

A message from Dean Zenelis

Dear friends and colleagues,

We hope that you and your friends and loved ones are well and safe right now. As you've doubtless heard countless times over the past weeks, we are living in unprecedented times, and our way of life has drastically changed (hopefully only temporarily).

However, one thing that has not changed is our support for the Mason community, particularly our students and faculty, as we all adapt to the virtual learning and remote work environment necessitated by these times. Though our buildings are closed and our physical collections unavailable, our electronic resources (such as e-books, databases, e-journals, and other media) are never closed, and our Libraries faculty and staff are creatively exploring all options to facilitate instruction and help Mason students and faculty find the resources they need via electronic means. They also continue to provide online instructional sessions and research consultations, and are available via live chat to answer any questions during our extended virtual reference desk hours.

Additionally, as you'll read below, the Libraries' Special Collections Research Center is already preparing to document our community experience and response to the pandemic. In future editions of our e-newsletter, we'll feature other such stories about what colleagues inside and outside of the Libraries are doing throughout these times.

Again, we hope you are well. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us. We would be happy to hear from you.

Sincerely,

John G. Zenelis, Dean of Libraries and University Librarian



Documenting a Pandemic

Our Special Collections Research Center, home of Mason's Oral History Program and the University Archives, is documenting the COVID-19 impact on the Mason community by archiving materials related to the university's communications and community experience. [Read more in this recent news article.](#)

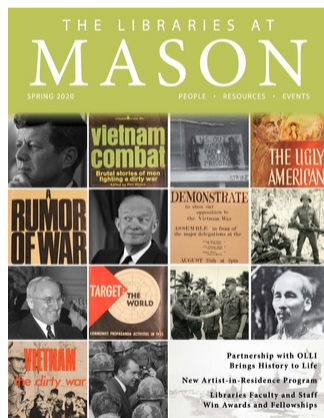
Libraries receives NEH grant

The Libraries is excited to be the recipient of a grant from the [NEH's](#) Humanities Collection and Reference Resources program for the "[Preserving the Legacy of James M. Buchanan](#)" project.

The James M. Buchanan Papers chronicle the legacy of James M. Buchanan (1919-2013) – economist, Nobel Prize recipient, and National Humanities Medal awardee – whose theories had far-reaching influence on America's national life. In addition to Buchanan's extensive scholarship, the collection contains correspondence, memos, publications, photographs, and other ephemera related to his life and academic career. Spanning 282 linear feet, the collection is the largest and most significant holding in existence of unique, primary source material related to Dr. Buchanan. A completely processed collection will ensure consistent access for all scholars interested in examining Buchanan's influence and enable the Libraries to effectively respond to numerous research inquiries from around the world.



James Buchanan receiving the Nobel Prize in Economics from King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden, December 10, 1986. James McGill Buchanan papers, #C0247, Photographs. Special Collections Research Center, George Mason University Libraries.



The Libraries at Mason Magazine

Our annual issue of *The Libraries at Mason* has gone to print and will be distributed soon. If you are not on our mailing list and would like to receive a copy, please e-mail us at library@gmu.edu. An electronic edition will be posted to our website after publication.

News

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