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A FOND FAREWELL • ENGAGEMENTS, ROCKETS, AND BEASTS • DONNA LEON • BLACK FEMINIST ARCHIVE • TWENTIETH CENTURY PHOTOGRAPHER COLLECTION, & MORE
One of my most enjoyable “duties” as Director of Libraries over the past 12 years has been to participate in our annual spring commencement ceremonies. It is always heart-warming to see the exhilaration of the students and the pride of their families as the graduates cross the stage and begin a new chapter of their lives.

This year, Commencement held a special meaning for me as I retire after 43 years as a professional librarian. Just as with each of those newly graduated students, I am beginning a new chapter in my life. Like them, I am excited by the opportunities ahead (traveling, spending time with family and friends, and binge watching all those television series I haven’t seen because I was doing email every evening) but also wistful about leaving what has been the focus of my life for the past 12 years – working with the exceptionally talented and extremely dedicated staff at the UMass Amherst Libraries to provide the best possible library services, collections and facilities for our students, faculty and community at large.

There have been the “splashy,” highly visible successes like the Learning Commons, ScholarWorks, Credo, Falcon Cam, Open Education Initiative, and the Digital Media Lab with 3D Printing. Equally important have been the innovative services and workflows in Interlibrary Loan, Information Resource Management, E-Reserves, and Virtual Reference Service. But none of this could have come to fruition without those who provide the basic infrastructure of the Libraries – Library Systems, Administrative Services and Building Monitors, the Library Office, the Science & Engineering Library, the Image Collection Library, Access Services, Undergraduate Teaching & Learning Services and Research and Liaison Services.

Essential to supporting the UMass Amherst Libraries and funding many of these extraordinary efforts has been the Friends of the Library Board, the Libraries’ UMass Rising Capital Campaign Committee, and our exceptionally talented and extremely dedicated staff at the UMass Amherst Libraries to provide the best possible library services, collections and facilities for our students, faculty and community at large.

As I retire, many congratulate me on my successes over the years. These successes are not mine. They belong to the team and the individuals with whom it has been a privilege to work over the past years. More than anything, I will miss them and you, the Friends of the Libraries. You have made me look successful and I very sincerely appreciate your efforts and support.

My best to you all, always,

Jay Schafer
Director of Libraries
The Science of Engagement

Dawn Eriksen '08 and Dan Stapleton '07 were chemical engineering majors who started out as friends and are now engaged. They had “hours of homework and study sessions in the Science and Engineering Library,” says Dawn. “The library was a fabulous place to study because it was quiet. It was conveniently located and a good place to meet other classmates. I would always find someone else from my classes doing homework in the library.”

When discussing how their UMass years affected their relationship, Dawn describes how “our time studying together allowed us to build a solid foundation for a friendship which grew over the years. We didn’t start dating until long after college, but we had many memories together of those years at UMass, commemorating over the unending hours of homework.” When choosing engagement session photos, Dawn explains “I wanted something unique and I just finished graduate school at University of Illinois, so a library theme illustrating how we first met sounded fun and emblematic of my life at the time!” Dawn earned a PhD in chemical engineering.

Digital Media Lab

3D Printing in the Libraries Boosts Beastcam Project

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When UMass Amherst biologist Duncan J. Irschick was working with sharks in Florida last spring to better understand their body shapes, he longed for a simple, quick tool for creating 3D models of them that would allow him to compare complex shark body shapes among different species. He soon realized that such a device would be useful for creating 3D models of the living geckos he also studies.

Now, with the help of the Makerbot Innovation Center in the Digital Media Lab, he and colleagues have created such a tool. The multi-armed platform that integrates several cameras plus a computer system, is now called the “Beastcam.” The device can rapidly and easily create 3D models of living animals and other objects.

Irschick explains, “Once you make a 3D model of an object, you can modify it, conduct experiments with it, animate it, or even send it to a 3D printer for testing different designs.” Over the past decade, there has been increasing interest in developing new ways of capturing 3D models of everyday objects and settings such as crime scenes, historical reconstructions, museum specimens, and landscapes among others.

Co-inventor Kasey Smart ’16, an undergraduate in the Irschick Lab, says, “One of the advantages to our system is that cameras and mounting arms can be easily added and subtracted to customize it for many different uses and at different scales.”

Fellow undergrad and co-inventor Dylan Briggs ’16 adds, “We have been able to create accurate 3D models of a range of objects, including human-sized objects in less than 30 seconds, and car-sized objects in about 45 seconds.”

“Printing it in the Library had a lot of benefits, compared to other places on campus. The capacity point, and the lower costs are just a few,” says Smart. “The availability of the printers in the library allows for a very fast turn out,” adds Briggs. “We were able to make three revisions in about a month.” The revisions consisted of the group printing the 3D model, assessing it, redesigning and reprinting.

“I’ve seen a lot come through these printers,” said Kasey, who also happens to be a student worker in the Digital Media Lab. “A brain scanner, eye tracking printers,” said Kasey, who also happens to be a student worker in the Digital Media Lab. “A brain scanner, eye tracking pieces, even a motorcycle seat.”

The Beastcam is portable and easily packed into a carrying case. Irschick is currently using the device to model body shapes of various gecko species in his laboratory and hopes to return to Florida next spring to use it to fulfill his dream of creating 3D shark models.

Rocket Man

The UMass Rocket Team utilizes 3D printing parts, specifically the nose cone, provided by the Libraries’ 3D Printing Center in the Digital Media Lab. Pavel Grigorash ’16, a student worker in the 3D Printing Center, is the team leader.

The team is entering the Student Launch Challenge, part of a NASA program geared toward furthering deep-space exploration. The eight-month research experience calls for students to design, build, and fly rockets that support space flight.

The competition allows NASA to mine new ideas and students to practice high-level applied engineering. To extend the reach of its work, the team has plans to visit local elementary and middle schools to provide opportunities for young students to learn about engineering, science, and technology.
During the 4th annual UMassGives, the campus’s 36-hour online fundraising campaign, the Libraries asked donors to direct their gifts to the **Library Sustainability Fund**. Because of you, the Libraries raised another $4,000 for the Fund, with a total of $235,000 to date. **Thank you!**

### Awarding Grants

The 2016 Undergraduate Sustainability Research Award yielded another crop of exceptional student work. The award is made possible through generous donations to the Libraries’ Sustainability Fund and promotes the learning of sustainability, research strategies, and the use of library resources, including consultations with subject librarians. The winning submissions demonstrate students’ sustainability-related research, critical thinking skills, and leadership potential, which they will carry into their future academic, vocational, and community-based endeavors.

The winning projects can be viewed in Special Collections and University Archives as well as in ScholarWorks, the university’s digital repository: [bit.ly/sustaward2016](http://bit.ly/sustaward2016).

### Cultivating Conversations

The popular series “Talking Truth: Finding Your Voice Around the Climate Crisis,” a project that offers interactive climate change events for the campus community, provides a collaborative setting in which students, faculty and staff integrate the intellectual, emotional and spiritual dimensions of climate change matters.

The offerings included “Activism and Mindfulness: Grounding Ourselves within the Climate Crisis” with a guided meditation led by James Frank ’17 as well as a reflective writing exercise.

“Renewables are Ready,” presented by Pat Hynes of the Traprock Center for Peace and Justice, offered scenarios of an energy efficient future. “Climate Action Celebration” was a gathering to honor graduating seniors who shared what they learned at UMass Amherst and their ambitions for future climate activism. Some of the reflective written work generated during the events are now housed in Special Collections and University Archives to document this paradigm shift on campus. Another tangible outgrowth of “Talking Truth” was the formation of a student climate activist group, The Climuters. One of their activities was handing out free copies of “Sustainable World Sourcebook” at the Du Bois Library as part of Earth Week on campus.

### Open Access News

**Libraries partner with faculty to foster open collaborative scholarship**

ScholarWorks, the institutional repository for scholarly work at UMass Amherst, has housed the journal *communication +1* since 2012. The journal is now being indexed by the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), the internationally recognized directory of high quality, peer-reviewed open access journals.

The inclusion of *communication +1* in the DOAJ will expand its reach into more traditional scholarly communication circles such as Thomson Reuters and Scopus.

“It is a meaningful step forward for *communication +1* to be indexed by DOAJ. I see this as a sign of confirmation for the vision we had when we started the project,” says Brianke G. Chang, editor-in-chief.

“*communication +1* is an excellent example of the partnership that the UMass Amherst Libraries and faculty can engage in to foster open collaborative scholarship,” says Marilyn Billings, Scholarly Communication and Special Initiatives Librarian.
Dinner with Friends

The bold yellow and red flag of Venice, the sound of Italian opera, and a Venetian-inspired feast awaited guests as they entered the W.E.B. Du Bois Library for the 14th annual Dinner with Friends in early April. The European flair was in celebration of the evening’s author, Donna Leon, a former graduate student of UMass Amherst, who returned to speak with library friends and fans of her 25-book mystery series, based in Venice and centered on her character, Commissario Guido Brunetti.

The most avid fans of her works sought out Leon during the reception to thank her for her excellent and entertaining books and to inquire about certain endings, character quirks, and inspirations for plots. Leon was happy to answer questions, often surprising in her answers: the first book was inspired when she and fellow opera fans dreamed about what it might be like to “off” a certain conductor who had fallen out of favor. No, she doesn’t always tie up the loose ends in her books because real life isn’t like that. All of her characters have some aspect of her own personality in them, and are also composites stitched from real and imagined characters of Venice. Above all, she urged people to read the books in English because, she felt, the humor was often lost in translation.

Leon’s sense of humor was the highlight of her talk. She addressed 150 guests in an off-the-cuff manner, answering questions submitted by guests and staff in advance of the Dinner. Even as her manner was light, some of the subjects were quite serious, such as the ill effects tourism, and in particular large cruise ships, are having on Venice. Leon also shared the reason why she never completed her Master of Fine Arts degree in creative writing at UMass Amherst: With all but her dissertation written, Leon had left the states in 1975 (“I was restless”) to teach English in Iran. When Americans were evacuated, Leon packed three trunks of clothes and belongings, placing a copy of her finished manuscript, “The Changing Moral Order in the Universe of Jane Austen’s Novels,” in each trunk. Months later, when her luggage reached her back in America, all was intact except the three copies of her work were gone. “It was a blessing,” she said. “Had I completed the degree, I would have ended up in academia, instead of writing novels.”
Brother David Steindl-Rast Papers

As Brother David Steindl-Rast nears his 90th birthday, the Libraries are thrilled to announce that he has donated his voluminous archives to Special Collections and University Archives (SCUA). Along with his friend Thomas Merton, Brother David Steindl-Rast is one of the most important figures in the modern interfaith dialogue movement. In the mid-1960s, he left his monastery to study Zen Buddhism with several prominent Buddhist teachers and in 1967 received unprecedented support from the Vatican for his bridge-building efforts. The Brother David Steindl-Rast Papers reflect his lifelong spiritual journey, from his early childhood in Vienna, where he was born in 1926, to the US where, in 1953, he joined the Mount Savior Monastery as a Benedictine monk; from the hardships and religious persecution of the Second World War and its aftermath, through decades of work as a peace activist and spiritual leader. In his many books, articles, and lectures, and residencies in spiritual centers like Tassajara and the Exalen Institute, Brother David has developed an influential philosophy. Much of the current popularity of mindfulness and Zen-influenced living and activism owes a debt to his teachings.

The collection comprises more than 60 boxes of Brother David’s correspondence, published and unpublished writings, audio and video recordings, photographs, and art, all of which paint a dramatic portrait of his development as a thinker, practitioner, and teacher. The donation of this collection marks the beginning of a collaboration between SCUA and A Network for Grateful Living, the organization and website that disseminates Brother David’s teachings. Plans to digitize a portion of the collection are in the works, and processing has already begun, revealing stunning photographs, correspondence with notable thinkers and religious figures, and a beautiful and extremely rare set of Der Goldene Wagen, a children’s magazine published and edited in Vienna by Brother David and his mother, Elisabeth, in the late 1940s. Robert Cox, Head of SCUA, will be speaking about the rich scholarly value of Brother David’s legacy at Brother David’s 90th birthday event in San Francisco this July.

New Collections with World War II Links

Charles E. and M. Sybil Hartley Eshbach Papers

Charles Eshbach, Jr. ’17, ’63MS, was working for the USDA’s New England Radio News Service when he met Sybil Hartley (Simmons ’42) in 1939. Drafted into the army in December 1942, Charles married Sybil the following September. Less than two months after their wedding, he was deployed to England, where he served as a radio operator for the Army Air Force. At home with her parents in Massachusetts, Sybil taught school and worked for the Cooperative Extension Service. While apart, Charles and Sybil wrote one another almost daily, and their affectionate letters, which form the heart of this collection, are notable for their details of daily life during wartime, both in Europe and on the home front. Charles finally returned home in December 1945.

A member of the faculty at UMass from 1959 to 1986, Charles helped found the Hotel, Restaurant and Travel Administration Department (HRTA). Sybil worked at the University Store for 30 years. After Charles’ death in 1997, Sylvia established the Charles E. Eshbach Memorial Scholarship to honor her husband. The Eshbach Papers, abounding with photographs and mementores, were donated by their granddaughter Alime E. Newell ‘10 PhD.

Herman B. Nash Papers

The war also marked the life of Herman B. “Keck” Nash who in 1944, at eighteen, enlisted in the Army. After intensive Japanese language training, he was assigned as an intelligence officer in American-occupied Osaka. Nearly a quarter of this collection stems from his time in the military service, both in Chicago, where he learned Japanese, and in Japan, where he was stationed from spring 1946 through the following winter. His intelligence reports note the reaction of the local population to the occupation, including episodes of civil unrest, crime, and other forms of social instability. Settling in New Jersey after his discharge from the army, Nash took a position as brakeman on the Pennsylvania Railroad specifically to join the union and work for civil rights. After completing his degree at Columbia Teachers College, he worked as a teacher but continued to pursue his passion for social justice, marching with Martin Luther King, Jr., at Selma and leading a 1969 sit-in protest against school tracking—an action that cost him his teaching job. Returning to the railroad, he was active in the union and in efforts to increase participation by African Americans and women. He was married to his wife, Yoneko, for 43 years, until her death in 2004. Nash died in 2010.

Nash’s passion for social justice is also well represented in his papers, including a significant series of photographs taken during a massive civil rights demonstration in Montgomery, Alabama. The papers were donated by his daughter, Alice Nash, professor of history at UMass Amherst.
Philanthropy at Work

Irma McClaurin Black Feminist Archive

Growing up in Chicago, alumna Irma McClaurin ’76 MFA, ’89 MA, ’93 PhD experienced social injustice firsthand. Such experiences made her determined to succeed—and lead—in an unfair world.

McClaurin is a first-generation college graduate, having earned a bachelor’s degree in American studies from Grinnell College before attending UMass Amherst to earn a master’s in English (1976) and both a master’s and a doctorate (1993) in anthropology. She is currently the chief diversity officer for Teach for America, a nonprofit organization working to strengthen the movement for educational equity and excellence.

McClaurin’s career is impressive. She is an accomplished anthropologist, a former university president, and an award-winning writer. Passion and a deep commitment to social justice inform her actions. And McClaurin’s vision is extraordinary: She is focused on creating a ground-breaking interdisciplinary collection at UMass Amherst, the McClaurin Black Feminist Archive. Her correspondence, books, photographs, and writings are the foundation of this unique archive, which has already grown to include the works of other Black feminists.

"Archie are where histories are recorded and written, but even at their best, they are imperfect reflections of an imperfect world. Inequities in whose histories become known," explains Robert S. Cox, Head, Special Collections and University Archives. "By documenting the lives and work of a vibrant community of Black women activists and scholars, we can lay the foundation for the more inclusive histories of the future."

To address the gaps in archival representation, the Libraries, in collaboration with McClaurin, are seeking out, collecting, and preserving materials that document the intellectual, political, and cultural contributions of women of color, and especially Black women. For the Archive to reach its fullest potential, the Libraries plan to activate the collections through description, digitization, exhibition, colloquia, and direct support of scholarship. This ensures that the material will be seen and used by diverse scholars and fuel a broader conversation.

At UMass Amherst, the Archive will join with a suite of social justice collections in creating a center of excellence in the documentation of African American and Women’s Studies. Says McClaurin, "This archive will be a game changer by preserving and showcasing the intellectual and activist contributions of Black feminists for all eternity."

The collection includes Henry’s photographs and period documents of demonstrations by Vietnam Veterans against the War, Presidential primary campaigns of George McGovern, Ronald Reagan, the opening of Epcot, Democratic National conventions, election night in Platts, GA, and Bill Molisson’s earliest teaching of Permaculture in the U.S. Henry’s work, including her choice of subjects and point of view and by reflecting on her work, Henry notes that she is a photographer who wrote history with her images are part of the permanent collection at the National Archives. The thousands of exhibition and working prints in the collection are accompanied by the complete body of Henry’s photographic negatives and slides, along with an array of ephemera, correspondence, and other materials relating to her career.
Exhibits

SYNERGY, an exhibition of paintings and prints by Alicia Hunsicker ’93, through June 2, 2016, in the Science and Engineering Library, investigates the powerful combination of art and science to produce works greater than the sum of their parts. With science as a point of departure, Hunsicker paints vibrant swirling organisms that reveal a cosmic discussion about the nature of all things.

To see more of this artist’s work visit: www.aliciahunsicker.com.

Growing Season: Women in Agriculture and Food Production


"Growing Season" focuses on the growth and encouragement of women in agriculture and food production at Massachusetts Agricultural College (MAC or "Mass Aggie," the precursor to UMass Amherst) from the 1910s through the 1930s. Addressing local food supply issues affected by the changing economy, World War I, and the population movement from farms to cities, MAC started special and short course programs that engaged women in practical agriculture, like gardening, fruit growing, dairying and increasingly rural social services and home economics. On Floor 25, collections are on display that reflect women and food production, including cookbooks focused on preservation and canning.

Welcome

Erin Jerome
Open Access & Institutional Repository Librarian
Scholarly Communications

Sally Krash
Head Information Resources Management

Peter Smith
Digital Reserves Administrative Specialist Circulation/Reserves

A Fond Farewell

At Director of Libraries Jay Schafer’s retirement party guests signed a poster-sized card depicting the Du Bois library (right).

Congratulations

Dennis Spencer ’09 was promoted to 3D Print Services Supervisor in the Digital Media Lab. Dennis has worked in the Digital Media Lab since 2013, as Supervisor. Previously, he worked in Information Technology. He holds a bachelor’s in fine arts degree in Studio Arts with a concentration in animation from UMass Amherst.

Annette Vadnais ’99 was appointed Undergraduate Outreach Librarian. Annette was previously the Information Desk Supervisor. She received a master’s in Library and Information Science from Simmons College in 2013.

Other Staff News

Sarah Hutton was elected Vice-President/President-elect for the Association of College & Research Libraries/New England Chapter.

Brian Shelburne, Head of the Image Collection Library, has served back-to-back terms as Vice-president of the Visual Resources Association (VRA), and served on the Board of Directors of the Visual Resources Association Foundation. He was recently elected chair of the VRA New England chapter.

Lorraine James ’84, Book Repair Coordinator, has been invited to participate in this year’s Massachusetts History Conference at the College of the Holy Cross, in Worcester, Mass.

Annette Sollinger, Digital Image Metadata Librarian in the Image Collection Library, has served as the Treasurer of the New England Chapter of the Visual Resources Association since 2015.
FALCON UPDATE

A new falcon season has begun! The mated pair from last year has returned to the nesting box. One chick has successfully hatched as we go to press. We are keeping a close watch for another emerging chick.

WATCH THE FALCONS LIVE:
library.umass.edu/falcons

For up-to-date news, follow us on:
facebook.com/umassamherstlibraries
and Twitter @DuBoisFalcons #DuBoisFalcons

Peregrine Falcons have successfully nested on the roof of the W.E.B. Du Bois Library at UMass Amherst for the past 13 years. A live webcam was installed in 2013 thanks to the UMass Amherst Facilities Planning Division, UMass Amherst Information Technology, the Libraries’ Systems and Web Management Department, the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife (MassWildlife), and the Friends of the Libraries.

Livestreaming and camera expenses are offset by your generosity:
bit.ly/donate_duboisfalcons