

# UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON LIBRARIES

+ EMPOWERING OTHERS  
TRANSFORMING LIVES +

The University of Houston Libraries Newsletter  
FALL 2017



# LETTER FROM THE DEAN

In the wake of Hurricane Harvey, we at the University of Houston Libraries, like so many of our students, faculty, staff, and fellow Houstonians, are in recovery mode. In the months ahead, as we all continue to rebuild and transition, the Libraries is here to help in any way that we can, with flexibility, support, and compassion for all of those affected by the storm.

One of the four major goals in our Strategic Plan is to position UH Libraries as a campus leader in student success initiatives. Academic success starts with access to materials, yet the high cost of textbooks remains a significant concern for many college students. Fortunately, this is an area in which libraries, and you, can help.

This summer, Mimi Lee, professor in the College of Education, and I traveled to the University of Minnesota to attend the Open Textbook Network (OTN) Summer Institute where we had the opportunity to see how other universities are approaching the high costs of commercial textbooks. We know many students cannot afford the textbooks that are assigned in their classes. The average textbook bill for students is \$1,300 a year, on top of tuition, room and board, and fees.

One of the ways in which academic institutions can help mitigate those costs is by shifting to open educational resources (OER), freely accessible and openly licensed teaching, research, and learning tools, including textbooks. For instance, faculty can choose to bundle assigned readings, which students may purchase at an affordable cost. Another option is to provide textbooks using an open license and made accessible online. These e-textbooks are written by faculty, are peer-reviewed, and are freely available to students to use in their courses. Last spring, Provost Paula Myrick Short enrolled the University in the OTN, and we're proud to collaborate with colleagues from across the country to move toward a more open learning environment.

Yet another way that we can help is by placing textbooks on reserve for students. UH Libraries has nearly 1,000 textbooks on reserve across many disciplines, most of which have been donated by faculty, so that students can access them for short periods of time. Simply put, a fund for textbooks would allow the Libraries to buy textbooks for course reserves to benefit even more students.

I've been working with a committee of librarians and faculty this year to implement a pilot program that will incentivize faculty to adapt, adopt, or create open textbooks. In partnership with the Office of the Provost, I am pledging to supplement these incentives that will ultimately benefit our students. An endowment to support this initiative would make an incredible difference in the lives of so many.

We simply want to level the playing field for our students. If they cannot afford course materials, they're placed at a disadvantage on the first day of class. We can help students gain access to the materials they need. With your support, we can empower our students to achieve success here at the University, and beyond.

On behalf of the University of Houston Libraries, thank you for your partnership.

**Lisa A. German**  
 Dean of Libraries and  
 Elizabeth D. Rockwell Chair



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**ABOVE:** The forthcoming Digital Research Commons will offer access to specialized digital scholarship tools and support.

DEAN OF LIBRARIES AND  
 ELIZABETH D. ROCKWELL CHAIR  
 LISA A. GERMAN

ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH SERVICES  
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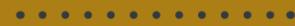
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# EMPOWERING OTHERS TRANSFORMING LIVES

Members of the **Dean's Campaign Committee and Cabinet** offered their perspectives on leading philanthropic initiatives in support of the Libraries' Strategic Plan.



**Performing & Visual Arts Research Collection**  
**Deborah M. Colton**

*Houston today is a dynamic international city that thrives on its rich diversity and has the potential to become a leading national and international destination city of the arts. Respecting and understanding our past in terms of how we became who we are today gives us a strong foundation to continue to build upon.*

**Transformational Spaces**  
**Dana Rooks**

*The Library is critical to student success and to lifelong learning. Its spaces provide areas for quiet reflection and contemplation, collaborative learning and team building skills, social interaction and relaxation, and expanding the horizons of human curiosity and understanding. It provides these opportunities to the students, faculty, and staff of the University, the visiting scholar and researcher, and, importantly, the community of which we are a part.*



**Shuart Women's Research Collection**  
**Carey Shuart**

*Serving on the Dean's Cabinet as the representative for the Shuart Women's Archive is an honor that allows me to both recognize women's contributions and share the importance of preserving their history. As a Houston native, I witnessed firsthand the many ways that women have contributed to the excellence and expertise in every sector of our city and state. The Shuart Women's Archive is a means of commemorating this important aspect of our history by preserving and promoting women's notable achievements in our region. Future research and scholarship is dependent on our current initiative to grow and share the collection.*

**Rare Books Collections**  
**Leigh Owen**

*The range of the remarkable books and significant artifacts housed in the University of Houston's Rare Books Collections are examples of the true treasures of our human history. It is my honor to be a member of the Dean's Campaign Committee and Cabinet and my mission to inform the Houston community about access to UH Special Collections. I'm proud to know the fine professionals responsible for stewardship and protection of our rare books for future generations as well as making them available now for students, researchers, and the general public.*



# ALUMNI ANECDOTES



We asked **UH alumni** to share their favorite library memories. Here are some of their funny, romantic, and candid stories.

▶ “When I was a graduate student in 1999, I did not have a computer. MD Anderson Library had computers. I worked fulltime and went to school at night. After classes, I would head to MD Anderson to work on papers and to study. Most nights, I would be there until I heard the recording that the library was closing. If my memory serves me correctly, that would be either at 11:45pm or midnight. I would get home, get something to eat and make it back to work in the AM. I was back on campus in the evening. I was not only in the library during the week. I would make it on Saturdays. It was almost a game to get there early enough to see if we could get a close up parking space next to that Technology building. As for those papers I typed up,

***I always did them in 10pt.***

Because I was always running a short balance on my cash card and copying added up. It drove my professors nuts but they dealt with it.”

▶ “During my masters program in social work, I was assigned a carrel on the 3rd floor (I believe it was the 3rd). I shared that cloistered space with a student getting an MBA. We kept it clean of clutter, odors, and trash. It was only a desk with 3 sides, 2 overhead shelves, and a door that locked but that carrel was home for 2 years. The location of the carrel gave me easy access to the books (yes - real books) and the copy machine. On occasion, we were able to squeeze 3 of us into that cubicle to cram for finals. I stayed there many, many nights while working on my thesis.

***I studied, slept, cried, and celebrated all types of events in that tiny space.***

There were mixed feelings about that carrel when I graduated - happy to graduate but sad to say good-bye to my sacred space. I lost track of my cubicle roomie and can't remember the number. Nonetheless, I have fond memories of my carrel in the M.D. Anderson Library.”

▶ “I met my future wife in the library. Along with friends, we wound up studying for together for our classes on the second floor. One afternoon, she and I went down into the basement break room. As she was waiting for the soda vending to dispense a coke,

***I stole a kiss.***

That was in 1981. We've been married for 30 years now.”

▶ “The UH library was a central part of my undergraduate experience. Many hours were spent locked away in the carrels for peaceful, solitary study. Other times, I would be down in the computer labs to make use of certain software, and would very often run into friends who happened to be studying as well. There is no specific story that I can remember at the moment, but all I can say is that I am thankful to have had such a wonderful resource at my disposal throughout five years of undergraduate study.”

▶ “The study carrels felt like a second home. They were great for commuting students like myself.”

▶ “The 4th floor, brown section. I love the collection and getting lost in all the books that you have on -business and leadership and economics. The library is by far the best in town. As everything is going digital, I sure hope that UH can hold on to what makes it a world-class research institution - the library. I will always remember days of working on my dissertation for 8-10 hours at a time, and flipping through books of all ages. I remember the smell, the feel of the paper, and the famous authors that I discovered. Thank you.”

## “The Library was LIT!...”



▶ “Sometimes, the dorm room isn't the best place to study. The TV and sometimes my neighbors were distractions while I studied. MD Anderson Library was the place to go. I could always find a spot that is out of the way for me to study. Occasionally, the spots I ended up at were too quiet so I rotated between several cassettes while I studied. The music by Chicago, The Police, Janet Jackson, Jurassic Park and Beauty and the Beast became the soundtrack while I studied or researched books for my reports.”

▶ “The library was always a sanctuary for me to study, finish homework, or even just check email and usenet (yes, I'm old). I did group projects with friends, ranging from reviewing for tests to working on the COMAP Mathematical Contest in Modelling. The basement of MD Anderson Library was the hub for the Honors College, so there was always a chess game, or chance to chat with people, or even meet in class (the colloquia for Human Situation were held in the library when I was a freshman). The library was the center of the academic world when I was at U of H.”

▶ “It was at the library one night that I began to see the light in calculus and physics. It was around the time our astronauts first landed on the moon and students were surrounding a TV as the astronauts were about to step out on the moon's surface. I looked out a window on the second floor to the west. I've since been around the world but that night was the prettiest sunset I think I've ever seen.

***My life felt complete.***

Everything was coming together. Whenever I see a beautiful sunset I think of that evening in the library. Go cougs!”

▶ “The MD Anderson Library was a place of refuge for me. I went to the library to get away from hubbub of campus life. I was surrounded by quiet and the smell of books. For me, it was paradise.”

▶ “The Library was LIT! First couple of years I was in the learning commons 24/7. Great place to study with lots of open rooms and computers. Met soo many new people there, was a great atmosphere. Later years I would mostly use the main computers downstairs and the more quiet rooms on the 3rd, 4th, and 5th floors. Those rooms came in clutch too when you needed a quiet place to group study. Those little study cubes on the 5th floor towards the back were great too for isolated study. AND THE PANCAKE NIGHTS during finals were off the hook! Unlimited pancakes with all variety of flavors and toppings! Ahhh they were sooo good! I have very fond memories of being at the MD Anderson Library. It was a great place to be!”

▶ “It was timed just right, in that I attended the university during the years that MD Anderson Library was going through its renovation and had its grand opening. I remember when the rows of computers were put in and also remember students hovering around waiting in anticipation for a computer to open up so that they could take a test,

***...while others just wasted their time on a fairly new invention called Facebook.***

As you entered the foyer of the library you could smell the hot ink as students were sending print jobs to the shared printers. As you traveled further into the foyer you could look up and see students above going on with their business either studying alone or as part of a group. MD Anderson Library provided for a quiet place away from the crowds where course work could be focused on while having numerous resources within reach. This quiet place though also created a safe haven and a wonderful place to catch up on a nap for the overworked and overly tired student. Some of the best naps were obtained on the higher levels of the library as books here were not often [sought]. Specifically, the 5th floor provided a nest where fluorescent lights hummed creating white noise and yet those same lights did not illuminate well allowing for dimly lit pockets where one could retreat to for a power-nap between the afternoon and evening session of classes. Thank you MD Anderson Library for being there for the hard times when rigorous studying occurred and for the unexpected times when naps jumped up in priority.”

**Kelsey Brett, Richard Guajardo,** and **Frederick Young** presented “Discovery Systems and Organizational Impact: Preliminary Survey Results” at Ex Libris Users of North America (ELUNA).

M. Catalano (previous), **Catherine Essinger, Suzanne Ferimer, Stephanie Lewin-Lane,** and P. Vaughn (previous) co-wrote “At the Center of Things: How an Academic Library Built a Bridge between Art and Science on Campus,” which appeared in *Collaborative Librarianship*.

**Melody Condron** was appointed chair of the 2018 Library and Information Technology (LITA) Forum Planning Committee; chair of the Personal Digital Archiving 2018 conference planning committee; and presented a webinar for *Booklist* with over 1200 attendees called “The Basics of Personal Digital File Management.”

**Catherine Essinger** was elected to Art Libraries Society of North America (ARLIS/NA) Executive Board, and is Board liaison to all regional chapters.

**Essinger** published “What She was Thinking: Nina Vance’s Role in the Creation of the Alley Theatre on Texas Avenue” in *Houston History Magazine*.

**Wenli Gao** (principal investigator) and Lindita Camaj (co-principal investigator) were awarded an American Library Association (ALA) Carnegie-Whitney Grant (2017-2018) for a project titled “Storytelling with data: A resource guide for data journalism.”

**Gao, Lisa Martin,** and **Irene Ke** presented “Analyzing Data Consultations: What liaisons can learn about users’ data needs and use of tools. Presented at ALA Annual Reference & User Services Association (RUSA) Research Forum.

**Gao** and L. Wallace authored “Data mining, visualizing, and analyzing faculty thematic relationships for research support and collection analysis” which appeared in *Proceedings of the 2017 ACRL Conference*.

**Lisa German** was elected vice-chair/chair elect of Greater Western Library Alliance (GWLA); appointed to a two-year term on the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) Diversity and Inclusion Committee; and elected to a two-year appointment on the Texas Council of Academic Libraries (TCAL) Board as member-at-large.

**Christina Gola** began a new appointment to Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) Instruction Section Awards Committee.

**Gola** presented “Essential Leadership Lessons for New Managers” and co-presented “Creating Seamless Student Transitions from High School to College” with J. Klemm, J.L. Rike, and J.D. Stimpson at Texas Library Association (TLA) Annual Conference.

**Richard Guajardo, Kelsey Brett,** and **Frederick Young** presented “The Impact of Discovery Systems on Libraries’ Organizational Structure and Staffing” at Electronic Resources and Libraries Conference.

**Guajardo** presented “Chapter Website Redesign: HALL Membership Services Move to the Cloud” at Southwestern Association of Law Libraries Annual Meeting.

**Guajardo, D. Hamparian,** and P.Katz presented “Partnering with Vendors to Limit Compromised User Accounts” at NASIG Annual Conference.

E. Hartnett, **Guajardo, M. Stewart,** and C. Stachowicz presented “ALCTS Electronic Resources Interest Group (ERIG) Meeting,” a panel at ALA Annual Conference.

**Guajardo** was appointed as chair of the LITA Publications Committee, co-chair to the LLAMA Mentoring Committee, and member of the Association for Library Collections & Technical Services (ALCTS) Program Committee.

**Rachel Helbing** and N. Huynh presented a Tech Trends talk, “Please follow us: Tools and tips for getting the most out of social media” at the Medical Library Association (MLA) Annual Meeting.

**Helbing** is a member, MLA Career Development Grant Jury, Medical Informatics Section; member, MLA Broering Hispanic Heritage Grant Jury; and member, Nominating Committee, South Central Chapter of the MLA.

**Irene Ke, Wenli Gao,** and **Jackie Bronicki** co-wrote “Does title-by-title selection make a difference? A usage analysis on print monograph purchasing,” which appeared in *Collection Management*.

**Stephanie Lewin-Lane** wrote a review of *Reinventing Dixie: Tin Pan Alley’s Songs and the Creation of the Mythic South*, by John Bush Jones, which appeared in *Notes: Quarterly Journal of the Music Library Association*.

**Lewin-Lane, Mary Manning** and **Daniel**

**Pshock** presented “Seeing the Trends: Data and Developing a Local Music Collection” at the Music Library Association National Conference.

A. Dubnjakovic, **Lewin-Lane,** et al. presented “Core Competencies for Music Librarians” at the Town Hall Meeting on behalf of the Career Development and Services Committee for the Music Library Association National Conference.

**Lewin-Lane** serves as the co-coordinator of the Music Library Association Career Advisory Service; and received the UH Libraries Librarian Achievement Award.

**John Lehner** completed a two-year appointment in May to the Advisory Group for the Association of Research Libraries Leadership Fellows Program and has been reappointed for 2017-18. Lehner also was appointed as chair of the Selection Committee.

**Lehner** completed a two-year appointment as chair of the ACRL Budget and Finance Committee, and as a member of Board of Directors of ACRL. He has accepted reappointment for an additional year, 2017-18.

**Xiping Liu** presented “A lone cataloger no more: how better communication can help enhance bibliographic description for user discovery” at ALA Annual Conference.

**Liu, A. Duran** (previous), and **Anne Washington,** presented “Cleaning up Legacy Metadata for ETDs: Strategies, Tools and a Look into the Future” at United States Electronic Thesis and Dissertation Association (USETDA) Conference.

**Andrea Malone** co-authored “Center stage: Performing a Needs Assessment of Campus Research Centers and Institutes” with **Lisa Martin, C. Peters., Cherie Turner,** and P. Vaughn which appeared in *Journal of Library Administration*.

**Malone’s** reviews of *Multilingual Access and Services for Digital Collections* and *Putting Assessment into Action* appeared in *Journal of Academic Librarianship*.

**Malone** serves on the MLA Advisory Committee on the MLA International Bibliography; Fulbright US Scholars Library Science Peer Review Committee (reappointment); EDUCAUSE Developing Digital Humanities Support Review Group; and UH International Students Advisory Committee.

**Malone** was selected for the Harvard Institute for Library Leaders in a Digital Age.

**Lisa Martin** serves as chair of the ALA RUSA BRASS, Business Reference Services Discussion Group; member of ACRL Instruction Section Nominating 2018 Committee; and as mentor for a year-long formal mentoring program through ACRL Instruction Section Mentoring Program. Martin was invited to serve on TLA Topaz Nonfiction Reading List Committee.

**Martin** was selected for the ACRL Immersion program

**Daniel Pshock** presented “No One Reads Reports: Sharing Your Work with Your Library At-Large and Why it Matters” at Designing for Digital.

**Pshock’s** article, “The User Experience of Libraries: Serving the Common Good,” appeared in *User Experience Magazine*.

**Ariana Santiago** presented a poster “Teacher efficacy and its implications for instructional librarians at ACRL Conference. She also presented a poster at ALA Annual about an archival digitization project for the GLBT Roundtable, which was completed as part of the ALA Emerging Leaders program.

**Santiago** presented “Avoiding Overload: Cognitive load and instructional design for information literacy instruction” at the Georgia International Conference on Information Literacy.

**Santiago** won an ACRL 2017 Conference Early-Career Librarian Scholarship. She also co-chaired the Leadership Task Force for Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association (APALA).

**Alex Simons,** with **Lisa Cruces, Matt Richardson, Bethany Scott, Emily Vinson,** and **Greg Yerke,** curated a display of collections for teachers and students’ use at the Humanities Texas Writing Texas workshop held at UH.

**Santi Thompson** is a member, Greater Western Library Alliance Data Management Task Force; ALCTS 60th Anniversary Virtual Forum Working Group; ex-officio voting member, ALCTS Board of Directors; and chair of ALCTS Organization and Bylaws Committee. He is a reviewer, Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Laura Bush 21st Century Grant preliminary proposals.

S. Barba, C. Lyon, and **Thompson** presented “Passive ORCID id Adoption: Investigating ETDs at Three Research Universities” at Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations Symposium (NDLTD).

**Thompson** and M. Reilly presented “The ‘Pros’ and ‘Cons’ of Reverse Image Lookup as an Assessment Tool for Digitized Cultural Heritage Images” at Open Repositories Conference, Brisbane, Australia; and “Assessing Digital Library Users and Reuses through Reverse Image Lookup: A Case Study” at Digital Library Federation (DLF) Forum.

B. Herbert, **Thompson,** and K. Park presented “Opportunities and Challenges in Implementing a Consortial Research Data Repository” at DLF Forum.

M. Bragg, J. DeRidder, C. Harlow, H. Scates Kettler, C. Rissmeyer, and **Thompson** presented “Digital Library Assessment: Collaborative Development of Guidelines and Tools” at DLF Forum.

K. Park and **Thompson** led webinars titled “Learning by Example: Connecting Data Competencies with the Texas Data Repository” and “Launching the Texas Data Repository” for Texas Digital Library (TDL). K. Park, **Thompson,** and P. Ossom Williamson led “Getting Started with the Texas Data Repository and Data Competencies” for TDL.

**Thompson, K. Park,** and C. Mumma led a workshop titled “Dataverse and the Texas Data Repository Workshop” at 2017 Texas Conference on Digital Libraries (TCDL).

K. Park, **Thompson, R. Steans,** and V. D’Orazio led a workshop titled “Dataverse and the Texas Data Repository” at TDL Data Symposium.

**Thompson** and M. Reilly published “A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words’: Reverse Image Lookup and Digital Library Assessment” in *Journal of the Association for Information Science and Technology*; and “Reverse Image Lookup: Assessing Digital Library Users and Reuses” in *Journal of Web Librarianship*.

K. Long, **Thompson, S. Potvin,** and M. Rivero published “The ‘Wicked Problem’ of Neutral Description: Towards a Documentation Approach to Metadata Standards” in *Cataloging and Classification Quarterly*.

**Adam Townes** was selected for the Summer 2017 Digital Scholarship Institute.

**Cherie Turner** is a member, American Chemical Society (ACS) Publications Academic Roundtable and Evidence-Based Practices Discussion Group, ACRL University Libraries Section.

**Anne Washington** presented “Git a Grip: Using GitHub to Manage Your Metadata Application Profile” at ALA Midwinter Conference.

**Washington** reviewed *Managing Digital Cultural Objects: Analysis, Discovery, and Retrieval* (Eds. Allan Foster and Pauline Rafferty) which appeared in *Library Resources & Technical Services*.

**Washington** was elected programming co-chair of the ALA ALCTS Metadata Interest Group.

**Andy Weidner** presented “Bayou City DAMS: Outside the Box” with **Sean Watkins, Bethany Scott, Annie Wu, Santi Thompson,** and **Matt Richardson** at the South Central States Fedora Users Group winter meeting.

**Weidner** won the John P. McGovern Outstanding Librarian of the Year Award for UH Libraries.

**Weidner** published “Outside the Box: Building a Digital Asset Management Ecosystem for Preservation and Access” with **Sean Watkins, Bethany Scott, Drew Krewer, Anne Washington,** and **Matt Richardson** in *Code4Lib Journal*.

**Weidner** presented “Outside the Box: Building a Digital Curation Ecosystem for Preservation and Access” with **Sean Watkins, Bethany Scott, Drew Krewer, Anne Washington, Matt Richardson, Annie Wu,** and **Santi Thompson** at TCDC. He also presented at Open Repositories in Brisbane, Australia.

**Weidner** served on Samvera Virtual Connect 2017 Program Committee; Samvera Metadata Interest Group; and Samvera CONTENTdm Migration Working Group.

**Annie Wu** received the UH Libraries Outstanding Group Award: Metadata and Digitization Services; and the Trailblazer Award: DAMS Implementation Team.

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