Dear colleagues and friends,

It is my pleasure to share with you Between the Lines, a publication of the Jean and Alexander Heard Libraries. In words, numbers and images, we offer a glimpse into the many ways our libraries support and enhance teaching, learning and research at Vanderbilt. Between the Lines will introduce you to the remarkable things happening in the libraries and perhaps even challenge your perception of the roles of libraries and librarians. We are grateful to the many donors and friends who made much of this work possible.

The past academic year has been one of change for Vanderbilt’s Heard Libraries with new faces, new library services, new spaces and new programs. It has also been a year of continuity as we build collections, make resources accessible and provide contemplative and collaborative spaces for research and study. Though we may use new tools and innovative approaches, the best part of what we do remains the human interactions that take place every day among library staff, faculty, students and members of the community. In short, the library is evolving while remaining true to its essence as a place of information and knowledge working in partnership with those who research, teach and learn.

We are preparing for the coming year by assessing our collections, hiring strategic positions and undertaking renovations. I hope you like what you see and that you will continue to follow the activities and news of the Heard Libraries as an active member of our community.

Valerie Hotchkiss
University Librarian
Professor of English

Places and Spaces
International exhibit unites students, faculty and staff in celebrating mapping technology

Last spring, the Vanderbilt Heard Libraries hosted Places & Spaces: Mapping Science, an international exhibition celebrating the use of data visualizations to make sense of large data streams in groundbreaking ways. The campuswide exhibit proved to be intellectually enriching and socially unifying, according to campus leaders.

“The Places & Spaces: Mapping Science exhibit brought together students, faculty and staff to celebrate technological advances in data visualization that facilitate our understanding of the world around us,” says Cynthia J. Cyrus, vice provost for learning and residential affairs. “From the disciplines of science and medicine to history, art, education and literature, the exhibit showcased how educational technologies can facilitate learning across a variety of disciplines.”

In partnership with the exhibit, John Sloop, associate provost for educational technologies, welcomed 49 students to four data visualization workshops where they learned about creating illustrations, interactive data analysis, visualizing data and how to use a GoPro camera.

“Places & Spaces was unique in blending art, technology and science and was an excellent example of the power of trans-institutional collaborations,” says Robert Grajewski, Evans Family Executive Director of the Wow’dry. “The illuminated diagram display at the Wow’dry gave visitors a chance to explore science and its impact on humanity in an interactive, visual way that is rarely possible.”

The libraries also held a competition in which students used innovation to present objects, ideas and data in a visual or nontraditional way. Ben Shapiro, a doctoral student at Vanderbilt Peabody College for education and human development, and Blake Quigley, an undergraduate majoring in computer science, earned first-place awards in the graduate and undergraduate categories. They received their awards in April and, along with other competitors, discussed their projects prior to being inducted into the Wild Bunch by alumni David Blum, a 1977 graduate and founder of the group. The Wild Bunch Fund, established in 1997 to honor the late Chancellor Alexander Heard and his wife, Jean Heard, sponsored the Places & Spaces: Mapping Science program. Over the years, the Wild Bunch Fund has supported the acquisition of hundreds of books for the library as well as lectures and special programs.

“We were honored to host Places & Spaces and to welcome its curator to our library,” University Librarian Valerie Hotchkiss says. “This is a great example of the way the libraries support research and learning with both traditional resources and cutting-edge tools.”
Librarians and students explore augmented reality

Library Fellow Christina Wang, a sophomore majoring in medicine, health and society, worked with Vanderbilt librarians to build an augmented reality environment using a 3-D camera, powerful simulation software and a data projector. The project used visualization applications to create a virtual landscape in a real sandbox. Users could shift the sand, which was then augmented in real time to show how shifting topology can impact geographic, geologic and hydrologic changes. The experience helped students learn to read a topographical map and to understand such concepts as watersheds, levees and catchment areas. Wang debuted the sandbox to great acclaim at the opening of the Wond’ry at the Innovation Pavilion, Vanderbilt’s new cross-disciplinary innovation space.

Introducing students to primary sources: E.E. Barnard Collection and the solar eclipse

During the August 2017 solar eclipse, the Heard Libraries hosted an exhibition on the work of American astronomer Edward Emerson Barnard (1857–1923). Best known for his discovery of Amalthea, the fifth moon of Jupiter, Barnard got his start in Nashville as an errand boy for a local photographer. With the support of Vanderbilt University, he became an astronomer and spent a lifetime observing and photographing the sky. The exhibition, which was curated by four graduate astronomy students from Vanderbilt and the Fisk-Vanderbilt Master’s-to-Ph.D. Bridge program, drew on collections housed in Special Collections, as well as loans from private collectors.

Sound mind, sound body: Developing a relationship with student-athletes

During the summer, first-year student-athletes toured the libraries, met librarians and engaged in competitive exercises designed to teach information literacy. In the academic year, the library formally partners with the Stratton Foster Academic Support Center to provide weekly services at McGugin Center, assisting student-athletes with library and research skills. Librarians frequently work with the academic counselors who, through their regular contact with the athletes, can promote the libraries’ role in student success.

Digital Salon exposes Vanderbilt to innovations in scholarship

The 2017 Digital Salon series, co-hosted by Vanderbilt Heard Libraries and the Center for Digital Humanities, offered a chance for the community to explore innovative digital tools and projects across a range of disciplines. Speakers included Jonathan Gilligan (environmental studies), Rogers Hall (teaching and learning), and the library’s Ramona Romero (classical studies), Philip Walker (biomedicine), and Valerie Hotchkiss (women’s studies). Each event also included time for discussion and networking with colleagues.

The University of Nashville Collection: Teaching the next generation of catalogers

Vanderbilt’s Special Collections staff often mentor new librarians and specialists in the area of rare books and archives. This year, a partnership with the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, extended internships to graduate students in information science. Working with Vanderbilt librarians and conservators, the students learned specialized cataloging practices to help process monographs from the University of Nashville Collection (1826–1909). The University of Nashville eventually was renamed Peabody Normal College (1889) and then George Peabody College for Teachers (1911), which merged with Vanderbilt in 1979. Collectively, these books reveal the education practices of a 19th-century university.
In June 2017, the Heard Libraries co-sponsored the second Cultural Heritage at Scale symposium. The annual symposium brings national and local speakers together for a two-day event to explore the many interconnections among cultural heritage institutions. To date, the symposia have covered such issues as the semantic web and crowdsourcing. Attendees also have the opportunity to learn practical applications of new techniques and technologies. Ongoing working groups maintain the momentum throughout the year, making Vanderbilt a national center for digital scholarship.

Wikipedians in the libraries

Library staff teach Wikipedia skills each year in a variety of Arts and Science courses. Librarians also host six Wikipedia Edit-athons annually on campus and with community partners at Tennessee State University and the Nashville Public Library. Students in Assistant Professor Jessie Hock’s English course Early Modern Women’s Writing learned how to write for the web in these edit-a-thons, researching, writing, and improving Wikipedia articles about the early women writers they studied in class.

Text mining in business libraries

Clifford Anderson, associate university librarian for research and learning, and Hilary Craiglow, director of the Walker Management Library at the Owen Graduate School of Management, published an article titled “Text Mining in Business Libraries” in the Journal of Business and Finance Librarianship. The article details their two-year effort to support a large-scale text mining project by the accounting faculty at the Owen School. The project illustrates the new skills and services that librarians are developing to support the emerging needs of faculty research.

High school interns find opportunity in the libraries

Three high school interns, Tanderious Williams, Hermela Demma and McKenna Mimms, worked in Special Collections during the summer as part of Opportunity NOW, a job readiness program organized by Nashville Mayor Megan Barry’s office. Kathy Smith, associate director of special collections, and Celia Walker, director of special projects, mentored the students, who learned how to use the library databases, how to work in a library setting, and how to find books in the library. The interns also toured several of the nine campus libraries during their six-week program, giving them insights into the diverse work going on in 21st-century libraries. The interns were tasked with identifying and locating the first books to come in to the libraries in the late 19th century, using the earliest acquisition ledgers in the archives. Each title was checked in the online catalog, then pulled from the shelf to determine if it was the correct edition and copy. Students learned how to analyze books based on bookplates, circulation stamps and bindings. They also checked Hathitrust records for an electronic version and searched for a replacement copy if needed. The books identified will have a note added to their record to show that they were among the first to enter the library, and the collection will be highlighted in 2023 as the libraries and the university celebrate their 150th anniversary.

Beyond the Card Catalogue

This spring eight librarians and three dozen lifelong learners tackled subjects ranging from finding federal tax regulations to using Google to greater advantage. The course resulted not only in better-informed library users, but also a greater understanding of how the Heard Libraries serve the community beyond campus.

Vanderbilt Libraries: Beyond the Card Catalogue, a six-week course offered in the spring through the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Vanderbilt, covered a variety of topics, including digital humanities, legal research, the Appalachian Dulcimer Archive at the Anne Potter Wilson Music Library, learning in the digital age, and library exhibitions and experiential projects for students.

OLLi at Vanderbilt offers stimulating intellectual and cultural noncredit courses, programs and trips for adults over 50, regardless of their educational background. This year’s class continued the collaboration between the library and OLLI’s predecessor for retirement learning at Vanderbilt.

For participants in Beyond the Card Catalogue, the course not only taught specifics about research and resources, but, more significantly, raised awareness that the Vanderbilt libraries exist to serve the wider Midstate area as well as the campus community of scholars and students.

“I was very impressed that the libraries at Vanderbilt are open to the general public,” commented a student after the class concluded. “All the instructors indicated their willingness to help people other than faculty and students.”

The librarians were equally impressed with the enthusiastic lifelong learners.
Friends group returns

In October, University Librarian Valerie Hotchkiss resurrected an old library institution: The Friends of Vanderbilt’s Libraries. The new group connects alumni, community, staff, students and faculty through their shared love of libraries, reading and the life of the mind. The library is eager to raise awareness and make new friends for the libraries through programming, projects and special events. The kick-off for Friends of Vanderbilt’s Libraries was Oct. 17 with Martin Seay, author of the New York Times Notable Book of the Year The Mirror Thief, reading at the Central Library.

Students as curators of Latin American collections

Last spring, the research-oriented Latin American studies seminar adopted a specific goal: an exhibition in the Central Library lobby on the movement of people to the New World. Each student chose a case theme, such as slavery, economic development or conquest, and engaged with a wide range of primary sources held by Special Collections—from slave trade maps to travelers’ accounts to Spanish missals. Under the guidance of Paula Covington, Latin American and Iberian bibliographer and senior lecturer in Latin American studies, and Frank Robinson, assistant professor of history, students also curated online exhibits and wrote metadata to place objects in their historical context. The exhibition remained through the fall for viewing by classes in Latin American studies.

Librarians as mentors: 2016–17 Library Fellows projects

This year, the library mentored 10 Library Fellows, helping them build transferable skills through hands-on learning. The Library Fellowship program is designed to create in-depth learning experiences through individualized projects for both graduate and undergraduate students. Fellows completed projects that shared primary sources on the history of medicine and made inroads into improving campus access to those sources. They worked with the legal history archives, the J. León Helguera Collections, and built an augmented reality environment. Spring projects engaged with recent acquisitions of early Colombian history and Cass Gilbert’s architectural drawings of the Woolworth Building. Fellows also helped a class curate exhibits around the story of migration from materials in Special Collections. The library remains grateful to Dr. and Mrs. Richard Buchanan for their support of this program. Through the Library Fellowship program, students enrich their understanding and use of library resources and services.

The Open Mind series: Bringing our mission into focus

The Open Mind series provides a forum for airing differing and even opposing views in a way consistent with the mission of the libraries. Led by journalists and media experts, the program presents diverse viewpoints, encouraging attendees to carefully consider each issue and make up their own minds. Former national news anchor John M. Seigenthaler served as moderator of the inaugural panel in October 2016 on the “Limits of Free Speech,” while the second event in February brought together journalists from USA Today and PolitiFact as well as the president of the Center for Research Libraries to discuss “The Power of the (Fake) Press.” More programs on controversial topics are planned.

L-R: Library fellows Jessica Fletcher, Andrea Delgado, Janna Adelstein, Dora Saclarides, Ellen Dorment and University Librarian Valerie Hotchkiss
A Winning Hand

Vanderbilt now home to renowned gaming collection

The George Clulow and United States Playing Card Company Gaming Collection, one of the world’s premiere collections of books about card games, games of chance, playing cards and chess, was acquired by Special Collections in June.

The collection of approximately 1,000 volumes spanning six centuries—dating from the 15th to the 20th century—was acquired from the United States Playing Card Company. The company bought the bulk of the collection from the English playing-card maker George Clulow in 1898, augmenting and enhancing it over the past 100 years. Also included in the collection are archival records that document the development, design and manufacture of playing cards in America.

“This stellar collection offers a wealth of materials for faculty and students across a wide variety of disciplines, including history, English, French, German, law, economics, physics, religious studies, ethics, art history, mathematics and education,” says University Librarian Valerie Hotchkiss. “It is also fitting that Vanderbilt should be home to this collection, because one of our university’s great leaders, Harold Stirling Vanderbilt, was instrumental in the history of gaming as the inventor of contract bridge.” The collection complements the Parkhurst and Jane Wood Bridge Book and Periodical Collection already at Vanderbilt.

Subjects from the collection that lend themselves to teaching and research include the economics, mathematics and social consequences of gaming as well as the legal ramifications. Art students will be interested in the art of playing card design, and students of mathematics and statistics will appreciate the tracts on the ambiguities and science of games of chance. The collection also includes theological diatribes and literary treatments related to gaming.

Also noteworthy are original sketches for playing cards designed by the 19th-century artist and color theorist Owen Jones. In addition to transforming European interior and textile design with his Grammar of Ornament (1856), Jones ushered in the standards of modern playing card design with his tesselated and geometric patterns devised to thwart card sharps and cheats.

The collection contains nearly every edition of Hoyle’s Game of Whist and strategy books on poker, bridge, patience, quadrille and skat, along with first editions of literary works in which gaming or gambling play a significant role, such as Alexander Pope’s The Rape of the Lock and William Makepeace Thackeray’s Orphans of Pauhia. Another noteworthy item is an important 15th-century manuscript with the earliest recorded mention of Tarot cards.” The Tarot manuscript itself, says Lynn Ramey, an associate professor of French who studies games and gaming theory. She is excited about having the collection at Vanderbilt. “I can think of all sorts of ways the collection could become the focus of a class as well as faculty research.”

One Man’s Treasure

Helguera’s personal library boosts Colombiana collections

Some 300 books containing the rarest and earliest portions of the J. León Helguera Collection of Colombiana, which documents centuries of Colombian political, economic and social history, have been acquired by the Vanderbilt Heard Libraries.

“This significant addition to our Latin American holdings, combined with an earlier collection from Professor Helguera and the Manuel Zapata Olivella papers, ensures Vanderbilt’s position as a global destination for Colombian scholarship,” says University Librarian Valerie Hotchkiss.

Malcolm Deas, a scholar at Oxford University, describes the Helguera Collection as “the finest collection of Colombian outside the country, and one which includes a good number of items not available in Colombia.”

Helguera, who died in 2015, was professor of history, emeritus, at Vanderbilt and devoted much of his life to collecting and preserving Colombian antiquarian books, pamphlets, newspapers, broadsides and manuscripts, dating as early as the 1600s. He first traveled to Colombia in 1953 while working on his dissertation: Thanks to his hard work and generous contributions to Vanderbilt through the years, and the support of his wife, Byrd Helguera, and sons Joseph and Leon, Special Collections already had an impressive collection of Colombian materials.

“We have a treasure trove of rich material for scholars of Colombia’s colonial era, meaning not just Colombia, but also other future nations that once were part of the kingdom of Nueva Granada—Panama, Ecuador, Venezuela and even Peru,” says Paula Covington, Latin American and Iberian bibliographer and senior lecturer in Latin American studies.

Helguera in 2007

Hand-drawn map of southern Colombia before 1820 depicting the province of Popayán to Quito. The map is depicted with north at the bottom.

1809 document guaranteeing payment to the commander of the ship Paloma for safe passage of goods and persons from Cartagena de Indias to Cadiz.
Decadent and Dada

Vanderbilt’s Bandy Center grows with acquisition of works by poet Paul Verlaine

Poet Paul Verlaine rocketed between emotional highs and lows, between a life of complete freedom of movement and morals (leaving his wife to wander Europe with poet Arthur Rimbaud) and one of incarceration (serving a prison sentence after an argument that ended with Verlaine shooting at Rimbaud). A major influence on the French symbolist poets, Verlaine became the poster child for the Decadent movement of the fin de siècle period, and not just because of his poetry.

The French Decadent poets also included Charles Baudelaire, whose works form the core of the Vanderbilt Libraries’ W.T. Bandy Center for Baudelaire and Modern French Studies. Last spring, an extensive collection of works by and about Verlaine was acquired by the Bandy Center from author and collector Hervé Vilez of Paris, France. It includes more than 300 original editions, 200 collective editions including music and translations, 403 pieces of literary documentation, 187 periodicals, 118 works of iconography, and 310 “curios” relating to the life and work of Verlaine.

“Paul Verlaine is one of France’s major poets of the second half of the 19th century, and by adding this collection to the collections already housed in the Bandy Center, Vanderbilt becomes an unparalleled resource for scholars of French modernism,” says Robert F. Barsky, professor of French and comparative literature and the faculty director of the Bandy Center.

An international symposium celebrating the Verlaine Collection took place at Vanderbilt in March. More than a series of lectures, the conference also featured the world premiere of a Verlaine-themed contemporary dance performance and an art exhibit on Dadaism at the Vanderbilt Fine Arts Gallery.

Collections analysis through a GreenGlass brightly

With the recent U.S. News & World Report ranking Vanderbilt 14th among American colleges and universities, the libraries have taken up the task of analyzing collections to determine where its research strengths—and lacunae—lie. Using a new analytical tool called GreenGlass, Vanderbilt libraries will compare its holdings, subject by subject, with its peers to identify strengths, protect materials not widely held in American libraries, and develop a strategy for building collections, in both physical and digital formats, to support research at Vanderbilt at the highest possible level.

The Krupp Trial project: Preserving an international law archive

Judge Hu C. Anderson, a Tennessee native, served as presiding judge of the Krupp Trial, one of 12 U.S. military tribunals in Nuremberg following World War II. Anderson donated his personal papers and other records related to the trial to Vanderbilt. This year, Library Fellow Jennifer Alexander, a doctoral student in religion, worked on a finding aid and website that allows researchers from around the world to access and better understand this important international law archive. By digitizing the archive, the library once again shows its commitment to open access.

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The place of record: Processing the John Seigenthaler Papers

After the passing of renowned journalist and First Amendment advocate John Seigenthaler in July 2014, the library received his extensive collection of personal papers. Included in the archives are documents from his work with Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy and the Department of Justice on civil rights, items on the founding of the First Amendment Center at Vanderbilt University, as well as his research on local and national politics. As archivists process the collection, the library anticipates great demand for these nationally significant papers from the scholarly community.
Libraries spearhead university’s commitment to copyright compliance

The library has adopted the Stanford Intellectual Property Exchange system, a program established in 2012, to provide faster and more affordable access to digital course readings. The SIPX system puts copyright and library resource information in one place and makes e-reserves not only more efficient, but also compliant with copyright and intellectual property regulations. As more faculty use the program, the university will save on copyright fees while maintaining instructor choice and flexibility.

Collaborating with faculty: Japanese teaching collections grant

Over the last several years, Yuh-Fen Benda, (center in photo) Asian studies bibliographer, has secured several grants to enhance the Japanese teaching collections at Vanderbilt. This spring, the library received its fifth grant from the North American Coordinating Council. The grant supports faculty research and writing and covers 80 percent of the cost of Japanese books requested by faculty. In addition, Benda and Michiru Lowe, senior lecturer in Japanese (right), were awarded for the second time a Japanese Teaching Material Purchase NCC grant to acquire a reading collection for Japanese learners.

ArchivesSpace: Making our resources more accessible

The libraries recently adopted ArchivesSpace, a next-generation web-based archive information management system, designed by archivists for making collections widely accessible. Librarians and archivists have begun to move library holdings from paper finding aids to the online, searchable database. This project will not only make Vanderbilt’s collections better known and easily accessible, but also will bring new users to the archives.

A treasured book of hours returns to the library

One of Special Collections’ most prized items, the Horae Beatae Virginis Mariæ, more commonly known as a book of hours, is back from conservation. Books of hours, which include texts and prayers for Christian devotion, were very popular in the Middle Ages. Produced in 1480, this illuminated manuscript is part of the Nettie Hale Rand Collection of Fine Bindings and Printing. Vanderbilt’s book of hours is heavily used both in the classroom and in exhibitions. Returned to Special Collections late last year, the delightful illuminated manuscript is ready for another 500 years of use.

‘How does your patient, doctor?’

The Eskind Biomedical Library recently enhanced its historical medical collections with a case book that has strong Shakespearean connections. The first edition of John Hall’s Select Observations on English Bodies (1657) describes successful treatments for worms, smallpox, melancholy and scurvy, among other ailments. John Hall was married to William Shakespeare’s daughter, Susanna. During his many years of practice in and around Stratford-upon-Avon, Hall collected more than 200 case histories, including successful treatment of Susanna Shakespeare for fever. In 1657, Hall’s friend and fellow doctor James Cooke translated the Latin case histories and published them in this book.

Original manuscripts by composer Alfred Schnittke acquired

The library recently acquired two important manuscripts in the hand of the Soviet and German composer Alfred Schnittke (1934–1998). Symphonic Prelude (Sinfonisches Vorspiel) for orchestra was commissioned by the Philharmonisches Staatsorchester Hamburg and dedicated to Gerd Albrecht. The second autographed manuscript, Epilogue for Violoncello, Piano and Tape, is one of Schnittke’s most expressive chamber works. It was written for the great Russian cellist Mstislav Rostropovich and is based on his ballet Peer Gynt. Both compositions represent the final, highly influential period of Schnittke’s oeuvre. Students, faculty and researchers will find much to study in these manuscripts, which are full of the composer’s corrections, edits and marginalia.

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A $12.9 million renovation of the Annette and Irwin Eskind Biomedical Library at Vanderbilt University that began Aug. 1 will support the next generation of physicians and scientists and create a state-of-the-art health sciences library that serves a broad community from undergraduates to medical residents.

“The renovation, which has been made possible by a visionary gift from the Eskind family, will create a biomedical and health sciences library of the first order,” says University Librarian Valerie Hotchkiss.

Following the yearlong renovation, the building will be renamed the Annette and Irwin Eskind Family Biomedical Library and Learning Center.

Keith Loiseau, university architect and director of architecture and construction, notes that the architecturally iconographic and award-winning building was constructed during the early 1990s. “The Eskind Library led the way for the next wave of biomedical libraries with its strong emphasis on transparency, both literal and figurative,” Loiseau says. “We will strive at every level to maintain that architectural image so that the building remains an engaging and open place of learning.”

The library will occupy the ground and first floors of the building offering inviting study spaces and technologically advanced training rooms. The History of Medicine collection, with its rare books, archival material and historical artifacts, will remain on the third floor for teaching and research with primary sources.

These materials have been temporarily relocated to the Heard Libraries Special Collections and are available for use. The School of Medicine, which is moving from Light Hall on the medical campus, will be housed on the second, third and fourth floors.

The building will be more energy efficient and meet modern technology requirements. Features will include improved lighting, flexible seating and monitors embedded behind glass in some of the walls. The new library design also will meet green building standards and will be completed to meet LEED Silver certification.

The Annette and Irwin Eskind Family Biomedical Library and Learning Center is scheduled to reopen Aug. 1, 2018.

Walker Management Library undergoes complete renovation

The Walker Management Library’s $4.4 million renovation project has reimagined its 17,000 square foot facility with the needs of business education in the 21st century in mind. It is now a welcoming and comfortable space for library services, individual study and collaboration.

The design allows 24/7 access to quiet study, 20 study/team rooms and a new copy/print center. A fireplace creates space for groups to engage with business leaders in a personal setting. Seating for individual study incorporates sound dampening and masking techniques in the design, materials and finishes. Each of the team rooms includes all-in-one technology for presenting and teleconferencing. Librarian offices are in close proximity to books and equipment for borrowing and a bank of cloud-based computers with specialized market software and data. A completely new HVAC ensures comfortable airflow and temperature.

STEMing the tide of displaced Eskind library users

The Sarah Shannon Stevenson Science and Engineering Library received a much-needed facelift over the summer with a new public services desk and new carpeting, paint and furniture throughout. Dozens of additional study spaces were added to this busy library to prepare for increased activity in the coming year. During the 2017–18 school year, the Science and Engineering Library will also serve Vanderbilt School of Medicine students who are displaced by the major renovations taking place in the Eskind Biomedical Library. The Science and Engineering Library’s new director, Honora Eskridge, will watch over the renovations and introduce more innovations in the coming year. (Read more about Eskridge on page 16.)

Student-inspired study spaces in Divinity Library

This summer, the Divinity Library added a new group study room, bringing the number of such rooms to five. Two additional open study areas near the public service desk also received a facelift. Feedback from student focus groups influenced the flexible furniture choices and were the impetus for lighting upgrades.

New Inside

Eskind Biomedical Library undergoes transformative renovation

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Eskridge named director of Stevenson Science and Engineering Library

Honora Eskridge has been named director of the Sarah Shannon Stevenson Science and Engineering Library at Vanderbilt University. In this role she will support research and learning in STEM fields, working closely with the School of Engineering and the College of Arts and Science. “Honora brings experience, enthusiasm and a keen wit to this position,” University Librarian Valerie Hotchkiss says. “I believe that faculty, students and librarians in science and engineering will feel energized and well-served with her at the helm.”

Eskridge publishes in the area of STEM research and library service models, working on topics such as lab-integrated librarians, bioengineering resources, and the information-seeking behavior of engineers.

Eskridge joined the Vanderbilt community in August. She was most recently director of Centennial Campus Research Services at North Carolina State University Libraries, where she led library services for more than 11,000 faculty, staff and students in the College of Textiles and Engineering. She had been at NCSU since 1998 and implemented many innovative services, including involvement in the planning of the new James Hunt Jr. Library and development of a Data Science and Visualization Institute for Librarians. She brings a wealth of experience in mentorship, as well as professional expertise in the area of managing change in libraries. She attended Harvard’s Leadership Institute for Librarians and won the best paper award from the American Society of Engineering Education, competing with hundreds of other papers.

Eskridge earned a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering from Manhattan College, and a master’s in library and information science from Catholic University of America.

Also joining the staff this year

Zachary Johnson, curator, Special Collections

Zach Johnson returned to Vanderbilt as curator in Special Collections in April 2017. He earned a master of science in information science from the University of Tennessee, which he completed while working as a manuscripts processor at Vanderbilt. Johnson previously served as an archivist at Rutgers University and the University of South Carolina. At Vanderbilt, he is processing the John Seigenthaler Papers, leading the effort to convert legacy finding aids to encoded archival descriptions, and implementing ArchivesSpace for the library.

Elisabeth Shook, scholarly communications librarian

Elisabeth Shook joined the library as scholarly communications librarian in July. Shook earned a master of library and information science from the University of Wisconsin–Madison. She was previously the digital initiatives librarian at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio. At Vanderbilt, she is leading the effort to promote open access, open data and open educational resources. Among other activities, she manages DiscoverArchive, Vanderbilt’s institutional repository.

Veronica Ikeshoji-Olati, postdoctoral scholar, research

Veronica Ikeshoji-Olati joined the library staff in August 2016 as the Council of Library Information Resources postdoctoral fellow for data curation. She earned a bachelor of arts in classics and a master of arts in art history from the State University of New York, Buffalo, as well as a doctorate in classical art and archaeology from the University of Virginia. In 2015–16, Ikeshoji-Olati was a digital humanities fellow in the Scholars’ Lab at the University of Virginia. As a member of the digital scholarship team, she consults on data management plans, data curation and data preservation.

Tina (Na) Qin, science and engineering librarian

Tina (Na) Qin is the subject liaison for chemistry, chemical engineering and biomolecular engineering in the Science and Engineering Library. She joined the library in August 2016. Qin provides professional research instruction and information consultation services for faculty and students in the College of Arts and Science and the School of Engineering. She also teaches a one-credit course, Chemical Literature. Qin was most recently the science librarian at Michigan State University. She earned a bachelor of arts in English and a bachelor of science in process equipment control from Dalian University of Technology, Dakan, People’s Republic of China; a master of science in paper and chemical engineering from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio; and a master of library science from Indiana University in Bloomington with a chemical information specialization.

Statistics

Visitors to the libraries: 1,324,458

Loaned: 17,456

Borrowed: 15,735

Reference assistance: 6,513 transactions for approximately 1,313.50 hours of reference (July 1, 2016–April 20, 2017)

Instruction sessions: 238

# of students taught in course-related sessions: 4,060

Interlibrary loan

# of times library web pages viewed: 1,538,268 (4,214 views per day)

BUDGET

Print volumes: 4,795,033 = 45 MILES OF BOOKSHELVES

# of books moved in this year’s renovations: over 100,000

Digital media:

1,083,218

Vanderbilt Television News segments

20% physical books

80% e-resources

Average number of e-resources accessed each month: 46,545

The most circulated book: Intermediate Accounting (5th ed.)