Every great city deserves a great university, and at every university’s core is a great library.

Great university libraries influence our lives and impact our future. They are distinguished by the unique roles, special collections, and customized services only a university library can provide to the community it serves. This role is increasingly important because of the transformative power of information to unleash human potential. In a diverse urban city, like Houston, every person’s potential can be elevated and the economy fueled by simply having a leading public university library woven into the fabric of the community.
The Transformative Power of Philanthropy

All great cultural and learning institutions, libraries included, succeed because donors know that their funding is deeply valued, transformative, and critical to community success. We have embarked upon a physical and technological transformation. We are introducing new spaces and resources that serve to inspire lifelong learning in UH students and faculty, to educate and inform everyone in the greater Houston region. We do this to enhance University of Houston’s goal to become the primary engine of social, economic, and intellectual development for our region, and we do it by focusing on the following priorities.

Transform UH Library Spaces to Reflect Evolving Modes of Learning & Scholarship by assuring that physical and online services and spaces are designed to be accessible to all; integrating the physical and online user experience to enable intuitive, rapid discovery of services and spaces; creating exhibit spaces to engage the community with special collections, traveling exhibitions, and student and faculty work; and to develop hands on creative spaces that enable interdisciplinary learning and research.

Transformational Spaces
Dana Rooks – Campaign Committee & Cabinet Member
Lee Hilyer – Head of Informational & Access Services

Position UH Libraries as a Leader in Student Success by developing robust services and learning programs that address growth in online and blended learning environments, facilitating deep learning experiences and critical thinking skills. Students learn by doing. Scholarships and awards empower our students and transform their lives.

Student Scholarships & Awards
Gail Burns - Campaign Committee & Cabinet Member
Marilyn Myers – Associate Dean for Academic & Research Services

Position UH Libraries as a Leader in Research Productivity so that our community will prosper from having a nationally competitive public research university in its midst. And, so we can better prepare students to envision the future, emerge as leaders, and launch careers that will transform the world. Exciting opportunities exist to move libraries further into the digital age.

Research Productivity
Santi Thompson, Head of Digital Research Services
Assure the Quality and Relevance of our Collections for our Campus and Global Communities by leveraging partnerships that enable flexibility in collection management while being known for our collections locally and nationally, and globally.

The Libraries’ collections are key to the University’s national competitiveness and embody the intellectual identities and research ambitions of our campus communities. Unique Research Collections form the core of UH Libraries Special Collections, allowing us to identify and respond to the social and cultural challenges affecting our community’s quality of life through education, research, and service. The availability of these collections’ rare and unique cultural artifacts to students and the public leads to vibrant outreach programs that engage Houstonians in the collections, encourages more active faculty and graduate student research, more frequent undergraduate class visits to the collections, and furthers grants for research and study of these subjects.

Our Special Collections include:

**Mission**

The mission of the Carey Shuart Women’s Research Collection is to gather, organize, and promote materials that tell the story of the many unique, talented, and leading women, and women’s organizations, which have shaped our city, our state, and our country. Such a collection will be reflective of women whose work transformed their community both locally and nationally, and will serve as a powerful legacy of women leaders for future generations to come.

**Carey Shuart Women’s Research Collection**

Carey Shuart – Campaign Committee & Cabinet Member

Vince Lee, Archivist

**Houston & Texas History Research Collection**

The mission of the Houston & Texas History Research Collection is to highlight the elements that have made Texas and Houston important to our nation and the world, while documenting its role in shaping our future. We do this by fostering high-impact scholarship, and offering abundant and compelling resources that engage and empower the community at large. Our mission supports everyone in the Greater Houston Region and our community of alumni, students, teachers, authors, thought leaders, entrepreneurs, visiting scholars, environmentalists, and other members of Houston’s vibrant and multicultural community by helping to fulfill our promise as creative, and informed global leaders in energy and sustainability.

**Gene and Carol McDavid – Campaign Committee & Cabinet Members**

**Vince Lee, Archivist**

**Performing & Visual Arts Research Collection**

The mission of the Performing & Visual Arts Research Collection is to foster high-impact scholarship and offer abundant and compelling resources that engage and empower the arts community. We do this by building a unique and compelling collection of distinction that document the performers, industries, and social and cultural significance of the performing and visual arts. We build from the rich cultural heritage of the Houston region to encompass national and global impact.

**Deborah Colton – Campaign Committee & Cabinet Member**

**Mary Manning, University Archivist**
**Mission**
The mission of the LGBT Research Collection is to gather, organize and promote materials representing the people and organizations that shaped the LGBT movement across the country and in the region, to memorialize members of the community who were lost, to give voice to history, and to spark new ideas. We do this by fostering high-impact scholarship, and offering abundant and compelling resources that engage and empower the community at large.

LGBT Research Collection
The Hon. Annise Parker & Kathy Hubbard – Campaign Committee & Cabinet Members
Vince Lee, Archivist

**Mission**
The mission of the Houston Hip Hop Research Collection is to preserve Houston’s unique hip hop music and culture, provide a launching pad for scholarship, and offer abundant and compelling resources that engage and empower our community. We do this by building a unique collection of distinction that documents the hip hop scene.

Houston Hip Hop Research Collection
Julie Grob, Coordinator for Instruction, Special Collections

**Mission**
Our mission is to provide superior collections of rare books that support student success and faculty teaching by serving as tools for hands-on discovery, original research, and the development of critical thinking skills in a learning laboratory environment. This collection will also strengthen a diverse array of archival collecting areas by adding related books, pamphlets, magazines, and other published materials to their unique holdings. Our Rare Books Collections generate excitement among students, faculty, and visitors alike. Books connect us physically to other times, other stories, and other cultures. Older books display historic craftsmanship through features such as handmade paper, leather bindings, and illuminations with gold leaf. Modern books use a variety of printing and illustration techniques to bring to life the stories of underrepresented people, or play with the relationship between a book and a work of art.

Rare Books Collections
Leigh Owen - Campaign Committee & Cabinet Member
Julie Grob, Coordinator for Instruction, Special Collections

**Mission**
The mission of the University of Houston Archives is the storehouse of the University’s memories, documenting the history of our University since its founding in 1927. It holds records produced by the University in the course of its teaching, research, service, and outreach activities and documents its evolution and growth from a junior college to Tier One institution.

University of Houston Archives
Mary Manning, University Archivist

**Mission**
The mission of the Hispanic Research Collection is to document Houston’s Mexican American and Latina/o culture, providing a launching pad for scholarship on immigration, identity, borderlands, artistic expression, language, and human rights. We do this by building a unique collection of distinction that documents Hispanic people, their community and enterprise in Texas. We build from the rich cultural heritage of the Houston region to encompass national and global impact.

Hispanic Research Collection
Lisa Cruces, Hispanic Collections Archivist
By embarking on truly transformative endeavors that will change the very nature of libraries through thoughtful philanthropic support, your gifts become agents of change. They shepherd the community, embracing knowledge, serving as accelerators of ideas, and engines of creativity.

Whether you begin your journey of support with an annual fund gift, an honor or memorial gift, by “planting” an acorn endowment, by adding items to a Special Collection’s Archive and then making a gift to grow that collection, or by being a leader whose gifts make major strides forward, your gifts are always transformative.

Your gifts spark a noble cycle. Notable collections attract similar materials, providing critical mass for scholarly and civic focus. Faculty and students choose to work and study where resources are most readily available for their research. Companies choose to locate where talent, research expertise and human capital add value to businesses. Alumni, visiting scholars, teachers, authors, bibliophiles, lifelong learners, thought leaders, entrepreneurs, technologists, history and cultural buffs, preservationists, musicians, artists, and all the members of a vibrant and multicultural local community come to rely upon a great public university library.

We cannot make that happen alone, we need your support to accomplish these goals.

In the end, I believe you will easily recognize the transformative power your gifts to UH Libraries create, and that you will share in the inspirational joy, sense of legacy in place and time, and the widely beneficial outcomes, of your philanthropy.
For more information contact the Library Advancement Office

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