UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON
LIBRARIES
SPRING 2016

BOLD AMBITION:
UH LIBRARIES STRATEGIC PLAN
DEAN’S MESSAGE

When you hear the word “library,” I imagine it engenders a positive feeling in your heart like it does in mine. You may harken back to a time when your parents took you to a library. You might remember the first book that you read that resonated with you. Or you may think of that person, a librarian, who answered your question with intelligence, patience, and most of all, kindness. We all have a story that demonstrates the transformative power of the library in our lives, and we invite you to share yours with us.

The University of Houston Libraries offers incredible value to the University, to the community in which we live, to our fellow Texans, and to the nation. In this newsletter, you will find our bold and ambitious strategic plan. We have an imperative to accomplish great things for the UH community, and working together, we can achieve excellence.

I invite all of you to participate with us. We, quite simply, need your support as we move forward, honoring the past and investing in our future. On behalf of the University of Houston Libraries, thank you for your partnership.

Lisa A. German
Dean of Libraries and
Elizabeth D. Rockwell Chair
NEW DIGITAL COLLECTIONS

Emilio R. Ypíñia Journals

This collection consists of five distinct journals authored by Emilio R. Ypíñia (1905-1936). A self-educated Mexican national born in Aguascalientes, Aguascalientes, Mexico, Ypíñia immigrated to Houston, Texas, following the Mexican Revolution of 1910. Each volume contains approximately 100 pages and 10-20 poems, essays, and journal entries, the bulk in 1933.

The Astrodome, Eighth Wonder of the World

The world’s first indoor, air-conditioned sports stadium, the Houston Astrodome was nicknamed the “Eighth Wonder of the World” when it opened in 1965. The construction of the Astrodome was instrumental in bringing Major League Baseball to Houston, and the Dome would also host the NFL’s Houston Oilers and the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. A selection of over 100 items, including promotional photographs, newsletters and brochures, and documents on the creation of the Astrodome, illustrates the history of the stadium and the key individuals who brought this vision to life.

Carlos (DJ Styles) Garza Drawings and Memorabilia

Enter the world of Carlos “DJ Styles” Garza, who has in turn been a high school b-boy and aspiring graffiti artist, an up and coming club DJ, producer for the highly creative hip hop artist Odd Squad and Devin the Dude, and an independent producer and audio engineer. This digital collection contains approximately 50 artworks, sketches, flyers, and promotional items from the eighties to the 2000s, related to Garza’s life in hip hop.

Board of Regents Records

This collection includes the minutes from the meetings of the Board of Trustees between 1939 and 1944, and later, the Board of Regents, the governing body of the University of Houston system. The meeting minutes provide insights into the evolution and governance of the University. Digitization of these records is ongoing, and subsequent volumes will be added to the UH Digital Library as they become available.

RESOURCES WISH LIST

We invite you to help us build the University of Houston Libraries. Your contribution to collections and technology will support the teaching, learning, and research needs of our students and faculty.

The UH Libraries wish list below includes items that have been identified by our librarians and archivists as valuable and significant additions to our collections and resources. Your gift will allow us to purchase one or more of the items listed.

Thank you for supporting the University of Houston Libraries. For more information on giving, contact Free Lane at 713.743.9650 or flane@uh.edu.

COLLECTIONS

- Scientific American gaps (electronic resources collections – one-time expenses)
- Scientific American 1845-1909 Archive = $6,650
- Scientific American 1910-1947 Archive = $6,050
- Scientific American Supplements & Builders Archive Collection = $2,750

Encyclopedia of Reagents for Organic Synthesis 2nd ed. = print $8925

Brenner’s Encyclopedia of Genetics 2nd ed. = ebook $2730

Bloomberg terminals = $22,000/year

Gerhard Richter, Atlas (Walther Konig, 2015) = $1100

Ernst van de Wetering, A Corpus of Rembrandt Paintings VI (Springer, 2014) = $1619

For more information on how to contribute to the items below, contact Christian Kelleher, 713.743.0346 or cdkelleher@uh.edu.

- Jack S. Reaves 1950s original archive of manuscript letters detailing the ups and downs and final success of a Texas wildcat oil prospector = $4500. Reaves, a Floridian, came to Midland, TX, in 1958 to make his fortune in oil. This archive of 65 handwritten letters to his wife Dorothea back in Florida journals his efforts and eventual success: "IT BLEW AND BLEW AND BLEW!!" Also includes a scrapbook of his proposal to investors, news clippings, and photographs taken at the oil well site.

- Juegos y Diversiones de Posada by Mercuro Lopez Casillas, 1st ed., published by Ediciones Acapulco, 2013 = $550. In celebration of the 100 year anniversary of the death of the famous Mexican artist and illustrator Jose Guadalupe Posada, this collection reproduces various board games illustrated by Posada, including Loteria, Corrida de Toros, and Juego de la Oca, and includes a book that discusses the history of the games.

- Travels Into Several Remote Nations of the World (Gulliver’s Travels) by Jonathan Swift, printed for Benj. Motte, London, 1726 = $7,000. Tremblay’s “B” first edition of the most famous satire in the English language and a staple for teaching at the University, Gulliver’s Travels satirizes government, religion, colonialism, and science.


- America vue par quarte, rive, Insignis & admiranda historia de reperta primatum Occidentalis India a Christophoro Columbo anno M. CCCXCI by Theodor de Bry, 1st ed., published in Frankfurt, 1590-1594 = $450,000. Set of 12 of the original 13 by the famous engraver and documenter of European expeditions to the Americas. The University currently owns one volume that is frequently used for teaching about European colonial settlement in the New World and the interactions between Europeans and Native Americans.


- The Astrodome, Eighth Wonder of the World

- Enter the world of Carlos "DJ Styles" Garza, who has in turn been a high school b-boy and aspiring graffiti artist, an up and coming club DJ, producer for the highly creative hip hop artist Odd Squad and Devin the Dude, and an independent producer and audio engineer. This digital collection contains approximately 50 artworks, sketches, flyers, and promotional items from the eighties to the 2000s, related to Garza’s life in hip hop.

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- Digital. Lib. UH. Edu
The University of Houston is a premier research institution, offering opportunities for learning, discovery, and engagement to a diverse population. The UH Libraries, a key component of the University’s success, must anticipate and respond to the research and educational needs of its constituents in a globally interdependent world. UH Libraries Strategic Plan, FY 2017 – 2021, serves as the foundation for the UH Libraries’ continued excellence, constant improvement, and growing national reputation as a top research library. At the heart of this plan lie the University of Houston’s Strategic Goals.

The UH Libraries’ Strategic Plan, FY 2017 – 2021, is guided by the Libraries’ shared organizational values, input from the Office of the Provost, and is closely aligned with University priorities. The goals and initiatives of this document will provide guidance for departments, functional units, and individuals over the next five years.

Vision
A community nurtured by curiosity and creativity that drives lifelong learning and scholarship.

Mission
University of Houston Libraries advances student success, knowledge creation and preservation, and globally competitive research.

Values
COMMUNICATION
CONTINUAL IMPROVEMENT
CURIOUSITY & EXPERIMENTATION
DIVERSITY & INCLUSION
EXCELLENCE IN COLLECTIONS
PARTNERSHIPS & COLLABORATION
SERVICE EXCELLENCE
STAFF EXCELLENCE

FOUR MAJOR AREAS OF FOCUS IN THE UH LIBRARIES’ STRATEGIC PLAN:
• POSITION UH LIBRARIES AS A CAMPUS LEADER IN RESEARCH PRODUCTIVITY
• ASSURE THE QUALITY AND RELEVANCE OF COLLECTIONS FOR CAMPUS AND GLOBAL COMMUNITIES
• POSITION UH LIBRARIES AS A CAMPUS LEADER IN STUDENT SUCCESS INITIATIVES
• TRANSFORM LIBRARY SPACES TO REFLECT EVOLVING MODES OF LEARNING AND SCHOLARSHIP
Jack Hall, cataloging librarian at the University of Houston Libraries, has established an endowment supporting international travel for UH librarians.

The endowment will provide assistance to UH librarians for expenses associated with international travel. Librarians are increasingly pursuing professional development and scholarly activities on a global scale, attending conferences and sharing expertise on a number of topics in information science.

Hall has been a UH librarian since 1976, primarily in cataloging. He was also a reference librarian, and the subject librarian for English and linguistics for nearly 20 years. He was inspired to establish the international travel endowment based on his own experiences as a scholar and librarian.

“After studying and teaching linguistics and Germanic languages for several years, I decided to transfer my academic interests to librarianship,” Hall said. “I was active in the American Library Association, attending conferences and serving on and chairing a number of committees and interest groups.”

Hall spent two years studying abroad in Germany, 1964-1965, on a Fulbright Fellowship, and 1967-1968, on a Danforth Fellowship. He has always felt that these experiences have been fundamental to his academic and intellectual life and work as a librarian. He strongly encourages work and experience abroad as an extension of any librarian’s career.

Hall dates his interest in librarianship as far back as his childhood when he regularly used the county-library-supplied Bookmobile in his small home town of Damascus, Virginia, which had no library. The librarian who accompanied the Bookmobile recognized Hall’s maturity and interest in books and began recommending materials more advanced than a child might have otherwise encountered, greatly facilitating his education and intellectual development.

Hall is a Phi Beta Kappa cum laude graduate of Davidson College (1964) and has master’s degrees in Linguistics from Princeton University (1967) and in Library and Information Science from the University of Pittsburgh (1976). He was a member of the University of Virginia German Department and Linguistics Program faculty from 1970 to 1973. Hall joined the UH Libraries as a cataloging librarian on October 15, 1976.

After retiring in 2013, Hall continues to work part-time as a music cataloger. The length of his career at UH and his eagerness to continue working in the Libraries demonstrate the extent to which he values the Libraries and his colleagues.

For more information on giving to the UH Libraries, contact Free Lane, flane@uh.edu.
Kelsey Brett presented “How Users Conduct Research Using Discovery Systems” at Electronic Resources and Accessibility (ERA) 2016, and co-presented “Using the User: A User-Centered Approach to Discovery” at Ex Libris Users of North America (ELUNA) 2016 with Frederick Young.

Brett, Ashley Lierman, and Cherrie Turner co-authored “Lessons Learned A Preview Unannual Meeting in Information Technology and Libraries.

Lisa Crucis was awarded an Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Rare Book School (RBS) Fellowship for Early-Career Librarians. She also joined the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) Rare Books and Manuscripts Section (RBS2016-2018 Nominations Committee.

Nora Dethloff is a member of the American Library Association (ALA) Reference and User Services Association Sharing and Transforming Access to Resources Section (RUSA STARS) Virginia BoucherOnline Computer Library Center (OCLC) Distinguished Librarian Award Committee; the RUSA STARS Codes, Guidelines, and Technical Standards Committee; and the Texas Library Association (TLA) Copyright and Access Interest Group.

Julie Grob presented “Documenting Houston” Hip Hop at the University of Houston at TLA Annual Conference.

Richard Guajardo co-presented “The Next Step in Discovery Implementation: User-Centered Discovery System Redesign” at the 2015 Charleston Conference with Kelsey Brett and Frederick Young.

Guajardo was recently appointed to the Library Information Technology Association (LITA) OCLC and LITA Library Systems and Services, Inc. (SSO) Ministry Scholarship Committee and the ELUNA, Nominating Committee.

Guajardo was appointed to the LITA Bylaws and Organization Committee and the ALCTS Government Relations Committee and the ELUNA, Nominating Committee.

Lee Hildreth was invited to participate in the 2015 Texas Statewide Resource Sharing Summit to assist the Texas State Library and Archives with its strategic planning process.


Stephen James’ article, “Houston: Becoming the Ranch House City,” was published in Houston History.

Drew Krewer was elected chair of the Digital Library Federation’s Preservation Metadata Standards Working Group which is tasked with establishing DNP’s preservation metadata standards for its digital preservation services.

Vince Lee authored a chapter, “Like a Fish Out of Water, but Forging My Own Path,” that was published in “The First Decade of Water, but Forging My Own Path,” that was published in Where are all the Librarians of Academia (Hankins and Wu, 2015). His review of Protecting Their Language: Library Instruction in Non-Languages (Simon) appeared in Southwestern Archivist.

Lisa Martin presented “Research in the Archive: Exploring and Using Primary Resources” at the National Library of Medicine to explore Digital Resources, and “Preservation, Archiving, Digitization, and Preservation Basics,” and “Developing Policies for Local History and Special Collections” at TLA Annual Conference.

John Lehner served as chair of the ALA Leadership Fellows Program Selection Committee. He also serves on the Finance Committee of the Board of Directors of the Texas Medical Center Library.

Andrea Maloney was elected to the University of Houston Faculty Senate and appointed to the University of Houston Faculty Senate and appointed to the University of Houston Graduate Student Government Relations Committee.

Lee presented “Research in the Archive: Exploring and Using Primary Resources” at TLA Annual Conference.

Malone received an International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) 2016 Young Professionals Fellowship Grant. She also served as a peer mentor for the International Libraries Network, and on the planning committee for the first African American Read-In held at the University.

Malone presented in a webinar about being a Fulbright Specialist. She presented in two programs at the TLA Annual Conference, “Internet Resources for Spanish Language Collection Development” and “Speaking Their Language: Library Instruction in Non-Spanish Languages.” She will also present Inclusion through Collection Building: A Study of Foreign Language Collections (UH) by International Students, Faculty and Staff at the National Diversity in Libraries Conference.

Malone was a member of the TLA Program Committee to plan the 2016 annual conference and the ALA Scholarships and Study Grants Committee.

Malone is a recipient of the University of Houston’s Provost’s Faculty Excellence Award.

Mary Manning’s article, “The First Decade of the University of Houston’s Creative Writing Program, 1979-1989,” will appear in Houston History. Her article, “The First Decade of Water, but Forging My Own Path,” that was published in Where are all the Librarians of Academia (Hankins and Wu, 2015).

Mike Thompson served as chair of the ALA Leadership and Management Association (ILAMA) Funding and Financial Development Section. He is also an invited member of the PreQuest Academic Complete Advisory Board.

Stephanie Simons was an invited member of the TLA Technology and Language Committee and presented “Documenting Houston: Books with Biology Students” at the American Library Association’s Annual Conference.

Richard Guajardo was elected chair of the Digital Library Federation’s Leadership Fellows Program. He also served on the Board of Directors of the Texas Medical Center Library.

Annie Wu was accepted and approved for publication in the Charleston Conference proceedings.


Suzanne Ferimer was elected chair of the Special Libraries Association (SLA) Copyright and Access Interest Group; the RUSA STARS Center (OCLC) Distinguished Librarian Award Committee.

Lee presented “Research in the Archive: Exploring and Using Primary Resources” at TLA Annual Conference.

Martin served as a judge for the UH Graduate Research and Scholarship Projects Day poster session and the Undergraduate Research Day poster sessions.

Martin will co-present “Transforming Services: A year of investigating user-centered marketing strategies and information literacy programming for graduate students” with Porcia Vaught at Transforming Libraries for Graduate Students.

Marilyn Myers serves as chair of the ACRL Libraries Section Nominating Committee.

Alex Simons was a member of the Local Arrangements Committee for the TLA Annual Conference and organized the Career Development Center; for resume reviews, job search tips, and other peer-to-peer help. As chair of TLA’s Intellectual Freedom Committee, Simons is sponsoring a panel discussion, “Censorship Attempts are Alive and Well Be Prepared,” a President’s Program event.

Simons was an invited member of the TLA Leadership Committee, a 4-year term and will lead the delegation to DC for the annual ALA-sponsored “National Library Leadership Institute” at Library of Congress.

Bethany Scott will be presenting in two sessions at the Association of American Archivists (AAG) Annual Conference, “More Than Just Metadata: Enriching Legacy Data” and “Repurposing Legacy Data: The Next Steps in Reimagining the Library Website.”

Vacek presented “Impact the UX of Your Website with a Contextual Inquiry” at the Library 2015 Worldwide Virtual Conference.


Vacek delivered the keynote address, “Re-Imagining the Library Website at Re-Imagining the Library: Oklahoma Chapter of the American Library Association & Research Libraries Annual Conference.

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An article, "Hitting the Road towards a Greater Digital Destination: Exploring and Developing DAMS at the University of Houston Libraries," co-authored by Annie Wu, Santi Thompson, Andy Weidner and Sean Watkins, will appear in Information Technology and Libraries.

We co-authored a forthcoming article, “Large-Scale RDA Enforcement of Legacy Data at the University of Houston System Libraries,” with Richard Guajardo and Stephanie Simons.

Vacek delivered the keynote address, “Re-Imagining the Library Website at Re-Imagining the Library: Oklahoma Chapter of the American Library Association & Research Libraries Annual Conference.

Vacek served on the Library Academy Advisory Board working with the New Media Consortium (NMC) and the Coalition for Networked Information (CDNI). She is also serving on the Advisory Committee for the Designing for Digital conference and the Texas Digital Library (TDL) Awards Committee.

Emily Vinson serves as vice president and president elect for Archivists of the Houston Area (SLA) and co-chair for the Preservation Committee of Association of Moving Image Archivists.

Andy Weidner co-presented “Hitting the Road Towards a Greater Digital Destination: Strategic Planning and Evaluation of DAMS at the University of Houston Libraries” with Annie Wu at DLForum.

Weidner attended the inaugural Fedcamp at Duke University in Raleigh, NC. He is also serving on the Pre-Conference Workshop Committee for CodeLib 2016 in Philadelphia, PA.


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The University of Houston Libraries Special Collections contains a vast array of important and influential materials that enrich our students’ and academic experience and enhance their research. Through generous donations of books, papers, and other articles of historical value, Special Collections is able to provide a vital resource for the scholarly community.

Given the high cost of acquiring, processing, collecting and protecting these invaluable resources, Special Collections depends on the endowments and monetary gifts of our donors to make these resources available for research, study and exhibition.

To learn more about contributing to Special Collections, contact Christian Kelleher, head of Special Collections, at 713.743.0346 | cdkelleher@uh.edu.