique visits daily.

In 2016, Hansan — in his eighth decade of life and ready for retirement — considered the project’s next phase. He had ties to Virginia Commonwealth University: Three of his sons were graduates. Hansan had met University Librarian John E. Ulmschneider, who had impressed Hansan as an early adopter of new technologies. He trusted Ulmschneider, who agreed that VCU Libraries would assume responsibility for the Social Welfare History Project site, update its technology and preserve



Top: A young African-American boy in winter coat and cap stands outside the Seventeenth Street Mission in Richmond, VA.

Above: The Friends' League of the Salvation Army was a membership drive which in 1919 cost \$1, \$2 or \$5 per year.

CHAPTER 3

Foster scholarly expression

and update the content as part of furthering its efforts at community engagement.

Since VCU took over management of the site, Digital Outreach and Special Projects Librarian Alice Campbell and Research Assistant Catherine Paul have been adding additional public domain images from the Library of Congress and the National Archives and embedding content from HaathiTrust and Internet Archive. The site has a new, mobile-friendly design.

VCU Libraries' web development team set up the Social Welfare History Image Portal. Its archival materials are available to the public in sufficient resolution to be immediately useful and linked to relevant articles in the companion Social Welfare History Project site.

In spring 2017, VCU Libraries began approaching other libraries and cultural institutions about joining the effort to build the Image Portal. Three libraries quickly signed on as partners. Baylor University Libraries was the first to join in with nine examples of Prohibition Era sheet music. The University of Mary Washington came on board soon thereafter



Photo: Public Domain

with materials related to social justice, student protest and women's education. And a few days later, Simmons College Library shared 19th-century documents from their Charities Collection (including an annual report from the New York Society of the Suppression of Vice, the organization that tried to prevent the publication of James Branch Cabell's novel *Jurgen*).

Other partners in the Image Portal are: Beth Ahaba Museum and Acrchives, Union Presbyterian Seminary Library, University of Minnesota Libraries and The Valentine. The Social Welfare History Image Portal will continue to grow as new partners join the effort.

Above: Lyndon B. Johnson at the ESEA signing ceremony with his childhood teacher, Kate Deadrich Loney.

Right: 19th Century USA Temperance Union Pledge



VCU Libraries Thompson Collection of Lincolniana

To the Smithsonian

Museum of African American History and Culture features images from VCU collection

Two photographs and a postcard from VCU Libraries' Special Collections and Archives were featured in inaugural exhibitions at the National Museum of African American History and Culture, which opened in September 2016 on the National Mall in Washington, D.C.

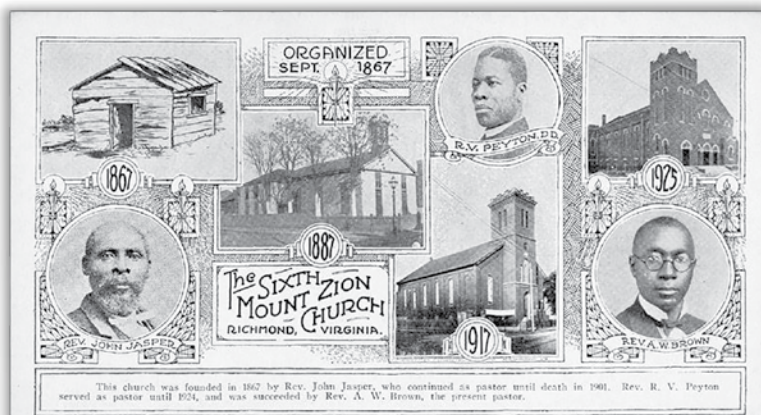
The three images are:

- A digitized photograph of the Robert R. Moton High School for African Americans in Prince Edward County, which was built in 1953 following a student-led strike in protest of segregated and inferior school facilities. After the 1954 landmark *Brown v. Board of Education* Supreme Court case, white segregationists in Prince Edward County chose to close public schools rather than integrate them. The schools



were closed from 1959 to 1964. During this period, provisions were made to educate white children in the county; none were made for black children. The image is part of VCU Libraries' Edward H. Peebles Prince Edward County (Va.) Public Schools Collection.

- A 1978 photograph of Sixth Mount Zion Church from VCU Libraries' Jackson Ward Historic District collection. The church was saved from demolition in the 1950s when construction of the Richmond-Petersburg Turnpike, which later became part of Interstate 95, cut a swath through Jackson Ward, effectively bifurcating a historically African-American neighborhood in Richmond.



• A postcard of Sixth Mount Zion Church from VCU Libraries' Rarely Seen Richmond digital collection of postcards of vintage Richmond postcards, mostly between 1900 and 1930.

VCU Libraries often receives requests from museums for collection materials for loan or reproduction and use in exhibitions or publications. This request is particularly meaningful, according to Wesley Chenault, Ph.D., head of Special Collections and Archives at James Branch Cabell Library.

"While loaning or sharing our collections is a part of what we do, it is thrilling

nonetheless to be able to contribute to the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture," Chenault said. "A bit of our collective past in Richmond and Central Virginia is now represented there and connected to a larger narrative of struggles and triumphs related to civil and human rights at the National Mall, a living site of landmarks, museums, protests, events and more. This is where our nation's first African-American president was inaugurated, the same site where Martin Luther King Jr. gave his 'I Have a Dream' speech. That is exciting to consider."



1963 photo displayed at state Supreme Court

On Aug. 24, 1963, Darwyn White held up the sign she carried and looked directly at the photographer who was documenting the protest for local police. "Mr. Grocer: Tell your friends, you'll see our dollars when segregation ends!" More than 50 years later, Darwyn's determined spirit still shone in a photograph from VCU Libraries digital collections that exhibited at the Supreme Court of Virginia.

"Bringing Down Jim Crow: the Legal Battle in Virginia, 1933-1967" was a display of eight photographs related to Virginia lawsuits that were important to the history of civil rights in the United States.





CHAPTER
4

create

community
and engagement

Changing spaces

Tompkins-McCaw debuts brand new look



Tompkins-McCaw Library for the Health Sciences is a hub of activity. Particularly around lunch breaks, students, faculty and clinicians fill the first floor of the library at 509 N. 12th St. These days, due to a recent facelift designed to meet expressed needs for flexible and booth seating, almost every seat is filled at midday.

In the first significant renovations since 2001, the MCV Campus library unveiled a bright new interior design in early 2017 — with bursts of red, modern upholstery, a downsized service desk and upgraded seating arranged for group or solo work. New carpeting and paint also brightened the conference room and the reading room in Special Collections and Archives.

Most of the renovations were completed over breaks to minimize interruptions, and the library remained open on its regular schedule.





CHAPTER 4

Create community and engagement



A literal underground railroad

Award-winning novelist Colson Whitehead gives 15th annual Black History Month lecture

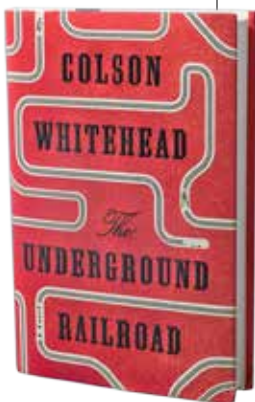
When Colson Whitehead was in fourth grade, he learned about the Underground Railroad, the effort to help shepherd slaves in the 19th century from captivity to free states through a network of people, routes and homes. Whitehead mistakenly thought the railroad was an actual railroad, with trains secretly running on rails in underground tunnels to ferry slaves to freedom.

His teacher set him straight, but the image did not fade completely. Years later, when Whitehead was 30 and an up-and-coming writer, he recalled that childhood misunderstanding and saw the storytelling potential the premise held. He envisioned a story with a protagonist traveling north on a literal underground train, stopping in each state along the way and facing some new

adventure. Each state would have a fantastical element attached to it and represent a particular state of American possibility.

However, the idea intimidated him, and he did not believe he was ready to explore the idea in a novel, either from a technical standpoint or an emotional one. In the ensuing years, he would occasionally revisit the premise and the notes he had accumulated on the story. Each time, he decided he was not yet ready to do justice to the subject. Instead, he wrote other novels and nonfiction books, which helped gain him a following of devoted readers and a reputation as a skilled, entertaining author.

Then, three years ago when he was considering his next novel, he finally discussed the idea with others. The response was enthusiastic and convincing: It was time to



write the book.

The result is *The Underground Railroad*, Whitehead's sixth novel and the most acclaimed of his career. The book was the winner of the 2016 National Book Award for Fiction and the Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence from the American Library Association, among many other honors, and a selection in Oprah Winfrey's prestigious book club.

Now 46, Whitehead detailed his journey to becoming a writer and the story behind *The Underground Railroad* in February as the featured speaker of the VCU Libraries' 15th annual Black History Month Lecture. During his appearance, Whitehead read two sections from the novel and signed books afterward. The event was held in James Branch Cabell Library's Lecture Hall.

"No matter what you're writing, you just hope that you have something new to contribute to the subject," he said. "Whether it's slavery or war or domestic troubles, someone

smarter and more talented has written about it before you got to the scene. But you've got your own particular set of skills and experiences and talents, so you can do your own thing."

As he tackled the novel, Whitehead found that he became most concerned with producing a work that was sufficient to approximate the experiences that his ancestors and other slaves had faced. He often tried to place himself in their position to imagine their circumstances and performed diligent research of the time and slave life. Because of the subject matter, the book is brutal, but Whitehead said, "It's still only 10 millionth of a percent of what they actually experienced."

"I recognized that my family went through this," Whitehead said. "I don't know who they were and where they lived and died ... I don't know what they worked on, how they lived and suffered. I tried to testify for them and for other people who went through slavery as much as I could."



Colson Whitehead read two sections from his novel *The Underground Railroad* and signed books afterward.



The history of health care reform

Tompkins-McCaw exhibit reflects century-long debate

Contentious debate over health care reform is nothing new. Its long history was displayed in the summer of 2017 in “For All the People: A Century of Citizen Action in Health Care Reform,” a National Library of Medicine exhibit at Tompkins-McCaw Library for the Health Sciences.

As part of the exhibit, Andrew Barnes, Ph.D., assistant professor of health behavior and policy at VCU, discussed the history of health care and how it relates to today’s policymaking.

Barnes’s lunchtime presentation covered the beginnings of organized health care and how it evolved over the last century into the current system. He discussed the earliest forms of organized health care that sprung from rapid industrialization and population boom. Employers began providing some sick leave or health coverage for employees in the early 20th century.

Barnes outlined the timeline of health

care reform from the Great Depression to Franklin D. Roosevelt’s resulting attempts to pass national health reform. Barnes then traced the evolution of policy through the Civil Rights era, onward to the beginning of Medicaid and Medicare, then leading to the modern era.

Barnes said that citizen action was and remains a route to reform.

“There’s a re-engagement with citizens and their government right now so the pendulum is swinging, but it takes time,” said Barnes, who encouraged people to consider becoming active. “Call your representatives ... get involved to the extent that you want to. If there’s something you want to see changed, find like-minded people and work with them. Have your voice heard.”

After the presentation, Barnes answered questions from the audience. Topics ranged from the effects of current health care reform on the VCU Health community to the opinions of medical practitioners on shaping policy.

The Urban League, a civil rights organization, co-sponsored this well-baby clinic to combat high infant mortality in African-American neighborhoods, Detroit, 1919.

Building creativity



Artist Noah Scalin brings his creative spirit and sprint to Cabell Library

Artist Noah Scalin wrapped up his year as artist-in-residence for the School of Business with a burst of creative energy at spring semester's end.

In a first partnership of this type, VCU Libraries' Academic Outreach Department partnered with the VCU School of Business to coordinate creative-building activities in library spaces in conjunction with the release of Scalin's workbook *Creative Sprint*.

Just like research skills, creativity can be improved through practice, Scalin believes. The free, open-to-all program of hands-on creative challenges was held in James Branch Cabell Library Lecture Hall, followed by a reception and book signing. Scalin talked briefly about his beliefs about creativity and trusting yourself to try new things and then walked the group through a hands-on exercise.

For 10 days after the book talk, daily prompts and ideas to spark creativity were shared on VCU Libraries social media and at a table in the lobby at Cabell. Students, staff and faculty participated. Some posted their creations to Instagram.

Examples of Cabell prompts were:

Today, break something and make something new with the pieces.

Write a poem or make something inspired by a poem you like. #VCUcreativesprint.

Go outside (or look out a window) and spend some time looking at the natural aspects of the environment around you. Make something inspired by what you notice.

Transform something you thought was trash into something you want to keep.

In his role at the School of Business, Scalin helped the school rollout its new strategic plan that focuses on creativity driving business success. He conducted creative-thinking seminars and created large-scale art installations and offered a 30-day Creative Sprint, with daily prompts for activities. This project was mirrored in the library partnership.

The artist-in-residence role, Scalin told *Style Weekly*, is "a recognition that fostering creative business cultures leads to more consistent innovations. This isn't about adding some creative frosting on a finished cake, this

is about recognizing that creativity is an ingredient that needs to be baked into all businesses if they're to be successful in the 21st century."

VCU Libraries partnered with the School of Business in hosting creative-building activities in conjunction with the release of Scalin's workbook *Creative Sprint*.





Art activism *meets* health care reform

Painter
Regina Holliday
speaks at
Community Health
Education
Center-sponsored
event.

Activist artist Regina Holliday believes the patient and medical provider should be partners who work together as a team. She also argues for speedy access to digital medical records, has strong opinions about patient care and safety, and works generally for a louder patient voice in policymaking.

On Oct. 20, 2016, she presented “The Patient Experience: Providing Quality Care and Safety” an event sponsored by Community Health Education Center (CHEC), which is a partnership of the Virginia Commonwealth University Health System, VCU Libraries and the MCV Hospitals Auxiliary. A painting demonstration followed her mov-

ing and personal talk, with the resulting art going on display at CHEC, which is in the Gateway Building at VCU Medical Center.

Holliday’s art and activism were shaped by her experiences during her

Artist Regina Holliday’s health care activism came after the hospitalization and death of her husband. She believes patients and medical providers should work together as a team.



CHAPTER 4

Create community and engagement

late husband's treatments and hospitalizations in 2009.

One of her advocacy efforts is "The Walking Gallery." The wearable art gallery consists of medical providers and advocates who wear patient story paintings on the backs of business suits. Some 300 individuals are part of the walking gallery. They attend medical conferences and meetings with the idea of changing minds and adding a patient voice to health care conversations. Several participants in "The Walking Gallery" attended her Richmond talk.

Holliday described her work as looking like that of the children's book illustrator Garth Williams and the activist painter Diego Rivera fused. Some have told her it is often sweet and disturbing at the same time.

"It is very easy to push aside some-

one's story, if that story is only the bullet point on a slide or the footnote in an academic article," she said. "It is much harder to look away at the painting on someone's back, screaming at you like so many wheals and welts."

Her favorite piece is "Are you alright?" In that painting, she said her late husband "stares at me from that painting like he is still with me. Still alive on pigment-covered canvas. Still urging me to help him, a patient. And every day I do exactly that."



"Are you alright?"
by Regina Holliday depicts the danger of infection when using a hospital tray table for food and bedding changes.



Celebrating faith, perseverance

A lively parade precedes the official dedication of a donated 1700s Holocaust-surviving Torah, now on display at Cabell Library

The quiet, busy atmosphere of Cabell Library was joyfully torn apart the afternoon on March 17 with the sudden appearance of an energetic klezmer band, closely followed by a centuries-old Torah and a massive congregation of clapping followers. The Torah made its slow procession through three floors of the library and attracted a growing congregation of curious students looking for an excuse to stop working, with frequent stops for spontaneous Hora dancing, a traditional Jewish circle dance.

The noisy parade of the Torah preceded its official dedication and placement on display at Cabell Library. The Torah scroll, a 105-foot-long length of parchment scribed in the customary Hebrew, was composed in Romania around 1750. It survived World War II and Nazi efforts to erase Jewish identity, and was donated to the VCU Libraries' Special Collections and Archives by alumni Martin L. Johnson and Olinda Young in 2014.

"This wonderful document, this scroll, is more than just a scroll as part of our collections and it's even more than a part of Jewish worship. Even more than that, it is also an astonishing tale of faith, perseverance and survival that we can all learn from," said John E. Ulmschneider, university librarian.

The Torah contains the first five books of the Jewish bible, beginning with the creation of the Earth in the book of Bereshit, also known as Genesis, and ending with the death of Moses and the arrival of the Jews to the promised land in the book of

D'varim, or Deuteronomy.

The Torah arrived at VCU in 52 separate sheets of parchment that needed to be sewn back together using thread from a kosher animal, meaning an animal that has split hooves, chews its cud, and was slaughtered in a precise ritualistic manner. It was painstakingly restored with assistance from Jay Ipson, a Holocaust survivor and co-founder of the Virginia Holocaust Museum, and Dianna Gabey, former curator at the museum.

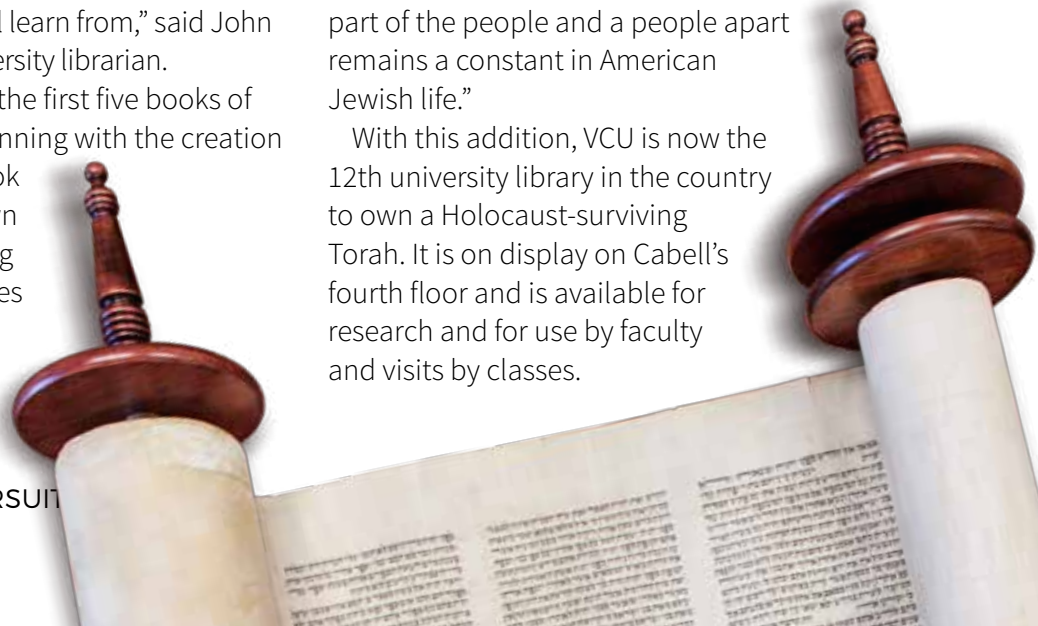
"We opened it up all the way from end to end for the first time in maybe 60 years and then with the same thread we wrapped it on the Etz Hayim, the tree of life," said Ipson.

The Torah dedication was followed by the 32nd annual Brown-Lyons lecture titled "Jews and Booze" by Marni Davis, Ph.D, associate professor of history at Georgia State University, on the history of American Jews' relationship to the alcohol industry during the 19th and early 20th centuries.

"What has remained constant is that American Jews are seemingly never-endingly negotiating between maintaining difference and merging into the American mainstream," Davis said. "The desire to be both part of the people and a people apart remains a constant in American Jewish life."

With this addition, VCU is now the 12th university library in the country to own a Holocaust-surviving Torah. It is on display on Cabell's fourth floor and is available for research and for use by faculty and visits by classes.

This 105-foot-long Torah, composed in Romania around 1750, arrived at VCU in 52 separate sheets of parchment and was painstakingly restored.





Marking a century of scholarship

RPI's 1917 founding celebrated with exhibition from VCU archives

The brownstone wall around Ginter House at 901 W. Franklin St. was the epicenter of student activity at Richmond Professional Institute (RPI), a predecessor to Virginia Commonwealth University. 2017 marks the 100th anniversary of the founding of RPI, and the iconic wall is depicted in a celebratory exhibit at the University Student Commons.

University Archivist Jodi Koste was an integral part of the planning process. "The exhibit is a wonderful opportunity to introduce students to a significant part of the institution's history and legacy," Koste said.

"We enjoyed searching the archives for images to tell the story of RPI as well as hearing about past student experiences from the members of the RPI alumni group involved with the project."

Senior Research Associate in Special Collections and Archives Ray Bonis added "I was happy to participate. Often, the history of RPI is overlooked. I see this as an opportunity to let students, faculty and staff learn about the kinds of

materials we have in our university archives and to tell the story of the school. Our involvement in the exhibit included selecting and scanning images for the exhibit to writing and editing the text. The hard work was done by the designer."

The exhibit includes floor-to-ceiling photo display panels that depict the leaders and professors who taught at RPI and built its infrastructure, the students who built their futures on the cobblestone campus and the activities that built the foundation for the VCU of today and tomorrow. Running along the bottom of the exhibit is a representation of the brownstone wall where RPI students gathered.

A parallel wall contains a timeline that illustrates through photos and commentary significant milestones in RPI's history from its inception in 1917 to its merger in 1968 with the Medical College of Virginia to become VCU.

More than 15,000 students, faculty and visitors pass between the two walls every day.

Cabell exhibit explores collaborations

During the 2017-2018 academic year, VCU will mark 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. "Making VCU," a fourth floor exhibit at James Branch Cabell Library, 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 urban center of Richmond.

These connections to other colleges and institutions have been a constant theme 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.



Encouraging service and activism

VCU Libraries' online gallery features Encampment for Citizenship

VCU Libraries has opened a digital gallery of its collection of documents, correspondence, photographs, artwork and memorabilia related to the Encampment for Citizenship, a summer camp experience launched after World War II to bring together young people from diverse backgrounds and encourage democratic citizenship, community service, activism and leadership.

The gallery, “Encampment for Citizenship: Education for Democratic Living,” coincided with the Encampment’s 70th anniversary.

The Encampment for Citizenship was

founded in 1946 by Algernon D. Black, a leader of the New York Society for Ethical Culture, and civic leader Alice K. Pollitzer.

“The Encampment for Citizenship is a profoundly idealistic and aspirational organization. You can see in their brochures [in the digital gallery] that asked, ‘Do you want to make the world a better place?’” said Alice Campbell, digital outreach and special projects librarian with VCU Libraries. “They believe so profoundly in democracy and in the possibility of citizen action that I would hope that people — especially young people — would see in this history and

Encampment for Citizenship began in 1946 and continues today. Photographed above are encampers in Denver in 1973.

in these images people who took steps to make their dreams come true and to make the change that they wanted in society.

The Encampment for Citizenship played a key part in the formative years of numerous leaders and activists, including Miles Rapoport, former president of Common Cause; Peter Neufeld, co-founder of the Innocence Project; Aurelia E. Brazeal, a former U.S. ambassador to Micronesia, Kenya and Ethiopia; and U.S. Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton, the longstanding congresswoman representing Washington, D.C.

Eleanor Roosevelt was an early supporter of the Encampment for Citizenship and often hosted encampers for workshops and discussions at her Hyde Park estate. The Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. was also a vocal supporter and spoke at the Encampment. Photos of both Roosevelt and King at the Encampment are in the VCU

Libraries' collection.

"With any exhibit, we hope viewers immerse themselves with the content, ask questions, perhaps seek to learn more about a subject," said Wesley Chenault, head of Special Collections and Archives at James Branch Cabell Library. "While we certainly want those who visit this exhibition to take away knowledge about the Encampment for Citizenship's mission and long history, a deeper form of engagement would involve thinking about EFC's core ideas about youth agency and activism, critical thinking skills and experiential learning, and connecting them to present-day notions of democracy, social justice and global citizenry."



Eleanor Roosevelt speaks with encampers in 1946.



Encampers enjoy some recreation in 1947 (above).

Encampers pose for a group photograph in the 1950s (left).



TO SEE THE GALLERY, VISIT gallery.library.vcu.edu/exhibits/show/encampment-for-citizenship



Photo by Craig Zirpolo

Seeking just mercy

Art exhibit by incarcerated youth ties into the Common Book program

A thought-provoking exhibition with offerings from young people inside the U.S. juvenile justice system was on view in April at James Branch Cabell Library. The exhibit was co-sponsored by The VCU Common Book Program and VCU Libraries.

Youth incarceration is one issue explored Bryan Stevenson's 2014 memoir, *Just Mercy*, which as the 2016-17 Common Book was read by thousands of incoming students. It tells the story of an idealistic, gifted young lawyer while providing a window into the lives of those he defended and arguing for compassion in the pursuit of true justice.

The Cabell Library display captured the stories, voices and viewpoints of youth ages 14 to 17 who took part in a 2016 program by ART 180 in partnership with the Richmond Juvenile Detention Center. Through self-portraits, visual narratives and

digital media the young people explore their views of education, family, change and their futures using various mediums of expression.

"The artwork is meant to talk to specific issues we need to address in our justice system," said Trey Hartt, deputy director of ART 180, a Richmond-based, 19-year old nonprofit that addresses social change through art.

"Performing Statistics," a joint effort by ART 180 and Legal Aid Justice Center, connects incarcerated teens with artists, designers, educators and advocates who work to transform the juvenile justice system. The ART 180 program, according to its website, "works with youth trapped in the school-to-prison pipeline to sharpen their advocacy and leadership skills, share their experiences through creative expression, and mobilize communities for change."

Bryan Stevenson's 2014 memoir *Just Mercy* was the 2016-17 Common Book at VCU. Here, he meets with youth in the ART 180 program.

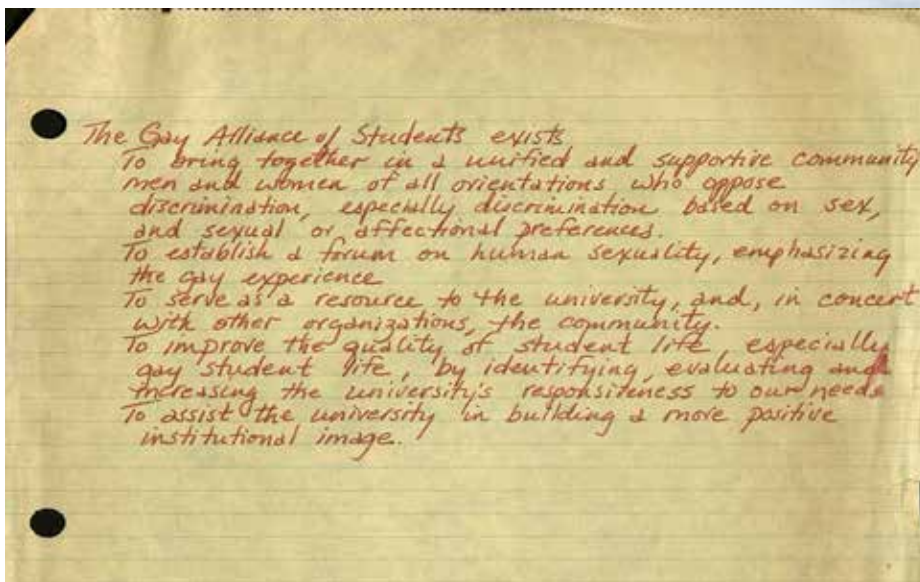
Remembering struggle

Exhibit and panel discussion recall Gay Alliance of Students' legal battle for recognition.

In 1976, VCU's first LGBTQ student group, the Gay Alliance of Students, secured official recognition as a student organization following a two-year legal struggle. That victory was an important milestone on the path toward inclusion and acceptance for LGBTQ students, staff and faculty at VCU.

Four decades later, James Branch Cabell Library and Tompkins-McCaw Library for the Health Sciences both hosted the exhibit "Celebrating 40 Years: The Gay Alliance of Students' Legal Journey to Recognition," which featured materials from Special Collections and Archives. VCU Libraries and Humanities Research Center (HRC) shared in creating the exhibit.

As part of the HRC fall speaker series, Cabell library also hosted a panel discussion examining the pivotal 1974-76 struggle. 1970s alumni shared memories of the lawsuit of life for LGBTQ students of the time.



The Gay Alliance of Students' draft statement of purpose.

Fostering unity

Hands-on project on Cabell Library lawn celebrates uniqueness and connection



After the divisive 2016 presidential election, a public interactive art project outside James Branch Cabell Library sparked a renewed spirit of optimism, camaraderie, inclusiveness and respect.

The UNITY Project – sponsored by VCU’s Division for Inclusive Excellence, the Department of Psychology in the College of Humanities and Sciences and the Partnership for People with Disabilities at the School of Education – featured a circular arrangement of 32 poles.

Each pole was labeled with an identifier, such as “I’m a parent,” “I identify as LGBTQ”

or “I speak English as a second language,” and participants tied string of yarn around each pole with which they identified. As more people participated, the interconnected yarn formed a canopy, demonstrating how everyone is unique, and yet also connected with others.

As four-day project kicked off, VCU President Michael Rao, Ph.D., said it offered a great example of how VCU brings people together across their differences.

“Diversity is important, but inclusion is important too,” Rao said. “One of the most important things that this says to me is: As Virginia Commonwealth University, we are a community of people who are committed to people being who they are. We should all have the right to be who we are – whether it is visible or not visible – we need to be able to be who we are. That, to me, is one of the most important parts of being a human being on Earth. We’re making progress on that, but we have a tremendous opportunity to take it a lot farther.”

The project was designed by artist Nancy Belmont, who created the first UNITY Project art installation in the Del Ray neighborhood of Alexandria, Va., in June 2016. Since then, it has been replicated in nearly 600 cities in 21 countries around the world. The UNITY Project is part of Belmont’s #WeLiveBig initiative to promote human flourishing.

Interconnected yarn formed a canopy outside Cabell Library during The UNITY Project.



Honoring tradition

A new online gallery features MCV leaders' portraits



Clockwise from top: William Henry Taylor (detail) by George Bagby Matthews; Austin Dodson by Edmund Pleasants Archer; James A.C. Hoggan by Eloise D. Wells

As the Medical College of Virginia (MCV), a predecessor institution of Virginia Commonwealth University, grew, students and faculty established a tradition in the 1920s of honoring long-time administrative officers and department heads with commissioned portraits. Physicians who were trained by a “chief” would commonly offer a portrait to commemorate 25 or 30 years of service to the college.

These honorifics, along with portraits of other luminaries – deans, founders and early supporters – comprise a significant body of portraiture held by VCU Libraries and are now in an online gallery. While most works are examples of period American studio oil work, conveying gravitas by framing the subject in formal dress, a handful of portraits reach into modernist composition and form.

While this tradition has largely been superseded by other honors for distinguished faculty, including endowed chairs, scholarships and lectures, the MCV Campus Portrait Collection pays tribute to some of the university’s most dedicated servants.



TO SEE THE GALLERY, VISIT gallery.library.vcu.edu/exhibits/show/mcvportraits

Events

Community Engagement 2016-17

VCU Libraries is an active convener of community and scholarly events. Its 300-seat Lecture Hall is in high demand by many departments and scholars across both campuses. Its buildings host exhibitions and displays of broad interest.

Fall 2016



Spring 2017



Years in Comparison

2015-16 ↔ 2016-17

| | |
|--|---|
| 69 total events, 12,216 attendees | 263 total events, 30,533 attendees |
| 42 library events, 9,206 attendees | 101 library events, 21,148 attendees |
| 27 non-library events, 3,010 attendees | 162 non-library events, 9,385 attendees |

Exhibits

June-September 2016
The Eyes Have It

September-November 2016
ICA: A Forum of Ideas

October 2016
Silent Witness

November 2016
The Clothesline Project

March 2017
Graduate Research Symposium Posters

April 2017
Performing Statistics

May-June 2017
For All the People: A Century of Citizen Action in Health Care



Rickey Laurentiis, winner of the 2016 Levis Reading Prize for *Boy with Thorn*, read from his book and then participated in a question-and-answer session with the audience.

2016-2017

VCU Libraries Public Events

August 2016

Library Fest

Grad Fest

September 2016

VCU Visiting Writers Series: Mary Lou Hall and Hanna Pylväinen

Wednesdays in the Workshop: Virtual and Augmented Realities

Wednesdays in the Workshop: 3D Printing 101

Real Life Film Series: *Alive Inside: A Story of Music and Memory*

Changing the Constitution: Learning from History to Make a Difference in the Future

Wednesdays in the Workshop: Sewing Machine Basics

The Big Draw: Q&A with Comic Artist Alumni

In Real Life: A Conversation with Distinguished VCU Alumni

Banned Books Week

Questioning Cinema: *Waste Land*

Open Textbook Workshop

Wednesdays in the Workshop: Scanning Slides and Other Transparencies

Meet VCU's Authors: David Coogan

October 2016

Trials and Triumphs, 1974-76: The Struggle for Recognition of VCU's First Gay Student Group

Wednesdays in the Workshop: Introduction to Drones

Digital Pragmata: Framing the Digital

Making the Invisible Visible: Activating Black History Through Digital Storytelling

Levis Reading Prize Night Featuring Rickey Laurentiis

Wednesdays in the Workshop: The Effective Use of a Telescope

Meet VCU's Authors: Isabelle Richman

From Telemedicine to the Secure Care Unit: Perspectives on Correctional Health Care at VCU Health

Reporting Science to the World: The State of Science Journalism

Advance Your Research

Wednesdays in the Workshop: Green Screen 101

Real Life Film Series: *Frontline: The New Asylums*

The Patient Experience: Providing Quality Care and Safety

Open Scholarship: Presence, Rights and Risks: Cultivating an Online Scholarly Presence

Open Scholarship: Presence, Rights and Risks: Medical Scholarship and Publishing

Wednesdays in the Workshop: 3D Modeling

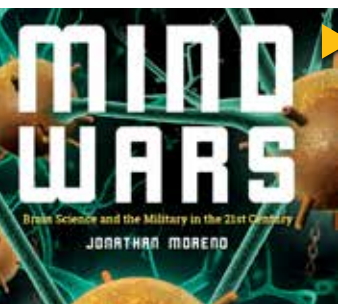
Open Textbook Workshop

Friends of VCU Libraries Book Sale

November 2016

Wednesdays in the Workshop: 3D Printing 201





Sanger Series Lecture: *Mind Wars: Brain Science and the Military in the 21st Century*

Share Your Research Beyond Academia: A Writing Workshop for Graduate Students

Wednesdays in the Workshop: Beginning Digital Photography

Unveiling of the Sefer Torah: View a Torah That Survived the Holocaust

Meet VCU's Authors: Cliff Edwards

Questioning Cinema: *The Man Who Knew Infinity*

Copyright for Creators: Copyright 1.0: Overview of Copyright

Wednesdays in the Workshop: Intro to Stop Motion Animation

Conversation: A Forum of Ideas

Real Life Film Series: *Death: A Love Story*

VCU Cabell First Novelist Award Night Featuring Angela Flournoy

Wednesdays in the Workshop: Video Conversion 101

December 2016

Open Textbook Workshop: 3D Printing 201

String Chamber Music in James Branch Cabell Library

Real Life Film Series: *The Battle of AmfAR: The Quest for an AIDS Cure*

January 2017

Real Life Film Series: *Mobilize*

VCU MFA in Creative Writing Program Alumni Spotlight Featuring Lea Marshall, Katy Resch George, Patty Smith and Audrey Walls

Meet VCU's Authors: Brian Daugherty

School of Education Research Colloquium: Organizing Schools

for Improvement and Learning to Improve—Lessons Learned

February 2017

Literary Greats: Is Shakespeare Beyond Race?

Affordable Course Content Informational Workshops (four sessions)

Copyright for Creators: Copyright 2.0: Web, Arts and Multimedia Issues

Racial Disproportionality, School Discipline and Future Directions: A Community Conversation

Open Science Workshop

African-American Read-in

Black History Month Lecture: *The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead

GerryRIGGED: Turning Democracy on Its Head

Real Life Film Series: *Soul Food Junkies*

Questioning Cinema: *Loving*

Meet VCU's Authors: Tressie Cottom

VCU Visiting Writers Series: Sonja Livingston and Scott Russell Sanders

Open Textbook Workshop

Advance Your Research

March 2017

Wednesdays in the Workshop: Virtual Reality and Augmented Reality Demo

Literary Greats: What's It Worth? Shakespeare's Value Then and Now

Wednesdays in the Workshop: Telling Your Story with Maps

Real Life Film Series: *States of Grace: A Journey of Loss, Resilience and Renewal*

Rams Watch Party





Anthropology Speaker Series with University of Richmond President Ronald Crutcher

Wednesdays in the Workshop: Sewing Machine Basics

Sanger Series Lecture: *The Branding of the American Mind: How Universities Capture, Manage and Monetize Intellectual Property and Why It Matters*

VCU Visiting Writers Series: Ru Freeman and LeAnne Howe

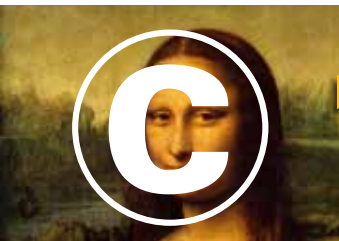
Copyright for Creators: Copyright 3.0: Scholarly Communications

Wednesdays in the Workshop: Intro to the Embroidery Machine

Digital Pragmata: Information in Motion

Celebration of Gift of a Holocaust Sefer Torah to VCU Libraries

Brown-Lyons Lecture: *Jews and Booze: Becoming American in the Age of Prohibition* by Marni Davis



April 2017

Cabell's Creative Sprint

Creative Sprint Featuring VCU School of Business Artist-in-residence Noah Scalin

Tech Fair

Wednesdays in the Workshop: Astronomy on the Compass

Folger Shakespeare Library Transcribathon

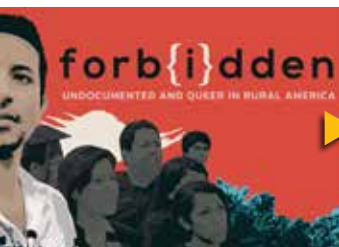
Objects of Devotion: Religion at the Nation's History Museum

Wednesdays in the Workshop: Electronics Basics: Make a Contact Microphone

Forbidden: Undocumented and Queer in Rural North America Documentary Screening



Peter Manseau



VCU Visiting Writers Series: Gretchen Comba and Karen Solie

From Research to Recovery Town Hall

Choral Music on the James Branch Cabell Library Steps

Wednesdays in the Workshop: Beginning Digital Photography

Meet VCU's Authors: Gregory Kimbrell

Real Life Film Series: *The Connection: Mind Your Body*

Blake Lecture: Ghosts and the Conversion of Europe

Providing Consumer Health Information to Patrons: A Workshop for Public Librarians

Open These Hallowed Doors: The Desegregation of Public Libraries in the American South

Wednesdays in the Workshop: Introduction to the 360 Degree Camera

Choral Music on the James Branch Cabell Library Steps

Memoirs of Mass Incarceration: The Rhetoric of Revolutionaries, Witnesses and Survivors

May 2017

Wednesdays in the Workshop: Podcasting Basics

Mindfulness Sessions (three sessions)

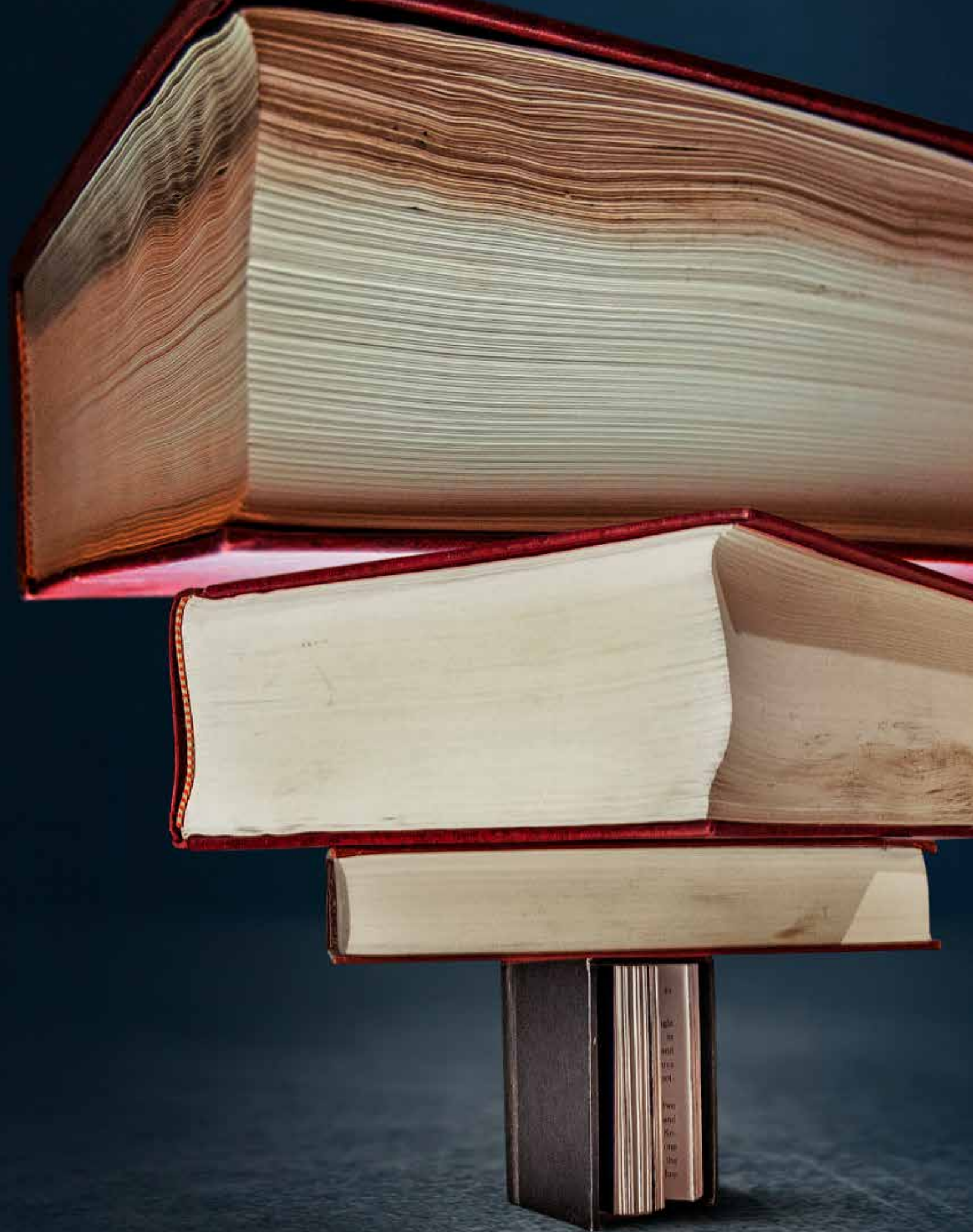
For All the People: A Century of Citizen Action in Health Care

VCUarts Fashion Runway: Launch Live-stream

Real Life Film Series: *Handmaidens and Battleaxes: The Real Story of Nursing*

Luncheon Honoring Richmond Times-Dispatch Columnist Clare Schapiro







CHAPTER

5

enhance

resource

stewardship

CHAPTER 5

Enhance resource stewardship

Record-breaking fundraising

801 donors, more than \$2 million



Fiscal year '17 was a record-breaking fundraising year at VCU Libraries: 801 donors made a combined contribution of just over \$2.1 Million.

A major part of this achievement came in meeting the Cabell Foundation's \$1 million matching challenge, which was issued in December 2015. The campaign funds have been invested in the

New Building Fund, which enhances library spaces with new technology and equipment, and the Library of the Future Fund, which replaces and updates worn or outmoded furnishings or equipment.

The successful Cabell Challenge illustrates not only the breadth of support for VCU's libraries but also the power of gifts of all amounts to make a difference. Of the record 434 donations, four were \$100,000 or more, 23 were \$10,000-\$99,000, and the remaining 407 contributions were \$1,000 or less. Gifts came

The efforts of The Cabell Foundation and donors demonstrate the impact that can be made when like-minded organizations and individuals embrace the crucial importance of libraries.

from inspired alumni, faculty, staff, community members and others.

VCU Libraries has now reached more than 62 percent of the goal for the Make It Real Campaign that continues until 2020.

“We are so grateful to see the work of VCU Libraries and its important role at the university and in the community recognized with this vast outpouring of philanthropy,” said University Librarian John E. Ulmschneider.

Cabell Foundation Executive Director Jill A. McCormick said: “The foundation is pleased to support this important project for VCU and the Richmond community. I hear nothing but excitement about the new building and the role it plays in fostering not only scholarship but a sense of place.”

“This is a momentous occasion for VCU Libraries. I am so pleased

that our alumni and friends made the Cabell Challenge a reality, helping VCU Libraries continue to provide world-class educational assistance to our students, faculty and community,” said Stephanie Lawson Holt, (B.S.’74/E), president of the Friends of VCU Libraries.

The combined efforts of The Cabell Foundation and donors demonstrate the enormous impact that can be made when like-minded community organizations and individuals come together and embrace the crucial importance of libraries to education and to Richmond, according to Kelly Gotschalk (B.F.A.’90/A; M.A.’97/A), director of development and major gifts for VCU Libraries. The majority of gifts were given by alumni, which signals the importance and value of the libraries across disciplines,

she said.

“The success of this challenge speaks to the value of the library to the university and to the community. There is not one school or unit at VCU that is not served in some way by VCU Libraries. The spectrum of donors to this challenge is amazing. They come from all disciplines and areas of the university: alumni, faculty, staff and friends, and each and every gift helped us to reach our goal,” she said.

Now that the Cabell Challenge has been met, the development office will shift focus toward raising \$1 million for Special Collections and Archives, while continuing to raise an additional \$2.6 million for building improvements to Cabell and Tompkins-McCaw libraries. As funds for other needs arise, the development office will work to secure those gifts as well, Gotschalk said.



To learn how you can support the libraries, contact Gotschalk, director of development and major gifts, at (804) 827-1163 or kjgotschalk@vcu.edu.

The development office is raising \$2.6 million for building improvements to Cabell and Tompkins-McCaw libraries.

Mothers' Room

Service represents VCU's commitment to workplace diversity and work-life balance

Sixteen donors associated with Women in Science, Dentistry and Medicine (WISDM) on the MCV Campus have pledged or given \$50,600 to create a new lactation or "Mothers' Room" in newly renovated space at James Branch Cabell Library.

This room is open in a quiet space on the fourth floor. Outfitted with comfortable chairs, privacy screens, a pump and a refrigerator, and decorated in a soothing, pleasant palette with beautiful photographs of mothers with babies, the room will benefit hundreds of students, faculty and staff each year. Its use will be free and available during library hours. It is one of the three lactation rooms on the Monroe Park campus.

Carol Hampton made the first gift while serving as president of the Friends of VCU Libraries and led the fundraising effort to benefit women on campus. Hampton is a leading WISDM member and an advocate for women faculty, staff and students. "You cannot have it all, all at once, but you can have it all the way through," she said, underscoring the importance of a workplace and educational setting that supports family life.

Hampton, retired faculty and former associate dean for faculty and instructional



development at VCU School of Medicine, spoke about WISDM's achievements at the 25th anniversary VCU WISDM Leadership Conference. Highlights included VCU School of Medicine receiving the national leadership development award from the American Association of Medical Colleges in 2000, VCU Health being named one of the 100 best places to work for by Working Mothers magazine in 2004, 2005, 2007 and 2008, and the opening of the WISDM mother's lactation room at Cabell Library.

"In spite of the progress we have made, much more remains to be done," Hampton said, challenging the audience to continue to work toward gender equality in their specific schools and departments.

Image by Hayes and Fisk Photography used with permission of VCU Health, which commissioned the photography. This is one of the photos that hangs in the new fourth floor lactation room.



Biggest book sale ever funds key projects

The single largest event of the 2016-17 year was the Friends of VCU Libraries Annual Book Sale, which returned after a two-year absence with an enormous backlog of materials donated by members of the Richmond community. A record amount was raised and more than 13,000 people attended.

These are the Leaders Engaging in Advanced Discovery projects for FY18 using a portion of the funds raised from that successful sale:

- Continuing a peer-to-peer mentorship program for students with disabilities in which Emerging Leadership Program (ELP) students will partner with the Student Accessibility and Educational Opportunity Office
- Collecting data and student opinions about on-campus housing contract lengths with Residence Life and Housing staff to determine if a nine-month or 12-month housing contract best meets needs
- Developing an online student employee training program with Student Commons and Activities staff that could be used for a wide variety of student leaders
- Working with ELP staff to develop and implement a comprehensive strategy for better engaging program alumni.



Good answers



Survey of faculty and students shows improved services at VCU libraries

Building on its history of improving services through better understanding of users' needs and preferences, VCU Libraries conducted a quality survey of all faculty and a sample of students in 2017's spring semester. The responses reflected dramatic improvement in library service and resources.

The survey focuses on three di-

mensions of library quality – affect of service (staff quality), library as place (facilities quality), and information control (quality and accessibility of the collections). Through the years, affect of service dimension has always produced the strongest survey results. Despite this high standard, the 2017 results for affect of service registered

Undergraduates surveyed gave the largest increases to rating the library as a “quiet place for individual activities,” “a comfortable and inviting location” and “space that inspires study and learning.”



significant positive increases over the 2013 results, the most recent previous survey year, producing higher jumps for each measure than those recorded in the past. The highest rated measure was “giving users individual attention.”

With the Cabell library expansion, improvement was expected for the “library as place” dimension. Undergraduates gave the largest increases to rating the library as a “quiet place for individual activities,” “a comfortable and inviting location” and “space that inspires study and learning.”

Graduate students were even more enthusiastic with “library as place” responses. The “information control” category – which measures quality of collections and access to the scholarly record – also revealed dramatic improvement, according to graduate students. The most dramatic gain was in “print and/or electronic resources I require for my work,” which has historically been an area of concern with this user group.

As rated by the faculty, “information control” has been a challenging category in years past. In 2006, for instance, the faculty rated all but one question negatively. More recent surveys have shown improvement in this area, but in 2017 the faculty rated every question in the category positively, with most measures well exceeding their minimum expectations. The most dramatic improvement over the 2013 results were in “making electronic resources available from my home or office” and “easy-to-use access tools that allow me to find things on my own.” Nationally, research libraries have been challenged by faculty responses for this dimension.

“This data is extremely valuable to us,” said University Librarian John E. Ulmschneider. “The experience and needs of our users shape our decision-making about collections, facilities, teaching and how we assist users, and helps us with short- and long-range planning.”

“It is a best practice for libraries to seek opinions of their users by tools including surveys and focus groups,” said Michael Rawls, budget and assessment director for VCU Libraries.

VCU used the nationally normed LibQUAL survey, developed by the Association of Research Libraries and Texas A&M University. Using comparable data from other research institutions, VCU Libraries measures its performance and compare its progress and position to that of peer libraries.



New faculty at VCU Libraries



▲ **Ashley Brewer** is the web systems librarian at Cabell Library. She was previously online user librarian and information delivery services librarian at Old Dominion University. She holds a master's in library science from University of Washington and a bachelor's with a theater major from Stanford University. In the past three years, she has presented or co-presented the following: "Diversity and User Experience" at Virginia Library Association of College and Research Libraries; "Utilizing public services staff to test web assessment tools and create a sustainable iterative usability testing framework" at Empirical Librarians; "Act to the future: utilizing scenario planning to shape a strategic plan" at Maryland Library Association Annual Conference; "Jargon-free librarianing: speaking the language of

our patrons" at Virginia Library Association Annual Conference; and "How relevant are your results? Supporting topical research in discovery services" at Coalition for Networked Information.

▼ **Erica Brody** is a research and education librarian at Tompkins-McCaw Library, where she is liaison to the School of Dentistry. She holds a master's in public health policy and management from Emory Uni-



versity in addition to the master's in library science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She has worked in library and clinical settings, the Centers for Disease Control and Environmental Protection Agency. She has contributed to numerous health services research projects funded by a variety of organizations, including the National Institutes of Health, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

▼ **Rachel Koenig** is a research and education librarian at Tompkins-McCaw Library, where she is liaison to the School of Pharmacy. She served as an instruction and assessment librarian at the State University of New York at Canton College of Technology, after having completed her master's degree in library science at Indiana University. She also holds an master's in history from Indiana University.



▲ **Andrea Kohashi** is in a new position at Cabell Library, that of teaching librarian in Special Collections and Archives. She works with faculty to develop instructional sessions working primarily with artists' books, rare books and other primary source materials. She is interested in book art production, research and scholarship and exploring innovative ways to engage with primary source materials. Kohashi holds master's degrees in information science and book arts from the University of Iowa. She received a bachelor's with a major in architecture from Washington University in St. Louis. She was previously archivist and books arts studio coordinator at University of Richmond and a preservation and conservation assistant at University of Iowa libraries.



▲ **Janet Reid** is VCU Libraries' new business research librarian and liaison to the School of Business. She works closely with faculty to provide curriculum integrated instruction and research services. She most recently served as corporate librarian at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota. She has also held positions at Centerpoint Energy, the Star Tribune (Minneapolis), Wiley, Rein & Fielding, and the Howard University of Law. Reid holds a master's of library science from North Carolina Central University and a bachelor's in library science from Radford University.

Selected accomplishments and examples of engagement

Samples of scholarship and presentations and contributions to librarianship

- **Himsworth, R., Andres, A., Weber, A., & Scott, S.** (2016). *Art and medicine: A collaborative project between Virginia Commonwealth University, Qatar and Weill Cornell Medicine, Qatar* [course and exhibition catalog]. Virginia Commonwealth University: Doha, Qatar.
- **Bradshaw, A. K.** (2016). *What can librarians of color do to strengthen the pipeline? Suggestions from an academic librarian.* In Rebecca Hankins and Miguel Juarez (Eds.), *Where are all the librarians of color? The experiences of people of color in academia.* Sacramento, CA: Library Juice Press.
- **Arendt J, Bryant N, Kendler KS, Dick DM, Adkins A.** (2016). *From saliva samples to the classroom and beyond: What college students are telling us about genetic and environmental influences on substance use and emotional health.* Substance Abuse Library and Information Studies Volume III, Issue I, 4-10
- **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, MA.
- **Chenault, W.** *Chair, Sailing into Metrics: Rethinking and Implementing Metrics and Assessment in Archives* Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference, Annapolis
- **Chenault, W.** *Panelist, Playing Outside: Opportunities for Community Engagement Beyond the Archives,* Midwest Archives Conference Annual Meeting, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- **Coghill, D.E., Anderson, A., and Isom-Payne, S.** (2017). *Modeling Interdisciplinary Work: Advising, Libraries, and Digital Fluency in First-Year Experience Library Cookbook,* Association of College and Research Libraries.
- **Ghaphery, J., Owens, E., Coghill, D.E., Gariepy, L.W., Hodge, M.H., McNulty, T. and White, E.R.** (2016). *Building Bridges with Logs: Collaborative Conversations about Discovery across Library Departments.* Code4Lib Journal, (32).
- **Ghaphery, J., Byrd, S.** (2017). *James Branch Cabell's Personal Library: Enriching Publishing with Local Library Data.* Presented at Library Publishing Forum.
- **Ghaphery, J., Aaron A., Friesen, and French** (2017). *Where They Are Now: A Conversation with Alma Early Adopters.* Presented at American Library Association Midwinter Meeting.
- **Glover, J.T.** (2016). *The Selected Authorship of H.P. Lovecraft.* Presented at James Madison University Pulp Studies Symposium.
- **Glover, J.T.** (2016). *Information Literacy and Instruction: Embedding Information Literacy in an MFA Novel Workshop.* Reference & User Services Quarterly 55.4: 273-276.
- **Glover, J.** (2017). *From fieldwork to framework: Preparing for library outreach to writers and poets.* In C. Smallwood & V. Gubnitskaia (Eds.), *Library partnerships with writers and poets: Case studies* (12-18). Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Company, Inc.
- **Glover, J.T.** (2016). *Research Tools Outside of English Studies.* Biblio-Notes, 17-18.
- **Hurst, E.J.** (2017). *From Dreaming to Doing: Navigating the Research Pipeline.* Presented at Medical Library Association Annual Meeting.
- **Hurst, E.J.** (2016). *Scanning the Horizon: Emerging Technology at Your Library and in the Classroom.* Webinar for Medical Library Association.
- **Hurst, E.J.** (2016). *3D Printing in Healthcare: Emerging Applications.* Journal of Hospital Librarianship, (3), 255-267.
- **Hurst, E.J.** (2016). *Evolutions in Telemedicine: From Smoke Signals to Mobile Health Solutions.* Journal of Hospital Librarianship, 16(2), 174-185.
- **Johnson, J.E., Kidd, M.T.,** (2017). *BOHM's* Away: Lessons from A Collection Survey ("Big Ol' Hot Messes)* Poster presented at MARAC Spring 2017 Meeting.
- **Kidd, M.T., Johnson, J.E.** (2016). *Creating Your Own Personal Digital Archives* Presented at the Richmond Times-Dispatch Archives Fair.
- **Johnson, J.E.** (2016) *What Not to Wear in the Archives: A Survey Presented at the MARAC Virginia Caucus Meeting.*
- **Owsley, D., Bruwelheide, K, Jantz, R, Koste, J. and Outlaw, M.** (2017) *Skeletal Evidence of anatomical and surgical training in nineteenth-century Richmond.* In C. K. Nystrom (Ed.), *The Bioarchaeology of Dissection and Autopsy in the United States.* New York: Springer.
- **Koste, J.** (2016). *Sadie Heath Cabaniss: Mother of professional nursing in Virginia.* In C.A. Kiener and S. G. Treadway (Eds.) *Virginia Women: Their Lives and Times.* Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press.
- **Koste, J.** (2017) *Sadie Heath Cabaniss: Daughter of Virginia and pioneer nurse of the Commonwealth.* Presented at History Forum, University of Virginia School of Nursing.
- **Ladd D.** (2017). *What Patients Need to Know: Information Needs and Sources of Patients with Rare Cancers.* In: Raghavan D, ed. *Textbook of Uncommon Cancer.* 5th ed. Wiley-Blackwell.
- **Ladd D. and Barker S** (2017). *Dogs on Call in a Patient Library.* Journal of Hospital Librarianship.
- **Ladd, D., Lubker I., Mack T.,** (2017). *Collaboration and Partnership Provide Summer Library Programs for Middle School Students.* Journal of Hospital Librarianship.
- **Ladd D.** (2016). *Health and Wellness Programs in a Patient Library: Program Development and Brief Assessment.* Journal of Hospital Librarianship. July/August.
- **Hodge, M., Sobczak, P. & Spooner, N.** (2016). *Claiming a seat at the table: Inclusive paths to leadership in academic libraries and beyond.* Poster Session at the International Leadership Association (ILA) Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- **Peacemaker, B. & Sobczak, P.** (2016). *Innovation in libraries may be as simple as staying on the bus.* Presented at The Entrepreneurial Librarian Conference, Greensboro, NC.
- **Sobczak, P.** (2016). *Leadership development in libraries.* Presented at the VCU Libraries Salon.
- **Sobczak, P.** (2016). *Got change? Leading the shifting landscape of librarianship.* Presented at the Virginia Special Libraries Association Meeting, Richmond, VA.
- **Stout, J.A. and Coghill, D.E.** (2016). *Creating meaningful connections: Student advisory groups in your library.* Presented at the Personal Librarian and First Year Experience Conference in Cleveland, OH.
- **Stout, J.A. and Fortney, T.W.** (2016). *Faculty-librarian partnerships in the classroom.* Presented at the Conference on Higher Education Pedagogy in Blacksburg, VA.
- **Gariepy, L.W., Stout, J.A., and Hodge, M.L.** (2016) *Using rubrics to assess learning in course-integrated library instruction.* Libraries and the Academy, 16(3), 491-509.

Closer Connections

New blog created to serve donors and community

VCU Libraries provides up-to-date information about news and events on the library home page. It shares information also in a monthly e-newsletter and on Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, Tumblr and Flickr and other media outlets. New to the information mix in 2016-17 is Library Stories — a blog for sharing quick, readable stories about successes and supporters with donors, alumni, Friends of the VCU Libraries members and those in the Central Virginia community who may not easily find library news on our home page or through other VCU channels.

We hope that this new blog helps to:

- keep our many friends informed about VCU Libraries' contributions to the academic and greater community
- provide concrete examples of philanthropy at work in programs, collections, successes, research and engagement
- inspire loyalty and cement trust in the leadership and professionalism of VCU Libraries' leaders, faculty and staff.

Have ideas for stories? Contact Sue Robinson, Communications and Public Relations Director (srobinson26@vcu.edu).



FOLLOW THE BLOG: wp.vcu.edu/librarystories/

NEWS CENTER: library.vcu.edu/about/news/

SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS: library.vcu.edu/about/social-media



VCU Libraries

library.vcu.edu

James Branch Cabell Library

Monroe Park Campus

901 Park Ave., Box 842033

Richmond, Va. 23284-2033

Toll-free: (844) 352-7399

(804) 828-1111

Tompkins-McCaw Library

MCV Campus

509 N. 12th St., Box 980582

Richmond, Va. 23298-0582

Toll-free: (844) 352-7399

(804) 828-0636