Two of the four major goals in our Strategic Plan are to position the University of Houston Libraries as a campus leader in research productivity and in student success initiatives. As the University of Houston continues its rise as a nationally prominent research university, the Libraries is addressing the needs of researchers and scholars through a number of recent developments. I am pleased to share our progress with you in this newsletter.

A few of our most exciting achievements that have come to fruition over the past several months include the opening of the Health Sciences Library, supporting the UH colleges of Nursing, Optometry, and Pharmacy, as well as other health-related programs on campus; the opening of the Digital Research Commons, the best place on campus to learn about using digital tools in research and academics; and the opening of the Makerspace in collaboration with our partners in the department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and the Division of Research. I hope you will stop by to experience our new and transformative spaces.

Our Special Collections continue to garner increased recognition. Notably, the Carey Shuart Women’s Research Collection has grown to include over 90 archival collections, documenting the women and organizations that have shaped women’s and Houston’s history. In the past year, organizations such as the American Association of University Women - West Harris County Branch, The Women’s Institute of Houston Records, and Houston Junior Forum have contributed in total over 70 linear feet of materials to the archives. The LGBT History Research Collection comprises over 700 linear feet of materials from individuals and organizations in the LGBT community, including Annise Parker, Ray Hill, and the Gulf Coast Archive and Museum of GLBT History (GCAM).

In open educational resources news, I am pleased to announce that the UH Alternative Textbook Incentive Program, in collaboration with the Provost’s office, is underway. As part of the University’s initiative to improve students’ academic experience by mitigating the high cost of textbooks, the incentive program will award UH faculty members who adopt, adapt, or create an open textbook in their courses, and ultimately, make the college experience more affordable to our students.

Our work continues, and we are grateful for your support in helping us to fulfill our mission of advancing student success, knowledge creation and preservation, and globally competitive research. On behalf of the University of Houston Libraries, thank you for your partnership.

Lisa A. German
Dean of Libraries and Elizabeth D. Rockwell Chair
The University of Houston’s first Open Educational Resources (OER) Workshop was held in February. Michelle Reed and Jasmine Roberts, representing the Open Textbook Network team, led discussions on the impact of the high cost of textbooks for students, why open textbooks can be a solution to affordability issues, and an exploration of the Open Textbook Library.

Open Educational Resources

UH Special Collections recently acquired the donated papers of former state senator Jack C. Ogg (1933-2018). The collection includes scrapbooks spanning Ogg’s political career, family photographs, and memorabilia from his time as a student at the University of Houston.

Jack Ogg Papers

The Center for Advanced Computing and Data Systems (CACDS) and UH Libraries are collaborating on this year’s Vizapalooza event which aims to promote the work of the UH research community. The May 9 event will feature a data visualization competition and workshops.

Vizapalooza

Thanks to a TexTreasures grant funded by the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS), over 500 unique archival KUHT Collection videos have been digitized and are available online. The large scope of fragile videos from the 1980s and 90s were preserved and made accessible in the new UH Libraries Audio/Video Repository which is searchable and provides high-quality desktop and mobile playback. Notable series included in the digitized collection are Almanac, The Capitol Report, J.D.’s Journal, and Ryan’s Roundtable.

KUHT Video Collection

UH Special Collections recently acquired the donated papers of former state senator Jack C. Ogg (1933-2018). The collection includes scrapbooks spanning Ogg’s political career, family photographs, and memorabilia from his time as a student at the University of Houston.

Jack Ogg Papers

An April 18 event featuring items from the Rare Books Collections allowed guests to experience a few of the rare treasures firsthand. Among the collection: the 14th century Book of Hours, Use of Reims, a handwritten and hand-painted devotional book featuring whimsical marginalia of animals and musicians; and Edward Topsell’s 17th century History of Four-footed Beasts and Serpents, which features woodcuts of animals both familiar and fantastical.

White Glove Salon

Last year, UH Special Collections acquired the Zine Fest Houston Records. The collection comprises zines, self-published, small-circulation, non-commercial books or magazines and ephemera documenting zine culture in the Gulf Coast region and nationwide. Topics include art, feminism, LGBTQ issues, the Latina/o community, and humor. Lisa Cruces, archivist and curator for the collection, recently co-hosted a zine-making workshop with Zine Fest Houston organizers Sarah Welch and Stacy Kirages.

Zine Fest Houston

Thanks to a TexTreasures grant funded by the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS), over 500 unique archival KUHT Collection videos have been digitized and are available online. The large scope of fragile videos from the 1980s and 90s were preserved and made accessible in the new UH Libraries Audio/Video Repository which is searchable and provides high-quality desktop and mobile playback. Notable series included in the digitized collection are Almanac, The Capitol Report, J.D.’s Journal, and Ryan’s Roundtable.

KUHT Video Collection

An April 18 event featuring items from the Rare Books Collections allowed guests to experience a few of the rare treasures firsthand. Among the collection: the 14th century Book of Hours, Use of Reims, a handwritten and hand-painted devotional book featuring whimsical marginalia of animals and musicians; and Edward Topsell’s 17th century History of Four-footed Beasts and Serpents, which features woodcuts of animals both familiar and fantastical.

White Glove Salon

An April 18 event featuring items from the Rare Books Collections allowed guests to experience a few of the rare treasures firsthand. Among the collection: the 14th century Book of Hours, Use of Reims, a handwritten and hand-painted devotional book featuring whimsical marginalia of animals and musicians; and Edward Topsell’s 17th century History of Four-footed Beasts and Serpents, which features woodcuts of animals both familiar and fantastical.

libraries.uh.edu/branches/special-collections/rare-books
IRMA BRINDIS

is the newest member of the Dean’s Capital Campaign Committee and Cabinet, supporting Hispanic Collections.

Ms. Brindis is a Houston philanthropist, socialite, and real estate developer. As founder of ANR Builders, Ms. Brindis has developed high-end residential real estate since 2006. She discovered a passion for real estate and interior design when she decided to utilize her talents to create homes for others and has since invested in multiple real estate opportunities.

Ms. Brindis is active on the charity circuit, and attends and hosts fund-raising events for a wide range of nonprofits, with a special focus on Latino causes. She has chaired the St. Jude Latin Gala, Un Brindis por St. Jude, for several years, raising approximately $300,000 annually. Visiting the renowned St. Jude’s Children’s Research Hospital in Memphis only strengthened her desire to remain involved for the long term.

d To date Ms. Brindis has been invited as co-chair to some very worthy causes, among them Latino Learning Center’s (LLC) spring 2014 gala. LLC is a Houston non-profit with the mission of providing educational and human support services to Houston communities, with emphasis on adult education and services to the elderly and disabled. She was a 2015 honoree for CAP, a 2016 honoree for Operation Smile and special guest at the International Mother’s Day Soiree, as well as a judge for Miss Houston Texas Latina 2016 and Miss Teen Houston Texas Latina 2016.

As a friend and muse of Greek jewelry designer Konstantino, she was honored by Konstantino for the first time Konstantino, who counts her among his clients, has created a line exclusively to honor one individual, a very special honor.

Ms. Brindis’s hobbies are socializing with friends, traveling and her two hobbies are socializing with friends, travel, food and elite social living. She is a Houston non-profit with a very special honor.

Ms. Brindis was born in Jalisco, Mexico but at a young age her parents moved to Morgan Hill, California where she grew up and lived until 1995. Ms. Brindis is the proud mother of two children, a son and a daughter.

Ms. Brindis has a Houston philanthropist, socialite, and real estate developer. As founder of ANR Builders, Ms. Brindis has developed high-end residential real estate since 2006. She discovered a passion for real estate and interior design when she decided to utilize her talents to create homes for others and has since invested in multiple real estate opportunities.

Ms. Brindis is active on the charity circuit, and attends and hosts fund-raising events for a wide range of nonprofits, with a special focus on Latino causes. She has chaired the St. Jude Latin Gala, Un Brindis por St. Jude, for several years, raising approximately $300,000 annually. Visiting the renowned St. Jude’s Children’s Research Hospital in Memphis only strengthened her desire to remain involved for the long term.

To date Ms. Brindis has been invited as co-chair to some very worthy causes, among them Latino Learning Center’s (LLC) spring 2014 gala. LLC is a Houston non-profit with the mission of providing educational and human support services to Houston communities, with emphasis on adult education and services to the elderly and disabled. She was a 2015 honoree for CAP, a 2016 honoree for Operation Smile and special guest at the International Mother’s Day Soiree, as well as a judge for Miss Houston Texas Latina 2016 and Miss Teen Houston Texas Latina 2016.

As a friend and muse of Greek jewelry designer Konstantino, she was honored by Konstantino for the first time Konstantino, who counts her among his clients, has created a line exclusively to honor one individual, a very special honor.

Ms. Brindis’s hobbies are socializing with friends, traveling and food and elite social living. She is a Houston non-profit with a very special honor.

Ms. Brindis was born in Jalisco, Mexico but at a young age her parents moved to Morgan Hill, California where she grew up and lived until 1995. Ms. Brindis is the proud mother of two children, a son and a daughter.

Ms. Brindis has a Houston philanthropist, socialite, and real estate developer. As founder of ANR Builders, Ms. Brindis has developed high-end residential real estate since 2006. She discovered a passion for real estate and interior design when she decided to utilize her talents to create homes for others and has since invested in multiple real estate opportunities.

Ms. Brindis is active on the charity circuit, and attends and hosts fund-raising events for a wide range of nonprofits, with a special focus on Latino causes. She has chaired the St. Jude Latin Gala, Un Brindis por St. Jude, for several years, raising approximately $300,000 annually. Visiting the renowned St. Jude’s Children’s Research Hospital in Memphis only strengthened her desire to remain involved for the long term.

To date Ms. Brindis has been invited as co-chair to some very worthy causes, among them Latino Learning Center’s (LLC) spring 2014 gala. LLC is a Houston non-profit with the mission of providing educational and human support services to Houston communities, with emphasis on adult education and services to the elderly and disabled. She was a 2015 honoree for CAP, a 2016 honoree for Operation Smile and special guest at the International Mother’s Day Soiree, as well as a judge for Miss Houston Texas Latina 2016 and Miss Teen Houston Texas Latina 2016.

As a friend and muse of Greek jewelry designer Konstantino, she was honored by Konstantino for the first time Konstantino, who counts her among his clients, has created a line exclusively to honor one individual, a very special honor.

Ms. Brindis’s hobbies are socializing with friends, traveling and food and elite social living. She is a Houston non-profit with a very special honor.

Ms. Brindis was born in Jalisco, Mexico but at a young age her parents moved to Morgan Hill, California where she grew up and lived until 1995. Ms. Brindis is the proud mother of two children, a son and a daughter.
Melody Condron presented "Social Media as a Tool: Saving & Managing Online Communication" at the ARMA Nevada e-Records Forum; and two sessions of "Preserving & Accessing Your Digital Stuff" at RootsTech.


Condron completed the University of Houston 2018 Cougar Chairs Leadership Academy in January 2018.

Lisa Cruces received a National Endowment for the Humanities-Global Book Histories Initiative scholarship from Rare Book School.

Taylor Davis-Van Atta was accepted to the 2018 Data Science and Visualization Institute for Librarians held at North Carolina State University.

Wenli Gao presented a poster, "Transform research and instruction support through social media analysis and data visualization," at EDUCAUSE 2017 Annual Conference.

Christina Gola was nominated as a candidate for the Texas Library Association Executive Board member-at-large, and was accepted to the 2018-2019 Association of Research Libraries Leadership Fellows Program.

Rachel Helbing is a member of the Membership Committee, Nursing and Allied Health Resources Section, Medical Library Association (MLA), 2017-2019; Career Development Grant Jury, Medical Informatics Section, (MLA), 2017-2018; and Bylaws Committee, South Central Chapter of the MLA, 2017-2018; and Bylaws Committee, South Central Chapter of the Medical Library Association Annual Meeting.


Lewin-Lane was appointed chair of the UH Libraries Copyright Team and is a member of the University Cougar Card Advisory Committee and New Campus ID System/ Campus Smart Card Subcommittee.

Lewin-Lane is a member of the Music Library Association Career Development and Services Committee Career Advisory Service, appointed co-coordinator 2017 and coordinator 2018; member of the Texas Chapter Nominating Committee 2017, and appointed coordinator for the Jazz and Popular Music Interest Group (2018-2022).

Lisa Martin was accepted to the Triangle Research Libraries Network (TRLN) Management Academy for 2018.

Daniel Phsock presented "This is great, but can you make it real? How to say no" and "Results from the 2017 Library User Experience Survey" at the Designing for Digital conference.

Ariana Santiago, Mea Warren, and Ashley Lierman presented "A tale of two classes: Transforming core curriculum pedagogy" at the TLA Library Instruction Roundtable Summit.


Shawn Vaillancourt presented a webinar, "Crunch time: Frameworks to assess and improve end of year spending," with Lindsay Cronk (originally scheduled for the Charleston Conference: Issues in Book and Serial Acquisition).

Emily Vinson presented "Preservation is Painless: A Guide to Outsourced AV Digitization Projects" at the Association of Moving Image Archivists Annual Conference.

Vinson, as president of Archivists of the Houston Area (AHA!), coordinated the first Houston Archives Bazaar with 24 participating organizations and over 200 attendees in September 2017.


Emilia Lierman wrote "LinkedIn at the Brick & Click conference; and a poster, "Trends in Open Educational Resources in the Earth Sciences: Emerging Roles for the Academic Library," with Samantha Teplitzky at the Geological Society of America.

Santi Thompson, Andrew Weidner, and Mea Warren is a member of the ALA New Members Roundtable Mentoring Committee and the Special Libraries Association (SLA) Physics-Astronomy-Math Awards Committee.

Anne Washington was accepted into the Texas Library Association TALL/Texas Leadership Institute.


Andrew Weidner became a Certified Scrum Product Owner from Scrum Alliance.

Wu and Santi Thompson presented “Preservation is Painless: A Guide to Outsourced AV Digitization Projects” at the Association of Moving Image Archivists Annual Conference.

Vincent, as president of Archivists of the Houston Area (AHA!), coordinated the first Houston Archives Bazaar with 24 participating organizations and over 200 attendees in September 2017.

Wu and Drew Kreuer published "Maximizing Efficiency & Standardization in Digitization at University of Houston Libraries: A Program-Based vs. Project-Based Approach" in the Journal of Digital Media Management.

Wu is a councilor-at-large with ALA.
UH Libraries staff have been essential partners in student and public outreach programming I have been involved in through the Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies program and the Center for Public History. All staff - archival, communications, technology, and otherwise - have been incredibly focused on effective collaboration. As a faculty member, I have been additionally impressed with how attentive Special Collections staff have been to enhancing student engagement.

- Leandra Zarnow, PhD
Assistant Professor, Department of History
WGSS Affiliate
University of Houston

Working as a technology consultant at the MD Anderson Library has been a great experience for me as a student of UH. The staff is very friendly and helpful. The job has allowed me to further develop various skills such as communication, customer service, and critical thinking. I have the pleasure of working alongside fellow classmates to assist our patrons with various problems. This has been beneficial for me because those skills will be very important when I join the workforce. It is very exciting and rewarding to work for such a great school. GO COOGS!

- Ricardo Lopez
Student, Management Information Systems

THE NUMBERS

- Annual visitors: 2,164,407
- Website visits: 1,195,113
- Page views: 3,634,705
- Equipment check-outs: 36,487
- Networking & co-curricular events: 14
- Teaching & research activity participants: 22,307
- Online resource uses: 4,623,796
- Study room check-outs: 25,017

FY17
The Digital Research Commons offers access to specialized digital scholarship tools and support.

SUPPORT UH LIBRARIES

Our vision is a community nurtured by curiosity and creativity that drives lifelong learning and scholarship.

To learn more about UH Libraries giving opportunities, visit libraries.uh.edu or call Connie Loyd, 713.743.8116