Ex Libris, Fall 2019

West Virginia University Libraries

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Curiosity is an official University value that WVU describes as meaning that “we ask questions, seek new opportunities and change through innovation.” Libraries, of course, are always a great haven for the curious amongst us. They are places for discovering answers to our questions and helping us discover questions we didn’t know we had! Many people can recall a time in their lives when they went down a rabbit hole of curiosity in a public, school, medical or academic library.

But curiosity is also a value that the WVU Libraries as an organization lives. While traditional and historic institutions, libraries seek to preserve the past; but we are always looking to the future and new solutions for how to do this work. The articles in this issue of Ex Libris show a changing relationship between libraries and publishers who supply much of our content. We are developing new services and practices based on this changing landscape. We are helping to interpret these changes for our students and faculty who provide the intellect and content to the publishers. We are approaching the evolution of the scholarly communication landscape with innovation and by finding new opportunities.

We seek new opportunities through our friends and partners in the region who have important cultural and historic records to share with the world. Individuals may have a hard time making content available to the world, but by donating to the library, they can ensure this material will be preserved and made available widely. We have benefitted from a number of these opportunities with partners this year.

Our spaces continue to provide a venue for users to bring their curiosity, whether it be a space for academic colleagues to meet and learn from each other at a conference, a space for students to find the focus and community they need for their individual learning, or a community to celebrate the knowledge and discovery of its own citizens.

I hope these stories appease your curiosity of what we are up to, and inspire new curiosity around future potentials and how you might engage with them.

Karen Diaz
Dean of Libraries
Matter of Fact

Buck Collection Draws Researchers
Many attending the Pearl S. Buck Living Gateway Conference last fall visited the West Virginia and Regional History Center to view materials from the acclaimed author’s manuscript collection.

WVU Libraries Hosted MARAC
WVU Libraries and the West Virginia and Regional History Center hosted the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference (MARAC) during the organization’s spring 2019 meeting. About 250 archivists gathered for networking and professional development at the Morgantown Marriott at Waterfront Place. A highlight of the conference was a reception at the Downtown Library and tour of the WVRHC. Guests marveled at the beautiful spaces as well as the world-class special and rare book collections.

U92 LP Collection Cataloged
The WVU Libraries Metadata Service unit is cataloging the LP collection of U92, WVU’s student radio station. So far, over 1,800 records, which cover a variety of decades and musical genres, have been added to the Libraries’ catalog and are available for checkout. The LPs are all discoverable in the Libraries’ catalog using the search string, “WU92 LP/CD Collection.”

Digital Virginias Established
Although Virginia split into two separate states in 1863, WVU Libraries and organizations from Virginia are uniting as part of the Digital Public Library of America’s (DPLA) new Digital Virginias service hub. Digital Virginias, consisting of institutions from both Virginia and West Virginia, offers more than 58,000 items from historical and cultural collections for research and exploration. Read more about the service hub, including how to get involved, at digitalvirginias.org.

WVU Tech Library Has New Look
In January, a revamped Beckley Library welcomed WVU Tech students back to campus. The remodeling included new carpet, paint, reupholstered and new furniture and six new study rooms.

A cartoon commentary from the 1930s on the coal industry and coal commission, from the Rush Dew Holt Collection at the West Virginia and Regional History Center.
Focus on the Past

Photographer Leonard Dotson taking a portrait in Greenwood, Doddridge County, ca. 1905.
If you’re on Facebook or Instagram, chances are you see a seemingly endless stream of selfies posted by people boasting about a gathering with friends, a new haircut or a meal they’re about to eat.

The trend is far from new. Set aside the internet and smartphones, and people are simply following a social norm established more than 150 years ago. While Millennials and Gen Z are growing up on social media, the Civil War generation was the first to grow up with photography.

“That impulse to have those images is no different today than in 1860. The difference is the technology,” said Ron Coddington, a leading authority regarding photography during the Civil War era and keynote speaker for WVU Libraries’ West Virginia Day program, which focused on early photography in America from 1840-1915.

An exhibit of early photographs, cameras and artifacts is on display in the West Virginia and Regional History Center’s Davis Family Galleries. The history of photography in the Mountain State from 1840 to 1915.

Focus on the Past

A carte de visite image of three unidentified young women, ca. 1865.

Cartes de visite, commonly referred to as CDVs, were named after French calling cards. When they were first introduced in the 1850s it was thought that they would soon replace calling cards altogether, though that did not happen. They did, however, become incredibly popular beginning in 1859 and lasting through the early 1870s. In 1863, they inspired such a collecting furor that journalists coined the term “cardomania” to describe the craze. Boston physician and photography enthusiast Oliver Wendell Holmes suggested several reasons for the trend, “It is the cheapest, most portable, requires no machine to look at it with, can be seen by several persons at the same time.”

The standard CDV is 4 ¼ by 2 ½ inches in size and consists of a small portrait photograph mounted on a card backing. Most of the photographs were albumen prints created from wet collodion negatives, though sometimes other paper prints such as salt or gelatin prints were used. To create CDVs, photographers used a special camera that had multiple lenses and a moveable plate holder that captured several images at once. This enabled the mass production of the photographs. Some studios printed thousands each day.

“Secure the shadow ‘ere the substance fades,” was one of the earliest advertising slogans used by mid-19th century photographers to prompt the sale of photographs, particularly CDVs. The ads encouraged the public to capture images of family and friends before their loved ones were gone, but the idea of sharing these convenient likenesses took on a life of its own.

A carte de visite image of a drug store with a soda fountain in Morgantown, ca. 1900.

A carte de visite image of Union General George B. McClellan and his staff, left to right: Captain Clark, General McClellan, Captain Van Vliet and Major Barry. Information printed on the bottom of image: “Entered according to Act of Congress in the year 1862, by M.B. Brady, in the Clerk’s office of the District Court of the District of Columbia.”

A carte de visite image of an unidentified couple, ca. 1865.

A carte de visite image of a drug store with a soda fountain in Morgantown, ca. 1900.
Introduced to the world in 1839, this transformative medium made it possible for Americans from all walks of life to preserve their own likeness, a privilege once reserved only for the wealthy.

But, for the first two decades, most photographs required expensive materials and were complicated and time-consuming to make. Daguerreotypes were printed on silver-coated copper plates, ambrotypes were glass and tintypes used thin iron plates.

Then, on the eve of the Civil War, a new format landed in America — the carte de visite, or CDV, were photographs on paper cards roughly the size of a baseball card.

"After hostilities began, hundreds of thousands of soldiers and sailors posed for their portraits," Coddington said. "Countless millions of photographs were produced. Significant numbers of these most intimate and personal artifacts survive today. Some are finding a place among the iconic images of the war."

The CDV was the first popular portrait that could be reproduced from a negative, so it enabled someone to easily and inexpensively create and share copies of a photograph with family, friends and neighbors.

"Photo albums were invented because of the popularity of CDVs. There are so many of them people didn’t know what to do with them," Coddington said. "These heavy leather-bound albums could be considered the original Facebook."

And, as with today, people enjoyed showing off their photo collections. "Imagine, you’re in your parlor, which is where your family life is happening, and in addition to music, board games and reading from books, all of a sudden you have an album full of photos — the queen of England or President Lincoln. All these celebrities are in your parlor," Coddington said. "That’s big stuff. It’s still a novelty. It’s exciting."

Photography was also critically important to preserving U.S. history because it changed the way we record events. Prior to the birth of photography, people were at the mercy of the artist attempting to capture a scene from a large battle.

Coddington gives the Battle of Rich Mountain as an example. The artist created the etchings through his own eye. While the artist tried to accurately reproduce the face of General William Rosecrans, the soldiers were just a creation of the artist.

"You're now seeing images through the camera lens. You're looking at the subject's face, not the artist's rendition of the face or what they think the person looked like," Coddington said.

In addition, a photograph can serve as a great equalizer. "The private in ranks now holds as much power as the general because you can see his face, and he can look as fierce or scared or distinguished as the next man no matter his rank," Coddington said. "You get to see who they are as people."
FOR SOLDIERS DEPLOYED TO IRAQ OR AFGHANISTAN, A BUNKER IS A PLACE OF SAFETY, WHEN UNDER ATTACK, THEY CAN FALL BACK TO THE BUNKER. IT'S A REINFORCED FACILITY THAT PROVIDES PHYSICAL PROTECTION.

Student-veterans on the WVU campus in Morgantown can rely on three bunkers to assist them in their academic endeavors — the Veterans and Military Family Support Headquarters, or the Mountaineer Bunker, and study rooms at the Downtown and Evansdale libraries called study bunkers.

“By using the name ‘bunker’, our (veterans) can correlate it to a place where they can go and know they are amongst their peers, their nontraditional community, and find comradeship and friendships,” said Jerry Wood, director of the Center for Veteran, Military and Family Programs at WVU. “It’s so important that the Libraries provided these study rooms. The value cannot be overstated.”

In fall 2015, WVU Libraries partnered with the WVU Office of Veteran’s Affairs to designate a study room for student-veterans in the Downtown Library. Three years later, the Libraries opened a second study bunker at the Evansdale Library.

“When I moved here from Florida, I didn’t know a soul on campus,” Logan Sheridan said. “The study room downtown was the first time I met someone else who was a veteran and in my degree program. I was able to make friends and have a small social network.”

Sheridan, a Florida native, entered the military at 18 years old and was stationed at MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa, where he worked on KC-135s. He did deployments to Turkey and Qatar. Then in August 2017, after a seven-year stint in the Air Force, he moved to Morgantown with his fiancée, Ashley Rose. He entered his freshman year in aerospace engineering, and she began medical school. At first, it was a challenge to connect with other students. “It’s hard to relate to an 18-year-old when you’re 25 and fresh in college,” Sheridan said.

The lifestyle change is another hurdle veterans face when starting school. “You go from all this structure, all these orders, having everything laid out for you, and you have to do your job. And then you come to college, and it is complete freedom. You have to do everything on your own,” Sheridan said. “We all have the motivation to do that, but it is a big change.”

Time management might at first seem like a small difference, but it can complicate working on group projects with some classmates. “We don’t stay up late to do homework. A lot of us are here from eight to five. I go to work in the morning and get off at night. Even if you don’t have class, you’re here doing homework,” Sheridan said. “I tell them, ‘Don’t text me at 1 a.m. I’m sleeping.’”

Sean Redinger, originally from Pearland, Texas, joined the Navy after graduating from high school in 2007. He always had an interest in the military, and it was a family tradition, as his father and grandfather both served.

After training in Charleston, South Carolina, as a nuclear operator, he was stationed on the USS Kentucky, a ballistic missile submarine homeported at Bangor, Washington, and worked as an electrician. He volunteered for deployment on the USS Ohio, a guided-missile submarine, and then wrapped up his service on a submarine ported at Naval Submarine Base New London in Groton, Connecticut.

After leaving the Navy, he was encouraged to attend WVU. “One of my buddies on the USS Kentucky was married to a girl from Buckhannon. He said I should come to West Virginia with him,” Redinger said.

In spring 2016, he started studying mechanical engineering and came prepared to adapt to life on a college campus. “It’s different. Coming from the military, you have expectations that people were going to behave a certain way, and people don’t do...
Prior to retiring from the Army, his last assignment was developing veterans’ initiatives on behalf of the Army across the nation. In that capacity, he came to WVU and worked with the Veterans Affairs Office and people trying to develop programs within the colleges.

“What you find at most universities and colleges is an office embedded in financial aid or the registrar’s office that simplifies processing benefits of one type or another. For the most part, that is what WVU was doing until 2018,” Wood said.

Then the University began taking a more active role in supporting the veteran and military support community on campus. Wood came on board as director in September 2018, and WVU officially opened the Veterans and Military Family Support Headquarters (Mountaineer Bunker) on December 7, 2018, Pearl Harbor Day.

And on February 28, Wood, Dean of Libraries Karen Diaz, and Carroll Wilkinson, former director of Strategic Initiatives, opened the student-veterans study room at Evansdale Library, the Libraries’ second study bunker.

“For a lot of veterans, it’s hard to come back to school and connect with traditional students because their needs are not the same,” Wood said. “In those study rooms, you find fellow veterans who are dealing with the same challenges and you can collaborate and find ways to overcome those challenges rather than going it alone.”

He believes one of the keys to their success is they allow support networks to form naturally rather than someone being assigned a mentor. “The Libraries found something,” Wood said. “You can’t directly quantify it, but we can find supporting evidence that it has a positive effect on our retention rates and our graduation rates.”

Wood came on board as director in September 2018, and WVU officially opened the Veterans and Military Family Support Headquarters (Mountaineer Bunker) on December 7, 2018, Pearl Harbor Day. The change came soon after the arrival of former Dean of Libraries Karen Diaz. “He charged me to act on this project,” Wilkinson said. “He set out to correct the fact that our library system had not focused instruction and targeted orientations by librarians, examples of groups that have received special programming, students, students at risk and students with disabilities are all student veteran initiative and they added swipe card access to the room to ensure the space would be reserved for student veterans.

In 2018, WVU alumn Earl Kennedy donated the funds to remodel, furnish and equip the study bunker at Evansdale Library. He’s thankful for the University’s commitment. “These young men and women have given so much of their lives in the service of our nation. Having served in Vietnam as a combat infantry officer, I certainly can relate to their sacrifices. I also recognize the closeness and communication relationship they share. Veterans have experienced a life very foreign to our day-to-day civilian lives.”

Through these efforts, Wilkinson was assisted by a team of librarians, three of whom have military ties: Angie Maranville is an Air Force veteran; Martha Yancey is the spouse of a veteran; Debbie Boscelli is the widow of a veteran, and Linda Bane, who worked with the student veteran community at WVU Potomac State College, now retired.

“They worked with me to establish a sustained program of outreach to student veterans completely integrated into the permanent organizational structure of WVU Libraries,” Wilkinson said.

Prior to retiring in April, Wilkinson participated in an Association of College and Research Libraries panel about serving student-veterans. And she wrote a chapter titled New Outreach and New Roles: Veteran Students and Change in an Academic Library for an upcoming book.

“We set out to correct the fact that our library system had not intentionally created an outreach program to veteran students in the past,” Wilkinson said. “The academic success of all students is our mission and our instruction, facilities, resources and expertise all contribute meaningfully toward that goal.”
It was a difficult request — briefly define the legacy of Dr. Emory L. Kemp, professor emeritus of history and civil engineering at WVU. That was the challenge for speakers at the May 31 opening reception for an exhibition in the Downtown Library’s John D. Rockefeller IV Gallery recognizing Kemp’s lifetime achievements. Titled The Structure of History: Celebrating Industrial Heritage and Preservation in the Dr. Emory L. Kemp Collection, the exhibit showcased materials Kemp donated to the West Virginia and Regional History Center in 2017.

“There are multiple aspects to Emory’s legacy,” said Barb Howe, professor emerita of history and founding director of WVU’s Public History program.

In 1981, Kemp and Howe became founding board members of the Preservation Alliance of West Virginia, which serves as the statewide grassroots organization dedicated to the support and promotion of historic preservation.

Howe believes Kemp’s legacy includes: engineering students who learn to appreciate the creativity possible with a sound understanding of structures, history students who understand that you cannot learn the history of the United States without understanding the importance of the Industrial Revolution and public history students who learn that documenting historical structures can be a component of historic preservation — and that the structure of a building is more important than the façade.

“You had to understand that Charles Ellet, Jr.’s 1849 Wheeling Suspension Bridge — the destination of many field trips — was key to understanding America’s destiny not just because it was the first bridge across the Ohio River, but also because its completion initiated America’s leadership in the design and construction of long-span suspension bridges,” Howe said.
A PARTNERSHIP IN PRESERVATION

WRITTEN BY TRAVIS WILLIAMSON

A partnership between the Preservation Alliance of West Virginia and AmeriCorps has helped the West Virginia Regional History Center expedite its efforts to preserve the papers of Emory L. Kemp.

The Preservation Alliance of West Virginia (PAWV) established the Preserve WV AmeriCorps program to provide nonprofit organizations and government agencies across the state with paid full-time and half-time AmeriCorps members who can assist them in specific preservation efforts. Placements run one year.

The challenge for the WVRC is always to make any archive available to researchers as quickly as possible. PAWV board members had a similar goal. They were eager to honor Kemp’s legacy and document his accomplishments.

For a fuller picture of Kemp, one must go back to the 1950s, after he earned a diploma from London’s Imperial College of Science and Technology in 1955 and while earning his master’s degree in engineering from the University of London in 1958.

While working for consulting firms with contracts around the world from 1955 to 1958, he was part of the team that performed the immensely complicated calculations necessary in designing the soaring roofs of the Sydney Opera House. At the time, he was also working on a series of hangers for the Royal Air Force.

Rather than traveling to Sydney to supervise construction of the Opera House, Kemp returned to the U.S. to earn his PhD in structural mechanics. He joined WVU’s Civil Engineering Department in 1962 and then chaired the department from 1964 to 1977. A passion for the history of science and technology led Kemp to document and restore historic industrial structures and transportation systems throughout West Virginia and Appalachia.

Along with the Wheeling Suspension Bridge, the Wheeling Custom House, known as West Virginia Independence Hall, and the Philippi Covered Bridge were chief among these projects. Kemp returned to the U.S. to earn his PhD in structural mechanics. He joined WVU’s Civil Engineering Department in 1962 and then chaired the department from 1964 to 1977. A passion for the history of science and technology led Kemp to document and restore historic industrial structures and transportation systems throughout West Virginia and Appalachia.

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“What you see in the other room is just a small section of the work that I have done over half a century under the title of ‘never throw it away,’” Kemp said, referring to the exhibit. His donation included 160 manuscript boxes of blueprints, maps, restoration project reports, structural analysis papers, drawings, correspondence and other materials he collected throughout his extensive career that spanned more than 60 years. In 2018, Drs. Emory and Janet Kemp established an endowment, the Dr. Emory L. Kemp History of Technology Fund, to assist ongoing technology preservation efforts at the WVRHC.

“I had the quixotic idea that the history of technology needed to be an integral part of American history, and I found there was none of that here in the history department,” Kemp said at the time of his gift. “All of American history can be interpreted in terms of western movement. That was taken up with alacrity by the discipline; that is now a theme of American history. I thought the history of technology was much deeper than that and possibly more significant than going west.” Kemp is clearly not alone in that perspective. In his closing remarks at the reception, Peyton addressed his mentor’s awe-inspiring accomplishments. “Dr. Kemp, on behalf of your colleagues, your friends and your former students, I want to sincerely thank you for your unflagging dedication to documenting, preserving and interpreting our rich industrial heritage and for encouraging so many of us to pursue our chosen careers in engineering, history and industrial archaeology,” Peyton said. “Rest assured that this exhibit and your larger collection of donated materials will serve to educate, inform and inspire present and future generations of engineers, historians and amateur hobbyists who will carry on your legacy.”

To make a donation to the Dr. Emory L. Kemp History of Technology Fund contact WVU Libraries Director of Development Paula Martinelli at 304-293-0303 or paula.martinelli@mail.wvu.edu.
This October marks one year since the launch of the Research Repository @ WVU, a cornerstone of the WVU Libraries growing Scholarly Communications and Publishing program. The Research Repository, a service of WVU Libraries and the WVU Office of Research, provides an online, open-access home for the scholarship, creative work and research of University faculty, researchers and students.

Scholarly work posted to the Research Repository, available at researchrepository.wvu.edu, is available to anyone with an internet connection, allowing the innovative research produced by the WVU community to reach researchers and others within West Virginia and around the world who are unable to afford high subscription fees often charged by scholarly journals. In less than a year, the Research Repository has provided the University’s scholarly output with an unprecedented level of exposure, having generated over 30,000 downloads from around the world.

The repository’s collections includes materials produced by researchers across a wide range of departments and levels, from undergraduate students to senior faculty. These collections include Electronic Theses and Dissertations (ETDs), faculty-authored research papers, the West Virginia Law Review, West Virginia Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station Bulletins, images from the WVU Herbarium and Undergraduate Research collections.

University faculty, staff and students are encouraged to submit their scholarly and creative works, publications, working papers, conference presentations, posters, technical reports, datasets and other research.

The Research Repository is a central service of WVU Libraries’ growing Scholarly Communications and Publishing program (SC&P), the aim of which is to help WVU researchers maximize the impact, reach and dissemination of their work. The program’s offerings include workshops and consultations on authors’ rights and copyright, open access publishing, research data management, understanding scholarly impact and evaluating publication opportunities.

In addition to these services, WVU Libraries houses the Digital Publishing Institute (DPI), a collaborative initiative designed to support the publishing needs of the WVU and West Virginia scholarly communities. The DPI’s services include consultations, open access and nonprofit publishing, hosting publishing platforms and services, workshops on scholarly communications and internships for WVU professional writing students.

The world of scholarly communications is undergoing rapid changes as more research is published under open-access models. Indeed, open access is entering the mainstream as illustrated by a Chronicle of Higher Education’s 2019 Trends article, A Turning Point for Scholarly Publishing, and recent moves by the University of California and others who have walked away from traditional subscription agreements with Elsevier. During this time of rapid change, WVU Libraries is committed to staying at the forefront. And the Research Repository, as well as our Scholarly Communications and Publishing program, will help ensure that WVU Research continues to reach readers worldwide.

Ian Harmon, scholarly communications librarian, can be reached at ian.harmon@mail.wvu.edu.
GLOBAL IMPACT

This is an artist’s rendering of a Research Repository @ WVU website that keeps track of what materials from WVU are being downloaded and where the requests originate.
Academic Publishing Evolves

REDEFINING THE BIG DEAL

WRITTEN BY KAREN DIAZ

Those who follow news about higher education have most likely seen story after story of libraries who are canceling, renegotiating or redefining how and when they subscribe to journal titles. The biggest national news came in late February when the University of California System announced they were ending their subscription to a large Elsevier journal package called Science Direct. What made this move so noteworthy is the willingness of such a large system (10 campuses with 21,200 faculty members), with the backing of its faculty, to walk away from access to a package of valuable scholarly content because the publisher was not willing to negotiate in terms that had not been asked of it before. It gave other institutions hope that libraries might begin to hold more leverage in negotiating sustainable contracts that better reflect the new realities and challenges.

Many libraries before and after that announcement have changed their relationships with publishers of big journal packages — fondly referred to as The Big Deal. Big Deal packages began to appear in the 1990s as a cost saving measure for libraries. If a library agreed to buy a whole package of titles, they would save on per-title costs — a sort of volume discounting approach. The challenge that has arisen over the last couple of years is that the costs of the journal packages inflate regularly at a rate of 3-6% every year, while library budgets are remaining flat at best, and shrinking at worst. Thus, the journal packages began taking a larger portion of library budgets, leaving little room for flexibility in the purchasing of other materials.

This is exactly what happened during 2016 to 2019, when WVU Libraries received a series of budget cuts. We arrived at the point where our Big 3 journal packages accounted for about 7% of the titles we owned, but took over 28% of our budget. When we needed to find cost savings it was impossible to ignore our big packages. We have since unbundled our Big 3 packages with Elsevier, Springer and Wiley.

We now subscribe to only the most-used and cost-effective titles from these publishers and only as many as fit within our budget. Of course, this means we pay a higher cost per title, which reduces our spending power. For those titles we can’t afford, we are increasing our reliance on our interlibrary loan services.

We are now faced with a number of decisions about how to engage with these publishers in the future. One interesting approach some libraries are trying are “Read and Publish” contracts. In an arrangement like this, libraries pay one sustainable fee that allows users to read any published material that sits behind a paywall, but also allows campus faculty to publish in any open access journals the publisher hosts without having to pay a typical article processing fee (APC) to publish there. Thus the subscription and APC fees are all covered with one ongoing commitment.

Other campuses have and continue to develop Open Access policies, which require faculty on the campus to ensure that one openly available version of their publication is online. This can be done in a number of ways, but typically involves putting a final preprint version in an open repository, such as the Research Repository @ WVU.

The Libraries will be hosting conversations with the WVU Faculty Senate regarding some of these issues this fall to find the best way forward for our campus.

TRANSFORMATION THROUGH OPEN EDUCATION

WRITTEN BY JESSICA DAI

According to an online Open Educational Resources (OER) State Policy Tracker managed by the SPARC organization, “nearly half of all U.S. states have considered OER legislation in past years,” which includes West Virginia. This past March, Gov. Jim Justice approved HB 2853 to encourage and facilitate the use of OER in higher education and K-12 in West Virginia schools, on trend with national open initiatives sponsored by the Department of Education.

WVU’s mission as a land-grant institution committed to “creating a diverse and inclusive culture that advances education, healthcare and prosperity for all by providing access and opportunity ... by leading transformation in West Virginia” aligns with the tenets of Open Education that seek to expand educational opportunities by critically addressing and shaping the ways people access and use educational materials.

WVU Libraries affirms our commitment to transforming student learning at WVU with a focus on the new OER grant program and a suite of Research Commons workshops to engage faculty and graduate teaching assistants in Open Educational Practices.

WVU Libraries has a history of advocating for Open Education through active engagement with administrative and department chairs about the value of OER for teaching and learning, hosting these of textbook review workshops and adoptions, as well as publishing open textbooks such as the “West Virginia History: An Open Access Reader.” We continue to support faculty who are interested in learning about, adopting or supporting these practices to transform student learning.

Many instructors already recognize that expensive textbooks can be a significant financial barrier. Instead of purchasing a textbook, students may rent, share or opt out of obtaining the required text. Instructors may work to mitigate costs by allowing students to use older editions of textbooks or purposefully selecting low-cost or free materials.

The WVU Libraries and the Teaching and Learning Commons OER Grants, featured in this issue, constitute an interdepartmental initiative aimed to encourage and reward faculty who adapt, adopt or create OER for use at WVU that not only saves students money but also fosters innovative scholarship and pedagogy.
WVU Libraries and the Teaching and Learning Commons (TLC) selected three faculty members to receive inaugural Open Educational Resources (OER) grants: Corey Colyer, associate professor of sociology, Eberly College of Arts and Sciences; Caleb Holloway, assistant professor of mathematics, Nelson C. Nelson College of Engineering and Sciences, WVU Tech; and Chris McClain, assistant professor of mathematics, Nelson College, WVU Tech.

“We’re so excited that our inaugural OER grant program is off to a great start with the potential of saving WVU students nearly $50,000,” said Martha Yancey, chair of the grants committee. “This first cohort of grant recipients will provide good models for other faculty to learn from and consider during next year’s grant process. We hope to continue building momentum toward even bigger savings in the future.”

The aim of the grants is to encourage development of alternatives to high-cost textbooks, lower the cost of college attendance for students and support faculty who wish to implement new pedagogical models for classroom instruction. Awarded agree to use their open textbooks in courses to be taught in fall 2019 or spring 2020 and then submit a course review/report.

“Textbook affordability is a very real issue for many students, and we’re excited to see WVU supporting instructors in offering low-cost, or no cost, options for our students. There is a wide variety of high-quality, free resources available for faculty to consider, and we look forward to partnering on these projects from a teaching and learning perspective,” said Dr. Keith Bailey, assistant provost for Teaching and Learning and dean of WVU Online.

Colyer received a $2,000 grant for his Sociology 234: The Criminal Justice System course. He intends to replace the textbook with an open textbook that includes links to videos and other supplemental resources. Anticipated savings: more than $10,000.

Holloway received $2,500 for his course, Math 128: Plane Trigonometry. In addition to selecting an open textbook, he will create supplementary and interactive materials, online homework problems, interactive graphs and in-class worksheets. Anticipated savings: $7,000.

McClain received $2,000 for his differential and integral calculus course, which has an enrollment of more than 100 students. His approach includes repackaging course content into a more accessible format and increasing active learning through videos and creation of supplemental materials. The existing textbook costs $300. Anticipated savings: $30,000.

Creating the Academic Community of the Future

Last fall, WVU Libraries launched the Research Commons, a suite of services to foster interdisciplinary connections and support graduate student and faculty with a high level of knowledge and expertise at many points in the research life cycle.

“The Research Commons is an important step forward for building capacity for services that address the changing environment in research practices and scholarly publishing,” Dean of Libraries Karen Diaz said. “It is important that our faculty have access to the latest best practices and technology and that our graduate students are leaving us with modern skills.”

The initiative involves existing, enhanced and new services, and operates on the principle that engagement with students and faculty is a core component in creating a scholarly community.

“The Research Commons is off to a great start this year, and we look forward to building additional services and partnerships and to expanding our ability to meet campus needs. One area of particular emphasis for us right now is providing new data support services for activities such as data management plans and text-mining,” said Penny Pugh, head of Research Services.

Librarians have long taught information literacy courses, instructional sessions and workshops. Under the Research Commons, the number of topics is expanded. They range from copyright questions to citation management to finding grant sources to meet a variety of research needs.

Also valuable are one-on-one consultations with librarians, who can work with researchers on a gamut of issues, such as research impact metrics, literature reviews, intellectual property, open-access publishing and grant-seeking.

In addition to workshops and consulting, the Research Commons offers technology-enabled spaces that may be reserved for small groups, classrooms that are available for research-related events and scholarly communications and publishing services such as the Research Repository @ WVU.
How do you imagine the future of Appalachia?

Appalachian Futures, WVU Libraries’ new exhibit, addresses the current dominant narratives about Appalachia in a new way — by looking at how the people of Appalachia have worked and will work to rewrite their own story. The exhibit takes us beyond the stereotypes to paint a rich and multi-layered picture of what it means to be Appalachian.

Synthesizing humanities research, art and civic action, the exhibit invites viewers to explore the often-overlooked communities of Indigenous Appalachia, “Affrilachian” (African American in Appalachia) as well as queer Appalachia. Examine Appalachian tradition and culture; the intersections between extraction industries, new technology and science; literacies and education in Appalachia; and speculative futures for the region. Contributors include WVU and regional scholars, community groups and artists.

Appalachian Futures is WVU Libraries’ second annual collaborative, multidisciplinary project advancing important conversations in the region. The exhibition begins on the first floor of the Downtown Library and runs up through the main spiral staircase into the Atrium. Downtown, Evansdale and Health Sciences libraries will host connected exhibits and programs during the 2019-2020 academic year. Lead sponsors include the West Virginia Library Commission, WVU Humanities Center and Marshall University Libraries. Additional exhibit sponsors include Morgantown Printing and Binding Superstore, WVU Reed College of Media, Appalachian State University Libraries, Arts Monongahela, Catherine Wilson-Jones and First United Bank & Trust.

In conjunction with the main exhibit, the following programs are planned:

- **Women of Appalachia — Women Speak**
  Downtown Library, Milano Room, Oct. 19, 1:00–3:00 p.m.
  An annual traveling spoken word series.

- **Contemporary Literary Appalachia: Reimagining Classic Appalachian Book Covers**
  Downtown Library, Study Rooms, Ongoing
  Professor Joseph Calabrese’s advanced design students reimagine classic Appalachian book covers.

- **Department of History Student Research Displays**
  Downtown Library, 6th Floor, Ongoing
  History students produce exhibits around their inquiry into local history.

- **Faculty Exhibit Award Winner: “Big Green Data: Herbals, Science, and Art by English Prof. Lara Farina”**
  Downtown Library, Room 1020, Oct. – Dec. 2019
  Evansdale Library, Jan. – May 2020
  The botanical world in pre-modern medicine, philosophy, art and literature. Historic herbals, the art and literature they inspired, and present-day correlatives.

- **Voices of Disability: A Photovoice View from the Mountains**
  Downtown Library, Room 1020, Spring 2020
  A collaborative exhibit between the WVU Center for Excellence in Disabilities and the School of Art and Design gives voice to disability across the state.

- **Rare Earth Recovery: Using Coal Extraction in Our Everyday Lives**
  Evansdale Library, Fall 2019

- **Women of Appalachia: Invitational Exhibition for Women’s History Month**
  Downtown Library, Room 1020, March 2020
  Curated by Kari Gunter-Seymour, an instructor in the School of Journalism at Ohio University and the Poet Laureate for Athens, Ohio.

*Image by David Smith, Reed College of Media senior lecturer, and Baaria Chaudhary, Reed College graduate student.*
Elissa Holt donated to the West Virginia and Regional History Center a collection relating to Gen. Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson and the Jackson family. Her late husband, John Holt, and his mother and father collected the materials, which include legal documents (court papers, summonses, land grants, financial records and receipts), photographs, postcards, printed material, and correspondence. “It has importance for the history of much of West Virginia. I have worked with many such collections, and this one is probably the most comprehensive example that I have encountered,” appraiser Willis Van Devanter wrote. Subjects include Jackson and his family, the Holt family, Lewis County history, and more, but one of the highlights is court papers regarding a debt of Jackson, which may be attributed to his prematurely leaving his post as constable of Lewis County in order to attend West Point. Author James I. Robertson, Jr. describes this circumstance in his biography titled “Stonewall Jackson: The Man, The Soldier, The Legend.” On June 8, 1841, at the age of 17, Jackson was appointed constable of Lewis County. A year later, Jackson left the position to enroll at West Point. There are also documents relating to Jackson’s Mill. Lumbering became an important industry after the Civil War on account of the excellent transportation facilities furnished by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad through Clarksburg, Devanter explained. Thousands of logs were cut in the valley of the West Fork and its larger tributaries and floated down the river. The manufacturing of lumber in 1870 was still in its infancy. There were a number of sawmills dotting the valleys of the small streams in the vicinity of Weston and none were capable of sawing large logs. In 1874, George A. Jackson erected a steam-powered planing mill in Weston. “This was an example of the Jackson family’s improvement of the economy in Lewis County. It contributed a great deal,” Devanter said. A
Arch A. Moore Jr.’s long and sometimes controversial career in politics included time in the West Virginia House of Delegates and the U.S. House of Representatives. He went on to be the only individual to serve three terms as governor of West Virginia.

A native of Moundsville, West Virginia, Moore served as a combat sergeant in the European theater during World War II and then enrolled at WVU as a political science major in 1946. He later earned his law degree from the WVU College of Law. While at WVU, he became a well-known figure on campus through his leadership in fundraising for the Mountaineer Mascot statue and creating Mountaineer Day, which later became Mountaineer Week. He also met and married fellow student Shelley Riley. They had three children together, Arch A. (Kim) Moore III, Shelley Wellons and Lucy St. Clair. Daughter Shelley served in the U.S. House of Representatives from 2001 to 2014 and the U.S. Senate from 2015 to today.

In 1952, Moore began his political career in the West Virginia House of Delegates, and in 1956 he was elected to the First District congressional seat. He went on to serve six terms in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1957 to 1969, winning as a Republican in a predominantly Democratic state, and three terms as governor of West Virginia from 1969 to 1977 and 1985 to 1989. As Governor, Moore made significant contributions to the welfare and education systems and to road and infrastructure development. His tenure also engendered criticism and corruption charges and, beginning in 1990, Moore served three years in federal prison. Though he pled guilty, he later maintained his innocence.

Moore’s career is preserved in his archives at WVU Libraries’ West Virginia and Regional History Center. In March 2019, his congressional papers were opened and over 900 photographs made available online. His congressional papers include more than 200 boxes of speeches, legislative materials, campaign and Republican Party files, West Virginia public works project documentation, correspondence with constituents and more.

The archives document his service on numerous committees and subcommittees, including Judiciary and Select Small Business. Throughout his congressional career, Moore supported civil rights and public works bills and was involved in several significant pieces of legislation, such as the Criminal Justice Act of 1963, the Civil Rights Acts of 1957 and 1964 and the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965. He made numerous international trips, in particular visiting Vietnam during the war.

Moore’s collection is one of the largest in the Center’s holdings. It contains documents from both his congressional and gubernatorial careers and continues to be processed. Individuals interested in using the collection should contact Danielle Emerling, assistant curator and congressional and political papers archivist, at danielle.emerling@mail.wvu.edu. The collection guide and photographs can be found online at moore.lib.wvu.edu.
AUTHOR, COOK, BIBLIOPHILE: THE EBERSOLE COLLECTION

Gifts to Libraries

WVU Libraries received an extensive book collection, totaling more than 11,000 volumes, from the estate of Lucinda Ebersole. Ebersole, born March 12, 1956, died March 20, 2017, pursued a career in books and was a writer, a co-owner of Atticus Books in Washington, D.C., and co-editor of Gargoyle Magazine. Among the titles she co-edited with Richard Peabody, her partner at Atticus Books, was the Mondo series published by Macmillan, which included books on such icons as Barbie, Elvis Presley, Marilyn Monroe and James Dean. Peabody, prominent editor, educator and author active in the Washington literary scene, was her partner in all these endeavors.

This fall, new cookbooks from the Ebersole Collection will be available at the Evansdale Library for check out. Some of the vintage cookbooks now in the rare book room have already found their way to student classroom instruction. The course Human Nutrition and Food, taught by Megan Govindan in the Davis College, included a student assignment to produce a blog post and Instagram images from the cookbook collection.

A signed copy of the Julia Child’s culinary classic, “The Art of French Cooking.”

An active blogger, Ebersole maintained two blogs: Cookbook of the Day, cookbookoftheday.blogspot.com, which highlighted books and recipes from her collection of 3,000 new and vintage cookbooks, and Lucindaville, which offered reflections and musings on her daily life on a seventy-acre farm in Shirley, West Virginia.

Among the books in the Ebersole Collection are the works of women writers, from Gertrude Stein to Virginia Woolf, as well as a significant collection of titles on gardening and landscape architecture, such as Edith Wharton’s “Italian Villas and Their Gardens,” published in 1904. Illustrated with the dreamscape style paintings of artist Maxfield Parrish. It’s considered a landmark in gardening and landscape design.

The collection also includes books by modern and contemporary authors, many of them signed. Selected cookbooks, gardening and landscape architecture titles and literary works will become part of the rare book room holdings. Others, such as the collection of new books, will be added to the circulating collection.

A passionate cook, Ebersole also amassed an array of cooking implements, including a variety of unique rolling pins, molds and special cake baking boxes. The items are housed in the WVRHC’s Lucinda Ebersole archive collection.
MUNN SCHOLARS

West Virginia University Libraries’ Teaching and Learning Committee selected Hannah Coffey and Kelsey R. Eackles as 2019 Robert F. Munn Undergraduate Library scholars. “All of us at WVU Libraries are pleased to name Hannah Coffey and Kelsey Eackles as Munn Scholars,” Dean of Libraries Karen Diaz said. “Both exceeded expectations with their remarkable efforts in researching their topics and then writing their impressive works of scholarship.”

The Munn Award goes to one or more Honors students for an outstanding humanities or social sciences thesis based on research conducted in the WVU Libraries. Along with a $1,000 award, the scholar’s name is added to a plaque in the Downtown Campus Library. The award honors Munn, who was dean of Library Services and Contributing Factors.” The Hedgesville native developed her topic while working at the Monongalia County Child Advocacy Center with Executive Director Laura Capage.

“Important that people know how to identify the warning signs of child abuse and report concerns they have,” Coffey said. “It’s easy to close yourself off — child abuse is happening, and anyone can play a role in helping the children in their community.”

Coffey graduated in December 2018 with a bachelor’s degree in psychology and a minor in sociology. She was accepted into the Clinical Psychology doctoral program at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, where she plans to be part of a lab focusing on childhood trauma.

“After earning her doctorate, she envisions a career in a child advocacy center. Working closely with families is a passion of mine. To be a part of their story and their healing is empowering,” Coffey said.

Eackles won for her thesis “Exploring Provider-Patient Interactions with Young Children in the Dental Setting.” Her interest in the topic sparked while working in WVU’s Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) Lab with Dr. Cheryl McNeil. At the time, McNeil had begun working on a grant with her husband, Dan McNeil, who works primarily in dental settings.

“They wanted to transfer the PCIT skills into the dental setting,” Eackles said. “My project is sort of a pilot study for that grant to explore what’s naturally occurring so they can use those findings to guide the training in the future.”

The Shepherdstown native was originally a biology major, but switched to psychology after she got involved in the PCIT Lab and its research.

“I fell in love with clinical psychology and how you can change behavior with just a few skills,” Eackles said. “So with this project, I loved the idea of transferring these ideas into another setting.”

Eackles graduated with her bachelor’s degree in psychology in May and has begun pursuing her doctorate in Clinical Psychology at Ohio University. She’s keeping all doors open for the future.

“If I want to pursue the clinician/therapy side of the field, I can do that. But if I also want to be involved in research or academia, I can do that too. Or I could find a route into a government agency,” Eackles said. “I have interests in all those avenues, so I’m excited about figuring out which path I will take over these next five years.”

HONORING ARTISTS

In November 2018, the Art in the Libraries Committee awarded College of Creative Arts students Jacqueline Circkirillo and Cancan Huang with the Dean of the Libraries’ arts awards. Huang’s work, “Dolma,” an oil painting, will be on display in the Downtown Library lobby for the spring semester. Circkirillo’s work, “Margaret,” an oil painting, will go on display at the Evansdale Library for the spring semester.

Harpers Ferry-native Circkirillo graduated in December 2018 with a BFA in painting. Growing up in West Virginia, Circkirillo was influenced by the philosophy that simplicity and humbleness were of huge importance. As a “Wild West Virginian,” she felt quite a bit of disconnect with today’s fast-paced world. Through her portraits, she captures moments of thoughtfulness and conveys appreciation for simplicity.

Huang was raised south of China and is a first-semester graduate student in the WVU Studio Art program. He received traditional academic art training as a teenager, which helped him render the form of objects precisely and made him more aware of the intricacies of the human body. His paintings reflect the conflicts between Chinese minority groups and Chinese modern society, while exemplifying the artist’s keen painting ability.
In May, WVU Libraries completed the America Contacts Congress project, a one-year feasibility study that assessed methods for preserving data sets of correspondence between constituents and members of the U.S. Congress.

One of the core functions of the U.S. Congress is representing the views and needs of constituents. For most of the 20th century, constituents expressed their opinions to members of Congress through telegrams, letters, and phone calls. Beginning in the 1990s, however, congressional offices began using electronic systems to store constituent correspondence that is increasingly created in digital formats. Archives and libraries receive data exports from these systems when a member leaves office. The data exports pose major challenges to libraries and archives, and no institution has been able to manage or provide access to the data in a sustainable and replicable way.

With the support of a $27,000 LYRASIS Catalyst Fund grant, this project documented a need for the open-source data management tool developed by WVU Libraries, demonstrated the data’s research potential and proposed an innovative partnership for facilitating access to the data that could serve as a model for other large data sets held in archives.

Project director Danielle Emerling, West Virginia and Regional History Center assistant curator, collaborated on the project with congressional archives professionals from across the country and has presented the findings at the Association of Centers for the Study of the Storeroom’s Research Services Department since 2007, serving as the liaison to the Psychology, Sociology and Anthropology and Communication Studies departments. She manages the Research Services graduate assistants, developing and delivering an extensive training program to ensure high-quality service, and designed a service-learning course, ULIB 302, Research for Non-Profits. The class pairs groups of students with nonprofit organizations in need of funding for specific purposes or general operating expenditures. Wright then tasks each team with researching foundations and other potential funding sources, determining the type and amount of information required for grant proposals and, finally, building a portfolio that will enable their organization to pursue funding opportunities.

“Alyssa Wright’s service goes above and beyond in building capacity and increasing academic community engagement,” said Lindsey Rinehart, academic community engagement coordinator for the WVU Center for Service and Learning. “She provides information to students in an accessible and hands-on fashion and reaches community organizations that may not have otherwise interfaced with the library.”

The WVRHC holds constituent correspondence data sets in the collections of Senator John D. Rockefeller IV and Congressman Nick J. Rahall II, both of which were used in this project. LYRASIS, one of the nation’s largest nonprofit member organizations serving archives, libraries and museums, awarded the Catalyst Fund to foster innovation among members and knowledge communities worldwide. In 2018, six projects were supported.

For more visit wvrhc.lib.wvu.edu.

REWARDING CREATIVITY AND DEDICATION

Alyssa Wright, Outstanding Librarian for 2019, poses with Lindsey Rinehart, academic community engagement coordinator for the WVU Center for Service and Learning.

The Awards Committee of the WVU Library Faculty Assembly has selected Alyssa Wright, social sciences librarian, as the Outstanding Librarian for 2019. The award, presented triennially, recognizes a faculty librarian who has made exceptional contributions toward the delivery, development or expansion of library services or special programs for the constituencies of WVU.

“The impact Alyssa has made with the social science students and faculty she works with is apparent and highly valued,” said Anna Crawford, chair of the Library Faculty Assembly Awards Committee. “And her work combining information literacy with community engagement is just one example of the kind of innovative services she provides.”

Wright has been with the Downtown Library Research Services Department since 2007, serving as the

ophon to the Psychology, Sociology and Anthropology and Communication Studies departments. She manages the Research Services graduate assistants, developing and delivering an extensive training program to ensure high-quality service, and designed a service-learning course, ULIB 302, Research for Non-Profits. The class pairs groups of students with nonprofit organizations in need of funding for specific purposes or general operating expenditures. Wright then tasks each team with researching foundations and other potential funding sources, determining the type and amount of information required for grant proposals and, finally, building a portfolio that will enable their organization to pursue funding opportunities.

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WVU Libraries | Ex Libris

Diaz. “She’s seen many changes within the profession at WVU for 41 years,” said Dean of Libraries Karen Diaz.

BEYOND LIBRARY WALLS

If you were a student at West Virginia University sometime during the past four decades, you probably benefited from Carroll Wilkinson’s work at WVU Libraries. From guiding students through checking out books and logging into eReserves to retrieving required course materials to teaching classes on Women’s and Gender Studies and helping student-veterans study for final exams in the Study Bunkers, Wilkinson has been there. But after decades of service to WVU, this fixture of library life officially retired on April 15, 2019.

“Carroll Wilkinson has been a valued librarian at WVU for 41 years,” said Dean of Libraries Karen Diaz. “She’s seen many changes within the profession and on campus and has herself been a change agent in helping move the libraries ever forward. Her insights, experience and wisdom have been incredibly valuable to me during my interim term as dean, and into my permanent role. I’ll miss her very much, but can think of no one more deserving of a rich and healthy retirement.”

Wilkinson began her career at WVU Libraries in 1979 as a reference librarian and the Appalachian bibliographer, following a one-year stint as a research assistant for the Gerontology Center. After initially serving as chief circulation librarian, she became head of Access Services for Wise Library. In that role, Wilkinson oversaw the opening of WVU Libraries’ first book depository in 2000 and coordinated the move of more than 500,000 volumes from the stacks in Wise to the new Downtown Library. Another notable innovation during her tenure in Access Services was the development of the electronic reserves system.

Wilkinson’s influence and service extended beyond library walls. She has served in several campus organizations, including Faculty Senate and its Public Service Grant Committee. She chaired the University’s Delaney Committee and the Council for Women’s Concerns and served on the University Planning Council and the National Endowment for the Humanities Women in the Community project.

In 2006, Wilkinson was appointed director of instruction and information literacy for WVU Libraries. In the post, Wilkinson oversaw courses being taught by the Libraries, developed curriculum for future classes, helped faculty to integrate the intellectual principles of information literacy into their teaching, and created and taught the course Gender and the Research Process for 10 years.

In outreach to the Center for women’s and gender studies, beginning in 1993, she served as bibliographer and authored several publications in this area, including a book titled, “Women Working in Nontraditional Fields: References and Resources, 1963 - 1988,” and several journal articles, including Stronger Students, Better Research in the online journal Feminist Collections.

“Carroll was central to the success of the WVU Center for women’s and gender studies from its very beginning and continued to promote social justice and equity throughout the University,” said Judith Gold Stitzel, professor of English and Women’s and Gender Studies and founding director of Women’s and Gender Studies.

In 2006, Wilkinson was also instrumental in bringing the American Library Association exhibit Changing the Face of Medicine: Celebrating America’s Women Physicians to campus. The exhibit chronicled women, from the mid-1800s to today, who faced daunting barriers to practice medicine and who made great advancements in their fields. Following her appointment as director of strategic initiatives in 2014, she began focusing on Wikipedia’s gender gap with a program titled Where Are All the Women? which resulted in the creation of the Wikipedian-in-residence gender equity position with a grant from the Wikimedia Foundation.

In 2016, Wilkinson organized 125 Years of Women at WVU, a three-day program that explored the legacy of Harriet Lyon, the first woman to earn a degree at WVU, and the advancements for women since her pioneering achievement.

“It is impossible for me to think about women’s and gender studies at WVU without Carroll’s contributions and deep commitment to our shared values,” Stitzel said. “On a more personal note, she has long been a treasured friend, the kind of friend you go for inspiration, with hard questions, for honest answers, for comfort in trouble and for laughter. I am very grateful to her.”

Also during this time, Wilkinson worked with Lois Raimondo, a photojournalist and an associate professor in Reed College of Media to produce an ambitious exhibit at the Downtown Campus Library called fractured spaces. It was the first large exhibit in the Arts in the Libraries program and launched the University Libraries’ Talking Publicly Symposium series. The exhibit included photographs of displaced people in four countries Raimondo had visited earlier in her career: Tibet, Pakistan, Iraq and Afghanistan.

Most recently, Wilkinson focused on helping to establish the Libraries’ student-veterans initiative, which has already received an Institute of Museum and Library Services grant that paved the way for the two study rooms dedicated to student-veterans. In early June, while at her family’s cottage in Maine, Wilkinson took some time to reflect on her career and think about her retirement plans. “Two months in and, part of the time, I feel like I’m just on vacation. I’m not sure this will totally kick in until the fall. I think I’m in the early stage of finding my new purpose,” Wilkinson said. “But I’m enjoying the privilege of enjoying a long vacation in Maine before I ask ‘OK, Carroll, what are you going to do with the rest of your life?’”

LEADERSHIP AND AWARDS

/ The Faculty 2019 Center for Women’s and Gender Studies Joyce McConnell Award for Feminist Leadership.
/ Outstanding Librarian Award in 2007
/ President of the Western Pennsylvania/West Virginia chapter of the Association of College and Research Libraries, 2006-2007
/ Mary Catherine Buswell Award, the University’s highest award for service to women, in 1985.
Retirements

A TRANSFORMATIVE LEADER RETIRES

After a professional career that has spanned 43 years, Charles Julian has opened the next chapter in his life. He retired as director of the Mary F. Shipper Library at WVU Potomac on June 30, 2019.

“I have enjoyed and been challenged by my time at WVU Potomac. State College,” Julian said. “Any professional worth his or her salt hopes to leave an organization in better shape than upon arrival. I am proud to say that I believe that is the result of my tenure as library director.”

Julian came to WVU Potomac State College on August 2, 2015. In just shy of four years, he:

/ Realigned the scope of Library’s mission to be more academic in nature
/ Encouraged and fostered closer relationships between the Shipper Library Team and all members of the West Virginia University system
/ Created the Teaching and Learning Commons - Keyser affiliate
/ Advocated pedagogic foundations in all Library activities, programs and services
/ Physically improved the Library facility by weeding of materials and pruning of collection resources
/ Substantially realigned special and archival collections including scanning and distribution of important research materials related to local and organizational history
/ Actively participated in community programs and organizations (primarily through the Rotary Club of Keyser)
/ Shepherded the planning and construction of new collaborative learning spaces in the Library
/ Encouraged all members of the Shipper Library Team to actively participate in professional organizations
/ Managerially operated the Library in a time of uncertain and skinny finances and substantially flattened the organizational structure
/ Contributed to the successes of the College/University through service on various committees, initiatives and endeavors
/ Served the citizens of the state as a West Virginia Library Commissioner

Dr. Gregory S. Ochoa, Dean of Academic Affairs at Potomac State, praised Julian for being a transformative leader.

“Dr. Julian’s dedication and commitment to serving our students’ educational needs has been evident by the goals and priorities implemented during his tenure. His gregarious presence will be missed on campus and in the Keyser community,” Ochoa said. “I wish him all the best in his retirement.

RETIREMENTS

Maxine Smith-Dawson retired on January 2, 2019, with 32 years of service at WVU’s Law Library. She witnessed technology rapidly changing in the libraries — from a paper card catalog to an online catalog and then upgrades to the electronic version. With her guidance and expertise in library resources, Smith-Dawson led the Law Library in building and maintaining a collection that benefits many law students, faculty, the practicing bar and the general public.

Longtime WVU Libraries and West Virginia and Regional History Center employee Christy Venham retired October 4, 2018. Venham excelled at assisting researchers. Patrons — and the staff — of the WVRHC relied upon her expertise in West Virginia history and her extensive knowledge of the Center’s collections. She personified WVU’s value of service.

Emily Vunjak, most recently the administrative secretary at the History Center, retired on October 31, 2018. Vunjak also served as the secretary in the Dean’s Office for many years. She was personable and professional, an excellent first contact for patrons of the WVRHC.

Deb Gallegly retired on May 4, 2019. She started with WVU Libraries in July 1998 in the Periodicals Department and moved to Access Services in 2004. Gallegly was in charge of student supervision and stacks maintenance, and in that role developed wonderful relationships with many of the students who have worked for Access Services over the years.

After a career spanning over 30 years, Assistant University Librarian Linda Bane retired in December 2018. She taught library research every year and previously taught classes in German, introduction to the Internet and web page design. Bane prided herself on building strong relationships with individual students.

IN MEMORIAM

Former WVU librarian Jean Siebert, 60, passed away at home on December 14, 2018. She was born on July 8, 1958, in Elkins, West Virginia, and held a bachelor’s degree in pharmacy from the University of Montana, a master’s degree in library science from UCLA and an MBA from WVU. Prior to her 21 years as a reference librarian at the Health Sciences Library, she worked as a pharmacist in Los Angeles and a medical school librarian at the University of Arizona. Siebert enjoyed reading, listening to music and watching sports — especially WVU football. She will be remembered for her love of animals, her generous and gift-giving spirit and her keen interest in the lives of her friends.

Francisco Javier Tovar, 63, a long-time West Virginia and Regional History Center staff member, passed away on Nov. 17, 2018. He is survived by his wife, Mercedes Tovar, and daughter, Elsa Castaneda Tovar. A native of the Dominican Republic, Frank came to WVU in the mid-1980s to pursue graduate work in physics and began working in the Libraries in 1987. Frank managed preservation reformating of audio visual materials. A talented artist and graphic designer, he also worked on many wonderful publications, posters and exhibits for the Libraries and the Center.

“Frank was one of the most generous and selfless people I have ever known.” WVRHC Director John Cuthbert said. “He was always ready, willing and able to lend a hand whenever and wherever he was needed.”
Gifts to Libraries

BEQUESTS ARE TRANSFORMING WVU LIBRARIES

Good friends see you through the ups and downs of life, good times and bad. They rejoice in your successes, are a ready hand when you need help and offer a sympathetic ear in times of crisis. Over a lifetime, they become as close as family and their memories still carry you forward daily. David G. Allen and Paul Atkins, Jr. and Betty Lou Ramsey have been just that to WVU and to our Libraries.

Allen, Atkins and Ramsey have been friends of the West Virginia and Regional History Center (WVRHC) for so long that Director John Cuthbert remembers they were intimately familiar with our collections back when the Center resided in Colson Hall.

In those days, Atkins and Ramsey were just concluding long and distinguished careers as WVU professors in Journalism and Extension, respectively. Atkins, a full-time professor in the then P.I. Reed School of Journalism, was well known for his 12 years as the faculty adviser for the Daily Athenaeum student paper. Ramsey was tapped to develop the first interior design program and studio, housed back then in the College of Human Resources.

What has become clear over the years is that Atkins and Ramsey were not only dedicated educators but also valued the Libraries as an important resource in student success. Their giving was intentional and planned, setting up bequests that will add $1.4 million in endowment to benefit three Libraries and the WVRHC. That will mean new equipment, funding for books and journals and, perhaps, even a jump start for expansion plans for the history center to support what Atkins and Ramsey knew was most valuable — educating.

Allen was a friend from the community, a successful businessman and a passionate voice for his Harrison County community history, which has become apparent in his $2.2 million bequest to the Dorothy Davis Endowment at the WVRHC.

Dorothy Davis was an educator who taught English in Harrison County Schools for 37 years. She became a mentor and hero to Allen, a feeling he shared with Cuthbert, who was also Davis’ great admirer. Allen’s bequest recognized and honored his bond with Davis and will provide the WVRHC with the means to continue his and her work and service to the state, Harrison County and WVU students.

MAKE THE GIFT OF A LIFETIME

Over the years, gifts from a will have become the lifeblood of the WVU Library’s growing endowment. Many of our Library’s programs started as the idea of someone who could not make a major donation during their lifetime, but were able to make it a reality through a gift from their estate — a planned gift.

The reasons may be different for each donor, from honoring a loved one, friend or mentor, to support a tradition of excellence or to express gratitude for a service well-performed. Whatever the motivation, pre-planning can give you the assurance that you are being a good steward of your assets by increasing the benefits for yourself, family members and organizations, like WVU, that receive your gift.

WVU LIBRARIES’ SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AT THE WVRHC CAN BE A GREAT REPOSITORY FOR PRESERVING YOUR FAMILY, WEST VIRGINIA AND UNIVERSITY HISTORY.

Feel free to use the enclosed envelope to request more information or just let us know your specific area of interest.

To talk to us directly about creating a planned gift or making any type of donation (such as material gifts or endowment) contact Development Director Paula Martinelli at 304-293-0303 or paula.martinelli@mail.wvu.edu. Visit lib.wvu.edu/about/giving to learn more.